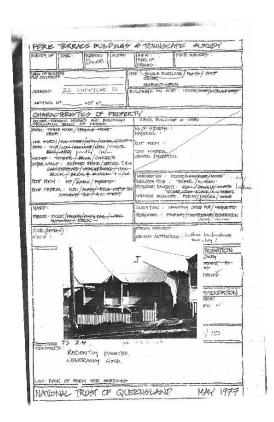


St James Street
Petrie Terrace Photo Study

Brisbane History Group bhg4000@brisbanehistorygroup.org.au







This study relates to the area bounded by Hale Street, Musgrave Road, Petrie Terrace and Milton Road, and primarily the residential area behind the mixed commercial street frontages of Caxton Street and Petrie Terrace. City Plan 2014 has much of the area zoned CH1 Character Residential.

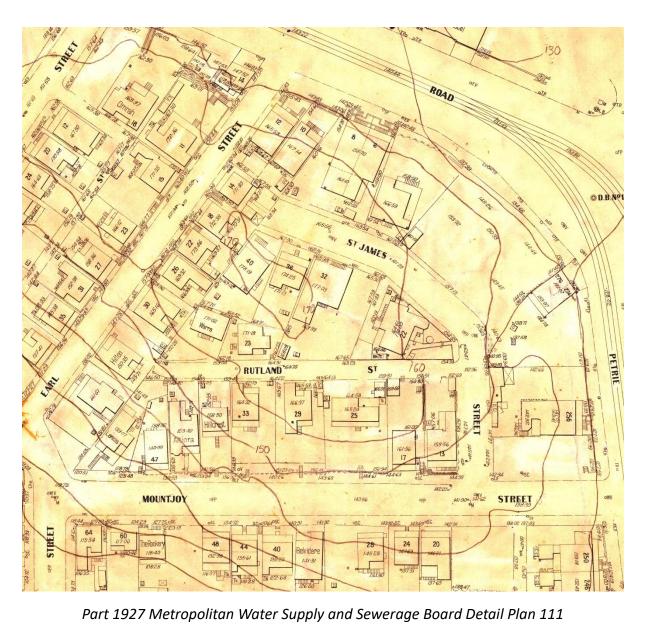
The area was the subject of a field study undertaken by the National Trust in 1977, suggesting they were active in designating this town planning/development constraint. The BHG Research Library has digitised copies of many of the worksheets for each individual property, and photographic prints of some of the buildings and houses from that time. Rod Fisher and his associates subsequently, during the 1980s, returned and photographed the buildings again.

Forty years later we decided it was time for an update, and this set of street albums provides a snapshot of how the houses, predominantly small lot timber cottages, have been adapted for current day living. The area was predominantly working class in the 1970s, however, as with other older city fringe suburbs this has changed over time. It will primarily be of interest to residents interested in the history of their home, and we would welcome feedback, particularly if you would like to share this information in future updates.

For the albums we have used scanned copies of photographic prints when available, photocopies when not, and digital images for current conditions. A number of the houses photographed in the 1980s included side and rear views which can be made available on request. There appears to have been some renumbering of properties over time – apologies in advance if we have erred.

Your comments and corrections will be appreciated.

Kaye Mobsby & Andrew Darbyshire bhgresearchlibrary@gmail.com



(Brisbane City Archives)



c1982



August 2023

St James Street looking north west

No earlier image



No 11 St James Street



c1982 (fronts Musgrave Road)



August 2023

No 16 St James Street

'Warren Lodge' also known as 'Charleston Mews' Brisbane City Council Heritage Place since 16 February 2018

Notes from citation

'Warren Lodge' is a set of six brick flats constructed on a high ridgeline above the Normanby Fiveways on Musgrave Road, Petrie Terrace. Built by owner, Ernest Frank Morley, the brick flats display elements of Functionalist architecture, popular at the time. 'Warren Flats' are important in demonstrating Brisbane's development pattern in the early 1940s, in particular Petrie Terrace, and the way in which ideas about acceptable forms of housing were changing.

In 1941 Ernest Frank Morley and his wife Edith Lily Morley purchased several parcels of land along Musgrave Road, Petrie Terrace. It isn't clear if Morley, a building contractor, designed the building himself or if they had an architect. In May 1941 the application for the construction of the flats was approved by the Brisbane City Council and was recorded to cost £2,950. By 1943 the flats had been completed and the Morleys were recorded in the Electoral Rolls as residing there. The flats were ideally situated close to the city and the Normanby tram stop.

The building is a highly intact two-storey face-brick set of flats with a tiled hipped roof fronting Musgrave Road and overlooking the Normanby Fiveways. It has rear access from St James Street at the upper level. It retains timber casement windows and the Musgrave Road elevation features a semi-circular bay window and square projected balcony with barley twist columns. The garden has a face brick retaining wall and original garden beds.

No earlier image (constructed 2009 – 2013?)



August 2023

No 21 St James Street



c1982



August 2023

No 22 St James Street



'Cambusnethan', 22 St James Street

The house, built in the mid 1880's, was originally a four room cottage, then extended out and over when my great grandparents purchased it in 1891. Prior to 1930 my great grandfather converted the second floor into 3 flats and sealed the stairway to the attic, which was his photographic darkroom. The stables which housed his horses and carriage were later converted to a media room and upstairs 5th bedroom in the early 2000's.

My great grandfather was a highly regarded businessman, Master Plasterer, who did the work at Regent Theatre, City Hall, Masonic Hall and many more. He was a Grand Master of the Masons and devout Baptist. He turned his home into flats, lived in one and rented the rest to prostitutes. After his death in 1933, my great grandmother and grandmother continued the business until 1950.

After the death of my great grandmother, the home was sold and purchased by Mrs Kelly who continued the business of 'The Ladies of the Night', red light in front window to announce they were open for business.

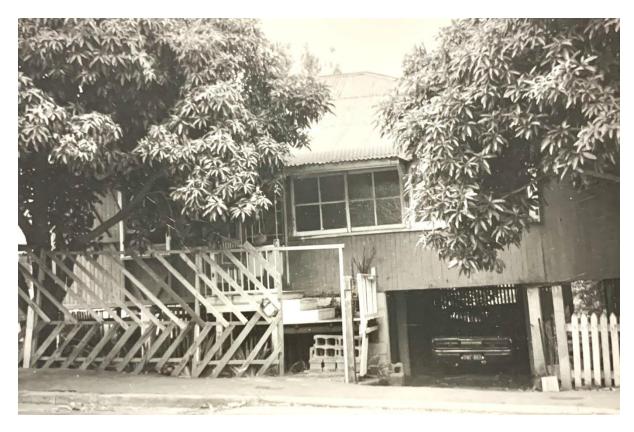
Photo and description courtesy Cheryl Palmer (Apr 2017 & Dec 2023)

I lived behind Petrie Mansions restaurant, on Mountjoy Street, in the early 1990s. There were stairs behind the restaurant that went steeply down and across a walkway to the kitchen door where staff would go for a smoko. There were also stairs going steeply down an empty lot to gain access to Petrie Terrace. Our slum of a house was owned by Sarina Russo.

There was also an amazing three storey Dr Seussesque house near there also, on the highest point of the suburb. It had been turned into bedsits so every flat had a dodgy little wooden staircase/ladder fire escape on the outside of the house (hence the Dr Seuss look). Rumour was that a formally set dining table was found behind a secret door under the main stairs – already for a dinner that was never had.

This was all pre Hale Street. So many beautiful houses were lost. I also lived in Sherrif Street, just behind the Windmill Café.

Rachael Cooke 2018 (Facebook, Old Brisbane Album)

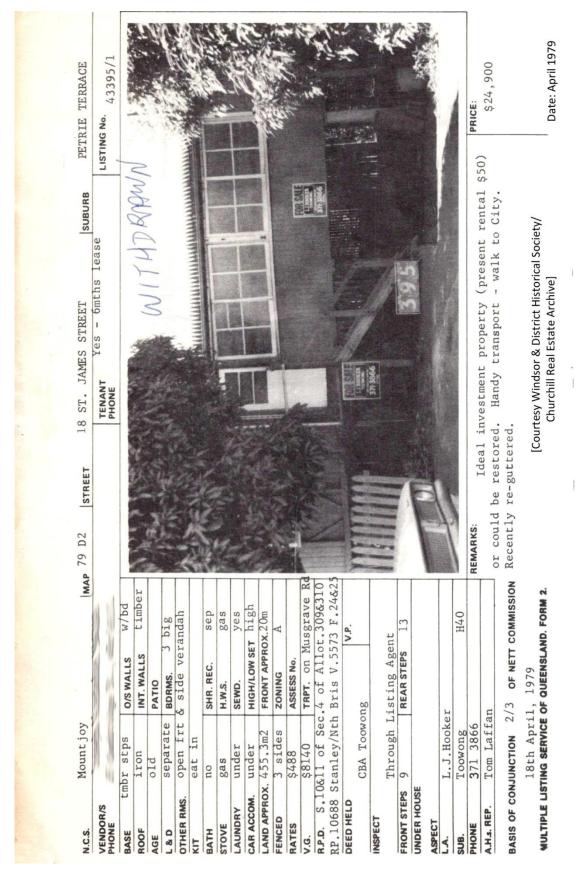


c1982

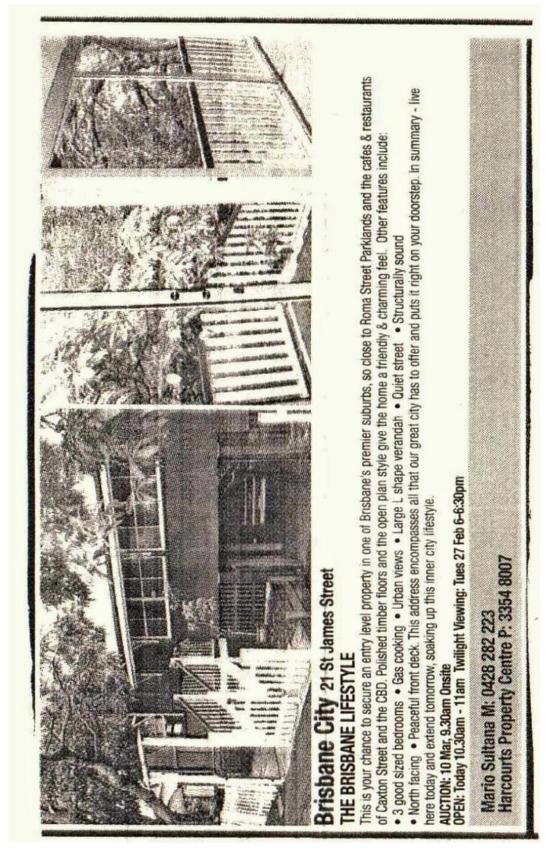


August 2023

No 23 St James Street



Appears to be current day No 23



Appears to be current day No 23 Newspaper advertisement February 2007 (BHG Newspaper Cuttings Book)



SIGN OF THE TIMES WITH V.Js, TIMBER PANEL DOORS AND POUSHED FLOORS IN THE HALLWAY

Movies replaced by elbow grease

A three-bedroom, one-bathroom inner-city Queenslander presents a prime opportunity for investors and renovators.

Marketing agent Mario Sultana said the house, which was built between the late 1800s and early 1900s, was awaiting the renovator's touch.

Mr Sultana said the house had been renovated some years ago and with "a little elbow grease" would regain some of its former polish.

Set on more than 460 sq m, the house has been previously owned by Australian film production company Beeps, which used the premises for filming and editing its productions.

Established trees in the front yard create a private facade between the street and house.

Built on two levels with a carport underneath, the house could be raised or dug-out for extra rooms to be added.

In the main living area fretwork is complemented by vertical joint walls and ceilings, all characteristic of traditional Queenslander design.

Polished wooden floorboards offer

glimpses of splendour with a little attention and refurbishment.

A large, glassed-in L-shaped veranda wraps around the side of the house hugging the lounge room and a bedroom.

A small hallway opens to all three bedrooms and leads in to the lounge room, which also accesses the separate kitchen.

Typical of many old Queenslanders, all three bedrooms are similarly sized and spacious.

Built in Brisbane's flourishing Petrie Terrace, the house is close to the revamped Caxton Street precinct and army barracks redevelopment.

240707 details

Property:
21 St James Street, Brisbane City Auction:

On site, 9:30am, March 10

Inspection:

Today, 10.30-11am

Agent:

Harcourts Property Centre 3354 8007; Mano Sultana 0428 282 223.

Appears to be current day No 23 Newspaper advertisement February 2007 (BHG Newspaper Cuttings Book)



c1983



August 2023

1&2/27 St James Street (Musgrave Road frontage)

Warriston

Warriston was erected in the 1880s when timber and tin were becoming more acceptable materials for fashionable residences. Because of its scale, this building was readily turned into a boarding-house during the 1910s. Sheeted and stuccoed over, it operated as 'Berkeley Flats'. Only the fretwork sides of sunhoods, double brackets beneath eaves, pointed acroterions at gutter corners, double chimneys and the hipped iron roofline showed something of its pedigree. Aided by early photographs, professional expertise, enthusiasm and a mint of money, the building was restored in rich colour as well as timber detail, plus modern plumbing and air-conditioning.

Compared with the hovels behind the hill, Warriston provided elite living. This was the abode of David Pringle Milne, a West Ward alderman (1870 to 1876) and retired manufacturer of the 'Glasgow Boot and Shoe Mart' in Queen Street, hence the name 'Warriston', a northern district of Edinburgh. However, the two blocks of land had been acquired in the name of his wife Christina, in 1866 and 1874. Their early address was Petrie Terrace, which was renamed Musgrave Road after the sudden death of the Governor in 1888.

Since the Milnes lived on this site from the late 1860s and no mortgage was recorded, it is difficult to date the building exactly. Moreover Warriston is not one dwelling but two, separated by a brick and plaster party-wall, each semi-detached residence having three bedrooms up, two living rooms down joined by folded doors, and a detached kitchen at the back. However, the directories show that from 1887, when the building was first listed by name, the Milnes lived on one side in Warriston No. 2, while No. 1 was occupied successively by business and white collar householders. These included surveyors WM Davidson and CT Bedford, Albert E. Harte, a prominent stock and share broker of Queen Street, and Captain James C O'Brien of the Queensland Defence Force. During the later 1890s, a private boarding school was conducted in Warriston No. 1 by Mrs WB and Miss AM Brown. The proximity of Victoria Barracks accounted for the presence of further military gentlemen, named Major W Howard Tunbridge and Major Victor Sellheim, around the turn of the century.

Altogether this indicates that Warriston replaced an earlier Milne family dwelling and quite likely its easterly neighbour, Victoria House, between 1885 and 1887. It was built as a pair of semi-detached residences for middle class people who could afford a greater degree of space and style. But it was basically a glorified timber structure which was constructed against an earlier, single-storied building providing verandahed kitchens and servants quarters, well out of sight at the rear of the brand new Warriston 1 and 2.

Petrie Terrace Brisbane 1858-1988; 'Its ups and downs' by Steve Woolcock & Rod Fisher

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John Herbert Awards — 1988



The National Trust's prestigious John Herbert Awards for excellence in the field of restoration were presented on April 18 to a variety of outstanding projects. The following article, part of a continuing series on the John Herbert Awards, 1988, gives a little insight into the many hours of work winners of the awards committed to their projects in the categories of recycling, conservation action and sites.



The former drawing room, now used as a reception area, has been decorated with antique furniture, prints and brass jardinieres filled with lillies and parlour palms.

'Warriston' Wins Award By Richard Allom

After more than two years in restoration, 'Warriston, a pair of attached timber houses at 6 and 8 Musgrave Road, Red Hill, has been completed under the direction of Brisbane conservation architects, Allom Lovell Marquis-Kyle.

In recognition of the work's excellence the building's owners, Brisbane Post Production Services Pty. Ltd., were awarded a 1988 John Herbert Award for recycling.

'Warriston' sits on the very edge of the Petrie Terrace Conservation Area — an entire suburb declared to be of significance by the National Trust in 1977. The houses themselves have recently been individually listed by the Trust.

Petrie Terrace is a unique area. Historian Rod Fisher has pointed out that not only is the suburb important for its early history but because it is the only relatively intact suburb of early Brisbane — "The City of South Brisbane has been dismantled; Kangaroo Point has been devastated by the Story Bridge; Fortitude Valley has become a thoroughfare; and Spring Hill is now in fragments" says Dr Fisher in a soon to be published book on Petrie Terrace.

The suburb was always one in which a mixture of uses and activities existed side by side. Public institutions, business of all sorts and houses from simple artisans cottages to substantial houses made Petrie Terrace, in its heyday, a vital and thriving centre.

Two major business centres existed. One at the junction of Petrie Terrace and Caxton Steet and the second at the Normanby Fiveways.

The more substantial houses in the suburb appear to have been clustered on the high ground around the Normanby Fiveways. These include not only 'Warriston' but the masonry Terrace Houses in Petrie Terrace that now function as restaurants and commercial offices.

The earliest building on the site of 'Warriston' however seems to have been somewhat less substantial than the present house. David Pringle Milne, a boot and shoe manufacturer and proprietor of the Glasgow Boot & Shoe Market in Queen Street is recorded as living on the site from the late 1860s. Two blocks of land had been acquired in the name of his wife, Christina, in 1866 and 1874.

It is not until 1887, however, that 'Warriston' is mentioned by name in the Post Office Directories and, judging by the architectural style of the houses, it is probable that the present building dates from that time. By then Milne had retired from business and indeed had retired from public life. He was a West Ward alderman of the City Council between 1870 and 1876.

The houses are fairly typical of their period and of the terrace house style. Although built in timber they are separated by a masonary party wall in the full height and length of the building. The street elevation is particularly elaborate and on a grand scale that signifies the importance and expense of their construction.

Upstairs consists of three bedrooms with verandahs both to the street and rear elevation. Downstairs are a pair of reception rooms joined with folding doors. A hall and staircase joins the two levels.

National Trust Journal - August 1988 Page 12



John Herbert Awards — 1988

Adjoining each house at the rear is a detached kitchen and maid's room and it is in this area that particular interest lies. The kitchen wings are clumsily attached to the main house and suggest, to the trained eye, that the architect or builder was not completely in control of his design at this point. Careful examination suggests subtle differences in construction and finishes between the two sections. Not the least of these is the discovery that the earliest paint colour to the two sections was different. It has therefore been assumed that the kitchen wings are probably part of an earlier Milne house on the site and may date from the late 1860s. Their incorporation into the late 1880s houses that presently occupy the site resulted in the clumsy detailing still apparent.

During their lifetime the Milnes occupied one side of 'Warriston' and the other side was let to a succession of business and white collar occupants. These included surveyors, W M Davidson and C T Bedford, Albert E Harte, a stock and share broker, and Captain James C O'Brien of the Queensland Defence Forces. During the late 1890s a private boarding school was conducted in 'Warriston' No 1 by Mrs W B and Miss H M Brown.

Shortly after the turn of the Century, 'Warriston' became a boarding house, a function that prevailed until the present owners purchased the house in 1985. During this time verandahs were enclosed and much of the detail was covered with a layer of stucco that largely disguised the finer architectural qualities of the building.

As "Berkeley Flats" its future seemed grim. It required a sensitive and alert eye to see the potential of the property and a solid financial commitment to save the houses. Given the problems that dogged the restoration programme over two years, it also required a real commitment to the project. Work began slowly with careful investigation of structural capacity and damage to the fabric. The houses fairly groaned under the weight of tons of stucco cement and distortion in the timber frames was substantial. White ants had taken advantage of the covering of original timber to make their home in the walls. The usual crude adaptation of large rooms into bed-sitters and kitchenettes had left its mark and damaged the original fabric.

Surprisingly however, much original material remained behind later enclosures. For example not only were verandah balustrades found behind asbestos cement linings but, because the work had been done within thirty years of the first construction of the house, early colour schemes were clearly visible. Subtleties of colour were therefore able to be matched in the restoration. Detailed colour scraping and microscopic analysis was carried out in areas where early colours had been overpainted.

Work proceeded with a small and expert team under the direction of George Cooper who, throughout the programme, maintained an exceptionally high standard of workmanship often in difficult conditions.

Project architect, Richard Allom, says of the workmanship, "From the beginning it was understood that this was to be one project that was to be done right. No shortcuts were taken nor was it expected that they would be. By the time the project was completed, tradesmen engaged on the work knew and understood the owner's commitment to quality and learned or remembered building skills that are increasingly hard to find and, in many cases, have almost disappeared from the building trade repertoire."

Despite the tendency in Brisbane to build reproduction 19th Century buildings within historic areas — an approach permitted and indeed encouraged by the Brisbane City Council — the new owners at 'Warriston' recognized the intrinsic value of the genuine article and spared no expense or effort to preserve the houses as they were conceived in 1887 and before.

As an extension of this approach the houses have been furnished with antiques of the period and interiors fitted with late Victorian prints and paintings, whatnots and jardinieres to recapture the cluttered look of interiors of that period. Desley Campbell-Stewart of Allom Lovell Marquis-Kyle who was responsible for the work at 'Warriston', spared no effort to find appropriate soft furnishings and furniture to complete the task.

Although it might have been quicker, easier and less expensive to demolish the houses and build reproductions as allowed in the Council's Development Control Plan for Petrie Terrace, the work on 'Warriston' stands as an example of what can be done by private enterprise to preserve the real heritage of this city.

The houses' conservation and re-use is a testament to the success of this attitude and approach. The recognition of the work by the National Trust is fitting in this bicentennial year. 'Warriston' is now safe and will be appreciated not only by the present generation but by generations to come.

Proprietor: Brisbane Post Production Pty Ltd Builder: George Cooper Architects: Allom Lovell Marquis-Kyle Pty Ltd Historical Research: Dr Rodney Fisher



The entrance hall has been painted a deep turquoise and decorated with a dado and stencil typical of the Victorian period.

National Trust Journal - August 1988 Page 13

DESIGN FOR LIVING



Restoration architect Richard Allom with project officer Desley Campbell-Stewart in the one of the rooms they restored.



Hallway of one of the matching pair restored with the colors of Victoriana, and beautiful wall stencil. Pictured is secretary Janette Brewer.

Rare pair

O see what restoration is really about, pull up beside the Normanby Hotel in Brisbane and look at the building over the road.

look at the building over the road.

Another good view is from the traffic in Kelvin Grove Road. Continuity is what restoration is all about, and regular commuters have watched it all happen in Musgrave Road over the past couple of years.

Once there was a building lost in obscurity, very old and rather boring. Now it has emerged in breathtaking beauty, a rare matching pair of Victorian houses, appearing as one ornate symmetrical place.

It wasn't really sudden. Videotape editor Steve Cooper bought Warriston, 6-8 Musgrave Road, Petric Ter-

den. Video Cooper bought Warriston, 6-8 Mus-grave Road, Petrie Ter-race, for love of old buildings, in 1985.

By GRACE GARLICK Pictures by KAROL GAWLICK

He and his wife Karen had "got the bug". They'd restored a dilapidated old building in Spring Hill back in 1982. "We got a lot of satisfaction out of that," said Steve. "So we said let's move on and see if we can find another. "We bought the Normanby building in November 1985. It was 10 or 12 flats — unbelievable. We had a good look. From the fireplaces and doors and what we saw we realised this was once a very

what we saw we realised this was once a very beautiful building."
They paid \$170,000 for it. Steve estimates the restoration project at \$280,000. Its value now would be close to \$650,000.
His father, George, worked on site for the months of restoration. It wasn't the sort of job you could call quotes for, when dirt for years past had been piled up against one side and the white ants had found a way in.

white ants had found a way in.

Steve had bought more history than he realised. Warriston features in historian Rod Fisher's new book Up and down old Petrie Terrace Brisbane 1858–1988, with sketches by Steve Woolcock (Boolarong Publications, price about \$10).

T was built in the 1880s when timber and tin were becoming more acceptable materials for fashionable residences, said Dr Fisher

Fisher.

Because of its scale, the building was readily turned into a boarding house after the turn of the century.

Sheeted and stuccoed over, it operated as Berkeley Flats until recently. Only the fretwork sides of sunhoods, double brackets beneath

eaves, double chimneys and the hipped iron roofline showed something of its pedigree.

"Aided by early photographs, professional expertise, personal enthusiasm and an amount of money the new ownthusiasm and an amount of money, the new owners have restored Warriston in rich color as well as timber detail," states Rod Fisher's book.

Fisher's book.

"Once more can we admire the fine two-storey facade, its double veranda posts separated by diagonal balustrading, unusual for the city, with curved veranda brackets above and arched lattice infill below.

"Inside, the timber mantlepieces surrounding cast iron coal-burning grates have been marble painted and the pine staircases stained cedar again.

"Compared with the hovels behind the hill, Warriston provided elit living. This was the abode of David Pringle Milne, a west ward alderman from 1870 to 1876 and retired manufacturer of 'Glasgow Boot and Shoe Mart' in Queen Street. Hence Warriston, a northern district of Edinburgh."

Warriston is not one dwelling but two, separated by a brick and plaster party-wall, each semi-detached residence having three bedrooms up, two living rooms down joined by folding doors, and a detached kitchen at the back.
For Steve Cooper and his family, restoration is "in the blood". He'd grown up in an old Queensland colonial when his parents, George and Doreen, migrated from England to Moggill, on Brisbane's west side, in 1961.

Steve and his wife Karen and five children live in a rather more modern house at Brookfield. As a videotape editor, specialising in making TV commercials, he

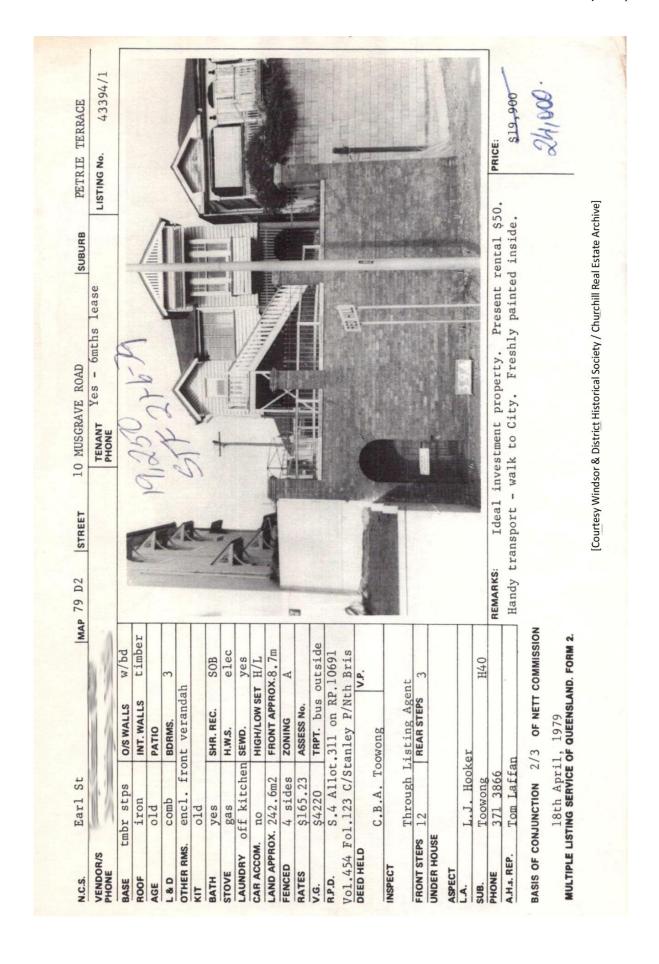


c1982 ('rear' No 10 Musgrave Road)



August 2023

No 29 St James Street





c1982



August 2023

No 32 St James Street

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AULTIPLE L	ISTING SERVICE	MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE OF QUEENSLAND. FORM 2.	[Courtesy Windsor & District Historical Society/	
			Churchill Real Estate Archivel	i.

Late 1970s

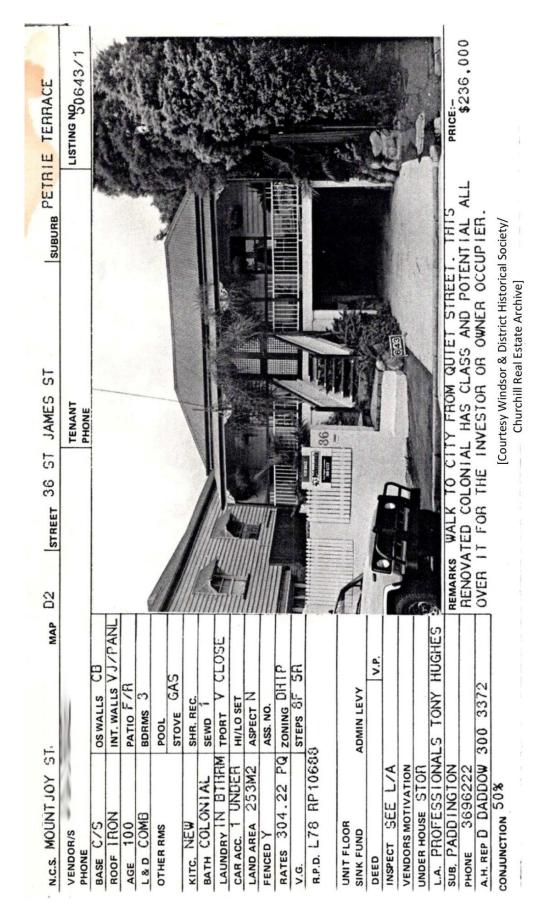


c1982



August 2023

No 36 St James Street



Late 1980s



"Superior Customer Service"

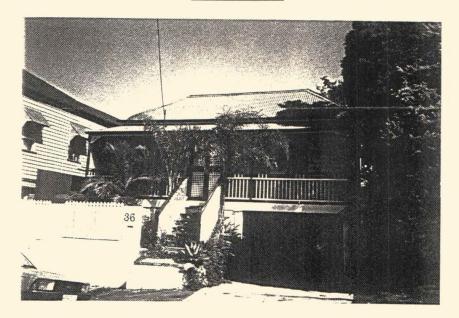
Licensed Auctioneers, Full Property Management

PADDINGTON BRANCH

90 Latrobe Terrace, Paddington. Qld. 4064 Phone: (07) 369 3499 Fax: (07) 368 3937

YOU ARE INVITED THIS SATURDAY

AUCTION



36 ST JAMES STREET PETRIE TERRACE

AUCTION ON SITE SATURDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER 1991 @ 11.00 AM OPEN FROM 10.00 AM

THIS IMMACULATELY PRESENTED COLONIAL OFFERS YOU A UNIQUE LIFESTYLE OF INNER CITY LIVING AT ITS BEST. BEAUTIFULLY RENOVATED WITH 3 LARGE BEDROOMS, COLONIAL STYLE BATHROOM, OPEN PLAN LIVING AREA OPENS ONTO DECK AT REAR, AND ALL MODERN CONVENIENCES TO ALLOW AN EASY LIFESTYLE FOR THE BUSY PROFESSIONAL.

RPD : LOT 78 RP 10688

ZONING : SPECIAL DEVELOPMENT

LAND SIZE : 253m²
RATES : \$304.22

FOR APPOINTMENT : SONYA HARCOURT AFTER HOURS : 368 3468

WORK : 369 3499

MEMBER REIQ

(BHG Digital Records)

A FRESH CASE.

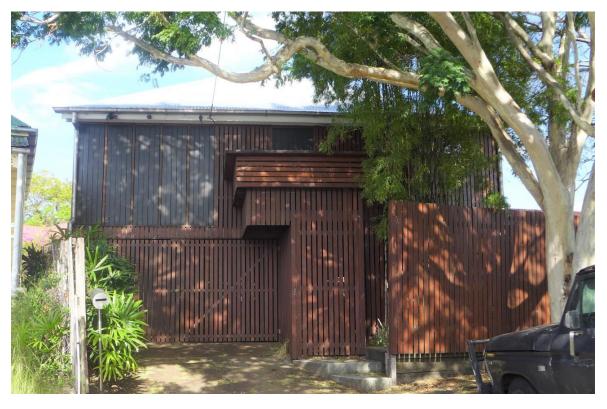
About half-past 9 last evening, the Mayor advised that John Mannion, aged 26. residing in James St. Mountioy-street. off Petrie-terrace. suffering from plague. patient had been employed up to Saturday with a bag and bale merchant in the city, and on Saturday evening complained of sickness, but no one apprehended the true nature of his ailment, which was not determined until last evening. contacts are eight in number—the patient's father, two brothers, three sisters, a young nephew, and a boarder, who will be removed to Colmalie to-day, to admit of thorough cleansing and fumigation being effected. The house stands on high ground at the top left hand side of St. James street, which is a cul de sac, and which branches from Mountjoy-street at the top of the first rise the PORCWAY of from Petrie-terrace. Though surrounded by other residences, each dwelling stands within its own ground, with a fair abundance of feliage in front and on either side, and a narrow, contracted yard behind. Inspector Nethercote was on the spot soon after the medical decision was made known, and gave immediate effect to all the necessary police precautions.

No 40 or No 36?

Article in Brisbane Courier 6 July 1900 (National Library of Australia, Trove digitised newspapers)



c1982



August 2023

No 40 St James Street

N.C.S. Mountjoy MAP 79 D2 STREET VENDOR/S STREET MAP 79 D2 STR		
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Paddington A2		
REMARKS:	House let at \$50 DW Solid home on concrete	PRICE:
stumps, Walk "Town House"	. Ideal for devnt proposition.	\$21,000 ONO
30th September, 1976		



c1982 ('rear' No 14 Earl Street)



August 2023

No 42 St James Street (also No 14 Earl Street)



c1982



August 2023

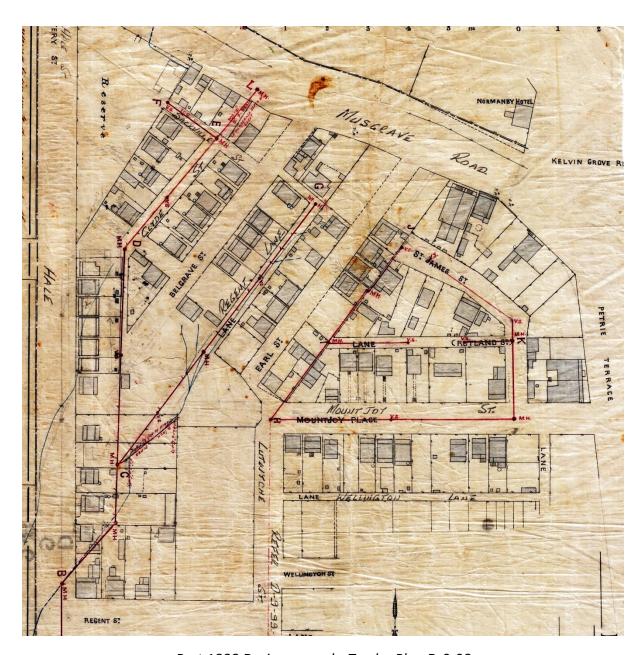
St James Street looking south East



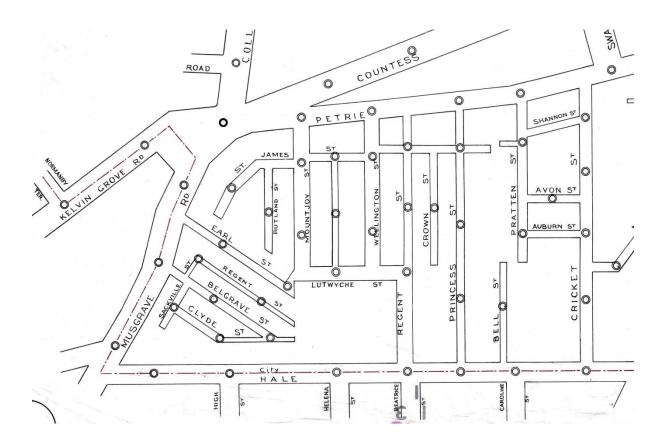
1883 Land Auction plan of Bishop's Hill, Petrie Terrace (SLQ)

Petrie Terrace west of Fiveways would subsequently be renamed Musgrave Road and the north-south Gov't Road, initially Cemetery Road, would be extended through Portion 315 and become Hale Street

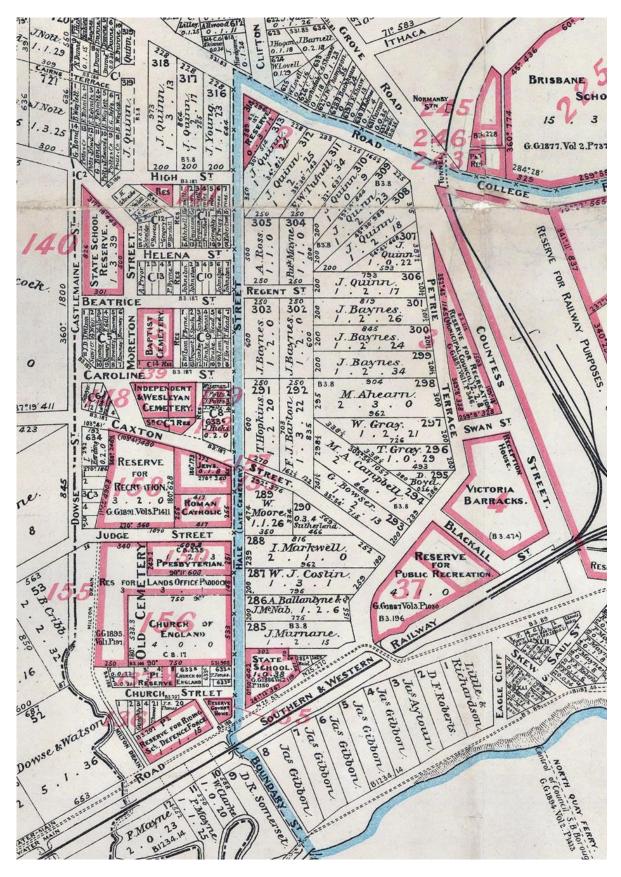
'Bishop's Hill' was an appropriate name for this locale, James Quinn the RC Bishop of Brisbane purchased seven of the Portions fronting Petrie Terrace stretching from Regent Street to Hale Street. He missed out on Portion 311 which was purchased by Edward Wyndham Tufnell, C of E Bishop of Brisbane.



Part 1888 Drainage works Tender Plan D-9-98 (Brisbane City Council Archives)



Part 1921 Street lighting Plan I-13-469 (Brisbane City Archives



July 1900 Plan of City of Brisbane & Suburbs according to the original land grants (Surveyor General's Office –State Library of Queensland)



1951 Part aerial photograph BCC 000539333 (Queensland Government -QImagery)