

Building:	Former Robert Reid Clothing Factory	Significance:	B
Address:	2 Hoddle Street & 3-7 Ferguson Street, Abbotsford	Melway Map Ref:	2G H1
Building Type:	Factory	Construction Date:	c. 1890
Architect:	Unknown	Builder:	Unknown



Intactness:		Condition:	
G[] F[x] 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

The former Robert Reid factory was built c.1890. In 1891-92, Robert Reid & Co. Ltd is listed as having a factory at 4 Hoddle Street. In 1910, Robert Reid & Co. is still listed but at No. 2 and then in the years 1920 to 1930 Frieze Bros Pty Ltd, clothing factory is recorded at 2-8 Hoddle Street. Frieze Bros. was a major Melbourne clothing manufacturer, concentrating on Menswear.

Description

The former Robert Reid Clothing Factory is a two-story brick building, designed in a simple Italianate style. The symmetrical Hoddle Street facade is rendered and has eleven bays of semi-circular arched window openings at first floor level with bluestone sills and moulded architraves. The ground floor is similar, except two of the openings are rectangular door openings, not original. There are rendered cornices at both ground and first floors. The facade is surmounted by a plain parapet with a scrolled rectangular pediment, containing evidence of signage, now removed.

The associated building at 2 Ferguson Street is a two-storey brick building with a central ground floor entrance with segmental arched windows arranged asymmetrically on either side. Modern vehicle entrances have been constructed and the brickwork has been painted. A right-of-way provides access down the side to a loading bay.

Significance

The former Robert Reid clothing factory in Abbotsford is of local architectural and historical significance. The two buildings which comprise this complex—at 2 Hoddle Street and on the west side of Ferguson Street—are substantial and intact 19th century factory buildings which are demonstrative of the development of the local clothing manufacturing, and which remain important heritage elements in their streetscapes.

Original Sources

Andrew Ward. *Collingwood Conservation Study*. 1995.

Gary Vines & Matthew Churchward. *Northern Suburbs Factory Study*. 1992