

FOUR HOUSES, 51-61 WALCOTT ST, MOUNT LAWLEY



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Four Houses, 51-61 Walcott St
Other names	Davies Residence (fmr) Clamp Residence (fmr) Medley Residence (fmr) Dillon Residence (fmr)
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	18067
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 12 Sep 2006

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	51-61 Walcott St
Locality	Mount Lawley
Survey	LOT: 5 D/P: 27086 LOT: 121 D/P: 692 LOT: 120 D/P: 692 LOT: 103 D/P: 692
Vol/folio	1447/761 1405/63 1644/133 1022/327
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	Moderate Contributes to the heritage of the locality. Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the place.
Management category	Category 3 Conservation of the place is desirable. Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place and retain original fabric where feasible.
Statement of significance	<p>This group has aesthetic value as good intact examples of Federation styles and Inter California Bungalow styles with the majority of the original external detail intact.</p> <p>The group is a landmark in the streetscape as a demonstration of the form and detail of the scale of housing for professionals and skilled workers in the late 19th and early 20th century.</p> <p>The group of residences reflect the expansion and development of residential and commercial buildings on the city fringes during the rapid population increase of the 1890's gold boom and the early years of the twentieth century.</p> <p>The residences have historic value as demonstrations of family home built for professionals and skilled workers and their families in the early 20th century.</p> <p>The group of houses have historic value for their demonstration of small scale property development by builders.</p> <p>This place is valued by the community for the continuity of its presence in the streetscape which contributes to the community sense of place.</p> <p>The place has social value as it demonstrates the scale and form of homes for skilled tradespeople and professionals in the late 19th century and early 20th century.</p>

PLACE USE

Original use	Religious: Housing or Quarters
Current use	Residential: Single storey residence
Other use	Commercial: Office/Administration

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

Construction date	c1894 - 1918
Walls	Brick Painted Brick
Roof	Corrugated Metal Sheeting
Architectural Style	Federation and Inter-War Californian Bungalow
Physical description	This group of four single storey buildings are variations of the Federation and Interwar Bungalow styles, with simple and dominant roof forms, sheltering verandahs and detail subordinated within the overall effect. The group provides a lively and cohesive piece of streetscape from the Federation period, with consistent setbacks, variation in height, variation of hipped and gabled roofs, attached and detached verandah roofs and the unadorned (51) to the considered timber and render detailing of the Interwar California Bungalow (61).
Condition	Good
Integrity	Moderate
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

When the City of Perth was established in 1871 as a result of the Municipal Institutions Act, Walcott Street was designated as the north-eastern boundary of the municipality. Walcott Street remained the north eastern boundary of the City of Perth for a period of more than a century and in 1994, it became the north-eastern boundary of the Town of Vincent, subsequently the City of Vincent, following the splitting of the City of Perth into a series of smaller municipalities. Walcott Street has been regarded and utilised as a major thoroughfare since early in the twentieth century.

As the City of Perth developed in the late 19th century as a result of the gold discoveries in and around Coolgardie, the demand for housing lead developers to secure large parcels of land for residential subdivision. The large parcel of land bound by Beaufort, Harold, Curtis and Walcott Streets was surveyed and approved for subdivision in 1893. The street numbering for this group of houses changed in 1916 to the current numbering, prior to that the houses were 27 (now 51); 31 (now 53); and 33 (now 55). HN61 was built after the change in numbering so has always been designated as 61 Walcott Street.

The house adjacent at 51 Walcott Street was built c1898, and was rented initially to a woman identified only as Mrs Readon. In 1900, Janet Swanson Hallyburton, one of the daughters of James and Janet Hallyburton married mason George James Davies and the couple moved into the cottage and lived next door to the Hallyburton seniors until 1909. Over subsequent years the occupants of HN51 changed regularly and included Harry Speight (1910), Mrs. B. Laffer (1913), Walter A. Garrett (1915), George J. Davies (1916-1917), George J. Winzer and Mrs. H. Winzer (1918), Smith Wood (1919), Robert R. Baldock (1930), Flor McMillan (1935), Eric Simonsolin (1940) and Mrs. Marie New (1949).

A Metropolitan Water Supply Sewerage & Drainage Department (MWSSD) Plan dated 1953 shows that No. 51 was built within the front portion of the subject lot, with additions constructed at later stages.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A cottage is first recorded at HN53 in 1899 for the owner and occupier grocer George Henry Seymour. It is not clear if this is the original portion of the house or an earlier structure. In the following year, 1900, the property was owned and occupied by Rosa Clamp (c1859-1924), wife of contractor John Greenshields Clamp (c1863-1922). It is possible that a new cottage was built by John Clamp on this site. The Clamps occupied the cottage until the mid 1900s and then retained ownership and leased the property. In 1908 to Bernard Lee, James Lowry (1909-1913), Richard Mason (1915), Mrs H. Winzer (1916-1917), Mrs. R. Teplitzky (1918), John H. Coffen (1920) and Walter Hastwell (1935-1949). The original interior layout of the dwelling has a central hallway which divides the dwelling into four rooms that accommodates two bedrooms, a lounge and dining room. A back verandah was constructed in 1939.

No. 55, originally numbered No. 33 was built c1903 for the owner Anne Elizabeth Medley, probably by her husband, builder and joiner John E. Medley. The Medleys lived at the house until 1910 and it was subsequently occupied by Maurice W. H. Norton, journalist (1913-1920), Mrs. Rosalie Wilson (1930), Joseph W. Wyatt (1935) and Harry Weeks (1949).

No. 61 is a large brick house on the corner of Roy Street. It was built in 1919 for painter Patrick McKenzie Dillon and his wife Hannah Jane Dillon, nee Price (c1857-1936). No details of the architect or builder of the place have been determined. The place was subsequently occupied by elocution teacher John Peter Daniel Le Tessier (c1896-1980). Other residents over the years included Wilford Morton (1935) and Lenehan Hurley (1940-1949). A Certificate of Title indicates that the first proprietor of the subject lot is the Perth Benefit Building Investment and Loan Society (Permanent) which acquired the land in 1930. The subject land then transferred to Michael Henry Lenehan Hurley in 1935, Charlotte Kathleen Hurley in 1949 and Raymond Harry Weeks in 1979. The change of use from single house to office building of the subject dwelling was approved by the Town in 2003.

Aerial photographs from the mid 20th century onwards show few changes to the subject places until the late 1990s when No. 51 had its roofing replaced. No. 61 added an extension to the rear of the residence in 2003 coinciding with the aforementioned change of use. In 2014 No. 53 removed the old back verandah and replaced it by 2017, along with replacing the residence's roof around the same time. No. 55 followed suit in 2019, finishing the roof replacement by 2020. These appear to be the only changes to the four buildings.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic development	
	Cultural Life: Domestic Life Economy: commerce	
Associations	George and Janet Davies	First occupants
	John and Ann Medley John and Rosa Clamp Patrick and Hannah Dillon	First owners and occupants First owners and occupants First owners and occupants
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006	
	Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024. City of Perth Rates Books Landgate Plan information	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



