

Heritage Citation



Dalmuir

Key details

Addresses	At 10 Lama Street, Chelmer, Queensland 4068
Type of place	House
Period	Federation 1890-1914
Style	Bungalow
Lot plan	L1_RP41425
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2005 Date of Citation — December 2003
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber
People/associations	the Frew family (Association)

History

In 1892, Elizabeth Constance Frew purchased 7 allotments. Her husband, Robert Dickson Alison Frew, Civil Engineer, appears in the Postal Directory for Chelmer in 1894/95. Robert Frew was later involved as an Officer of the Chelmer School of Arts, 1923, as was Alison E. Harding Frew, Civil Engineer, who lived at 17 Laurel Tce ("Waterton") from 1913 to 1941.

It is possible that Frew's brother Archibald Smith Frew, a surveyor, engineer and architect, was involved with the design of the residence. At the estimated time of the dwelling's construction Archibald was in Bundaberg practicing as A.S Frew & Co, Civil engineers, surveyors and architects.

As the time of the dwelling's construction Brisbane was still under the effects of an economic recession that some have believed was so severe as to be a depression. The over-heated property market of the mid-1880s took a major downturn at the conclusion of that decade. As a consequence of this downturn in the 1890s, fewer larger dwellings, in comparison to that of the 1880s, were constructed. The building trade was so affected with the economic downturn that as a result of census taken in 1891 it was commented that the "financial crisis... (had)...almost totally stopped the building and timber trade."¹

Since the arrival of the rail line in the mid 1870s to the Graceville-Sherwood area, offering easy commuting transport to the city, together with its river aspects and cooling breezes, the locality had been a sought after residential suburb. A 1906 article noted the "...many prominent professional and businessmen who have sought its quiet seclusion..."² This dwelling at the time of construction reflects the social status its owner, R.D.A.Frew, had achieved.

The property was subsequently subdivided by Frew and the portion with the dwelling on was sold to Alexander Cossar in 1926. There was just over 38 perches remaining with the residence. Cossar remained owner of the property until his death in March 1950 where upon it was transferred to his widow Elizabeth Cosser. She remained owner of the property until her death in August 1954.

Description

This residence presents in the nineteenth century bungalow style with a central gable and a gabled porch entry. The dwelling is constructed of wood with a tin roof. It has two prominent chimneys. A separate roof, to the main structure, covers the verandahs.

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 substantial c19th Chelmer residence representing the important social status of the suburb.

Rarity

CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage
as an existing example of a substantial residence constructed during the economic downturn of the 1890s.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance
as an example of a substantial gabled c19th bungalow residence.

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
as a residence that has a relationship to the Frew family, in particular noted Queensland Engineer Robert Dickson Alison Frew.

References

1. *Queensland Votes and Proceedings*. (1892) 3: 833. Quoted in Ronald Lawson, *Brisbane in the 1890s: A study of an Urban Society*. (St Lucia, University of Queensland Press. 1987). p.53
2. "Brisbane Suburban Beauties: A World of Fair Scenes. No. VII – Around Chelmer", *The Brisbane Courier*. 7 July 1906. p.12
3. Brisbane City Council Water Supply and Sewerage Detail Plans
4. Cameron, Ian. *125 Years of State Public Works in Queensland 1859-1984*. Brisbane: Boolerong Publications. 1989
5. Certificates of Titles, Department of Natural Resources and Mines
6. R. Lawson *Brisbane in the 1890s* Brisbane:University of Queensland Press, 1987
7. Queensland Post Office Directories
8. *Walter Taylor South Character and Heritage Study*, BCC Heritage Unit, 1997
9. Watson, Donald and Judith McKay. *Queensland Architects of the 19th Century: A Biographical Dictionary*. Brisbane: Queensland Museum, 1994

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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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