

Victorian Heritage Database Report

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Former Caulfield Butter Factory



1091 Dandenong Road, Malvern East A 1935 advertisement for the Caulfield Butter Factory

Location

1091 Dandenong Road MALVERN EAST, STONNINGTON CITY

Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO423

Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The former Caulfield Butter Factory at 1091 Dandenong Road, Malvern East is a single-storey interwar Spanish Mission style building. Constructed in 1931 to a design by local architect Leslie J Reed, the butter factory

incorporated an earlier 1920s dairy within its walls.

The factory was initially set up to cater to both local and overseas markets but operated for less than a decade before it was closed down.

How is it significant?

The former Caulfield butter factory is historically and architecturally significant to the City of Stonnington.

Why is it significant?

The former Caulfield Butter Factory is historically significant as one of the largest and most ambitious of the dairy enterprises established in Stonnington in the interwar period. Unlike most of the other suburban dairies in Malvern that served only their local neighbourhoods, the butter factory also catered to an overseas export market. The factory is of additional interest for its association with prominent local architect Leslie J Reed.

The former Caulfield Butter Factory is architecturally significant as a rare example of an industrial building designed in the Spanish Mission style. Although the Spanish Mission style was popular during the late 1920s and 1930s for houses and residential flats, and for leisure buildings such as cinemas and theatres, it was unusual for a factory building of this type. The distinctive styling of the factory also distinguishes it from the more common Moderne style dairy buildings in Stonnington.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - Stables and Dairies in the City of Stonnington - Heritage Citations Project, Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd, 2011;
Architect/Designer	Reed, Leslie,
Hermes Number	193567
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The former Caulfield Butter factory is a substantial, single-storey interwar Spanish Mission style building. It has rendered brick walls and a corrugated iron clad roof, partly concealed by an elaborate parapet with Cordova tile copings. The facade also has a series of narrow round arched openings and two arched doorways (one infilled) with finely detailed rendered ornament.

The Fisher Street sideage has parapet details similar to the front facade but is otherwise plainer in appearance.

The building exterior remains largely intact to its original 1930s state although several arched window openings on the front facade have been modified and one of the arched doorways has been infilled. Originally symmetrical, the facade also has a second slightly less ornate addition on its east side. This part of the building appears to have been a comparatively early addition, and may be administration offices described in the 1937 tender notices above.

In the late 1990s a large gabled roofed storage area was built to the rear of the administration offices, and, around 2002, an over-scaled bathroom tap feature was mounted above the front facade.

Local Historical Themes

The former Caulfield Butter Factory illustrates the following theme as explained in the *Stonnington Thematic Environmental History* (Context Pty Ltd, Addendum, March 2009):

6.1.3 Dairying

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 data owner.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>