

Heritage Citation



Hibernia Scotia Terrace

Key details

Also known as	Bloomsbury House
Addresses	At 15 Wellington Street, Petrie Terrace, Queensland 4000
Type of place	Terrace house
Period	Victorian 1860-1890
Style	Free Classical
Lot plan	L1_BUP106618; L2_BUP106618
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — April 2011
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Masonry

People/associations	A. Stombuco and Son (Architect); John Arthur M O'Keefe (Occupant)
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Criterion for listing	(B) Rarity; (D) Representative; (H) Historical association
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Irish born Ellen Mooney acquired this land in September 1865. A year later she married building contractor John Arthur Manis O'Keefe. John O'Keefe had built many of Brisbane's landmark buildings by the 1880s, and was the preferred contractor of the architectural firm Stombuco and Son. He built a number of terrace houses in Petrie Terrace, including this one which is likely to have been designed by Stombuco circa 1886-87.

History

Irish born Ellen Mooney acquired this land in September 1865. A year later she married building contractor John Arthur Manis O'Keefe. By the 1880s, John O'Keefe had built many of Brisbane's landmark buildings including St Partircks Church in Fortitude Valley, St Andrew's Church in South Brisbane, and Her Majesty's Opera House. He had become the preferred contractor of the architectural firm Stombuco and Son, operated by Andrea and Giovanni Stombuco.

O'Keefe acquired a number of blocks of land adjacent to the Wellington street land owned by his wife. He was responsible for the erection of nearby O'Keefe's Buildings (226-230 Petrie Terrace) circa 1881, where the family resided. It is probable this was also a Stombuco designed building. During 1886-87 Stombuco and Son designed additional terrace houses for O'Keefe in Petrie Terrace, which may be the Wellington Street terrace houses. The Wellington Street properties were built for rental purposes.

John O'Keefe died in 1913 and Ellen retained ownership until her death in 1931. They remained in the family until 1956. At that time the property was reportedly known as 'Bloomsbury House'.

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:

Rarity

CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage

a pair of nineteenth century terrace houses.

Representative

CRITERION D

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

As nineteenth century brick terrace houses.

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 terrace houses built by important building contractor John Arthur M O'Keefe.

References

1. Queensland Titles Records
2. Queensland Post Office Directories
3. *Brisbane Courier*, 1864-1933
4. Donald Watson and Judith McKay, *Queensland Architects of the Nineteenth Century*, South Brisbane: Queensland Museum, 1994
5. Brisbane City Council Heritage Unit Files

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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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