

Heritage Citation



Saltwater Standpipe

Key details

Addresses	Opposite 255 Wickham Terrace, Spring Hill, Queensland 4000
Type of place	Standpipe
Period	World War I 1914-1918
Geolocation	-27.465551 153.022595
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — April 2002
Construction	Structure: Cast iron
Criterion for listing	(A) Historical; (B) Rarity

The saltwater standpipe in Wickham Terrace is evidence of the development and maintenance of roads in Brisbane in the early 20th Century. It is one of the few visible relics of Brisbane's saltwater reticulation system.

History

This standpipe is relic of an elaborate saltwater reticulation system completed about 1916. The salt water was pumped from the Brisbane River and used to wash street gutters, flush drains and lay the dust from unpaved roads. The pump was located near the William Jolly Bridge and the reservoir at the junction of Leichhardt Street and Wickham Terrace. The service was later discontinued due to the corrosive effect of the river water on the undercarriages of motor cars and trams.

Parts of the underground piping from the river serving this standpipe may still exist.

Description

This tapering cast iron standpipe stands on the Wickham Terrace footpath, beside Wickham Park. It is approximately 3m high and, above ground, comprises three sections of pipe with flanged connections. A section of the domed top piece appears to have broken off. The lowest section of pipe bears the inscription "Evans

Anderson Phelan & Co, Brisbane” in relief lettering.

Notwithstanding the broken top section and apparent lack of valve outlet, the standpipe appears to be in good condition. The extent of pipework below the ground was not investigated.

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 evidence of the early development and maintenance of roads in early 20th Century Brisbane.

Rarity

CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage as one of the few visible relics of Brisbane's saltwater reticulation system.

References

1. Brisbane City Council - City Assets Branch *Conservation Management Study* Stage 1 Report. November 2002

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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.

Citation prepared by — Brisbane City Council (page revised September 2021)



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