
Former Mcpherson's Hardware Showrooms And Warehouse



B4095 Fmr McPherson's
Hardware Building

Location

546 - 566 Collins Street,, MELBOURNE VIC 3000 - Property No B4095

Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

Level of significance

State

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0423

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 8, 2008

The former McPherson's Pty. Ltd. Building was erected in 1934-35 as a reinforced concrete warehouse, office and showroom for the hardware merchant empire headed by Sir William McPherson. S.P. Calder, Reid and Pearson were architects in association for the design of this international style building with a facade of broad, horizontal bands of glass, terracotta and black "carrarra" structural glass. Stainless steel letters in a modern type identified the premises, as did the enormous show-windows which exemplify the influence of the motor car on

shop design.

The former McPherson's Company building is perhaps the finest example of the International style in Melbourne, reflecting the influence of the German architect, Eric Mendelsohn. The design was universally admired in 1935 and retains the quality to the present day. The building stands in stark contrast with the revivalist architecture popularly sponsored in the 1930s in Victoria. Sir William McPherson later became Premier of Victoria. The McPherson's Company used this building from 1935-74 when it was acquired by the Melbourne & Metropolitan Board of Works and converted to laboratory premises. The facade lettering has been removed and the interior spaces refitted but otherwise the building is intact.

Classified: 17/09/1981

Revised: 03/08/1998

Hermes Number 64679

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 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/>