

2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

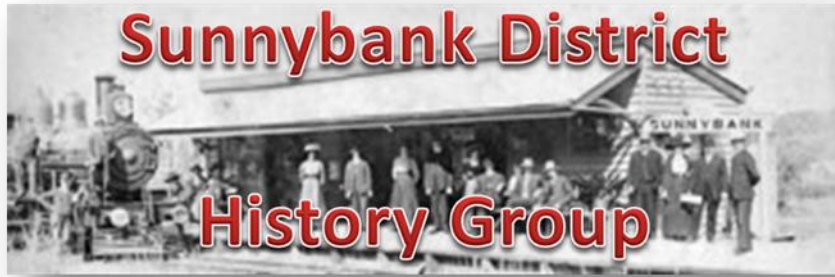
Saturday 5 November 2016

Attendance	Apologies
Neville Buch Janeth Deen Margaret Waller Beryl Roberts Ben Gorman as Manager of Business for Election of Executives 2016-2017	Daphne Parker

1. Welcome, the exits and toilets speech, sign book

2. Explain the Procedure

- Reports 2015-2016 from the Executive
- 2015-2016 Executive steps down and Manager of Business steps in --
 - Election of 2016-2017 Executive Positions:
 - President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
- 2016-2017 Executive Confirmed
- Planning for 2017 SDHG Schedule



3. Presidential Report

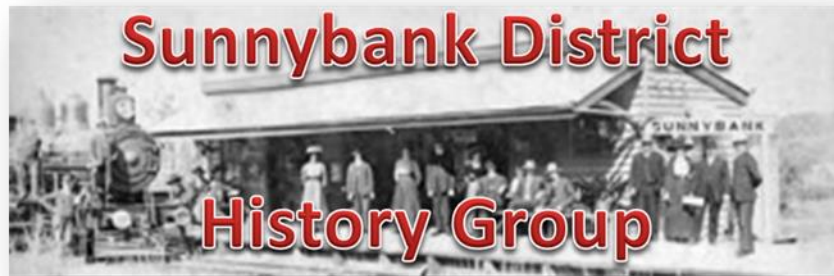
- Only Presidential Position was held 2015-2016. Margaret Waller was later nominated and was accepted for the appointment of the position for Minute Secretary. The Sunnybank District History Group continually looked for a volunteer to fill the position of the (Correspondence) Secretary, and a volunteer to fill the position of the Treasurer.
- New Policy Direction:
 - Focus on the opportunity for members to present & discuss local history research;
 - Opportunity to think about local history in regional context.

Attendance

It was decided at the February meeting that, in the absence of a full executive for the Sunnybank District History Group, with a new Secretary and a new Treasurer to be elected at an unknown time, the program will run as a possible mixture of

- Topic Speakers and Discussions
- Show and Tell and Discussions
- Working Group Sessions
- Reading Group Discussions

rather than the conventional business meeting format. Business meetings are good for making decisions but tend to be very poor in producing actual outcomes, and this is particularly true when there are fewer members to perform the activities.

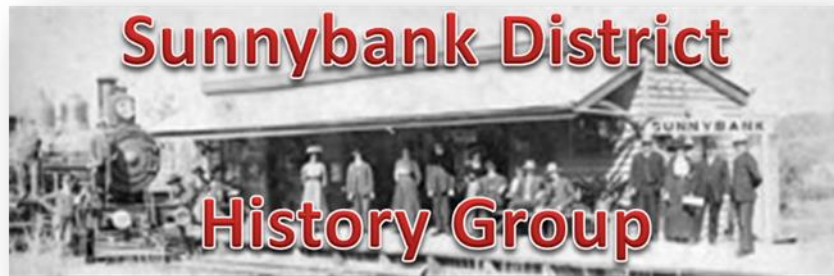


Attendance at Meeting		2015-2016 Program	
December	4	Social Break-Up	
February	5	Planning	
March	6	History of Kuraby Mosque	Janeth Deen
April	11	History of Calamvale	Beitscke Smallegange
May	39	Our Lady of Lourdes Church	Celine Goh
June	6	Mapping Brisbane History	Dr Neville Buch
July	8	Ethnicity in Sunnybank District	Dr Neville Buch
August	80	Ethnic Chinese Enclave	Celine Goh
September	12	South Coast Line	Greg Hallam
October	5	Runcorn-Sunnybank-Kuraby Communities 1880-1950	Dr Neville Buch

In March Janeth spoke on the history of the Kuraby Mosque/Masjid. Originally founded in the early 1990s by the southern African community of that area, the mosque adapted a former Uniting church to suit the requirements of Muslim worship. The Kuraby Mosque/Masjid community is example of Australian Muslims living their mainstream faith and religion, as members of the wider civil society, and as productive and compassionate citizens of Australia.

In April Beitscke spoke on her property history in the former Calamvale area, on Calam Road, now southern Sunnybank Hills. Topics covered were flooding, the introduction of modern drainage and curbing, the bus service, and the introduction and maintenance of power and garbage collection. Neville summarized the history of other parts of the old Calamvale area, with reference to the Parkinson Ward Oral History and residents living in the Beaudesert Road corridor, early land holdings in the nineteenth century and the Calam-Compton families in the early twentieth century, and the first industries – the Browns Plains Timber Reserve and the pastoral run in Sheep Station Gully area.

In May Celine presented a wide-ranging view on the history of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church. It generated much discussion and sharing of stories from members of the parish community who attended. Celine leads an oral history project within the community, and the challenge was apparent in the work ahead to pull-together those many interesting stories and antidotes into a history; that is, a structured and detailed narrative which can do justice to the diverse memories and experiences of the past.



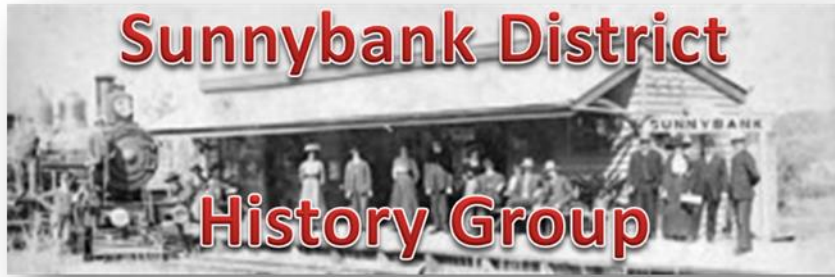
In June Neville introduced the work of the Mapping Brisbane History Project by showing the different stages of research. He talked about the two aims of the mapping: to mark sites, and the more ambitious aim to recreate historical landscapes. Neville explained the difference between heritage sites and other historical sites which are lost and forgotten. He gave a tour through Google Earth images of heritage sites in the Sunnybank District, and then showed the Mapping Brisbane History website.

In July Neville described the historical mix of ethnic groupings in the Sunnybank District, as well as for the surrounding suburbs; the old areas of Coopers Plains District, the northern areas of the old Browns Plains District, and the eastern areas of the Eight Mile Plains District. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data for the community profiles of postcodes of 4109, plus 4108, 4110, 4111, 4112, 4113, 4115, 4116 was used.

In August Celine informed the audience of the reasons that attracted an influx of Chinese into the suburb of Sunnybank and its vicinity in the 1980s. In contrast to the Chinese market gardeners who migrated to Sunnybank in the nineteenth century, the more recent ethnic Chinese migrants from mainland China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore and South-East Asia were more business entrepreneurs, highly educated professionals or university students. Other speakers added to the program, Ken Cheung (OAM), President of the Cathay Club and Mayer Hou, President of the Taiwan Women's League (2014-2016). Both have formed viable organizations to assist new migrants to settle into the Australian society.

In September Greg delivered a fantastic historical presentation which placed the development of the original South Coast line, along with its re-birth in the modern Gold Coast-Airport system, in the context of Queensland Railways. It provided a deeper appreciation of the role of Sunnybank Railway Station in 131 years. The gathering was pleasingly and sufficiently attended with a dozen members and interested railway history enthusiasts.

In October Neville described the history of Runcorn in several 'sketches', brief outlines of what we know of Runcorn's past from research into newspaper reports and the mapping project. A draft research paper based on the first half of the 'Runcorn Sketches' presentation had been emailed out. It is available on request.



Other Events

February 25 Research for Southern Star Story on Historical Homes

Ruth McCosker, journalist with *The Courier Mail* and *Sunday Mail*, contacted me with the following questions:

1. Why do you think historical homes are so special?
2. Why do these homes need to be preserved?
3. Do you think Brisbane City Council and State Government need to do more (financially, education wise) to save the heritage homes?
4. if you have any examples of old historical homes / building on the Southside do let me know.

My response is provided in Appendix A at the back of this report.

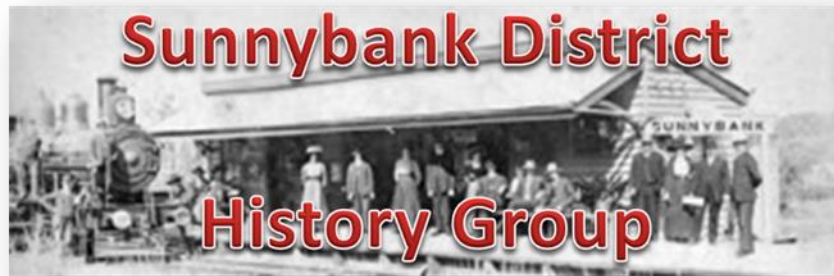
May 16 Citipointe Christian College Presentation on Immigration into the Sunnybank Area

At the invitation of Susanne Oberholzer, the Subject Master in the Geography & History Departments, at Citipointe Christian College, I spoke and presented a PowerPoint on 'Immigration and Sunnybank District' on the morning of 16 May. I focused on the historical time series data related to the period of 'Asian' immigration into the area, and conferred with members of our Sunnybank History District History Group (SDHG) who are recent migrants from Singapore and Malay. The presentation was a preparation for a college geography excursion into the local area. Beryl Roberts acted as a guide for students at the Mount Gravatt Cemetery.

July Passing of Effie Johnson

The July meeting solemnly noted the passing of Effie Johnson. Margaret Waller was appointed to convey the condolences of the local history community in the Sunnybank District.

The Effie Johnson Park (previously known as Chilton Street Park) at 57 Garro Street, was named in the honour of the local history enthusiast. Effie Johnson was avid collector of community memories and nostalgia, and a major contributor to the publication of "Sunnybank: Paddocks to Pavements. A folk history of the Sunnybank District to honour the centenary of the extension of the railway, 1885-1985" (Sunnybank State High School Parents' and Citizen's Association, June 1985).



August Unsuccessful Plans for Funding Research of Chinese Enclave History

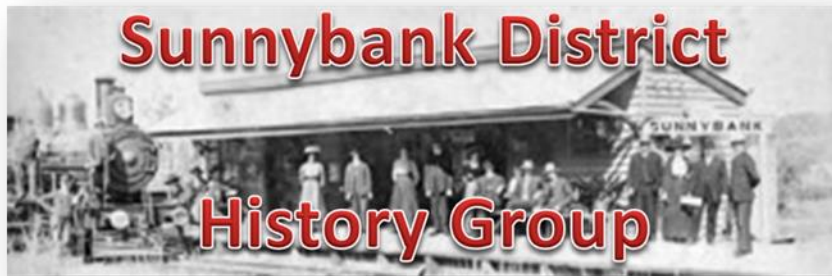
From August to October, I had worked on a process to with Dr Mei-fen Kuo to achieve a local history of the Chinese enclave in all of its cultural diversity. I was committed to an inclusive outcome whereby our different research approaches are respected and whereby the proposed publication would include oral history – the testimonies and stories from the communities – and the professional history – the detailed-researched narrative based on the documentation. A book could be produced with a large section for the stories and an introductory section which provides the synthesis of the history. Unfortunately the application process for project funding was not successfully completed, and the proposal is in abeyance.

September 19 SDHG Sponsored IRC Waggon Trail Tour

The Inala Respite Centre's *Plains to Mountain Waggon Trial Tour* is an exploration in the South-West corner of the Outer Brisbane Southside. It is the area of the Oxley Creek basin, known as Cowper's Plains from 1826, and is formed by the wide plains across the Oxley Creek catchment and two T-shaped ridge-lines: the east-west ridge-line of Annerley- Peggs Hill-Mount Toohey- Mount Gravatt and the north-south ridge-line of Nathan (western slope of Mount Gravatt)-Sunnybank-Sunnybank Hills-Calamvale. It is the traditional land of the Jaggera/Yarraga people. Several encampments have been identified along tributes of Oxley Creek, Moolabin and Rocky Water Holes Creeks. These are camps at the marshes of Yeerongapilly, Sinnamon's or Moorooka Hill, and the old quarry area of Nathan (the end of the main branch of the Rocky Water Holes Creek).

October 28 SDHG Sponsored IRC South Coast Line Tour

The Inala Respite Centre's *South Coast Line Tour* is an exploration in the South-West corner of the Outer Brisbane Southside. It is the area of the South Coast Line's 1884-1885 railway extension of Yeerongpily to Loganlea. The transport corridor opened up the both the residential development and rural commerce from Rocklea to Kuraby. The tour roughly followed the corridor from the Rocky Waterhole to the Runcorn farming land, and traced the needed water catchment of the Oxley creek and the Stable Swamp creek on the western side of the Sunnybank ridge-line, and the water catchment on the eastern side, Bulimba creek. The return trip went through the nineteenth century timber reserve of Browns Plains, and the early twentieth century hamlet which was later to be called Calamvale.



Secretary's Role

Nov 22 LMSIF Acquittal for Sun Hats \$330

The Lord Mayor's Suburban Initiative Fund for the Sun Hats was fully acquitted.

Ten hats were intended to be purchased at \$30.00 each from the Cancer Council Retail Store. Eight hats were purchased \$45.00 each with a discount of \$9.00 each. The eight hats were provided with ten embroiled labels with group's logo, purchased at \$7.35 each.

Special thanks to Margaret for the work in this small project and for securing the hats for future use.

Feb 7 HQ Inc. Renewal & Insurance

The annual fee payment to History Queensland Inc., the industry body for local history organisations, was paid for the SDHG at \$22.00. The paperwork for insurance was completed.

Sept 5 Sunnybank Hills Library Booking for 2017

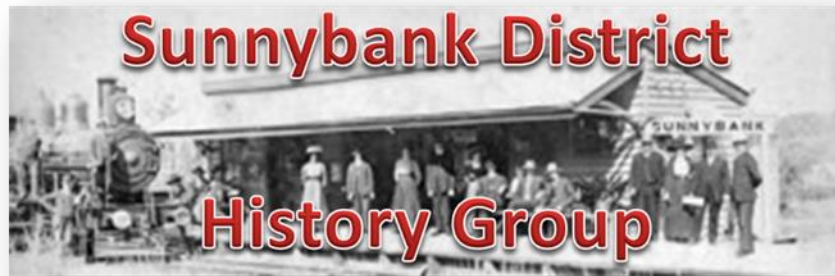
The administrative work for room bookings for Sunnybank Hills Library SDGHG during 2017 was completed. The bookings are as has been for this year first Saturdays of the month, 1-3pm.

Sept 22 Suburban Statistic Report from Alexander Sun

Alexander Sun, Sales and Marketing Consultant at Ray White's Eight Mile Plains and Sunnybank Hills branches, provided, suburban statistical profiles; data sourced from the Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines, rather than the ABS. I asked Alexander would he be interested in promoting your real estate business through proper history talks to community groups? I proposed that the Sunnybank District History Group would be interested in having publications of the overarching property history sponsored. It would require Ray White to cover the cost of a number of research hours, to comprehensively dig-out the data from the QSA and produce a history research report.

Sept 29 Historical Landscape Images on Boards at Carramar

A few of us are puzzled at the erection of large boards in front of Carramar with historical landscape images. I wrote on behalf of the members of the Sunnybank District History Group to Blue Care Public Relations. I made it clear that there were no objection to the aesthetics of the board, but local historians are puzzled as to the reasoning of the appearance of large images of historical landscapes, which are unrelated to the district. Again, we have no objections, but we really would like to



understand the ideas behind such a powerful and public display of a place and time we know not what. Sue Gossage, Team Leader, Customer Service Centre, Blue Care, contacted me. It appears that Carramar recently received a bequest which requested the funding be used to improve the aesthetics of the facility, in particular add some visual pieces that were nostalgic and would help residents feel connected. For this reason, some old sepia photos of old Brisbane (the city, as most residents/clients were familiar with these sites) were secured from the 'Queensland Historical Society', and turned into large print boards. The problem is that no one knows what exactly the images are of and where they were obtained, and Neville is highly suspicious that the two images may not be, in fact, of the Brisbane area.

Nov 3 Andrew Dawson, Editor, Quest Newspapers

Andrew Dawson, Editor, Quest Newspapers, has offered assistance in promoting our activities.

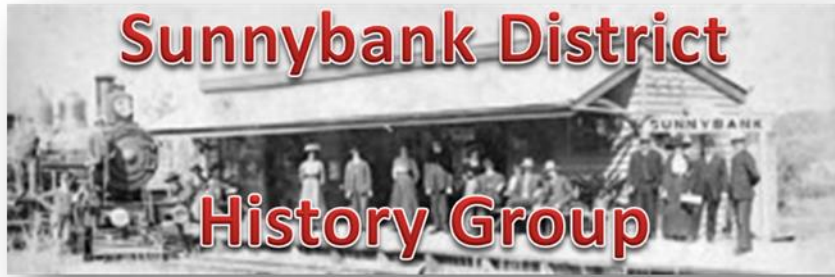
Other correspondence

There have been a dozen phone calls and emails enquiring about the SDHG and Sunnybank history during the year.

Treasurer's Role

Commonwealth Bank Statements, Sunnybank District History Group, for the Society Cheque Account.

Statement	12	13
Jan 1	\$942.78	
Apr 30	\$942.51	
May 1		\$942.51
Aug 31		\$942.55

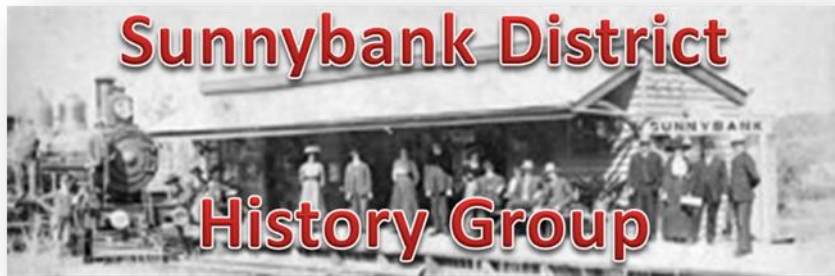


Election of New Executive 2016-2017

- Dr Neville Buch steps down
- Manager of Business appointed was Mr Ben Gorman.
 - Election
 - President: Dr Neville Buch was nominated, and accepting the nomination he was elected by the members in attendance.
 - Secretary: There being no nominations for the position of Secretary, the election for the position will be deferred to the March 2017 meeting.
 - Treasurer: There being no nominations for the position of Treasurer, the election for the position will be deferred to the March 2017 meeting.
 - Declared: Mr Ben Gorman declared Dr Neville Buch elected to the position of President and that the positions of Secretary and Treasurer will be open for election at the March 2017 election.

Special thanks were expressed to Ben Gorman, and to the Sunnybank Hills Library for their support of the Sunnybank District History Group.

Special thanks were thanks to Beryl Roberts, President of the Coopers Plains Local History Group Inc., for her support of the Sunnybank District History Group.



Planning Meeting for 2017

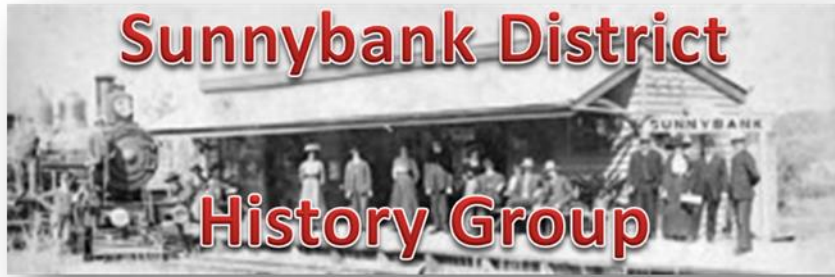
Sunnybank District History Group, 5 November 2016

Decisions Pending

1. Policy Direction: It was decided by the meeting that the group would continue to *focus* on
 - Opportunities for members' to present their local history research findings;
 - Local History in regional context; and added a new *focus* on
 - Late twentieth century local history (1950-2000) and contemporary local history (2001-2016)
2. Mix of Activities:
 - Presentations among members and guest speakers;
 - Participation in local community fetes/fairs with SDHG marquee;
 - Discussions with local primary teachers and SDHG members on ways to bring local history into the school curriculum.
3. Who is going to Step Up?
 - A number of SDHG members and previously attendees will be approached in relation to Item 2 above.
4. Schedule of Tentative Presentations and Speakers.

Neville suggested seven speakers among the PHA (Qld) to address topics in relation/connections to the Sunnybank District, with the following in mind:

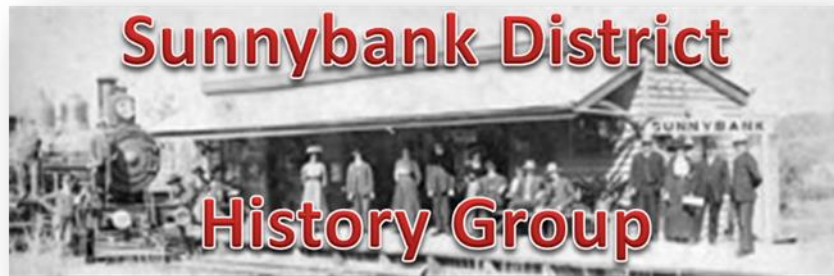
- Heritage
- Regional Queensland
- WWII Military Sites
- Family History
- Aboriginal Camps
- Logan District



- Queensland Politics

The meeting affirmed looking at these speakers and topics as part of the 2017 schedule meetings. There was also a suggestion to invite the archivists from the Queensland State Archives and the Brisbane City Archives to address the group.

Many thanks to Members, Guests, Visitors, Councillor Kim Marx, and all other enablers of the activities carried out under the banner of Sunnybank District History Group during 2015-2016.



Appendix A: Research for Southern Star Story on Historical Homes, 26 February 2016

1. Why do you think historical homes are so special?

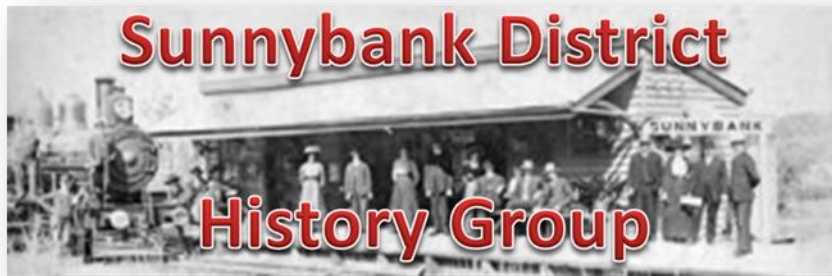
To be frank, if history is understood as a wide understanding of our past as a society, it is not the history which make heritage houses and objects special. What makes historical homes special is often more about personal attachments in the present. There is nothing wrong with that, but if history is to be described to these homes, and other objects, it has to be more than the heritage value. Generally, heritage and history are seen as the same thing, but the ideas are different. Heritage is about our current valuing of things past because of the comfort and assurance it provides in response to our personal anxieties about today's environment. Again, there is nothing wrong with that outlook, if it is understood for what it is, but it is not history. Histories are accounts of the past. History, at its best, is both compassionate and critical about the views we have had in the past, as well as the views we have in the present because of the past. So, the answer is open to the very open question here. Are the homes special because they can be labelled as heritage objects with a large monetary value? Or is it because we have comfortable feelings from our glaze upon the design and texture of the object? Or is it because the object will lead us to a reading and appreciation of the many historical accounts?

2. Why do these homes need to be preserved?

All of the motivations I have mentioned in the question above have a place to play in the motivation to preserve historical homes. Two motivations, for me, are foremost important. These homes have an aesthetic therapy for many who troubled by our modern city landscape. The heritage homes helps to maintain diversity in the landscape amidst the pressures to create an environment of uniformed box structures with little sense of a softer style and rustic materials. That has very little to do with history. The second motivation is then that historical homes should be preserved as *markers* of the past. Histories are our accounts of the past, but there is a strong sense of the place in many historical accounts. If we can retain the object as a marker it aids the historian in contextualizing the account as an important locality.

3. Do you think Brisbane City Council and State Government need to do more (financially, education wise) to save the heritage homes?

Yes, for the two reasons given in the above. There is also another reason, a legal and political reason. If much effort (and one that is accurately based) has gone into a process to heritage-list a house or a property, the laws and processes that governs that listing of protection, logically, ought to protect heritage homes (i.e. a case of a 'an-is-to-an-is'). It is conserved by law (letter of the law), thus it is



conserved by law (action). Let's be really frank, some developers and politicians uses the legal system to undermine its ethical intentions, creating changes in by-laws to suit their own purposes, rather than the societal purpose first laid down in the law.

4. If you have any examples of old historical homes / building on the southside do let me know.

As I said on the phone, we have had Ken Rider involved with our Sunnybank District History Group about his son's (Dale) house at 9 Pattie Street, Sunnybank Hills. It is an old farmhouse which we think, from memory of our conversation, was built around 1904. Ken or Dale will be able to tell you more from his property history research. Try Dale Rider <dalearider@gmail.com>

There is another residential home that has been a 'historical' farmhouse close-by. It is one of the first house structures in the area, on land owned by W.Cook and J. Phipps. The history of the Phipps farmhouse has been done (<http://www.househistories.org/#!/kens-sunnybank-farmhouse/chg4>) by house historian, Magnus Eriksson.

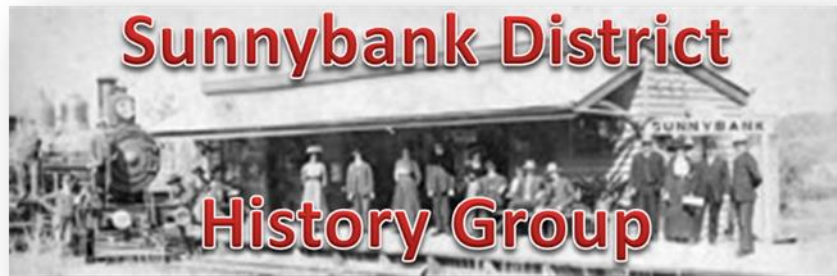
Ryhill house, you already know. See <http://www.couriermail.com.au/questnews/southeast/the-paulsens-of-sunnybank-hills-have-spent-more-than-20-years-and-nearly-70000-renovating-their-heritage-home/story-fni9r0lo-1226698553002>

The Dixon Street heritage listed house has been discussed. See <http://www.couriermail.com.au/questnews/southeast/heritage-house-built-nearly-100-years-ago-may-be-demolished-to-make-way-for-development/news-story/14b523893e4c6122cf670e950ce638d9>

Angelia Reid has invested much energy into the future of the Little Farmhouse on the Warrigal Road Farm. See <http://www.couriermail.com.au/questnews/southeast/runcorn-residents-are-worried-about-the-loss-of-green-space-in-suburban-areas/news-story/49ac879c8ed984de48ca8c5fdafa7d6c?nk=6a732d1d3352ef243de77a736e3567cf-1456456338>, but note that the newspaper story here was very inaccurate.

Hughesville, of course, is the state-of-the-art historical homestead lovely restored, with a million dollar real estate tag to it (http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=598&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)

There are few other Council heritage registered homes in the Sunnybank District which have been under the radar:



26 Tarling Street , SUNNYBANK HILLS

(http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=1700&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)

117 Dyson Avenue , SUNNYBANK, 4109

(http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=1691&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)

43 Station Road , SUNNYBANK, 4109

(http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=1696&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)

133 Young Street , SUNNYBANK, 4109

(http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=1698&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)

1191 Beenleigh Road , RUNCORN, 4113

(http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=968&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)

1454 Beenleigh Road , KURABY, 4112

(http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=970&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)

56-60 Shuttleworth Street , KURABY, 4112

(http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=972&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)

In the near-by Coopers Plains District, I note:

28 Nyleta Street , COOPERS PLAINS, 4108

(http://heritage.brisbane.qld.gov.au/heritage_register/placeDetail.do?action=read&placeId=505&fullDetail=true&navParam=startBasic)