Identification and location					
Name of Place: Graham Campbell Ferrum					
Other Name					
Address 260 Geelong Road Footscray West					
Place Identifier 2784					
Heritage Significance <i>city</i>					
Creation date(s): 1920 c. Map (Melway) 41 K5					
Boundary description The extent of the current allotment					
Local Government Area: City of Maribyrnong					
Ownership Type Private					

Description

Site Type: manufacture

Physical Description

Large iron-foundry with timber and iron framed buildings clad in corrugated galvanised iron forming an L pattern with gabled ends facing Geelong Road and Geelong Street, respectively. Semi-circular ridge vents identify the major foundry buildings, while smaller storage wings have simple pitched roofs without vents.

A brick, two-storey office block is situated on Geelong Road near the corner of Geelong Street featuring a bichrome brick facade of cream and manganese pricks with the darker shade used to pick out window and door openings and as a string course. The site is, however, dominated by the foundry building with its open sides and overhead travelling crane. The open yard adjacent to this is used for mould box storage with the crane supports extending beyond the end of the building into the open air. The painted signage on the gable end is of some antiquity, possibly c1950s.

Condition

In good condition although visually stained by the common grime of a foundry.

Integrity

Generally intact to its Pre WW2 state

Context

One of a number of Moderne and other styled mid 20th century industrial complexes along Geelong Road and in the West Footscray/Brooklyn vicinity.

Threats

none known

History

Graham Campbell was established in the early 1900s. It grew from a small shop doing general jobbing work and cast iron domestic items to become a major supplier of castings to Victoria and interstate metal manufacturing firms. By the 1950s it was one of the largest foundries in the Western Suburbs. The W.L. Allen Foundry was developed with finance from and became a subsidiary of Graham Campbell Ferrum. These two are now the only still operating iron foundries of the mid twentieth century left in the region.

Thematic context

Australian Principa	al Theme	Manufacturing and Processing		
PAHT Subtheme:	Manufacturi	ng and Processing	Local	Theme Industry Consolidation and

Cultural Significance

The Graham Campbell Ferrum foundry is of regional historical and architectural significance to the City of Maribyrnong as one of the oldest operating and major foundries with prominent links to other Footscray industries such as W.L.Allen Foundry. (Criterion A4) It was also the largest private jobbing foundry in the western region in the early 20th century. The works is a dominant feature of the Geelong Road streetscape and is part of a group if important Moderne style industrial complexes in this area. (Criterion D2)

Comparative Examples

Compares locally with the later W.L. Allen Foundry in Ballarat Road.

Recommendations

Heritage Victoria Register No				
Register of the National Estate No				
National Trust Register Recommended				
Other Heritage Listings WRIHS				
Planning Scheme Protection Recommended				
External Paint Controls Apply? Yes				
Internal Alteration Controls Apply? No				
Tree Controls Apply? No				
Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Act No				

Are there Outbuildings or Fences not Exempt?

Prohibited Uses may be Permitted?

Recommendations

The following objectives relate to the Statement of Significance and the cited fabric or contributory elements. To conserve and enhance the significant elements of the place.

To conserve and enhance the public view of these elements.

To conserve and enhance the visual relationships between the contributory elements.

To ensure that new or altered elements within the place are visually recessive and related to the contributory elements.

To prepare a conservation management plan which embodies the above objectives.

To encourage continuation of the original use of the place.

Australian Heritage Commission Criteria

A4 Importance for their association with events, developments or cultural phases which have had a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of the nation, state, region or community.

One of the oldest operating and major foundries with prominent links to other Footscray industries

D2 Importance in demonstrating the principle characteristics of the range of human activities in the Australian environment (including way of life, custom, process, land-use, function, design or technique).

Foundries have been integral to Footscray's industrial development, and that of the Western Region. This is probably the most characteristic example surviving.

Documentation

References

Hugh Anderson W.L Anderson Foundry 1989

Vines, G. *Western Region Industrial Heritage Study*, Melbourne's Living Museum of the West. 1989.

Lack, History of Footscray,

Data recording

Assessed	By	Gary Vines
Assessed	Date:	28/2/2000