



Heritage Citation



Andrew O'Driscoll's Cottage

Key details

Addresses	At 21 Twine Street, Spring Hill, Queensland 4000
Type of place	Cottage, House
Period	Victorian 1860-1890
Style	Queenslander
Lot plan	L11_SP105750
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — January 2009
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber
Criterion for listing	(A) Historical; (D) Representative; (E) Aesthetic

This modest tin and timber cottage was built in the 1870s for Andrew O'Driscoll, a police sergeant. It demonstrates the pattern of development in Spring Hill in the mid to late nineteenth century when workers' cottages were built on small allotments in the lower side streets while prestigious homes and institutions were established on the fashionable streets along the ridges such as Wickham Terrace.

History

Historical research indicates that this modest timber cottage was built in the 1870s for Andrew O'Driscoll, a police sergeant. It is one of a pair of cottages owned by the Driscoll family in the 1870s.

Both sides of Twine Street were subdivided from the original portions into small allotments in the early 1860s soon after the land was granted to its first European owners. The street was well established by 1876 when postal records list 14 households.

Allotment 4 in Twine Street, measuring just over 17 perches, was purchased by Andrew O'Driscoll (also known as Driscoll) by 1872. He was living in the cottage by the mid 1870s but appears to have subsequently rented the property to a succession of tenants, including a cab proprietor and a storeman. At this time, the house was no. 6 Twine Street. The neighbouring property at 25 Twine Street (originally no. 8) was owned by O'Driscoll's wife, Kate, from 1879 (or earlier) until 1908.

By 1905, Andrew O'Driscoll had been promoted to Inspector of Police and was living in Maryborough. He returned to Brisbane within a couple of years and took up residence with his wife, Kate, in Cordelia Street, South Brisbane.

Twine Street is slightly higher along the rise of Wickham Terrace and the cottages at nos. 21 and 25 are more substantial homes than the tiny cottages in neighbouring Lilley Street. The occupants of Twine Street often had more skilled occupations which had a higher social status and income, such as printer, master mariner, bootmaker, confectioner, shipwright, accountant and Courier reporter.

Driscoll sold his property at 21 Twine Street in 1907. In 1912 it was purchased by Andrew S Mills who took up residence in the house. The house remained in the Mills family until 1969. It has since had several owners.

This house is significant as modest 1870s Spring Hill cottage. It provides evidence of the pattern of development in the area from the mid-19th century which saw wealthy citizens build substantial homes on the ridges while those of lesser means, for example, artisans and the working class, occupied smaller homes on lower land.

No 21 Twine street is one of a pair of similar cottages which have survived modern development in the area surrounding Twine and Lilley Streets.

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:

Historical

CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history

as one of pair of 1870s cottages which demonstrate the pattern of social stratification and residential development in Spring Hill during the mid-late nineteenth century.

Representative

CRITERION D

The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places

as good example of a modest traditional timber and tin workers' cottage.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance

as an attractive traditional cottage with simple detailing and pleasing symmetrical proportions.

References

1. Brisbane City Council Building Cards
 2. Brisbane City Council Detail Plans
 3. Commonwealth Electoral Rolls. Subdivision of Maryborough 1905, Subdivision of Brisbane South 1908
 4. Department of Natural Resources, titles records
 5. Lawson, Ronald 1973, *Brisbane in the 1890s: A Study of an Australian Urban Society*, University of Queensland Press, St. Lucia
 6. Queensland Post Office Directories
 7. Rechner, Judy. *Spring Hill Heritage Tour Wickham Terrace*. Brisbane: Playground & Recreation Association of Qld in association with Brisbane History Group and Applied History Centre, U of Q
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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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