

## Heritage Citation



### Rothsay

#### Key details

<b>Also known as</b>	Wilson's Folly
<b>Addresses</b>	At 21 First Avenue, Sandgate, Queensland 4017
<b>Type of place</b>	House
<b>Period</b>	Victorian 1860-1890
<b>Style</b>	Bungalow
<b>Lot plan</b>	L2_RP75318
<b>Key dates</b>	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — February 2011
<b>Construction</b>	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Brick - Painted

This early brick and timber residence was built circa 1869 for Reverend Benjamin Gilmore Wilson, the first Baptist minister in Sandgate.

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## History

Irish-born Benjamin Wilson, a practicing doctor had emigrated in 1858 at the behest of the Baptist Missionary Society, and on arrival in Brisbane he became minister for the Wharf St Church.

Wilson was engaged in some land speculation during the early 1860s including other allotments in Sandgate. He eventually acquired eight acres of low-lying land on what is now the intersection of First Avenue and Flinders Parade in 1869, and there he had constructed a brick holiday house around 1870 which he called 'Rothsay'. The property became locally known as "Wilson's Folly" due to its proximity to the foreshore and the periodic flooding of the block by high tides.

Within a few years a Baptist church was built nearby, and Wilson also took up duties there as an extension of the Wharf St church..

The Rev Wilson resided in Spring Hill, and it was there that he died in February 1878. His wife retained the property which then passed to her four children after her death in 1907. Family lore notes that daughter Mary Ann, and her husband bank manager Andrew Patterson lived in Rothsay, and the property passed into Andrew's name in 1914. The house passed out of family ownership around 1945.

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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

for the evidence it provides of the residential development of Sandgate in the 1860s when it was a fledgling seaside settlement.

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## Rarity

### CRITERION B

The place demonstrates rare, uncommon or endangered aspects of the city's or local area's cultural heritage as a rare example of an 1860s brick residence at Sandgate.

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## 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 a mid-nineteenth century brick residence.

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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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