



Heritage Citation



20 Inwood Street, Woollowin

Key details

Addresses	At 20 Inwood Street, Woollowin, Queensland 4030
Type of place	Cottage, House
Period	Victorian 1860-1890
Style	Queenslander
Lot plan	L37_RP19430
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — July 2003
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Brick - Painted

Criterion for listing

(A) Historical; (B) Rarity; (C) Scientific

Owned and built by workers associated with the brickmaking industry, this rare nineteenth century brick cottage has a close association with this important early manufacturing industry in Brisbane. This house reflects the importance of local brickworks during the late nineteenth century which led to a number of brick houses being built at this time in suburbs such as Woolloowin, Lutwyche and Windsor and is a fine, substantially intact example of its type.

History

In April and May 1859 Robert Lock Thorrold bought portions 194 and 197 – a total of 98½ acres, at a cost of £1 an acre. Thorrold would later be appointed Associate to Judge Lutwyche and Supreme Court Librarian. He built his house in the north-eastern part of this holding, near the corner of the present-day Thorrold Street and Kent Road. Thorrold did not subdivide the land himself, instead holding the land for over three decades before selling to George Cowlshaw in October 1881. Cowlshaw was an architect, director of a Stanthorpe tin mining company, prospector, and a lessee of oyster beds, amongst his various business interests. With his brother James, George purchased the Telegraph Newspaper Co., later becoming its Chairman and Managing Director. James also had other newspaper interests, as a director of the rival *Brisbane Courier* before the *Telegraph* purchase.

This large holding in the northern Brisbane suburbs was evidently an investment for Cowlshaw. After resumption of 25 acres by the Commissioner of Railways for the Brisbane-Sandgate railway line, the remaining land was divided into 743 “villa sites”. The resulting “Thorrold Town Estate” was marketed by auctioneer John Cameron in July 1882 as having Bay and Island views, no bad drainage or smells, served by its own railway station, and already cleared of scrub to make for easy gardening. The first sale was finalised in September 1882; however it would take over twenty years for all the lots to be sold.

The inner northern suburbs of Albion, Woolloowin and Lutwyche began to be developed and populated as a result of the building of this rail line to Sandgate. The successful completion of the Ipswich-Brisbane rail line in 1876 encouraged those desiring a rail link to Sandgate to press their claims. After consideration of several alternative routes, the Government in 1880 approved a line running from Roma Street, through Albion, and northwards and eastwards to terminate at Sandgate. The contract was let to George Bashford & Co, the line formally opened on 10 May 1882. Regular services began the next day.

When the line first opened, stations had been constructed at Lutwyche (later renamed Woolloowin, and moved north by 140 metres in 1900), Thorroldtown (inserted in 1885 600 metres north of Lutwyche), and Eagle Junction. The 1882 Lutwyche Station was regarded as being at the fringes of suburban development, but development was proceeding quickly, as indicated by the 1885 construction of Thorroldtown Station as a part of a private land development. Thorroldtown Station closed in 1890, after only five years.

Inwood Street began to be populated by tradesmen, virtually of them involved in the building industry. Undoubtedly many of the residents were employed in the construction of Woolloowin and nearby suburbs. For example the 1891 *Queensland Post Office Directory* listed seven of the eight residents of the street as bricklayers (neighbours John Pierpoint and Edwin Fawkes), carpenters or joiners.

In September 1888 bricklayer John Pierpoint bought this sixteen-perch block, and almost immediately built his cottage. As Pierpoint married Annie Bird in March the following year (on the same day bricklayer neighbour Edwin Fawkes married Marion Halls) it seems that the purchase of the land and construction of the cottage was to provide a marital home. John and Annie Pierpoint moved into the cottage and lived there.

Brickmaking was one of the earliest manufacturing enterprises in Brisbane, and in the 1870s and 1880s was concentrated principally in the Lutwyche-Kedron district (which then included parts of Woolloowin and Windsor). Bricks were generally made by hand until the 1870s and 1880s, when mechanised processes such as the Hoffman method began to take over. During this period, the greatest concentration of brickyards in Brisbane appears to have been in the Lutwyche area. Well-known Lutwyche brickmakers of this period included William Anderson, Samuel Hedge and Son, John Salt, George and Charles Starkey, and William Williams. Williams operated a claypit on the corner of Inwood and Norman Streets, and it was probably here that John Pierpoint and neighbour Edwin Fawkes obtained their bricks. One or both of these men may well have also worked for Williams.

One outstanding feature of the character of Windsor, Lutwyche and surrounding suburbs is the number of nineteenth-century brick residences. These range from grand houses such as Boothville at Windsor to small workers' cottages.

The house is significant as a rare example in Brisbane of a modest brick worker's cottage. It provides evidence of development of Woolloowin as an outpost of Brisbane during the late nineteenth century, particularly of the flourishing brickmaking industry in the area at that time.

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

for the evidence it provides of the development of Woolloowin during the 1880s.

Rarity

CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage as a rare, surviving example of a late nineteenth century brick working class cottage in Brisbane.

Scientific

CRITERION C

The place has the potential to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the city's or local area's history

for the evidence it may provide on brick making and house construction methods in the late nineteenth century.

References

1. Brisbane City Council Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Detail Plans
2. Brisbane City Council Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Detail Plans
3. Department of Natural Resources, Certificates of Title.
4. Kerr, J 1988, *Brunswick Street, Bowen Hills and Beyond: the Railways of the Northern suburbs of Brisbane*, Australian Railway Historical Society, Brisbane
5. John Oxley Library photographs & clippings files
6. McKellar's Estate Maps of Brisbane, 1895
7. Queensland Government, *Queensland Pioneers Index 1829-1889*, (Brisbane: Department of Justice and Attorney General, 2000)
8. *Queensland Post Office Directories, 1887-1949*
9. Windsor & Districts Historical Society 2000, *A Walk Through the History of Thorrolldown and Maida Hill*
10. Windsor & Districts Historical Society 2000, *A Walk Through the History of Thorrolldown*

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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 June 2022)



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