

KILBRIDE NURSING HOME

Lot 1001 DP 827794 Glendower Street, Gilead
Originally a House built 1869.



HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION:

The local water authority purchased land in 1832 as the site for a home to accommodate the Engineer who was to be in charge of designing a water supply to bring water to Campbelltown. This was an urgent need, as the early settlers in Sydney were losing many valuable crops to high seas and flooding. Governor Macquarie decided that Campbelltown would be the ideal site for the new flood centre.

The homestead, now part of the old wing of the nursing home, was built in 1869 as the home of the Engineer. He called the home "Kilbride" meaning running water, a quite appropriate name, considering his duties as an engineer. The "upper canal" he designed is in use today, as part of the Sydney Water System.

In 1937, Kilbride was occupied by James Francis O'Donnell and his wife, Mary Ann (daughter of James Fitzpatrick).

The homestead is similar in style to Hillcrest and the front part of Varroville, both dating from this period also. Features include corrugated iron roof and verandah, cast iron columns with lacework around (3) sides of the building and French doors and shutters.

Set on a hill the property enjoys extensive rural views across the Campbelltown countryside.

Some Bunya pines remain as remnants of an early garden.

CONDITION AND USE:

Kilbride has changed hands a number of times over the years, since the water supply was completed. In 1965, it was purchased and made into a convalescent home. Today it is a privately owned nursing home with recent additions just completed. The original homestead is still in tack, though joined to more recent additions.

Unfortunately the scale and placement of the new additions diminish the aesthetic value of the homestead and its setting.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

- The building is of Historical and Architectural significance
- It is of local and regional significance to Campbelltown because:
 - of its historical connection with the provision of water to Campbelltown;
 - of its prominence in the Campbelltown countryside; and
 - it is a good example of colonial domestic architecture.

Unfortunately, the aesthetic value of the property has been severely diminished as a result of the recent nursing home expansion.

HERITAGE LISTING:

LOCAL: LEP 193

STATE: *NSW Heritage Act 1997:* Listed Item – although not on the State Heritage Register