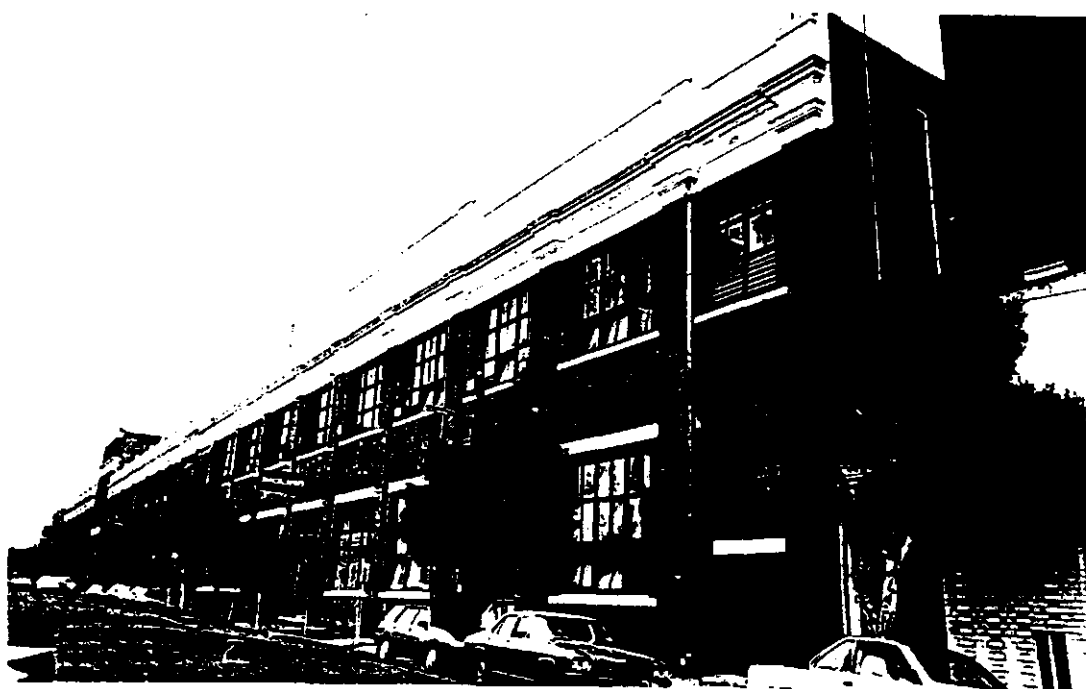
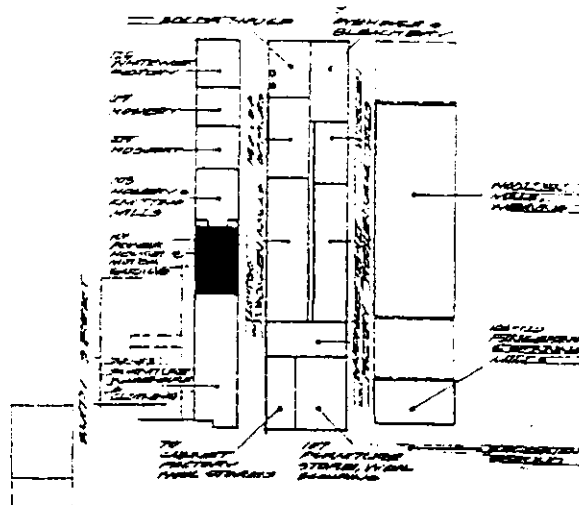


Building
101 Oxford Street

N.B. BURNT OUT SINCE SURVEY



Allotment Reference

68

National Trust Register

Under consideration

National Estate Register

Recommended

Historic Buildings Council Register

Registered

Location within Precinct

Collingwood Slope

Photograph Date

30.3.1988

404

Grantee S.A. Donaldson
Original Owner Foy & Gibson Pty. Ltd.
Present Owner
Original Use Power house and motor garage
Present Use Molins (Australia) Pty. Ltd.
Construction Date: 1908
Architect probably William Pitt

Builder

Description

A two level red brick former power house and workshops with 8.5 bays to Oxford Street and raised stuccoed central parapetted section, pilasters, "F & G" wall vents and cornice all conforming to the standard Foy and Gibsons details. Inside, the former power house consists of the bunker chamber (bunkers removed) at the north end, boiler house (later Foy and Gibsons motor garage?) and engine room. The former engine room has metal gable trusses, carried on m.s. columns with gantry, brick walls and brick pavement with tiled section (turbo-alternator (?) area) and varnished timber linings above. A timber staircase with turned balusters provides access to a perimeter gallery, now largely occupied by office space. The former boiler house is also steel framed with lantern over.

A 15 ton weighbridge manufactured by the Australian Standard Scale Company (ASCO) is located in Oxford Street outside the power house, and is controlled from an office within the main building, facing the weighbridge and having easement windows to permit communication with lorry drivers. It is generally known to have been used for weighing trucks carrying wool for the mills and coal for the power house.

Condition

Good

Integrity

Building - good
Plant - removed
Weighbridge - operational

History

The site of the power house was formerly occupied by cottages to Oxford and Little Oxford Streets and by the F & G Stables. The present buildings were erected in 1908, (1908 RB deletes entry for houses at 125, 127).

Significance

The former F & G power house and motor garage at 101 Oxford Street forms an integral part of the Oxford Streetscape and is important also for its probable link with William Pitt architect and City of Collingwood councillor. The power house reflects upon the size of the F & G complex, and the economy of generating power on the premises, rather than purchasing it from the Melbourne Electric Supply Company. It is important as one of Melbourne's early power generation houses and retains its architectural form, with viewing gallery and tiled floor. The weighbridge is an important remnant of F & G's occupancy and is believed to be unique within the metropolis on account of its situation within a public roadway and office location. The former motor garage recalls the Store's practice of delivering purchased goods to customers in the pre-auto age.

Recommendations

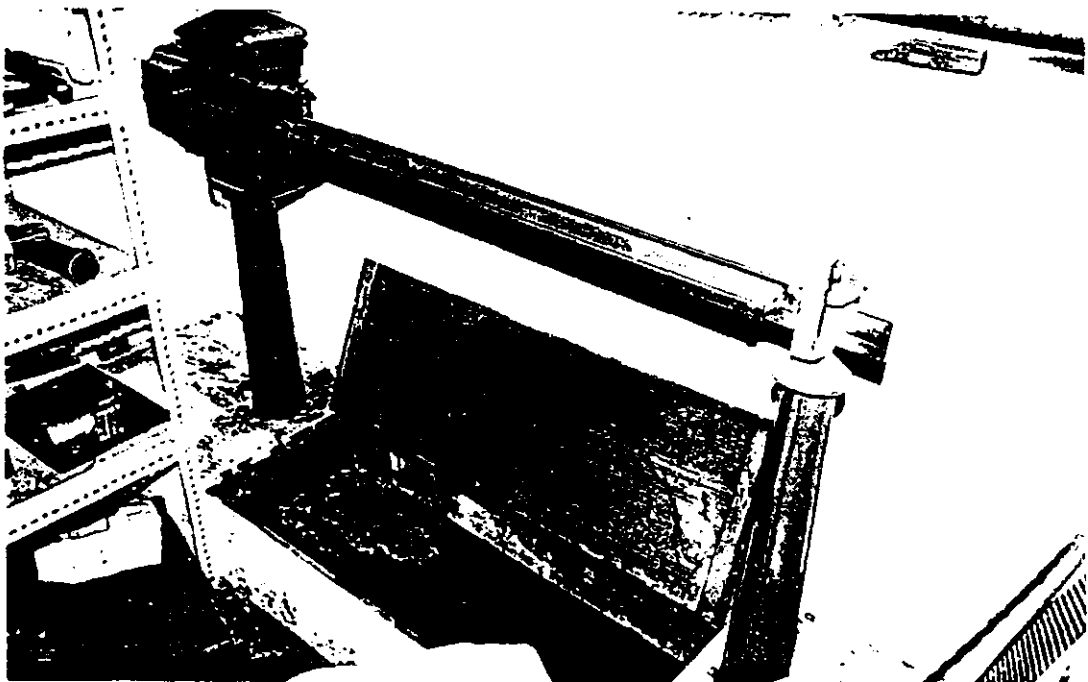
Recommended for inclusion on the National Estate register and for Planning Scheme protection.

References

S & M directories
The Advance Australia 15.10.1906

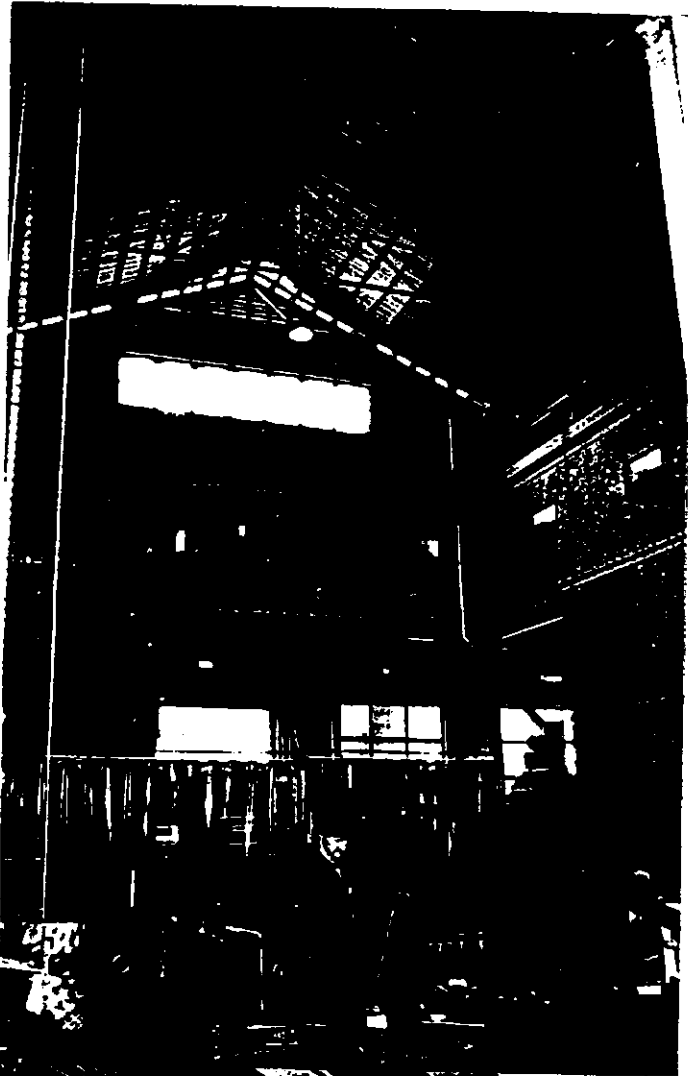
Issue

May, 1995



ASCO weighbridge scales.

406



Engine Room.



Little Oxford St.
elevation.

Andrew C Ward & Associates

Roof lante
north end

Coal bunke
north end

Motor Gar
north end

