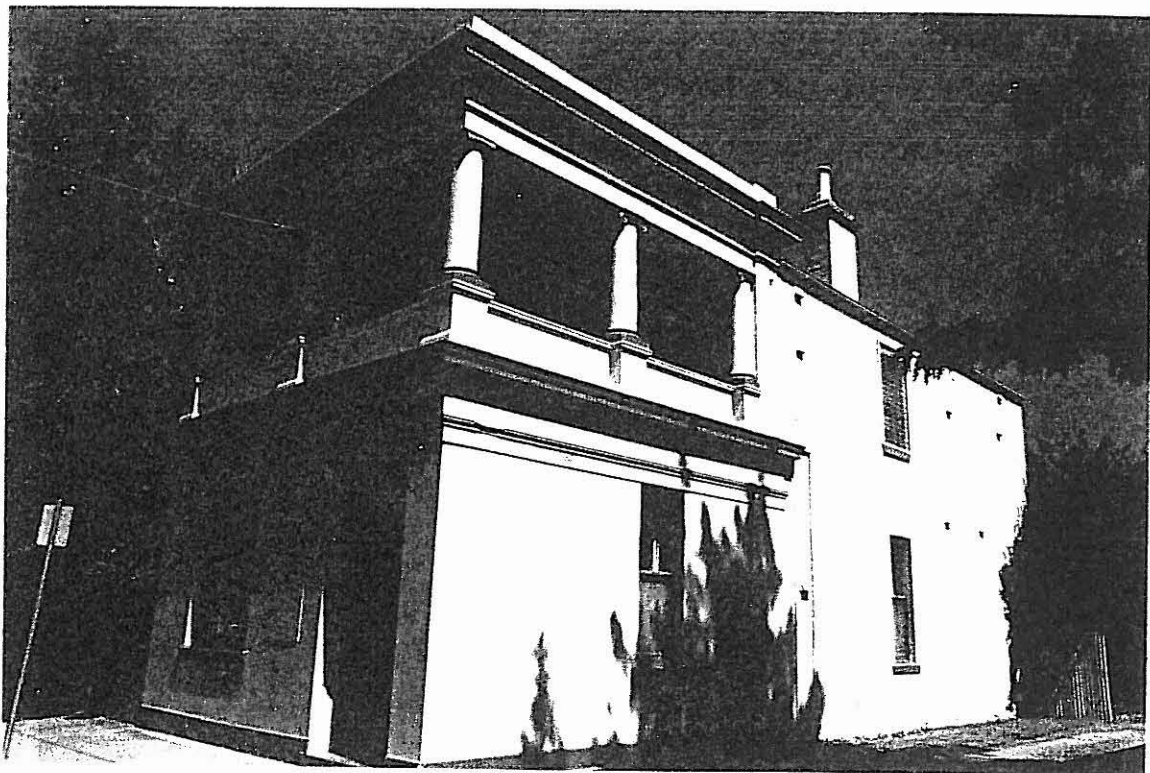


BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.

Ref: 152

Richard Peterson Architect & Conservation Consultant. Daniel Catrice Historian 1994.

NAME: Madden & Bourke Pty. Ltd., Barristers and Solicitors.		
PREVIOUS NAME: National Bank of Australia.		
ADDRESS: 127 Main Street.		
TITLE DETAILS:		
USE: Office		
PREVIOUS USE: Bank		
SIGNIFICANT DATE:	CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1865	SOURCE: ?
ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: 1869	DATE: 1869; 1904	SOURCE: 1
DESIGNER: Leonard Terry; Lloyd Taylor; Gibbs & Finlay.		
BUILDER: J.F. Taylor	SOURCE: 1	
CRITERIA: H2, 5; Ar1.	HISTORIC THEME: Townships.	
DESCRIPTION:	STYLE: Renaissance Revival	STORIES: 2
DETACHED.		
MATERIALS:	WALLS: Brick	ROOF: Iron
CONDITION: Good	INTACTNESS: Good	STRUCTURE: Lb.
THREATS: -		
SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:		
FORM. FACADE. VERANDAH.		
VERANDAH DECORATION.		
DOORS. WINDOWS.		
STREET FURNITURE.		
SIGNIFICANCE:		
TYPE: HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL.		
LEVEL: LOCAL.		
DESIGNATION EXISTING: PLANNING SCHEME.		
RECOMMENDED CONTROL: PLANNING SCHEME. AREA 1.		
MAP NO: U4.07	SURVEY: DC & RP	DATE: 15.1.94
		NEGS: 12.10 & 11



HISTORY: A branch of the National Bank of Australasia was established in Bacchus Marsh on November 1, 1862. The office, which adjoined the Royal Hotel (ref: 157), was vacated in 1865 when the present building was completed to the design of the architect, Leonard Terry. The contractor was the ubiquitous, J.F. Taylor.¹

In 1869, Lloyd Tayler called tenders for additions to the rear of the premises, and in 1904, a substantial two-storey frontispiece was completed to a design prepared by architects, Gibbs and Finlay.² The latter, a banking chamber, was described as "a grand idea":

in fact, an Emperor Augustus idea - as the pillared piazza forming the upper storey has quite a Roman villa appearance. It gives light to the upper windows of the dwelling portion of the bank, and can be made a sort of Omar Khayyam Persian summer garden.³

The National Bank of Australasia (now National Australia Bank) moved to new premises in Main Street in the mid - 1980s.

VISUAL DESCRIPTION: A two storey, rendered brick, Renaissance Revival bank building. This was four bays and set well back from the street boundary. The 1904 addition which extends to the street in front of this, obscures most of the two right-hand bays, with a ground floor room and first floor belvedere. All is rendered and ruled as ashlar. The 1868 building has a parapet with deep cornice moulding and frieze.

At first floor level, there is also a cornice and frieze. Windows have architraves with crossettes and spandrel panels. The earlier mouldings are continued around the extension, which is otherwise plain. Its cornice is supported on squat Roman Ionic columns. Their pedestals are linked as a balustrade. The entrance has double doors and a fanlight. The courtyard formed by the extension is paved with diamond-shaped pavers.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: There are no comparable buildings in Bacchus Marsh. There are various Leonard Terry designed banks in Melbourne and rural Victoria between 1855, when he arrived in Melbourne and 1887 when he died. Examples are: ES&A corner Leveson & Queensberry Sts, North Melbourne (1869); Cnr Exhibition and Bourke Sts Melbourne (1870-2), 171 Smith Street, Fitzroy (1872-3), 170 Elgin Street, Carlton (1876) and 136 Gertrude Street, Fitzroy (1879). They are generally in academically correct Renaissance Revival style in rendered brick or stone. This bank is earlier than any of these.

¹ Building File, National Trust of Australia (Victoria), FN 1141.

² Lewis, M. (Ed.), *Australian Architect's Index* (School of Architecture and Building, University of Melbourne); *Bacchus Marsh Express*, 1 October 1904.

³ *Ibid.*

Henry Browse Gibbs (1858-1913) practised from 1882-97 alone and then with Finley until 1914. Later the firm became Gibbs, Finlay & Marsby. Gibbs had already designed the shop at 144 Main Street (ref: 154), in 1901.

SIGNIFICANCE: A rendered brick two storey Renaissance Revival bank building, designed by the important Melbourne architect Leonard Terry in 1865. There are rear additions by a further important architect, Lloyd Tayler, then a new frontispiece in 1904 by Gibbs and Finlay. It was occupied by the bank for 120 years.

The former bank has local historical significance for its association with the development of business in the community life of Bacchus Marsh and its influence on the economic growth of the town. It also demonstrates a changing sequence of architectural styles.

It has architectural significance locally, as a representative example of an important architect's work, in Leonard Terry. This is now obscured, yet sufficient is visible on the eastern side to appreciate the design. The 1904 addition is an audacious and innovative design and a strong urban design contribution to Main Street.

INTACTNESS: Good. Doors have been replaced. There are partitions intruding into the belvedere space. Paint colours are not appropriate. The fence has been removed.

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Good.