

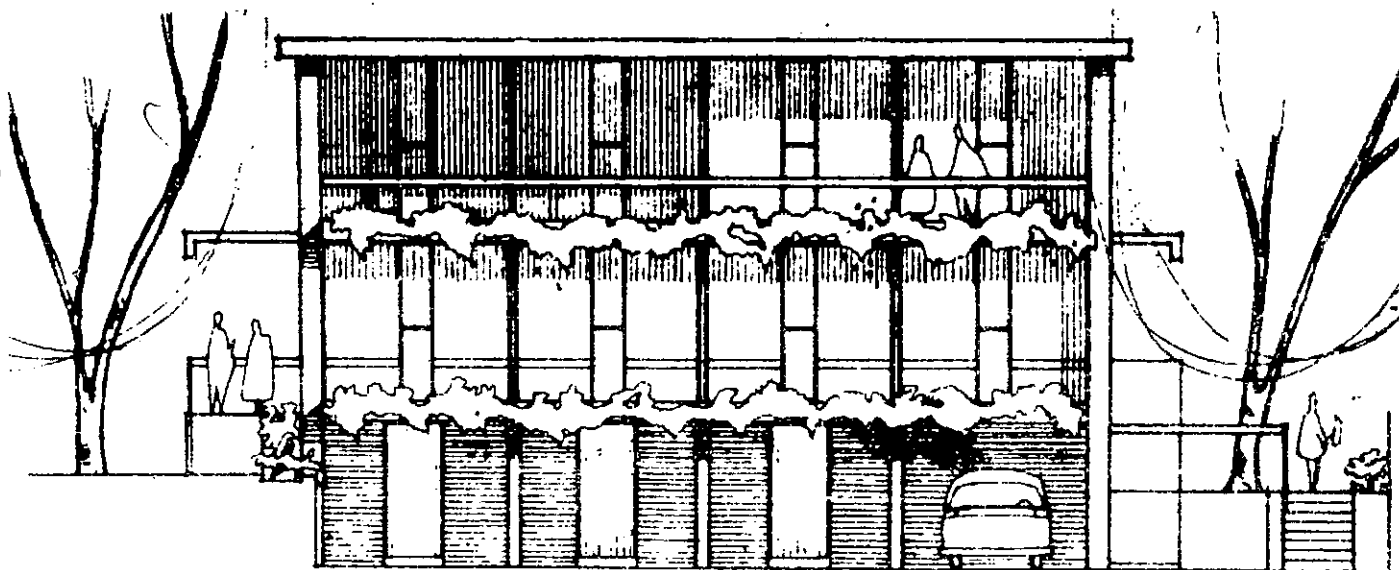
# VILLAGE VOICE



News Bulletin of the Queen Street and West Woollahra Association

PO Box 50 Woollahra NSW 2025

NOVEMBER 1972



## OLD FOLK'S HOME PLAN REJECTED

Illustrated above is the Queen Street aspect of the proposed home for 32 old people on a Queen Street site, opposite Holdsworth Street.

On October 30, Woollahra Council rejected the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's outline plan for the home, following the strong opposition of a number of Queen Street residents.

At our Association's general meeting in September, details of the plan were given by the architect, Mr. W. Atkinson, and a representative of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Mr. H. Welch.

The following is an extract from a letter commenting on the plan

which the Association sent to Mr. Welch:

"In itself, your proposal to build a home for the aged has our fullest approval. Like Goodwin Village, it could become a valued part of this community.

"However, in looking over the plans submitted, we are concerned that your proposal is in contradiction with the quality and harmony of scale we wish to preserve and enhance in this area.

"The building as proposed, using the maximum plot ratio, is institutional and boxlike, with

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## THE ASSOCIATION AT WORK...

**Outline Plan:** The Chairman of our Architectural Sub-Committee, Mr. Karl Feller, is working on submissions for the outline plan for West Woollahra. He will be guided by the survey which the Association will conduct among local residents before the end of 1972.

**Old Fashioned Street Fair:** Although many businesses, organisations and charities have booked stalls for the Street Fair on November 25, we would be happy to welcome more — whether from inside or outside the area. The charge for the day is \$10 for commercial houses, \$3 for charities. Contact Leo or Anne Schofield (32 1326, day or evening)

**Moore Park Sports Complex:** The Association has now lodged an official objection to the scheme and this will be considered by the inquiry to be conducted by Mr. Walter Bunning. The Chairman of our Architectural Sub-Committee, Mr. Karl Feller, has separately written a splendid letter of protest to the Minister for Lands. It is expected that the Association will be asked to provide both direct and written evidence at the inquiry

**Public Meeting:** Mr. John Barraclough, MLA for Bligh, was the guest at a well-attended general meeting arranged by the Association on September 29. There was a lively discussion on the site, of a station for the Eastern Suburbs Railway at Neerooka Avenue, with Mr. Barraclough heavily under fire from opponents. Our Association is not opposing the scheme.

G-R-E-S-O-M-E C-O-N-C-E-R

**Gruesome (1):** Queen Street residents and traders who have endured weeks of trench hostilities as the Electricity Department dug and redug the road have not even had the satisfaction of seeing power cables disappear underground as a result. The new cables are to boost power for the Eastern Suburbs Railway, not to improve Woollahra's amenities.

**Gruesome (2):** No change on Skid Row, that ghastly crumbling collection of buildings on the corner of Ocean Street and Peaker Lane. Recently the door disappeared from one shop, making its dangerous back verandah accessible to children. Does someone have to be badly injured before anything is done?

# Queen St. Commentary

The big news in Queen Street, of course, is the Old Fashioned Christmas Street Fair on November 25. The miniature poster enclosed with this newsletter tells you all about it.

Your editor would like to add one word ... COME!

## THE DUST AND THE POLISH

Antique dealers either sell by the dust or the polish, as the character in the recent Norman Lindsay Festival play observed.

Keith Ball, director of the Woollahra Antique Company, just established in Queen Street, steers a middle course.

"If you sell by the dust, people are repulsed and if you sell by the polish, you don't frighten them away," he told us.

Nevertheless, the Woollahra Antique Company, with its inside walls vividly repainted in lapis lazuli blue and vermilion red, presents a more polished appearance than its predecessor, Scrooge, who has now moved to Oxford Street.

An interior designer by training, Mr. Ball makes a speciality of antique jewellery and ornaments. His wares are mostly post-1850's.

## HELPING THE ENVIRONMENT

Next door, by happy coincidence, Bill Bradshaw specialises in pre-1850's antiques, with the special emphasis on furniture.

Bill is a sort of Queen Street original. He's been in the same Queen Street shop for 15 years.

In the last few weeks, Keith Ball and Bill Bradshaw have got together to have the exterior of the building containing their two shops painted uniformly in gardenia and chocolate.

"We did this to help the environment and give a sense of uniformity to the two stores," said Keith Ball. "But emphasise that the businesses are not combined."

## VALE, ROBERT BUCKINGHAM

Queen Street has lost its amiable Boniface. Robert Melville Buckingham, licensee of the Woollahra Hotel, died last month after an illness lasting several months.

Although hardly trendy, Buckingham's pub was well-stocked and efficiently-run. And Buckingham was well-liked by his staff and patrons.

Said a mourning youth in the bottle shop:  
"There will never be another man like him."



## ANOTHER TOUCH OF VICTORIANA

Established in 1888, Olson's Ocean Street Pharmacy is one of the oldest in Sydney. Jules Opit, who has just bought it, intends to turn it back into an old-fashioned Victorian pharmacy.

He has begun by repainting the frontage in a specially-created mauve/chocolate colour and giving the windows an attractive arched effect.

If Council approves his plans, two doctors' surgeries will be added at the rear, and the pharmacy extended to provide a Ligger dispensary.

The unusual arched awning over the pavement will be retained, as will the original cedar and marble fittings, and the windows will be divided into small panes like a genuine Victorian shop.

## NOT BUTCHER, NOR BAKER BUT ...

Queen Street lacks three things to make it a completely comprehensive shopping centre — a cake shop, a fish shop and a supermarket.

This was the view of a Queen Street merchant to whom we were talking the other day. Any plans?

## HELP!

The Association will be taking a stall selling second hand books and magazines at the Street Fair on November 25. Any members with books or magazines to donate should ring 32 1326.

OLD PEOPLE'S HOME -- continued

minimal design expression, and would be unsympathetic to the residential surroundings it intends to join ...

"Your proposal, we feel, would be alien to the residential character of the neighbourhood, its scale and its visual quality.

"We would prefer the design to express a more residential concept as against the institutional aspect. Details, such as fenestration, the flat roof fascia, are reminiscent of the thirties.

"We are all most anxious that any scheme on this scale should be a happy and compatible one for the new residents it would bring into the area, and we feel that it is most important to integrate not only the building but its inhabitants into the community."

Our Association decided not to make any comment to Council unless sufficient members indicated their opposition to the scheme. In rejecting it, the Council has invited the applicant to confer with the Principal Planning Officer, and the Association will keep a close watch on future applications for the site.

# join us now!

Our Association has unlimited vacancies for members. If you really care for the area you live in, post the application below today, and help to make us stronger.

### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

NAME .....  
(please state Mr. Mrs. or Miss)

ADDRESS.....  
.....  
.....

Post, together with \$2 for first year's subscription to the Association at Box 50, P.O. Woollahra. N.S.W. 2025

### THE QUEEN STREET AND WEST WOOLLAHRA ASSOCIATION

A residents' action association covering the area bounded by Jersey Rd., Ocean St., and Oxford St., West Woollahra, N.S.W.

ADDRESS: Box 50, P.O. Woollahra, N.S.W. 2025

SUBSCRIPTION: \$2 a year

CHAIRMAN: Leo Schofield

HON. SECRETARY: Mrs. Joy Barraclough (32.4398)

COMMITTEE: Miss Rowan Beckett, Mr. Robin Brampton, Mr. Karl Feller ARAIA, Mr. Michael Magnus, Mr. Neville Marsh, Mr. John Newton Mrs. Patricia Thompson

VILLAGE VOICE is published approximately every two months. Letters and other contributions on local topics are invited. The editor is Robin Brampton (31 6305 day, 32 4475 evening and weekends).

### NEW MEMBERS

- Mrs. D. Beai, Mrs. L. Beaton, Mrs. W. Bennett, Mr. R.P. Bristow, Mr. B. Byrne, Mrs. R. Clark, Mr. J.J. Cooney, Mr. P. Cowper, Mrs. E. De Deo, Mr. B. Donnan, Mrs. H. Drury, Mr. D. Elledge, Dr. H.C. Freeman, Mrs. M. Gould, Mr. F.M. Hallman, Mr. & Mrs. K.A. Harding, Miss J. Hatton, Miss L. Hynes, Mr. F. Lo Basso, Mrs. C.H. McCaffery, Mrs. E.M. McKay, Mrs. A. Murphy, Mr. J. Opit, Mrs. C.M. Piddington, Mr. R.J. Robertson, Mr. & Mrs. A.E. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. M.H. Ryan, Dr. L. Pascoe, Mr. D.V. Walford, Mrs. H.M. Windsor, Mr. W. Yates.