

## Heritage Citation



**Argyle**

### Key details

<b>Addresses</b>	At 40 McLennan Street, Albion, Queensland 4010
<b>Type of place</b>	House
<b>Period</b>	Federation 1890-1914
<b>Style</b>	Composite
<b>Lot plan</b>	L2_RP19069
<b>Key dates</b>	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — August 2008
<b>Construction</b>	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

This uniquely designed house was constructed circa 1890 for Andrew Ferguson during Albion's development as a residential suburb. Named 'Argyle', the house was divided into flats in the 1960s but restored in the 1980s and continues to make a fine contribution to the streetscape.

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## History

While Albion had initially been a semi-rural area dotted with grand houses, the coming of the railway in 1882 saw the urbanisation of the area, which was largely populated by Scottish migrants. In 1885, rail duplication work began from Albion to Eagle Junction stations to meet the demands of the railway branching off to Doomben which resulted in Albion becoming more attractive for residential development. By the late 1880s and early 1890s Albion was one of a number of prosperous suburban centres that had arisen in response to the expansion of Brisbane from its former small city core.

'Argyle' was constructed circa 1890 for Andrew Ferguson, a builder who later held the position of Inspector of Works. Ferguson lived there until 1912 when the elegant home was purchased by Charles John O'Reilly who lived there with his wife Mary and their three children until 1925. O'Reilly established a large business in Brisbane as a merchant, customs agent and carrier and could frequently be seen transporting goods throughout the city.

'Argyle' was divided into flats in the 1960s but was restored as a single dwelling in the 1980s.

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## Description

Octagonal cupolas and turret roof

Timber

High ceilings of grooved pine

Etched ruby glass sidelights

The octagonal cupolas and turret roof make this house a valuable contribution to the streetscape of McLennan Street.

Verandas with corner bays

Distinctive conical roof

4 bedrooms

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## 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:

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#### Historical

##### CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history as a late nineteenth century house built during Albion's earliest residential development.

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#### Aesthetic

##### CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance as a late nineteenth century house that makes a strong contribution to the streetscape due to its prominent location and unique architectural style.

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## References

1. Brisbane City Council Heritage Trail Windsor
2. *Certificates of Title*, Department of Natural Resources and Water
3. Queensland Post Office Directories
4. *North-West News* 12.01.1994 'Street a Slice of History'

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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.

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