

Name:	Cheong House
Other name/s:	
Location:	14 The Parapet, Castlecrag, Sydney, NSW. Private property. Not open to the public.
Designer:	W.B. Griffin.
History:	<p>Built 1922.</p> <p>This house was financed by GSDA shareholder, Cheok Hong Cheong a minister of the Presbyterian Church, a leader of the Chinese community in Australia and a life long opponent of the White Australia policy. At the time of formation of the GSDA, Cheong was President of the Commonwealth Chinese Community's Representative Committee, founded by Chinese merchants in various Australian states for the relaxation of the Immigration Restriction Act.</p> <p>Like other shareholders' houses, the Cheong house was rented for many years. The Felsteads lived here when they first moved from Melbourne, and their own house was under construction. In the 1930s, Kaaren White (nee Deans) went to an infants school here, run by Mrs Brown, using the Montessori methods and equipment. It closed about 1938.</p> <p>The Rev Cheong had died in 1928, and his sons rented it out in 1940. At that time the house needed repairs, but it was cheap compared with the tenants' previous house a few streets away in Willoughby, and they arranged to buy it shortly after moving in.</p> <p>Neighbour Frank Duncan helped build the garage, not in the location intended by Griffin near the north-west corner of the house where evidence of footings still remains, but at the other side. Hugh Buhrich, a local architect, designed the laundry addition, built when the property was connected to the sewer, in 1954.</p> <p>To improve access to the garden and increase light, one of the picture windows was replaced, first by folding timber doors, and then by an aluminium sliding door. Like other houses, the roof drainage, which was originally piped through a cupboard, is now external. The kitchen retains many of its original cupboards and fittings, including a large floor to ceiling cupboard.</p> <p>The Cheong House and the Moon House adjoin a common walkway through to the Lookout Reserve and The Rampart, regularly used by residents, and – as there are no fences – its presence is defined by its continued use and the co-operation of the adjoining owners.</p> <p>[For further information, refer to source below.]</p>

	<p>Source: Meredith Walker, Adrienne Kabos & James Weirick, <i>Building for Nature: Walter Burley Griffin and Castlecrag</i>, Walter Burley Griffin Society Incorporated, 1994, pp.50-51; Jeff Turnbull & Peter Y. Navaretti (ed.), <i>The Griffins in Australia and India</i>, Melbourne University Press, 1998, p.188, #2204-02.</p>
Description:	<p>The house sits at the rear of the lot, oriented to the view, and aligned parallel to the Moon House nearby, rather than to the side or front boundaries. The windows are highlighted by stone voussoirs, like sunbursts, which extend beyond the building's parapet.</p> <p>The plan form, of interlocking squares, is one explored in several Griffin houses and also in un-realised projects, including one of the Canberra cottage designs of 1919. The house is dominated by a generous living room, with subsidiary spaces around it. The King O'Malley House at Castlecrag – before it was engulfed by the hospital – had an almost identical exterior and similar interior, but with different orientation.</p> <p>[For further information, refer to source below.]</p> <p>Source: Meredith Walker, Adrienne Kabos & James Weirick, <i>Building for Nature: Walter Burley Griffin and Castlecrag</i>, Walter Burley Griffin Society Incorporated, 1994, pp.50-51.</p>
Heritage listing:	<p>Register of the National Estate. The Register of the National Estate was established under the Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975. This Act has now been repealed but the RNE has been retained under the Heritage Council Act 2003. The Australian Heritage Council will compile and maintain the RNE.</p> <p>Willoughby Local Environmental Plan 1995 – Schedule 6 heritage item classified to be of state and regional significance.</p> <p>National Trust of Australia (NSW). Within National Trust of Australia (NSW)'s Castlecrag Urban Conservation Area.</p> <p>Royal Australian Institute of Architects' Register of Twentieth Century Buildings of Significance.</p>
Statutory controls:	<p>Statutory controls apply to heritage items or Conservation Areas. They apply to works in the vicinity of a heritage item or adjacent to a Conservation Area.</p> <p>Willoughby Local Environmental Plan 1995, (WLEP 1995). Part 7 of WLEP 1995 contains special provisions for Heritage and Conservation.</p> <p>Willoughby Development Control Plan No. 19: Heritage and Conservation, (DCP 19). This Plan seeks to control development to ensure that heritage significance is retained.</p> <p>Design Guidelines for the Conservation of Environmental Heritage. This should be read in conjunction with DCP 19.</p>

Consent authority:	Willoughby City Council.
Previous heritage reports:	<p>Meredith Walker (Heritage Futures) with contributions from Barbara Burton, Michael Lehany, Colleen Morris, Anthony Wilson and Patrick Nicholas, 'The Cheong House: A Conservation Study'.</p> <p>M. Kelly & R. Surya, 'Fourteen The Parapet: Walter Burley Griffin, Measured Drawing Study', University of New South Wales, Sydney, 1978.</p>
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<p>Information for this item on this inventory last modified: 2006 May 12.</p>	