M. BALL & CO. 240 Swan Street

History and Description

This corner store is a Richmond landmark. It is a combination of restrained two and three storeyed buildings. The two storey section probably dates from the 1860's, the three storey section from the 1870's.

Internally a cleave storey section, some original counters and an aerial cash conveyor makes this an interesting building. The aerial cash conveyor is the only remaining one in the metropolitan area. A couple still exist in country stores.

The advertising sign on the corner facade at first floor level detracts strongly from the external appearance.

The site has been occupied by drapers since 1871, firstly by Snell & Co., then Moore & Co., and since 1926 by M. Ball & Co.

Statement of Significance

A Richmond landmark used as a drapery since 1871, retaining some original shop fittings and a now rare aerial cash conveyor.

References

Directories. Early streetscape photographs.

