**Building:** 

Former Kodak Factory

Significance:

В

Address:

4 Southampton Crescent, Abbotsford

Melway Map Ref:

2H D1

**Building Type:** 

Factory

Construction Date: 1928

Architect:

Unknown

Builder:

Unknown



Intactness:  G[ ] F[x] P[ ]  Existing Heritage Listings:		Condition:  G[x] F[ ] P[ ]  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 manufacture of photographic supplies began in Abbotsford in 1884, when chemist Thomas Baker set up a small cottage industry at his home. Two years later, a new three-storey building was built on his property, and Baker formed a partnership with J. J. Rouse to market his products. In 1908, the firm of Baker and Rouse amalgamated with the Eastman Kodak Company of Rochester, New York, to form Australian Kodak Limited, which was renamed Kodak (Australasia) Limited three years later.<sup>1</sup>

Baker and Rouse had established their factory premises on the north side of Southampton Crescent, but they also owned property on the south side, between Bond and Duke Streets. According to the rate book for 1927-28, this land, which included a workshop, measured 200' x 70' and was valued at £90. The following year, a brick factory was built on the site, valued at £1550 in the rate book for 1928-29.

## Description

The factory at 4 Southampton Crescent, Abbotsford, is a large brick building of predominantly five storeys, with an additional storey to the Duke Street facade. The principal elevation to Southampton Crescent is concave to follow the curve of the street, and it is divided into nine bays by pilaster strips. The main entrance is in the central bay, marked by a narrow canopy with three storeys of continuous glazing above The bays on either side of the main entrance have windows, grouped in threes, with splayed sills. A prominent cornice at the top of the fourth level creates the effect of an attic storey. The treatment of the Duke Street elevation is similar, but it is only five bays wide, and has its cornice at the true parapet level.

## Significance

The former Kodak factory is of local architectural significance. It is a noteworthy for its contribution to the industrial streetscape in Southampton Crescent and also as an example of high density industrial development characteristic of Collingwood during the inter-War period.

## **Original Source**

Andrew Ward. Collingwood Conservation Study. 1995.

Gary Vines and Matthew Churchward. Northern Suburbs Factory Study. 1992.

<sup>1</sup> Information from Melanie Smith, Kodak (Australasia) Pty. Ltd.