

Heritage Citation



Limbless Soldiers' Bowling Club (former)

Key details

Also known as	Merthyr Bowls Club
Addresses	At 60 Oxlade Drive, New Farm, Queensland 4005
Type of place	Sportsground
Period	Postwar 1945-1960
Style	Bungalow
Lot plan	L8_RP42953; L207_RP42953; L9_RP42953; L12_RP42953; L208_RP42953; L3_RP42953; L209_RP42953; L16_RP42953; L15_RP42953; L14_RP42953; L13_RP42953

Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 October 2000 Date of Citation — February 2011
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber
People/associations	Queensland branch of the Returned Limbless Sailors and Soldiers Association (Association)
Criterion for listing	(A) Historical; (C) Scientific; (G) Social

The Limbless Soldiers Bowling Club was officially opened in 1949 by the Queensland branch of the Returned Limbless Sailors and Soldiers Association (RLSSA) to provide recreational facilities for returned disabled servicemen, though the first day of play was in December 1948. In 1946 Brisbane City Council granted a 30-year lease to the RLSSA of the former United States Navy site. In 1948 the RLSSA opened a bowling green and green-keeper's shed adjacent to the former US Navy Officers' Club/Mess, now Riverside Ballroom. Peter Drummond became the founding president. In the early 1950s the clubhouse building, comprising two ex-army huts, was relocated from Camp Columbia, the United States 6th Army headquarters at Wacol during the Second World War. The Limbless Soldiers Bowling Club was later renamed the Merthyr Bowls Club. In 1978 the lease was transferred from the RLSSA to the RSL. The RSL, which continues to lease the land from Council, subleases the facilities to the Merthyr Bowls Club.

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 a bowls club that was established exclusively for disabled returned servicemen to one that evolved to embrace the social and sporting needs of the local community.

Scientific

CRITERION C

The place has the potential to yield information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the city's or local area's history

as an example of a sporting and social facility that has operated in New Farm from the late 1940s to the present day.

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 bowls club that was originally formed and operated by the Queensland branch of the Returned Limbless Sailors and Soldiers Association for returned servicemen until the lease was transferred to the RSL in 1978.

References

1. Brisbane City Council Properties on the Web
2. Brisbane City Council aerial photos, 1946 [vacant land]; 1951 [shows greenkeeper's shed]; 1960 [shows greenkeeper's shed and clubhouse]
3. Heritage Unit file note, Laurie Jones, Heritage Unit, 1 March 2002
4. Brisbane City Council Heritage Citation, 'Returned Limbless Sailors and Soldiers Club (former)', August 2010
5. Brisbane City Council, *New Farm and Teneriffe Hill Heritage and Character Study*, Oct 1995, pg 46
6. Brown, W., *A Man of Achievement: Sir Manual Hornibrook*, P.E.P. Enterprises, Brisbane, 1974, pg 44-45
7. Merthyr Bowls Club, website history, www.merthyrbowlsclub.com.au
8. Department of Environment and Resource Management, Queensland Certificates of Title.
9. Benjamin, G. & Grant, G. *Reflections on New Farm*, New Farm & Districts Historical Society Inc, New Farm, 2008, pg 4, 125
10. *Latitude 27-Longitude 153 Brisbane River: From Moggill to Moreton Bay 1770-2004*, History & Heritage Collection, Bookmen Publishers & Erinport Pty Ltd, 2004, pg 103
11. South Eastern District Branch of the RSL, personal communication, 28 March 2011
12. *Courier-Mail*, 6 Oct 1949, pg 8

13. *Courier-Mail*, 17 Sept 1946, pg 5
 14. *Courier-Mail*, 26 Sept 1949, pg 1
 15. *Courier-Mail*, 17 June 1950, pg 7
 16. *Courier-Mail*, 9 Oct 1950, pg 8
 17. *Courier-Mail*, 22 Nov 1950, pg 10
 18. *Courier-Mail*, 27 Nov 1951, pg
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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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