

Fibra Moderne

MID-20TH CENTURY
FIBRO HOUSING IN
MONTEREY NSW



VISITOR GUIDE

FIBRO MODERNE HOUSES IN MONTEREY (2014)

CULVER STREET

- 43 Culver Street
- 49 Culver Street
- 71 Culver Street
- 85 Culver Street

HOLLYWOOD STREET

- 21 Hollywood Street
- 35 Hollywood Street
- 41 Hollywood Street
- 68 Hollywood Street
- 70 Hollywood Street
- 75 Hollywood Street
- 79 Hollywood Street

PASADENA STREET

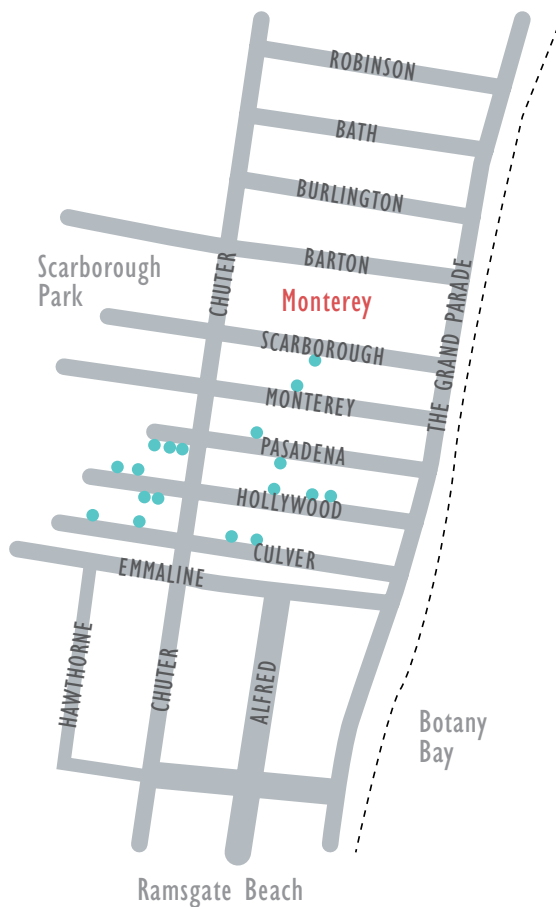
- 34 Pasadena Street
- 39 Pasadena Street
- 62 Pasadena Street
- 64 Pasadena Street
- 70 Pasadena Street

MONTEREY STREET

- 35 Monterey Street

SCARBOROUGH STREET

- 26 Scarborough Street



See pages 22–30 for photographs and descriptions of each of these houses.

Fibra Moderne

MID-20TH CENTURY FIBRO
HOUSING IN MONTEREY NSW

VISITOR GUIDE

Michael Bogle and Charles Pickett

FRONT COVER IMAGE: *Hardie's Genuine Fibrolite Asbestos-Cement Building Booklet* (trade catalogue), 1937. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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CALIFORNIA BY THE BAY

FIBRO MODERNE is a guide to this suburb's fibro-cement houses built from 1935 to 1945. Monterey's seaside associations with the glamour of California, and the adoption of street names drawn from some of that state's most famous cities such as Hollywood and Pasadena, reminds us that like California, NSW's Monterey had sand, surf, sunshine and Modernism.

A popular variant of European Modernism, streamlined *Moderne* was the hip look of the 1930s, popularised not only by architects but by movies and magazines. Both the architecture and the movies were mainly sourced from California, at its peak as a cultural powerhouse during the 1930s.

AN ENTIRE STREET OF MODERN AND ATTRACTIVE TYPES OF 'FIBROLITE' HOMES at Brighton Le Sands, Sydney. Illustrated in *The Way to Better Homes – Build with Hardie's Genuine Fibrolite* (trade catalogue), 1939, p8. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.

Moderne
was the hip look
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*Monterey's
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... were members of
the first generation of
'ordinary' Australians
to become
home owners.*

Moderne architecture and Hollywood movies promised a new world of happiness, democratic yet sophisticated and progressive.

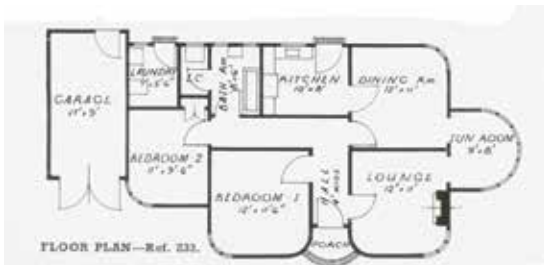
Monterey's streets were still largely empty until the 1930s when the building boom of that decade was expressed with a Californian accent, naturalised by that most Australian of building materials, fibro-cement.

Built during a brief burst of Post-Depression prosperity after 1930, these houses are small compared to their more recent neighbours, an impression reinforced by their fibro cladding. Yet for most of its Australian life, fibro was not solely an austerity material. Monterey's new suburbanites – chemists, boat builders, clerks, electricians, farm equipment retailers, taxi drivers – were members of the first generation of 'ordinary' Australians to become home owners.

Their fibro houses are a time capsule of the years of optimism sandwiched between the financial crash of 1929 and the 1939–45 war. They are also unusual combinations of Australian practicality and an international style, and their charm is timeless. They established a template for the booming suburbs and the Australian identity of the Post-War years.



“AS MODERN AS THE MOMENT” IS THIS DELIGHTFULLY PLANNED “DURABESTOS” HOME



62 PASADENA STREET
 ABOVE: The sunroom was one of the exciting features of some of the new Wunderlich-designed homes. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.



LEFT: Photo and plan no. 233 in *Wunderlich Low Cost Durabestos Homes*, Wunderlich Limited, 1941. Source: Powerhouse Museum Collection, gift of CSR Limited.

The film industry had not yet been established in Hollywood but Monterey's California-derived street names were already in place in 1903.

WHY MONTEREY?

THE SUBURB OF MONTEREY began its administrative life as West Botany and has since been called Scarborough Park, Kogarah, Ramsgate and other names. Monterey was formally adopted as the suburb name in 1972 but the street names have been in place for more than a century.

A St George Parish Map dated 1903 shows a grid of unformed streets with the four California-derived street names. In 1903 the Municipality of Hollywood had just been incorporated and the film industry had not been established in Southern California.

The 1903 subdivision of Monterey covers the land purchased by Jacob Marks during the 1870s. Marks was born in Liverpool, England in 1819 and came to Australia as a youth. A prominent member of Sydney's Jewish community and a president of the Sydney Synagogue, he built the Wynyard Terrace in Wynyard Square and kept an adjacent multi-storey home later converted to the Imperial Hotel.



CURRENT SITE OF MONTEREY:

J. Marks, Lot 44, 69 acres. St George Parish, County of Cumberland, 1903 with later annotations. PMapMN05, sheet 4. Source: Land and Property Information, NSW.

By 1903 street names had been drawn into the map of the suburb, but the area was known locally as Scarborough.

Marks and his wife Susannah had 13 children and many took up residence in England. One son, Montague Marks, moved to California where he died in 1899 in the agricultural town of Stockton, in the San Joaquin Valley and is buried in San Mateo County south of San Francisco. Perhaps the streets were named in honour of Montague Marks and the addresses reflect his California travels: Hollywood, Culver City, Pasadena and Monterey? In any event, Montague Marks' California adventure is the sole known link to the naming of the suburb of Monterey and its streets.

Montague Marks' California adventure

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suburb and its streets.*



THE AUSTRALIAN DREAM
MATERIALISED IN MONTEREY
DURING THE 1930s

when the suburb experienced a frantic building boom. The scale of the new Wunderlich and James Hardie & Co. fibro homes was ideal for suburban planning in the 1930s.

IMAGE ABOVE: Detail from cover, *The Way to Better Homes – Build with Hardie’s Genuine Fibrolite* (trade catalogue), 1939. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney’s Living Museums.

A NEW ERA

By THE 1880s a town, a large hotel and a public park had been established north of Monterey near the mouth of the Cooks River. From 1885 a tram service linked Rockdale Station to the newly-named Brighton Le Sands which was being compared with Manly as ‘a favourite watering-place’ for Sydneysiders. Despite the activity in Brighton Le Sands, Jacob Marks’ parcel of Botany Bay land remained undeveloped even after its survey in 1903.

Finally by 1920 the land was purchased by the City Mutual Assurance Society, which appointed flamboyant estate agent Lance Giddings to oversee its subdivision and sale.



“THE SOLE REMAINING WATER FRONTAGE ESTATE OF ITS SIZE IN THE KOGARAH DISTRICT”

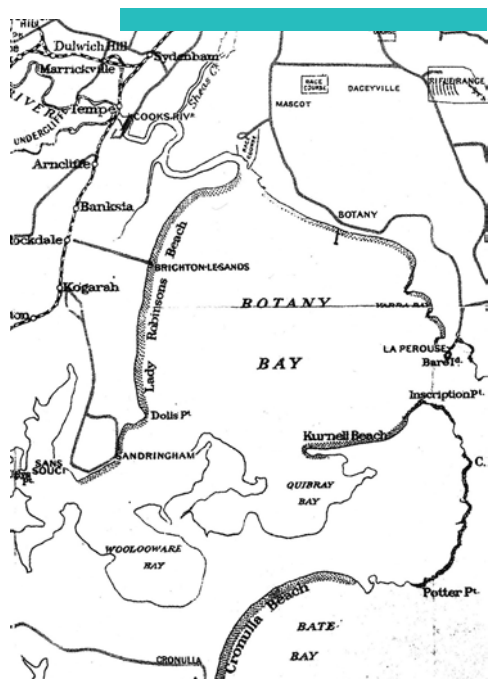
Giddings promoted the estate as a 'New Waterside Garden Suburb' and produced an illustrated and well-photographed prospectus for the subdivision. The publicity material was outstanding for the era, the rhetoric was florid and his public profile assured that his activities were noticed. According to the prospectus, Scarborough Park Estate was “the sole remaining water frontage estate of its size in the Kogarah district. It is now being subdivided and wide streets are being formed under the supervision and approval of the Rockdale Municipal Council. This is a new era ...”.

THERE WERE ONLY FIVE REGISTERED RESIDENTS in Monterey in 1930.

ABOVE: Aerial photograph, 1930. (Monterey circled.)
Source: Rockdale City Library Local Studies Collection.

INSET (RIGHT):
“Scarborough Park Estate. The new waterside garden suburb.” *Sydney Evening News*, 27 April 1921, p4.

The 1920s were also a new age for Sydney as new suburbs boomed as never before. Monterey was one of many new subdivisions put up for sale. For the first time large numbers of working people were purchasing houses. The rapidly expanding public transport system of trams and trains brought the city fringes within reach, while cooperative building societies began to offer housing finance to wage-earners.



DETAIL, 'MAP SHEWING (SIC) RAILWAY AND TRAMWAYS' 1923. NSW Road and Traffic Archives. Reproduced in *Sydney takes shape: a history in maps*, Paul Ashton and Duncan Waterson (eds), 2000, p53.

As well as the Brighton Le Sands tramway, a new tram line also linked Kogarah Station to Sans Souci. Monterey was now reasonably well connected to the city transport network and Giddings' enthusiastic advertising copy and promotion produced considerable sales. These sales, however, did not result in building. The first sales went to absentee ratepayers with addresses across the city and even in country areas. This quickly changed during the 1930s when Monterey's sand-swept streets witnessed a frantic building boom, and were soon lined with new homes.

THE BRIGHTON CONSTRUCTION BOOM

The catalyst for Monterey's sudden surge was Rupert Francis Gow, a Brighton Le Sands estate agent and builder. Gow was born in Sydney in 1893, attended Christian Brothers College, Waverley and served with distinction with the Australian Light Horse in Palestine during the Great War. Gow's military embarkation record lists his profession as 'dentist' but following the war, he worked as a salesman of eggs and other foodstuffs. In 1928 Gow was fined £100 for failing to furnish income tax returns and in 1932 he appeared before a parliamentary inquiry into the issuing of licences for the new sport of greyhound 'tin hare' racing; Gow had sought a licence to open a new dog track at Lismore in northern NSW.



49 CULVER STREET. The curved fibro-cement panels were factory-moulded for ease of installation. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.



“A ROOF OF COLOURFUL WUNDERLICH TERRA COTTA TILES ADDS TO ITS ATTRACTIVENESS ...”

85 CULVER STREET. ABOVE: Entrance porches could be partially enclosed or open, dependent on the client's preferences and finances. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.

BELOW: Photo and plan no. 237 in *Wunderlich Low Cost Durabestos homes*, Wunderlich Limited, 1941. Source: Powerhouse Museum Collection, gift of CSR Limited.

In 1937 Rupert Gow opened a real estate office at 144a The Grand Parade, Brighton Le Sands and began purchasing vacant blocks of land in Monterey. A small number of builders were already buying blocks and building and selling houses as speculators; one of these was E.G. Barton, Mayor of Rockdale. But from 1938, Rupert Gow dominated building activity in Monterey; his company Brighton Construction used contracted builders to erect fibro, brick and timber homes.

Gow's career hit a barrier in 1941 when he was charged with stealing money, possibly from his clients. But by then Gow had made his mark on Monterey with streets of new fibro homes. The subdivision covenant stipulated that only one residence could be built per block but crucially did not specify brick construction, a common requirement of ambitious subdivisions.

Nonetheless, Rockdale Council was anxious to protect the new suburb's prosperous image, deciding in 1937 to make tiled roofs compulsory in Monterey. Council's building inspector was happy for new homes to "be of fibro-cement", he told *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 19 October 1937, but he insisted on tiled roofs which he considered added to the appearance of the area. "No matter how good the cottages might be, if an iron roof was placed on any one of them the area would be spoiled."



"No matter how good the cottages might be, if an iron roof was placed on any one of them the area would be spoiled."

ABOVE: 26 Scarborough Street. *Modern* corner treatments and a circular-roofed verandah added interest to the most modest house. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.

Opposite page:

TOP: Cover, *Wunderlich Durabestos Homes*, Wunderlich Limited, 1937. Source: Powerhouse Museum Collection, gift of CSR Limited.

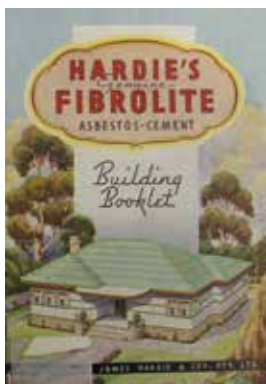
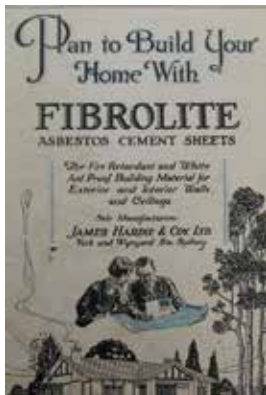
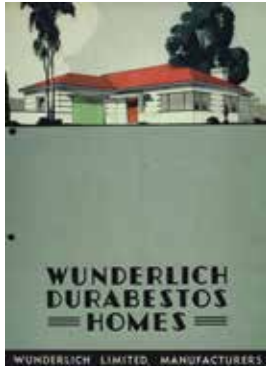
MIDDLE: Cover, *Plan to build your home with Fibrolite Asbestos Sheets*, James Hardie & Co. (trade catalogue), c.1930. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.

BOTTOM: Cover, *Hardie's Genuine Fibrolite Asbestos-Cement Building Booklet*, (trade catalogue), 1937. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.

FIBRO

Fibro was first imported to Australia in 1903, just three years after Austrian engineer Ludwig Hatschek adapted a straw-board making machine to the purpose of rolling asbestos fibre and Portland cement into asbestos-cement sheets. Within a decade the Australian company, James Hardie & Co. Pty Ltd was one of more than a dozen companies importing fibro sheets from England and France, using trade names including Herculite, Asbestolite and Eternit. Nonetheless Hardie's, with its Fibro-cement and Fibrolite branding, gave the material its Australian name.

When the First World War restricted supplies from Europe, fibro was first manufactured in Australia by Wunderlich Limited in 1916 at its new Durabestos factory at Cabarita on the Parramatta River. Founded in 1893 by Swiss-born brothers, Wunderlich is best-remembered for its architectural metalwork although the company's profitability was based on roofing tiles and, from 1916, their Durabestos panels and accessories. James Hardie & Co. began local manufacture a year afterward in 1917.



'The Garage' in Durabestos – The Durable Asbestos Sheets and Slates, Wunderlich Limited (trade catalogue) 1920, p5. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.

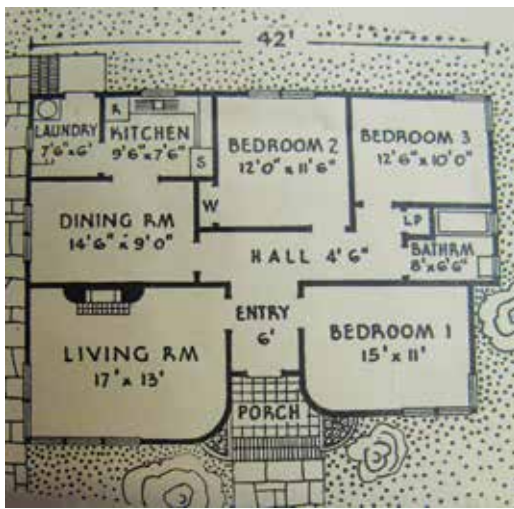


79 HOLLYWOOD STREET.

This James Hardie & Co.-designed house has been embellished with replica 19th century lacework trim and new windows. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.

*Australia
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market
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Australia was a perfect market for the new material as timber framing was already a popular house construction method. Fibro was a keenly priced and durable cladding replacement for timber or iron. In 1933, fibro was used to clad one in 50 Australian houses and in the fringe suburbs, Bankstown and Fairfield, 12 per cent of houses were fibro-clad. A fibro house was about 15 per cent cheaper than a similar timber-clad home. Two Monterey Street cottages built in 1938 reflected this: a brick cottage on Lot 294 cost its owner £800 while a nearby fibro cottage (Lot 276) was completed for £678.

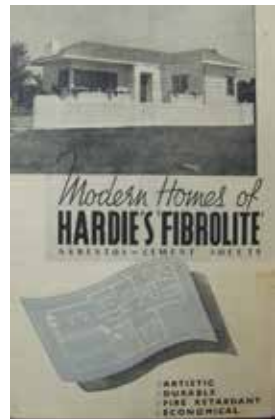


The fibro manufacturers James Hardie & Co. and Wunderlich developed a strategy of selling their product through catalogues featuring house designs. The designs came from a variety of sources, but the close ties of the manufacturers to the building industry meant that builders often used modifications of earlier house plans.



ABOVE LEFT: Detail of plan 307 originally developed in 1937. *Modern Homes of Hardie's Fibrolite Asbestos-Cement Sheets* (trade catalogue) 1946. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.

ABOVE RIGHT: *Modern homes of Hardie's 'fibrolite' asbestos cement sheets* (trade catalogue) 1948, p8. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.



MIDDLE RIGHT: Cover, *Modern Homes of Hardie's Genuine Fibrolite* (trade catalogue) 1948. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Cover, *Modern Homes of Hardie's 'Fibrolite' Asbestos-Cement Sheets* (trade catalogue) 1946. Source: The Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection, Sydney's Living Museums.



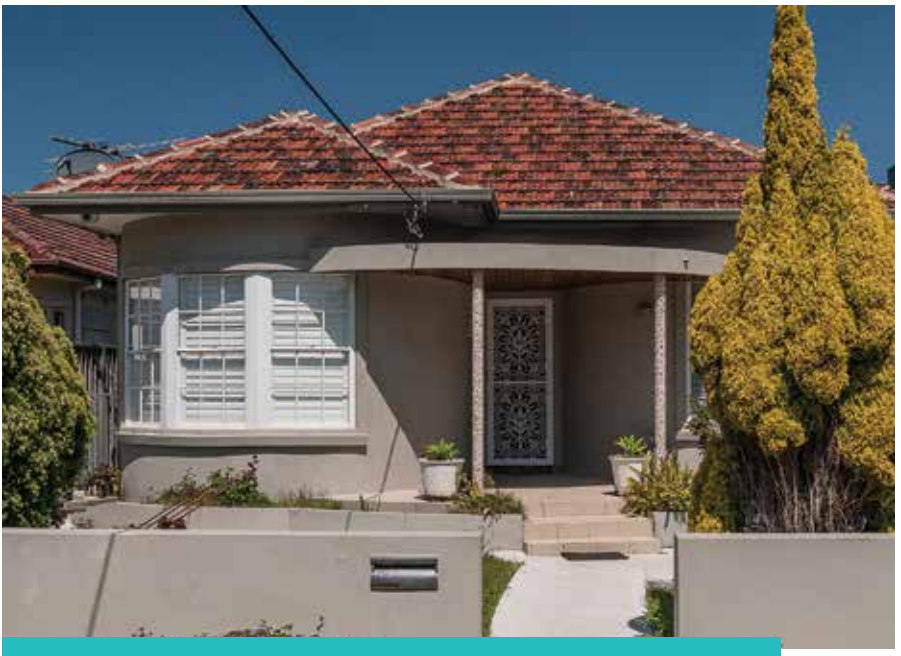
35 MONTEREY STREET.

Amongst its other unusual features, this Fibro Moderne house's doorway resembles a corbel-arch doorway (above) similar to those found in Central America and Indonesia. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.

Rupert Gow's Brighton Construction was one of these. Gow was a typical speculative builder / developer who purchased vacant land, then designed and built houses for sale. Project or contract building, designing and building to order, was still unusual at the economy end of the market. Most of the houses Gow built in Monterey used or recycled many designs featured in Wunderlich Durabestos housing catalogues.

Speculative builders were regularly criticised by the architectural profession for mass-producing poor quality architecture. Yet Gow was typical of many builders in his awareness of architectural trends and the *Moderne* cottages of Monterey were products of contemporary style.





“SIMPLICITY OF ERECTION AND ECONOMY ARE THE OUTSTANDING FEATURES ...”

64 PASADENA STREET. ABOVE: The curved profiles of the fibro-cement cladding provided an opportunity for panoramic windows. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.

BELOW: Photo and plan no. 236 in *Wunderlich Low Cost Durabestos Homes*, Wunderlich Limited, 1941. Source: Powerhouse Museum Collection, gift of CSR Limited.

FIBRO MODERNE

During the 1930s many architects engaged with the challenge of designing liveable and appealing housing for ordinary wage-earners. Modernism was a social and political movement as well as a design philosophy and in Europe, public housing design initiated many of the signature features of Modernism: an emphasis on horizontality, extensive glazing and unadorned finishes. The machine-made character of fibro was a perfect match for the austere functionalism of European Modernism. It was also appropriate for its popular cousin, the streamlined *Moderne* style.

Moderne was founded on the idea that modern transport and communications technology, cars, planes, high-speed trains, ocean liners, radios, news reels and movies could be the basis for a democratic, affluent future. *Moderne* was most popular in the USA where the designer Norman Bel Geddes and others promoted freeways, modern transport and new suburbs as the answer to the Depression's economic malaise. This campaign culminated with the 1939 New York World's Fair, where Bel Geddes' *Futurama* pavilion exhibited a model of the speed-focused city.



Moderne architecture adopted streamlining in the form of curved corners, smooth finishes and ground-hugging forms. California, the 1930s fount of cultural optimism, was also a hotbed of *Moderne* and its place in the public eye grew via the movies and the magazines. It was the default style for 1930s Hollywood movie sets and the homes of the stars.

In Sydney, hotels, cinemas, department stores and apartment buildings were exhibiting curved corners and 'streamlined' facades. Wunderlich and James Hardie & Co. leapt on the trend, producing curved sheets of fibro for the first time. A connection with this new design became a feature of fibro advertising: "In no other medium can the attractive horizontal effects, now popular in modern domestic architecture, be obtained as cheaply and effectively".



THE PROJECTING CURVED BAYS AND WINDOW DETAILS of 41 Hollywood Street (ABOVE), 71 Culver Street (OPPOSITE) and 79 Hollywood Street (BELOW) illustrate the variety of the Fibro Moderne style. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.



Ernie Green, a Wunderlich Durabestos salesman during the 1930s, recalled: "The design and style of asbestos-cement houses, which was a really big market, that kept changing. When it did you'd bring out a new Durabestos catalogue... [for example] rounded corners on buildings they developed one time and everyone went crazy on those".

"The design owes much of its appeal to the curved entrance and the horizontal application of sheets and mouldings."

PHOTO AND PLAN NO. 227 in *Wunderlich Low Cost Durabestos Homes*, Wunderlich Limited, 1941. Source: Powerhouse Museum Collection, gift of CSR Limited.

AN IDEAL SINGLE FAMILYPURPOSE RESIDENCE OF THE "WUNDERLICH" MODEL HOME DESIGN NO. 227. THE HOUSE COSTS LESS THAN THE OTHERS IN THE MARKET AND THE FINANCIAL BENEFIT OF SHEETS AND MOLDINGS.

THE WUNDERLICH MODEL "DURABESTOS" HOME
... a delightful example of Low-Cost Housing

Certainly designed to suit Australian living conditions, the finest representation of the world of the "Durabestos" Home, erected at Brisbane, Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Melbourne. This model house which is open for inspection, is an outstanding example of the excellent LOW-COST yet unobscured front type of buildings that is made possible by the use of "Durabestos" for walls. A roof of mineral Wunderlich Terra-Cotta tiles adds to its attractiveness and affords permanent protection against the conditions of heat and weather.

IMPORTANT.—The designs illustrated in this Booklet are intended as a guide to House Builders. Before adopting any one of them, an Architect should be consulted and plans and specifications to suit particular requirements prepared—first, the architect, referred to a competent Builder.

FIG. 2

WUNDERLICH "DURABESTOS" ASBESTOS-CEMENT BUILDING SHEETS

Monterey's fibro houses were economical products of the *Moderne* movement. Their fibro sheets were mostly installed horizontally rather than vertically, fibro cover strips emphasising this ground-hugging aspect as did corner windows and rounded building corners. The traditional verandah was old-fashioned and replaced by small curved porches and 'sunrooms'. Architecturally, they declared themselves part of a promised land of popular affluence, sun worship and progress. The Fibro Moderne houses of Monterey are a little fragment of California by Botany Bay.

The 1941 outbreak of war in the Pacific postponed this dream. Building materials and labour were directed to military purposes and remained in short supply, but Monterey continued to develop after 1945.

*The Fibro Moderne
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by Botany Bay.*

62 PASADENA STREET: This majestic Fibro Moderne house on its prominent corner block was a showpiece in Wunderlich's 1941 trade catalogue for Durabestos homes. Photographer: Russell Workman 2013.



FIBRO MODERNE HOUSES IN MONTEREY

43 CULVER STREET



'Paiscastle' has a 'Rising Sun' leadlight window set into a stepped pyramid frame. This stepped pyramid detail is used in other Fibro Moderne houses such as 71 Culver Street.

Designer: Unknown

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938

49 CULVER STREET



Another Wunderlich design built by the Brighton Construction builders; the house has kept its original features including the small flat roof over the side entry.

Designer: Modified Wunderlich design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938

Photographs pages 22 to 30:
Russell Workman 2013.

71 CULVER STREET

The distinctive rounded corners and projecting corner eaves are a defining characteristic of the Monterey Fibro Moderne house. The building and interior remains remarkably true to the original Wunderlich design.

Designer: Modified Wunderlich street elevation

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938–1941



85 CULVER STREET

This unique floor plan has two dramatically curved semi-circular bays that are emphasised by the deep eave overhangs. The small porch with a semi-circular flat roof survives together with its original porch light. The brick wall is also original.

Designer: Wunderlich design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1940



21 HOLLYWOOD STREET



'Rene' is one of the many houses built by Brighton Construction in Hollywood Street. The house retains its original chimney, brick-formed chimney pot and brick dwarf wall with ornamental brickwork.

Designer: Modified Wunderlich design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938

35 HOLLYWOOD STREET



This fibro house is unlike the Fibro Moderne examples in the suburb – it lacks the round corners and its windows are centred rather than on the corners. It does have a similar chimney, brick dwarf walls (now rendered) and fibro cladding and is loosely based on a Hardies design.

Designer: Elements of James Hardie & Co. design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938

41 HOLLYWOOD STREET

This is a unique L-plan fibro cottage with a long, projecting front bay with casement windows that dramatise its round corners. The original house design has been modified from the original Wunderlich house plan.

Designer: Modified Wunderlich design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938



68 HOLLYWOOD STREET

This house is an exceptionally large fibro home with considerable depth that is reflected in the high price of construction (£775). The house and floor plan is an unusual synthesis of several Wunderlich plans.

Designer: Modified Wunderlich design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938



70 HOLLYWOOD STREET



This house design follows plans from the Wunderlich Durabestos catalogue. Although its chimney is missing, it still demonstrates the key features of the Monterey Fibro Moderne style, including the decorative brick front fence.

Designer: Wunderlich design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938

75 HOLLYWOOD STREET



The roof shows that this modest Fibro Moderne cottage is based on a near-square plan. Unlike Monterey counterparts, the projecting bay has been replaced by a street-front sunroom under its own flat roof.

Designer: Wunderlich elements

Builder: Owner / builder

Construction date: 1939

79 HOLLYWOOD STREET

Located on a wider block than usual, the house has a classical Fibro Moderne elevation with rounded corners, projecting eaves and corner windows framing a centre entrance covered by the original semi-circular flat-roof porch.

Designer: James Hardie & Co. design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1939



34 PASADENA STREET

The cottage at 34 Pasadena Street is a very conservative modification of Fibro Moderne style. The pre-formed rounded corners are modest and apart from the chimney and fence there are few of the more classic characteristics.

Designer: Wunderlich elements

Builder: R. Daly

Construction date: 1941



39 PASADENA STREET



A classic example of Monterey Fibro Moderne style, this hipped-roof cottage has its original chimney, a projecting bay with enclosed front porch, corner windows and deep semi-circular corners. A picture window has been added.

Designer: Wunderlich elements

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938

62 PASADENA STREET



Unique among the suburb's Fibro Moderne houses with its expansive frontages and a garage under the same roof plan, this house was a show piece for the versatility of fibro products. Round corners are visible from every aspect of the house and despite its diminutive size it occupies a prominent Pasadena Street corner.

Designer: Wunderlich design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1940

64 PASADENA STREET

Originally designed directly from the Wunderlich catalogue, the house has since been modified a number of times but retains its projecting round bays, round corners and corner windows.

Designer: Wunderlich design

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1940



70 PASADENA STREET

The house has the Fibro Moderne round corners on every bay as well as the entrance. The projecting bay has the traditional hipped roof with terracotta tiles. The windows would have been timber framed originally.

Designer: James Hardie & Co. design

Builder: Owner / builder (Antonio Dal Santo)

Construction date: 1946



35 MONTEREY STREET



This unique Fibro Moderne house has been dramatically adapted from its Wunderlich origins. A projecting bay to the street has typical rounded corners but one of the corners has been adapted to a three-step corner with casement windows. The carpentry required to make these adaptations required considerable skill, suggesting that the second owner, Herb Ferguson, a boat builder, may have put his own skills into the building.

Designer: Wunderlich design

Builder: Unknown

Construction date: 1940

26 SCARBOROUGH STREET



This modest Fibro Moderne cottage has a rigidly rectilinear composition. It has round corners with the entrance covered with a semi-circular flat-roofed porch. The rounded steps leading to the porch may reflect a porch design lost at other sites.

Designer: Unknown

Builder: Brighton Construction

Construction date: 1938

WARNING: ASBESTOS

ASBESTOS IS A KNOWN CARCINOGEN.

The inhalation of asbestos fibres can cause mesothelioma, lung cancer, asbestosis and asbestos-related pleural disease. Asbestos can release fibres into the air when disturbed. It is prevalent during the renovation and demolition of buildings containing asbestos, and when there is any direct action on the asbestos, such as drilling, boring, cutting, filing, brushing, grinding, sanding, breaking, smashing, blowing with compressed air and water blasting.

If material containing asbestos is left undisturbed airborne fibres will not be released and therefore they will not pose a risk to health.

Please seek professional advice before beginning repairs or renovations to materials containing asbestos.

For more information visit the WorkCover NSW website:
www.workcover.nsw.gov.au.

68 HOLLYWOOD STREET.

This cottage was constructed in 1938. A section of the panoramic curved window design has been replaced with the 1950s favourite, the 'picture window'.
Photographer:
Russell Workman
2013.



