

# McConnell Residence

Address 48 Kingston Tce, North Adelaide, SA

Practice Jack McConnell, of Claridge, Hassell & McConnell

Designed 1967 Completed 1967

**History & Description**

McConnell, partner in the Adelaide firm Claridge, Hassell & McConnell, today (2010) Hassell, was responsible for a substantial number of industrial buildings in the 1940s and 1950s, in Adelaide and Melbourne, all modernist in design, expressing their industrial function and incorporating structural innovation and contemporary materials. Projects of note included: British Australian Lead Manufacturers Pty. Ltd. (BALM) Paints factory at Port Adelaide (1946), International Harvester Company factories, service and office buildings, across Australia (1948-1950), the W.D. and H.O. Wills factory, at Southwark, South Australia (1948) and the Heinz factory at Dandenong in Victoria (1952-1955). The house is McConnell's second for himself, completed in 1967. It is a rational rectilinear form, based on a geometric grid in plan and elevation. Materials provided the decoration for the place – concrete blockwork for walls, slate for floors and stairs, timber for linings and panelling. All furniture and furnishings were all designed or crafted to reflect the Architect's modernist philosophies. This house received the RIAA SA Chapter Award of Merit in 1969.



McConnell Collection, UniSA Architecture Museum



Exterior, 2009 (photo M Queale)

**Statement of Significance**

“Jack McConnell, 1913–2005, was one of the leading exponents of modern architecture to work in South Australia and the eastern states. His award winning buildings mark the first phase of modern architecture in Adelaide.” (SA Architects database 2010)

McConnell's residence in Kingston Terrace is significant as an exemplar of McConnell's modernist design philosophies – illustrated in his use of platonic forms ordered by rational grids, economic planning to suit functional requirements and his selective use of contemporary materials for aesthetic effect. The residence stands today in near-original condition, marking the development of residential modernist influenced architecture in Adelaide in the 1960s.



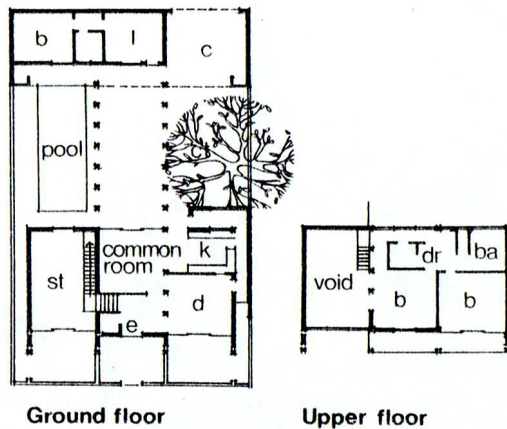
McConnell Collection, UniSA Architecture Museum

**Criteria Applicable**

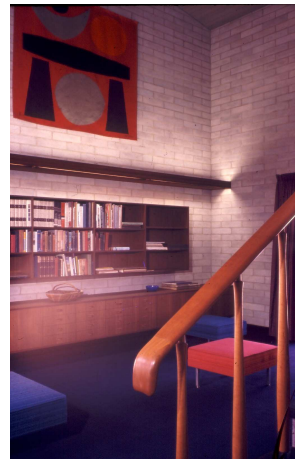
N1 Significant heritage value in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or period of design

N3 Significant heritage value in establishing a high degree of creative achievement

N5 Having a special association with the life or works of an architect of outstanding importance in our history



RAIA 1980 'Architecture SA 1970-80'



McConnell Collection, UniSA Architecture Museum