

Heritage Citation



Irving Villas & Clyde Villa

Key details

Also known as	Irving Villas No. 1 & No. 2
Addresses	At 215 Vulture Street, South Brisbane, Queensland 4101
Type of place	House
Period	Federation 1890-1914
Style	Free Classical
Lot plan	L5_RP11705
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 October 2000 Date of Citation — September 2011
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

The two adjoining houses were built in 1893 as investment properties for Denis O'Doherty and James Reynolds of Cooktown. They were named 'Irving Villa No.1' and 'Irving Villa No.2'. Unlike much of the area's contemporary leasable workers' cottages, these villas offered prestige accommodation meant to attract upmarket professionals seeking rental accommodation. Master mariner Captain Gerard Smith was the first tenant of Vila No.1. Music teacher Jessie Belford was the first tenant of Villa No.2. From the 1890s to the 1920s, the villas became familiar to Brisbane Arts community as they were frequently occupied by either music or singing teachers. In 1910, the Villa No.2 tenant Mrs. Emily Leith changed its name to 'Clyde Villa'. The identical pair of houses retains original features such as cast iron finials, pressed metal detailing and brick chimneys.

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 they are indicative of South Brisbane's fashionable status in the 1890s when it housed more of Brisbane's elite than any other suburb.

Rarity

CRITERION B

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

being a matching pair of purpose-built rental villas and 1890s detached houses placed side by side on a single residential allotment.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance

as a pair of reversed form, identical, nineteenth century villas, retaining some intact 1890's detailing and features.

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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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