

Heritage Citation



Walmar

Key details

Also known as	Joalong
Addresses	At 22 Jane Street, West End, Queensland 4101
Type of place	House
Period	Federation 1890-1914
Style	Queenslander
Lot plan	L13_RP11142; L14_RP11142
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 October 2000 Date of Citation — July 2011
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

This residence was built circa 1905 for medical practitioner Patrick Smith. He called his new home 'Joalong'. It was one of a number of upper middle class residences that were built on the hilly, southern side of Jane Street during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. This location provided views, breezes and was very close to the Boundary Street shops and tramline. In 1921, Elizabeth Simmons bought the property. Elizabeth and her husband Robert subsequently changed the name of the house to 'Walmar'.

History

The elevated sections of the southern side of Jane Street in West End attracted numerous members of the upper middle classes of Brisbane in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, who built their private residences along this street, taking advantage of the northerly aspect. As a testimony to the varied class structure of the West End and South Brisbane population at this time, the northern side of Jane Street was home to members of the lower middle class, and skilled labourers, who naturally built more modest residences along this street. Some material evidence of this juxtaposition is visible in the present.

This prominent residence was probably built in the early 1900s during the ownership of Patrick Smith, medical practitioner. The large house, set on 48 perches, probably replaced two earlier houses on this site. Smith had bought the site in 1890, renting out the premises to bankers and clerks. It would appear that Smith demolished the previous buildings, and had this house built, circa 1905. It was known as 'Joalong'. Title passed to Stella Mabel Chapman the wife of tailor James Frederick Chapman in 1911. In 1921, Elizabeth Sussanah Simmons, wife of Robert Simmons bought the house and land. It was referred to as 'Walmar' during the Simmons' ownership.

This house has passed through a number of owners since then; the present owner purchased the property in 1984.

Description

This large prestigious Federation house is the most prominent on Jane Street. It is two storeys high including an attic level set into its broad cross shaped gable ended roof. A verandah with a separate skillion roof skirts the lower level. This house is raised on stumps with diagonal timber lattice shielding the undercroft. A stair with timber battening to each side rises to an entry on the eastern elevation. The verandah has a timber dowel balustrade with the verandah posts highlighted by the use of decorative curved screens of battening making elliptical openings between them. Timber and glass French doors organised symmetrically below the gable end open out onto the verandah. At the peak of the gable is a panel of vertical timber battening. A brick chimney rises from the ridge of the gable parallel to Jane Street at its western end. The eastern face of this same gable has an

open balcony situated above the verandah below.

The left of the main house is a separate smaller gable roofed building with similar timber detailing set low to the ground. The elevation of the main house is emphasised by the steep drop to Jane Street where a tall brick retaining wall has a picket fence upper section. The grounds of the house feature slender palm trees.

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 reflects the respectability of South Brisbane as an upper middle class suburb at the turn of the century.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance as a fine example of a upper-middle class Federation era residence, for its intactness and fine timber detailing, located on a ridge for its aspect and status, and for its contribution to Jane Street.

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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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