



Brooklyn, Burwood



Brooklyn is on the corner of Duff Street and Burwood Road.

William Richards, the designer & builder of the Appian Way houses, purchased Brooklyn in 1903 from Miss Mary Spain. He was a self taught designer and builder who came from Wales with his young wife Gwenda Jane originally in 1879 but due to homesickness returned and finally settled in Australia in 1881. Although he did not have any formal architectural training he had extensive building experience in UK, Mittagong and Bowral and had built several City buildings.

His reputation as a reliable builder was probably well established by the time he came to Burwood and he was contracted to build the 36 houses in George Hoskin's model housing estate. While in Burwood he also built shops in Burwood Road, the tower on St. Paul's church and the observatory (now demolished) at the rear of George Hoskins' St. Cloud.



Brooklyn shown on the left stands intact but in total disrepair in March 2013.