

Street Address	17-18 Esplanade, Wellington Point
GPS/RPD	Lot 17 & 18 RP40809
Place Type	Built



Red-e-map (RCC, 2016).



Residence, 17-18 Esplanade, Wellington Point (AHS, 2017).

Condition	Good	Integrity	Very Good
Statutory Listings	Local Heritage Place		
Non-Statutory Listings	No current listing		
Inspection Date	02/12/2016		

Historical Context

The building at 17-18 Esplanade was originally the Wellington Point State School Head Teacher’s Residence and was constructed around 1887 when the school was built.[1] The children from the local area had previously attended the Cleveland West (Ormiston) School, the Cleveland East (Cleveland) School, and the Capalaba School which required crossing Hilliards Creek via a footbridge, or using bush tracks and horse-drawn transport. Residents requested a locally-based school at a public meeting held at Gilbert Burnett’s home, Whepstead, in 1885, where a committee was formed to oversee the construction of the Wellington Point School.[2] The school was constructed during the same period as Burnett’s development of the Trafalgar Vale Estate, and educated the children of Burnett’s sawmill employees.

In 1886, land was purchased from James Davidson, and Pat Horisk was contracted to build the school house and the teacher’s residence at the location of the current Wellington Point State School. The school officially opened in May 1887, and Joseph Wedd, the head teacher of Cleveland East State School, was the first teacher at Wellington Point School. The attendance numbers of pupils grew dramatically after the opening of the Cleveland railway line in November 1889.[3]

The former teacher’s residence appears consistent in form with the Ferguson Brothers B/R1 design, for the Queensland colonial government and utilised in the 1880s and 1890s.[3] Departmental policy was to provide married male head teachers in country areas with residences, thereby securing a resident caretaker and cleaner for the school by way of the person of the headmaster’s wife.

In 1937, the teacher’s residence was moved to its current address (17-18 Esplanade, Wellington Point), and a new teacher’s residence was built in its place on the site of the school.[6] The building has remained on the current site since this time.

Physical Description

The old teacher’s residence is consistent with a Ferguson type B/R1 head teacher’s residence (c.1880s). It is a low set timber framed structure on timber stumps with the stud frame clad externally with weatherboards and lined internally with T & G boarding. A front verandah with central stairs in line with the front door, returning along the northern side to the kitchen. The house is set at an angle to the street, behind a low timber fence with several established trees in the front garden which promote a positive setting of the place from the street. The Esplanade is a single lane road with buildings along the west side only. On the east, the land drops steeply down to the bay. From the front verandah there are views through the trees out across the bay.

Statement of Significance

The former school house situated at 17-18 Esplanade, Wellington Point holds local significance as it demonstrates the evolution of European settlement in the Wellington Point area. With the population increasing in the 19th century, a local school was requested for convenience and efficacy. The place also remains a rare example of an early Ferguson B/R1 head teacher’s residence which is uncommon today in Queensland. Aesthetically, the school house illustrates an early example of an original 1880s school house as it has been adequately maintained.

Criteria A	The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the region's history.
17-18 Esplanade is an important place in demonstrating the evolution of European settlement in the Redlands. The demand for access to locally-based schooling is significant as it reflects a government policy where houses were built for head teachers at country schools to entice them to the area. Despite its relocation from Wellington Point School to the current location in 1937, the former school residence is a rare surviving example of the structures used in early education services offered in Queensland.	
Criteria B	The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the region's cultural heritage.
Only a small number of Fergusons' B/RI residences are known to survive in Queensland, making the place an uncommon aspect of Redland and Queensland's history.	
Criteria E	The place is important to the region because of its aesthetic significance.
The former teacher's residence demonstrates aesthetic significance as its original context as a school residence can be readily interpreted from the street. The aesthetic qualities are a result of the place and its residential setting, and its distinctive forms and timber construction. Although relocated in the 1930s, this setting is consistent with a teacher's residence and in proximity to the locality of the original school at Main Street.	

Primary Themes	
6.0 Buildings, Settlements, Towns, Cities and Dwellings	6.04 Dwellings
9.0 Educating Queensland	9.01 Primary schooling

References
<p>[1] Mary Howells, "Wellington Point – History," Redland City Council, 2016, p. 2.</p> <p>[2] Wellington Point State School, "Wellington Point State School History, 1887-1987," Redland City Library, 1987, p. 1.</p> <p>[3] Howells, "Wellington Point - History," p. 3</p> <p>[4] Paul Burmester, Margaret Pullar, Michael Kennedy, "A Heritage Queensland Schools Heritage Conservation Study, A report for the Department of Education", 1996, p. 16</p> <p>[5] Howells, "Wellington Point - History," p. 11</p>



Residence, 17-18 Esplanade, Wellington Point (RCC, 2012).



Residence, 17-18 Esplanade, Wellington Point, c.1910s (Wellington Point State School, 1987).