
Spicers Paper Mills

Location

1 Moreland Road, Coburg VIC 3056 - Property No 20677

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO117

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

Spicer's Paper Mills at 1 Moreland Road, Coburg is of State aesthetic significance as an example of the works of Oakley & Parks in an industrial context and an interesting example of the Dutch Modernist style as applied to a large industrial complex.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moreland - City of Coburg Heritage Conservation & Streetscape Study, Timothy Hubbard Pty Ltd, 1991; Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999; Moreland - Northern Suburbs Factory Study, Vines, G and M, Churchward, 1992;
Architect/Designer	Carleton Carleton & Oakley,
Hermes Number	56684
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Spicer's Paper Mills comprises a complex of brick factory buildings including a two and three storey office, two story processing building and single storey saw tooth roof factory. The facade curves around from Murray Road to present a Southern and Western aspect. This is constructed in the Dutch Modernist style in cream brick with a white string course above the first floor windows and white rendered framing around the ground floor windows. The entrance is on a curved corner with a glazed tile surround and deeply recessed door surmounted by a verandah. The building sits on an elevated platform with a brick retaining wall along the street edge. The fall in the land from west to east provides for a basement floor on the east side. Windows are metal glazed with hopper sash openings. A four storey tower behind the entrance is in the form of an airport control tower and is surmounted by a flagpole. Behind this facade the remainder of the factory is in an unexceptional red brick saw tooth roof building. Additions to the factory such as the loading bay and canopy have been executed in a sympathetic style although they obscure part of the original 1940s facade.

Context:

Adjacent to the Merri Creek, which may have been a water supply to the factory or, more likely, a drain, considering the polluted state of the creek at that time. Also nearby is the large Hilton textile mill.

Condition and integrity:

In good condition, but extensively altered with the addition of new structures along the western side.

Comparative analysis:

A few large industrial complexes have employed the Dutch Modernist style. Local examples include the additions to Lincoln Mills in Coburg and the Tip Top factory in Brunswick.

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/>