
New Breed Furniture (original Austral Paper Mills)

Location

16 Gregory Avenue, NEWTOWN VIC 3220 - Property No 202203

Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO1617

HO1292

Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

B Listed - Regional Significance

The importance of this site relates to extant c1891 structure associated originally with the Austral Paper Mills that is prominent on the site and the associations with later wool scouring and milling activities on the site by Redpaths company. The original structure represents an unsuccessful paper works, which later became part of a complex of works and plant that represented an important woollen industry in the area. . The site has important historical associations in terms of pioneering individuals and families in the locality. Links with Robert Smith, William Hughes, W. R. s R. W. Redpath and their associations with nearby sites and other woollen mills combine to enrich the sites important evolution over time and add to its qualities for interpretation.

Heritage
Study/Consultant

Greater Geelong - Geelong Region Historic Buildings and Objects Study, Allan Willingham, 1986; Greater Geelong - City of Newtown Urban Conservation Study, Context Pty Ltd, 1991;

Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	15726
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

This site contains evidence of three major buildings and two types of industrial activity. The earliest building, the original double storey brick structure of the Austral Paper Mills, dates from c1891 and is substantially intact externally. Prominently sited, overlooking the river valley, the former paper mill is a substantial structure in red brick with polychrome brick surrounding window and door openings, with decoration of corbelled brickwork accentuating the line of the gabled elevation to the river. It is a simple gable roofed structure otherwise with significant historical associations with prominent local individuals and families. It represents an attempt to establish a papermaking industry in Geelong. Economic conditions at the time ensured that it never commenced production unfortunately.

An adjacent addition in brick is the only surviving evidence of later wool scouring activity. Evidence of Redpath's Woollen Mills and any scouring-milling activity associated with post c1934 operations is almost completely destroyed. A floor area with some surface modelling and a part-wall elevation is all that remains above ground of this part of the sites history. The activities of Redpath's on the site are arguably the most important in terms of site use and development and the fact that little remains of this aspect makes any assessment of site remains difficult.

Some important outbuildings/structures remain, the most notable being the brick chimney minus the flue and the boiler room.

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/>