

Heritage Citation



56 Shuttleworth Street, Kuraby

Key details

Addresses	At 56 Shuttleworth Street, Kuraby, Queensland 4112
Type of place	House
Period	World War II 1939-1945
Style	Old English
Lot plan	L1_SP173998
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — June 2003
Construction	Roof: Terracotta tile; Walls: Timber
People/associations	William Effy (Occupant)

History

This house is located on a property first taken up by Christian Olsen in 1876. The parcel of land originally consisted of 56 acres 3 roods and 10 perches, located on portions 53 and 54 of the eight mile Plains Agricultural Reserve.

The land passed through a number of owners before being purchased by florist H.A Peterson Ltd. Although the titles reveal that the company took out two mortgages over the property in 1919 and 1922 it was the next owner William Effy who had the subject dwelling erected in c1940.

Effy had purchased the property through his company Rows Pty Ltd in December 1939. Effy was proprietor (Director) of the popular Edward Street eatery Rows Café, eventually purchasing the building the café was housed in. This building became known as the “Rows Building” and is State Heritage listed.

Effy applied through his company, Rows Pty Ltd, Edward St, City, to the Brisbane City Council to build a dwelling at Beenleigh Road, Kuraby in April 1940. While no architect's name is recorded with the application record for this house. Rows Café underwent remodelling in c1925 under the control of the significant and important Queensland architectural firm of Messrs Hall and Prentice. One of the members of the above firm many have later designed the dwelling. It is also likely that material from the café, particularly internal fittings, from the dwelling. It is also likely that material from the café, particularly internal fittings, from the 1920s works or subsequent alterations, were utilised in the Kuraby house.

Rows Pty Ltd acquired the Kuraby property in December 1939. At this particular time the property was just over 56 acres and 3 roods in size. Effy costed the construction of the dwelling at £1000.00 and declared that the contractor was “day labour”. Effy also applied to the Brisbane City Council for the installation of septic tanks due to the lack of a sewer being available in Kuraby.

There is little doubt that if Effy had delayed the construction of the dwelling, prohibitions on the use of the building materials and labour during and immediately after the war would have meant that construction would have been considerably delayed if not voided. Effy operated the Café from 1903 until the mid-twentieth century and apparently used the Kuraby property as his residence and to grow produce for the café.

Kuraby at this time, despite its proximity to Brisbane city, was very much a rural community with the Post Office Directories disclosing that the predominant occupation was that of farmer.

Subdivisions occurred under a number of subsequent owners however the current owner, the Stiller family, purchased the allotment, with the subject dwelling located upon it, in August 1981. Currently the dwelling is still located within a rural setting but is gradually being enveloped by the numerous subdivisions in this area as Kuraby develops.

Description

This is an English Revival Tudor-style residence, located on a prominent site surrounded by mature trees. While of an interwar style, this dwelling was erected during the early WWII period in the semi-rural locality of Kuraby. It was not uncommon for the interwar styles to be continued into the war periods, where owners were permitted to build.

While this particular style was part of an international phenomenon particularly associated with the “nouveaux riche”, and according to Rechner given the term “Stockbroker Tudor”, it is unusual for an English revival styled house to be found in a semi-rural area of Brisbane 1.

The steep roof is of terracotta tile and encloses an attic story with at least one dormer gable to the building's front elevation. Half-timber Tudor style walls are also visible.

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 an existing interwar styled dwelling erected during the early WWII period at Kuraby.

Rarity

CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage as an example of an English Revival style residence erected in a semi-rural area within the City of Brisbane.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance

as an existing example of inter-war English Revival architecture, principally of mock Tudor style erected during the wartime period.

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

for its association with well known Brisbane restaurateur William Effy, Rowes Café, and for the local Stiller family.

References

1. EJT Barton (ed), *Jubilee History of Queensland*, Brisbane, H.J. Diddams & Co, 1910
2. Brisbane City Council Building Register for 1940
3. Brisbane City Council. Kuraby District Local Area Plan Character Study. July 1996
4. Certificates of Title.
5. Post Office Directories.
6. Judy Gale Rechner, *Brisbane House Styles 1880 to 1940: a guide to the affordable house*, Brisbane: Brisbane History Group Studies No. 2, 1998
7. *Reports and Proceedings of the Brisbane City Council during the Period 1st July 1939 – 30 June 1940*
8. Watson, Donald and Judith McKay. *A Directory of Queensland Architects to 1940*. (St. Lucia: U of Q Press, 1984)

Copyright Brisbane City Council

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)



Dedicated to a better Brisbane