

## NATIONAL TRUST REGISTER OF SIGNIFICANT PLACES

### CITATION

**NAME OF PLACE:** CALTHORPES' HOUSE (Other names: Calthorpe House, Oakley and Parkes House)

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**LOCATION OF PLACE:** 24 Mugga Way, Red Hill, ACT

Section and Block Suburb: Block 9, Section 5, Red Hill

Area bounded by: All of block 9, (0.5 Hectare)

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### FEATURES INTRINSIC TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLACE:

The features intrinsic to the heritage significance of the place are:

The heritage value of the house is that the house, its contents and gardens should be taken as a whole and considered as such as part of our heritage in the ACT.

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### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The house and its complementing garden precisely reflect the architectural tastes of the 1920's. Its interior decoration, furniture and furnishings is the most intact surviving collection of the period, known anywhere in Australia. Set as they are in their original context they are believed to be of national significance, it evokes a lifestyle which is not past but which is within living memory of many people.

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### SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

The following requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of this place. These requirements are prepared to implement the following conservation policy for the place:

**1. Requirements Relating to the Building**

1.1 Not applicable

1.2

**2. Requirements Relating to the Setting**

2.1

2.2

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### MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

In assessing this place for the interim Heritage Places Register, the Trust recommends that the following actions and activities should be undertaken which will enhance the heritage values of the place.

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## **DOCUMENT HISTORY**

1.     date     Draft citation considered by Council at Meeting (number)
2.     26.3.84 Revised citation for Council Meeting (number).....APPROVED
3.     26.9.84 Submitted for inclusion in interim Heritage Places Register

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **1. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:**

Brick dwelling with cement rendered walls and a tiled roof. The house is characteristic of the firm and period (1927). It is more elaborate and has better quality materials and finishes than were provided in contemporary government housing. All the invoices, receipts and plans have all been retained.

Okley and Parkes designed and supervised the building of the house. See photos and sketch plans (no room yet for attachment. Edna)

### **2. STATUS OF PLACE AT NOMINATION DATE:**

Excellent condition. Altered sympathetically.

Southern wall of front verandah is glassed in. This work was done at the time of the house construction, otherwise the house is as originally designed.

### **3. BACKGROUND:**

John Henry Calthorpe was born in Maitland, NSW in 1890. At the outbreak of war in 1914 he enlisted and was one of the first recruits for the 1st Light Horse Regiment. He was wounded just prior to Aug 1914 suffering severe facial burns as the result of an exploding telephone in the trenches. Convalesced to Egypt, then he was on the first hospital ship to Australia.

In 1917 he participated in the soldier settlement scheme at Oban Estate, although typically the block was inadequate, and John Calthorpe joined Bob Everson to purchase the McDonald and de Salis Stock and Station Agency of Queanbeyan.

With the departure of Mr Everson in 1918, the firm of Everson and Calthorpe merged with Messrs G.T. and W.G. Woodger to form Woodger and Calthorpe. John Calthorpe soon gained a reputation as a leading auctioneer and stock judge.

In 1917 John Calthorpe married Miss Della Ludvigsen in Belmore, Sydney. Following a short lived residence at Oban, the Calthorpe family lived in Campbell St, Queanbeyan and then built their own house on the corner of Low Street and Rutledge St, Queanbeyan early in 1924.

John Calthorpe took up a lease in Red Hill in 1926, and so began the planning of the present house at 24 Mugga Way. The family occupied the nearly completed house in July 1927.

John Calthorpe died after a short illness in June 1950 at the age of 59. Mrs Della Calthorpe continued to live at 24 Mugga Way until her death in 1979.

THE GARDEN is extensive and follows the original plan, though now neglected and overgrown. The original garden plan, together with lists of roses planed survive and restoration is practicable.

### **4. RELEVANT PRINCIPAL NATIONAL HISTORIC THEMES:**

### **5. ANALYSIS AGAINST THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED IN SCHEDULE 2 OF THE LAND (PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT) ACT 1991**

**Under Section 56 the criteria for the assessment of the heritage significance of places are:**

- (i) a place which demonstrates a high degree of technical and/or creative achievement, by showing qualities of innovation or departure, or representing a new achievement of its time;
- (ii): a place which exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group;
- (iii) a place which demonstrates a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function which is no longer practised, is in danger of being lost, or is of exceptional interest;
- (iv): a place which is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations;
- (v) a place which is the only known or only comparatively intact example of its type;
- (vi) a place which is a notable example of a class of natural or cultural places or landscapes and which demonstrates the principal characteristics of that class;
- (vii): a place which has strong or special associations with a person, group, event, development or cultural phase which played a significant part in local or national history;
- (viii) a place which represents the evolution of a natural landscape, including significant geological features, landforms, biota or natural processes;
- (ix) a place which is a significant habitat or locality for the life cycle of native species; for rare, endangered or uncommon species; for species at the limits of their natural range; or for district occurrences of species;
- (x) fauna or natural landscapes and their elements; or
- (xi) a place which demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute a place which exhibits unusual richness, diversity or significant transitions of flora, significantly to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history, by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site.

#### 6. REFERENCES:

Author Title date publication

#### 7) FILE INCLUDES

- 1) Article by Dr.J.Kerr which shows a plan of the house and landscape plan of the block.
- 2) Presentation to the National Trust for classification consideration.
- 3) AHC submission.
- 4) Article from Canberra Times dated 26/1/1984, 20/11/1984, and 27/1/85.
- 5) Article from Canberra Chronicle dated 15/2/1984
- 6) Article from Good Weekend dated 2/3/1985
- 7) Dept Territories, *Calthorpe's House Museum Guide* by Anne Bickford, AGPS 1986.