

Heritage Citation



Bromley (former)

Key details

Addresses	At 19 Royal Terrace, Hamilton, Queensland 4007
Type of place	House
Period	Federation 1890-1914
Lot plan	L72_RP826169
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — January 2013
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber
Criterion for listing	(A) Historical; (E) Aesthetic

This timber Federation style house at the intersection of Royal Terrace and Pine Street was built circa 1908 for Elizabeth and Frederick “Ned” Baker. Frederick Baker was one of several brothers who established the Baker Bros painting and decorating business in Brisbane in the late nineteenth century. This firm played a significant role in the development of the painting and paint manufacturing industry in Brisbane.

History

This timber Federation era bungalow backing on to Crosby Park was built circa 1908 for successful painter and decorator, Frederick “Ned” Baker and his wife, Elizabeth.

The house is more modest than many of the grand homes built at Hamilton. This is in keeping with the pattern of development of the area established in the mid-nineteenth century which continued into the twentieth century. The prime building sites on the most elevated land with views of the river were built upon by the wealthy politicians and professional classes while lower streets provided homes for middleclass residents and tradespeople.

Frederick Baker was one of several brothers who established Baker Bros, a successful Brisbane painting and decorating business in the late nineteenth century. Frederick’s father, James, immigrated with his wife and children to Brisbane from the Forest of Dean in Gloucestershire circa 1876 on the ship, *The Scottish Prince*. Frederick’s brothers who were involved in the family business were Enoch, Tom, James and Martin (also known as Morton). Frederick later became the manager of the firm in the 1910s.

Subsequent generations of the Baker family continued to develop the business, diversifying into building and paint manufacturing. Baker Brothers were the first manufacturers of paint in Queensland, building a factory below Cloudland Ballroom at Bowen Hills (both since demolished). By the 1950s, Baker Brothers was the biggest painting firm in Brisbane, employing 125 painters. After Cyclone Tracey destroyed Darwin in 1974, the Baker Brothers played a significant role in the reconstruction of the city, remaining for ten years to assist with the rebuilding. Today, the fifth generation of Bakers, Paul and Jason, are continuing in the painting industry in Brisbane.

Some years after Baker Bros was established with premises at 100 Wickham St, Fortitude Valley, Elizabeth Baker acquired the parcel of 41 perches in Royal Terrace in September 1907. Frederick and Elizabeth built a house on the site, naming it ‘Bromley’. After the death of Elizabeth in 1923, the title passed to her husband, Frederick, who sold it in 1938.

The house originally straddled two lots opposite the intersection of Royal Terrace and Pine Street. In the late 1990s, these lots were reconfigured, the house relocated a short distance to the south of the site and a new house built on the new smaller allotment to the north (now 17 Royal Terrace). Despite this change, the original home has an important visual presence at this intersection. While more modest than many of the grander residences built in Hamilton at the turn of the century, the house with its projecting side and front gables and decorative timber filigree elements provides an attractive termination to the vista of Pine Street.

Statement of significance

This is a place of local heritage significance and meets one or more of the criteria for entry in the Heritage Register of the Brisbane City Plan 2000. It is significant for the following reason/s.

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 pattern of development in Hamilton and other Brisbane suburbs from the nineteenth century which saw wealthy professionals settle on prime elevated building sites while the business and working classes lived in lower area.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance

as an attractive Federation era residence which terminates the vista westward along Pine Street to Royal Terrace.

References

1. *Brisbane Courier*, 1866-1933
2. Queensland Electoral Rolls
3. Queensland Title Deeds
4. Queensland Post Office Directories
5. Phone conversation with Bob Baker, 10 Jan 2013
6. Conversation with Laurie Jones, descendant of Baker family, 15 Jan 2013

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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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