

<b>Building:</b>	Former Sutherland's Distillery	<b>Significance:</b>	B
<b>Address:</b>	67 Wellington Street, Richmond	<b>Melway Map Ref:</b>	2G G10
<b>Building Type:</b>	Factory	<b>Construction Date:</b>	c.1889
<b>Architect:</b>	Unknown	<b>Builder:</b>	Unknown



**Intactness:**

G[ ] F[x] P[ ]

**Condition:**

G[ ] F[ ] P[x]

**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

The building at 67 Wellington Street, Richmond was a distillery belonging to John Sutherland & Son's vinegar factory, built c 1889.

John Sutherland began his career in Australia as an employee of James Dickson of Richmond, a manufacture of wines, spirits and vinegar. The wines and spirits business did not prosper, as the tastes of drinkers tended towards rum. It is thought that Sutherland's influence led the business into the area of cordials and boot blacking, which incorporated vinegar in its manufacture.

In 1885 John Sutherland left Dickson's and established the John Sutherland Vinegar Factory on the south corner of Cremorne and Blanche Streets. He died in 1889 and his two sons expanded the business which continued until the late 1970s, when it was taken over and closed by R M Gow & Co.

Beer, used to make pure malt vinegar, was pumped from the distillery down Blanche Street to the Cremorne Street factory by means of a large underground pipe laid by the Richmond City Council during the 1930s .

The factory also manufactured pickles and cordials.<sup>1</sup>

## Description

The former Sutherland's Distillery is a utilitarian two- and three-storey building of red brick construction. The tower-like three storey section, facing Blanche Street, is divided into two bays separated by red brick piers rising the full height of the building. The small square openings have brick voussoirs. The hipped corrugated iron roof has a bracketed eaves, below which is a course of dentilated brickwork. Adjacent to the tower is a gabled two storey section, with a gable end facing Wellington Street. There is a single opening on this elevation, with the remnants of a timber boarded door, above which is a cantilevered block and tackle hoisting beam.

## Significance

The former Sutherland's Distillery is of local architectural and historical significance. It is a remnant of the 19th century distilling industry in Richmond. The building is largely intact, and is a prominent element in the immediate vicinity, forming a termination to Wellington Street.

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1 Notes by Bridget Everet from interview with Jack Sutherland, 1984. Richmond Guardian, 28 February 1885, p.2. R M Gow Newsletter, Sept-Nov, 1980. Quoted in O'Connor et al, *Richmond Conservation Study*.