

This sheet should be read in conjunction with Gracme Butler & Associates, *Geelong City Urban Conservation Study*, Vol. 1-5, 1991.



95 & 97 & 99 Little Malop Street

History

Prior to 1901 the rate books do not provide a clear indication of the ownership of this dwelling. In 1901 Solomon Pizer, a tailor, was the registered owner of this building and the neighbouring property, 93 & 93A Little Malop Street. By 1924 Guiseppe Virgona, had become the listed owner of these two adjacent properties. Virgona engaged the firm of Buchan Laird & Buchan to redevelop the shop fronts of both buildings. The architectural plans detailing changes to 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. From 1928 to the start of World War Two, Geelong Rotary used the upstairs section of this building as their meeting rooms. Virgona initially rented out his Little Malop Street properties to a variety of different tenants. However by 1940, the Virgona brothers were operating a fruit shop from this address and this business continued to function until the late 1980s.

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Description

95 & 97 & 99 Little Malop Street is a substantially intact Late Victorian double storey brick building on a corner site. The rendered parapet facade on the first floor has rusticated piers on both sides, an entablature, and heavily articulated openings as the main design feature. Three double hung sash windows are recessed in architraves. The central window has side lights and is crowned by a classical pediment element. The windows on either side have wide arched architraves. The colour scheme enhances the architectural features of the windows. The east facade features similar windows, however the central window is a tripartite casement window and one of the side windows has been bricked in. On the ground floor the 1920s shop fronts have been altered except the facade of 99 Little Malop Street, which retains its stain glass and tiles. 95 & 97 & 99 Little Malop Street shares the trussed verandah canopy with the adjacent building 93 & 93A Little Malop Street. A detailed corbelled chimney can be seen from the street.

Significance

95 & 97 & 99 Little Malop Street has architectural and historic significance at a local level. The building is a representative and substantially intact example of Late Victorian commercial architecture with notable window details. The building retains its characteristic siting, form and notable details including rusticated piers, articulated openings, and parapet details. The 1920s stained glass and tile details on the ground floor facade of 99 Malop Street have been retained. The building has historical associations with the well known Geelong architects Buchan Laird & Buchan, and has a long association with Guiesepe Virgona who operated a fruit shop from this address in 1940 until the late 1980s.