
Fairchild Street Precinct



Fairfield Street Precinct.JPG

Location

Fairchild Street ABBOTSFORD, YARRA CITY

Municipality

YARRA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO320

Heritage Listing

Yarra City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2014

Precinct statement of significance

Component streets include:

Church Street

Cooke Street

Fairchild Street

Thompson Street

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The area of Abbotsford bounded by Church Street, Victoria Street (originally known as Simpson's Road) and the Yarra River had been partly subdivided before 1854. (49) Little development had occurred before the 1880s but by 1895 MMBW plans show that the whole of Abbotsford east of Church Street had been subdivided and almost completely developed. Industrial buildings lined the Yarra River banks while rows of workers' housing were built in Church, Fairchild, Cooke, and Nelson Streets.

Land in Cooke Street, between Nelson and Victoria Streets remained mostly vacant until part of it was developed into eight terraces by A Cook in 1887 (15-29 Cooke Street). A further nine terrace houses, (18-32) were constructed there in 1888. Thomas George built four two-storey brick terraces (1-7 Fairchild Street) in 1888 and the east side of Fairchild Street was developed by Thomas Stanford in 1887-88 with a row of single-storey brick terraces (2-24 Fairchild St).

Main development era

The main development period evident in the heritage overlay is that of the Victorian era with a substantial contribution from the Edwardian-period. There is also an added contribution from individually significant places of all eras.

Contributory elements

The Fairchild Street Heritage Overlay Area contributory elements include (but not exclusively) typically detached and attached Victorian-era and Edwardian era mainly one-storey houses having:

- . Pitched gabled or hipped roofs, with some facade parapets,
- . One storey wall heights but with some two storey house rows,
- . Face brick (red, bichrome and polychrome), or stucco walls;
- . Corrugated iron roof cladding with some slate roofing;
- . Chimneys of either stucco finish (with moulded caps) or of matching face brickwork with corbelled capping courses;
- . Post-supported verandah elements facing the street, set out on two levels as required with cast-iron detailing;
- . Less than 40% of the street wall face comprised with openings such as windows and doors; and
- . Front gardens, originally bordered by typically timber picket front fences of around 1m height.

Contributory elements also include:

- . Public infrastructure, expressive of the Victorian and Edwardian-eras such as bluestone pitched road crossing and lane paving, stone kerbs, and channels, and asphalt paved footpaths

How is it significant?

HO320 Fairchild Street Heritage Overlay Area, Abbotsford is **aesthetically and historically** significant to the City of Yarra (National Estate Register[NER] Criteria E1, A4)

Why is it significant?

The Fairchild Street Heritage Overlay Area is significant:

- . As a remnant microcosm of Victorian and Edwardian-era residential building stock which once typified the area before later industrial development;
- . For its association with significant early development and cultural phases in Abbotsford's history, and as a physical representation of modest workers' housing associated with local industry;
- . For its unusual consistency of cultural features, containing substantially intact rows of modest workers' housing dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century, including a number of speculatively developed brick terrace rows;
- . For the strong sense of architectural repetition, with rows of similarly detailed terrace housing featuring uniform setbacks, verandah, roof, parapet, chimney and fenestration treatments; and
- . For the early street, lane and allotment layouts, together with some original bluestone kerbs, guttering and lane paving survive, providing an appropriate setting for this collection of buildings.

References

49 Bernard Barrett. *The Inner Suburbs*. p 19.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Yarra - City of Yarra Review of Heritage Overlay Areas, Graeme Butler & Associates, 2007; Yarra - City of Yarra Heritage Review, Allom Lovell & Associates, 1998; Yarra - City of Collingwood Conservation Study, Andrew Ward & Associates, 1995; Yarra - City of Collingwood Conservation Study, Andrew Ward & Associates, 1989;
Other Names	Fairchild Street Precinct, Abbotsford,
Hermes Number	73436
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

19th century buildings; speculatively-developed small brick terrace rows; bluestone kerbs and paving

Physical Description 2

late nineteenth and early twentieth century housing; architectural repetition; original bluestone kerbs, guttering and lane paving; modest workers' housing; speculatively-developed small brick terrace rows

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/>