6 Melrose Terrace, Nelson South, Nelson

PC29 nominated heritage item

Lot 1 DP 480253



[23 April 2024]

Historical summary:
A carefully renovated mid-20th century house that was built for Thomas [Tom] and Lilian Griffin to the design of Wellington architectural practise Plishke & Fantl in c.1961. Sold by Thomas Griffin to Drs Douglas and Margaret Coop in 1967; held by other owners since 1969. While the house has been recognised at the regional and national level by the NZ Institute of Architects for the quality of its late 2010s renovations, this fact does not automatically denote heritage significance. The house is of some interest as an example of Plishke & Fantl's residential work not long before Ernst Plischke returned to Europe in 1963 but it is relatively conventional in its design and planning.

Assessment according to the heritage criteria:

Historic And Social Significance
The former Griffin house is not associated with a notable person or event and has modest historic and social value as the home, for a short period, of members of the Griffin family, who are well known in Nelson for establishing a biscuit company.

Cultural And Spiritual Significance
The former Griffin house has modest cultural value as a demonstration of the way of life of a Nelson businessman and his family.

Architectural And Aesthetic Significance
The former Griffin house has modest architectural significance as an early 1960s design by Wellington firm Plishke and Fantl. The building is not a significant example of its style and recent renovations and, while they are of high quality, have introduced new building fabric across the principal elevation. The renovations were designed by architect Sharon Jansen.

Technological And Craftsmanship Significance
The former Griffin house has some value under this criteria where authentic fabric remains. The original builder is unknown. John Erni Building Ltd. undertook the recent renovations.

Archaeological Significance
As the building post-dates 1900, any potential archaeological value the site may have would likely relate to the development of the neighbouring Melrose House property.

Scientific Significance
The former Griffin house may have minor scientific value for its potential to provide further information about the original design and construction of the building and its history of modification.

Group, Landmark And Contextual Significance
The former Griffin house has limited contextual value given its location on a back section.

Summary Statement
The former Griffin house dates to c.1961 and was designed by Plishke and Fantl for Tom and Lilian Griffin. The house has recently been carefully renovated and this work has been recognised by local and national awards from the NZIA under the 'Heritage' category. Notwithstanding the recognition the house has received, it is a minor example of mid-century modern design and does not meet the criteria for scheduling.

Recommendation
This dwelling does not meet the criteria for scheduling on Appendix 1 of the NMRP.

References:
https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=plishcke+house+melrose+terrace+nelson+nz&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8
https://architecturenow.co.nz/articles/2012-nelson-marlborough-architecture-awards/
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Stuff 13 April 2016; available online.
Land Information NZ & historic electoral rolls.

Review date: 26 April 2024


House prior to late 2010s renovations; supplied by current owners.