

Name:	Moon House
Other name/s:	The House of Gables A name loosely derived from the prismatic window frames which form a band around the eastern side of the house, linking the windows and portico.
Location:	12 The Parapet, Castlecrag, Sydney, NSW. Private property. Not open to the public.
Designer:	W.B. Griffin.
History:	Built, 1922. Designed for Moon Chin Wah, a shareholder in the GSDA and a herbalist in Melbourne's Chinatown. Shortly after completion, it was bought back by Walter Burley Griffin. Edith Williams rented the house in the late 1920s, newly weds artist Thora Unger and George Johnston lived in the house in 1934 and 35, and Eric and Molly Nicholls rented the house and later bought the house after that. A semi-detached garage designed by Griffin c.1926 was not built. Eric Nicholls added a semi-detached garage in the late 1940s and a second storey of two bedrooms and a bathroom shortly afterwards, as well as the cast iron gate and sandstone gate posts. In the early 1980s an additional bedroom and bathroom were added to the upper level. [For further information, refer to source below.] Source: Meredith Walker, Adrienne Kabos & James Weirick, <i>Building for Nature: Walter Burley Griffin and Castlecrag</i> , Walter Burley Griffin Society Incorporated, 1994, pp.48-49; Jeff Turnbull & Peter Y. Navaretti (ed.), <i>The Griffins in Australia and India</i> , Melbourne University Press, 1998, pp.182-83, #2201-01; p.247, #2613-05.
Description:	The original building retains its configuration of rooms and most of its features, with the exception of the room linking to the addition, and the enclosed porch. The living room is the focus, projecting forward to capture the view of Middle Harbour. Its rectangular form and dimensions are typical of the demonstration houses with the stone fireplace at one end – the geometric centre of the composition, based on squares and rectangles, and a continuous belt of windows capturing the views (as advocated by Griffin in 'Sunshine in the Home') at the other. The fine ashlar craftsmanship of the fireplace is accentuated by steel-framed glass cabinets set into stone, which echo the crystalline shape and 45 degree of the windows, and the original windows used the same narrow steel frames. The large front garden, created by the Nicholls, demonstrates the benefits of staggered setbacks, creating a wonderful treed space with paths of random local stone.

	<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.48-49.</p>
Heritage listing:	<p>Register of the National Estate.</p> <p>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 or regional significance.</p> <p>National Trust of Australia (NSW).</p> <p>Within National Trust of Australia (NSW)'s Castlecrag Urban Conservation Area.</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.</p> <p>Part 7 of WLEP 1995 contains special provisions for Heritage and Conservation.</p> <p>Willoughby Development Control Plan No. 19: Heritage and Conservation.</p> <p>The Development Control Plan is a guideline document but with no statutory force. Nevertheless, its provisions will be given consideration by the consent authority when making decisions. The DCP provisions are more detailed and are in addition to the provisions of the Local Environmental Plan.</p> <p>Design Guidelines for the Conservation of Environmental Heritage.</p> <p>This guideline document supports DCP No. 19 and provides more detailed conservation principles.</p>
Consent authority:	Willoughby City Council.
Previous heritage reports:	
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<p>Information for this item on this inventory last modified: 2006 May 12.</p>	