

150: 1913.

148: 1913.

144: THE FERNS, 1911.

The original owners of this property were John Henry Antill, a boilermaker, and his wife, Marianne Elizabeth. They moved here from the house next door- 142 Alt Street. In November 1914, shortly after the outbreak of World War I, John Antill enlisted in the AIF. As a member of the Light Horse Brigade Train 3 he embarked from Melbourne, Victoria, on board HMAT A51 *Chilka* on 2 February 1915. He achieved the rank of Warrant Officer and returned to Australia in December 1918. He lived at **The Ferns** until 1949.

The new garage for this property was approved by Ashfield Municipal Council in 1997 (D.A. 101/97).

142: LOUISA COTTAGE, 1888.

The first occupant of this property was Daniel S. Hazel who lived here until 1895. Successive occupants were David Lloyd (1895-1896), Mrs A. Parke (1897), Mrs. T. Parker (1898-1900), Samuel Lloyd (1901), John Henry Antill (1902-1911), Arthur Evans (1911-15), Frederick Bishop (1915-19), Sydney Sutton (1919-21), Wilfred Cottrill (1921-25) and Mrs. Elsie Nash (1925-29)¹.

John Antill, later a famous composer, was born in this simple, mostly symmetrical cottage on 8 April 1904. At the age of six, he was one of the first five pupils at the Haberfield Public School which was established in Bland Street in 1910 (see pages 228-9). He was a student here for four years.

Louisa Cottage was 'in the country' in those days. All around were gum trees and open bushland. Occasionally, gypsies would camp nearby and the lad would run inside, terror stricken, when they came to the house for a handout, for he had heard that 'the gypsies will take small children away with them'. They usually asked for a cup of sugar, and if that met with success, they would try to get more.

(Dean, B. & Carell, V., *Gentle Genius: A Life of John Antill*, p.12)

John Antill wrote music for ballets, films, operas and television productions as well as many vocal and orchestral works. Possibly his most famous work is the music for the ballet *Corroboree* which he composed in 1946. He was appointed an Officer of the British Empire (O.B.E.) in 1970 for services to music. John Antill died in December 1986.

- ❖ Turn right into Parramatta Road.
- ❖ Turn right into Walker Avenue.

WALKER AVENUE:

This street was known as **The Avenue** from 1886 to 1913. The name was probably changed due to confusion caused by there already being a street known as *The Avenue* off Thomas Street in Ashfield.

2 and 2A: built in 1920

A pair of Art Deco semi-detached dwellings each originally of two bedrooms.

1: KIA ORA, 1915 (now RESTARE).

3: built in 1915 (now LOXTON).

A pair of semi-detached dwellings from the Federation period with timber verandah posts and decorative fretwork.

In this case gables are placed over the space between the two pairs of posts. In other cases a single gable may be placed over the entrances to the dwellings.

5: built in 1922.

The façade of this single-fronted house is dominated by a single large gable. The driveway gates are typical of those of the 1920's.

5A: built in 1923.

A single-fronted Californian Bungalow style cottage with characteristic half-timbered gable.

¹ See Sands, *Sydney and New South Wales Directory*, 1888-1930.