

DIMMEY'S
148 Swan Street

History and Description

Dimelow and Gaylard was first established in Geelong in 1853. Stores were later opened in other towns. In 1906 their Richmond store, a late Victorian structure, was burnt out.

The new store was erected in 1907 to the design of architects H.W. & F.B. Tompkins, the builder being Robert McDonald.

The building is in a plain Edwardian style, but its spectacular clock tower capped with a copper ball, built between 1908 and 1916, dominates Swan Street and is Richmond's best known landmark.

In 1912 the store's name was changed to Dimmey's Model Stores and was listed as drapers, importers and manufacturers.

Statement of Significance

Dimmey's is significant because of its spectacular tower and ball which are strongly identified with Richmond.

References

Richmond Council Builders & Owners Index.
Lecture given at Carringbush Library, 24.3.1981.
Mrs K. Smith, Porepunkah, great grand-daughter of Dimelow.



Dimelow & Gaylard after the fire in 1906.
(Richmond Historical Society.)