

Heritage Citation



Girrawheen

Key details

Addresses	At 71 Enderley Road, Clayfield, Queensland 4011
Type of place	House
Period	Interwar 1919-1939
Style	Queenslander
Lot plan	L14_RP34371; L13_RP34371
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2011 Date of Citation — January 2011
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

People/associations Sir Walter Campbell (Occupant)

Criterion for listing (A) Historical; (H) Historical association

Girrawheen, a traditional timber and tin residence. was built circa 1923 for James and Edna Milne. It was the home for almost three decades (1956-1985) of Sir Walter Campbell, a Chief Justice, Chancellor of the University of Queensland and Governor of Queensland from 1985 to 1992.

History

This timber home was built circa 1923 for James Milne, an insurance manager. It was one of a row of houses built along this southern section of Enderley Road in the 1920s when Edward Blume subdivided some of the land surrounding Stanley Hall, (now St Rita's College).

During the 1920s, Enderley Road and the surrounding area were undergoing a wave of housing development as the large "gentlemen's estates" of the late nineteenth century were subdivided. The new houses, for example the Spanish Mission style, Breffney, on the corner of Enderley and Alexandra Roads, were often built on several allotments allowing large houses with generous grounds to be established. In comparison, the Milnes' new home was a more modest one, a gabled, interwar style "Queenslander" built on two sixteen perch allotments.

James and Edna Milne purchased the 32 perch block of land in February 1922. In July of that year, they mortgaged the property for \$950 possibly to finance construction of their new home. Such a sum would have been more than sufficient to build a substantial timber house at that time. The Milnes lived in the house, which they named Girrawheen, until at least 1940, and sold the house in 1950. It was purchased in 1956 by Walter Campbell and his wife, Georgina.

Sir Walter Campbell was born in 1921 in Burringbar, NSW and educated in Lismore and Toowoomba. He served as an RAAF flying instructor in World War II before completing degrees in Arts and Law. In 1942 he married Georgina Pearce with whom he had three children.

Sir Walter was admitted to the Queensland Bar in 1948 and had a distinguished legal career. He became a Queen's Counsel in 1960 and served as Queensland's Chief Justice for three and a half years before being appointed Governor of Queensland in 1985. Another significant role was the Chancellorship of the University of Queensland, which he held from 1977 until 1985. Sir Walter Campbell retired from the Governor's Office in July 1992 but continued to be active in public life. He died at 83 on 4 September 2004.

The house at 71 Enderley Road was the home of Sir Walter Campbell and his family from circa 1956 until his appointment as Governor of Queensland in 1985. Council records show that Sir Walter applied to build a "bush house" in 1961 and carry out extensions and alterations in 1972. After his retirement in 1992, he lived at Ascot. In 1993, the ownership of 71 Enderley Road was transferred to Sir Walter's son, Wallace, and his wife Heather and became their family home. It was sold to the present owner in 2002.

The house has undergone some alterations over time, including an extension at the rear, but has retained its essential character as a gabled Interwar home. More recent extensions (2010) have slightly changed the front

façade of the house.

Description

Girrawheen was built in one of the many interpretations of the Queensland vernacular popular in the 1920s. It is an elevated timber and corrugated iron house with a dominant transverse gabled roof and two smaller street facing gables above the front porch and stairs. The stairs run parallel to the front of the house and have stepped balustrading with timber slats. The wall behind the stairs features a port-hole window and a set of casement windows. The porch verandah has a timber valance in a simple geometric design.

A small square verandah was originally located on the eastern side of the front of the house. The verandah was enclosed with a set of three paned casement windows. In 1910, alterations to the house extended the front verandah, opening up the enclosed eastern corner section.

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 one of a row of houses built in this section of Enderley Road in the 1920s when part of the Stanley Hall estate was subdivided and Clayfield was transformed from a wealthy semi-rural enclave to a fashionable suburb.

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 the family home for almost 30 years of Sir Walter Campbell, a Chief Justice and Governor of Queensland.

References

1. Brisbane City Council Building Cards
 2. Brisbane City Council aerial photographs 1946, 2001, 2007
 3. Brisbane City Council Detail Plan No. 336, 1933
 4. Commonwealth Electoral Rolls. Division of Lilley. 1913, 1924, 1936
 5. De Jersey, Chief Justice Paul AC. In memory of the late the honourable Sir Walter Campbell AC QC State Funeral, St John's Cathedral, 13 Sept 2004. Panegyric
 6. Queensland Post Office Directories
 7. Judy Gale Rechner, *Brisbane House Styles 1880 to 1940: a guide to the affordable house*, Brisbane: Brisbane History Group Studies No. 2, 1998
 8. *Telegraph.co.uk*. Obituary Sir Walter Campbell. 17 Sept 2004
 9. <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/obituaries/1471877/Sir-Walter-Campbell.html>, viewed 13 August 2009
-

Copyright Brisbane City Council

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)



Dedicated to a better Brisbane