

Identification and location

Name of Place:

Other Name

Address

Place Identifier

Heritage Significance

Creation date(s):

Map (Melway)

Boundary description

Local Government Area:

Ownership Type

Description

Site Type: commerce

Physical Description

Three storey brick warehouse with prominent facade finished in brick stucco and bluestone built on a corner site. The main upper fenestration has segmented arches with rectangular shaped third level windows divided into six lights. Most of the facade ornament is at the parapet, which is articulated between the nine bays in the form of an ox-bow scallop. Piers protrude above with cement balls and dentilated caps in the frequently used manner of the well known Melbourne building firm of Tompkins Brothers. The first and second floors provide warehouse space with some office partitioning. The floors are supported on timber columns and beams in a grid matching the facade bays.

Condition

Integrity

Context

Threats

History

Leased by Frederick Thomas Benjamine and Joseph Nathan, partners in Maples Furniture Warehouse in 1913 from J.N. Williams who was possibly a grocer. The Nathans were probably connected with Maurice Nathan of the larger Patersons Pty. Ltd. empire. Maples adopted a lower profile than Patersons with suburban branches here and in South Melbourne and in some rural towns.

Thematic context

Australian Principal Theme

PAHT Subtheme: Local Theme

Cultural Significance

The Maples warehouse is of regional historical and architectural significance as one of the most dominant commercial buildings in what was at the time the commercial centre of the western suburbs.

Its architectural worth rests on its contribution to the streetscape in its bulk and period detail. In its scale and the elaborate facade Maples Warehouse demonstrates the status of the company in Footscray. (Criterion D2)

Comparative Examples

Compares locally (at least in scale and function) with the earlier and more elaborate Hoopers Store.

Recommendations

- Heritage Victoria Register
- Register of the National Estate
- National Trust Register
- Other Heritage Listings
- Planning Scheme Protection
- External Paint Controls Apply?
- Internal Alteration Controls Apply?
- Tree Controls Apply?
- Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Act
- Are there Outbuildings or Fences not Exempt?
- Prohibited Uses may be Permitted?

Recommendations

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 encourage continuation of the original use of the place.

Australian Heritage Commission Criteria

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).

In its scale and elaborate facade Maples Warehouse demonstrates the status of Footscray as the major commercial centre in the western suburbs.

Documentation

References

Butler 1989:4-106,
Footscray's First Hundred Years. :152,
Sands & McDougall.

Data recording

Assessed By

Assessed Date: