

Heritage Citation



Salvation Army Hall (former)

Key details

Addresses	At 11 Boyd Street, Nundah, Queensland 4012
Type of place	Hall
Period	Postwar 1945-1960
Style	Art Deco
Lot plan	L8_SP124360; L31_SP144699
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2005 Date of Citation — July 2013
Construction	Fence: Face brick; Roof: Tile; Walls: Face brick

People/associations E. Beavon (Architect);
E.M. Masters (Builder)

Criterion for listing (D) Representative; (E) Aesthetic; (H) Historical association

This brick building was built by the Salvation Army in 1952 to replace an earlier hall in nearby Sandgate Road which was destroyed in a cyclone in June 1948. The new hall's foundation stone was laid in March 1952 by Brisbane's Lord Mayor, Sir John Chandler. On 23 August that year, the £8,500 building was officially opened by the Salvation Army's Territorial Commander, Commissioner Joshua James. The hall, which had silky oak interior woodwork, was designed by Mr Beaven, a Salvation Army Territorial Property Inspector. The building contractor was Mr E.M. Masters. Church and community donations contributed to the cost of the new building, including contributions from 64 RSL branches. The Salvation Army sold the hall in 1994 when the Nundah congregation merged with other local groups and moved to a new location at Taigum.

History

This Salvation Army hall was officially opened on 23 August 1952. It replaced an earlier Salvation Army hall in nearby Sandgate Road which was destroyed by a cyclone in 1948. After the cyclone, Salvation Army meetings were held in the Nundah Masonic Hall until the new hall was opened.

The Salvation Army was established in London in 1865 by William Booth, a Methodist minister. Guided by a mostly Methodist theology, the organisation sought to bring "salvation" to the poor whilst meeting their physical and spiritual needs. By the 1880s, the Salvation Army was active in Brisbane with Sandgate and Nundah among the earliest corps.

A Salvation Army Hall was established in Sandgate Road, Nundah circa 1890. In addition to holding spiritual meetings, the Salvation Army reached out to the local community by providing social gatherings and classes in skills such as cooking and baby care. After the hall in Sandgate Road was destroyed in a cyclone in 1952, the organisation began planning for a new hall to be built at Nundah. In December 1950, 54 perches of land on the corner of Bage and Boyd Streets which included a timber residence, were purchased by the Salvation Army from Mrs Isabella MacPherson. After the new hall was built, the residence was removed from the site.

The new hall in Boyd Street was designed by Salvation Army Territorial Property Inspector, Mr Beaven and the building contractor was Mr E.M. Masters. Most of the cost of the new hall was raised by the Salvation Army. At the annual State Congress at the Ann Street Temple on 24 June 1948, retired Salvation Army Brigadier committed to helping raise £3,500 to build a new hall at Nundah. Donations were also received from community groups such as the Returned Services League. A bond between Australian servicemen and the Salvation Army was forged from the time of the Boer War when the charitable organisation provided physical and spiritual comfort to the men.

By the time Brisbane Lord Mayor, Sir John Chandler, laid the foundation stone of the new hall on 30 March 1952, over £4,000 had already been raised. An additional £600 was donated towards the building costs at the ceremony. The building was the first Salvation Army hall to be constructed in Queensland since World War II.

The new building was officially opened by the Salvation Army East Territorial Commander, Commissioner Joshua James, on 23 August 1952. Four hundred guests, including Mr Alexander Dewar, the local State member of parliament, and members of the Returned Services League (RSL) attended the ceremony. The hall, which cost an estimated £8,500 featured an interior of silky oak woodwork. Mr Clive Harburg, President of the South Eastern Districts Branch of the RSL addressed the audience, praising the work of the Salvation Army during two world wars and their commitment to assisting young people in the Nundah district.

The hall continued to serve the Salvation Army community until the 1994. At this time, the Salvation Army was amalgamating local corps into larger churches. The Nundah Corps joined with Sandgate and other groups and moved to the North Brisbane Hall at Taigum. The hall at Nundah was no longer needed and was sold.

In 1994, the new owner, Business Assistance Pty Ltd, constructed a brick addition along the northern side of the building.

Description

The former Salvation Army Hall is a small but imposing post-WWII, two storey building situated on the corner of Bage and Boyd Streets at Nundah. It is constructed of face brick and cream rendered brick with a tiled hipped roof.

The main hall is parallel to Boyd St and is terminated at the Bage St end by an imposing two storeyed wall which forms the front of the entry foyer and rises up to form a parapet past the ridge of the main roof behind. The main entrance to the building is via a small portico, set at 45 degrees to the main body of the building and addressing the street corner. Behind the portico, the wall incorporates two engaged brick piers which form the corners of the wall, rising past the parapet and contrasting with the cream rendered brick of the upper part of the wall. The rendered finish to the wall of the upper part of the foyer has been used to lighten the otherwise massive front wall of the building as well as to accentuate the entrance. The parapet extends around to enclose both sides of the corner of the building.

The main brick hall has a row of windows along its length with corresponding windows/doors along the lower storey. A similar double row of windows adorns the eastern end of the building. There is a narrow brick extension on the northern side of the hall.

The site includes a masonry and iron railing fence which has been partially rendered in cream in a similar style to the hall.

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:

Representative

CRITERION D

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

as a fine example of a post-war community hall.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance

for its striking design, use of contrasting materials and strong visual presence on this corner site.

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 a place of worship built by the Salvation Army which served the local congregation and wider community for more than forty years.

References

1. Brisbane City Council Aerial Photographs
2. Brisbane City Council detail plan no. 1305, nd
3. Queensland Certificates of Title

4. *Courier Mail*. 25 June 1948, 23 Aug 1952. NLA Trove website
5. *Sunday Mail*. 30 Mar 1952. NLA Trove website
6. "A Rousing New Beginning". Unidentified newspaper clipping. BCC City Architecture and Heritage CPHR file, Salvation Army Hall (former), 11 Boyd St, Nundah. File no. 253/63-QS(15)
7. Information kindly provided by Garth Hentzschel. Lecturer – School of Social Sciences, Christian Heritage College. Phone conversation 13 Aug 2013

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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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