
National Bank of Australasia, former



HO55 - Ercildoune, 66 Napier
Street, Footscray.JPG

Location

66 Napier Street, FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011 - Property No 3055003620

Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0494

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO55

Heritage Listing

Maribyrnong City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Architecturally, an elegant and well-preserved (if typical) essay in the Italian Palazzo manner by its master practitioners. Historically, for a long period one of the city's foremost public buildings and may be viewed today as

a precedent to the Nicholson and Barkly Streets commercial precinct.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Maribyrnong - City of Footscray Urban Conservation Study, Graeme Butler, 1989;
Other Names	Ercildoune,
Hermes Number	28312
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Positioned, as it was, in the old civic centre of Footscray, its contemporary competitor banks had a distinct advantage from their Nicholson and Barkly Streets locations. Not surprisingly then, the bank was gone by the 1940s, a Miss Phyllis Beers having taken residence. The Footscray Historical Society is now the owner and part occupier of the former bank.

Following Terry's established Italian renaissance Palazzo revival manner, the bank presents a conservative juxtapositioning of openings set within blandly treated walls, all subtly enhanced with revivalist details in the manner so dear to the Caseys. Its fading wall colours and old signs (since removed) present a convincing testimony to its age although recent repainting has also recalled this period. Inside most of the fittings associated with banking remain as a further expression of the past. A photograph in c1909 shows the bank and its staff aligned on the kerb, the only differences to today being the absent capped corrugated iron fence and gas street lamp, to the west of the building.

Extract from the Footscray Urban Conservation Study 1989.

Integrity

External Integrity

Generally original except for removal of the fence.

Physical Description 2

Streetscape

On a traditional corner site and hence relates to other similar Napier Street structures such as the Exchange Hotel (q.v.) which today mark the old civic/commercial centre of the city.

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/>