

Item Details

Name		
Headingly		
SHR/LEP/S170		
LEP #II7		
Address		
7 Redwood Street BLACKTOWN NSW 2148		
Local Govt Area		
Blacktown		
Local Aboriginal Land Council		
Unknown		
Item Type	Group/Collection	Category
Built	Residential buildings (private)	House

All Addresses

Addresses								
Records Retrieved: 1								
Street No	Street Name	Suburb/Town/Postcode	Local Govt. Area	LALC	Parish	County	Electorate	Address Type
7	Redwood Street	BLACKTOWN/NSW/2148	Blacktown	Unknown			Unknown	Primary Address

Significance

Statement Of Significance

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, becoming the home of the landed gentry of the Fry family in the mid Victorian period, and then becoming 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. The property at settlement was the genesis of Sunnyholt Road.

Criteria a)

Historical Significance

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.

Criteria b)

Historical Association Significance

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.

Criteria c)

Aesthetic/Technical Significance

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.

Criteria e)

Research Potential

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.

Criteria g)

Representative

The house has representative significance as the marker of the property which gave its name to Sunnyholt Road, one of the main colonial transport routes through the Blacktown Area.

Integrity/Intactness

Fair

Owners

Records Retrieved: 0		
Organisation	Stakeholder Category	Date Ownership Updated
No Results Found		

Description

Designer	Builder/Maker
Frederick Hilly (Architect) - associated with the site. TBC	

Physical Description	Updated
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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.

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.

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 in filled with a modern (c 1940s) opening and window placed in it.

Some original doors remain internally, but all other internal detail has been removed (including chimney breasts, mantelpieces, ceilings, etc.).

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.

There is an original cellar under the house, which remains intact.

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.

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.

The villa stands on a larger lot size than surrounding development enabling some weatherboard outbuildings to remain within the property boundaries. The current layout of Redwood Street was subdivided by the Macri's in the 1960's.

The site contains a small vegetable garden and orchard and continues to reflect the Macri's heritage of home grown fruit and vegetables.

Physical Condition

Updated 03/25/2015

Good

Modifications And Dates

1940's conversion of the house into flats. Interior fit-out, removal of western bay window.
Concreting of verandah, refurbishment of rear wings, re-roofing with metal tiles and replacement of windows with aluminium windows.
1960-1966 subdivision of land and demolition of outbuildings and original house.

Further Comments

Modifications have diminished the aesthetic integrity of the Victorian home, but not to a point where the significance of the home is lost. The house retains its original form and impact on the landscape and is recognisable as a Victorian villa.

Current Use

Former Use

Listings

Listings

			Records Retrieved: 1		
Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazzette Number	Gazzette Page
Local Environmental Plan	Blacktown Local Environmental Plan 2015	II7	7/7/2015 12:00:00 AM		

Procedures/Exemptions

Records Retrieved: 0					
Section of Act	Description	Title	Comments	Action Date	Outcome
No Results Found					

History

Historical Notes or Provenance

Updated

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:

- William Hatthaway - 1825
- Morgan Power - 1825
- John Murphy - 1830
- Charles Kern - 1831

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.

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.

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.

The Fry family retained the property until 1893 when it was sold to Isabella Batt (nee Dawson). In 1911 the property was sold to Lucia Tattersall then to James and Susanna Eivers, until 1913, 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".

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.

The property sold a number of times in the 1940s to:

- Douglas Mott 1942
- William Barber 1948
- Alfred and Gertrude Jobling 1948
- Arthur and Sybil Hersey 1949
- Victor Manning 1950

In 1954 the property of Headingly was purchased by Giuseppe 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).

Historic Themes

Records Retrieved: 2

National Theme	State Theme	Local Theme
4. Settlement	Towns, suburbs and villages	Subdivision and urban growth
4. Settlement	Land tenure	Unknown

Recommended Management

Management Summary

Management

Records Retrieved: 0

Management Category	Management Name	Date Updated
No Results Found		

Report/Study

Heritage Studies

Records Retrieved: 1

Report/Study Name	Report/Study Code	Report/Study Type	Report/Study Year	Organisation	Author
In House Heritage Items Review			2009		Margaret Fallon

Reference & Internet Links

References

Records Retrieved: 5

Type	Author	Year	Title	Link
Oral History	Ilario Macri	2009		
Written	Les Todd	2007	Draft Inventory Sheet	
Map	C.J. Turner	1913	"Headingly Estate"	
Map	Dept. of Lands	1860	Historical Parish Maps - Prospect County Cumberland 1860-1960	
Written	Jane Carey		Australian Womens Register - Edith Fry	

Data Source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Data Source	Record Owner	Heritage Item ID
Local Government	Blacktown City Council	1140273

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