

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 29/05/20



Former Cable Tram Engine House



B3890 Fmr Cable Tram Engine House B3890 Fmr Cable Tram Engine House Nth Melbourne

Location

187-201 Abbotsford Street, NORTH MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

Level of significance

National

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0988

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 29, 2007

The North Melbourne Engine House building, possibly designed by the distinguished architect Alexander Davidson, is of national architectural, historical and technological significance as the most complete and original example of an engine house of Melbourne's former cable tram system, which was the most extensive cable tram

system in the world operated by a single authority.

The east elevation is composed around a great entry door and single gable with large circular vent centred in the pediment and the whole stands on a bluestone base which provides a level base accommodating the sloping site. The north elevation is also symmetrically arranged around a prominent parapet and gabled central feature. These two major facades are linked by a successful corner treatment consisting of a recessed quadrant which contains the two-storey section of the building along the north elevation (Queensberry Street).

The Italianate style of the building is also distinguished by the bichrome brickwork with sandstone dressings and pinnacles on the skyline making an extraordinarily sophisticated exterior to a simple interior. The whole is dominated by a high red brick chimney which is ornamented at the head. The base and stump of the chimney remain as a powerful reminder of the original feature.

Classified: 23/09/1976

Upgraded: 18/11/1992

Hermes Number 64271

Property Number

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/>