

## HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

---

<b>Name</b>	United Friendly Societies Dispensary (former)	<b>Significance Level</b>	2004 Local
<b>Address</b>	559 Sydney Road Coburg		
<b>Place Type</b>	Dispensary		



United Friendly Societies Dispensary (former) - 559 Sydney Road, Coburg

---

<b>Recommended Heritage Protection</b>	<b>VHR - HI - PS -</b>
--	------------------------

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

---

## Integrity

Minor Modifications

## History and Historical Context

The former UFS (United Friendly Societies) building at 559 Sydney Road Coburg was built in 1913.

In 1884 fourteen Friendly Societies in Brunswick and Coburg came together to form the United Friendly Societies (U.F.S.) for the purpose of setting up pharmacies to serve their members. A Brunswick Dispensary and Medical Institute was established in 1903 at 307 Victoria Street Brunswick and one for Coburg in 1913. A Lodge Doctor could also be consulted there for a fee of 2s. 6d.

The Coburg Dispensary moved from 559 Sydney Road in 1994 and the building was sold. For some years from c.1996 it was let to Skillshare but is now occupied by architects.

Today there are four U.F.S. Dispensaries in the area (Coburg, Pascoe Vale, West Brunswick & West preston). Although these are now known as 'Friendly Pharmacies', they are still effectively owned by their members, but managed by Community Pharmacies Friendly Society Ltd which has its Head Office in Elsternwick and also manages eight other pharmacies around Melbourne suburbs.

### SOURCES:

- Brunswick and Coburg U. F. S. Dispensaries Honour Board in Coburg Historical Society Museum
- Framed Jubilee Souvenir of work of U. F. S. Dispensaries, 1934 Coburg Historical Society
- Friendly Pharmacies pamphlet
- Community Pharmacies Friendly Society Ltd, 9523 5900

History written by Laurie Burchell, 2004.

## Description

### Physical Description

The former UFS Dispensary at 559 Sydney Road Coburg is a two storey late Edwardian freestanding shopfront built in 1913. It is constructed from red brick, with four rendered pilasters running the height of the building, marking the extremities of the building and the door. The building is topped by a high decorative parapet with a central round arch flanked by deep dipping curves. The parapet hides a corrugated galvanised stainless steel gabled hip roof. Windows are casement, flanked a fixed pane, with highlights within a curved rendered lintel. The front door and the central upper storey window are marked by a round arch. There are four string courses to the front façade, intersecting the windows at the base of the lintel and between the ground and first floor and the first floor and parapet.

### Physical Condition

Good

## Statement of Significance

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

---

What is significant?

The former UFS Dispensary at 559 Sydney Road, Coburg.

How is it significant?

The former UFS Dispensary at 559 Sydney Road, Coburg is of historic and aesthetic significance to the City of Moreland.

Why is it significant?

Of historic significance, as one of the many dispensaries established in the Coburg and Brunswick area by the United Friendly Societies in the early twentieth century. Four such dispensaries still operate in the area, although no longer from this building. (AHC Criterion B.2)

Of aesthetic significance, as a good example of a substantial late Edwardian commercial building in Coburg. (AHC Criterion E.1)

## Recommendations 2004

**External Paint Controls**

-

**Internal Alteration Controls**

-

**Tree Controls**

-

**Fences & Outbuildings**

-

**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

-

**Incorporated Plan**

-

**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

-

## Other Recommendations

City of Coburg Heritage Conservation & Streetscape Study 1991: Add to HO - individual

This information is provided for guidance only and does not supersede official documents, particularly the planning scheme. Planning controls should be verified by checking the relevant municipal planning scheme.