

Heritage Citation



Delcotta

Key details

Addresses	At 19 Craven Street, Clayfield, Queensland 4011
Type of place	House
Period	Interwar 1919-1939
Style	Old English
Lot plan	L84_SP129261
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2011 Date of Citation — January 2009
Construction	Roof: Terracotta tile; Walls: Masonry - Render

People/associations Eric Percival Trewern (Architect)

Criterion for listing (A) Historical; (D) Representative; (E) Aesthetic; (H) Historical association

Delcotta is a fine example of an Interwar Old English style residence designed by influential Brisbane architect, EP Trewern. It was built 1929-30 for Mr and Mrs A. Ure McNaught, a Brisbane dentist and his wife. It provides valuable evidence of the transformation of Clayfield in the interwar years from a semi-rural retreat for the wealthy to a fashionable middleclass suburb.

History

Delcotta was built in 1929-30 shortly after the large block of land on which it is situated was purchased by Mrs A Ure McNaught, the wife of a Brisbane dentist.

The two-storey Old English style home was built on land which was part of the large gentleman's estate of Stanley Hall (now St Rita's College). This land was subdivided in the early 1920s by pastoralist, Edward Blume. In 1926, the remainder of the estate, including the 1885-86 mansion, was sold to the Order of the Sisters of the Presentation in Queensland. The Sisters established a convent school on the site – now St Rita's College. The houses built in Enderley Road, Craven Street and Alexandra Road during this period were often on large allotments and architect designed for Brisbane's professional and merchant classes.

The McNaughts engaged Brisbane architect, EP Trewern, to design a new home for their large corner block. Trewern who established his Brisbane practice in 1920 after working for the Queensland Government, was known for his commercial and domestic buildings designed in the latest architectural styles. He was also active in the development of professional bodies for architects in Queensland. Two of the best known examples of his domestic work are the homes El Nido (1928) on Kingsford Smith Drive, Hamilton and Santa Barbara (1929-30) at New Farm. Both houses were designed in the Spanish Mission style which Trewern is attributed with introducing to Brisbane. Trewern also designed homes influenced by the Californian Bungalow style, such as the 1924 home of Mrs Raff at 77 Enderley Road.

The McNaught's new home, which they named *Delcotta*, was constructed by builder, B Hollingsworth, in another of the Interwar period's popular styles, Old English or Mock Tudor. As the names suggest, these houses imitated the white rendered walls and half timbering of 16th century English architecture. Other characteristics of this style which appear in *Delcotta* include a tiled gabled roof, asymmetrical massing, tall chimney, oriel and bay windows with leadlight glazing, herringbone brickwork, catslide roof and the jettying of the upper storey. A rear wing connected the house to a garage and a small verandah facing south. Trewern designed several houses in this style which was particularly popular in Clayfield and the nearby suburbs of Ascot and Hamilton.

Like other attractive homes built in Enderley Road in this period, *Delcotta* featured in the newspapers of the day as the epitome of style. It was pictured in the *Truth* on 19 October 1930 along with the neighbouring house in Craven Street, also in the Old English style:

Set in spacious grounds at the corner of Enderley-road and Craven-street, Clayfield, the home of Mr and Mrs A. Ure McNaught has a stateliness and dignity only too rarely seen in Brisbane.....The house is built in the real English Tudor style, with walls of cream rough-cast on a red-brick base. The timbering of the walls is brown and the roof red-tiled. Striped awnings over the casements and porches add a note of the tropics which blends harmoniously with this typically English architecture.

Delcotta was sold in 1954 after the death of Mrs McNaught.. In 1974, the property was purchased by the Sisters of the Presentation, becoming once again part of the grounds surrounding Stanley Hall, now a school rather than a private residence. The house is now in private hands again.

Delcotta has been extended on the southern side with an addition which has been designed in a similar style. This does not detract from the significance of the house as an excellent example of the Interwar Old English style in Brisbane.

Description

Delcotta is a two storey rendered masonry house with imitation half timbering on the upper storey and a terracotta tiled roof. A small imitation shingle roof appears above the front entrance. The main roof has a series of gables and includes a tall chimney and a cat-slide roof on the northern side. The upper storey is slightly overhanging, a common feature of the Interwar Old English style architectural style.

The house features leadlight windows including an oriel window in the main body of the upper storey with a bay window underneath on the ground level. The brickwork beneath the bay window is constructed in a herringbone pattern.

A large extension in the same style has been added on the southern side of the house. The house is set amongst manicured gardens and lawns with a more recently added swimming pool near the northern boundary.

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 example of the architect designed homes on large blocks constructed in Clayfield during the Interwar period which completed the area's transformation to a fashionable middleclass suburb.

Representative

CRITERION D

The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places

as an excellent example of a Brisbane house built in the popular Interwar Old English or Mock Tudor style.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance

as a highly attractive house which features many of the characteristics of the Interwar Old English style.

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 representative example of the domestic Interwar architecture of influential Brisbane architect, Eric Percival Trewern.

References

1. Apperly, Richard et al. A pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture Sydney: Angus and

Robertson, 1989

2. A&B Journal. Brisbane. March 1930
3. Brisbane City Council sewerage detail plans and building cards
4. *Certificates of Title*, Department of Environment and Resource Management
5. Environmental Protection Agency. Queensland Heritage Register 602390 *El Nido*. Viewed 22 August 2009
6. Kennedy, Michael Owen, *Domestic Architecture in Queensland Between the Wars*, (UNSW. Master of Built Environment graduate report, January 1989)
7. Queensland Post Office Directories
8. *Truth* 19 Oct 1930

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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.

Citation prepared by — Brisbane City Council (page revised September 2020)



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