

# THROSSELL HOUSE, PERTH



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Throssell House
Other names	Wedderburn
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	2993
State Heritage Register:	17 Nov 2006
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 13 Nov 1995

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	15 Throssell St
Locality	Perth
Survey	LOT: 19 D/P: 2411
Vol/folio	1854/741
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p><b>Exceptional</b></p> <p>Essential to the heritage of the area. Rare or outstanding example. Consider for nomination for State Register of Heritage Places if not already included.</p>
Management category	<p><b>Category 1</b></p> <p>The place should be retained and conserved. Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place and be in accordance with a Conservation Plan if one is in place.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The place is a fine example of a well-designed Federation Queen Anne style residence, which retains most of its original external features and the intended qualities of many internal spaces.</p> <p>The place was constructed c.1905 as part of the suburban residential development associated with the expansion of Perth and its outlying suburbs and demonstrates the early residential development of the Hyde Park (known as Third Swamp until 1899) vicinity and provides a visual and historic connection between the suburban development and the establishment of the park.</p> <p>The place contributes to the community's sense of history for its longevity in the streetscape as prominent element and for its continuity of function.</p>

PLACE USE	
<b>Original use</b>	Residence: Single storey residence
<b>Current use</b>	Residence: One and Half storey residence
<b>Other use</b>	

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
<b>Construction date</b>	1905; 1989
<b>Walls</b>	Brick Limestone
<b>Roof</b>	Terracotta tile
<b>Architectural Style</b>	Federation Queen Anne
<b>Physical description</b>	<p>A substantial single storey residence with a complex roof form which includes a recently reinstated belvedere. The front of the house is of limestone while the sides and rear are of brick. The broken pitch verandah is supported by turned timber posts and a timber balustrade.</p> <p>A short flight of steps leads up to the verandah under a gabled entry feature. The roof gable ends are half timbered and infilled with roughcast. The tiled roof is capped with decorative ridge tiles. The original panelled front door features stained glass. The windows are surrounded by quoin detailing. Side windows have pressed metal awnings.</p> <p>The dwelling is elevated above a front garden setting behind a pillar and palisade fence.</p>
<b>Condition</b>	Good
<b>Integrity</b>	High
<b>Authenticity</b>	High

## HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Throssell Street was named after MLA, Premier and Treasurer George Throssell who owned Town Lots Y285 and Y286 from at least 1877. These lots, which were situated between Third Swamp (Hyde Park) and Vincent, Fitzgerald and Glendower Streets, were subdivided during Throssell's ownership.

The house at No. 15 was designed by architect George W. McMullen for Richard Sparrow c1901 and originally named 'Wedderburn'. George McMullen had arrived in WA from Victoria in the early 1890s. He initially worked in the Architectural Branch of the Public Works Department (PWD) and began in private practice around 1899. He also designed at least three other residences in the Town of Vincent.

Street numbers were not allocated for Throssell Street in Wise's Post Office Directories until 1908 but Richard Sparrow's name appeared from 1904 onwards when five other households were also listed. Sparrow was a widely respected attorney in Perth, who specialised particularly in patents and new machinery.

From 1893 he had offices in St George's Terrace, Perth and from 1897 to the early 1930s in the Austral Chambers in Barrack Street. He also owned shops at 515-517 Beaufort Street, which were built in 1903-04.

Richard Sparrow and his sister Marian both lived at the property and it was her name that appeared on the title until 1935. The family subdivided Lot 17 and part of Lot 18 in 1924 and the land was purchased by Frances Stevens. This became No. 11 Throssell Street and contained a well which was believed to have been used by No. 15.

In 1930, the Directories listed both the Sparrows and Miss C. Waltham as occupants, indicating that it may have been divided into two residences.

In 1935, the title was transferred to Richard and his sister died three years later in 1938. Richard retired around 1938/39 and when he died on 15 May 1941 he was still residing at No. 15.

The house was then purchased by Christabel Winifred Waltham and she and Mrs Constance Rose Waltham lived there until 1948. It was then bought by the Schlam family. Leopold Schlam died in 1952 but the family remained there until 1958.

**HISTORICAL INFORMATION**

In 1949, the last year of the Directories, the resident were Alice Walter Breitbarth who appears to have also been residing there, indicating that the house was still subdivided. They were there until at least the early 1950s. Alice's occupation was given as 'dealer' and Walter's as 'slipper maker

In 1958, the house was purchased by Mrs Barbara Elsie Rumney, a widow. She resided there until at least 1961 and it may have been rented for a period after that. Between 1980 and 1982 it changed hands twice and then Robert Thomas and Lesley-Anne Mains owned it from 1982 to 1989. It was during this time (1980) that a swimming pool, sauna and pool shed were erected and possibly it was at this time that the original outbuildings were demolished.

In October 1989, it was sold to Ricardo and Concettina Cazzolli who remained in residence until 1999. Several alterations occurred during this time, which included the addition of a belvedere and changes to the loft space incorporating a bedroom, bathroom, etc. and a staircase, which were designed by Fremantle architect Ian Molyneaux. A carport and possibly the wine cellar were added in 1990.

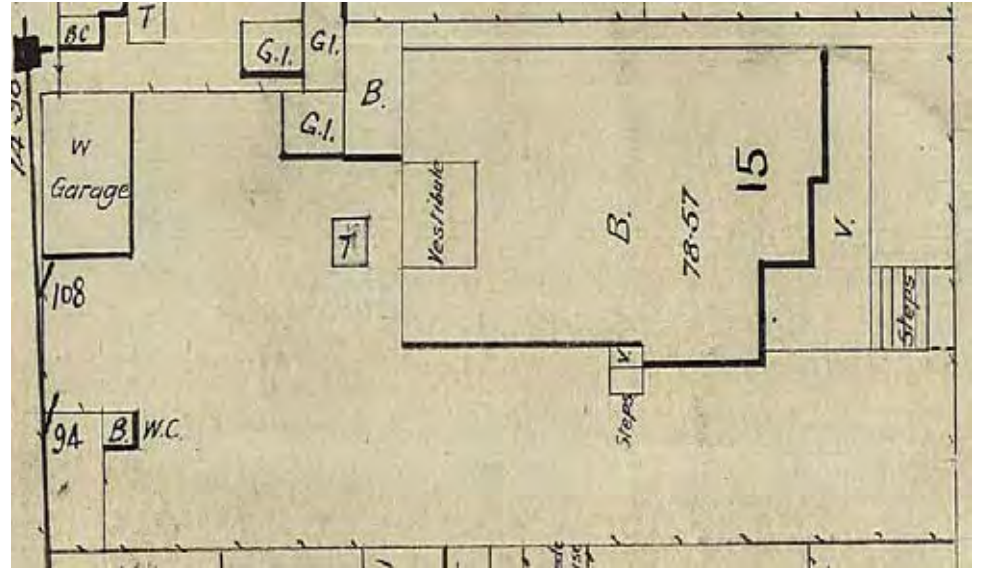
In 2006, the place was included on the State Register of Heritage Places.

Aerial photographs since that time there have been no significant changes in the form or extent of the building although the pool was removed c2008.

**HISTORICAL INFORMATION**

<b>Historic theme</b>	Peopling WA: Demographic Development Cultural Life: Domestic Life	
<b>Associations</b>	George McMullen Richard Sparrow	Architect First owner and occupier
<b>Sources</b>	P2993 Throssell House Assessment Documentation, DPLH, 2006.	

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



Sewerage Plan 1952. MWSSDD Sheet 88, Courtesy SROWA.