

Heritage Citation

City Electric & Light (CEL) Company Manhole Cover

Key details

Addresses	Road Reserve Edward Street, Brisbane City, Queensland 4000
Type of place	Roadway
Period	Victorian 1860-1890
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2009 Date of Citation — August 2015
Criterion for listing	(A) Historical; (B) Rarity

This cast iron manhole cover with timber inlays is a rare surviving example of a City Electric and Light Company (CEL) manhole cover from the early twentieth century. It is one of a series of manhole covers and cast iron junction boxes that were placed along CBD roads and footpaths, that facilitated the spread of an electricity grid throughout Brisbane. It is a remnant of the important City Electric and Light (CEL) Company while the timber inserts are rare evidence of the wood-block paving that covered Queen Street in the late nineteenth century.

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 it marks the early expansion of the electricity grid throughout the CBD.

Rarity

CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage as a cast iron CEL manhole cover from the turn of the twentieth century with inlaid timber reflecting the wood-block paving that covered Queen Street at that time.

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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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