

Heritage Inventory Sheet

Item Name	Federation Period Cottage		
Recommended Name	Federation Cottage		
Site Image			
Address	33 Walker Street, Merrylands NSW 2160		
Lot/Section/DP	1-2	-	1138261
Current LEP ID	I219 (Cumberland LEP)		
Former LEP ID	I79 (Holroyd LEP)		
Heritage Conservation Area	Not included		
Date Updated	March 2020		
Significance Level	LOCAL		
Site Type	Level 1	Built	
	Level 2	Residential Buildings (private)	

Curtilage Map



Revised curtilage recommended - refer below.

Statement of Significance

The Federation Cottage at 33 Walker Street, Merrylands is of local significance for its historic, aesthetic and representative values. Built c.1913, the building historically relates to the initial 1871 residential subdivision of the Church and School Estate that was progressively re-subdivided after the opening of the Merrylands Railway Station in 1876. From 1913, the site is known as Elsinore Park Estate. The building has aesthetic significance as a well-kept and intact example of a Federation residence which presents well to the street. The residence demonstrates representative qualities of an intact Federation cottage built between 1913 and 1916.

Criteria Assessment

a) Historic	Built in c.1913, the building historically relates to the initial 1871 residential subdivision of the Church and School Estate that was progressively re-subdivided after the opening of the Merrylands Railway Station in 1876. From 1913, the site is known as Elsinore Park Estate.
b) Associative	The item does not meet this criterion.
c) Aesthetic/Technical	The building has aesthetic significance as a well-kept and intact example of a Federation residence which presents well to the street.
d) Social	The item does not meet this criterion.
e) Scientific	The item does not meet this criterion.
f) Rarity	The item does not meet this criterion.
g) Representativeness	The residence demonstrates representative qualities of an intact Federation cottage built between 1913 and 1916.

Physical Description

The subject building is a single storey Federation cottage. The item is clad with rusticated weatherboards, and has a half gabled and hipped roof clad in corrugated iron. The verandah is open and L-shaped, and extends around the north-east corner. It has a bullnose roof clad in red Colorbond sheeting and is supported on simple timber posts with a timber frieze and simple timber slat balustrading. A number of steps with terrazzo treads lead up to the verandah timber floor which rests on brick infill footings. The front facade of the building features a central panelled door framed by two pairs of multipaned double hung windows with security screens. A portion of the northern verandah has been infilled and clad in Fibrous Cement sheeting. It adjoins a skillion roofed section. The main roof changes pitch and extends over the rear of the house, which also features a hipped roof wing and skillion roofed addition in the southern section of the house. The southern wing also features a face brick profiled chimney with two terracotta pots. The facades feature timber framed double hung sash windows with flyscreens attached to the lower sash and a security frame over the opening.

The cottage is set back from the street and is situated on a deep corner block. The property has a painted white timber picket fence along the front boundary and some hedging. While the property does not contain any significant plantings within its curtilage, the street trees are a prominent and aesthetic feature of the streetscape that contribute to the aesthetic of the residence.

The condition of the building is considered to be fair. The main roof shows signs of wear and the chimney brickwork has some biological growth on the southern elevation.

Condition	Good	Fair	Poor
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Alterations and Additions

- All timber elements of the verandah have been stripped, primed and repainted. Timber posts likely replaced
- New verandah roof clad in Colorbond sheeting
- The roof shows some wear and is poorly maintained
- Rear additions with the inclusion of various cladding materials that may be a result of an application to convert the house into two flats made in 1964
- The Fibrous Cement infill on the northern verandah features a doorway*

Although the building has been modified, the item retains its overall scale and form.

Integrity	High	Moderate	Low
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* *element detracts from the overall cultural significance of the place*

Historical Notes

Construction years	c.1913-1916
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Merrylands is located within the Parish of St John, County of Cumberland. In an undated map of the parish (likely circa 1835), the area that would later become Merrylands was divided into land grants given to Richard Atkins, John Bowman, John Watts, and E. Lombley from as early as 1793. The main roads marked would later become known as Parramatta Road to the east and Woodville Road to the south. Liberty Plains was marked to the south-east of the area, which includes some areas of the later Merrylands locality.

Merrylands was named after the English home of politician and explorer Arthur Todd Holroyd who acquired land in the area in 1855. The area of Merrylands grew into an intensive agricultural settlement by 1850s and remained sparsely populated until the 1880s. With the opening of the railway station in 1878, land surrounding the area was subdivided for housing and small farms. Brick and pottery production became a prominent industry in the area and brickyards operated to supply local demand. Moderate estates were advertised in the 1880s, using the proximity to the station as a selling point. By this time, the pottery and brick making industry was flourishing and larger facilities were constructed, such as the Goodlet and Smith Brickworks.

A large section of the suburb of Merrylands stands on the Church and School Estate, first offered for sale from 1871, and progressively re-subdivided after the opening of the Merrylands Railway Station in 1876. The subject site formed part of over 46 acres purchased by James Henderson in 1873, who also acquired other sections of the first subdivision of the Church and School Estate at this time. Henderson subsequently subdivided, forming Walker Street, and over 40 acres, including the site, was purchased by Philip Billingsley Walker in 1888.

The property was purchased by Major Carlton Stockwell, a builder, in 1913, who further subdivided this area and the area between Walker, Elsinore and Winchmore Streets. These lots were purchased by George Hembury in 1913. It is assumed that the cottage was constructed around this time. From 1913 the Sands Directory refers to the "Elsinore Park Estate". Hembury is not listed until 1916. Hembury sold the property in 1958 to Clarence Jones. The property was further subdivided and changed hands a further 4 times until it was purchased by the present owners in 1982. The item remains in use as a private residence.

Recommendations				
Heritage Management		Existing Built and Landscape Elements		Future Development and Planning
1. Maintain this item's heritage listing on the LEP.	X	6. Original fabric is highly significant and should be maintained.	X	12. Alterations and additions should respond to the existing pattern of development, with careful consideration of the setting (form, scale, bulk, setback and height). X
2. Maintain this item's listing as part of the Heritage Conservation Area.		7. Unsympathetic alterations that detract from the cultural significance of the item should be removed.	X	13. New alterations and additions should respect the historic aesthetic/character of the item and area (e.g. paint scheme, materiality, style, landscape elements). X
3. Consider delisting as an individual item from the LEP.		8. Maintain heritage landscape elements and schemes.	X	14. Future uses for this item should be compatible with its historical functions/associations.
4. Consider additional research to nominate this item for the State Heritage Register.		9. Maintain the existing setting of the heritage item, informed by the historic pattern of neighbouring development (form, scale, bulk, setback and height).	X	
5. The heritage curtilage for this item should be revised/reduced.		10. Maintain the historic aesthetic/character of the item and area (e.g. paint scheme, materiality, style, landscape elements).	X	
		11. The condition of this item is poor. Condition and maintenance should be monitored.		

Other recommendations and/or comments:

- As the western portion of the current site now includes a modern dwelling of no heritage value, the heritage curtilage shown below should be considered as a revised curtilage for the new Cumberland LEP. Should the revised curtilage be adopted, this listing sheet does not reflect the current Lot/DP which will need to be altered.



Listings		
Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number
Heritage Act – State Heritage Register	N/A	-
Local Environmental Plan	Federation Period Cottage	I210
Heritage Study	Federation Period Cottage	I210
National Trust Australia Register	N/A	-

Previous Studies			
Type	Author	Year	Title
Heritage Study	Extent Heritage Pty Ltd	2019	Cumberland LGA Heritage Study
Heritage Study	Graham Brooks & Associates	1998	Holroyd Heritage Study
Heritage Study	Neustein & Associates	1992	Holroyd Heritage Study

Other References
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Karskens, G. 1991. Holroyd - A Social History of Western Sydney. Sydney: University NSW Press

Limitations

1. Access to all heritage items was limited to a visual inspection from the public domain. The interiors of buildings and inaccessible areas such as rear gardens were not assessed as part of this heritage study.
2. Condition and site modification assessment was limited to a visual inspection undertaken from the public domain.
3. Unless additional research was required, historical research for all heritage items was based on an assessment of previous LGA heritage studies, the Thematic History (prepared by Extent Heritage, 2019) and existing information in former heritage listing sheets.

Additional Images



Overview of cottage from Walker Street.



Front façade of cottage.



Southern elevation of cottage on Winchmore Street.



View to rear of cottage.



View to chimney on southern elevation of cottage.