
Flour Mills, 7-19 McMahon Street, ST ARNAUD



SD 118 - Shire of Northern
Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage
Study, 2004

Location

7-19 McMahon Street ST ARNAUD, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 17, 2004

The Flour Mill complex, 7-19 McMahon Street, St. Arnaud, forms an historic landmark in this area of the town. Initially constructed in 1877 (as denoted by the 4 storey brick gabled structure), the flour mill was developed by James Fry and later taken over by James Malcolm. The mill suffered from fire damage in 1898, although by 1899 it had renewed operation. Since that time, a series of additions and alterations have occurred to cater for the growth in the flour milling business, which closed in 1979. It appears that some of the earliest structures and fabric, although damaged by fire and refurbished, are largely intact.

The Flour Mill complex is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. The four storey building demonstrates original design qualities of a rudimentary Victorian style. These qualities include the parapeted gable roof form, galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding, brick wall construction and the regularly arranged timber framed multi-

paned windows. Other intact qualities include the galvanised ventilation stacks, door opening on the ground floor and the double narrow window openings in the attic.

Other significant **architectural** qualities of the complex include the two storey gabled and parapeted additions to the left of the four storey building (with their brick wall construction, window openings, pilasters and door openings), the simple interwar gable roofed structure with its brick wall construction, ridge ventilator, skylights and galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding, and the Barastoc post-war building with its stepped parapet, brick wall construction, pilasters flanking vehicular openings and windows and single door at one end. The towering concrete silos and associated galvanised corrugated iron buildings and structures also contribute to the architectural significance of the place.

The Flour Mill complex is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the development of the James Malcolm flour mill in St. Arnaud from 1877 until 1979, although the manufacture of Barastoc feed stock has continued until the present day. The complex is also associated with James Fry, founding miller, and with James Malcolm, Robert Bodington Pty Ltd, W.S. Kimpton & Sons and Elders IXL, subsequent owners of the flour mill.

The Flour Mill complex is **scientifically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It appears to demonstrate technological processes no longer in use, and has a strong presumption of archaeological research potential.

The Flour Mill complex is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised by the local St. Arnaud community for its former and current contributions as a major industry and employer in the town.

Overall, the Flour Mill complex is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Hermes Number	111444
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Flour Mill complex, 7-19 McMahan Street, St. Arnaud, forms a landmark in this area of the town. The site is characterised by numerous buildings and structures of varying construction periods, heights, forms and construction.

The earliest building visible from McMahan Street is the four storey, painted cream, brick rudimentary Victorian styled building with a parapeted gable roof having an attic storey. The roof is clad in galvanised corrugated iron and is adorned with four early galvanised ventilation stacks. The attic is identified by the two early double narrow window openings. The floor levels below are denoted by the regularly space timber framed double hung multi paned windows, with a door opening on the main facade.

The left of this early building is a two storeyed brick (recently painted cream) structure that appears to have been constructed in c.1899. It is characterised by a parapeted gable roof form with a blind vestigial colonnade of pilasters accentuated by small window and door openings. Immediately adjacent this building is another addition that is defined by a substantial parapet, painted brick construction and regularly spaced windows.

To the right of the early 4 storey building is an interwar brick structure (recently painted cream) which has a simple gable roof form clad in galvanised corrugated iron, with a gable ridge ventilator and skylights. The Barastoc building adjacent appears to be of post-war construction, and is identified by a stepped parapet, painted brick wall construction adorned with sets of pilasters about three large vehicular openings, introduced substantial

cantilevering verandah, timber framed windows, and a single doorway at one end.

The landmark status of the industrial complex is highlighted by the interwar unpainted concrete silos that tower above most of the other buildings. Other associated galvanised corrugated iron and gabled buildings are immediately adjacent, with at least one building higher than the silos. Other steel structures, large tanks, and asphalted and concrete areas are additional features of the complex.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>