

Heritage Citation



Daheim

Key details

Addresses	At 69 Hillsdon Road, Taringa, Queensland 4068
Type of place	House
Period	Federation 1890-1914
Style	Bungalow
Lot plan	L1_RP102556
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 July 2002 Date of Information — June 2000
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

This high-set Bungalow style house was constructed between 1900 and 1904 for either F.C. Simmonds or, more likely, agricultural chemist Johannes Brunnich. Brunnich, who named the house 'Daheim' had purchased the land from Simmonds in 1903. Born in Austria-Hungary, he migrated to Queensland with his family in the late nineteenth century and after briefly working in the sugar industry was appointed Government Agricultural Chemist for the Queensland Department of Agriculture and was greatly respected in his field. After Johannes died in 1933, his wife Kate continued to live in the house for some time. The Brunnich family eventually sold the house in 1966.

History

Samuel Augustus Pethebridge, later Sir Samuel, inherited this land in 1897, following the death of Mary Jemima Simmonds. In August 1887 Samuel Augustus Pethebridge had married Mary Ada Simmonds, who was related to Mary Jemima Simmonds and John Howard Simmonds, living at 79 Hillsdon Road (next door).

At the time, Pethebridge was Secretary to the Marine Board, based in Edward Street in Brisbane. Pethebridge lived in Paddington. It is probable that he sold the land as a consequence of moving to Melbourne, with the transfer of the Marine Board functions to the Department of Defence, after Federation. He sold the land to agricultural chemist Johannes Christian Brunnich in 1903.

At this stage it is uncertain whether the present residence was built for Brunnich or for F.C. Simmonds. The Post Office Directories (PODs) indicate an FC Simmonds could have living at this residence or at John Simmonds' house. Despite the uncertainty of the exact origins of the house, it was certainly constructed by 1904, when the given land owner, Brunnich, is listed as living there.

Brunnich was born in Austria-Hungary, and studied chemistry at the Zurich Federal Polytechnic School. After migrating to Queensland, Brunnich initially worked in the sugar industry, but was soon appointed as Government Agricultural Chemist in the new Queensland Department of Agriculture. Brunnich also lectured at the new Queensland Agricultural College, Gatton. Brunnich is recognised as having had immense skill as a chemist and was reputedly held in great esteem by his colleagues.

When this appointment terminated, he moved to Brisbane, in 1902. He bought this land in July 1903, and presumably began to build immediately. Brunnich named the house 'Daheim'.

Brunnich died in 1933, but his widow Kate remained in the house for some time, at least until the 1940s. Although owned by a trustee company after Brunnich's death, it seems likely that Kate remained there until the sale of the house in 1966, probably following her death. If so, the same family had occupied the house for over sixty years.

Description

This building is a high-set house with encircling verandahs and large pyramidal corrugated iron roof with two chimneys. It is a Bungalow class of dwelling, having a continuous roofline, rather than separate verandah roofs. External walls are single-skin T&G vertical boarding with exposed framing and diagonal bracing.

The house is situated on a large block of land high on a ridgeline of Taringa, with views to the north and east.

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 evidence of the residential development of Taringa in the early twentieth century.

References

1. *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, vol. 7, 'Johannes Christian Brunnich'; vol 11, 'Sir Samuel Augustus Pethebridge'
2. Brisbane City Council Water Supply and Sewerage Detail Plans
3. Department of Natural Resources, Queensland Certificates of Title and other records, Environmental Protection Agency
4. JOL Estate Map Collection and photographic collection
5. Lawson, Ronald 1973, *Brisbane in the 1890s: A Study of an Australian Urban Society*, University of Queensland Press, St. Lucia

6. Surveyor-General's Office. *McKellar's Official Map of Brisbane and Suburbs*. Brisbane, 1895
7. Watson, Donald & Judith McKay 1994, *Queensland Architects of the 19th Century*, University of Queensland Press, St. Lucia

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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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