
Victorian Shops



Victorian Shops, 817-821
Glenferrie Road Hawthorn

Location

817-821 Glenferrie Road HAWTHORN, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO788

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 9, 2021

What is Significant?

A row of three two -storey shops 817-821 Glenferrie Road Hawthorn built in 1891 for Rev Fitchett (1841-1928) and designed by architect Thomas Tyler, is significant.

How is it significant?

817-821 Glenferrie Road Hawthorn is of local historic, architectural and aesthetic significance to the City of Boroondara.

Why is it significant?

The row of three shops at 817-821 Glenferrie Road Hawthorn is historically significant as part of the development of the Glenferrie Dale Estate subdivided in 1882. The shops are significant as being developed by Rev. Fitchett, founding Principal of nearby Methodist Ladies College who commissioned architect Thomas Tyler in 1890. Historically the buildings supported a range of tenants including James Joseph Pine who later developed his own shops in 1910 at 556-558 Glenferrie Road (also assessed as part of this Study). (Criterion A)

The three shops at 817-821 Glenferrie Road demonstrate the work of a little known but skilled architect, Thomas Tyler who was also the designer of the Italianate villa Roslyn, at 58 Lisson Grove Hawthorn (HO890), and several branches of the Friendly Societies Dispensary, as well as many commercial buildings in the inner suburbs of Carlton, Fitzroy and North Melbourne. (Criterion D)

The shops demonstrate the use of quite sophisticated architectural design techniques that make the upper floor facade appear as a single composition around a central decorative feature rather than a set of repeating elements. The building is important in its demonstration of Victorian shopfront windows which quite rarely remain. Aesthetically 817-821 Glenferrie Road is significant for its three-dimensional form and decorative Victorian facade including intact shopfront windows. Of interest are the splayed and recessed entries, decorative panelled stallboards and top-lights with coloured glass. The building is significant for its fine stucco facade with central pediment and elaborate pilasters of unusual design, the arrangement of central casement sash window flanked either side by a pair of double hung sash windows, window mouldings and engaged pilasters extending through the parapet and culminating in small orbs. (Criterion E)

The row of three shops at 817-821 Glenferrie Road is historically significant for their association with clergyman, writer and educator Rev Fitchett (1841-1928) who was founding president in 1882 of Methodist Ladies' College (MLC); and Principal of the school for forty-seven years. Rev Fitchett was a notable Methodist preacher as well as a writer and journalist, publishing an account of his years at MLC in 1921. (Criterion H)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Municipal-Wide Heritage Gap Study Volume 3: Hawthorn, Context, 2018;
Construction dates	1891,
Architect/Designer	Public Works Department,
Hermes Number	208292
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The three two-storey shops at 817-821 Glenferrie Road are located near the corner of Barkers Road and some distance north of the Glenferrie Road Commercial Precinct that takes in the majority of the commercial area. The shops are located on the corner of a driveway serving shops to the south and their three-dimensional form is visible from this vantage point. The row of three shops is a fine composition in the late Victorian manner of a central decorative feature to make it appear as one large building on the upper floor rather than three separate shops. The Glenferrie Road facade comprises three shops at the ground floor with splayed and recessed entries, shop windows above decorative panelled stallboards and top-lights with coloured glass. One of the entries has been altered but the remaining two are intact.

The verandah is cantilevered; however this is a later alteration. The upper floor facade is highly intact and features a fine stucco facade with central pediment with elaborate pilasters of unusual design beneath. The

arrangement of windows includes a large central casement sash window flanked either side by a pair of double hung sash windows. The overpainted facade conceals the brick wall panels and rendered decorative details that are part of this design. There are window mouldings framing the sash windows and engaged pilasters extending through the parapet and culminating in small orbs. The building is a fine and somewhat unusual Victorian commercial building that is unusually intact at the ground floor. The upper floor is also intact apart from the overpainting.

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/>