

Photo: Claudia Baxter.

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# House that Skase built goes for a song

by Elizabeth Tilley

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THE lavish Brisbane mansion built by disgraced Australian businessman Christopher Skase has sold in a secret deal to a local hotelier for \$10.138 million.

Star Hotel Group boss Steven Shoobridge bagged the luxurious Great Gatsby-style estate for a bargain given Skase built the home in 1988 at a reported cost of \$35 million, with a further \$5 million spent on extensive renovations in 1997.



The late Christopher Skase in 1987. Picture: News Limited.

The cashed-up hotelier and Harvard Business School graduate sold his Brisbane riverfront penthouse to former prime minister Kevin Rudd and Therese Rein in late 2016 for \$8 million. But the Hamilton Hill property is far more palatial - boasting nine bedrooms, nine bathrooms and spreading over an impressive nine titles.

Vendor Dr Soo Hian Beh bought the property, known as 'Bromley', at 36 Dickson Tce, Hamilton (https://www.realestate.com.au/property/36-dickson-tce-hamilton-qld-4007)in 2001 for \$6.5 million.



🖒 Soo Hian Beh was the previous owner of the Hamilton home. Photo: Claudia Baxter.

Dr Beh's estranged husband, the Malaysian Chinese industrialist Sir Yii Ann Hii, is being pursued by the Australian Taxation Office over a \$64 million tax bill.

The home was sold in an off-market deal which settled in February, according to data from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

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Inside the lavish mansion at 36 Dickson Tce, Hamilton.

The property had been on the market with multiple agents since late 2016 and most recently advertised for rent on realestate.com.au for \$12,800 a week.

Listing agents had expected it to fetch as much as \$25 million, with Queensland Sotheby's International Realty agent Stephen Weber labelling it "the most elite residence on the market in Queensland".

"It represents an extraordinary era in Australian history; a decadent period in Queensland's past," Mr Weber said at the time of listing.



The view from the terrace at 36 Dickson Tce, Hamilton.

Its list of features includes bulletproof glass, a circular staircase, an internal bell tower, an eight-person lift and a fence made from one metre thick concrete and reinforced steel.

The estate includes a large pool, cabana, floodlit tennis court, ponds, fountains, waterways, terraces and raised gardens.



The formal dining room in the home at 36 Dickson Tce, Hamilton.

There is even a self-contained housekeeper's quarters, children's wing, glass conservatory with views to Brisbane city, a gymnasium, wine cellar with tasting room, a 15-seat home theatre, private office with a bar and garaging for eight cars.



🗅 A glimpse inside the lavish mansion at 36 Dickson Tce, Hamilton.



The late Christopher Skase and wife Pixie in Spain. Picture: Humphrey Carter.



Hotelier Steven Shoobridge sold his penthouse to former prime minister Kevin Rudd and Therese Rein. Picture: Kevin Rudd's twitter account.



The entrance to 36 Dickson Tce, Hamilton.



The view from the terrace of the house that Christopher Skase built in Hamilton. Photo: Claudia Baxter.



The opulent home on Dickson Terrace in Hamilton. Photo: Claudia Baxter.





🗅 Inside one of the rooms of the lavish mansion at 36 Dickson Tce, Hamilton.



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