

Auckland Council District Plan (North Shore Section)

Proposed Plan Change 38

Proposed New Item

Appendix 11A: Schedule of Buildings, Objects and Places of Heritage Significance



Name: Duggan house

Address: 58 Forrest Hill Road, Forrest Hill

ID:	542	Category:	A	Use:	Residential	DP Map:
Material 1:		Condition:		Cultural Heritage:		
Material 2:		Integrity:		Streetscape:		
<u>Construction Dates</u>						
From:	1947	To:		Alteration Dates:	1964; 1969	
Legal Description:	Lot 2 DP 32648			Zoning:	Residential 4A	

Architect/Designer/Contractor:

Vernon Brown, architect; adds/alts by David & Lillian Chrystal [1969]

Architectural Style:

New Zealand Modernist

Reference Source:

I Richards 'Duggan, Maurice Noel, 1922-1974' *Dictionary of New Zealand Biography* available at www.dnzb.govt.nz

I Richards *To bed at noon: the life and art of Maurice Duggan* [Auckland, 1997] CTs 124/151; 351/298; 878/249; 47A/786

Extract from *The Oxford Companion to New Zealand Literature* available at <http://www.bookcouncil.org.nz/Writers/Profiles/Duggan,%20Maurice>

NZHPT Listing:

Not registered

Significant Elements:

Sloping monopitch roof

Extent of Listing:

Entire exterior of building.

History:

Maurice and Barbara Duggan purchased this property in 1947 and set about building a house on it to the design of notable New Zealand modernist architect Vernon Brown. Duggan's biographer Ian Richards records the early history of the house and identifies the builders as Joe Herman and Bob Sillis. Later additions, such as the sundeck, were added by Duggan himself with help from his close friend Bill Kirker.¹ In typical fashion for a Vernon Brown house the building was stained with creosote and tar, while the window frames and bargeboard were painted white. Richards notes that the house was not designed to capitalize on the views of Rangitoto from the section and that Brown left no room in the kitchen for a refrigerator. After 1947 Duggan (1922-74) lived at the house off and on for the remainder of his life. Barbara Duggan developed the garden and the couple's son Nicholas later built a house for himself at the bottom of the garden.

Statement of Significance

Architecture:

The architectural significance of this dwelling lies in its modernist design by leading mid-20th century architect Vernon Brown. The alterations and additions that were subsequently made to the building by the Duggans, some to the design of David and Lillian Chrystal, are sympathetic to its original form.

History:

The house has historic significance as the home of New Zealand writer Maurice Duggan, one of the many notable literary figures associated with the development of New Zealand literature who made the North Shore their home. Duggan is considered to be one of New Zealand's best short story writers.² This was his home when he was at his peak as a writer in the late 1950s.

Context:

The property borders Forrest Hill School and can be clearly seen from the road. The original half-acre section was subdivided in 1980 by Barbara Duggan for her son Nicholas. It appears that the latter's new house on Lot 1 was designed to complement the Duggan house and preserve the garden setting of the original dwelling.

¹ I Richards *To bed at noon*, pp. 101-2.

² See DNZB biography written by Ian Richards.