

## **CSR Refinery (former)**

### **Lamington Street, New Farm**

The substantial **Colonial Sugar Refining Company (CSR)** Refinery was built in 1892–93 and seen at the time as a sign of an optimistic future for the Queensland sugar industry. This optimism at a time of economic depression was also the catalyst for the major industrial and warehousing development along the river at Bulimba.

*Navigational hint:* on the opposite side of the river from the Hawthorne ferry terminal, there is a good view of the imposing brick CSR Refinery building with its white roof and hexagonal-shaped tower.

The Colonial Sugar Refining Company was at the forefront of major changes in the sugar industry in the mid-to-late-19th Century, with technological developments in the refining process leading to a large increase in sugar consumption. The company concentrated its efforts on milling and refining sugar, establishing the Brisbane refinery as the fourth in its chain of refineries in other capital cities. The refinery on the Brisbane River gave it an important strategic position close to the city and the wharf, which allowed for large ships to dock.

The refinery was designed by James Muir, who had designed all the other sugar refineries in Australia, and construction was supervised by local architects John Hall & Sons. The complex included the refinery building with its char house, cistern, pan, melt and boiler houses, raw and refined sugar stores, workshop, a 2-storey building with offices, laboratory, and hessian rooms for sack manufacture, and the wharf.

Like many other industrial buildings along the riverside in New Farm and Teneriffe, the CSR Refinery is now residential apartments.