

Heritage Citation



680 Ann Street, Fortitude Valley

Key details

Addresses	At 680 Ann Street, Fortitude Valley, Queensland 4006
Type of place	Shop/s
Period	Victorian 1860-1890
Style	Free Classical
Lot plan	L3_SP193209; L1_SP198092; L5_SP198092; L4_SP193209; L822_SP192737; L2_SP193207; L3_SP193210; L813_SP192741; L5_SP193201; L6_SP193211; L4_SP193212; L106_SP196993; L119_SP196969; L811_SP192742; L812_SP192742; L1_SP193199; L1_SP193204; L101_SP196984; L107_SP196982; L108_SP196982; L810_SP192742; L120_SP196969
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 October 2000 Date of Citation — July 2008
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Face brick

Criterion for listing

(A) Historical; (B) Rarity; (D) Representative

This masonry building was constructed circa 1878 and is one of the few surviving commercial buildings in Fortitude Valley from the 1870s. Used as a retail premises for more than 100 years, the building forms part of an historic group of nineteenth century buildings in this part of Ann Street.

History

This masonry commercial building dates from circa 1878 and has had a variety of manufacturing and retail uses. It has a gabled roof with an additional clerestory roof over the central two thirds of the building. Simple detailing includes a semi-circular window above the awning. A timber lined ceiling divides the ground floor from a storage/attic space above.

As the valley population increased throughout the 1860s, Ann Street became the Valley's first commercial district. On the western side, Moses Ward's Apothecaries Hall and Joseph Bragg's bakery, both standing today, were constructed. Beside these was a grocery shop and further down Ann Street, past Warner Street, were a drapery, an ironmonger and the original Osbourne Hotel. The construction of a number of substantial buildings in the 1870s marked the growing sophistication, confidence and population in Fortitude Valley. These new brick buildings signified the permanence of the Valley settlement.

The earliest recorded occupancy of this building is 1876, though it may have been erected prior to that date. Over the years many of the occupants of the three shops manufactured and sold their goods directly from the premises. They included a bootmaker, furniture dealers, grocers, dressmaker, draper and tailor. The property appears to have always been a multi-tenanted commercial establishment.

Statement of significance

Relevant assessment criteria

This is a place of local heritage significance and meets one or more of the local heritage criteria under the Heritage planning scheme policy of the *Brisbane City Plan 2014*. It is significant because:

Historical

CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history

as a masonry commercial building constructed in Ann Street circa 1876 that provides evidence of the establishment of the business district in Fortitude Valley during the mid-to-late nineteenth century.

Rarity

CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage as one of the few surviving 1870s masonry commercial buildings in Fortitude Valley.

Representative

CRITERION D

The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places

as an example of an 1870s masonry commercial building.

References

1. Brisbane City Council (BCC) aerial photographs.
 2. Brisbane City Council Water Supply and Sewerage Detail Plans
 3. Post Office Directories.
 4. Titles Office Records
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Note: This citation has been prepared on the basis of evidence available at the time including an external examination of the building. The statement of significance is a summary of the most culturally important aspects of the property based on the available evidence, and may be re-assessed if further information becomes available. The purpose of this citation is to provide an informed evaluation for heritage registration and information. This does not negate the necessity for a thorough conservation study by a qualified practitioner,

before any action is taken which may affect its heritage significance.

Citation prepared by — Brisbane City Council (page revised May 2026)



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