

## Heritage Citation



### 180 Vulture Street, South Brisbane

#### Key details

<b>Addresses</b>	At 180 Vulture Street, South Brisbane, Queensland 4101
<b>Type of place</b>	Terrace house
<b>Period</b>	Federation 1890-1914
<b>Style</b>	Queenslander
<b>Lot plan</b>	L1_BUP13526; L2_BUP13526; L3_BUP13526; L4_SP240780; L5_SP240780
<b>Key dates</b>	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 October 2000 Date of Citation — July 2006
<b>Construction</b>	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

**People/associations** Alfred Urry (Builder)

**Criterion for listing** (A) Historical; (A) Historical; (B) Rarity

This terrace building was constructed in 1892 as a speculative investment by South Brisbane builder Alfred Urry who had constructed the two houses adjacent houses at no. 176 and no. 178 three years earlier. He also built the adjacent shop at number 186. An uncommon timber multiple dwelling, it was built at a time when there was much interest in speculative property investment in South Brisbane, and it has remained in use as rental accommodation since completion.

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## History

In 1885 Alfred Urry, a South Brisbane builder, purchased one rood, ten and a half perches on a ridge fronting Vulture Street. He subdivided the land and in 1889, built two identical timber workers cottages on the easternmost blocks. In 1892 he built this attached house containing three separate dwelling units beside the cottages and also a store on the eastern corner. Because Urry subdivided the land before the enactment of the Undue Subdivision of Land Prevention Bill of 1885, he was allowed to build on allotments smaller than 16 perches.

Urry was following a trend of speculative investment in South Brisbane that burgeoned in the boom years of the 1880s. He let out the row of dwellings to a variety of tenants, most of whom were transient, staying for no longer than twelve months before moving on. The residents were predominantly manual workers. Many were labourers, painters, carpenters and maritime workers, however there was also a minority of white collar workers, mainly salesmen and insurance agents.

At the time that this terrace house was constructed Urry lived close by in Tribune Street and it is likely he constructed the building himself. Urry died in June 1903 and the trustees of his property commissioned the Queen Street auctioneer G.H. Blocksidge to sell the estate. On Saturday 4 June 1904 the building was opened for inspection and George Randall, a wealthy entrepreneur of South Brisbane purchased the four subdivisions containing the two detached houses, three attached dwellings and shop for £675. An estate map advertising the properties prior to their sale shows that each detached house contained seven rooms and the attached terrace house comprised two dwellings of three and one dwelling of four rooms.

The nature of residents after Randall bought the dwellings followed the same pattern as before. Randall retained his rental investment for 65 years until 1969 when the property was sold. It has since been sold a number of times and remains a rental property to this day.

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## Description

This building fronts Vulture Street and is a multiple dwelling containing three apartments. The main roof of is of

similar pitch to the roofs at no. 176 and 178 but longer and hipped at each end. Its verandah spans the entire frontage of the building and has a curved corrugated iron roof like the neighbouring dwellings.

The entry doors are not located centrally on each tenancy but to one side; on the left for the most westerly, and the right for the remaining two.

At the rear the building has two storeys with the lower level set below Vulture Street. There is a verandah spanning the length of the rear at the upper level and each individual tenancy also has a lean-to structure at the lower level.

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## Statement of significance

### Relevant assessment criteria

This is a place of local heritage significance and meets one or more of the local heritage criteria under the Heritage planning scheme policy of the *Brisbane City Plan 2014*. It is significant because:

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#### Historical

##### CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history as it reflects the trend of speculative interest in rental investment that burgeoned in South Brisbane in the 1880s.

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#### Historical

##### CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history as a surviving working class terrace house constructed in timber in South Brisbane in the late 1880s.

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#### Rarity

##### CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage as part of an uncommon group of timber buildings intended as rental investment comprising the two detached

houses at 176 and 178 Vulture Street, the shop at 186 Vulture Street, and this terrace building at 180 Vulture Street.

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## References

1. Titles Office Records
  2. Post Office Directories
  3. John Oxley Library Estate Map Collection
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**Note:** This citation has been prepared on the basis of evidence available at the time including an external examination of the building. The statement of significance is a summary of the most culturally important aspects of the property based on the available evidence, and may be re-assessed if further information becomes available. The purpose of this citation is to provide an informed evaluation for heritage registration and information. This does not negate the necessity for a thorough conservation study by a qualified practitioner, before any action is taken which may affect its heritage significance.

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