

Building: Former State Savings Bank **Significance:** B
Address: 231 Victoria Street, Abbotsford **Melway Map Ref:** 2G H1

Building Type: Bank **Construction Date:** 1885
Architect: George Wharton **Builder:** Unknown



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

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

Existing Heritage Listings:

Victorian Heritage Register []
Register of the National Estate []
National Trust []

Recommended Heritage Listings:

Victorian Heritage Register []
Register of the National Estate [x]
Heritage Overlay Controls [x]

History

In 1883 James Moore of the Melbourne Savings Bank purchased 60 ft of vacant land on the north-east corner of Victoria and Hoddle Streets from Saul and Louis Solomon. In 1884 there was land and foundations with James Moore listed as owner. The Melbourne Savings Bank was completed by the following year, and the branch opened on 16 February.

Andrew Ward. *Collingwood Conservation Study*. 1995.

Description

The former State Savings Bank occupies a corner site at the intersection of Hoddle and Victoria Streets, Abbotsford. The double-storey building is of rendered masonry construction, designed in an Italianate style. The corners of the building project slightly, and the two storeys are divided by a rendered moulded cornice. Windows at ground floor are semi-circular arched double-hung sashes with rendered archivolt and vermiculated keystones. The walls are rusticated above impost level, which is defined by a moulded string course. The first floor is articulated with engaged Ionic columns and pilasters, between which are rectangular double-hung sash windows with moulded architraves. The first floor cornice is dentillated, and is surmounted by a plain parapet.

Comparative Examples

Former National Bank, 261 Victoria Street, Abbotsford

Former National Bank, 171 Smith Street, Fitzroy

Former Union Bank of Australia, 165-167 Smith Street, Fitzroy

Significance

The former State Savings Bank at 231 Victoria Street, Abbotsford is of local architectural significance and historical interest. The building is a good example of the Italianate palazzo style, typical of bank premises in the late 19th century. The building is a notable element in the streetscape, occupying a prominent corner site at the intersection of Hoddle and Victoria Streets. The building's association with architect George Wharton, who designed other buildings for the Melbourne Savings Bank, is of interest.

Original Source

Andrew Ward. *Collingwood Conservation Study*. 1995.