



## Heritage Citation



### Allawah

#### Key details

<b>Also known as</b>	Inglenook, GFS House
<b>Addresses</b>	At 198 Moray Street, New Farm, Queensland 4005
<b>Type of place</b>	Mansion
<b>Period</b>	Victorian 1860-1890
<b>Style</b>	Filigree
<b>Lot plan</b>	L1_SP260178; L2_SP260178; L3_SP260178; L4_SP260178
<b>Key dates</b>	Local Heritage Place Since — 30 October 2000 Date of Citation — February 2011

**Construction** Roof: Corrugated iron;  
Walls: Masonry

**People/associations** Anglican Church's Girls Friendly Society (Association);  
John Jacob Cohen (Architect)

**Criterion for listing** (A) Historical; (G) Social; (H) Historical association

'Allawah' was built in 1888 for wealthy Jewish merchant, Leopold Solomon Benjamin on land which was formally part of the Kinellan Estate. This palatial, double-storey masonry dwelling was designed by architect John J. Cohen, a prominent Brisbane architect. It was built in the Victorian Filigree style and reflects the flamboyance of the era. Cohen was credited with designing the former Bellevue Hotel when in partnership with F.F. Holmes. 'Inglennook', originally comprising a drawing room, dining room, library, billiard room, six bedrooms, day and night nurseries, kitchen, laundry, stables, included a lawn tennis court and bush-house in the spacious garden. Benjamin sold the property during 1890s financial crisis, and it was later renamed 'Allawah' and then 'Risdon'. It was purchased by the Girls Friendly Society of the Anglican Church during the Second World War for use as a young service-women's hostel, and was owned by the Trustee for The Girls Friendly Society until 2010.

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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 fine example of New Farm's affluent residential development at the height of Brisbane's 1880s building boom.

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#### Social

##### CRITERION G

The place has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons

for its long ownership by the Anglican Church's Girls Friendly Society for use as a women's hostel during the

Second World War and in the postwar years.

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## Historical association

### CRITERION H

The place has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organization of importance in the city's or local area's history

as an example of an 1880s dwelling in New Farm that was built by prominent architect John J. Cohen, who designed some significant buildings in Brisbane.

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## References

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4. Brisbane City Council, Surveyor's Notebook, 6 July 1912, updated 6 Feb 1924
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14. Schiavo, J., 'A companion to the watercolours of New Farm: An exhibition by Gladys Blundell', No 18, New Farm & Districts Historical Society, 1998
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16. Royal Australian Institute of Architects, *Buildings of Queensland*, Jacaranda Press, 1959, J.J. Cohen in list

of early architects

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  18. *Brisbane Courier*, 24 July 1888, pg 1
  19. *Queenslander*, 26 Dec, 1891, pg 1242
  20. *Brisbane Courier*, 11 April 1893, pg 1
  21. *Courier Mail*, 2 Dec 1942, pg 5
  22. *Courier Mail*, 26 Jan 1946, pg 6
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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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