

NSW State Heritage Inventory form

Blacktown Heritage Inventory – DRAFT 2009

PROPOSED HERITAGE ITEM 2

ITEM DETAILS						
Name of Item	Headingly					
Other Name/s Former Name/s	Sunnyholt					
Item type (if known)	Residence					
Item group (if known)						
Item category (if known)	Built					
Area, Group, or Collection Name						
Street number	7					
Street name	Redwood Street					
Suburb/town	Blacktown				Postcode	
Local Government Area/s	Blacktown City Council					
Property description	Lot 24 DP 204269					
Location - Lat/long	Latitude				Longitude	
Location - AMG (if no street address)	Zone		Easting		Northing	
Owner						
Current use	Residence					
Former Use	Residence					
Statement of significance	<p>Criterion a) Headingly House is important in the course of history at Blacktown. It is a remaining building from the original Sunnyholt estate settled initially in 1821 as a convict assisted farm, then becoming the home of the landed gentry of the Fry family in the mid Victorian period, then moving to the home of an Italian post war migrant family in the 1950's. These phases of ownership express key periods in the development and history of Blacktown. The remaining house on the property has spanned the Victorian through to urban history of Blacktown.</p> <p>Criterion b) The remaining house has an association with Dame Edith Fry who was a significant Edwardian activist for Women's rights, and a significant Australian Writer and lobbyist. Edith may have lived in the house for a few years before leaving for Coogee, and the name Headingly is associated with the Fry Family.</p> <p>Criterion c) The house and remaining outbuildings at Headingly, although highly altered retain sufficient form and remaining elements to speak of their Victorian past and relationship to the once large country estate of the Fry family. The detail remaining in the interior halls and the exterior window headers and forms speak of a level of Victorian design to the house.</p> <p>Criterion e) Being the remaining house from a property that has been settled since 1821, the property has the potential to yield information about the earliest periods of settlement of Blacktown, although much of the larger homestead site, and sites of earlier buildings are also likely to be located near the current property as well as on it.</p>					
Level of Significance	State <input type="checkbox"/>			Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

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DESCRIPTION			
Designer			
Builder/maker			
Physical Description	<p>The house consists of an original late Victorian house style layout of a frontage gable with a returning verandah. The plan layout of a living area with a grand entrance hall, and bedrooms in the gable wing, is typical of the villas of this period. The original external detailing of the windows and doors reflects a level of design and individuality in the house that may indicate the involvement of a designer.</p> <p>The grand hall entrance ends with a secondary hall leading to what would once have been service areas. Both the main hall and the side hall retain their ornate arches.</p> <p>The original window and door openings of the remaining original section of the villa have been retained, but the windows replaced with aluminium custom windows to suit the openings. An early bay window has been removed from the western elevation, and the wall infilled with a modern (c 1940s) opening and window placed in it.</p> <p>Some original doors remain internally, but all other internal detail has been removed (including chimney breasts, mantelpieces, ceilings, etc.).</p> <p>The verandah floor has been replaced with pebble crete concrete, and the verandah balustrades and pillars are also a new addition. Roofing has been covered with metal roof tiles.</p> <p>There is an original cellar under the house, which remains intact.</p> <p>The rear areas of the villa have been highly altered with original rear service rooms likely to have been removed or partially retained within the substantial 1940's rear addition area. It was noted by the owners that the original kitchen wing has been incorporated into the 1940s' addition, and the chimney breast remains enclosed within the walls.</p> <p>The owners note that the house in the 1940's was split into two flats, and was in very poor condition when they purchased it in the 1960's. They returned the house to a single dwelling at that time. Many of the alterations had been carried out around the 1940's, and some later alterations were carried out by the Macri's.</p> <p>The villa stands on a larger lot size than surrounding development enabling some older (c 1920's) weatherboard outbuildings to remain within the property boundaries. The current layout of Redwood Street was subdivided by the Macri's in the 1960's.</p> <p>The site contains a small vegetable garden and orchard and continues to reflect the Macri's heritage of home grown fruit and vegetables.</p>		
Physical condition and Archaeological potential	<p>Good condition</p> <p>Substantially modified but retains sufficient significant form to be identified as Victorian.</p>		
Construction years	Start year	C1888 - 90	Circa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Modifications and dates	<p>1940's conversion of the house into flats. Interior fitout, removal of western bay window.</p> <p>Concreting of verandah, refurbishment of rear wings, reroofing with metal tiles, and replacement of windows with Aluminium windows.</p> <p>1960-1966 subdivision of land and demolition of outbuildings and original house.</p>		

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HISTORY	
Historical notes	<p>The land on which Headingly is situated was originally granted to George Allen by Governor Macquarie in 1821. Allen was assigned 3 convicts, and the land was used for farming. The property passed through a number of hands until 1873, when it was purchased by Frederick John Hilly. These included –</p> <p>William Hatthaway – 1825</p> <p>Morgan Power - 1825</p> <p>John Murphy - 1830</p> <p>Charles Kern - 1831</p> <p>Frederick Hilly sold the land to James Fry in 1875, (noted as a “gentleman” of Blacktown). It is not clear what house existed on the property at this time, but it was likely that there was a house at the property given the length of time it had been settled and used as a farm.</p> <p>There is no particular evidence to link the construction of the current house to Frederick Hilly a significant NSW Architect who worked with John Horbury Hunt. Hilly only owned the land for a short period. The house shows some level of detail in the design that marks it out from other contemporary houses, but this is not enough evidence to suggest that the house was designed by Hilly. This aspect would require further research into John Frederick Hilly.</p> <p>The house was known as Sunnyholt, when it was in the ownership of the Fry family (James and Amelia Fry). Dame Edith Fry (Daughter) was a leading suffragette activist at the turn of the 19th century. Records of Edith Fry note that she lived at “Sunnyholt” Blacktown in the 1870’s. In 1890 it is interesting to note that she and her mother and sister moved to “Headingly” in Coogee after the death of James. This associates the name “Headingly” with the Fry family, and may indicate that they lived first in a house Called Sunnyholt, and then later built a second house later in the 1880’s and named it Headingly. The Macri family refer to the presence of a much older house on the property to the west of the current house that was demolished when the 1960’s subdivisions of the property were carried out. The current house appears to be of potentially late Victorian construction.</p> <p>The Fry family retained the property until 1893 when it was sold to Isabella Batt (nee Dawson).</p> <p>In 1911 the property was sold to Lucia Tattersall then to James and Susanna Eivers, until 1813, when it was the property of James Turner Auctioneer. James Turner carried out the first major suburban subdivision of the property known as the Headingly Estate, with the current house clearly marked as “Headingly”.</p> <p>The parcel that remained in 1913 after the Headingly estate subdivision was 5 acres and 3 ¼ perches and was sold to Amy White in 1921.</p> <p>The property sold a number of times in the 1940s to:</p> <p>Douglas Mott 1942</p> <p>William Barber 1948</p> <p>Alfred and Gertrude Jobling 1948</p> <p>Arthur and Sybil Hersey 1949</p> <p>Victor Manning 1950</p> <p>In 1954 the property of Headingly was purchased by Guiseppe and Illario Macri who used the land for orchards and market gardens, selling some of their produce in their grocery store in Blacktown Town Centre. From 1960 - 1966 the remaining 5 acre property was sold by the Macri family, retaining a small ½ acre suburban lot around the house for themselves. The remaining portions including that which contained the original house (possibly “Sunnyholt”) was purchased by Quality Timber Homes, who built a series of speculative timber houses on the remaining lots (many of which remain around Headingly today).</p>

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	The property remains in the ownership of the Macri Family, who continue to maintain a small but substantial orchard and vegetable garden on the property.
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THEMES	
National historical theme	
State historical theme	

HERITAGE LISTINGS	
Heritage listing/s	

INFORMATION SOURCES				
Include conservation and/or management plans and other heritage studies.				
Type	Author/Client	Title	Year	Repository
Oral	Illario Macri		2009	
Written	Les Todd		2007	
Maps	Department of Lands NSW	Parish Maps – Prospect County Cumberland	1860-1980	NSW Department of Lands
Written	Jane Carey	The Australian Womens Register – Edith Fry		Internet

RECOMMENDATIONS	
Recommendations	<p>List on the Blacktown Heritage Register</p> <p>Carry out further research to establish any possible link with Frederick Hilly.</p> <p>Future earthworks in the area around the building, and on adjacent sites may require Archaeological monitoring, to establish the former location of the original sunny holt house and out buildings.</p>



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SOURCE OF THIS INFORMATION			
Name of study or report		Year of study or report	
Item number in study or report			
Author of study or report			
Inspected by			
NSW Heritage Manual guidelines used?		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
This form completed by	Margaret Fallon	Date	Nov 2009

IMAGES - 1 per page

Please supply images of each elevation, the interior and the setting.

Image caption	Headingly – 7 Redwood Street				
Image year	2009	Image by	Margaret Fallon	Image copyright holder	





