



John Daniel's Ironmongery, former 186 Moorabool Street (rear of) Baylie Place South

History

Allotment 19 Section 34 was granted to Thomas Forster who subdivided in c1850, just prior to the major gold finds of 1851. Ironmonger, John Daniel, leased nearby premises from woolbroker, George Synnot, in the early 1860s¹ until George Daniel purchased what was described as a two-storey stone double shop with 5 rooms, workroom and large loft when completed. During Daniel's tenure the front weatherboard shops were rebuilt in brick (1865-6) and the stone store added at the rear (1863-4).² Daniel then acquired the adjoining south-west corner of Little Ryrie and Moorabool Street, a building which had apparently been Dr. W H Baylie's and later the subtreasury, a gold store, among other things.³ By then his buildings were described as a stone 'extensive ironmongery establishment', with two-storey verandahed

double shop and 10 rooms, store etc.⁴ This description remained much the same until the 1890s when 'stone' became brick (due to rendered facade?).⁵ Daniel was also reported as buying at auction the nearby former Provincial & Suburban Bank Ltd. building in 1879 (corner Ryrie and Moorabool Streets).⁶

Ironmongering remained on the site well after Daniel's departure, the firm of Thomas & Archie Dickens occupying just 186 Moorabool Street which by then was the property of the Alex Miller Trust.⁷ In the 1920s it (and 182-184) was owned by William Grutzner, a dyer of Richmond.⁸ Thomas Maloney, cycle dealer, was a later occupant under Annie Mortimer's ownership.⁹

Description

Still possessing the delicate timber detailing (gable fascia) which is often absent from the usually otherwise austere warehouse buildings, this store also demonstrates the use of both basalt (walls) and local sandstone (dressings). It also retains the broad wagon archway, upper-level load-

- 1 VB 1860-1,18
- 2 RB 1863-4, 17 'unfinished stone store'; RB 1864-5, 17; VB 1865-6, 17; VB 1868-9,17
- 3 I 6.1971/36
- 4 VB 1873,15
- 5 VB 1899,14; VB 1896-7,15 cites as 202-206 pt. 15/34 ??
- 6 I 3.1979/8
- 7 RB 1914, 16
- 8 RB 1923,15
- 9 RB 1951,18

City of Geelong Urban Conservation Study Significant Sites

ing doors, gantry and arched lower openings. Where the basalt is coursed regular and rough-axed, the sandstone is left quarry-faced, accentuating the power of the design and the utility of the building type.

External Integrity

Parapets have been added to the side, along with boxsumps and downpipes and opening details (loading doors) have changed in part. The adjoining warehouses cover the fine stone-work at the corners.

Streetscape

Relates closely to the store at the rear of 200 Moorabool Street and, at a distance, to Strong's factory in Baylie Place North.

Significance

Historically, among the earliest stone warehouses in Geelong and closely associated with John Daniel, a prominent Geelong 19th Century businessman.

Architecturally, it possesses rare detailing and distinctive stonework.