

<i>Month & Year of Topic</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Written & Spoken Presenters</i>
February 2001	The Changing Values & Uses Of Properties in Oatley	Speaker Mike Woods Spoken

OATLEY HERITAGE GROUP

MEETING DATE: *22nd Feb. 2001*

TOPIC: *The Changing*

Values and Uses of Property in Oatley

PAPERS BY: *Presentation: A talk and
25 colour slides, by
Mike Wood of Sanders
First National Real
Estate.*

*(The slides are held by Janille Crane
Volunteer Archivist, Oatley Heritage Group.)*

*"The Towers" (now demolished
by Betty and Doug Wickers.*

*"Reminiscences of an Oatley
West Shopkeeper." 1949 - 1954
by Noela and Wes Bentley*

THE CHANGING FACE OF HOUSES AND SHOPS
IN WEST OATLEY CIRCA 1950-1970

A talk and showing of colour slides by Mr Mike Wood of Sanders First National Real Estate,
Oatley to The Oatley Heritage Society on Thursday 22nd February 2001

Introduction

My talk tonight looks at house style from about 1950 in West Oatley, and also the changing face of the shopping centre, as a means of acquainting some of you with local history.

Slide 1 - this is an example of a 1920 converted Californian bungalow in Waratah Street that sold for over \$400,000. On the outside it looks like a 1960s house - on the inside it looks like a converted 1920s home, with ornate nine foot ceilings and brick internal walls, all indicative of construction in the earlier era. Originally the roof was probably slate. The external skin of bricks were removed and replaced with cream brick, and aluminium windows. The bin in front foreshadows more heavy renovations, I would say.

Slide 2A - Another Waratah Street property - "Merlewood", 1888 - restored in the last 3 years to pristine condition and sold last year for about \$700,00. This would probably have been the main house, for the estate.

Slide 2B - In its original condition

Slide 3 - Early 1900 cottage lined with timber floorboards on ceilings and walls, plus a fuel stove.

Slide 4 - Modified California bungalow in Woonona/Woronora Parade, built, say, 1930

Slide 5 - California bungalow in Woronora Parade, c. 1930

Slide 6 - Waratah Street bungalow - note bay windows.

Slide 7 - (Mike has ruled through this entry)

Slide 8 - This is an old miner's cottage in Acacia Street.

**WEST OATLEY COMMERCIAL SHOPPING CENTRE HAS SEEN EXAMPLES OF
DIFFERENT STYLES SINCE 1950.**

Slide 9 - 1960 onwards - Mens clothing store - now an Accountancy

Slide 10 - Circa 1940s grocer shop where I bought a bag of broken biscuits for few pence; now 'In Bud' flower shop - originally operated by Mrs. Heaps and Mr and Mrs Smith as a grocery shop.

- Slide 11 - Originally c. 1940s boot repair shop. Health food store and Mullane now chemist, next door.
- Slide 12 - Circa 1940s grocer shop and residence - Mr & Mrs Gardiner's, on corner of Mulga Road and Woronora Parade - now a doctor's surgery.
- Slide 13 - 19402 - originally Produce Store, hardware store and residence, now a curtains shop.
- Slide 14 - 1940s - a milk bar and grocer shop, then watch/clockmaker's, lately an elegant fish restaurant (on Sunday morning when church was on the grocers were required to cover certain grocery items which were not allowed to be sold during prohibited hours).
- Slide 15 - Presently and for some years past a fruit shop - in 2001 operated by an Asian family; formerly a produce store selling hay, wood and poultry food.
- Slide 16 - Circa 1950s - Mullane's pharmacy, paper shop, and now coffee.
- Slides 17/18 All Saints, West Oatley - original 1930s buildings.
- Slide 19 - formerly retail shops built in the 1950s, now defunct, and for a long time serving as commercial properties - by-passed by shoppers for the bigger centres.
- Slide 20 - the former house Sunday School in Lansdowne Parade 1950 that many local kids attended.
- Slide 21 - Stone walls and carving by Italian stonemasons who had worked on the Harbour Bridge project and were in need of work, and were employed 1934/35
- Slides 22/23- During World War II there was an all-girl searchlight battery stationed around Jewfish Point and an anti-aircraft battery was stationed in Oatley Park. Do you know of any details?
The huge pine at Oatley Park entrance comes from Lone Pine at Gallipoli.
- Slide 24 - Former grocer shop - 1940 - in Myall Street - there is another in Acacia Street - remnants of a bygone age. Do you know of any others?
- Slide 25 - Site of original dairy farm 1940 and before, 60 Mulga Road (next door to the doctor's surgery). Probably the site of one of the oldest houses in West Oatley (bricked in, over fibro, and galvanised roof).

CONCLUSION

As you can see, in some forty years we have previewed, house styles remain about the same - however the shops can change many times over the years.

DOES ANYBODY HAVE ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE?



















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