

Heritage



Wilhelm's Hoehe

Key details

Also known as	Papanui, Lexington
Addresses	At 23 Heaslop Street, Woolloongabba, Queensland 4102
Type of place	House
Period	Victorian 1860-1890
Style	Filigree
Lot plan	L42_RP11619; L40_RP11619; L41_RP11619
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 October 2000 Date of Information — June 2011
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

This villa was built in 1887 for Bavarian migrant John Leonard Wuersching. He disembarked at Brisbane in 1866, having previously lived and worked as a baker in St. Petersburg, Russia. In 1867, he established a successful Fortitude Valley/Spring Hill bakery and retired in 1885. Fellow migrant and prominent Brisbane solicitor Heinrich Ludwig Ruthning sold a large block of land in Heaslop Street to Wuersching in 1887. Wuersching had his retirement home built on the land and he named his villa “Wilhelm’s Hoehe” (Kaiser William’s Lookout” after the reigning German King who was a cousin of the reigning British monarch Queen Victoria. During the 1890’s, the house became a rental property. From 1907 to the 1950’s, it was owned by the Hart family who renamed the villa “Lexington”.

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Note: This information 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 information 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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