

Building: Former Handley and Tilley Pty. Ltd. factory

Address: 655 Victoria Street



<u>Allotment Reference:</u>	63
<u>National Estate Register:</u>	Recommended
<u>Historic Buildings Council Register:</u>	Recommended
<u>National Trust Register:</u>	-
<u>Location within Precinct:</u>	
<u>Photo Date</u>	August, 1988
<u>Grantee:</u>	W. Richardson, 13-2-1839
<u>Original Owner:</u>	Handley and Tilley Pty. Ltd.
<u>Present Owner:</u>	-

Original Use:

Factory

Present Use:

Professional offices and vacant

Construction Date:

1929

Architect:

Builder:

Description:

A large two and three storeyed former office and manufacturing complex with symmetrical Moderne south facing facade with central block having circular cement finished canopy over entrance with vertical window of concrete fins and glass bricks above. Flanking windows and fins with diaper brick spandrels are secondary elements, the parapet having a stuccoed trim and the whole of the brickwork being graded from dark browns at the base through reds, then creams (warm) to light creams at the top.

Either side stuccoed winged emblems overlook drawings protected by wrought iron gates with "Handley" symbols. Flanking wings form the east and west extremities, clearing away from the gates.

Condition:

Good. Part demolished at rear.

Integrity:

Good

History:

In 1924 George Lynch owned 66 feet land on the north side of Victoria Street which he sold in 1928 to Handley and Tilley who operated a factory on the corner of Victoria & Church Street at that time. In 1928, Handley and Tilley also purchased an adjacent brick house from H. Lynch, (1925, 1929 RB).

In 1929 Handley & Tilley Pty. Ltd. built a brick factory on this vacant land. The house was divided into two flats with the basement used for storage and conveniences. In 1930, the top floor of the factory was used by a branch of Handley and Tilley's operations - Aluminium and Plate Ltd. The house basement became occupied by the Pyramid Plate and Aluminium Co. - another of Handley and Tilley's operations.

In 1931 the Aluminium & Plate Co. purchased a woodhouse adjacent to the brickhouse, (1930, 1931, 1932 RB).

In 1934 Tilley left the company and it became known as John and Edgar Handley Pty. Ltd. owners/operators of the factory and brick house.

In 1935 Handley's built an iron factory at the rear of the brick factory for the Aluminium and Plate Co. Concurrently Aluminium and Plate Co. built a brick factory at the rear of the wood house, (1935, 19365 RB).

Significance:

The former Handleys' building is a remarkable example of the Moderne style as it was applied to industrial architectural forms. It forms part of a larger complex to the west but is the key building in the complex. It compares with the Ansell building at 153 Palmer Street, Richmond.

Recommendations:

Recommended for inclusion on the National Estate Register and Historic Buildings Council Register and for planning scheme protection.

References:

Rate Books

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