



## Ashfield Heritage Study Review of Areas Zoned 2(a)

<b>Current Use</b> Allman Park, 20 Victoria Street, corner of Norton Street, Summer Hill	<b>Reference N°</b> 5 22 01
<b>Heritage Listing</b> Recommended	
<b>Themes : Local</b> Subdivision and consolidation Local Government and Services	<b>Themes : State</b> Towns, suburbs and villages Environment — cultural landscape
<p><b>Historical Notes</b></p> <p>Alderman A E Allman was Mayor of Ashfield from 1938-43. This park and Allman Avenue (named in 1944) are his memorials. The Park was the garden around 'Glendon', the estate of Henry Moses, built on nine allotments of the Plynlmmon Estate, which was originally bounded by Norton, Victoria, Robert Streets and Prospect Road. Moses, a city merchant who died in 1938, was also a test cricketer and keen golfer.(1) The property was acquired by Ashfield Council and the residence 'Glendon' still stands, occupying about a quarter of the site. It has been adapted as a crèche and until recently contained the rooms and collections of the Ashfield &amp; District Historical Society .</p> <p>The Park, containing many mature trees of the former 'Glendon' garden, is centred on a memorial fountain erected in 1950 to commemorate the 19 years of community service by alderman E A A Allman, who was mayor 1938-43. A campaign in 1997, to the design of Lorna Harrison, Landscape Architect, remodelled and improved the Park.</p>	
<p><b>Physical Description</b></p> <p>This very pleasant Park has three entries, one from the corner of Victoria and Norton Streets, one at the south end of the park in Victoria Street, and one from Tintern Road. There are no identification signs on the perimeter. A roughly diagonal walkway runs from the corner to Tintern Road, diverting around the main feature of the Park, a slightly sunken circular fountain court within low retaining perimeter walls of sandstone. This is an octagonal base of sandstone supporting a circular granite fountain base, surrounded by stone-flagged paving with grass inserts. At the time of this inspection the superstructure was damaged and the fountain was inoperative. A metal plaque on the octagon declares that the fountain was created to the memory of Edward Albert Albert Allman, JP, alderman 1925-44, mayor 1938-43; 'True greatness comes by service'. Another plaque, on the retaining wall, includes the wording 'Erected 1950' and a list of the aldermen. The municipal engineer was G L Ross.</p> <p>In 1997 the park was re-landscaped and now, as well as retaining the original mature trees including Hoop Pines and other species, has additional paths, picnic areas, a barbecue area, several seating alcoves, plant beds including more perimeter plantings, and a curved arrangement of planting frames and wires for climbing and flowering creepers (the latter still unplanted).</p>	
<p><b>Information Sources</b></p> <p>(1) Sheena and Robert Coupe, <i>Speed the Plough</i>, p 248 (this gives Allman's term as beginning in 1939); Chris Pratten ed, <i>Ashfield at Federation</i>, p 188; Higinbotham &amp; Robinson map of Ashfield, 1883; H E C Robinson map, East Ward, c 1912.</p>	