
Alma Woolworks Complex, Former



Alma Woolworks



Alma Woolworks



Alma Woolworks



Alma Woolworks from the Yarra River



1861-1901 Alma Industrial Complex.jpg



1861-1901 Alma Wool Washing.jpg

Location

663 Victoria Street, ABBOTSFORD VIC 3067 - Property No 103490

Municipality

YARRA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO65

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:

Nettleton's Fellmongery was established in 1861 on the Yarra River, Collingwood, by Peter Nettleton, trustee to various building societies, and board member of the Bank of Victoria. The Fellmongery included Nettleton's own bluestone house, still surviving, facing Victoria Street. Nettleton died in 1901, and in 1917 the works passed to James Schofield Pty Ltd and to the Alma Woolscouring Co Pty Ltd in 1920. In 1980 operations ceased on this site.

Description:

The former Alma Woolworks, Collingwood, is a complex of 19th century buildings situated on the Yarra River, including a former residence, woolshed and wool washing shed.

The residence, originally belonging to Nettleton's Fellmongery, is a single-storey building of bluestone construction built in two sections. The south section has a rendered elevation with pick faced bluestone quoining facing Victoria Street, with a convex cast iron verandah returning along a random-coursed bluestone facade on the west side. A central four panelled door is flanked by double-hung sash windows with bracketed sills. The hipped roof is slated and has bracketed eaves. The verandah is supported on timber posts. The rear (north) section is has a verandah supported on timber posts and returns around three sides of the building, connecting with a separate outbuilding. This building is of coursed rubble bluestone and has a hipped corrugated iron roof.

The former woolshed, located to the north of the residence, is a three-storey building constructed of brick and quarry-faced bluestone, with a hipped corrugated iron roof. The building is constructed on the sloping river bank, and has an arcaded lower level facing the Yarra with alternating bluestone piers and cast iron columns. The upper level is of face brickwork with dogtooth ornamentation beneath the eaves, and windows are multi-paned, double-hung sashes.

Significance:

The former Alma Wool Works is of considerable local historical and architectural significance.

The former residence derives its significance from its association with Peter Nettleton, Collingwood's best known fellmonger. It is a remnant of the longest surviving fellmongery complex within Collingwood, established during the early phase of industrial activity in the suburb. The house demonstrates the practice of proprietors of industrial establishments living on their premises, in contrast to the preference of later Victorian industrialists to reside in the more fashionable residential suburbs of Melbourne. Largely intact, the former residence is also a rare surviving example of an early bluestone cottage.

The former woolshed is the major surviving building of the original Nettleton's Works, later to become James Schofield Pty Ltd and later again the Alma Woolscouring Co Pty Ltd. It is the key building in Collingwood's, and possibly Melbourne's, largest surviving wool scouring complex. Architecturally, the unusual arcade to the river is of particular note. The whole complex is the earliest remaining substantially intact industrial complex in Collingwood. Its location on the river illustrates the role of the Yarra as a sewer for Melbourne's animal processing factories in the 19th century.

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;
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Construction dates 1861,
Hermes Number 103741
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/>