

## Item Details

**Name**

Belvedere

**SHR/LEP/S170**

LEP #

**Address**

116 Rooty Hill Road South ROOTY HILL NSW 2766

**Local Govt Area**

Blacktown

**Local Aboriginal Land Council**

Unknown

**Item Type**

Built

**Group/Collection**

Residential buildings (private)

**Category**

House

## All Addresses

**Addresses**

Records Retrieved: 1

Street No	Street Name	Suburb/Town/Postcode	Local Govt. Area	LALC	Parish	County	Electorate	Address Type
116	Rooty Hill Road South	ROOTY HILL/NSW/2766	Blacktown	Unknown	Rooty Hill	Cumberland	Unknown	Primary Address

## Significance

**Statement Of Significance**

Belvedere is a good example of a Victorian Regency rural house featuring a symmetrical front and encircling bullnose verandah and one of a small number of surviving brick houses from the mid to late Victorian period in Western Sydney. The house has some potential to yield further information about construction date and methods through the protection of both the external and internal fabric of the place. The house has social significance through its association with the Lawson Family, particularly Dr Lawson who was one of the first doctors in the district.

Belvedere has an association of more than 80 years with the Lawson family, in particular with Dr George Lawson who was the only local doctor in Rooty Hill.

**Criteria a)**

**Historical Significance**

Belvedere has historical significance to the Rooty Hill district as a remaining home from the Victorian era of large country villas and farms located in Rooty Hill.

**Criteria b)**

**Historical Association Significance**

Belvedere has an association of more than 80 years with the Lawson family, in particular with Dr George Lawson who was the only local doctor in Rooty Hill.

**Criteria c)**

**Aesthetic/Technical Significance**

Belvedere is a good example of a Victorian Regency rural house featuring a symmetrical front and an encircling bullnose verandah. Belvedere also contains significant interiors due to the continued ownership of the property by the same family.

The grounds contain remaining garden plantings from the 1940's era around earlier tree plantings, which contribute to its setting.

Criteria e)

Research Potential

Belvedere has some potential to yield further information about construction date and methods.

Criteria f)

Rarity

Belvedere is one of a small number of surviving brick houses from the mid to late Victorian period in western Sydney.

Integrity/Intactness

high internal and external

Owners

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

Description

Designer Builder/Maker

Physical Description

Updated

Belvedere is a single storey Victorian Regency brick style house located on the western side of Rooty Hill Road South. It has a large hipped roof of corrugated steel with dormer windows. A bull nosed verandah wraps around the house. The original entry on the north side of the building has a central door case with sidelights and a top light flanked by double hung windows.

The Grounds around the house include a well and pump and retain the immediate house garden areas, including a number of remnant trees from the 19th early 20th century period of the property, and later 1940's onwards garden plantings.

Physical Condition

Updated 12/17/2015

Good

Modifications And Dates

Original entry on eastern side replaced by northern entry, Lawson period.  
Attic constructed and two chimneys removed, Lawson period  
1980s rear additions

Further Comments

Current Use

Residence

Former Use

Residence

Listings

Listings

Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Records Retrieved: 2	
				Gazzette Number	Gazzette Page
Local Environmental Plan	Amend No 143		4/12/2002 12:00:00 AM	72	2262
Local Environmental Plan	Blacktown Local Environmental Plan 2015	I104	7/7/2015 12:00:00 AM	430	

Procedures/Exemptions

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

History

Historical Notes or Provenance

Updated

Samuel York, a station master, purchased an allotment of land at Rooty Hill in 1882. It is thought that he constructed the present house. Following York’s death in 1917, the property was sold to Alexander Leckie Elphinstone, a Sydney builder/architect. He sold the property in 1921 to Annie Graham who sold it to Dr George Langrigg Lawson in 1923.

Dr Lawson was born in England and had migrated to Australia. He served in the Imperial Bushman’s Contingent at the Boer War. After purchasing Belvedere in 1923 he moved there with his second wife Marjorie. The front two rooms of the house were used for his medical practice.

In 1937 George and Marjorie travelled to England with their son John Langrigg Curwen Lawson (b. 1926) returning to Australia in 1948. John completed his education in England, graduating from the Sandhurst Military College. On returning to Australia, John entered Sydney University to study Forestry but was forced to leave his studies when his father died. He became a successful builder and in 1959 married Elizabeth. John Lawson died in 1988, leaving the house to his wife.

John Lawson undertook extensive work to the house. He reversed all the external bricks, added a lounge and kitchen to the rear, constructed attic rooms with a stair leading from the rear of the house, and removed two chimneys.

It is not known who named the house Belvedere. The name was not used by the Lawson family.

Historic Themes

Records Retrieved: 1

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

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: 1

Type	Author	Year	Title	Link
Written	Form Architects (Aust) Pty Ltd	2003	Heritage Impact Assessment of proposed development at Belvedere, 116 Rooty Hill Road South, Rooty Hill	

Data Source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Data Source	Record Owner	Heritage Item ID
Local Government	Blacktown City Council	1140119

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