

PROPOSED LOCAL HERITAGE PLACE

Forde Residence (former), 44 Highland Terrace, St Lucia (LOT PLAN: 743_RP40782)



SUMMARY

From 1958 until the 1980s, the former Forde Residence at 44 Highland Terrace in St Lucia served as the home of former Prime Minister Francis 'Frank' Forde during the final years of his political career and in his retirement. While best known as Australia's shortest-serving Prime Minister (6 to 13 July 1945), Forde enjoyed a long political career at the State and Federal level, serving constituencies in Queensland between 1917 and 1958. Forde also held several significant political roles, including Deputy Leader of the Australian Labor Party (1932 to 1946), Deputy Prime Minister (1941 to 1945), and Minister for the Army (1941 to 1945) and also served as Australia's High Commissioner to Canada (1947 to 1953).

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For public consultation – Qualified State Interest Amendment – Local Heritage

HISTORY

A history of St Lucia

The riverside suburb of St Lucia is located approximately four kilometres southwest of central Brisbane. St Lucia is primarily located on a peninsula surrounded by the Brisbane River. In the 1850s and 1860s, St Lucia initially developed as a farming district. After being known for growing cotton, St Lucia gradually developed as a sugar-producing area. A sugar mill operated by William Dart, who had previously grown cotton, located on the north side of the St Lucia peninsula, was established in 1871.¹

St Lucia's development progressed slowly from a farming community to a suburban area due to inadequate road access and lack of public transport. However, the proximity of the land to the Brisbane River, and the associated river views from elevated parts of the suburb did make it an attractive prospect for land speculators, especially after the opening of the Brisbane to Ipswich railway line with a local station at nearby Toowong and Indooroopilly. In 1877, architect Richard Gailey Sr subdivided the Lang Farm Estate on the town side of the suburb.² In the early-1880s, Dart sold much of his land to William Alexander Wilson, a Brisbane grocer and entrepreneur, who also took over the sugar mill operation.³ Until 9 January 1884, when Wilson's partnership with William Cossham was dissolved, the mill operated under the name St Lucia Plantation.⁴ In 1883, Dart and Wilson subdivided a portion of land on the peninsula known as the 'St Lucia Estate'.⁵ The estate and the plantation were named after Wilson's place of birth in the West Indies. By 1889, the 'St Lucia Estate' was being advertised as containing '477 of the grandest Building Sites'.⁶ It is from this source that the suburb of St Lucia takes its name.

The suburb's areas of elevated land continued to attract prosperous settlers who established several estates with substantial residences in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries. By the 1930s, St Lucia was regularly described as the 'residential suburb of the future'.⁷ These views coincided with the suburb's most significant development, the construction of the new St Lucia campus of the University of Queensland.

The University of Queensland, established in 1909, was originally located in Old Government House in central Brisbane. Expansion of the University of Queensland led to the need for larger facilities. In 1926, the Mayne family provided £50,000 to purchase land in St Lucia to construct a new campus. After laying the foundation stone in 1937, building work commenced in 1938. However, the Second World War disrupted construction work.⁸

During the Second World War, the University of Queensland was used as the headquarters of General Sir Thomas Blamey, the commander of Australian Military Forces and Allied Land Forces, Southwest Pacific Area. Blamey used the campus until 1944, though the Australian Army did not leave the campus until 1948. The new campus was officially opened in 1949.⁹ Expansion of the St Lucia campus has continued since its opening and is a prominent part of the suburb.

¹ Marilyn England, 'William Dart, Sugar Planter of St Lucia,' *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland* 19, no. 2 (2005), p. 632.

² Peter Brown, 'St Lucia History, 1823-1893,' *Journal of the Royal Historical Society of Queensland* 20, no. 1 (2007), p. 8.

³ Anon, *An Introduction to the History of St Lucia*, (St Lucia, QLD: St Lucia History Group, 2006), p. 9.

⁴ 'Advertising,' *The Telegraph*, 26 February 1884, p. 1.

⁵ 'Classified Advertising,' *The Brisbane Courier*, 31 August 1883, p. 8; England, 'William Dart,' p. 635.

⁶ 'Advertising,' *The Telegraph*, 16 May 1889, p. 8.

⁷ 'St Lucia of the Future,' *The Courier-Mail*, 16 June 1936, p. 14.

⁸ Queensland Heritage Register, Place ID 601025, *University of Queensland, Great Court Complex*, Department of Environment and Science.

⁹ QHR, Place ID 601025, *University of Queensland, Great Court Complex*.



Following the Second World War, St Lucia's population has continued to expand. The population of St Lucia has more than doubled since the mid-1950s. In 1954, St Lucia's population was 4,268, while in 2021, it was 12,220.

The construction of 44 Highland Terrace

In July 1936, Robert and David Dunworth, estate agents based in the Regents Building on Queen Street, produced title for subdivisions 743 to 746 of portion 25 under a Warrant of Execution. In September 1936, the Dunworth's transferred subdivisions 744 to 746 to Annie Smith but maintained ownership of subdivision 743. By 1938, the former Forde residence at 44 Highland Terrace had been constructed on subdivision 743.¹⁰ The house was constructed as the marital home for Robert and his new wife Vera, married on 7 December 1937.¹¹ In 1947, a new title for subdivision 743 was produced for Robert and Vera Dunworth. The house remained in Dunworth's ownership until 1955, when it was transferred to Veronica Forde, the wife of Prime Minister Francis Forde. In 1967, 44 Highland Terrace transferred to Forde's youngest daughter, Monica Clare, who owned the property until 1987. Forde is recorded as having lived at 44 Highland Terrace between the 1950s and 1980s.

The highly-intact former Forde residence conforms to a porch and gable Queenslander bungalow with adjacent gables and sleepout. This was a popular style in Brisbane in the years between the First and Second World Wars.¹² The Queenslander style bungalow emerged in the late-19th Century, though it continued to evolve over the early 20th Century to take account of changing requirements. Nonetheless, the various styles of Queenslanders shared 'common characteristics' such as being high-set, 'lightly framed' houses typically of timber construction.¹³ Other common characteristics included 'tin' roofs and verandahs. Several of these common characteristics emerged in response to Queensland's environmental context. For example, the high-set character of many Queenslanders was a response to the State's climate and the need to 'fever-proof' houses and placed them 'beyond the reach of disease-inducing miasmas.'¹⁴ With improvements in construction material and changing tastes and styles, the traditional Queenslander became increasingly unpopular after the Second World War. However, in recent years Queenslanders have come to be 'valued as character housing.'¹⁵

The former Forde residence at 44 Highland Terrace had alterations and additions made in c. 1991 and c. 1995. These included the addition of a verandah to the rear and the extension of the roof in line with this addition to maintain the original design of the roofline. In recent years the house has been named *Loyola* by its owners.

The career of Prime Minister Francis Forde

While often 'portrayed as one of Australia's political losers' as the country's shortest-serving Prime Minister, Forde's long political career (1917 to 1958) showed him to be 'essentially a team player.'¹⁶ Forde served as Prime Minister for eight days from 6 July to 13 July 1945. However, it would be

¹⁰ Brisbane City Archives (BCA), Minutes of the Proceedings of a Meeting of Brisbane City Council, 12 October 1937, p. 461; BCA, Minutes of the Proceedings of a Meeting of Brisbane City Council, 8 March 1938, p. 1052.

¹¹ 'No title,' *The Courier-Mail*, 13 November 1937, p. 22; 'Pre-Wedding Tea,' *Truth*, 14 November 1937, p. 40; 'Supper Party,' *The Telegraph*, 3 December 1937, p. 10.

¹² Judy Rechner, *Brisbane House Styles, 1880 to 1940: A Guide to the Affordable House* (Kelvin Grove, QLD: Brisbane History Group, 1998), p. 26.

¹³ Rechner, *Brisbane House Styles*, p. 2.

¹⁴ Stuart King, 'Queenslanders' in Philip Goad and Julie Willis (eds.), *The Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture* (Melbourne, VIC: Cambridge University Press, 2012), p. 579.

¹⁵ Rechner, *Brisbane Housing Styles*, p. 4.

¹⁶ Elaine Brown, 'Francis Michael Forde' in Michelle Grattan (ed.), *Australia's Prime Ministers*, Revised and Updated Edition (Sydney, NSW: New Holland Publishers, 2013), p. 240.



while Forde served faithfully as Deputy Leader of the Australian Labor Party for 14 years and as Deputy Prime Minister for four years where he illustrated his true capabilities as a politician.¹⁷

Born Francis Michael Forde on 18 July 1890 in Mitchell, Queensland, Forde entered politics in 1917 when he won the State seat in the Rockhampton by-election.¹⁸ Before entering politics, Forde had worked as a school teacher and telegraphist.¹⁹ While working in Rockhampton as Assistant to the District Engineer at the Post Office, Forde became involved in local politics. First, he became President of the local branch of the Australian Natives' Association, then in 1915, James Larcombe MLA invited Forde to join the Australian Labor Party. After the resignation of the State member for Rockhampton over the 1916 conscription debate, Forde, with the support of Premier T.J. Ryan, stood and won the local by-election.²⁰

In October 1922, Forde resigned from his State seat and began running for the Federal seat of Capricornia, which he won in December 1922.²¹ The Federal seat of Capricornia covered much of Central Queensland. Between 1925 and 1928, Forde was the only Labor member of the House of Representatives from Queensland, and he worked hard to protect the interests of his constituents.²² Forde's energy and hard work saw him appointed to the Royal Commission on the Moving Picture Industry in 1927. This Royal Commission had been appointed to examine issues surrounding the 'importation, productions, distribution and exhibition of moving-picture films.'²³

Further success for Forde came in 1929 when the Australian Labour Party came to power under Prime Minister James Scullin. Forde gradually took on more critical ministerial portfolios, eventually moving from being Assistant Minister for Trade and Customs (1929 to 1931) to becoming the Minister for the same department (1931 to 1932).²⁴ In the latter role, Forde was the 'principal architect' of the high-tariff policy that sought to mitigate the effect of the Depression.²⁵ However, in 1931, the Scullin government lost the Federal election after the party split over the Government's response to the Depression.

In the 1931 Federal elections, Forde was one of only 14 of the 46 Australian Labor Party members who maintained their seats in the House of Representatives.²⁶ One member not re-elected was the Deputy Leader of the Australian Labor Party, Edward Theodore. As a result, in 1932, Forde was elected the Deputy Leader of the parliamentary Australian Labor Party and by default became the Deputy Leader of the opposition.²⁷ However, when Scullin resigned as the Australian Labor Party leader in 1935, Forde campaigned against John Curtin to lead the party. While Forde lost the election against Curtin by one vote, he remained Deputy Leader.²⁸

In 1940, after the outbreak of the Second World War, Forde was nominated as one of three Australian Labor Party members of the Advisory War Council.²⁹ The Advisory War Council had been created as a cross-party body to advise on crucial wartime issues. Importantly, given the

¹⁷ Brown, 'Francis Michael Forde,' p. 240.

¹⁸ Neil Lloyd and Malcolm Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/forde-francis-michael-frank-12504/text22477>, published first in hardcopy 2007, accessed online 19 November 2021.

¹⁹ Brown, 'Francis Michael Forde,' pp. 240-1.

²⁰ Brown, 'Francis Michael Forde,' p. 241; D.J. Murphy, *T.J. Ryan: A Political Biography* (St Lucia, QLD: University of Queensland Press, 1990 [1975]), p. 243.

²¹ Brown, 'Francis Michael Forde,' p. 241; Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

²² Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

²³ *Report of the Royal Commission on the Moving Picture Industry in Australia*, 17 March 1928, p. 1.

²⁴ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

²⁵ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

²⁶ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

²⁷ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

²⁸ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

²⁹ Brown, 'Francis Michael Forde,' p. 242.

composition of the Advisory War Council, its minutes were often ratified 'immediately as War Cabinet decision.'³⁰ In 1941, when the Australian Labor Party came to power, Forde became Deputy Prime Minister to Prime Minister John Curtin.³¹ At the same time, Forde was also made Minister of the Army, a position described as 'thankless' because of the challenges associated with managing critical civil-military relationships during wartime.³² For example, relations between Forde and his key commander, General Sir Thomas Blamey, commander of the Australian Military Forces, remained poor. Blamey 'tended to ignore Forde' where possible.³³ Indeed, in 1944, at the height of discussions over Australia's place in allied strategy, Blamey appointed Major-General Charles Lloyd as Adjutant General because it was known that 'he could lie to Frankie Forde.'³⁴

Forde served twice as acting Prime Minister when Curtin was absent due to illness or when abroad on state business.³⁵ In 1944, Forde was made a member of the Privy Council, a body of advisors who provided legal and legislative advice to the British Monarch.³⁶ Until the passage of the *Australia Act* in 1896, it was ostensibly the highest court of appeal in Australia. In 1945, Forde, with the Minister for External Affairs, Dr Herbert Evatt, led the Australian delegation to the Commonwealth Ministers' Conference in London and then the United Nations Conference on International Organization in San Francisco.³⁷ It was at the latter conference that the UN Charter was signed.

In November 1944, Curtin suffered a heart attack, after which point his health began to decline seriously. On 5 July 1945, Curtin died. Forde, who had returned to Australia just three days earlier from the conference in San Francisco, was sworn in as Prime Minister on 6 July. However, the appointment was only temporary, and his leadership of the Australian Labor Party required confirmation by a caucus of the party.³⁸ Ben Chifley, who had served as Treasurer and Minister for Reconstruction under Curtin, chose to stand in opposition to Forde. Chifley won the ballot and became Prime Minister on 13 July 1945.³⁹

After losing the leadership election, Forde returned to his role as Deputy Leader of the Australian Labor Party. Under Chifley's leadership, as well as continuing as Minister for the Army, Forde also took on the portfolio of Minister of Defence while continuing as Minister for the Army.⁴⁰ As Minister for Defence, Forde was responsible for demobilisation. However, at the Federal election of 1946, Forde was defeated by Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Davidson.⁴¹ Forde had held his seat for 24 years.

Forde was appointed the Australian High Commissioner to Canada in recognition of his long service. He served in the role for seven years. Forde's time in Canada has been described a 'one of the happiest periods of his life.'⁴² Each of his daughters, Mercia, Mary and Monica, each attended Canadian universities.⁴³ His son, Francis went on to marry Canadian Mary Marguerite Leneen

³⁰ D.M. Horner, *High Command: Australia and Allied Strategy, 1939-1945* (North Sydney, NSW: George Allen & Unwin, 1982), p. 18.

³¹ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890-1983).'

³² Brown, 'Francis Michael Forde,' p. 242.

³³ Horner, *High Command*, p. 139.

³⁴ David Horner, *Blamey: The Commander-in-Chief* (St Leonards, NSW: Allen & Unwin, 1998), p. 466.

³⁵ Brown, 'Francis Michael Forde,' p. 243.

³⁶ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890-1983).'

³⁷ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890-1983).'

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⁴⁰ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890-1983).'

⁴¹ 'Sweet Victory to a Cane Grower,' *The Sun*, 13 October 1946, p. 6.

⁴² Brown, 'Michael Francis Forde,' p. 244.

⁴³ 'Forde Family in Canada,' *Morning Bulletin*, 13 October 1952, p. 1.

Kavanagh. Leneen Forde went on to become the 22nd Governor of Queensland (1992 to 1997). Forde returned to Australia in 1953.

After returning to Australia, Forde became involved in State politics once again as an organiser for the Queensland branch of the Australian Labor Party. He then stood unsuccessfully for the seat of Wide Bay, but then in 1955, Forde won the by-election for the seat of Flinders.⁴⁴ During this period, Forde was considered a possible leader of the Australian Labor Party in Queensland after the Federal party was 'decimated' by a split related to its position on communism.⁴⁵ However, Forde lost the Flinders seat in 1957 by one vote. He challenged the result, and in a by-election in 1958, he was defeated by over 400 votes.⁴⁶

While Forde's loss in 1958 effectively led to his retirement, on several occasions into the early-1960s, and while residing at 44 Highland Terrace, he sought to return to politics. For example, in 1960, he once more stood for the State seat of Flinders and lost.⁴⁷ While Forde's obituary described him as living out his life in 'secluded retirement,' he did make several prominent public appearances.⁴⁸ In 1964, Prime Minister Robert Menzies asked Forde to attend the funeral of General Douglas MacArthur, the Supreme Commander of the Southwest Pacific Area during the Second World War. MacArthur's area of command included responsibility for the defence of Australia as a base for future operations. Forde held MacArthur in high regard. For example, in 1945, Forde reflected that the 'Australian Government [was] proud of the fact that during our darkest hours [...] MacArthur was appointed' the Supreme Commander of the Southwest Pacific Area.⁴⁹ Forde, who kept a picture of MacArthur in the living room at 44 Highland Terrace, attended MacArthur's funeral alongside Lieutenant General Sir John Northcott, who served as the Australian Army's Chief of the General Staff during the Second World War.⁵⁰

Other notable public appearances by Forde while he resided at 44 Highland Terrace included attending a meeting of Queen Elizabeth II's Australian Privy Councillors on 24 April 1970 while Her Majesty was on a visit to Australia.⁵¹ Similarly, in 1972, Forde, alongside former Prime Minister Sir Arthur Fadden, was awarded an honorary doctorate by the University of Queensland. Forde died on 28 January 1983 and was given a State funeral on 1 February at the St Thomas Aquinas Roman Catholic Church in St Lucia.⁵² Forde's funeral was attended by several noted politician including former Prime Minister Gough Whitlam and Queensland Premier Joh Bjelke-Petersen. Even in death, Forde still had a role to play in the politics of the Australian Labor Party for it was at his funeral that 'Senator John Button and federal Labor leader Bill Hayden had a heart-to-heart talk which resulted in Hayden's standing aside to allow Bob Hawke to become leader of the [Australian Labor Party] and subsequently prime minister.'⁵³

⁴⁴ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

⁴⁵ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

⁴⁶ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

⁴⁷ Lloyd and Saunders, 'Forde, Francis Michael (Frank) (1890–1983).'

⁴⁸ 'Obituary: Francis Michael Forde,' *The Canberra Times*, 29 January 1983, p. 11.

⁴⁹ 'Forde's Praise for MacArthur,' *The Daily Telegraph*, 11 January 1945, p. 6.

⁵⁰ '30,000 Honour General,' *The Canberra Times*, 9 April 1964, p. 5.

⁵¹ 'The Queens and her Privy Councillors,' *The Canberra Times*, 25 April 1970, p. 1.

⁵² 'Anon,' *The Canberra Times*, 1 May 1972, p. 8; 'Obituary: Francis Michael Forde,' *The Canberra Times*, 29 January 1983, p. 11; 'Family Notices,' *The Canberra Times*, 31 January 1983, p. 10.

⁵³ Brown, 'Michael Francis Forde,' p. 245.

DESCRIPTION

The former Forde Residence is a porch and gable bungalow-style house located at 44 Highland Terrace, St Lucia. Positioned on an elevated block that slopes down to the street, the house sits above Highland Terrace and is set back from the street frontage. Like other homes in its immediate context, the house is domestic in scale and appearance. The house is visible from Highland Terrace when approaching from east or west, however mature trees partially obscure views to the place.

General description

The former Forde Residence is a single-story porch and gable bungalow constructed primarily of timber, with enclosed subfloor areas. It is broadly rectangular in plan, with a hipped roof, two, adjacent street-facing gables and a sleepout to the west. From Highland Terrace, the house appears asymmetrical due to the gables and sleepout being offset from one another. Entry to the house is via a non-original side stair with timber treads and a metal balustrade leading to the forwardmost gable.

The roof is finished with terracotta tiles, and gable ends are half-timbered with mock shingling and tapered bargeboards. A timber-framed, rectangular roof vent is centred on the rearmost gable. On the forwardmost gable and sleepout, textured render masonry columns extend from ground to the rafters and include exposed brick necks beneath rectangular capitals. External walls are weatherboard clad and juxtaposed against mock shingle window skirtings. Walls enclosing the subfloor space are rendered masonry.

While most original door and window openings remain on the Highland Terrace elevation, alterations have been made. The casement windows, timber joinery and shingle skirting of the forwardmost gable are non-original, having once been French doors that opened to a large balcony (since demolished). A window on the eastern wall of the forwardmost gable has also been infilled. An original faceted bay window, including casement windows, leadlight detailing and flared mock shingle skirting remains on the rearmost gable. On the side elevations, original bays of casement windows are retained, including timber joinery with a mixture of clear and etched glazing. As is typical of the style, traditional window hoods are replaced with flat, sheet metal roofs with decorative brackets.

Located in the south-western corner of the site, a detached, rendered masonry and concrete garage remains. The garage sits partially below ground.

On the street frontage, a low-height rendered masonry retaining wall encloses a sloped garden of dense planting and mature trees. The house is separated from the sloped garden by a flat, grassed area. On the east boundary, an entry path of tiled stairs leads to the grassed area and continues to the main entry. The mature trees partially obscure views to the house from Highland Terrace.

A verandah extension was added to the rear of the house in c.1995.

Significant features

Features of cultural heritage significance include:

- Views to the house from Highland Terrace
- Original location and orientation of the house, including garage
- Low-height masonry retaining wall

- Arrangement of the sloped garden and flat grassed area
- Location of entry pathway and stairs
- Masonry and concrete garage
- Single-storey, offset gabled roof form (including sleepout)
- Asymmetrical composition of Highland Terrace elevation
- Terracotta roof tiling
- Gable infill, including timber mock shingling
- Tapered bargeboards
- Location of stair leading to forwardmost gable
- Textured render masonry columns, including details
- Weatherboard cladding on external walls
- Original door and window openings
- Original faceted bay window, including leadlight detailing and flared shingle skirting
- Original casement windows including clear and etched glazing
- Original sheet metal roofs over windows, including decorative brackets
- Original internal fabric, fittings and fixtures
- Internal room layouts and openings where original

Non-significant features

Non-significant features include:

- Enclosed subfloor spaces, including:
 - Rendered masonry walls
 - Window and door openings and joinery
- Non-original window and door openings
- Non-original mock shingle skirting on the Highland Terrace elevation of forwardmost gable.
- Rear verandah extension
- Non-original plantings

CURTILAGE

The curtilage captures all significant or original elements of the place as described and consists of Lot 743 RP40782.



Source: Brisbane City Plan Online Mapping

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STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Criterion A Historical The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history.	N/A
Criterion B Rarity The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage.	N/A
Criterion C Scientific The place has the potential to provide information that will contribute to the knowledge and understanding of the city's or local area's history.	N/A
Criterion D Representative The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places.	N/A
Criterion E Aesthetic The place is important because of its aesthetic significance	N/A
Criterion F Technical	N/A

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<p>The place is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technological achievement at a particular period.</p>	
<p>Criterion G Social</p> <p>The place has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Criterion H Historical Association</p> <p>The place has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organisation of importance in the city's or local area's history</p>	<p>The former Forde Residence at 44 Highland Terrace has a special association with former Prime Minister Francis 'Frank' Forde, who is known to have resided at the property between 1958 and 1980 during his final years in politics and into retirement. Best known as Australia's shortest-serving Prime Minister (6 to 13 July 1945), Forde enjoyed a long political career (1917 to 1958) at both the State and Federal level, serving constituencies in Queensland. He also served in several significant roles, including Deputy Leader of the Australian Labor Party (1932 to 1946), Deputy Prime Minister (1941 to 1945), and Minister for the Army (1941 to 1945). Forde also served as Australia's High Commissioner to Canada (1947 to 1953).</p>

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