

## Heritage Citation



### Dr Hedley Brown Residence (former)

#### Key details

**Addresses** At 2 Rode Road, Wavell Heights, Queensland 4012

**Type of place** House, Clinic

**Period** Interwar 1919-1939

**Style** Old English

**Lot plan** L2\_RP106485

**Key dates** Local Heritage Place Since — 1 July 2003  
Date of Citation — February 2011

**Construction** Roof: Terracotta tile;  
Walls: Timber

**People/associations** Atkinson and Conrad (Architect)

Designed by noted Brisbane architectural firm Atkinson and Conrad, this combined residence and consulting rooms was constructed in 1927 for Dr Hedley Brown, who ran a general practice from the house for 27 years. The house is significant as an example of interwar development in Wavell Heights and as an example of Brisbane suburban Brisbane General Practitioners' residence.

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## History

Dr. Hedley James Brown purchased this property in August 1926. At this time just over three roods and eight perches in size, the land had previously belonged to the Shield family who had gradually subdivided the land over a number of years. Historical title deeds show Dr. Brown was the final purchaser from this subdivision.

Architectural firm Atkinson and Conrad called for tenders for the construction of a "Brick and tile residence and consulting rooms" in the *Architects' and Builders' Journal of Queensland*. Tenders were due by 11 April, 1927. Stronach and Son of Commercial Road, Fortitude Valley, successfully tendered for the job (announced in the June issue of the Journal) and an application was submitted on 11 June 1927 to the Brisbane City Council for permission to erect the building.

The firm Atkinson and Conrad was formed from the architectural firm Atkinson and McLay around 1918, after McLay's death. The firm subsequently had a number of partners, becoming at one time Atkinson, Powell and Conrad, and was regarded during the inter-war period as an "important and influential architectural firm." Important commissions included the Masonic Temple in Ann Street (circa 1930 – a competition winning design) and the Tristram's Factory, now the West End Markets.

Previously located at Brisbane Hospital, Brown arrived to practice in Nundah at sometime around 1922, residing at nearby Eton Street. He presumably opened his surgery at 2 Rode Road sometime in late 1927 or early 1928 after Stronach and Son completed their works. By 1942 he was practising at his Rode Road surgery and at Wickham Terrace in Brisbane.

In 1931 Brown sold of part the property to the Presbyterian Church. The rest of the property was sold following his death in July 1950. In December 1964 the new owners transferred a portion of the property facing Sandgate Road to Esso Standard Oil of Australia where a petrol station now stands.

This site is an example of a Brisbane suburban General Practitioner's combined residence and surgery constructed during the interwar period. This period was a notable developmental stage for Nundah, both in the growth of the population and the built environment.

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## 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:

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### Historical

#### CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history

as a doctor's surgery established in Wavell heights during the interwar years ' a time when there was significant development in the locale.

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### Representative

#### CRITERION D

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

as an example of an interwar suburban Brisbane General Practitioners' residence and consulting rooms.

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### Social

#### CRITERION G

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

as a local Doctor's surgery attended by many local residents from Wavell Heights and Nundah during the 1930s and 1940s.

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### 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 an example of the domestic work of the prominent and influential interwar architectural firm of Atkinson and Conrad.

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## Supporting images



Unknown photographer,  
'House in Rode Rd, Nundah, 1930',  
John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland

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## References

1. Allom Lovell Marquis-Kyle Architects, *Former Tristram's Factory West End: A Report outlining cultural significance and conservation policy for Heritage Development Corporation*. 1994
2. *The Architects' and Builders' Journal*. 11 April, 1927 p. 78 & 10 June, 1927 p.74.
3. Brisbane City Council Detail Plan No: 1337
4. Brisbane City Electronic Records - Building Cards & Archival Index
5. Brisbane City Council Building Register. June 1927. p.152.
6. Certificates of Title.
7. Nundah and Districts Historical Society files
8. Watson, Donald and Judith McKay. *A Directory of Queensland Architects to 1940*. (St. Lucia: U of Q Press, 1984)

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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 June 2022)



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