
Victoria Old Distillery, Former



Victoria Distillery



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Location

21 Northumberland Street, COLLINGWOOD VIC 3066 - Property No 287445

Municipality

YARRA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO116

Heritage Listing

Yarra City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

The following wording is from the Allom and Lovell Building Citation, 1998 for the property. Please note that this is a "Building Citation", not a "Statement of Significance". For further information refer to the Building Citation held by the City of Yarra.

History:

In 1862 Thomas Aitken opened his distillery on this site, and by 1864 it was employing 5 to 6 staff. By 1878, the works continued under the proprietorship of Aitken and were known as the Victoria Parade Distillery. The Victoria Brewery to the south in East Melbourne was also in his ownership until 1884. In 1885, when Alfred Nation and Son acquired the Brewery, the distillery also passed into their ownership, retaining its name. By 1891 William Blanchard was the manager. Its fortunes continued to be tied to the Victoria Brewery; ownership of both complexes passed to the Melbourne Brewing and Distillery Co between 1894 and 1901. Samuel Burston and Co Ltd, Makers, were in owners in 1910.

Description:

The former Victoria Old Distillery is a five-storey tower constructed of red brick, with cream brick string courses at each level. Windows are semi-circular arched, within recessed arched openings. Most of the original windows have been replaced. The building is surmounted by a cream brick bracketed cornice, above which is a pierced brick balustraded parapet. The red brick corner piers are decorated with cream brick diaper patterns.

A four and five storey building is attached to the tower to the south. Also constructed of red brick, the building has segmental-arched window openings. Ground, first and second floor levels have segmental arched loading bay door openings.

Significance:

The former Victoria Old Distillery is of considerable local historical and architectural significance. It is a surviving example of a large 19th century distilling complex, illustrating an early phase of industrial activity in Collingwood. The building reflects the development of the brewing industry in Victoria and in particular in Collingwood, an area noted for its breweries in the 19th century. The distillery is associated with Thomas Aitken, its founder and influential protectionist in the colony. The complex was also connected with the nearby Victoria Brewery, East Melbourne.

Architecturally, the building is relatively intact, and is a notable element in the vicinity.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Yarra - City of Collingwood Conservation Study, Andrew Ward & Associates, 1989; Yarra - City of Collingwood Conservation Study, Andrew Ward & Associates, 1995; Yarra - City of Yarra Heritage Review, Allom Lovell & Associates, 1998; Yarra - City of Yarra Review of Heritage Overlay Areas, Graeme Butler & Associates, 2007;
Construction dates	1862,
Hermes Number	99177
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

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Integrity

not assessed

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/>