

Building:	Former Simpson's Glove Factory	Significance:	B
Address:	488-496 Victoria Street, Richmond	Melway Map Ref:	2H 2D
Building Type:	Factory	Construction Date:	1920
Architect:	Unknown	Builder:	Unknown



Intactness:	Condition:
G[x] F[] 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 Simpsons Glove Factory was constructed in 1920 for A Bamford Pty Ltd furniture manufacturers. This first occupancy continued until 1925, when the building was occupied by Beckford Furniture Pty Ltd. By 1931 Simpsons Gloves Pty Ltd were occupiers, and this association continued until recently.¹

Description

The former Simpsons Glove Factory is double-storey building of red brick construction with simplified classically-derived ornamentation. The Victoria Street facade is divided into three bays, separated by shallow brick pilasters which rise the full height of the building. The pilasters rise from a slightly projecting brick plinth, and are decorated with clinker brick soldier courses. The entrance door is contained within a central recessed segmental arched opening, decorated with a moulded hood. The large timber-framed windows are not original, and have rendered heads and sills. A bracketed cornice runs across the building, above which is a plain brick and render parapet surmounted by a semi-circular arched pediment in the centre.

Significance

The former Simpsons Glove Factory is of local architectural significance and local historical interest. The building has been used as a factory since its construction in 1920 until relatively recently. Architecturally, it is a typical example of the stripped Classical Revival style applied to a utilitarian building. The building is prominently sited at the eastern end of Victoria Street, and is a local landmark.

1 Sands and McDougall, *Melbourne Directory*, 1915 - 1931.