


Heritage Inventory Sheet

Item Name	Dwelling		
Recommended Name	Victorian Workers Cottage		
Site Image			
Address	55 Kerrs Road, Lidcombe NSW 2141		
Lot/Section/DP	9-10	5	3424
Current LEP ID	I186 (Cumberland LEP)		
Former LEP ID	I29 (Auburn LEP)		
Heritage Conservation Area	Not included		
Date Updated	March 2020		
Significance Level	LOCAL		
Site Type	Level 1	Built	
	Level 2	Residential buildings (private)	
Ownership	53 - Ms Mary Rose Salubre (2/57-61 Penelope Lucas Lane, ROSEHILL NSW 2142); 55 - Mr Joseph Samuel Roche, Mrs Danielle Maree Roche (55 Kerrs Road, LIDCOMBE NSW 2141)		

Curtilage Map



Revised curtilage- refer below.

Statement of Significance

The dwelling at 55 Kerrs Road is locally significant for its historic, associative, aesthetic, rarity and representative values. Built 1876, the dwelling is a representative example of a fibro workers cottage erected in Lidcombe during the late nineteenth century when new subdivisions were laid out. This is exemplified in not only the built fabric of the dwelling but the orientation of the residence which shows alignment to a former street arrangement. The item is associated with William White, a carriage builder of Rookwood. It has aesthetic significance as a good example of a worker's residence which is highly intact and features interesting decorative features. The dwelling contributes positively towards the streetscape. The cottage is a very early surviving and rare example of fibro construction in Lidcombe.

Criteria Assessment

a) Historic	Built 1876, the dwelling is a fibro workers cottage erected in the early subdivision of Lidcombe.
b) Associative	The item is associated with William White, a carriage builder of Rookwood.
c) Aesthetic/Technical	The item has aesthetic significance as a good example of a worker's residence which is highly intact and features interesting decorative features. The dwelling contributes positively towards the streetscape.
d) Social	The item does not meet this criterion.
e) Scientific	The item does not meet this criterion.
f) Rarity	The cottage is a very early surviving and rare example of fibro construction in Lidcombe.
g) Representativeness	The dwelling is a representative example of a fibro workers cottage erected in Lidcombe during the late nineteenth century when new

	subdivisions were laid out. This is exemplified not only in the built fabric of the dwelling but the orientation of the residence which shows alignment to a former street arrangement.
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Physical Description

The subject site consists of a one-storey Victorian residence constructed of fibro which has a simple rectangular plan with a hipped roof. Notable features include a corrugated iron roof, face brick chimney and timber detailing. The façade consists of a bullnose verandah with four symmetrically arranged posts extending along the entire frontage, which wraps around the corner of the building and extends along the side wall. Timber lattices have been applied to part of the verandah, specifically at the ends and in the corner. The front door is located centrally to the front facade and features two small side windows. Two large, three paned casement windows are located in the wall either side of this front entrance. A brick chimney projects from the roof of the side wall with a terracotta chimney cowl. The roof features a small, centrally located dormer window with a decorative timber barge board and two casement windows containing small stained-glass panels.

The side, street facing elevation contains several timber double hung sash windows with decorative timber and corrugated iron bullnose style awnings. The dwelling has been extended to the rear with a fibro skillion structure.

The dwelling is set back on a different alignment than the other dwellings within the street. The front setback contains a well-kept garden with a range of plantings, including hedges and succulents, and a paved pathway. These do not appear to be historically related to the dwelling. The property is bound by a timber picket fence along the street boundary.

Within the curtilage of the dwelling, a contemporary subdivision has occurred and a modern residence has been constructed at 53 Kerrs Road which was unintentionally included within a previous listing.

The dwelling is in good condition overall showing no signs of deterioration from the public domain.

Condition	Good	Fair	Poor
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Alterations and Additions

- Fibro skillion extension to the rear

The dwelling is highly intact and has high integrity as a result.

Integrity	High	Moderate	Low
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** element detracts from the overall cultural significance of the place*

Historical Notes

Construction years	1876
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The suburb of Lidcombe is located 14 kilometres west of Sydney and was first seen as an exploring party rowed up the Parramatta River came close to the area on 4 February 1788. Early land grants in the area were given to settlers around 1804 such as H.G. Douglas, Joseph Hyde Potts, and Samuel Haslam who established the first farms in the area. These early land grants ranged between 60 to 200 acres and were focused around Parramatta Road and the small tracks deviating from it.

The name "Lidcombe" is derived from the combination of the names of two former Mayors. When the name Rookwood no longer appealed to residents (due to its association with the expanding necropolis), a new name was created for the suburb. This combined Frederick Lidbury, an active local government

figure and Mayor of Rookwood on several occasions with Alexander Larcombe, his main Mayoral opponent. The suburb was renamed to "Lidcombe" on 15 October 1913.

The opening of the railway station at Lidcombe (known as Haslam Creek station) in 1859 led to the subdivision and subsequent development of Lidcombe. The New South Wales government was an active subdivider in the area, specifically in a portion of land north of Rookwood cemetery not incorporated into the Rookwood Necropolis. The land now bounded by Bachell Street, Nicholas Street, Swete Street and the railway was subdivided and sold at auction by the government from the 1880s onwards. Other prominent subdividers at Lidcombe and Rookwood included land, building and investment companies. Groups such as the Sydney and Provincial Land and Building Company Ltd, Land Company of Australasia, and National Permanent Building, as well as others were responsible for much of the subdivision and sale of estates.

Lidcombe experienced a housing and industrial boom in the 1920s. High-tech industries that were established in the area at included the manufacture of electrical goods, motor car manufacturing, steel construction and wool and knitted industries. The Ford Motor Company of Canada, Jantzen (Australia) Ltd and Associated General Electric Industries are only some examples of the industrial companies that developed within Lidcombe.

The improved transportation to the region, including rail and road networks, and the relocation of many industries resulted in a growth in residential development around the emerging town centres and within walking distance from the places of employment. The nature of these early residence varied according to their location. Most were constructed simply from timber with weatherboard cladding and shingled or galvanised iron rooves. Many were simple, single storey workers' cottages, of which a number remain.

Other dwellings, built around the turn of the century, were constructed from brick or timber or a combination of the two, with tiled rooves and timber detailing. The cottage at 55 Kerrs Road is a very early surviving example of fibro construction in Lidcombe built 1876. It was built for William White, carriage builder of Rookwood. Originally, the building may have been situated on a larger block, with small sheds or outhouses adjacent. These appear to have been demolished. The orientation of the residence suggests a variation in street alignment or development of the street at a later date.

Presently, the dwelling remains in use as a private residence.

Recommendations					
Heritage Management		Existing Built and Landscape Elements		Future Development and Planning	
1. Maintain this item's heritage listing on the LEP.	X	6. Original fabric is highly significant and should be maintained.	X	12. Alterations and additions should respond to the existing pattern of development, with careful consideration of the setting (form, scale, bulk, setback and height).	X
2. Maintain this item's listing as part of the Heritage Conservation Area.		7. Unsympathetic alterations that detract from the cultural significance of the item should be removed.		13. New alterations and additions should respect the historic aesthetic/character of the item and area (e.g. paint scheme, materiality, style, landscape elements).	X

3. Consider delisting as an individual item from the LEP.		8. Maintain heritage landscape elements and schemes.	X	14. Future uses for this item should be compatible with its historical functions/ associations.	
4. Consider additional research to nominate this item for the State Heritage Register.		9. Maintain the existing setting of the heritage item, informed by the historic pattern of neighbouring development (form, scale, bulk, setback and height).	X		
5. The heritage curtilage for this item should be revised/reduced.	X	10. Maintain the historic aesthetic/character of the item and area (e.g. paint scheme, materiality, style, landscape elements).	X		
		11. The condition of this item is poor. Condition and maintenance should be monitored.			

Other recommendations and/or comments:

- The heritage curtilage of this item should be reduced to include 55 Kerrs Road only. Other than potential historical archaeology, which was likely destroyed by the modern dwelling on site, the inclusion of 53 Kerrs Road is unwarranted. The heritage curtilage shown below should be considered as a revised curtilage for the new Cumberland LEP.
- Should a revised curtilage be adopted, this listing sheet will no longer reflect the correct Lot/DP and will need to be altered.



Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number
Heritage Act – State Heritage Register	N/A	-
Local Environmental Plan	Dwelling	I181
Heritage Study	Dwelling	I181
National Trust Australia Register	N/A	-

Previous Studies

Type	Author	Year	Title
Heritage Study	Extent Heritage Pty Ltd	2019	Cumberland LGA Heritage Study
Heritage Study	Neustein & Associates	1996	Auburn Heritage Study
Heritage Study	Terry Kass	1995	Draft Historical Context Report: Auburn Heritage Study

Other References

- Kass, T 2008, *Lidcombe*, retrieved 27 March 2019, <https://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/lidcombe>
- Godden Mackay Logan 2002, *Lidcombe Hospital Site – Conservation Management Plan*, Godden Mackay Logan.
- Cumberland Argus, Xmas Number, 19 Dec 1907, p. 25
- Liberty Plains Parish Map no. 235, Sydney NSW.

Limitations

1. Access to all heritage items was limited to a visual inspection from the public domain. The interiors of buildings and inaccessible areas such as rear gardens were not assessed as part of this heritage study.

2. Condition and site modification assessment was limited to a visual inspection undertaken from the public domain.

3. Unless additional research was required, historical research for all heritage items was based on an assessment of previous LGA heritage studies, the Thematic History (prepared by Extent Heritage, 2019) and existing information in former heritage listing sheets.

Additional Images



View of front façade and fencing of cottage.



View to western elevation of cottage.



Western elevation of cottage.



View to roof of cottage and surrounding landscape.



Western and rear elevations of cottage.