



93 & 93A Little Malop Street

History

Prior to 1901 the rate books do not provide a clear indication of the ownership of this dwelling. The rate books of 1902 list Solomon Pizer, a draper, as the owner of 93 Little Malop Street and the neighbouring property at 95-99 Little Malop Street. In 1911 the Austral Baking Company housed its cake ornamentation rooms at this address. By 1924 Guiseppe Virgona, was the listed owner of 93 & 93A as well as 95-99 Little Malop Street. Virgona engaged the firm of Buchan Laird & Buchan to draw up plans for the redevelopment of both of his Little Malop Street properties. The architectural plans detailing changes to the front of these shops, dated October 1924, are held by the Geelong Historical Records Centre. Redevelopment appears to have been delayed for some years. In 1928 the Sands and MacDougall's Directory listed new shops under construction at this address. Following a fire in 1946, Buchan Laird & Buchan were again hired to refurbish the shop interior. The Virgona family rented these premises to a variety of tenants until ownership was relinquished in the 1970s.

Description

This attached single storey building on Little Malop Street is a substantially intact example of commercial architecture with unusual Art Deco details. The building is rendered brick with a substantial stepped parapet and has notable original 1920s ground floor shop front details including glass tiling, canopy, exposed brackets and horizontal brickwork. The facade is divided into two shops by central entrances. Notable parapet details include the geometric piers, decorative accents on the skyline, and circular shaped penetrations. Some details on the parapet are missing. 93 & 93A Little Malop Street share the trussed verandah canopy with the adjacent building 95 & 97 & 99 Little Malop Street.

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Significance

93 & 93A Little Malop Street has architectural and historic significance at a local level. The building is a representative and substantially intact example of commercial architecture with unusual Art Deco details. The shops retain their characteristic siting, form and notable 1920s shop front details including glass tiling, canopy, brackets, brickwork and parapet details. The building has historical associations with the well known Geelong architects Buchan Laird & Buchan.