
Building:	Houses	Significance:	B
Address:	164-166 Brighton Street, Richmond	Melway Map Ref:	2M A1

Building Type:	Residences	Construction Date:	1899
Architect:	Unknown	Builder:	Unknown



Intactness:		Condition:	
G[x] F[] P[]		G[x] F[] P[]	

Existing Heritage Listings:		Recommended Heritage Listings:	
Victorian Heritage Register	[]	Victorian Heritage Register	[]
Register of the National Estate	[]	Register of the National Estate	[x]
National Trust	[]	Heritage Overlay Controls	[x]

History

In 1898 the site was occupied by a 6 room wooden house owned by Julius Matthews, of East Melbourne, and a dairy, run by Alex Wilson, operated from the site. Matthews had owned the site, which was valued at £20, since 1879.

Directories for 1899 indicate two vacant houses on the site, whilst the Rate Books for the same year show two 6-roomed brick houses, owned by Julius Matthews, and valued at £20 each. The first occupiers were William Prior, a collector (No. 164) and Robert Foster (or Forster), a manager (No. 166).¹

Description

164-166 Brighton Street, Richmond, comprises a symmetrical pair of double-fronted late Victorian semi-detached houses separated by a brick party wall projecting through the roof line. The walls are of red face brick, with painted rendered dressings. Each house has a projecting bay with tripartite windows, and a corrugated iron verandah spanning between the bay and a central brick wing wall. No. 166 retains its original bullnose-profile verandah, whilst the verandah on No. 164 has been reconstructed to a skillion profile. Both verandahs have cast iron lacework friezes. Beneath each verandah is a front door and a double-hung sash window. The bays have gabled roofs with timber fretwork and finials to the gable-ends. Continuing from under the eaves of the main hipped roof and across the front of each bay is a flat, rendered frieze which bears the names MAROURA (No. 164) and KOREIN (No. 166) respectively. There are rendered string courses at window head and sill level.

No. 164 retains its red brick chimneys which have unpainted render string courses and moulded caps. The roofs of both houses have been re-clad in corrugated galvanised steel.

Both houses retain their original iron picket front fences.

Significance

Maroura and Korein, 164-166 Brighton Street, Richmond, are of local architectural significance. The houses are a substantially intact example of a late Victorian semi-detached brick pair which incorporates some Edwardian elements, including the timber gable-end details. Although the design of the pair is not particularly original, its composition is unusual, and the houses make an important contribution to the heritage streetscape of the south end of Brighton Street.

1 Richmond Rate Books, 1896, 1897, 1898-99. Sands & McDougall Directory, 1895, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1940.