

INTERIM HERITAGE PLACES REGISTER

CITATION

Name of Place: **AUSTRALIAN FORESTRY SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S RESIDENCE.** Westridge House (formerly known as "Tudor House").

LOCATION OF PLACE:

Section and Block Suburb: Banks Street, Yarralumla ACT

Area bounded by: Part of Westbourne Woods

FEATURES INTRINSIC TO THE HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PLACE:

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

- Designed in 1927 by Melbourne Architect Harold Desbrowe-Annear. An important design by Australia's first pure functionist architect. A rare example of the period of transition between Federation style and Moderne.
 - The house was built as a residence for Charles Edward Lane-Poole, who was first Acting Principal of the Australian Forestry School (located nearby) which opened its doors in April 1927
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS:

In accordance with s.54(1) of the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991, 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:

Any action relating to these requirements is development for the purposes of the Act and will require approval prior to undertaking the activity. To undertake development without such approval may be an offence.

1. Requirements Relating to the Building

- 1.1
- 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 Council recommends that the following actions and activities should be undertaken which will enhance the heritage values of the place. They are made as recommendations and have no legal effect.

1. The house integrity is good, with it currently being used as offices. The National Trust of Australia (ACT) recommends that the building be renovated and used as a dwelling again.

DOCUMENT HISTORY

1. date Draft citation considered by ACT Heritage Council at Meeting (number)
2. date Draft citation released for public comment
3. date Revised citation for ACT Heritage Council Meeting (number)
4. date Gazetted in an interim Heritage Places Register
5. 1979 Classified

Attachment A

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1. DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:

Pseudo Tudor style two storied dwelling designed by Melbourne architect Harold Desbrowe-Annear, in 1927, following the radical functionalist doctrine that was in vogue at the time. Unique features of the house are the counter-balanced sliding windows that disappear into the wall cavity and drag a flyscreen after it, chimneys with side flues and a stepped form, which help ventilate the house. There is a pleasant use of timber throughout. The gardens in front and sides form a positive setting for the house and should be included with it, but not so the outbuildings. Mr Charles Lane-Poole was the first resident principal and he was followed from 1945-1960 by Mr Jacobs. The building was taken over by the ANU in 1964-5.

2. BACKGROUND:

3. STATUS OF PLACE AT NOMINATION DATE

Good

4. RELEVANT PRINCIPAL NATIONAL HISTORIC THEMES:

The house was built as a residence for Charles Edward Lane-Poole, who was first acting Principal of the Australian Forestry School (located less than 100 yards away).

A important design by Australia's first pure Functionist architect (Harold Desbrowe Annear, Melbourne. A rare example of the period of transition between Federation style and Moderne.

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) a place which exhibits unusual richness, diversity or significant transitions of flora, fauna or natural landscapes and their elements; or
- (xi) a place which demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute 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

1. JM Freeland: *Architecture in Australia*