
Former Gollin & Co. Building



B4054 Fmr Gollin & Co Building

Location

561 - 563 Bourke Street,, MELBOURNE VIC 3000 - Property No B4054

Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

Level of significance

State

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 6, 2005

The former Gollin & Co. Headquarters building was built during the period of economic revival which followed the recession of the 1890s. Built in 1902, and designed by architect, Charles D'Ebro, the building reflects the austere medieval revival which had been active in Britain since the 1850s, under Norman Shaw, Sir Astin Webb and others. In Victoria however, this style had been hitherto apparent only in public buildings such as post offices, court houses and schools, and not used in commercial buildings.

The important elements of this style which may be seen in Gollin and Co's building include the large area of face, red brick work; the sparingly applied freestone dressings and cement friezes, depicting formalised floral patterns. The grouped, flat-arched windows; the gabled bays which terminate the main facade and create a picturesque skyline; and the corner, round tower or tourelle, which is topped by a cupola.

The building is both a fine composition of asymmetrically arranged massing, which is aided and enhanced by the corner position and the narrow Bourke Street frontage and a skilful juxtaposition of natural and synthetic materials.

Gollin & Co. were highly successful general merchants and importers who were sole Victorian agents for the Shell Co. in distribution of kerosene and were responsible for the first shipment to Britain by the Mildura Fruitgrowers' Association. This was their first headquarters building.

The main windows to Bourke Street at ground level have been reglazed but otherwise little alteration has occurred to the building exterior.

Notable parts of the interior include the ground floor and first level offices. Also passages and the main staircase to the second level above ground.

Classified: 27/03/1980

Revised:

Other Names Real Estate Institute of Victoria, Abraham's Building,

Hermes Number 64390

Property Number

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/>