# HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT TELOPEA MASTER PLAN



# **URBIS STAFF RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS REPORT WERE:**

Director Stephen Davies, B Arts Dip. Ed., Dip. T&CP, Dip. Cons. Studies

Senior Consultant Karyn Virgin, B Arts (Adv.) (Hons Archaeology)

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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Urbis has been engaged to prepare the following Heritage Assessment of the Telopea Master Plan. This document is intended to provide an overview of opportunities and constraints associated with built heritage and archaeology within the master planning area (herein referred to as the 'Study Area') and assess the suitability of the Telopea Master Plan to manage potential future impacts on the existing heritage in Telopea.

It is acknowledged that further heritage and/or archaeological assessments may be required to accompany future planning approvals.

Based on a review of the opportunities and constraints relating to both built heritage and Aboriginal cultural heritage, the following conclusions and recommendations have been made:

- Listed heritage items located within and in the vicinity of the Study Area, being particularly Redstone, Acacia Park, and the Rapanea Community Forest, should be maintained in their existing settings, without change. Proposed building typologies in the vicinity of these items are assessed as appropriate;
- Significant view corridors to and from Redstone specifically must be considered with reference to the existing planning controls in the current LEP;
- Building typologies proposed in the vicinity of Redstone are considered acceptable;
- It is noted that any development that is to occur within the vicinity of Redstone, or of any other listed heritage items in the vicinity of the Study Area (i.e. Acacia Park and the Rapanea Forest) will require a specific heritage impact statement at the relevant stage of the applicable planning approvals process;
- No additional built heritage constraints have been identified within the Study Area;
- As Acacia Park is registered as an historical archaeological site, works to the Park must consider the potential impacts to any archaeological resource that may be present. If works are proposed in the Park an archaeological assessment will be required to determine the potential impact of these works. If little to no impact is determined, no further assessment will be required. If impact is likely, a s140 Application for an Excavation Permit will be required. Further archaeological assessments for Acacia Park could be completed at a later stage of the applicable planning approval pathway;
- Registered Aboriginal sites within and in the vicinity of the Study Area must not be impacted and should generally be avoided;
- In the event that any proposed development becomes likely to impact these sites (including landscaping works, installation of fencing or playground equipment, creation of bike tracks etc), further investigation will be required, and an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) may need to be obtained. This applies to both of the sites and is discussed in detail at Section 0. Further assessments for Aboriginal cultural heritage could be completed at a later stage of the applicable planning approval pathway;
- To avoid triggering any further assessment or approvals processes under the *National Parks and Wildlife Act* 1974, it is recommended that existing riparian corridors, land zoned as E2, and relatively undisturbed land (such as parkland and reserves, including Second Ponds Reserve) be maintained as is; rezoning and/or development generally should be concentrated in areas that have already been subject to development/have already been disturbed. This applies also to land identified in the DCP 2011 as having high Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity;
- Provided that proposed rezoning and potential redevelopment is restricted to areas that have already been subject to development/disturbance, no further assessment or approvals with regards to Aboriginal cultural heritage will be triggered.

Urbis Heritage confirm that these recommendations have all been recognised and accommodated within the Telopea Master Plan.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

# 1.1. BACKGROUND

Urbis has been engaged to prepare the following Heritage Assessment of the Telopea Master Plan, which applies to the 'Study Area' as defined in Figure 1, below. The Master Plan is provided at Appendix C.

This document provides an overview of opportunities and constraints associated with built heritage and archaeology within the master planning area.

# 1.2. SITE LOCATION

The Study Area considered in this overview report is located in the suburb of Telopea. It comprises the area shown in Figure 1, below.

FIRST TREET

WESTS TREET

WICKINSON CANCELLY

Figure 1 – Map showing the location of the Study Area (red boundary)

[Source: Sixmaps 2016]

# 1.3. METHODOLOGY

This Heritage Assessment has been prepared in accordance with the NSW Heritage Branch guideline 'Assessing Heritage Significance' (2001). The philosophy and process adopted is that guided by the *Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter* 1999 (revised 2013).

Site constraints and opportunities have been considered with reference to relevant controls and provisions contained within the Parramatta Local Environmental Plan 2011 and the Parramatta Development Control Plan 2011.

# 1.4. AUTHOR IDENTIFICATION

The following report has been prepared by Karyn Virgin (Consultant/Archaeologist). Stephen Davies (Director) has reviewed and endorsed its content.

Unless otherwise stated, all drawings, illustrations and photographs are the work of Urbis.

# 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

Telopea is a suburb located within the local government area of Parramatta, and is located approximately 23 kilometres northwest of the Sydney CBD. Within the identified Study Area are approximately 1400 existing dwellings.

Mainly constructed in the 1950s and 1970s, the built form within the Study Area currently consists of three storey walk-up apartment buildings, studio apartments, free standing cottages and three nine-storey apartment buildings. There is a retail strip comprising a range of two storey shop-top dwellings and an IGA. The Carlingford Railway Line (T6) demarcates the northwestern boundary of the Study Area.

There is a large tract of bushland known as the Rapanea Community Forest along the western edge of the Study Area. A section of Ponds Creek runs through this Forest, and the Forest itself is listed as a local environmental heritage item under the LEP and is a protected environmental zone.

Figure 2 - Photographs of the Study Area



Picture 1 – View looking north along Sturt Street



Picture 2 – View of the retail precinct, facing north on Evans Street



Picture 3 – View of the flat buildings on Moffats Drive, facing south



Picture 4 – View of the flat buildings on Moffats Drive, facing south



Picture 5 – Typical housing stock on the northern side of Simpson Street



Picture 6 – Typical housing stock in Larra Place



Picture 7 – View looking north along Brand Street, with the locally listed 'Rapanea Community Forest' at left of frame



Picture 8 – Locally listed 'Acacia Park' and approximate location of registered Aboriginal site 45-6-2407



Picture 9 – View of Sturt Park, looking east towards approx. location of Aboriginal site 45-6-2569

# 3. BUILT HERITAGE

Site constraints and opportunities associated with built heritage have been considered below with reference to relevant controls and provisions contained within the Parramatta Local Environmental Plan 2011 and the Parramatta Development Control Plan 2011, as well as the state heritage register (SHR). A review of the Study Area with regard to identified heritage items has determined the following:

- There is one heritage item located within the Study Area.
  - This is Redstone, a residential dwelling designed by Walter Burley Griffin and constructed in 1935.
  - This dwelling is listed on both the Parramatta LEP 2011 as a local heritage item of state significance (I01795) and on the state heritage register (SHR) as a state heritage item (Listing No. 01795).
  - The SHR and LEP curtilage of this item are not consistent, as shown in the below figure.
     The LEP curtilage includes the entirety of the adjoining lot to the west, while the SHR curtilage only includes part of the adjoining lot.

Figure 3 - SHR curtilage (left) and LEP curtilage (right) of Redstone



Picture 10 – LEP curtilage of the item

Picture 11 – SHR curtilage of the item

There are two locally listed heritage items located outside, but in the vicinity of, the Study Area, being:

0	A6	Kishnaghur Archaeological Site	42A Evans Road
0	137	Rapanea Community Forest	34 Brand Street

It is noted that the Master Plan maintains the existing form and scale of development in the immediate vicinity of Redstone, which allows for an appropriate setting for the item. This is also the case for the above two vicinity items.

The Master Plan adopts a curtilage around the Walter Burley Griffin house that exceeds the identified State Heritage listing curtilage and affords a greater level of protection for the item's immediate setting and grounds.

Building heights of 1-2 storey to the rear (north) of Redstone and within existing view lines to the item is appropriate; development of a comparable scale and form is already present in the vicinity of the item and to its north, and respects the scale and form of Redstone in an appropriate manner.

The building typology of townhouses with heights of 1-2 storeys to the south (on the opposite side of Manson Street) of the item are also appropriate, though development in this area will not form part of existing, direct views to the item, which will conserved and not obscured.

Overall the buildings heights/typologies in the vicinity of Redstone are appropriate in that they maintain the existing scale and form of development in the item's vicinity and are consistent with existing controls. The 1-2 storey scale respects the scale and form of Redstone in an appropriate manner, whilst achieving the objectives of the Master Plan.

The Telopea Master Plan limits the maximum building height within the Polding Place precinct to 8 storeys. This is to ensure adequate solar access can be achieved to the existing and future buildings within and adjoining this precinct. However, this also further reduces any potential (albeit limited) visual impact associated with development in this area.

The 8 storey building height at Polding Place, to the northeast, will be located a sufficient distance from Redstone to ensure that it does not adversely impact the item's significance. The higher scale of development in this area will form part of distant background view lines to the heritage item, when facing northeast specifically, but will be a distant, peripheral element that will in no way dominate or overwhelm existing views to the heritage item, and which will be consistent and appropriate to building typologies and scale within that area (to the northeast of Redstone).

Redstone is a single storey residential dwelling, intended to be viewed and appreciated primarily in its immediate context; it is not located within a particularly open or generous visual setting. It is therefore considered that larger scale development located at a sufficient distance from the item (i.e. to the northeast and around Polding Place/on the northern side of Sturt Street) will not result in any adverse visual impacts to the items visual curtilage or setting. This is supported by the lack of visibility of existing multi-storey residential flat buildings in this area from Redstone.

Figure 4 – Photographs of listed heritage items



Picture 12 – Principal façade of Redstone from Manson Street



Picture 13 – Heritage listed grounds of Redstone and associated plantings, from Adderton Road

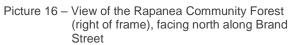


Picture 14 – General view of Acacia Park, facing south



Picture 15 – View of Acacia Park, facing west along Evans Road

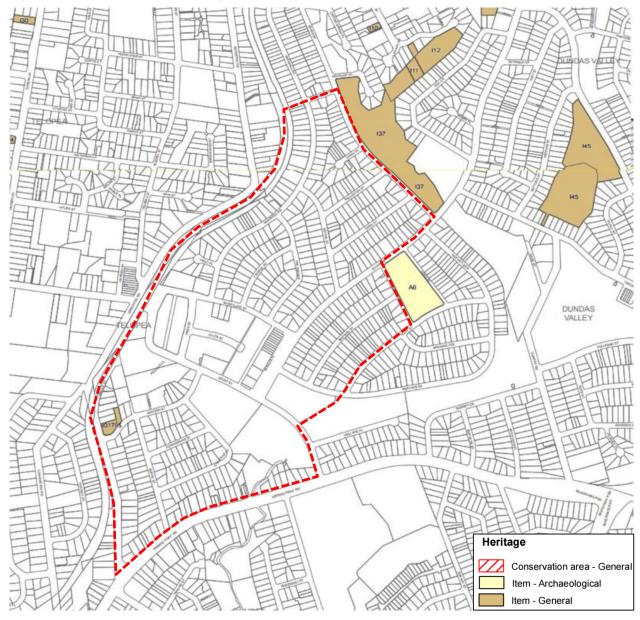






Picture 17 – View of the Rapanea Community Forest from Brand Street

Figure 5 – Parramatta LEP 2011 Heritage Map (Study Area indicated)



Source: Parramatta LEP 2011 Heritage Maps 013 and 014

In addition to the above, the following general opportunities and constraints associated with built heritage have been identified:

- Heritage items located within or in the vicinity of the Study Area, being Redstone, Acacia Park and the Rapanea Community Forest specifically, are retained by the Master Plan;
- Views to and from the principal façade of Redstone from Manson Street and secondary views to the side elevation of the house from Adderton Road have been considered by the Master Plan, with nominated building heights/typologies in the vicinity of the heritage item reflecting this and responding appropriately to the item's scale and setting:
- Development as enabled by the Master Plan will not encroach on the established curtilage of the Rapanea Community Forest. This item is to be maintained and conserved under its existing E2 zoning;
- Based on the height and building typologies in the Master Plan, the significance of heritage items, including their built form, setting and fabric, are unlikely to be impacted by development in the vicinity;
- However, any future development that is to occur within the vicinity of Redstone, or of any other listed heritage items in the vicinity of the Study Area (i.e. Acacia Park and the Rapanea Forest) will require a specific heritage impact statement to be submitted as part of any associated development application (DA) to ensure that detailed design is sympathetic to and responds appropriately to heritage items in terms of design, form, materiality, setbacks, etc. It is noted that this is not required at this stage;
- As Acacia Park is registered as an historical archaeological site, works to the Park must consider the potential impacts to any archaeological resource that may be present;
  - In the first instance, an archaeological assessment will be required to determine whether or not works proposed have the potential to impact any archaeological resource. If the works are relatively minor (i.e. shallow excavation for installation of bike tracks, shallow landscaping etc), no further assessment is likely to be required;
  - If the works are determined to involve sub-surface disturbance that has the potential to impact archaeological deposits, a s140 Application for an Excavation Permit will be required.
  - Further archaeological assessments for Acacia Park could be completed at a later stage of the applicable planning approval pathway.

A comprehensive visual inspection of the Study Area determined that there are no further identified heritage constraints.

# 4. ABORIGINAL CULTURAL HERITAGE

Site constraints and opportunities associated with Aboriginal cultural heritage have been considered below with reference to information contained within the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS). Relevant background information, including Aboriginal assessment reports relevant to the area, have also been reviewed in the preparation of this report.

Based on this review, it has been determined that:

- There are two registered Aboriginal sites located within the Study Area, and an additional nine Aboriginal sites located in the vicinity of the Study Area;
- The two Aboriginal sites registered within the Study Area, being 45-6-2407 and 45-6-2569, are identified as artefact scatters;
- Based on GIS mapping, site 45-6-2407 appears to be located on the northern boundary of Acacia Park and on Evans Road. A visual inspection of the registered location of the site was inconclusive, with the land appearing to have been previously disturbed and developed.
  - Enquiries have been made with OEH, who have advised that the site is registered as valid, and no permits for its destruction or disturbance have previously been issued;
  - OEH have also advised that the recorded GPS location for the site may be slightly inaccurate, with the site more likely to be situated within Acacia Park itself, in proximity to its northern boundary;
  - The site must therefore treated as valid, and for the purposes of further assessments be considered to be located within Acacia Park, in proximity to the location registered on AHIMS.
- 45-6-2569 is located within Sturt Park and in association with Iona Creek. Again, a visual inspection
  of the registered location of this site was inconclusive.
- Further to the above, the Rapanea Community Forest, the majority of Sturt Park and the Ponds Creek Reserve (located to the immediate south of the Study Area) are identified on the Aboriginal Sensitivity Map provided at Appendix 11 (Map 11.1) of the Parramatta Development Control Plan (DCP) 2011 as areas of high Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity.

Based on the above information, the following opportunities and constraints have been identified with regard to Aboriginal cultural heritage:

- The Master Plan considers the location of registered Aboriginal sites, and effectively avoids any potential impacts to these sites by maintaining their locations without change (i.e. as parkland and/or public domain generally). Irrespective of the status of site 45-6-2407 as valid or destroyed, its current status is shown as 'valid' and the site therefore must be treated as such;
- Aboriginal sites have previously been identified in or within close proximity to both Sturt and Acacia Parks, and both of the parks comprise relatively undisturbed land. As such, any works within the parks, whether they be ground surface or sub-surface works, will trigger the requirements for an impact assessment (at a minimum) and, depending on the impact proposed, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) may need to be obtained;
  - At a minimum, an impact assessment will be required. If this impact assessment can determine that the proposed works are of minimal impact, or that the proposed works can effectively avoid harm to the registered sites or to any undisturbed land considered likely to contain Aboriginal archaeological deposits by being relocated elsewhere, no further assessment will be required;
  - Works of minimal impact would be works that will result in minimal ground surface disturbance in areas where no artefacts have been visually identified (e.g. applying a bike path over existing ground surface, requiring the very shallow excavation only of topsoil

- layers, or the installation of minimal and localised footings for the installation of play equipment in areas unlikely to contain sub-surface deposits);
- Any works that will necessitate sub-surface disturbance that may harm Aboriginal archaeological deposits (the excavation for the installation of more substantial footings for structures or BBQs, for example) are highly likely to trigger the requirements for further assessment, including the preparation of a full Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Report including full Aboriginal community consultation.
- If it is determined that the proposed works will cause harm to the registered Aboriginal sites, an AHIP will need to be obtained;
- Existing riparian corridors, land zoned as E2, and relatively undisturbed land (such as parkland and reserves) and any land identified in Appendix 11 of the DCP to have high Aboriginal archaeological sensitivity should be maintained as is, and should not be subject to development;
  - These areas have the potential to contain as yet unidentified Aboriginal cultural heritage material; any proposal to develop this kind of land will require further investigation, at a minimum in the form of a Due Diligence Assessment;
  - The current Master Plan considers and responds appropriately to this, maintaining these areas as parkland/reserves or E2 zones.

Urbis Heritage confirm that the final Master Plan is consistent with the above recommendations, with further assessment only being required at the detailed design phase, if triggered under the relevant legislation.

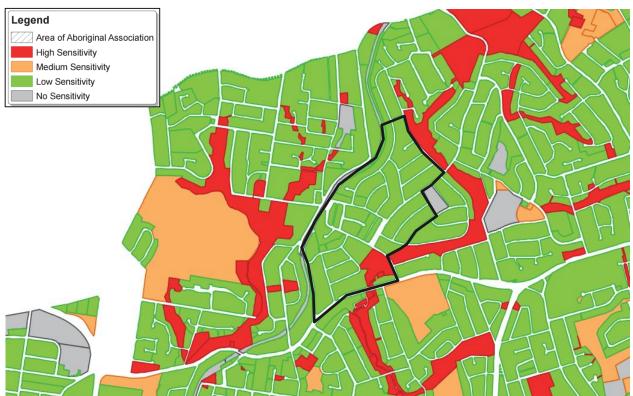
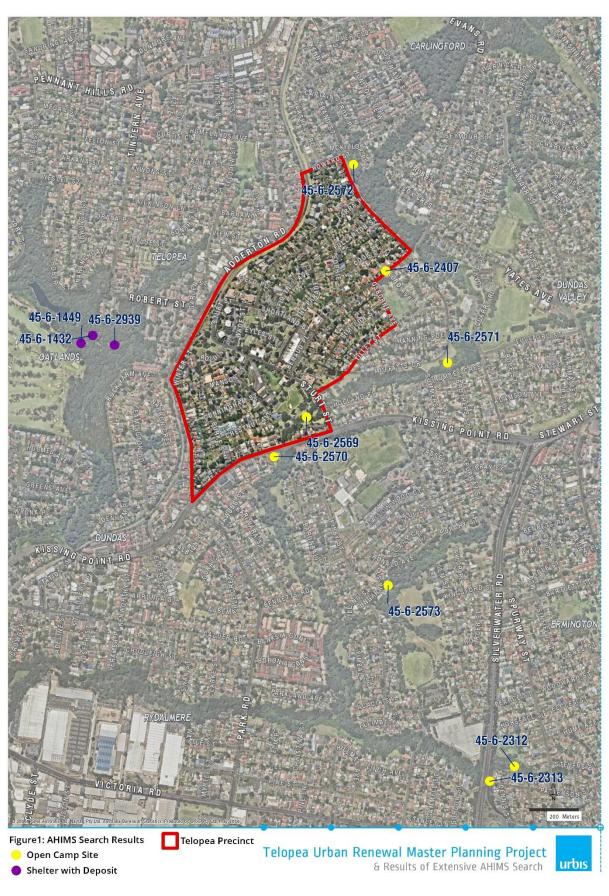


Figure 6 – Aboriginal Sensitivity Map (Map 11.1) of the Parramatta DCP 2011 (Appendix 11). Study Area indicated in black

Source: Parramatta DCP 2011, Map 11.1, Appendix 11

Figure 7 – Map showing registered Aboriginal sites within and in the vicinity of the Study Area



Source: Urbis 2016

# CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS **5**.

Based on a review of the opportunities and constraints relating to both built heritage and Aboriginal cultural heritage, the following conclusions and recommendations have been made:

- Listed heritage items located within and in the vicinity of the Study Area, being particularly Redstone, Acacia Park, and the Rapanea Community Forest, should be maintained in their existing settings, without change. The building typologies in the Master Plan in the vicinity of these items are assessed as appropriate, and will maintain the consistency of existing building scale/topologies in the vicinity of the items:
- Significant view corridors to and from Redstone specifically must be considered with reference to the existing planning controls in the current LEP. Based on the buildings typologies and scales in the Master Plan, significant view corridors will be respected and conserved:
- Building typologies and scale in the vicinity of Redstone are acceptable and appropriate to the item's scale and setting;
- It is noted that any actual development that is to occur within the vicinity of Redstone, or of any other listed heritage items in the vicinity of the Study Area (i.e. Acacia Park and the Rapanea Forest) will require a specific heritage impact statement at the relevant stage of the applicable planning approvals process;
- No additional built heritage constraints have been identified within the Study Area;
- As Acacia Park is registered as an historical archaeological site, works to the Park must consider the potential impacts to any archaeological resource that may be present. If works are proposed in the Park an archaeological assessment will be required to determine the potential impact of these works. If little to no impact is determined, no further assessment will be required. If impact is likely, a s140 Application for an Excavation Permit will be required. Further archaeological assessments for Acacia Park could be completed at a later stage of the applicable planning approval pathway;
- To avoid triggering any further assessment or approvals processes under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974, it is recommended that existing riparian corridors, land zoned as E2, and relatively undisturbed land (such as parkland and reserves, including Second Ponds Reserve) be maintained as is. The current Master Plan considers and responds appropriately to this, maintaining these areas as parkland/reserves or E2 zones. In doing this, the Master Plan also avoids harm to the two registered Aboriginal sites located within the Study Area (discussed in detail at Section 0).
- Notwithstanding the above, the presence of Aboriginal sites within the Study Area means that any works within the Sturt or Anderson Park, or any works within relatively undisturbed land within the Study Area, whether they be ground surface or sub-surface works (including landscaping works, installation of fencing or playground equipment, creation of bike tracks etc), will trigger the requirements for an impact assessment (at a minimum) and, depending on the impact proposed, an Aboriginal Heritage Impact Permit (AHIP) may need to be obtained. Further assessments for Aboriginal cultural heritage could be completed at a later stage of the applicable planning approval pathway.

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[Note: Some government departments have changed their names over time and the above publications state the name at the time of publication.]

# **DISCLAIMER**

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# APPENDIX A STATE HERITAGE REGISTER INVENTORY SHEET FOR REDSTONE



Home > Topics > Heritage places and items > Search for heritage

# Redstone

# Item details

Name of item: Redstone

Other name/s: The Winter House

Type of item: Built

**Group/Collection:** Residential buildings (private)

Category: House

**Location:** Lat: -33.7974236930 Long: 151.0401303030

Primary address: 34 Adderton Road, Telopea, NSW 2117

Parish: Field Of Mars
County: Cumberland
Local govt. area: Parramatta
Local Aboriginal Metropolitan

Land Council:

**Property description** 

Lot/Volume Code	Lot/Volume Number	Section Number	Plan/Folio Code	Plan/Folio Number
LOT	7		DP	24969
PART LOT	8		DP	24969

The site consists of Lot 7 and that part of Lot 8 of DP 24969 from the north-eastern corner of Lot 7 to a point six metres west of the south-eastern corner of Lot 8, measured along the southern boundary of Lot 8.

# **Boundary:**

# All addresses

Street Address	Suburb/town	LGA	Parish	County	Туре
34 Adderton Road	Telopea	Parramatta	Field Of Mars	Cumberland	Primary Address

# **Statement of significance:**

Redstone is of state significance as an outstandingly intact example of the small-scale domestic work of the architect Walter Burley Griffin. An American student of Frank Lloyd Wright, Griffin is one of the most acclaimed designers to have practised in Australia. His extant works are rare internationally and important within Australia for introducing aspects of the Prairie School style of architecture.

The intactness of Redstone's interiors, including its fixtures and fittings, is extremely rare and of state significance. The garden, though not designed by Walter Burley Griffin, is a fine intact example of an interwar garden which contributes to the setting of the house.

Date significance updated: 11 Jun 10

Note: There are incomplete details for a number of items listed in NSW. The Heritage Division intends to develop or upgrade statements of significance and other information for these items as resources become available.

# **Description**

Designer/Maker: Walter Burley Griffin

Construction years: 1935-1935

**Physical description:** A small sandstone and brick single-storey house, with a detached garage in similar style, set in a large open and intact inter-war era garden.

The double pitched overlay roof of 'Super-6' corrugated asbestos cement has wide splayed, dark-stained timber bargeboards and deep overhanging eaves. External walls to sill height are of locally quarried (Telopea) sandstone. Above sill height, natural-coloured cement rendered walls form piers between very fine timber framed window and doors. There are heavy sandstone bookend walls to east and west elevations. A rustic sandstone chimney dominates the front view of the house.

The RAIA has described the style of the house as 'Interwar exotic' and a 'unique resolution of a compact, economic, suburban villa' (RAIA, 1979).

The original clients, Edward and Greta Winter, had three stipulations only regarding the house design: that the house NOT have a flat roof; that there be no steps and that every bedroom have a washbasin (K Lee, pers comm 2008, Boesel: 2008).

Greta Winter also wanted double the Council-required setback from the (then dirt) road. Walter Burley Griffin sited the house on the highest point of the original orchard, a position that in 1935 enabled views eastwards to the city and south to the Parramatta River. Typically for Griffin, the house is constructed directly upon the ground, separated only by a layer of tar, then gravel, then timber boards onto which the native cypress pine (Callitris sp.) floorboards are laid. According to acknowledged Griffin expert, Professor James Weirick of the University of NSW, one of Griffin's great enthusiasms was building directly onto the ground, for which he developed a technique with extensive use of bitumen (J. Weirick, pers. comm. 2008).

In 1975 Peter Harrison produced a re-drawn plan of Redstone from Walter Burley Griffin's 1935 originals. Harrison renamed the Lounge as Living (room); the Scullery as the Utility (room) and the south-east facing Entry as the Porch. The rooms are refered to below by Griffin's names, with Harrison's following in brackets.

The front and back entrances open directly from the lounge room (living room) and back entry (porch) respectively onto patios shaded by large roof overhangs. It was Griffin's intention that the two entrances should have similar features and not be strongly differentiated. The south east facing entry (porch) was used by Edward Winter as a breakfast room and later by his widow Greta as her sitting room. The front entrance displays the original lettered sign, 'Redstone'.

Original features include:

- A) Throughout the house
- all floorings, being cypress pine timber except for mosaic tiles in the bathroom and painted cement render in the scullery (utility)..
- dark-stained timber skirting boards
- dark-stained timber doors
- recessed dark-stained timber casement windows
- unusual square, flush ceiling light fittings throughout the house
- dark-stained timber screens in the dining and lounge (living) rooms and corridor with brass rods

and additionally in the following areas:

B) Lounge (Living) room:

# Redstone | NSW Environment & Heritage

- the sunken fireplace (restored) with its ash pan opening to the outside for ease of cleaning. The lidded excavated exterior opening with its original iron shutter door, is set into the ground at the base of the sandstone chimney.
- a deeply recessed casement window with a planted window box in the western sandstone bay
- C) Dining room
- three dark-stained and painted timber French doors that open onto the garden
- a fitted recessed dark-stained timber sideboard with mirror (which includes the original paint finish inside the cupboard)
- cabinetry with a two-way drawer to the kitchen
- D) Kitchen
- a twin "German silver" sink, single swivel tap spout and piping (but not the tap handles)
- timber shelving against the window above the sink
- all cupboards and drawers (with a two-way drawer to the dining room) and work top (but not the resurfacing)
- E) Scullery (Utility)
- a picture window in the scullery/kitchen wall
- F) Entry (Porch)
- a cupboard that originally housed the ice-chest
- G) Bathroom
- bath, taps, fittings, wall and floor tiles (but not the toilet, or stainless steel shower base)
- H) Bedrooms
- basins, fittings, tile splash backs and mirrored toilet cabinets above basins in each bedroom
- built-in single wardrobes with doors in three bedrooms; two wardrobes and doors in the north-east corner bedroom
- I) Corridor
- dark-stained timber shelving (which includes the original paint finish behind the shelves).
- J) The garden is generally open in character and typifies larger gardens of the middle class of the inter-war era in its general layout, 'clothed boundaries' and selection of plants favoured. Its main feature is a a large sweep of lawn around the house to its north, west and south. A bank of shrubs near the house's north-west corner separates a smaller rectilinear lawn facing the bedrooms on the northern side of the house.

The boundaries to the house's north, west and south fairly densely planted with shrubs and some trees. To the house's east the garage is flanked by beds and banks of shrubs and some fruit trees and other shrubs are planted on the additional lot to the east.

The garden contains several trees planted by Edward Winter and his wife, Greta. These include: a Canary Island date palm (Phoenix canariensis) and a date palm (P.dactylifera),

which is a rare multi-trunked specimen (on the lawn north-west of the house); a cape chestnut, a Chinese elm, a jacaranda, a lemon-scented gum and a guava. One fruiting plum tree (Prunus x domestica cv.) from the orcharding period survives to the house's west.

Shrubs planted by the Winters and their daughter Nella Melchert include Camellia japonica cv.s, azaleas, a holly bush near the front door, a white bird-of-paradise flower (Strelitzia nicloae) north of the house and a rare orange-flowered South African wild pomegranate (Burchellia bubalina (syn.B.capensis). The camellia near the Manson Street driveway is a scion from the camellia (C.japonica cv.) at Cliftonville. Three Sydney blue gums (Eucalyptus saligna) planted by Nella Melchert in 1980 have grown out of control and are leaning dangerously over the house.

A list of plants in the garden of Redstone at November 2008 (compiled by landscape architect Stuart Read) is outlined below.

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Northern border (northwest of house)
Kalanchoe blossfeldiana;
variegated periwinkle, Vinca major 'Variegata';
Kaffir lilies, Clivia miniata;
azaleas, Rhododendron indicum ('Grandiflora' types in red, pink and white)(Kerry Lee,
pers.comm., 2/2/09) cv.s;
hydrangeas, H.macrophylla cv.s;
bromeliads, Billbergia sp.;
prayer plant, Maranta sp.;
crepe myrtle, Lagerstroemia indica cv.
Bed & Border north of house
Low box hedge near house (marking a change in ground level) box, Buxus sempervirens;
2 Chinese junipers (Juniperus chinensis cv.(perhaps 'Skyrocket') in tubs near house's northern
facade;
bird-of-paradise flower, Strelitzia reginae;
elephant's ear, Bergenia cordifolia;
ornamental indigo, Indigofera australis;
rose, Rosa x hybrida cv.;
Chinese hibiscus, H.rosa-sinensis cv.;
Queensland kauri, Agathus robusta (seedling, 2m high)(progeny of former kauri tree to north-
east of garage, since gone)
asparagus fern, Asparagus densiflorus;
Japanese quince / japonica, Chaenomeles japonica cv.;
Camellia japonica cv.s (the largest specimen was a 21st birthday present to Nella Melchert).
Greta Winter sold camellia flowers picked from her garden to florists. (pers.comm., Kerry Lee,
2/2/09);
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cast iron plant, Aspidistra elatior;

tree gardenia, Gardenia thunbergia;

dwarf /pygmy date palm, Phoenix roebelinii;

Canary Island date palm, Phoenix canariensis

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giant (white) bird-of-paradise flower, Strelitzia nicolae;
jacaranda, J.mimosifolia planted to 'lure' Greta Winter to Redstone, she having insisted on
having camellias in the garden (Kerry Lee, pers.comm., 2/2/09);
holly (near front door) Ilex aquifolium cv. (NB: a re-sprout from the original bush/tree);
orchid tree, Bauhinia variegata;
Judas tree, Cercis siliquastrum;
guava (off S-W corner of house), Psidium cattleyanum.
fruit salad plant, Monstera deliciosa;
Cape plumbago, P.capensis;
Japanese/heavenly/sacred bamboo, Nandina domestica;
variegated lemonwood/tarata, Pittosporum eugenioides 'Variegata';
white quince/rambutan, Alectryon subcinereus;
a large Camellia japonica cv. (double pink);
Rondeletia amoena;
Mickey Mouse plant, Ochna serrulata;
spider plant, Chlorophytum comosum;
Cape / peacock iris, Moraea iridioides;
sage, Salvia sp.;
African olive, Olea europaea var. africana (syn O.europaea var. cuspidata);
red and green NZ.cabbage tree/ ti kouka, Cordyline australis (& C.a.'Rubra');
dwarf Nile/African Iily, Agapanthus orientalis cv.;
Beschorneria yuccoides;
Adam's needle/Spanish bayonet, Yucca filamentosa 'Variegata';
ladder /sword fern, Nephrolepis cordifolia;
Rhododendron cv.;
autumn camellia, C.sasanqua cv.;
silver banksia, B.marginata (2);
Cape chestnut, Calodendron capense (2)
Weigela florida cv. (?Rubra) (red)
(stump, resprouting, of) black bean, Castanospermum australe (north-east corner of lawn)
Western border
fruiting plum (NB: old tree - last remaining of former orchard which the whole block once was,
before/when the house was built), Prunus domestica cv.;
Cape chestnut, as above;
bottlebrush, Callistemon viminalis cv;
Palmer River lily, Doryanthes palmeri;
Indian hawthorn, Raphiolepis indica;
Canary Island/ date palm (multi-trunked specimen), Phoenix canariensis / P.dactylifera;
Cordyline terminalis cv 'Rubra' (red Cordyline);
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geraniums, Pelargonium cv.s;
pea flower, Polygala myrtifolia;
Rhododendron cv. (pink);
Palm (either Lord Howe Island palm, Kentia fosteriana or bangalow palm, Archontophoenix
cunninghamiana)(too young to tell yet);
Window boxes planted with ivy geraniums (Pelargonium peltatum cv.s).
Southern border
Sydney blue gum, Eucalyptus saligna (2: NB: planted c.1980s by Nella Melchert)(one is in
poor condition)
lemon-scented gum, Corymbia citriodora (2: one was here when the house was built, and
hasn't grown much; another was planted since and has grown larger);
Chinese elm, Ulmus parvifolia
variegated laurustinus, Viburnum tinus 'Variegata';
umbrella tree, Schefflera actinophylla;
oyster plant, Bellerophone (syn. Justicia) guttata;
Burrawang/cycad, Macrozamia communis;
Photinia glabra;
red orchid tree, Bauhinia galpinii/B.punctata;
frangipani, Plumeria rubra (white);
ornamental indigo (as above);
Thryptomene saxicola;
rose cv. (as above);
Indian shot, Canna indica cv.;
flowering WA gum, Corymbia ficifolia;
native frangipani, Hymenosproum flavum;
golden bamboo, Bambusa sp;
giant bird-of-paradise flower (as above);
christmas bush, Ceratopetalum gummiferum;
blueberry ash, Elaeocarpus reticulatus;
bottlebrush, Callistemon citrinus;
spider flower, Grevillea rosmariniifolia;
bull bay / evergreen magnolia, M.grandiflora;
sago palm/cycad, Cycas revoluta;
Chinese plumbago, Ceratostigma wilmottianum;
Indian hawthorn, Raphiolepis umbellata;
black-eyed Susan/African daisy, Arctotis acaulis cv..;
box, Buxus sempervirens;
cast iron plant, Aspidistra elatior;
(orange-flowered bush, Sth. Africa) Burchellia bubalina (Rubiaceae);
Paris daisy, Euryops pectinatus;
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wax flower, Eriostemon myoporoides;
bromeliads (various);
knife-leafed wattle, Acacia cultriformis;
ornamental ginger, Hedychium gardnerianum;
Aeonium sp. (succulent);
spider flower, Grevillea sp.
native mint bush, Prostanthera sp.;
Kermadec Island Christmas bush/pohutukawa, Metrosideros kermadecensis;
Rock lily/orchid, Dendrobium speciousum
Southern side of house
Camellia japonica cv. hedge;
laurustinus, Viburnum tinus;
firespike, Odontonema calystachyum;
ladder / sword fern, as above;
prayer plant, as above;
Beaufortia sparsa;
bromeliads;
Coleus sp./cv.s;
wax flower, as above;
Cape iris, as above;
winter/lenten roses, Helleborus niger / H.orientalis cv.s;
star of the veldt, Dimorphotheca sp.;
black eyed Susan/African daisy, as above;
Kalanchoe blossfeldiana cv.s;
dwarf lily pilly, Syzygium luehmannii cv.;
cast iron plant, as above;
Gardenia radicans:
geraniums, as above;
bear's breetches, Acanthus mollis;
Indian shot, as above;
Nile / African lilies, as above;
crown fern, Blechnum discolor
guava, Psidium cattleyanum cv. (fruiting guava, replaced an earlier plum tree. Greta Winter
was a keen preserver of fruit (Kerry Lee, pers.comm., 2/2/09).
South-western side of house
yesterday, today & tomorrow, Brunfelsia uniflora;
montbretias, Crocosmia masoniorum (environmental weed);
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black-eyed Susan/African daisy, as above;
cast-iron plant, as above;
asparagus fern (upright), A.setaceus;
azaleas, as above (Greta's grandmothers' varieties);
Indian hawthorn, as above;
golden rod, Solidaster luteus.;
Gardenia jasminoides;
holly, Ilex aquifolium;
guava, noted above
Border west of the garage
azaleas, as above;
Kaffir lilies, as above;
Japanese sacred/heavenly bamboo, as above;
Sargent's juniper, Juniperus chinensis 'Sargentii' (in a pot SE of site)
Drive/ garage, border to east
Large specimens of Japanese sacred/heavenly bamboo, as above;
Drawf mondo grass, Ophiopogon sp.'Nana';
NZ cabbage tree/ti kouka, Cordyline australis (in a pot).
East of the drive (to the garage)
snow in summer, Melaleuca lineariifolia;
bromeliads (various);
pea flower, as above;
Kaffir plum, Harpephyllum caffrum;
Cape iris, as above;
Lantana montividensis;
rock lily/orchid, as above;
Japanese privet, Ligustrum japonicum 'Rotundifolium';
Camellia japonica cv.s (several, including one propagated from a bush from (formerly
adjoining) Cliftonville (3cm double 'waratah' form, rose/shell pink);
Canary Island date palm, Phoenix canariensis (intended twin of one on western lawn which has
turned out to be multi-trunked);
variegated lemonwood/tarata, as above;
giant bird-of-paradise flower, as above;
crucifix orchid, Epidendron radicans;
Paris daisy, as above;
yellow tree broom, Chamaecytisus sp.(?hirsutus);
bird-of-paradise flower, as above;
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tallowwood, Citharexylon quadrangulare; oleander, Nerium oleander cv.s (several); Chinese hibiscus, as above; asparagus fern, as above Lot 8 (block to east, adjoins rear of garage) Indian hawthorn, as above; firethorn, Pyracantha sp; sweet box, Murraya paniculata; mulberry, Morus nigra; avocado, Persea gratissima (2); laurustinus, as above;

golden Monterey cypress, Cupressus macrocarpa 'Aurea';

Queensland nut, Macadamia integrifolia and M.tetraphylla;

bottlebrush, as above;

mangoes (2), Mangifera indica cv.s

# **Physical condition** and/or Archaeological potential:

Redstone is the most intact surviving house designed by W.B. Griffin in NSW (LEP, 1997; Walter Burley Griffin Society Inc, 2008).

The place is in excellent physical condition.

Prior to the construction of Redstone, the subject land was used for orcharding. Therefore, the archaeological potential is considered to be low.

# Date condition updated:17 Oct 08

# **Modifications and** dates:

The following changes have been made to the place in the latter 20th century:

- 1953+ The garden setting has been reduced slightly at various times since 1953 by enlargements to the adjacent streets (Adderton Road and Manson Street).
- 1950s Bathroom: a toilet was put into the bathroom (which previously consisted of only a shower and bath) when the Dundas area was connected to the metropolitan sewerage system. (The original, and extant, toilet was located in a room within the garage).

Late 1950s/early 1960s

- Lounge (Living) room: the sunken fireplace in the western wall was filled in with cement to accommodate a coke-burning Cozy stove. The Cozy was removed by 1972.

Early 1960s

- Scullery (Utility): the original green enamel Metters wood fuel stove (with four enamel legs, oven door on right and fuel door on left) that sat under the large window in the scullery/kitchen wall, was removed from the scullery. A modern cooker was installed in the kitchen, together with a refrigerator. (Previously ice was stored in an ice safe in the entry (porch) cupboard).

Possiblily at this time also the coke-fuelled industrial hot water system in the scullery cupboard (and its associated 90-gallon copper tank in the roof) were removed and replaced with an electric hot water system.

- Kitchen: New surface to the worktop installed.

1970s

- Scullery (Utility); ceramic tiling added to the scullery wall and a Stegbar door was fitted to the alcove on the south wall of the scullery that previously housed the American brand Savage electric washing machine purchased in 1935.

## 1987

Routine repairs were undertaken to the flashings, plaster, and pointing. All detail in the repair work matched existing.

# 2002

Large (and in Sydney relatively rare) Queensland kauri (Agathis robusta) cut down to the north-east of the house and garage (Walter Burley Griffin Society, pers.comm. 25/11/08). A seedling of the same tree is in the shrub border closest to the north-west corner (entry) of the house (Stuart Read, pers.comm., 26/11/08).

# 2008

- Upper roof: Replacement of wide timber fascia board surrounding the upper level roof in dark-stained oregon to match the original, mounted on new galvanised steel brackets maintaining the original supporting timbers.
- Bedroom 1: washbasin refinished
- Bathroom: A stainless steel tray (easily removable) laid in the shower base with no disturbance to the original tiled shower floor.
- Lounge (Living) room: the concrete infill to the fireplace hearth was removed and the original timber trim refixed, to restore the fireplace to its original configuration.
- Ceiling lights: lead sheets fitted behind ceiling light fittings to block off connections between the room interiors and the roof space.

# Date unknown:

The front 'gate' entry in the site's north-western corner originally had a climbing rose cv 'Crimson Glory' - this is gone today. There was a rose bed in the lawn south-west of the house. Mr Winter was 'best-friends' with Roy Rumsey, a well-known nurseryman and gardener (commemorated in the Rumsey Rose Garden in Parramatta Park). It is possible the Winters obtained cuttings of roses and perhaps palm plants also from the Rumseys. A fruiting mango tree and a frangipani north of the house have both been removed (Kerry Lee, pers.comm., 2/2/09).

A black bean stump (Castanospermum australe) on the north-east corner of the lawn north of the house is sprouting, showing a sawn-off trunk some 30cm in diameter - this would have been a fair height tree (5-7m perhaps) before it was cut down (Stuart Read, observation, 2/2/09).

Further information: Pers Comm. from Professor James Werrick: RAIA 20th Century Buildings Register. Meredith Walker site visit 23 Jan 1992. 'Walter Burley Griffin and the Winter House', unpublished thesis for B. Arch by Paul Melchert, 1975.

**Current use:** private house Former use: private house

# **History**

# Historical notes:

Aboriginal occupation of this part of Sydney

The valley of the Parramatta River had been populated by Indigenous Australians for some 40,000 years before European settlement by peoples of the Darug (or Dharug) nation. The Wallumedagal (or Walumettagal) clan lived along the north bank of the Parramatta River, westward from the Lane Cove River (centred on the present day Ryde district). Further west, at the head of the Parramatta River, lived the Burramattagal (or Booramedical) of the present day Parramatta district. Seasonal burning of the long grass to encourage a fresh grass supply for native animal feed created the fertile landscape that attracted the European colonists large trees, spaced well apart with a grassy under storey.

# Colonisation and European settlement

Governor Phillip's instructions from George III required him to begin cultivation immediately on landing at Sydney Cove. The failure of the first crops at Farm Cove turned Phillip's attention westward where he found the fertile country around The Crescent (present day Parramatta Park) and Prospect Hill that could sustain the agriculture needed to feed the infant colony. The Rose Hill (Parramatta) settlement was established late in 1788, and the 70 acres cleared for the Government Farm delivered the colony's first harvest of wheat, barley, maize, oats, vegetables and flax in late 1789. From 1791 all agricultural efforts were concentrated around Parramatta, spreading to The Ponds area (north of Victoria Road, Rydalmere, along The Ponds Creek into the Dundas Valley) in 1792 with the settlement of 14 First Fleet emancipists on 30 acre minimum land grants. Redstone is sited on part of each of two of The Ponds land grants, to William Hubbard and William Wade. Hubbard, a plasterer convicted of theft, and his emancipist wife Mary Atkinson (Goulding) successfully farmed the land and raised a family at The Ponds.

By 1834 the land on which Redstone is located was part of the Adderton Estate (with a driveway on to Kissing Point Road) where Major Robert Gerald Moffat, an officer of the Parramatta military detachment, lived with his family and convict servants until 1845. Adderton was surrounded by fruit orchards that had spread south from Carlingford and west from the Brush Farm Estate through the Dundas Valley to the Parramatta River. When the Dundas district was incorporated in 1889, its first aldermen were predominately local fruitgrowers. In 1883 Adderton was purchased as a dairy farm by orchardist Neil Harper who sent fresh milk to Parramatta twice daily. In 1885 Harper and other local residents petitioned the government to open an old track, now Adderton Road, connecting Pennant Hills Road to Kissing Point Road. Harper benefited considerably by the construction of Adderton Road and the Carlingford rail line. In the 1890s he subdivided his Adderton Estate into three to six acre blocks for orchards and small farms.

The Carlingford railway line was completed in 1896, passing near the western boundary of the Adderton Estate. Financed by the Bank of New Zealand it was the first stage of the planned extension of the private rail line from Clyde to Rosehill across the Parramatta River to the fruit growing district of Dural. The line was bought by the NSW Government in 1900, and never extended beyond Carlingford, but it did provide a rail connection to the city which influenced Edward Winter's decision to purchase land nearby for a family home in the country. Winter was reportedly influential in having Telopea station opened in 1925 (Kass, Liston & McClymont: 1996; Parramatta Park Trust: 2004; Kerry Lee, pers comm., 20 August 2008).

# Redstone and the Winter family

Redstone is the last Griffin house still remaining in the ownership of the family who commissioned it. In 1924 Edward Winter purchased one hectare (2.5 acres) of former orcharding land (part of the Adderton Estate at Dundas) with the intention of building a family home where he, his wife Greta and their six children could enjoy a country lifestyle (until the mid 1950s, the Dundas-Telopea area featured much rural and orcharding land). From 1924 to 1935 the family occupied an existing house on the property, that was originally named Cliftonville but which they called "Redstone" after Edward Winter's grandfather's cottage in Wales. Cliftonville was a single-storey building with verandahs that were used as sleep-outs by its occupants, who included Edward Winter's father who came out from England and a sailor as well as the eight members of the Winter family. The household lived an easy, informal, semi-rural lifestyle at Cliftonville.

Edward Winter owned a gentleman's outfitter's shop in Pitt Street, Sydney while his wife, Greta, had worked as a photographic colourist before her marriage. They were friendly with Walter Burley Griffin through their shared involvement in the Single Tax Movement of the Henry George League and their other common interest, the Theosophical Society. Griffin encouraged Winter to build a new house for his family in the Dundas district and Winter commissioned Griffin to design the home. Construction began in March 1935 on a site approximately 1 acre in size (0.4 of a hectare). The remainder of Winter's land, including Cliftonville, was sold to offset the cost of construction of the new house. (Cliftonville has since been demolished). Upon its completion, in December 1935, Edward and Greta Winter and five of their six children moved into Redstone (the eldest daughter, Madge, having by then left home).

The new house was given the Winter family's traditional name of 'Redstone'. This is the name

the family has always used for the property, although architectural historians tend to refer to it as 'The Winter House'.

The sandstone for Redstone was obtained from the grounds of a nearby property in Telopea owned by the Rumsey family (seed merchants and nursery owners) who were friends of the Winter family.

In September 1953, in order to fund his retirement, Edward Winter subdivided the remaining land into 8 allotments. He retained Lots 7 and 8 (Redstone being located on lot 7). Suburban detached housing was constructed on Lots 1 to 6 and Winter Street was created to services these sites.

Edward Winter died in 1963 and the property passed to his widow, Greta. In 1974 Greta suffered a stroke, requiring her to move to a nursing home. The title to the house was transferred to the eldest of the Winter children, John Norman "Jack" Winter although he never again occupied the house. In November 1976 his sister Nella Melchert (nee Winter) and her husband Charles purchased the house and they resided there with their family. Following Charles' passing in 2002, Nellla lived alone at Redstone until her death in early 2008.

The Winter family have maintained the house with loving care over the many decades of their ownership, and Redstone remains almost unaltered in its structure and layout (although the colour scheme of its walls has changed at times). The original specification and original coloured contract drawings are still in the family's possession. The family is also remarkable for having employed high quality heritage advice in its maintenance and repair since the 1970s, ensuring that it has been conserved according to Burra Charter principles. In 2008 the family is preparing the house for sale.

Walter Burley Griffin (1876-1937)

Walter Burley Griffin was born near Chicago and trained at Nathan Ricker's School of Architecture at the University of Illinios, graduating in 1899. From 1901-1906, he worked as an associate of Frank Lloyd Wright at Oak Park. Griffin started his own practice in 1906 and within a few years established his reputation as an architect of the Prairie School. In 1911, Griffin married Marion Mahony, who had graduated in architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and worked as Wright's head designer (Jahn, 1997, p. 221).

Inspired by the designs by Frederick Law Olmsted (often called the founder of American landscape architecture) of New York's Central Park and his 'green necklace' of parks in Boston, landscape design was the career Walter Burley Griffin would have pursued had the opportunity offered. He had approached Chicago landscape gardener Ossian Cole Simonds for career advice before entering the University of Illinois in 1895. Apparently unsatisfied with the lack of relevant curriculum, Simonds urged him to pursue architecture and study landscape gardening on his own, as he himself had done. Griffin took what classes he could and, like Simonds and landscape gardener Jens Jensen, shared an approach to landscape design through architecture, an interest in civic design, urbanism and planning.

In 1902 there were only six 'landscape gardeners' (and no landscape architects) listed in the Lakeside Annual Directory of the City of Chicago (Chicago Directory, Chicago, 1902 pp 24, 35, 47). In 1912 only two landscape architects and 13 landscape gardeners were listed (ibid, 1912, pp.1552 & 1693).

Griffin's practice as a landscape architect was first featured in a public text in Wilhelm Miller's The Prairie Spirit in Landscape Gardening (1915), which included Griffin as an exponent (along with Jensen, Simonds and architect Frank Lloyd Wright) of his proposed American regional 'Prairie' style. Simonds, Griffin and Miller had all attended the first national meeting of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) in 1913 in Chicago.

By 1914 Griffin and his architect wife Marion Mahony had moved to Australia after winning the 1912 international design competition for the Federal Capital, Canberra with a scheme based on its topography, a distinctly non-prairie valley landscape of undulating hills. (Stuart Read, in

http://www.griffinsociety.org.au/lives and works/landscape\_architecture cited 21 November 2008). This was a project they had worked on together (Jahn, 1997, p.221).

By 1919, there were problems with the Canberra project and Griffin resigned his position as Federal Capital Director of Design and Construction. He then formed the Greater Sydney Development Association to purchase 263 hectares in Middle Harbour, which became known as Castlecrag. He devoted the next fifteen years to developing and promoting the area, while maintaining an architectural practice (Jahn, 1997, p. 221)

Griffin believed dwellings should play a subordinate role in the scheme of nature. His houses were small and intimate. He aimed toward the most natural use of land and the selection of indigenous plants. He also developed an economical construction system of pre-cast interlocking structural tiles, which he called 'Knitlock', and used it widely, as well as stone, in the houses of Castlecrag. In the early 1930s, Griffin built incinerators for the destruction of household garbage in various cities and suburbs in the eastern states of Australia. They provided a canvas for experimentation with form and texture for the architect, but sadly few have survived (Jahn, 1997, p. 221).

Two Griffin incinerators survive in suburban Sydney: the Glebe Municipal Incinerator (City of Sydney Local Environmental Plan 2000 local heritage item); and the Willoughby Incinerator (State Heritage Register (SHR) listing #84).

Griffin's work took him to India in 1935 and he died there two years later of peritonitis (Jahn, 1997, p. 221).

Griffin's contribution to the development of the Wrightian / Prairie School style internationally has begun to receive attention from architectural historians in recent years. It is now increasingly acknowledged that Griffin contributed a number of fresh concepts to the Prairie School, most noticeably: his attention to vertical space (a development leading directly to the ubiquitous split-level style post-war houses); 'open plan' living and dining areas dominated by a large central fireplace; and the extensive domestic use of reinforced concrete. (Kirk, Andrew, 'Prairie School Connection', , cited 3rd December 2007)

Griffin is also internationally renowned for his work as a landscape architect, especially the innovative town planning design of Canberra and Castlecrag, Griffith and Leeton.

Griffin's design approaches to landscape and architecture informed one another. Landscape itself, for example, crucially served as a basis for architecture - a conviction first made explicit in the Canberra publicity, Griffin noting (in Chicago) that: '...a building should ideally be "the logical outgrowth of the environment in which [it is] located".' In Australia, he hoped to 'evolve an indigenous type, one similarly derived from and adapted to local climate, climate and topography.' In Australia the scale and number of his landscape commissions grew considerably, including a number of town plans. Griffin signed many of his drawings with the term 'landscape architect'. (Stuart Read, in http://www.griffinsociety.org.au/lives and works/landscape\_architecture cited 21 November 2008).

Redstone was the last house designed and supervised by Walter Burley Griffin before he departed Australia in October 1935. Griffin's wife and professional partner, Marion Mahony Griffin, is understood to not have been involved in the design of Redstone (J Weirick, pers. comm 2008). Similarly Griffin's practice partner, Eric Nicholls is understood to not have been closely involved in either the design or supervision of Redstone's, although he did sign-off on its construction in December 1935, after Griffin's departure (Kerry Lee, pers comm., 2008).

Comparisons of intactness with other Griffin houses:

Redstone is the most intact of the 19 surviving houses in NSW designed by Walter Burley Griffin (Walter Burley Griffin Society Inc, 2008), of which 13 are located in Castlecrag. Four of the five other Griffin houses outside Castlecrag are on Sydney's North Shore. Redstone is the only Griffin house built in Western Sydney.

Fishwick House is generally considered to be the most intact of the 13 houses in Castlecrag, both externally and internally, although Fishwick's windows have been replicated (J.Weirick, pers comm 2008) and 1970s-80s modifications included a rebuilt kitchen. In scale and form the Fishwick house differs considerably from Redstone. It is a large, two-storeyed house, the largest and grandest of the surviving Castlecrag houses, and is set in a naturally landscaped (rather than explicitly planted) garden. The Fishwick House and The Eric Pratten House re both large, grand two-storeyed houses. The Eric Pratten House was Griffin's largest Australian domestic commission. It was completed by his partner Eric Nicholls after Griffin departed Australia and there are differing professional views of the place of this building in the body of Griffin's work. Its intactness has been compromised by unapproved works in 2002 which gutted five bathrooms.

More closely comparable to Redstone are the Duncan House (SHR listing #742) and Stella James House (SHR listing #1510). The Duncan House is a small, ground-hugging building with similarities in design and use of sandstone bays to Redstone. But it was built as one of a group of three houses, is flat-roofed with no eaves and has been considerably extended in the 1940s and 1990s. More closely comparable in design, scale and use of materials is the Stella James House at Avalon. It differs from Redstone in that it is set in a steep natural bushland setting and not a planted garden. It is also less intact than Redstone. Originally a two-bedroom cottage, a terrace was added and in 1957 Sydney Ancher sympathetically added a third bedroom, on and over the terrace. The kitchen fittings were also modified.

Redstone is unprecedented in Griffin's work although its lines have an affinity with his horizontal Prairie houses. There is no other Griffin building with this roof form. There is an unbuilt project in Victoria that has some similarities in design approach (Turnbull Navaretti 1998: 160) and the Christian Jollie Smith house additions project at Castlecrag has similarities in its large stone end wall that includes the fireplace (Turnbull, Navaretti, 1998: 297) (Walter Burley Griffin Society Inc, 2008).

As at October 2008, four Walter Burley Griffin Houses are listed on the State Heritage Register: Fishwick House At Castlecrag (SHR listing # 01751), the Eric Pratten House at Pymble (SHR listing #1443), the Walter Burley Griffin Lodge (aka the Stella James House) at Avalon (SHR listing #1510) and the Duncan House at Castlecrag (SHR listing #742).

# **Historic themes**

Australian theme (abbrev)	New South Wales theme	Local theme
3. Economy- Developing local, regional and national economies	Environment - cultural landscape-Activities associated with the interactions between humans, human societies and the shaping of their physical surroundings	Landscapes demonstrating styles in landscape design-
3. Economy- Developing local, regional and national economies	Environment - cultural landscape-Activities associated with the interactions between humans, human societies and the shaping of their physical surroundings	Landscapes and gardens of domestic accommodation-
3. Economy- Developing local, regional and national economies	Environment - cultural landscape-Activities associated with the interactions between humans, human societies and the shaping of their physical surroundings	Landscapes and parklands of distinctive styles-
4. Settlement-Building settlements, towns and cities	Accommodation-Activities associated with the provision of accommodation, and particular types of accommodation – does not include architectural styles – use the theme of Creative Endeavour for such activities.	Housing professional people-

4. Settlement-Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages-Activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	Rural orchards-
4. Settlement-Building settlements, towns and cities	Towns, suburbs and villages-Activities associated with creating, planning and managing urban functions, landscapes and lifestyles in towns, suburbs and villages	Developing suburbia-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour-Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Landscaping - 20th century interwar-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour-Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Interior design styles and periods - Victorian-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour-Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Interior design styles and periods - Modernist-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour-Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Building in response to climate - verandahs-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour-Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Building in response to natural landscape features
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour-Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	Architectural styles and periods - Interwar Modernist-
8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Creative endeavour-Activities associated with the production and performance of literary, artistic, architectural and other imaginative, interpretive or inventive works; and/or associated with the production and expression of cultural phenomena; and/or environments that have inspired such creative activities.	(none)-
9. Phases of Life- Marking the phases of life	Persons-Activities of, and associations with, identifiable individuals, families and communal groups	Associations with Walter Burley and Marion Mahony Griffin architects and landscape architects-

# **Assessment of significance**

# SHR Criteria a)

[Historical significance]

Redstone has local heritage significance as the only example of the work of the internationally acclaimed architect Walter Burley Griffin to be found in Sydney's western suburbs. It is also of local significance as a pre-war residential home built on rural and orcharding land, a forerunner of the area's shift to residential sub-division. The Dundas-Telopea area remained a predominately agricultural and orcharding landscape until the introduction of a sewerage system in the 1950s enabled its transformation into suburbia.

**SHR Criteria b)** The item has State significance for its historical association with the American architect, [Associative significance] Walter Burley Griffin, Griffin, together with with his wife Marion Mahony Griffin, is important to

Australian cultural history for the innovative town planning design of Canberra and Castlecrag, and for the widely acclaimed architectural design of buildings such as Newman College and the Capitol Theatre in Melbourne.

Redstone is a representative example of Griffin's small-scale domestic architecture and is of exceptional intactness and integrity. It forms an important part of Walter Burley Griffin's body of work in Australia.

# **SHR Criteria c)**[Aesthetic significance]

Redstone is of State heritage significance for its aesthetic qualities as a fine work of architecture and an outstandingly intact example of Walter Burley Griffin's small-scale house design. It contains many of the features for which Griffin is highly regarded including open planning, juxtaposition of robust stonework with fine oiled timber joinery, Art Deco styled chimney, curtained interior screens, a ground hugging profile and a multi-layered roof with large overhangs (characteristic of the Prairie School style). The roof is constructed in 'Super 6', an innovative building material for the 1930s (corrugated fibro cement sheet). The gracious garden retains trees and other species planted by the original clients and its design has been largely unaltered since 1953.

Redstone has State heritage significance for the extremely intact nature of its interiors, including the retention of its original fixtures and fittings. These include the dining room screen, and kitchen and bathroom fitments. A patch of the original stipple paint wall finish exists within a hall cupboard. The joinery of the house retains much of its original finishes.

Redstone is of State significance for the existence of its original construction drawings and documentation - moveable heritage which complements the building's exceptional intactness and integrity.

# SHR Criteria d)

[Social significance]

Still in its near-original setting, Redstone been owned and faithfully maintained to Burra Charter standards by the family of the commissioning client.

Redstone is of State significance for the esteem in which it is held by architecture enthusiasts

and the professional architectural community as an excellent example of Walter Burley Griffin's small scale residential design and the most intact example of a Griffin house in NSW (Walter Burley Griffin Society Inc, 2008). Redstone is mentioned in most published works about Walter Burley Griffin and the house is often inspected and studied by architecture students. Professional and community esteem for the place is also evidenced by Redstone's inclusion on the following heritage listings: Parramatta LEP (1997), the Register of the National Estate, the RAIA (NSW Chapter) Register of 20th Century Buildings of Significance, the National Trust (NSW) Register and the Art Deco Society of NSW Interim Register.

# SHR Criteria e)

[Research potential]

Redstone is State significant as a highly intact example of the architecture of Walter Burley Griffin, and the most intact Griffin house in NSW which has been faithfully maintained to best practice standards over its entire existence (Walter Burley Griffin Society Inc, 2008).

The building is an important resource for understanding the design intent, detailing and construction techniques of the architect. This resource is enhanced by the existence of the architect's original construction documentation that is still in the owner's possession.

# SHR Criteria f)

[Rarity]

Redstone is State significant for its rarity as an exceptionally intact example of a Walter Burley Griffin designed house. Redstone is the most intact of the 19 surviving houses in NSW designed by Walter Burley Griffin (Walter Burley Griffin Soceity Inc, 2008). 13 of these are located in Castlecrag, and four are already listed on the State Heritage Register at 2008.

Redstone's rarity and significance is further enhanced by its intact garden setting and by the existence of architectural specifications and original drawings that are still in the owner's possession.

Redstone is also rare as the only Griffin designed house to have remained in the owership of the one family since construction.

For a comparison of Redstone with other Griffin designed houses in NSW see History-Comparison with Griffin-designed houses.

# SHR Criteria g)

[Representativeness]

Redstone is State significant as a representative and highly intact example of the domestic architecture of Walter Burley Griffin and a local exemplar of the Prairie School architectural style. Redstone demonstrates characteristic features of this style, with which Griffin is associated, in its open planning, juxtaposition of robust stonework with fine oiled timber joinery, Art Deco style chimney, curtained interior screens and ground hugging profile.

Redstone is representative of Griffin's residential designs in so far as they are are characterised by open-planned forms, the use of sandstone and oiled timber and the sensitive placement of the house in the landscape.

Integrity/Intactness Redstone is an exceptionally intact item, both the building and its setting. It retains its original plan form, all of its original interiors (including most of its finishes and fitments), its original exterior finishes and its mature garden in its near-original setting.

Assessment criteria: Items are assessed against the 🔁 State Heritage Register (SHR) Criteria to determine the level of significance. Refer to the Listings below for the level of statutory

# protection.

# **Recommended management:**

Subdivision, including dual occupancies, should be prevented in the area around the house and garage.

# **Recommendations**

Management Category	Description	Date Updated
Statutory Instrument	Nominate for State Heritage Register (SHR)	17 Mar 16
Statutory Instrument	Nominate for State Heritage Register (SHR)	17 Mar 16
Statutory Instrument	Nominate for State Heritage Register (SHR)	17 Mar 16

# **Procedures / Exemptions**

Section of act	Description	Title	Comments	Action date
57(2)	Exemption to allow work	Standard Exemptions		Sep 5 2008
		115	HERITAGE ACT 1977	
			Notice of Order Under Section 57 (2) of the Heritage Act 1977	
			I, the Minister for Planning, pursuant to subsection 57(2) of the Heritage Act 1977, on the recommendation of the Heritage Council of New South Wales, do by this Order:	
			1. revoke the Schedule of Exemptions to subsection 57(1) of the Heritage Act made under subsection 57(2) and published in the Government Gazette on 22 February 2008; and	
			grant standard exemptions from subsection 57(1) of the Heritage Act 1977, described in the Schedule attached.	
			FRANK SARTOR	
			Minister for Planning	
			Sydney, 11 July 2008	
			To view the schedule click on the Standard Exemptions for Works Requiring Heritage Council Approval link below.	

📆 Standard exemptions for works requiring Heritage Council approval

# Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Heritage Act - State Heritage Register		01795	09 Jan 09	8	269
Local Environmental Plan		10	21 Feb 97		
National Trust of Australia register		9470			
Royal Australian Institute of Architects register			30 Mar 79		
Register of the National Estate		3098	28 Sep 82		

# References, internet links & images

Туре	Author	Year	Title	Internet Links
Written	Birrell, James	1964	Walter Burley Griffin	
Written	Boesel, E	2008	Redstone: The Winter House	
Written	Clive Lucas Stapleton & Partners (Meg Quinlisk & Ian Stapleton)	2008	Redstone State Heritage Register Nomination	
Oral History	Hale, Patricia & Hanna, Bronwyn	2008	Personal communication with Kerry Lee, 20 August 2008	
Photogr aph	Hale, Patricia & Hanna, Bronwyn	2008	Site visit, 20 August 2008	
Oral History	Hanna, Bronwyn	2008	Personal communication with Professor James Weirick	
Written	Jahn, Graham	1997	Sydney Architecture	
Written	Johnson, Donald Leslie	1980	Australian Architecture 1901- 1950	
Written	Mauldon, V	2004	Colonial Rose Hill Parramatta Park: a self-guided walking tour	
Oral History	Melchert, Nella & Lee (nee Melchert), Kerry	2007	Personal communication with Clive Lucas Stapleton & Partners, 4 & 5 December 2007	
Written	Melchert, Paul	1975	Walter Burley Griffin and the Winter House, B Arch thesis	
Written	Read, Stuart	2008	Redstone Garden Plant List, November 2008	
Written Stuart Read (inter alia)		2006	Landscape_architecture	
Written	Turnbull, Jeff & Navaretti, Peter Y (ed)	1998	The Griffins in Australia and India: the complete works and projects of Walter Burley Griffin and Marion Mahony Griffin	<u>j</u>
Electroni c	Walter Burley Griffin Society (various authors)	1999	Walter Burley Griffin Society website and component articles	

				V ; e w - d e t a iI
Written	Watson, Anne (ed.)	2015	Visionaries in Suburbia - Griffin Houses in the Sydney landscape	

Note: internet links may be to web pages, documents or images.

























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# APPENDIX B RESULTS OF THE EXTENSIVE AHIMS SEARCH UNDERTAKEN FOR THE STUDY AREA



# AHIMS Web Services (AWS)

# **Extensive search - Site list report**

Your Ref/PO Number : Telopea ND1425

Client Service ID: 210129

<u>siteID</u>	SiteName	<b>Datum</b>	<b>Zone</b>	<b>Easting</b>	<b>Northing</b>	<b>Context</b>	Site Status	SiteFeatur	es	<u>SiteTypes</u>	Reports
45-6-2312	Subiaco Ck 1;	AGD	56	319790	6256890	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		Open Camp Site	102196
	Contact	Recorders	Mich	Michael Guider				<b>Permits</b>			
45-6-2313	Subiaco Ck 2;	AGD	56	319690	6256830	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		Open Camp Site	102196
	Contact	Recorders	Mich	nael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-1432	Vineyard Creek 2;Telopea;	AGD	56	318080	6258620	Closed site	Valid	Artefact : -		Shelter with Deposit	1809,102196
	Contact	Recorders	Val A	Attenbrow,K	Cutmore				<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-1449	Vineyard Creek 1;Telopea;	AGD	56	318070	6258620	Closed site	Valid	Artefact : -		Shelter with Deposit	1809,102196
	Contact	Recorders	Val A	Attenbrow,K	Cutmore				<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-2407	Acacia Park;	AGD	56	319270	6258890	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		Open Camp Site	102196
	Contact	Recorders	Micl	nael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-2569	Sturt Street	AGD	56	318950	6258300	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		Open Camp Site	102196
	Contact	Recorders	Mich	nael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-2570	Kissing Point Rd	AGD	56	318820	6258140	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		Open Camp Site	102196
	Contact	Recorders	Mich	nael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-2571	Substation;	AGD	56	319520	6258520	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		Open Camp Site	102196
	Contact	Recorders	Micl	nael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		
5-6-2573	Turpentines;	AGD	56	319280	6257620	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		Open Camp Site	102196
	Contact	Recorders	Mich	nael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		
45-6-2572	McKillop Place;	AGD	56	319140	6259320	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -		Open Camp Site	102196
	Contact	Recorders	Mich	nael Guider					<u>Permits</u>		
5-6-2939	Balgowlah Cave	GDA	56	318280	6258780	Open site	Valid	Artefact : -			
	Contact	Recorders	Micl	nael Guider					<b>Permits</b>		

# APPENDIX C MASTER PLAN (PREPARED BY URBIS) REFERENCED IN THIS REPORT





# **BRISBANE**

Level 7, 123 Albert Street Brisbane QLD 4000 Australia T+61 7 3007 3800

# **MELBOURNE**

Level 12, 120 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Australia T +61 3 8663 4888

# **PERTH**

Level 14, The Quadrant 1 William Street Perth WA 6000 Australia T +61 8 9346 0500

# **SYDNEY**

Level 23, Darling Park Tower 2 201 Sussex Street Sydney NSW 2000 Australia T +61 2 8233 9900