The most well known and well doumented industry was boot manufacturing, which was, in the late-19th century, supplied with local leather from Collingwood and Richmond (Fig. 29). Those in Fitzroy appear to have been very small-scale operations, while those Collingwood were run on a grander scale. The Collingwood Tannery & Boot Factory was set up in 1864 with a workforce of twenty; this had increased to 200 by the late-1860s.[40] By the 1870s one Richmond tannery tanned 300 cattle hides and 50 sheepskins and week, some saying they employed up to 50 men a day, most of which were unskilled labourers.[41] By the 1880s, many larger-scale boot factories had also located their premises in the district, as manufacturers previously located in the City of Melbourne took advantage of cheaper land further away. Between 1885 and 1890, the percentage of the total number of bootmakers in the colony which had their factories in the City of Melbourne had been reduced from one third to around a quarter, most by the end of the 1880s, the majority located in Collingwood and Fitzroy.[42] Perhaps the largest was Richard White's boot factory on the corner of Young and Little Napier Streets in Fitzroy (est. 1864) which by 1888 was claimed to be the 'most extensive boot factory in the colony', with retail houses in North Melbourne and in the city, as well as in several other suburban locations.[43] The business premises were described in 1888 as 'an imposing three-storey structure, having a frontage of 66 ft. [20 metres] by a depth of 120 ft., [36 metres] and ... fitted throughout with the most modern labour-saving machinery, a 20-horsepower engine supplying the power'.[44] The factory employed an impressive total of 300 people at this time. The number of boot and shoe manufactories in Fitzroy appears only to have been exceeded by the number located in Collingwood, which was truly the epicentre of the industry, as shown.

Boot and Shoe Factories in Fitzroy and Collingwood (1895 & 1900)				
Municipality	**FITZROY**		**COLLINGWOOD**	
Year	1895	1900	1895	1900
Total Number of Works	9	23	25	29
Male Employees	480	739	888	1,286
Female Employees	127	305	374	561
Value of Plant & Machinery	£28,420	£19,540	£23,080	£32,980
Value of Buildings & Improvements	n.a	£21,160	n.a.	£31,480
Number of Boots & Shoes Produced	478,573	911,574	796,450	1,234,256

The only known boot factory to survive from the 1880s in Collingwood is the Yates Boot Factory (10 Page Street), now known as the Organ Factory.[46]

Perhaps the largest of all the local industrial enterprises was the MacRobertson confectionery works, established in 1880.[47] The *Illustrated Directory of Collingwood and Fitzroy* (1905) devoted several pages to the founder, Macpherson Robertson and his manufactory:

> wherein an industrious army is constantly at work supplying white Australians of both sexes and all ages with confectionery and chocolates of every conceivable shape and variety, as well as cocoa, jams, jellies, sauces, preserves and other good things containing pure sugar as one of their principal ingredients, and which are therefore strengthening to the human frame, as well as pleasing to the palate.[48]

The original MacRobertson's factory building, one frontage, at 185 Argyle Street,[49] was demolished in the 1890s and replaced with 'the great buildings, constructed on the most modern lines, which now occupy the whole block bounded by Argyle, Kerr and Gore Streets', the largest complex yet built in south Fitzroy.[50] The expansion of the company's works completely changed the nature of that area of South Fitzroy, which had previously been basically residential, with some small shops, into a large-scale industrial zone.

In 1949 alone MacRobertson's Confectionery owned:

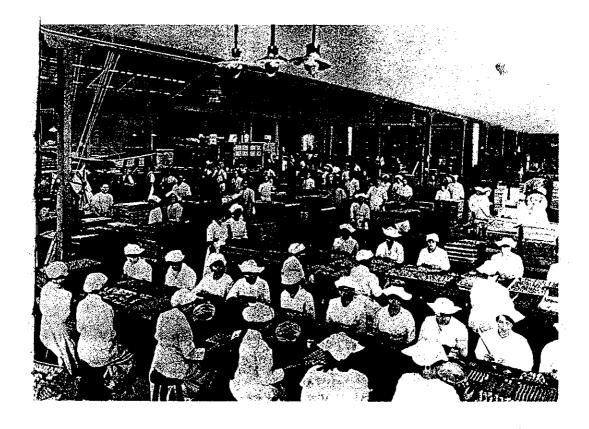| Address	Description	Address	Description
198 Argyle Street	Bk Shop	399 Kerr Street	Bk Garage & Shed
214 Argyle Street	Bk Factory	360 Napier Street	Vacant Land.
215 Argyle Street	3-storey Factory	178 Rose Street	Bk House
358 Gore Street	Offices	361 Smith Street	Bk Shop
369 Gore Street	Lifesavers Factory	363 Smith Street	Bk Shop
415 Gore Street	Bk Factory	365 Smith Street	Hospital
430 Gore Street	Bk Factory	369 Smith Street	Engine House .
245 Johnston Street	Bk Garage	375 Smith Street	Bk Factory
257 Johnston Street	4 Shops & Store	401 Smith Street	Bk Factory
159 Kerr Street	3-storey Factory	415 Smith Street	Bk Factory
177 Kerr Street	Bk Store	419 Smith Street	Bk Factory, 18 rm
190 Kerr Street	Sterilizer Factory	421 Smith Street	Bk Store, 1-storey
213 Kerr Street	Bk Factory		

Figure 30   *Workers at the MacRobertson's factory in Gore Street, Fitzroy. Source:* Fitzroy: Melbourne's First Suburb

*Figure 31   The first stage of the Fairfield Paper Mills under construction in 1920.
             Source: The Spreading Tree*

The estimated total annual value of these properties was £10,818.[51]

The largest factory in Fairfield was the Australian Paper Mills Co. (APM), established in 1895, near Melbourne.[52] The company expanded and in August 1918 land for a new board mill was purchased in Fairfield, comprising 23 acres (9.3 hectares), which had the advantages of river frontage and proximity to the railway line (Fig. 31).[53] The site, previously a part of the Woodlands Estate, cost £14,800. Construction on the building began in 1919, taking two years; opened by the Chief Justice of Victoria, Sir William Irvine, on 31 August 1921.[54] The General Manager of APM, Robert Gray, travelled to America to purchase equipment for the new factory, which was able to manufacture paperboard of 244cm in width at a speed of 460 metres a minute. The completed factory manufactured container board, ticket board, manilla, chip board and varieties of woodpulp board.[55] The Boiler House, built to contain boilers and turbines, was constructed in 1954. The building was designed by Mussen, Mackay & Potter: Mackay was the architect, whilst Mussen and Potter were the engineers. The curtain walling which clads the five-storey building is one of the earliest examples of the technique known in Victoria.

In the early 20th century a number of prominent manufacturers established themselves in Richmond including the Rosella factory in 1905; the Braeside Shirt factory (now Pelaco); Bryant & May, designed by Clements Langford in 1909; and the Wertheim Piano Factory. The Wertheim factory was constructed after Hugo Wertheim studied a number of factories in Europe and America, deciding to have the factory on one floor and the offices on another, a relatively new concept for Australia at the time. The factory, designed by Nahum Barnett in 1909, was capable of producing 2,000 pianos a year.[56] The Edwardian period was the golden age for these companies, which were enormously profitable and firms were often in a position to provide great benefits for