

24 - DUNWICH: Dunwich Community Learning Centre

Street Address	10 East Coast Road
GPS/RPD	Part of Lot 125 on SP160702
Place Type	Built



RCC, 2013.



Dunwich Community Learning Centre, Dunwich (AHS, 2017).

Condition	Fair	Integrity	Fair
Statutory Listings	Local Heritage Place		
Non-Statutory Listings	No current listing		
Inspection Date	17/01/2017		

Historical Context

The Dunwich Community Learning Centre is a World War II era public building, constructed during the War by the Queensland Government.[1] The building was erected to accommodate patients and staff of Brisbane's Diamantina Hospital who were transferred there due to fears of the advancing war in the Pacific.[2] This building was proposed for staff use, but it was never utilised as such.

In 1949 the building was taken over and subsequently relocated by the Moreton Bay Research Station (MBRS), which was originally known as the Dunwich Laboratory. The MBRS was established by the Queensland State Government and used by the CSIRO Fisheries Division, the Queensland Department of Harbours and Marine (Fisheries), and the University of Queensland. It was primarily used as a study and training facility for international and local academics in marine teaching and research. It was renamed the Dunwich Marine Station in 1961 and was managed solely by the University of Queensland at this time. The research station facilities included a bunk house (the current Dunwich Community Learning Centre building), a two storey laboratory, and a large generator engine room.[3]

The MBRS was upgraded in 1999 and the Community Learning Centre building was moved to its present location. The building appears to be currently unused.[4]

Physical Description

This building is a low set timber building with a hip roof continuous over the front verandah. A small gable in the verandah roof marks the entry. There are small hip roof wings at both ends of the building. Several extensions to the rear of the building have been undertaken, including a covered rear deck and office, however the original form of the building remains readily identifiable. The external cladding is timber chamfer boards and the building is set on low steel posts. The building is set behind a painted timber paling fence and landscaped garden.

Statement of Significance

The Dunwich Community Learning Centre building is a locally significant place which displays historical and aesthetic heritage values. As a World War II period building erected to accommodate hospital staff, it demonstrates the evolution of public buildings during this time and although relocated and extended, the place contributes aesthetic qualities to the streetscape.

Criteria A The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the region's history.

The Dunwich Community Learning Centre building is historically significant as it was erected during World War II to accommodate for hospital staff, and was then used as part of the research facility at Moreton Bay. It is a good example of a government building erected during World War II and is representative of the style of construction at the time.

Criteria E The place is important to the region because of its aesthetic significance.

The distinct exterior form, timber construction and landscaping contribute to the aesthetic quality of the locality.

Primary Themes

8.0 Creating Social and Cultural Institutions

8.05 Sport and recreation

8.03 Organisations and societies

8.02 Cultural activities

References

[1] "Brief History of Dunwich," Redland Bushwalkers Inc.,

<http://www.redlandbushwalkers.org.au/upload/WalkDownloads/2017/DunwichHistory.pdf>, p. 3.

[2] R. F. J. Wood, "The Diam' A History of the Diamantina Hospital," *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland* 11, 1981, p. 147-148.

[3] "History and Community Life," Moreton Bay Research Station, The University of Queensland, 2017,

<https://www.uq.edu.au/moreton-bay-research-station/history-and-community-life>.

[4] "Brief History of Dunwich," Redland Bushwalkers Inc.,

<http://www.redlandbushwalkers.org.au/upload/WalkDownloads/2017/DunwichHistory.pdf>, p. 3.



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