

oldest public building in the city and is built from the city's own wall material, basalt masonry.

House 184 Geelong Road

History

Alfred Green was the first owner-occupier of this house in 1927 and Mrs. Jane Green was the sole listed occupant from the late 1930s onwards. Green's son, Arthur also resided there and was a well known Footscray figure who was reputedly instrumental (through a bequest) in initiating the Organ Pipes national park.¹ Green reputedly accrued his wealth from vendor finance, dispensed from a cage-like office in Hopkins Street.²

Alfred Green was appropriately enough a greengrocer, formerly of (64?) Creswick Street, Footscray, where he lived with Jane, some 20 years before.³ Green was also a 'wood, coal and produce seller' (A.&D. Green) near the Shepherd and Creswick Streets corner, in premises later occupied by Harry Winter.⁴ The large Green's Buildings at the corner of Geelong Road and Barkly Street are also associated with Green (trading as E.A. & D. Green), replacing his timber and hardware 'yard' of 1909 with a large retail complex (The Imperial) complete with rotunda and clock. This was done in 1916 to the design of architect, Claude Smith.⁵

Description

Aptly shaped for its irregular corner site, this house is Bungalow in concept but retains elements from both the previous later Victorian (encaustic verandah tiles) and Edwardian periods. The roof gable however prevails as the dominant form, providing a basis for attic dormers of varying sizes and large areas of shingling. In the same stylistic language as the form is the use of Marseilles pattern roof tiles, the heavy verandah piers and to a lesser degree the clinker brick walls. Throughout, diaper pattern multi-paned leadlighting is

used, while other (Eastern) details include the fretted rafter-ends and boarded eaves. Although, not of a startling concept, the corner siting and the designer's response to it are enhancements to the house's architectural worth.

External Integrity

Bricks have been painted (albeit brick colour) and the fence replaced.

Streetscape

Difficult to perceive since the overpass construction, the house has few contemporary neighbours. Nearby Edwardian and Victorian houses have generally been altered. The distinctive Green's Buildings, at the nearby Barkly Street corner, provides an historical link.

Significance

Architecturally, a modest design which has been well adapted to its site and possesses some interesting details. Historically, associated with two generations of the locally well-known Green family.

Rising Sun Hotel 189 Geelong Road

History

The Rising Sun Hotel can be glimpsed in the background of a photograph taken of the 1909 Jubilee procession, as a two-storey hipped roof Colonial Georgian revival bluestone building, equipped with a single-storey timber verandah.⁶ Then it was run by James Thompson, when old Kingsville residents have noted it as being one of only a few buildings along what was just a 'rough track' in the 1890s.⁷

Ratebooks first list the hotel in c1883, under Catherine and Edward Cahill,⁸ although a sale notice for the

- 1 Lack, site notes; verbal N Clerehan; see also Dick's *A Bunch of Ratbags*
- 2 R Cocks
- 3 ER 1908.
- 4 D1899-1915.
- 5 FHS newsletter p.479f, cites *The Advertiser* 1909, 5.8.16; Lack, site notes
- 6 FFOY, p.32.
- 7 *ibid.*
- 8 RB 1883-4, 2047.

building was published five years earlier.¹ Cahill, or his executors, continued as the owner-licensee until c1903, when the Castlemaine Brewery Co. took it over, commencing a long string of different publicans, including Charles Dalwood, Thompson, Herbert Plant and the long-term Mary Ann La Franchi.² Throughout this period, it was '12 room, stone' and housed five to ten permanent residents.³ Mary Ann had become the owner by c1921, when the valuation began a rise from £160 to £300, reaching a minor peak in 1922-3, at £470. It now had 13 rooms.

Renovations in 1921-2 transformed the building but added only one room to its previous description.⁴ A new publican, George Ferns, took the hotel, once complete, giving away to Muriel Spargo and, later, Percy Stapleton. Other long-term licensees included Matthew McManus,⁵ with improvements occurring the late 1920s and in 1937-9.

Description

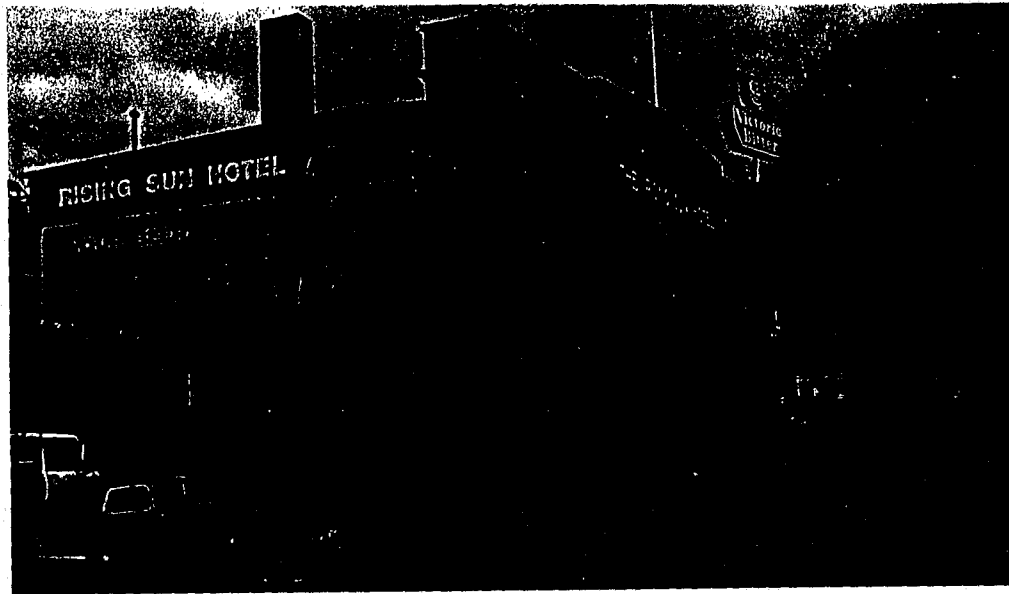
No trace of an earlier structure survives beyond that of the 1920s. Face brick at the rear and rendered at the face, the hotel is in one and two-storey wings, each with the shallow parapet pediment of the Greek Revival style. Saltire-cross balustrading across boldly cantilevered balconies underscores this theme and the delicately mushroom-shaded glazed tiles, with their green and yellow borders, were archetypal in contemporary hotel application.

External Integrity

Rear and side brickwork painted over, new 'bottle-glass' to most main windows, some new doors.

Streetscape

Isolated by the overpass from Geelong Road, it relates only slightly to the surrounding housing.



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- 1 MUAI
- 2 RB 1885-6, 2454; RB 1903, 4202.
- 3 RB 1917-18, 5855.
- 4 RB 1920-1, 5939; RB 1921-2, 5989; RB 1922- 3, 6215.
- 5 VFC 1933-1941

Significance

Architecturally, a conservative Neo-Grec design with only minor alterations. Historically, on a long-established hotel site and for some sixty odd years a local social centre.

Southern Can Company (Australia) Pty. Ltd.
240 Geelong Road

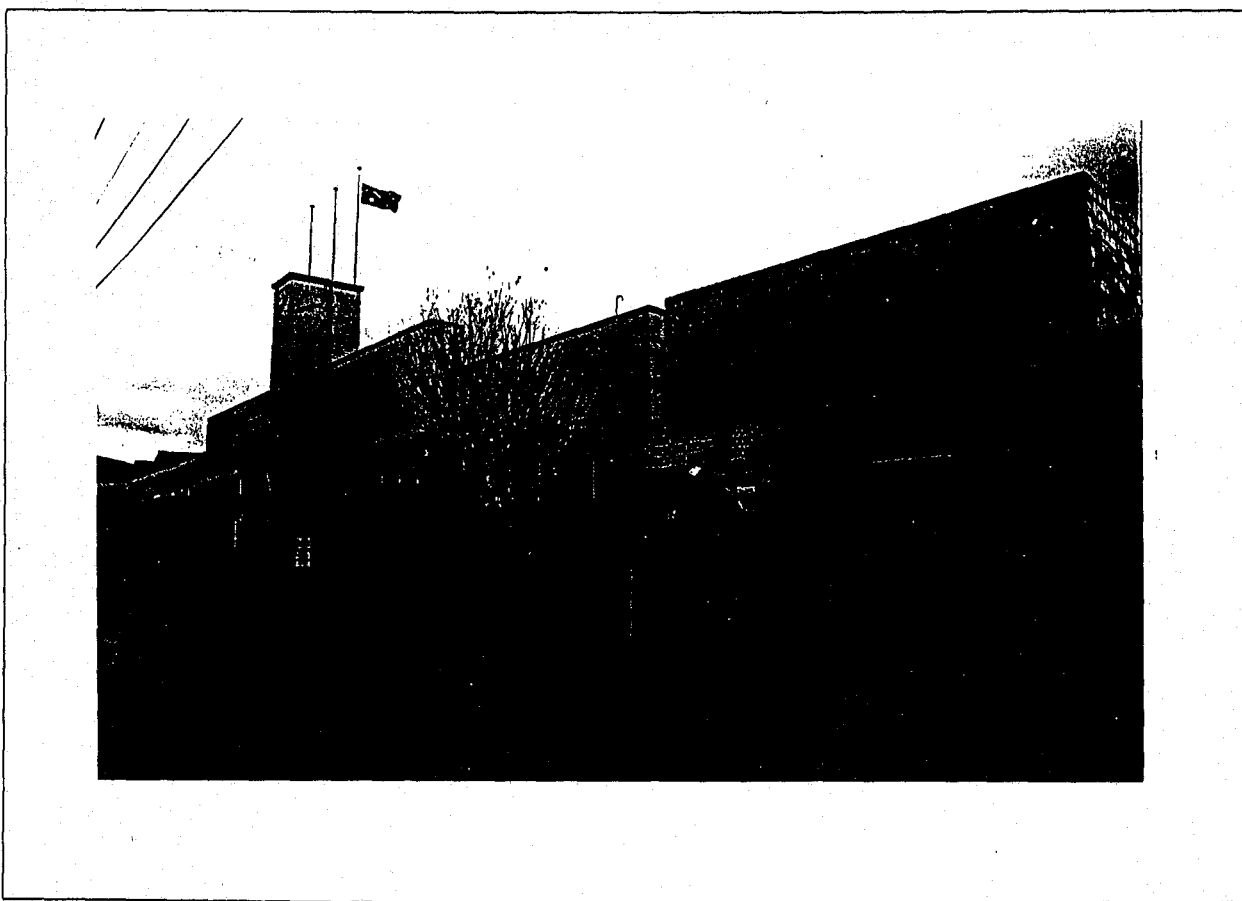
History

The Southern Can Company (Australia) Pty. Ltd. complex was noted modestly as 'typical' of the city's new

factories, in a 1945 Footscray pamphlet. That year saw Footscray municipality as the second only to Melbourne for the value of its manufactured goods, (over 27 million pounds in value).¹

The complex pictured was the design of architects, Oakley & Parkes, who called tenders for a cannery at Footscray in 1937,² allowing production to begin in 1939, three years after formation of the company³. Its form and arched entry resembled closely a slightly earlier design by Edward Billson for the Warburton Signs Publishing Company. Both designs took their inspiration from Dudok of the Netherlands. The builders were Hansen & Yuncken.⁴

Two years after the above pamphlet, another (*Forging Ahead*) pictured the factory, citing one million cans



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- 1 FFC, p.7.
- 2 MUAJ; VFC 1936-8.
- 3 Lack, site notes
- 4 *ibid.*