

Heritage Citation

Anzac Cottage

Key details

Addresses	At 31 Ardentallen Road, Enoggera, Queensland 4051
Type of place	Cottage, House
Period	World War I 1914-1918, Interwar 1919-1939
Style	Queenslander
Lot plan	L125_SL12030
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 November 2012 Date of Citation — January 2009
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber
People/associations	Anzac Cottage Trust (Association); Golden Casket (Association)
Criterion for listing	(A) Historical; (B) Rarity; (D) Representative; (H) Historical association

31 Ardentallen Rd was built in 1917-20 under the Anzac Cottage Scheme, an initiative of the Queensland War Council under the sub-committee named the Anzac Cottage Trust. Its directive was to establish homes for widows and their dependants of enlisted men killed in the First World War. The construction of the homes was funded by the Queensland Lottery, 'Golden Casket' and they were built using volunteer labour. Only thirty-eight Anzac Cottages were built in Brisbane, many of which no longer survive. 31 Ardentallen Rd is important as a rare surviving example of an Anzac Cottage in Brisbane.

History

The Enoggera area in the late nineteenth century was predominately rural. Many early farmers grazed cattle or

sheep as well as growing crops such as vegetables and sugar cane. Several farmers in this period introduced vineyards and winemaking to the region. The Pickering family in particular grew grapes and produced a red wine they labelled as 'Rose Hill'. Pickering Street, Gaythorne was named after this pioneering family whose farm was situated adjacent to the Rifle Range (Gaythorne) railway station. The Nicholson family also had a vineyard and were locally renowned for their underground wine cellar. Along various parts of Kedron Brook Chinese farmers established market gardens and lived in small dwellings along the brook. Their produce was sold at the Roma Street Markets.

The coming of the railway assisted in the increase of development and population. In 1899 a branch line to Enoggera was built, mainly to service the Newmarket saleyards but it was later extended facilitating the development of the suburbs of Mitchelton and Gaythorne. By 1916 the line reached Gaythorne, the station then known as Rifle Range. The name stemmed from the Commonwealth Government rifle range on the southern side of Samford Road. With the commencement of the First World War in 1914 the rifle range's proximity to the station facilitated its use as a military camp. The war had a major impact on the Mitchelton and Gaythorne areas as several large military camps were established on Frasers Paddock (Enoggera Army Barracks) and Bells Paddock for the training and accommodation of troops prior to their departure to war from the Pinkenba wharves. Enoggera Barracks became a permanent army barracks as a result of the war.

The Anzac Cottage Trust was established in Queensland in 1915 in an effort to ease the hardship experienced by the widows and children of soldiers and sailors killed in the First World War. The scheme provided timber cottages, mostly built on donated land and constructed by volunteer labour. Much of the material used for the construction of the cottages was supplied at cost price by many Brisbane businesses.

In September, 1915 the Anzac Cottage Trust was established in Brisbane as a sub-committee of the Queensland War Council. The committee's objective was to acquire land for the construction of homes for the widows and dependants of enlisted men, both military and naval, killed in the war and to establish new homes on the land. The proceeds for the establishment of the cottages were funded from the profits made by the Queensland lottery "Golden Caskets", lottery numbers three, four and five. This was an initiative of the Anzac Cottage Committee headed by Harry Coyne, MP.

The committee was also responsible for delegating who would occupy the houses. A prerequisite for occupancy was that the widow was to be of 'good character', remain unmarried and respectable. The widow was to pay a small rent of 1/6 per week as well as the rates and other expenses. The land was to be held in perpetuity by the Public Curator, with the widow or dependant signing a lease. The rental paid was to fund the ongoing maintenance of the cottages. If the widow was to re-marry it was required that the cottage be vacated.

In Brisbane thirty-eight Anzac Cottages were built, in 1917 the first one was opened in Wynnum. 31 Ardentallen Rd is a rare surviving example of a Queensland Anzac Cottage and as such plays an important role in Brisbane's First World War history and the impact the conflict had on the Brisbane community in this period.

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

31 Ardentallen Rd is important in demonstrating the pattern of Brisbane's history, built under the Anzac Cottage Scheme to provide accommodation for the families of Queensland enlisted soldiers or sailors who died in the First World War. These houses were funded with the proceeds of the Queensland lottery, draws three, four and five.

Rarity

CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage

As a rare aspect of Brisbane's cultural heritage as a surviving Anzac Cottages, built under the Anzac Cottage Scheme.

Representative

CRITERION D

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

As a particularly intact example of an Anzac Cottage.

Historical association

CRITERION H

The place has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organization of importance in the city's or local area's history

The place has a special association with the work of the Anzac Cottage Trust, a sub-committee of the Queensland War Council and a special association with the Queensland lottery, the Golden Casket. This particular house has a special association with the family to which it was given as a measure of community appreciation for the sacrifice made during WW1.

References

1. EPA Cultural Heritage Citation, “Strathern”
2. *Historic Titles*, Department of Natural Resources and Water
3. Queensland Post Office Directories
4. *Metropolitan Water and Sewage Survey Maps*, 1949

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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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