



SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS PAPER

EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

**Tuesday 14 August 2018
at 5:00pm**



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ITEM 1 **MM20/18 - No. 22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh**

<i>Additional information with CHANGE to Recommendation</i>
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It has been brought to my attention that the external heritage specialist has provided a revised preliminary heritage assessment on the dwelling at No. 22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh after uncovering further historical information on the property. The heritage specialist has revised his heritage assessment to conclude "*that the house may meet the threshold of identification as an item of local significance using the Heritage Manual criteria*".

The revised heritage assessment identifies that Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes used the house as a form of respite home for children from poorer inner city suburbs and built a wing on the house to accommodate and entertain the children. A copy of the revised preliminary heritage assessment is attached.

Notwithstanding the additional information provided, based on the representations I have received from the members of the community, I am of the view that the recommendations contained within my Mayoral Minute (No. MM20/18) are the most appropriate way by which Council can recognise the important life and work of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes. I am also aware that the property is located within a precinct which is zoned for 5 storey development which would have a significant impact on the future context of retaining the house at No. 22 Bellevue Street.

Since I finalised my Mayoral Minute, it is pleasing to be informed that Council has received confirmation from the developer that they are willing to agree to each of the recommendations put forward as well as an additional suggestion to work with the family descendants of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes to name the new building on the site in her honour. I have also received further community representation requesting to rename a local park in honour of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes and her contribution to the local community. I believe each of these recommendations are befitting to preserve the historical associations of the site and should be included in the future interpretation strategy.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council:

1. Receive and note the contents of Mayoral Minute No. MM20/18 and Late Item Memo No. LM13/18
2. Liaise with the developers of property Nos. 20-22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh to seek their agreement that:-
 - a) The descendants of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes be permitted to inspect the property at No. 22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh and take photographs;
 - b) The descendants of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes be allowed to remove from property No. 22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh any non-structural fittings / fixtures of sentimental value to family members (such as the front door knocker);
 - c) The developers undertake a photographic archival record (interior and exterior) of property No. 22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh to be submitted to Hornsby Council's Local Studies Library;
 - d) The developers make a financial contribution or fund investigations and implementation of opportunities to recognise the important life and work of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes through a local history initiative and/or onsite heritage interpretation, such as installation of an interpretive plaque within Dawson Avenue Park using a floorboard or an alternative suitable material salvaged from property No. 22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh;
 - e) Consideration be given to how this work may be presented to the broader Australian community particularly through incorporation in the Thornleigh Community Centre with appropriate material in recognition of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes;
 - f) The developers consult with the descendants of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes to provide a suitable name for the new building to be constructed on the site in honour of the life and work of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes.
3. Investigate the re-naming of Dawson Avenue Park in honour of Nurse Jane Starkey Dawes.

COUNCILLOR RUDDOCK

Mayor

Councillors Division

Attachments:

1. [↓](#) 22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh DA/1545/2016 – Revised Report

File Reference: DA/1545/2016

Document Number: D07503908

ITEM 1

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14th August 2018

The General Manager

Hornsby Shire Council,

Po Box 37,

Hornsby,

NSW 1630

Attention: James Farrington, Group Manager Planning

Dear Sirs,

Re: 22 Bellevue Street, Thornleigh DA/1545/2016 – Revised Report**1.0 Proposed Works:**

Demolition of the existing house and redevelopment of the site (and adjoining site) for a five storey, multi-unit development.

2.0 Statutory Controls

Hornsby Local Environment Plan 2013 (HLEP)

Hornsby Development Control Plan 2013 (HDCP)

3.0 Heritage Listings:

The property is not listed as a heritage item in Schedule 5 Part 1 of the HLEP and is not within a heritage conservation area.

The property is in the vicinity of heritage items at:

REF	ADDRESS	ITEM	RANKING
694	37 Bellevue Street	House	Local
718	9 Station Street	House	Local
720	14 The Comenarra Parkway	House	Local

Nominated Architect: John Oultram NSW ARB 7359

4.0 Current Property

22 Bellevue Street is an example of a single storey, late Edwardian period house in the set on a large block at the corner of Bellevue Street and Wood Street. The house fronts Wood Street.

The house is in painted brick and render with a gabled, terracotta tile roof. The original section of the house is in the colonial revival style with a symmetrical front elevation with a central door with French doors each side. The house has later weatherboard, gabled section to Bellevue Street that flanks a single storey verandah under the main roof supported on timber posts.

The main entrance is to Wood Street. The house has skillion sections to the rear.

Windows are a mix double hung timber sashes and multi-pane casements with fanlights in bays of three with hoods over.

The house has a garden to the front and side with a timber picket fence to the street. There is a side drive to the south with a pitched roof carport to the front. There is a small garden to the rear.

Bellevue Street is a busy, tree lined street and is lined with many similar houses from the same period onwards including some Inter War development. The site is opposite the Thornleigh shopping centre, a late Twentieth Century development.

The interior of the house was not inspected but the detailing appears to be typical of the Edwardian period (realestate.com).

5.0 Historical Development

The site is part of the large land grant of 640 acres granted to George Henry Thorne in 1840.

A portion of the grant was purchased by the Haymarket Permanent Land Investment and Building Company (one of the many such development companies established in Sydney in the late Victorian period) in 1884¹. The company subdivided a portion of the land in 1886 under DP 1854. The subject site is Lot 18 of the subdivision.

In 1887 four lots of the subdivision (Lots 17, 18, 30 and 31) were purchased by Herbert John Fairfax, the sites being set on the corner of Bellevue Street, Paling Street (now Wood Street) and Station Street. In 1913 Fairfax sold two of the lots (Lots 18 and 31) to the east side of the site to Alberta Victoria Buchanan, wife of Arthur Somerville Buchanan a schoolmaster of Marrickville². Mrs Buchanan sold the two lots to Jane Dawes in 1918. The Dawes retained the properties till the 1950s when the subject site (Lot 18) was sold to Ann Amelia McCreath³.

A house appears in the Sands at the corner of Bellevue Street and Paling Street in 1923 occupied by Nurse E Starkey though the style of the house would suggest an earlier build. Council records indicate that a house was built on the site in 1918 and that Nurse Starkey was paying rates on the property (she is noted as owner in the titles noted above as Jane Dawes). The house was later named Durbanville (or Burbanville).

¹ NSW Land Registry Services, Vol. 659, Fol. 159

² NSW Land Registry Services, Vol. 856, Fol. 73

³ NSW Land Registry Services, Vol. 2435, Fol. 74

Nurse Starkey (Jane Starkey Dawes) appears to have been a midwife who arrived in Sydney in 1895 with her husband. She raised funds for the Friendly Society Hospital, was a life member of the Civil Ambulance and Transport Brigade and later joined the St Johns Ambulance Brigade. She later operated a hospital out of a house in Moree Street, Gordon. She reportedly owned the property at 20 Bellevue Street that was licensed in 1926 as a 2 bed medical and surgical lying in hospital. Nurse Starkey registered as a midwife in 1927 but surrendered her registration in 1929 (Source: Hornsby Shire Council).

The Sands listed her in occupation of the house till the Directory ceased publication in 1933.

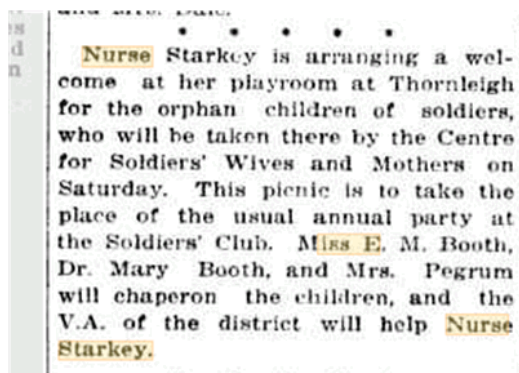
Newspaper reports from the 1920s indicate that Nurse Starkey later used the house as a form of respite home for poor children for inner city suburbs and built a wing to the house (presumably the weatherboard side addition) for the purpose. Here she envisaged entertaining up to 50 children.

On October 8 Dr. Mary Booth will open officially the large room built by Nurse Starkey at her home at Thornleigh. The room, which cost Nurse Starkey £200, will be used for the sole purpose of entertaining parties of poor children from the slum areas and congested districts of the city. The first party of 50 children from Woolloomooloo will be entertained for a day's picnic on October 8, and will be in charge of two of the mothers and Mrs. Owen Furner (hon. organising secretary), who will collect the children and accompany them to Thornleigh. A committee of ladies resident in the district, with Nurse Starkey as president, is undertaking all arrangements for the children's outings during the summer.

The Daily Telegraph, 27 September 1921

Nurse Starkey, of Thornleigh, has built a large room in her grounds in which to entertain children whose homes are in the congested areas of the city. Her intention is to take the children in batches of 50. The first lot will come from Woolloomooloo, in charge of Mrs. Owen Furner. Dr. Mary Booth will open the building on Saturday. The children will leave the Mission Hall, Riley-street, at 8.30 a.m., and return at 5.40 p.m. from Thornleigh. Nurse Starkey hopes to form a committee of helpers, and will be glad to hear from anyone willing to join in the good work.

Sunday Times, 2 October 1921 p. 2



The Sun (Sydney), 27 November 1921

It is not clear how long these activities continued.

6.0 Preliminary Heritage Assessment

Based on the above we consider that the house may meet the threshold of identification as an item of local significance using the Heritage Manual criteria.

The design of the original house with its Colonial Revival style, symmetrical front elevation house is a little unusual for the period of construction but the interior detailing appears quite typical. The side wing appears to have been purpose built to provide a playroom for children though it is not clear how long these activities continued.

The house has associations with Jane Starkey Dawes (Nurse E Starkey) and her husband William Dawes who appear to have built the house in 1918. Mrs Dawes was a midwife and appears to have used the house as a lying in hospital for women approaching the birth though it is not clear if babies were born at the property. She later used the property as a form of respite home for poor children and built a wing at the house to accommodate this.

Nurse Starkey is recorded surrendering her certificate and badge in 1929 and the property appears have operated as a lying in hospital for only one year. 'Cottage' hospitals of this type were far more common this period due to the limited nature of hospital services particularly in outlying suburbs and, considering the scale of the house, the number of beds available would have been limited. The house was built on one of the lots of the early subdivision and was part of the residential development of the area.

While the early use is of some interest the use is not signalled in the form or detail of the original house though the side wing was clearly built to support her activities.

See Appendix A

Recommendation:

Our preliminary assessment is that the house may meet Criteria (a), (b) and (d) of the Heritage Manual criteria for identification as item of local significance.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Oultram', is written on a light-colored rectangular background.

JOHN OULTRAM

Appendix A Preliminary Heritage Assessment

Criterion (a)	<i>An item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</i>
	22 Bellevue Street is an example of a late Edwardian period house built c, 1918 for Jane Starkey Dawes (Nurse E Starkey) and her husband William Dawes
	The house may have been used for lying hospital operated by Nurse E Starkey but was built as a residence and was only registered for this use for one year
	The house has a side wing that was built for the purpose of providing a respite area for children from poorer, inner city suburbs
	The house was built on part of the 1886 subdivision of a large portion of the local area by the Haymarket Permanent Land Investment and Building Company
	Local Significance
Criterion (b)	<i>An item has strong or special associations with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</i>
	The place is associated with Jane Starkey Dawes (Nurse E Starkey) and her husband William Dawes
	Nurse Starkey's use of the place as a lying in hospital and as a respite home for poor children providing a significant association for an important activity
	Local Significance
Criterion (c)	<i>An item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area)</i>
	The building is an modest, single storey, late Edwardian house in a colonial revival style with later extensions in the Federation style
	Does not meet the criterion
Criterion (d)	<i>The item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social or spiritual reasons</i>
	The house has no associations with a particular group, though the medical and pastoral activities of Nurse Starkey may have been important to local women and children from poorer inner city suburbs
	Local Significance
Criterion (e)	<i>An item has the potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</i>
	The site has no archaeological potential
	Does not meet the criterion
Criterion (f)	<i>An item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area)</i>
	This building type is not rare locally
	Is not rare. Does not meet the criterion
Criterion (g)	<i>An item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's Cultural or natural places; or Cultural or natural environments</i>
	The building is typical for this period
	(or a class of the local area's: Cultural or natural places; or Cultural or natural environments)
	The building is typical for the period
	Does not meet the criterion