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| Building: | Gas Inspector's Residence | Significance: | A |
| Address: | 1 Gleadell Street, Richmond | Melway Map Ref: | 2H B6 |
| Building Type: | Residence | Construction Date: | 1883 |
| Architect: | Unknown | Builder: | Unknown |



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|------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Intactness: | | Condition: | |
| G[x] | F[] P[] | G[x] | F[] P[] |
| Existing Heritage Listings: | | Recommended Heritage Listings: | |
| Victorian Heritage Register | [x] | Victorian Heritage Register | [x] |
| Register of the National Estate | [x] | Register of the National Estate | [x] |
| National Trust | [] | Heritage Overlay Controls | [x] |

History

The City of Melbourne Gas & Coke Company was established in 1850, although delays in finding a suitable site for a gasworks meant that another six years passed before the first supplies actually became available to residents. By 1860, the gas supply had reached Richmond. The City of Melbourne Gas & Coke Company operated a monopoly in these early years, and several local companies established themselves in an attempt to lower costs. In 1878, the new Metropolitan Gas Company was formed when the City of Melbourne Gas & Coke Company merged with local companies based in Fitzroy and South Melbourne.

The building at 1 Gleadell Street was built for the Metropolitan Gas Company in 1883 as a residence for the gas inspector.

Description

The former Gas Inspector's residence at 1 Gleadell Street, Richmond, is a single-storey detached building, constructed of polychromatic brick on a bluestone base. It has a transverse gabled roof which is clad in slate and penetrated by a pair of capped chimneys. The building is constructed on the property boundary to Gleadell Street, although the front door is set back within a narrow semi-circular arched porch. The entrance is flanked by semi-circular arched double-hung sash windows which are recessed within larger semi-circular arches with moulded brick archivolt. There is a row of brick brackets along the eaves line. The two parapeted gable ends on the north and south elevations each have an oculus vent near the apex.

Significance

The former Gas Inspector's residence is of state historical and architectural significance.

The residence is a rare example of on-site industrial accommodation. Architecturally, the formal design incorporates simple classical details and a restrained use of polychrome brickwork, an unusual combination in a small industrial building. The residence also derives significance from its association with the Metropolitan Gas Co; it is the sole remnant of Richmond Gasworks.

Original Source

John & Thurley O'Connor, Ros Coleman & Heather Wright. *Richmond Conservation Study*. 1985.