
BYFAS LTD FACTORY (FORMER)



Byfas



Byfas



Byfas



Yarra Falls - Byfas in background

Location

8-12 TRENERRY CRESCENT,, ABBOTSFORD VIC 3067 - Property No 332230

Municipality

YARRA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO314

Heritage Listing

Yarra City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 5, 2007

The Yarra Falls Precinct is of historical and architectural significance. The three large surviving complexes, the former Cable Tram Depot, the Yarra Falls Spinning Mills and the Byfas Building, demonstrate the importance of Abbotsford as One of Melbourne's key inner suburban centres of industrial activity. Its location on the river is illustrative of the role of the Yarra River as a waste dump for industrial effluent in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

The former Cable Tram Depot at 438 Johnston Street is of local historical significance and architectural interest. Historically, it is the only remaining structure associated with the former Johnston Street cable tram service. Architecturally, it is a relatively modest structure, partly clad in corrugated iron, which has been considerably altered. It is less substantial in construction and less ornate in decoration than many of Melbourne's other cable tram structures.

The Yarra Falls Spinning Mills at 452 Johnston Street is of local historical and architectural significance. Historically, it is a very important early 20th century textile mill which played a key role in the expansion of the textile industry in Australia following World War One. Architecturally, the Johnston Street building is a typical late Edwardian composition of Classical revival details, which is an interesting heritage element in the streetscape.

The Byfas Building at 8-12 Trenerry Crescent associated with the Yarra Falls Spinning Mills, is of architectural significance. The building is a large and distinctive example of the Moderne style; of note are its decorative brick elements and the original signage and flagpole.

The following buildings are of significance within the heritage overlay precinct:

- Yarra Falls Spinning Mills, 452 Johnston Street, Abbotsford
- Byfas Building, 8-12 Trenerry Crescent, Abbotsford

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	1937,
Other Names	Yarra Falls Spinning Mills (former),
Hermes Number	102810
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Yarra Falls Precinct is a small area bounded by the Yarra River to the east, Johnston Street to the south, Trenerry Crescent to the west and Turner Street to the north. It contains two large factory complexes, the former Yarra Falls Spinning Mills and the former Byfas Factory. The former Cable Tram Depot, once situated at the corner of Johnston Street and Trenerry Crescent, has been demolished. On Johnston Street are three small residences dating from the Victorian and Edwardian periods.

The Byfas Building, at Nos. 8-12 Trenerry Crescent, is a large red brick two- and three-storey building constructed c.1940 and designed in the Moderne style. It is an interesting composition which incorporates a

number of distinctive elements including narrow brick string courses, streamlining, narrow bands of windows, textured brick panels ~ and original signage and flagpole.

The Yarra Falls Spinning Mills comprises a series of factory buildings behind a single-storey administration building facing Johnston Street. This building has a wide frontage and is set back from the street, divided into nine bays separated by brick piers which rise through the parapet at the end bays. The central five bays have a high parapet with a dog tooth brick course and a pressed cement panel bearing the words YARRA FALLS LIMITED in raised letters. The parapet is flanked by brick piers surmounted by large orbs. Windows are large multi-paned steel framed with concrete lintels; most of the windows have been recently replaced. A central projecting entrance porch is decorated with Ionic columns supporting a dentillated entablature and segmented-arched pediment containing the company monogram on a shield. This administration building or office was a later addition to the works, which was initially approached via a bridge connecting the upper floor directly to Johnston Street, the mill being somewhat lower than the street. Behind the office block, the factory proper has brick walls divided by piers. Mill No.1; a two-storey building with steel-framed windows, was originally used for combing and spinning. At the rear of the site, adjacent to a right of way, the fall in the land accommodates a three-storey section, part of which is of reinforced concrete. A tall red brick chimney bears the name of the factory.

The residences are situated between the entrance building of the spinning mills complex and the former tram depot. The 19th century house is a double-fronted villa of brick construction with a hipped corrugated iron roof and verandah extending across the facade. The adjacent pair of Edwardian cottages are identical, and have block-fronted facades and gabled corrugated iron roofs.

The former Cable Tram Depot at 438 Johnston Street, Abbotsford (on the corner of Trenerry Crescent) was a large single-storey timber framed building, clad with vertical sheets of metal decking. The hipped roof is clad in corrugated iron. There were several continuous bays of iron-framed windows which are divided into multiple panes with glazing bars and incorporate hopper sashes. This building has been demolished.

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/>