



## Heritage Citation



### Waterworks Cottage No. 133

#### Key details

<b>Addresses</b>	At 671 Mt Crosby Road, Mount Crosby, Queensland 4306
<b>Type of place</b>	House
<b>Period</b>	Interwar 1919-1939
<b>Style</b>	Queenslander
<b>Lot plan</b>	L11_RP904286
<b>Key dates</b>	Local Heritage Place Since — 20 February 2004 Date of Citation — March 2006
<b>Construction</b>	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

**Criterion for listing**

(A) Historical; (D) Representative; (H) Historical association

This 1920s timber and tin workers' cottage is of heritage significance because of its association with the Mount Crosby Water Treatment Works; the establishment and functioning of which gave rise to this and other purpose-built housing in the Mount Crosby area.

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## History

This timber and tin workers' dwelling was built to house the families of employees of the Mount Crosby Water Treatment Works.

Droughts during the 1880s revealed the limitations of Brisbane's water supply which relied on the Enoggera and Gold Creek reservoirs. Legislation was enacted to allow the city to draw water from the Brisbane River at Mount Crosby. A pumping station was erected on the east bank and delivered water by pipeline to a high-level reservoir one kilometre away on an outlying knoll of Mount Crosby. The water was piped 30 kilometres to Brisbane using gravitation. As water needs for the Brisbane area increased the Mount Crosby facility was expanded. A water treatment and chlorination plant and a new weir at Mount Crosby commenced operation in 1926. Further water storage facilities were constructed. In 1928 responsibility for the waterworks were handed over to the Brisbane City Council from the Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

Staff employed to develop and operate the pumping station and later water treatment works were accommodated in houses built for them on land resumed from local landowners by the Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board. Two distinct villages developed, along with a number of more isolated dwellings associated with outlying water treatment structures. This reflected housing requirements as the plant expanded. The original village, built with an informal layout and orientation in the 1890s, coincided with the commissioning of the Mount Crosby Pumping Station. In contrast is the more formal strip development layout of the village located at the intersection of Mount Crosby Road and Stumers Road in which this house is located. Cottages in this area are typical of styles of the 1920s.

Due to south-east Queensland's population growth from the 1970s, and the resultant suburban spread, Mount Crosby became urbanised. Throughout the 1970s and more dramatically during the 1980s and 1990s the number of resident employees decreased. As a consequence of this reduction, the decision to transfer the employee houses into private ownership was made. The first auction of Brisbane City Council employee housing at Mount Crosby occurred in 1997, followed by a second auction in 1999. The last stage of the transition of Mount Crosby into a Brisbane suburb occurred when it was incorporated within the municipal boundaries in March 2000.

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## Description

This detached timber house is clad with weatherboards and has a corrugated galvanised iron roof. The front

verandah has been enclosed and front stair and handrails replaced. Concrete stumps have replaced the original timber stumps. A timber deck has been added at the rear.

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## 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:

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#### Historical

##### CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history

this dwelling, associated with the site of the Mount Crosby Water Treatment Works, is evidence of the continuing pattern of residential development at Mt Crosby during the 1920s.

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#### Representative

##### CRITERION D

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

as a purpose-built workers' dwelling.

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#### 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 one of 47 houses built between 1892 and 1945, specifically for Mount Crosby Water Treatment Works employees.

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## References

1. Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy. Titles information.
2. Nissen, Judith, 'Creating the landscape: A history of settlement and land use in Mount Crosby' School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics, University of Queensland (1999)
3. Professor Ray Whitmore. *Mount Crosby Waterworks Heritage Study: Its History, Cultural Significance and Tourism Potential*. Heritage Unit, Dept Development and Planning, BCC, August 1992
4. Brisbane City Council Heritage Unit. *Report on Preliminary Inspection of Dwellings at Mount Crosby Treatment Plant*. Heritage Unit, Dept Development and Planning, BCC, 1991
5. Extended Ipswich Heritage Study

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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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