

From: Tennyson Ward Office <tennyson.ward@bcc.qld.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 15 May 2026 3:39 PM

Subject: FW: 8 Ponsonby Street, Annerley

Dear Margaret and Team

Please find a submission regarding 8 Ponsonby St Annerley attached for consideration.

Please ensure the individual name is redacted and just the History Group's name is used on development.i for privacy purposes please.

Regards

Nicole Johnston

Councillor for Tennyson Ward



This personal information in your email may be forwarded to Brisbane City Council Officers to assist in responding to your request. Your email may be used in future to keep in touch with you about local events and activities.

Sent: Friday, 15 May 2026 3:17 PM
To: Tennyson Ward Office <tennyson.ward@bcc.qld.gov.au>
Subject: 8 Ponsonby Street, Annerley

Dear Nicole,

At a recent meeting ASHG gave consideration to the development application for 8 Ponsonby Street. The Committee felt it important to request that consideration is given to the historical significance of the site in the assessment of the development proposal.

To that end please find attached a letter from Annerley-Stephens History Group Inc regarding the historical significance of 8 Ponsonby Street. The submission draws on various historical documents including articles prepared by Marjorie Neil, Liza Neil and Kristen Podgiel and published in *Echoes of the Stories of Stephens* (2019) and *Women of Stephens* (2022). These articles can be provided if required.

Could you please forward the submission to the appropriate parties within Brisbane City Council.

Best wishes,

On behalf of Annerley-Stephens History Group Inc.

This email originates from outside of Brisbane City Council.



Annerley-Stephens History Group Inc.

annerleystephenshistory.org

15 May 2026

From:

Annerley-Stephens History Group Inc
Yeronga Community Centre
62 Park Rd., Yeronga 4101
P.O. Box 484, Annerley. QLD 4103
annerleystephenshistorygroupin@gmail.com

To:

Brisbane City Council
Development Assessment

Development Application: No. A006973028 - 8 Ponsonby St, Annerley

The Annerley-Stephens History Group Inc is a highly regarded and long-established community group serving the district that formed the Shire of Stephens prior to its absorption into the City of Brisbane. The group has a membership of 110 and our aims are to promote the knowledge and understanding of the history of the district and does so through a variety of forums – most recently at a stall at the Junction Park School fete - a short distance from the site of the proposed development. It is in this context that the group feels the need to present this submission outlining the cultural heritage importance of the site at 8 Ponsonby St.

Corio, 8 Ponsonby Street was built in 1920 by Katherine (Kate) Hamilton Neil (1862-1940), the daughter of well-known Annerley identity John Neil (1835-1900). *Corio* was occupied by members of the Neil family for more than 75 years.

The Neils have an important place in the history of the area. John Neil purchased the Junction Hotel in 1869 just three years after it was established. He also established a blacksmith's shop beside the hotel and this location became the earliest hub of the "Junction" when the Graziers' Butchering Company established a shop adjacent to these facilities in 1885. John Neil had the Junction Hall erected behind the hotel in 1895 and when the Junction Picture Gardens were established in 1913 this cemented the location as the focal point of the community. A fact made more evident with the erection of the police station opposite and later the post office.

Aside from his role in the commercial development of the Junction Shopping Centre (which was the biggest suburban commercial centre in Brisbane for half a century) John Neil made significant contributions to the public life of the area. He served three terms on the Stephens Divisional Board.

John Neil's descendants were also highly respected in the community. His daughter Kate, who erected *Corio*, was regarded as an astute businesswoman with a vision that led her to commission a very modern Queenslander as her home. This drive was also evident in the

last of the Neils' line to occupy *Corio* – Marjorie Ann Hamilton Neil who was the first professional teaching headmistress of St Aidan's Anglican School.

Corio was sold to the Women's Legal Service in 1997 and in their long tenure the building accrued great importance to the caring community of the area. The family regard this as a fitting legacy as Kate Hamilton Neil who built the house spent much of her life dealing with the problems faced by the clients of the Women's Legal Service. The Women's Legal Service also recognized this link in their statement '*There is an incredible legacy of women looking after women in the house – both through the women of the Neil family who built the house back in the 1920s and now through the incredible work that the team at WLS do*'

The site of the proposed development provides a strong connection to present and past generations who live and work in this community. These connections should be recognized in the assessment of all proposals for this land.

This submission draws on articles by Majorie Ann Hamilton Neil, Liza Neil and Kirsten Podagiel published in *Echoes of the Stories of Stephens* (2019) and *Women of Stephens* (2022), both ASHG books.

Yours sincerely,
