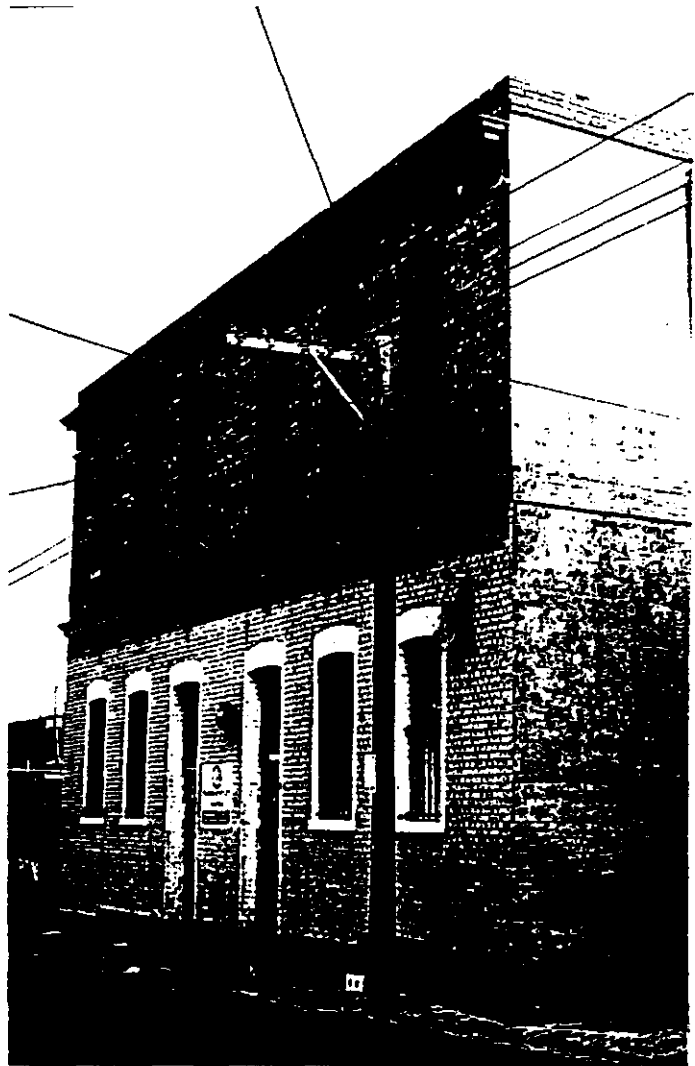


Building:

15-17 Bedford Street



Allotment Reference: 73

National Trust Register: -

National Estate Register: -

Historic Buildings Council Register

-

Location within Precinct:

Collingwood Slope

Photograph Date:

13.6.87

Grantee:

George Otter

Original Owner:

Thomas Kelly

Present Owner:

Original Use:

Factories

Present Use:

DDC Trading Co. Pty Ltd

Construction Date:

1886

Builder:

Description:

A two storeyed red brick factory with unpainted stuccoed string course and cornice line with frieze panel beneath. Segmentally arched and barred windows return along the north side r.o.w., the similar, upper level windows being unbarred. The Bedford Street facade is symmetrical with two entrances suggesting dual occupancy. "Meik Bros. Pty Ltd Jason Strops" appears in faded lettering on north and south elevations.

Condition:

Good

Integrity:

Good, the lower level to Bedford Street has been painted.

History:

Thomas Kelly built two factories on this site in 1886 (1885 RB - no entry), the first tenants being Henry Bloomfield, manufacturer and ? (illegible). Kelly retained ownership in 1892, the tenants being Richard McGan, and Frederick Fowler, boot manufacturers, trading as McGan and Fowler.

Significance:

This building is important as a rare example, in Collingwood, of a late Victorian speculative industrial development, built to a high standard and substantially intact, today. Its association with Richard McGan, a Collingwood born boot manufacturer and major employer at his Hoddle Street factory during the 1884 boot making trade dispute is of interest. McGan, treasurer of the Manufacturers' Association, successfully held out against the Bootmakers Union and W. Trenwith, general agent for the Union, over wages for nearly three months.

Recommendations:

Recommended for planning scheme protection.

References:

Rate Books

Sands & McDougall Dir. 1891

The Age, 24.11.1884, 28.11.1884, 1.9.1884
Cyclopedia of Victoria, 1904, Vols 1 & 2, p.103

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