

2	History of building	
2.1	original brief/purpose	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Client passionate about 20th C architecture and connections to a construction company</p> <p><u>Planning and Design</u></p> <p>Flexible design to address changing occupancies (growing family) while maintaining permanence and unity in the design Metaphor of the landscape underpins the design (Wallace & Stutchbury , 2008)</p>
2.2	dates: commission/completion	Commission 1992, completion 1998
2.3	architectural designers	Architect: Donovan Hill, architects Timothy Hill and Brian Donovan
2.4	others associated with building	Structural Engineers: Mechanical Engineers: Builder:
2.5	significant alterations with dates	
	current use	Residential
	current condition	Good
3.0	Description	
3.1	general description	<p><i>'The Brisbane house powerfully recalls a Japanese tea house of the 18th century, or the Katsura detached palace: all Zen restraint and superficial roughness; beaten earth walls and careful timberwork in modulated, grid-ded proportions. The utmost effort is put into achieving an air of simplicity.'</i></p> <p>The landscape metaphor has been extended beyond physical representation to enable the everyday experience of occupation to be as if it were in a landscape.</p> <p>This experience is reinforced by the handling of light, which emphasises changing conditions during the day and year - contributing to the house's varying atmospheres.</p> <p>A set of private rooms are gathered around, under and above the 'public' or 'memorable' space of the site - a large outdoor room.</p> <p>The house anticipates future generations by offering an adaptable planning scheme. The household might be a single family, shared singles/couples, extended family or home office." (Partners Hill, C House)</p>

3.2	construction	<p>“It has been constructed principally of fine-grade concrete and is intricately elaborated with cabinets, screens and finishes in fine timbers, metals, glass and ceramic tiles.”(Tonkin, 1999)</p> <p>Structural systems & elements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete construction • Timber construction <p>Building materials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete • Timber • Sandstone • Glass • Stone cladding <p>Architectural features</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three-storey • Outdoor rooms • Stone clad walls • Timber soffits • Timber battens • Translucent flat sheet polycarbonate • Benches (seats) • lawns
3.3	context	<p>“Created for a businessman, the ‘C House’ tightly occupies a steep, suburban site (accessed from a right-of-way) with distant views of the city.” (Tonkin, 1999).</p>
4	Evaluation	
4.1	technical	<p><u>The building is of Technical Significance:</u></p> <p>“The C House could be studied as an alternative model for housing in sub tropical Climates, which utilises outdoor rooms and creates ambiguous spaces with simultaneous qualities of both interior and exterior” (Hogg, 2000)</p> <p>“The C House is embedded in its site, to firmly anchor it to the Brisbane rock and so that inside and outside could flow ambiguously. Its base is shaped by a metaphor of rock; the architects calling its four levels “plates”—entry plaza, office and pool, communal living level with its bedrooms intended for children and the private top floor suite—whilst the roof forms a fifth plate. The lap pool is designed to have the feel of a creek running between stone faces through deep shade and bright light. The completed but unadorned concrete shell looked archaeological; “ruinous”. The materials are important in themselves, being the media with which we architects express our art. All were selected to be self-finishing and to grow with age. Most are warm greys and browns, with small accents of colour, as a setting for a tranquil domestic life.” (Tonkin, 1999)</p>
4.2	social	<p>The building is of <u>Social Significance:</u></p>

4.3	cultural & aesthetic	<p>The building is of <u>Cultural Significance</u>:</p> <p>“Consciously against the Brisbane tradition is the way the C House is embedded in its site, the planes of the floors and stairs like the eroded sedimentary layers of the bedrock, emphasised by the literally layered stone of the main ‘public’ stair and hall. The feel of the layering, presently very geological, will be transformed into a landscape as the planting matures, creating green tunnels and a vegetated hill over the kitchen roof.” (Tonkin, 1999)</p> <p>The building is of <u>Aesthetic Significance</u>:</p> <p>“The study concludes that the initial concrete construction saw the reconfiguration of the entire site into a new imaginary terrain. The architects have consciously designed areas of the site as idealised versions of landscape formations. These formations include plateaus, cliff faces, streams, ravines, lagoons, promontories, and clearings.” (Hogg, 2000)</p>
4.4	Iconic/canonical	The building is of <u>Iconic /Canonical Significance</u> :
4.5	general assessment	<u>General Assessment</u>
5 Documentation		
5.1	principal references	<p>Written Sources</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Wallace, Miranda, & Stutchbury, Sarah. Placemakers: Contemporary Queensland Architects, Queensland Art Gallery. 2008 Hogg, Michael James. The Idealised Landscape : The C-House, by Donovan Hill Architects. undergraduate dissertation, Department of Architecture, University of Queensland. 2000 https://espace.library.uq.edu.au/view/UQ:11682 Tonkin, Peter. The Domestic Ideal. Architecture3 Australia Online. 1999. https://architectureau.com/articles/the-domestic-ideal/ Partners Hill, C House. https://www.partnershill.com/c-house
5.2	visual material attached	<p>Graphic Sources</p> <p>Plans and photos available here https://www.bleuscape.com.au/blog/c-house-new-directions-in-sub-tropical-architecture/</p> <p>All Rights: Photo's, Michael Keniger. Presentation drawings held by Donovan Hill Architects. Published by: UQ E-space. http://espace.library.uq.edu.au/view/UQ:11682</p>
5.3	rapporteur/date	Tamarind Taylor / October 2021