
CAERLEON CRESCENT

Heritage Conservation Area

An unusual cul-de-sac subdivision with a wide planted median, featuring dwellings from the turn of the nineteenth century.

The area covers Caerleon Crescent properties and also includes a number of properties in Frenchmans Road and Chapel Street.

Caerleon Crescent is a rare example of a heritage cul-de-sac in Randwick. Its proximity to Frenchmans Road, the region's oldest thoroughfare and its place on the plateau of upper Randwick gives the Crescent quite a prominent place in the locality.

It is one of the few subdivisions in Randwick that is separate from the main street grid, Caerleon Crescent is an intimately-scaled contained precinct, with a wide central planted median and sandstone kerbing edged by single-storey houses with narrow setbacks from the front boundary.

Some of the houses have unsympathetic alterations such as painted face brickwork and high front fences but the overall form, particularly the cohesive roofscape, is largely intact.

What is the area's significance?

Aesthetic Significance:

Caerleon Crescent is a thoughtfully planned street with a wide, planted median strip and a passage linking it to Frenchmans Road. Its proximity to Frenchmans Road, the region's oldest thoroughfare and its place on the plateau gives the Crescent quite a prominent place in the locality. It is one of the few subdivisions in Randwick that is separate from the main street grid. Caerleon Crescent also has aesthetic significance as an intimate, contained precinct where the original buildings from the turn of the nineteenth century remain largely intact. The street trees contribute to the aesthetic values of the precinct.

Historic Significance:

Caerleon Crescent, which is not crescent-shaped, was an early twentieth century construct. It belonged to a block of land owned by the Moore family and fronting onto Frenchmans Road. It was developed by George Gale, a prolific local builder during the second decade of the twentieth century, and Mayor of Randwick in 1902 – 1903. The subdivision developed in the early years of the twentieth century, as Randwick's population began to grow following the 1890s depression. The Waverley – Randwick tramway along Frenchmans Road had been electrified by this time.

Themes Represented:

The following historical themes, identified in the 1989 Randwick Heritage Study, are directly illustrated in the conservation area:

- Modifying the landscape
- Government and institutions
- Recreation, entertainment and leisure
- Industry and commerce

The following themes are indirectly represented:

- Promotion, culture, religion and education
- Transport and communications

