

SHAKESPEARE TERRACE
329-343 Punt Road

History and Description

Tenders were announced on 25 August 1888 for the erection of a terrace of eight houses in Punt Road, Richmond. Architect for the project was John Fredrick Gibbins. The terrace was erected by June 1889, when the building was illustrated in the Australasian Builder and Contractors News. By this time the building was called "Shakespeare Terrace", and was described as a new terrace of eight two storey houses in Punt Road, Richmond, near the station and opposite the Cricket Club.

A prominent location has always been a factor in the significance of this building. The building is constructed on the corner of Tanner Street and Punt Road and forms the termination of Brunton Avenue.

J.F. Gibbins, architect for the terrace, was responsible for several buildings in Richmond, including the Tabernacle, and the Rising Sun Hotel.

The appearance of the building, as constructed, is impressive. The two central buildings and the end flanking buildings project to form arched colonnades, while the intermediate buildings differ in verandah treatments. The building is sophisticatedly detailed and features polychromatic brickwork. The composition is completed by encaustic verandah tiles, and cast iron fencing.

The end terrace has been defaced, by removal of the verandah and refronting of the building. In general however the terrace maintains a high degree of intactness including garden elements.

Statement of Significance

'Shakespeare Terrace' is an important residential building in Richmond, notably for its prominent location, and fine architectural detailing.

References

- Australasian Builder and Contractors News 25 August 1888, 29 June 1889.
University of Melbourne Architects Index, Sequence 1.
Melbourne Directory 1887, 1892.
Richmond Historical Society. Photograph of Shakespeare Terrace, part of view of Railway bridge from Punt Road.
M.M.B.W. Plan of Richmond 1896.