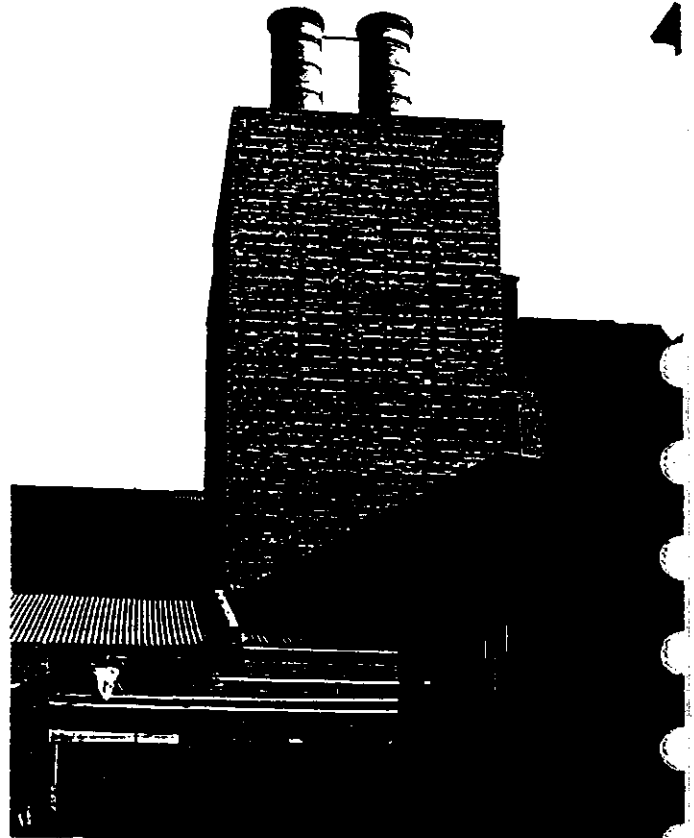
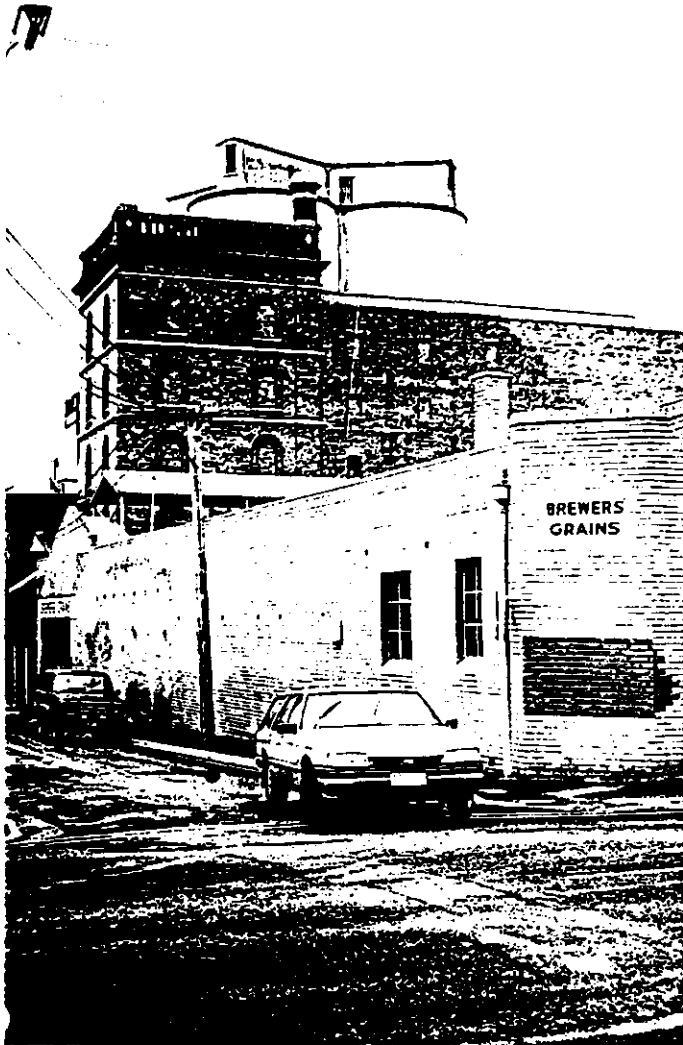


Building:

Former Victoria Distillery,
Northumberland Street, now Barress
Brothers and Burston & Co. Pty Ltd.
Collingwood Maltings



Allotment Reference:

53

National Trust Register:

-

National Estate Register:

Recommended

Historic Buildings Register:

Recommended

Location within Precinct:

Collingwood Slope and Brewing and
Distilling precinct.

Photograph Date:

9.6.87
12.6.87

Grantee:

S.A. Donaldson

Original Owner:

Thomas Aicken

Present Owner:

Original Use:

Distillery

Present Use:

Barrett Bros. and Burston & Co. Pty
Ltd., Maltsters

Construction Date:

1862

Architect:

George Wharton (additions 1880)

Builder:

Description:

A five storeyed red brick former distillery tower with cream brick string courses at each floor level surmounted by a bracketted cream brick cornice and frieze panel. Above the cornice a red brick balustrade with cream brick coping and corner chimney forms a decorated termination. Round headed openings have been bricked up, with newer louvred sections introduced in some former openings.

To the south, a four and five storeyed undecorated red brick section is attached with segmental arched openings, some of which have been bricked up. Some elevations, and the roof of this section are clad in corrugated asbestos cement sheeting.

Immediately to the east of the southern most section of the above building, a ? storeyed tower, undecorated in red brick is distinguished by two circular brick stacks with corbelled ruins. Openings are segmentally arched, those viewed retaining their double hung frames.

Other buildings and structures in the immediate vicinity, including the concrete grain silos are supportive elements.

Condition:

Good

Integrity:

Good



History:

In 1862, Thomas Aitken opened his distillery on this site, and by 1864 it was employing 5-6 hands (Barrett, B., The Inner Suburbs, p.95). By 1878, the works continuing under the proprietorship of Aitken, were known as the Victoria Parade distillery, the Victoria Brewery to the south in East Melbourne being in his ownership until 1884. In 1885, when Alfred Nation and Son acquired the Brewery, the distillery also passed into their ownership, although retaining its name. By 1891 William Blanchard was the manager. Its fortunes continued to be tied to the Victoria Brewery, ownership of both complexes passing to the Melbourne Brewing and Distillery Co. during 1894-1905. By 1910, however, Samuel Burston and Co. Ltd, maltsters, were in possession and remain as Barrett Brothers and Burston and Co. Pty Ltd. today.

Significance:

The former Victoria distillery is important at the State level as the first distillery established after the imposition of the differential duty under the Distillation Act of 1861. (Barrett, B., op. cit.). Its association with Thomas Aitken, the founder and influential protectionist, is also important as is its connection with the nearby Victoria Brewery. The complex adds breath to the municipality's heritage of the distillery and brewing industries which is collectively significant at the State level, whilst its distinctive form is a picturesque element within the Collingwood Slope precinct.

Recommendations:

Recommended for inclusion on the HBC and National Estate Registers and for planning scheme protection.

References:

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