
FORMER RESIDENCE AND SHOP



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SHOP SOHE 2008



h00441 556 lonsdale street1



h00441 556 lonsdale street3



h00441 556 lonsdale street2



Painted Sign on 556
Lonsdale Street

Location

556-558 LONSDALE STREET MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0441

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO720

VHR Registration

January 17, 1979

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 23, 2005

What is significant?

In 1851 a house, shop and bakehouse occupied this site in Lonsdale Street. It appears to have been used as a bakery until 1855 when an application was made to build on the site, and the front section of this building was constructed for Edward Fitz Simmons. This seven room brick building was initially occupied by the government as a Survey Office and was subsequently used by a general merchant, and then used as a boarding house and temperance hotel (the latter evidenced by a painted sign which survives on an exterior side wall). The present shop window and second entrance were added at a later date, probably when it was first used as a shop in 1859. A single storey wing was added to the rear, possibly in the period from 1878-81, when it was in use as an hotel. Footing remnants of the original baker's oven survive to the rear of the building and other remnants of the original building may remain.

The building is of two storeys with an attic storey and a single storey wing at the rear.

This early Victorian building has a simple symmetrical facade, with three rectangular paned windows at first floor level and a central shop front, flanked by two entrances at ground level. Decoration is confined to four pilasters and consoles, the latter on the fascia between the levels, and these define the doorways below. Two dormer windows are placed in the roof to provide light at attic level.

How is it significant?

The premises at 556-558 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne are of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The premises are of architectural significance as an illustrative example of a shop/house in 1850s Melbourne. Although not completely authentic, the scale and form of the building, and some of the interior spaces, are indicative of this early period. The shop window is probably amongst the earlier examples of its type.

The premises at 556-558 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne are of historical significance as one of the older surviving buildings in central Melbourne. This building appears to be one of the few in Melbourne, which remain largely intact from the 1850s.

[Online Data Upgrade Project 2005]

Permit Exemptions

General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Specific Exemptions:

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component.

General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Construction dates	1878,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	776
Property Number	

History

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The draft statement of significance and the above history were produced as part of an Online Data Upgrade Project 2005. Sources were as follows:

Miles Lewis. *556-558 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne. A Conservation Analysis*. 1990

Extent of Registration

Historic Building No.441. Building 558 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne
[*Victoria Government Gazette* No.7 17 January 1979 p.165]

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/>