

Item Details

Name
Siglingen

SHR/LEP/S170
LEP #

Address
112 Mount Druitt Road MOUNT DRUITT NSW 2770

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
112	Mount Druitt Road	MOUNT DRUITT/NSW/2770	Blacktown	Unknown	Rooty Hill	Cumberland	Unknown	Primary Address

Significance

Statement Of Significance

Demolished in 2009 by building works. Memorial plaque installed including reinstatement of portico.

Completed c.1885, Siglingen was of cultural significance to the Blacktown LGA in consideration of its historical associations with the Emert family and the early development of Mount Druitt. The house was important to the local community as a place which contributes to a sense of identity for the suburb. The house had aesthetic value in demonstrating an accomplished late nineteenth century weatherboard rural cottage, and is the only example of such a building extant in Mount Druitt.
(Davies 2003)

Criteria a)

Historical Significance

The construction of Siglingen is associated with the opening of the railway station at Mount Druitt in 1881.

Siglingen is associated through the Emert family with the early years of Wesleyan Methodism in the Blacktown area. The second Wesleyan church erected in Mount Druitt, completed in 1887, is located on land donated by William Emert; this is the oldest extant church in the area. The close association between the family and the church continued through to the 1940s.
(Davies 2003)

Criteria b)

Historical Association Significance

Demolished by building project 2009.

Siglingen was located close to the intersection of Mount Druitt Road and Ropes Creek Road. The house faces Mount Druitt Road and is in a precinct with a number of late nineteenth century and early twentieth century buildings.

Siglingen was part of the Bethel Christian School complex that incorporates a Siglingen, a former parsonage, school administration and classroom block, demountable school buildings, parking areas and play areas.

The building was a late nineteenth century, single storey, weatherboard cottage set well back from Mount Druitt Road. The original layout had four rooms with a central hallway in the main wing and a rear wing with a kitchen and covered way. Most of the interior walls in the main wing have been removed with only part of the walls to the original front hall extant. A verandah wrapped around the front and sides of the cottage but has been removed.

A gable that was located in the centre of the verandah survives bearing the name Siglingen and has been relocated to an interpretive monument in the front garden.

The ceilings were lined with ripple iron, some with original ogee cornices. The internal doors of the main wing were four panelled. The walls were lined lathe and plaster, some sheeted over or relined. Windows were two over two pane double hung.

1978 additions for school uses are located to the rear of the original building.

Physical Condition

Updated 11/19/2015

Demolished

Modifications And Dates

1978 - Modifications for school use.

2009 demolished as part of renovation works.

2012 plaque and portico reinstated.

Removed from heritage list 2010

Further Comments

2009 demolished

Current Use

Demolished

Former Use

Residence

Listings

Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Records Retrieved: 2		
			Gazette Date	Gazette Number	Gazette Page
Local Environmental Plan	Blacktown Local Environmental Plan 2015				
Heritage study			5/31/2005 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

Siglingen was constructed c.1885 for William Frederick Emert and his family and remained in the possession of his family until 1941.

Emert was born in the village of Siglingen in Baden Württemberg, Germany. He migrated to Australia in 1852 with his new bride Rosine (aka Rosina) a Magdalene (nee Keller), arriving in Sydney in 1853. Like many of the other adult males on the ship, Emert was a vinedresser. He initially found employment at George Cox's Winbourne estate in the Mulgoa valley before working at other farms in the region.

In 1857 Emert leased land on Ropes Creek near Erskine Park. From 1861 he leased a commercial premises near the intersection of the Western Road (now the Great Western Highway) and Mount Druitt Road from which he operated a post office and store. The Emerts eventually purchased the store and its associated property in 1881 and operated the business successfully until 1912.

Emert's store was located on part of a 1854 subdivision centred on a village founded as Ropes Creek but more commonly known as Colyton. The village was located near a group of waterholes that provided a good grazing area for stock and horses travelling on the Western Road.

Emert continued to purchase land in the area, acquiring 557 acres of grazing land north of Woodstock Road in 1872, allowing him to expand his business interests into meat supply.

In 1878 Emert purchased 15 acres on which contractor John Giles was engaged to build the home Siglingen in 1885. It was a large weatherboard house with a roof of corrugated iron and a verandah to three sides.

In Australia, William Emert and his family converted from the Lutheran faith to become devout Wesleyans. After building Siglingen, Emert donated one acre of his land for the construction of a new Wesleyan Church designed by Rev. A Parsons and built by Joseph John Giles that was officially opened in September 1887. The importance of the Wesleyan community in the area is reflected in the original name of the Mount Druitt Estate subdivision of 1881, the Garfield Temperance Estate.

William Emert died at Siglingen in May 1899 and was survived by his wife and six children. Rosina continued to live at Siglingen until her death in July 1911.

After the death of Rosina Emert, the family store and Emert's land was sold with the youngest daughter Fredericka Elizabeth purchasing the 1 3/4 acre allotment where Siglingen was located. Fredericka died in 1940 and Siglingen was finally sold from the Emert family in 1941 to Edward Abbott, a local building contractor and his wife Eleanor. Abbott further subdivided the property in 1959.

In 1967, Siglingen was purchased by Alistair Mitchell, a maintenance mechanic. It changed hands three times before being acquired by the Methodist Church in 1978. Siglingen was modified for use as a private infants and primary school and a new school building was built to the rear.

The Bethel Christian Assembly purchased Siglingen and the associated school and former church buildings in 1982. The buildings are used for Christian education for Kindergarten to Year 10 students. Adaptations to existing buildings provided additional school accommodation.

The Building was approved for renovation in 2008 but in the process of renovation was demolished. The portico was retained and placed as a monument on the school frontage along with an interpretive plaque.

Historic Themes

Records Retrieved: 8

National Theme	State Theme	Local Theme
8. Culture	Religion	Where City meets the Country
4. Settlement	Towns, suburbs and villages	Transport and Urbanisation
4. Settlement	Towns, suburbs and villages	Subdivision and urban growth
3. Economy	Mining	Exploitation of Natural Resources
3. Economy	Industry	Rural Industry
3. Economy	Agriculture	Farming activities
2. Peopling	Migration	Serving the Metropolis
1. Environment	Environment - naturally evolved	Pioneer Landowners

Recommended Management

Management Summary

Management

Records Retrieved: 0

Management Category	Management Name	Date Updated
No Results Found		

Report/Study

Heritage Studies

Records Retrieved: 3

Report/Study Name	Report/Study Code	Report/Study Type	Report/Study Year	Organisation	Author
In House Heritage Items Review			2009		Margaret Fallon
Blacktown Heritage Study			1995		(not stated)
Blacktown Heritage Study			1988		Jonathan Falk Planning Consultants in association with Rodney Jensen and Assoc.s

Reference & Internet Links

References

Records Retrieved: 2

Type	Author	Year	Title	Link
Written	Paul Davies Pty Ltd	2003	Siglingen: Mount Druitt - A Heritage Study	
Written	George Nicolaidis	1987	The Emerts of Mount Druitt	

Data Source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Data Source	Record Owner	Heritage Item ID
Local Government	Blacktown City Council	1140044

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