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# RICHMOND TAFE/TANNERY PRECINCT

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## Location

57-67 APPLETON STREET RICHMOND, YARRA CITY

## Municipality

YARRA CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7922-0126

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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Other Names RICHMOND TAFE TANNERY PRECINCT,

Hermes Number 10336

Property Number

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## History

Heritage Inventory History of Site: The Sands and McDougal directory for 1871 lists the following tanneries in River Street, from north to south: John Clark and Sons Stafford Tannery, James Farrell, Kennon and Thomas Lambert. Clearly there were more tanneries than on the Sands and McDougal maps and none are identified as "Richmond Tannery". The 1888 Sands and Mc Dougall directory shows Farrell's Tannery at the northernmost site on River Street, Gill and Boston's at No. 15, Rentoul (probably a tannery) at No. 15 and Kennon at No. 41. Farrell's Tannery is also listed for Clark Street, with J. Clark and Sons to the north. It appears from the Sands and Mc Dougal directories and from the title evidence in the Technisearch report that two tanneries were on the "Colonial Tannery" site: Clark's, which seems the most northerly, and Farrell's, adjacent to the south. Apart from the noxious industries, there is the inevitable development of working class housing adjacent to these industries.

Appleton Street, which appears to post date the 1887 Sands and McDougall map, contained a number of brick and wooden houses. In particular a row of five houses were of similar design were erected on the corner of Clark and Appleton Streets. The Board of works plan shows them complete with outside toilets and linked by a service lane, suggesting they were served by a night soil collection system. There are four houses on the east side of Clarke Street, again serviced by night soil collection. The 1950 Board of Works map reflects a picture of changed use of the TAFE site. The bottom half of the Colonial Tannery site had been demolished and a large building with several smaller outbuildings had been erected. According to the title in the Technisearch report, the land was separate by 1916 but there is no date for the erection of the building. According to the title, the northern section was owned by Alfred and John Hackett, described as tanners, and they presumably used the buildings on the northern part of the site. Some of the buildings are on the 1950 plan but none have survived. The row of houses on Appleton Street had also changed. They were described as being wooden in the 1896 plan. The surviving building on the site is a brick cottage, "Mafeking", suggesting that some of the wooden houses were replaced by brick buildings circa 1900. This accounts for the slight change in shape of the houses. Only the two westernmost houses remained unchanged until the 1950s. The house on the corner of Appleton and Clarke Street had been demolished by 1950. The houses on Clarke Street remained essentially unchanged, any changes being confined to the outbuildings.

*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/>*