

Heritage Citation



The Briars

Key details

Also known as	Briar House
Addresses	At 15 Lechmere Street, New Farm, Queensland 4005
Type of place	House
Period	Victorian 1860-1890
Style	Queenslander
Lot plan	L19_RP9131
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 October 2000 Date of Citation — November 2010

Construction Roof: Corrugated iron;
Walls: Masonry - Render

People/associations A. Stombuco and Son (Architect)

Criterion for listing (A) Historical; (H) Historical association

'The Briars', also known as 'Briar House', was built in 1888 by A Stombuco & Sons following the purchase of the property in 1885 by Andrea Stombuco, a prominent Brisbane architect. This single-storey masonry dwelling was subsequently extended and elaborated and reflects the flamboyant style of the period. However, with the end of the 1880s building boom and mounting debts, Stombuco and his family was forced to move. The much-mortgaged property, which ran through to Bailey Street, was eventually sold in 1897 to Mrs Ada Maria Walthall. Her family were Jewish American tobacco manufacturers with business premises in Queen Street. A galvanised iron tobacco factory was subsequently built at the rear of the house with an entrance on Bailey Street but was demolished by 1916.

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 good example of New Farm's affluent, middle-class residential development at the height of Brisbane's 1880s building boom.

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 an example of an 1880s dwelling in New Farm that was built and modified by its owner, prominent architect Andrea Stombuco, who designed some of Brisbane's most significant buildings.

References

1. Brisbane City Council Properties on the Web
2. Brisbane City Council, 1946 aerial photographs.
3. Brisbane City Council, *Sewerage Maps*, Detail Plan No 188, 9 March 1925
4. Brisbane City Council, Surveyor's Notebook, 22 May 1912, updated 26 June 1916
5. Brisbane City Council, *New Farm and Teneriffe Hill Heritage and Character Study*, Oct 1995, pg 102
6. *Certificates of Title*, Department of Environment and Resource Management
7. *Queensland Post Office Directory*, 1888; 1890; 1891
8. Bennett, H, 'New Farm from quality street to mixed assortment', *Brisbane Houses, Gardens, Suburbs and Congregations*, Papers No 22 Brisbane History Group, 2010 pg 151-175
9. Benjamin, G. & Grant, G. *Reflections on New Farm*, New Farm & Districts Historical Society Inc, New Farm, 2008, pg 129, 131
10. Watson, D. and McKay, K., *Queensland Architects of the 19th Century*, University of Queensland Library, St. Lucia, 1994, pg 184
11. Jenkins, E, 'Historic Showcase of Stombucco work', *Sunday Mail*, 31 January, 1999
12. Brisbane History Group, 'Stombuco Heritage Tour', 1999
13. Giorgi,, P., *Stombuco: The building of Brisbane in the 19th century*, Convivio Monograph 2, Minerva E & S, 1998, Brisbane, pg 55-56
14. Apperly, R. Irving, R. Reynolds R, *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus & Robertson, 1989, pg 60-63
15. *Brisbane Courier*, 12 June 1886, pg 3. [reference to house near Petrie's Quarry]
16. *Brisbane Courier*, 8 Oct 1890, pg 8
17. *Brisbane Courier*, 17 Feb 1891, pg 8
18. *Brisbane Courier*, 20 Feb 1891, pg 8
19. *Brisbane Courier*, 2 Oct 1900, pg 6
20. *Brisbane Courier*, 12 June 1903, pg 7

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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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