Heritage Citation

Ithaca Bridge (near Mossvale Street)

Key details

Addresses	Road Reserve Waterworks Road, Ashgrove, Queensland 4060
Type of place	Bridge
Period	Federation 1890-1914
Style	Stripped Classical
Geolocation	-27.449046 153.000227
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 April 2004 Date of Citation — January 2011
Construction	Structure
People/associations	J. Dawson (Builder)

Criterion for listing	(A) Historical; (E) Aesthetic

A timber bridge was built across Ithaca Creek circa 1876. Consideration was given to raising the bridge in the late 1880s. With the assistance of local MLA Mr Drake, the Shire of Ithaca was able to borrow in the 1898-99 financial year the some of £3000 for works that included bridging Ithaca Creek. Tenders were called initially in February 1899 however the shire Council reconsidered the design after a number of complaints of its inadequacy. It was not until June 1899 that tenders were finally called to build the bridge. The contract appears to have been awarded to J. Dawson, and the bridge was in operation by February 1900.

History

The thoroughfare now known as Waterworks Road was established as a track to Enoggera Reservoir, the first dam erected in Queensland and only the second in Australia. The track also serviced the scattered Enoggera diggings in the hills behind the Reservoir. The dam was completed in 1866. A cast iron pipeline was laid from the Reservoir to the service reservoirs on Wickham Terrace. The original pipeline intersects Waterworks Road at a number of points, one of which is at Walton Bridge, a dual arch bridge which was constructed at a similar time.

By the 1890s, the Reservoir had become a popular destination for picnics. Traffic increased on Waterworks Road and tramlines were extended into the Red Hill area between 1897-1904.

Ithaca Creek forms the border between Red Hill and Ashgrove and was named after the birthplace in Greece of Lady Bowen, wife of Queensland's first governor. Chinese market gardeners established their vegetable gardens on Ithaca Creek near aterworks Road before the turn of the century

The contract for erecting a bridge over Ithaca Creek was let in June 1899. The Brisbane Courier noted "The new bridge will greatly improve the highway at this point, as the road as to be raised 11 ft., and the gradient, which is now very steep and awkward, will be reduced to 1 in 15."

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 early twentieth century road bridge built by the Enoggera Divisional Board in conjunction with the State Government, providing a secure route to the Enoggera Reservoir and serving expanding rural settlements in The Gap area.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance

as a robust arched structure set amidst verdant parkland.

References

1. Ann Wallin & Associates, Waterworks Road: A Cultural Heritage Report, unpublished report for Brisbane City Council, 1998
2. Brisbane City Council, Ithaca Bridge Ashgrove, Conservation Management Study, 2002

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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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