

Building:	House	Significance:	B
Address:	24 Mayfield Street, Abbotsford	Melway Map Ref:	2D B12
Building Type:	Residence	Construction Date:	1891-92
Architect:	Unknown	Builder:	Unknown



Intactness:		Condition:	
G[] F[x] P[]		G[] F[x] 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 1890 John Buchan, the property developer, owned land adjacent to the Yarra River in Mayfield Street. In 1891 he commenced building two wooden houses, one of the east side of Mayfield Street, the other on the west side of Church Street, both properties adjacent to the River and backing onto each other. The properties were completed in 1892. In 1900 Buchan continued as owner. Charles Cornish, an engineer, leased the Mayfield Street house and William Heathfield, a law clerk, leased the Church Street house.¹

Andrew Ward. *Collingwood Conservation Study*. 1995.

Description

The house at 24 Mayfield Street, Abbotsford, is a two storey double-fronted timber house on a steep site overlooking the Yarra River. Access to the house from Mayfield Street is via the rear of the upper level, which has a symmetrical facade, with a central door flanked by single timber-framed double-hung windows. The north elevation, facing the river (and only visible from Yarra Bend Park, Kew, or from the river itself), has been altered somewhat. The ground floor has brick piers with rendered bases and ornamental moulds, and is infilled with weatherboard. The skillion-profile verandah has timber posts; the balcony has timber balustrading.

The hipped corrugated iron roof is penetrated by a face brick corbelled chimney.

Comparative Examples

River House, 63 Church Street, Abbotsford

Significance

The house at 24 Mayfield Street, Abbotsford, is of local architectural significance. It is one of any a few surviving 19th century houses on sites with river frontages remaining in the municipality. It is one of the few substantial houses remaining in this part of Abbotsford, which was extensively redeveloped with industrial buildings in the post-War period. Of all the riverside properties in the municipality, it is rare in having its main facade address the river rather than the street.

Original Source

Andrew Ward. *Collingwood Conservation Study*. 1995.

1 Collingwood Rate Books, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1901.