

# Home, Kangaroo Point

Address 9 Leopard Street, Kangaroo Pt, Brisbane, Q. 4169

Practice AB Wilson

Designed c1901 Completed 1902

History & Description This substantial, two-storeyed brick residence with observation tower was erected for John Lamb, co-proprietor of the successful Queen Street drapery establishment of Edwards & Lamb. The house was designed by established Brisbane architect Alexander Brown Wilson (1857-1938), and was constructed over a twelve month period by builder W Anthony. The house is located on top of the Kangaroo Point cliffs overlooking the Brisbane River and the city and is set within substantial grounds with mature trees and gardens surrounded by wrought iron entrance gates and the decorative masonry fence. The house remains in the ownership of the Lamb family.



Robert Riddel 1991

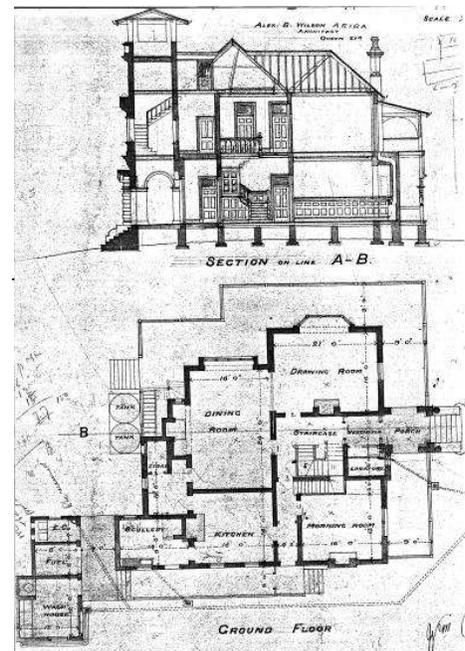
The house is the best known residential work of Wilson, the first locally trained RIBA associate. Wilson migrated as child with his family from Scotland and served an informal architectural apprenticeship with leading Brisbane architect FDG Stanley followed by study in Britain. On his return to Brisbane in the booming mid 1880s, Wilson established his private practice, becoming a leading residential architect. *Home* comes from the later period (after the economic recession of 1890s) and is his most well known residential work. In Queensland, the Queen Anne style was not as popular as in the south and *Home* is neither innovative nor the best example of Queen Anne in Australia, but the combination of the flamboyant architectural style and its prominent position make it an important architectural symbol of the turn of the century Brisbane.

Statement of Significance

Home is arguably Brisbane's most distinguished Queen Anne styled mansion and is a rare surviving example of a grand, intact Federation period residence in the Brisbane district. It is a major example of the domestic work of notable Brisbane architect Alexander B Wilson and an important landmark in the inner Brisbane town and river scape.

Criteria Applicable

- N1 – Significant heritage value in demonstrating principal characteristics of a particular class or period of design.
- N2 – Significant heritage value in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.
- N5 – Having a special association with the life or works of an architect of significant importance in our history.



(above) Detail contract drawing (copy). (below) Drawings from Fryer Library, University of Qld (in *Wilson Architects 1884-2004*).

