

Heritage Citation



Blind Soldier's House

Key details

Addresses At 52 Wesley Street, Lutwyche, Queensland 4030

Type of place House

Period World War I 1914-1918

Style Queenslander

Lot plan L27_RP64390

Key dates Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004
Date of Citation — February 2011

Construction Roof: Corrugated iron;
Walls: Timber

This house was built in 1918 using funds and labour donated by the local community for blind returned serviceman, Private Barnett, and his wife. The house provides evidence of the willingness of the community at that time to repay servicemen for the sacrifices they had made in World War I.

History

The House was constructed by volunteer labour, using donated materials on one and a half acres of donated land. The House was presented to Private Barnett by the then Governor, Sir Hamilton Goold-Adams on 14 December 1918.

The story of the house has become part of the local lore of the Lutwyche area, which was once part of Windsor Shire.

Description

The original cottage has been extended to the side and back. The western side of the front verandah has been enclosed and a gable added.

The interior of the original cottage appears largely intact and includes three fretwork panels featuring the emu and kangaroo crest.

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:

Social

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The place has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons

the house was constructed on a purely volunteer basis by members of the local community and therefore provides evidence of the local community's desire to recognise and reward the sacrifices made by Brisbane's soldiers during World War I.

References

1. Brisbane City Council Sewerage Maps
2. Jolly, W.A. *Souvenir of the Great War 1914-1919*. Brisbane: Watson, Ferguson & Co, 1919

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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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