

<b>Street Address</b>	2 Raife Close, Wellington Point
<b>GPS/RPD</b>	Lot 8 SP188629
<b>Place Type</b>	Built



Red-e-map (RCC, 2016).



The Palms (RCC Library, 2017).

<b>Condition</b>	Good	<b>Integrity</b>	Fair
<b>Statutory Listings</b>	Local Heritage Place		
<b>Non-Statutory Listings</b>	No current listing		
<b>Inspection Date</b>	02/12/2016		

### Historical Context

The Palms, now located at 2 Raife Close, was built on the highest spot in Wellington Point area in the late 19th century.[1] However, there is some conjecture as to when the property was originally built. Some sources state it was in the 1870s[2], whereas others believe it was built in 1891 by horticulturalist James Pink evidenced by his mortgage on the property the same year.[3] The house was not present in 1889 when Lt. Owens finalised a military map of the area. Pink was Chairman of the Cleveland Divisional Board during this period, and was previously curator of the Brisbane Botanical Gardens until 1886.[5] Pink also owned an orchard and a nursery.[6]

The Palms was owned only by Pink until purchased by Peter James McDonald in 1896, who is said to have named the residence.[7] The McDonald family grew mangoes and custard apples on the property and built their own processing plant to make chutney.[8] The establishment of the popular “Palms Chutney” is attributed to McDonald and his sons, Arthur and James, with farmers at nearby Mount Cotton supplying fruit to the chutney factory. In the early 1900s, the company’s processing plant moved to east Brisbane and the following decade the name “Palms Chutney” was registered by the Bengal Chutney Company.[9]

The land was subdivided in 1952, and George Land Lowe and Ellen Robina Lowe became owners of one parcel of land, with Ralph Hamlyn Billington the owner of the other.[10] The Palms remained on Billington’s land, and the residence remained in the Billington family until at least the late 1970s.[11]

### Physical Description

The Palms was a complex of buildings with a predominant single storey, low set residence, all set back from Hardy Road. The large site is flat and there are established trees along the west boundary and to the south of the house, concealing the dwelling from view. The house is set in the middle of the site, surrounded by sheds and other buildings. The main dwelling is a low set timber house with a gable roof. The verandah to the front of the house has a wide low pitch gable roof.

### Statement of Significance

The Palms holds local significance in Wellington Point as it exemplifies historical and aesthetic values and has a special association with James Pink and Peter James McDonald. As a residence and farm established in 1891, The Palms demonstrates typical patterns of early European settlement and agricultural development of the area. Later subdivisions into suburban housing allotments is consistent in the development of much of the Redlands. The house retains its 1890s external form, with some surviving mature trees on the site. The place is associated with James Pink, a notable figure in the early development of Wellington Point. Additionally, Peter James McDonald took over the title of the place in 1896. McDonald is remembered for the creation of the “Palms Chutney” company, which was established on the site.

<b>Criteria A</b>	The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the region's history.
The Palms is a historically significant location as it exemplifies early farming houses and landscapes, which is evident in its fabric, setting and layout. It occupies an important place in Redlands history as it illustrates the pattern of farming practices in Wellington Point. Additionally, the residence is typical of European settlement in the 1890s as it was built by James Pink for the purpose of farming and agriculture.	
<b>Criteria E</b>	The place is important to the region because of its aesthetic significance.
This residence is important due to its aesthetic significance, which incorporates a distinct exterior form of timber construction, although today in a suburban context, a small semblance of mature trees and landscaping allow an appreciation of the place as a former 1890s farming residence.	
<b>Criteria H</b>	The place has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the region's history.
The Palms has a special association with the lives of James Pink, well-known horticulturalist, and Peter James McDonald. McDonald is credited with the creation of Bengal Chutney Company "Palms Chutney", the site of which was originally located at The Palms itself. Pink played an important part in the development of Redland's history, and McDonald's key legacy was the establishment of the chutney company.	

Primary Themes	
2.0 Exploiting, Utilising and Transforming the Land	2.04 Agricultural activities
6.0 Buildings, Settlements, Towns, Cities and Dwellings	6.04 Dwellings

References
<p>[1] Barry Kidd, <i>Redlands Illustrated History</i>, (Jackson &amp; O'Sullivan Pty. Ltd.: Brisbane, 1979), p. 40.                  [2] Ibid.                  [3] Woods and Bagot, Inventory of Heritage Places, "2 Raife Close, Wellington Point," 1995.                  [4] Ibid.                  [5] Tracy Ryan, "Places of the Redlands: Thornlands," Redland: Redland Shire Council, 2003, p. 8.                  [6] Mary Howells, "Places of the Redlands Wellington Point," Redland City Council, 2002, p. 6.                  [7] Woods and Bagot, "2 Raife Close".                  [8] "Palms Toasts 90 Years," Bayside Bulletin, 27 February 2001.                  [9] Ibid.                  [10] RCC Library, Local history file, 2 Raife Close Wellington Point.                  [11] Ibid.</p>



*The Palms, Wellington Point (Google, 2016).*



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