

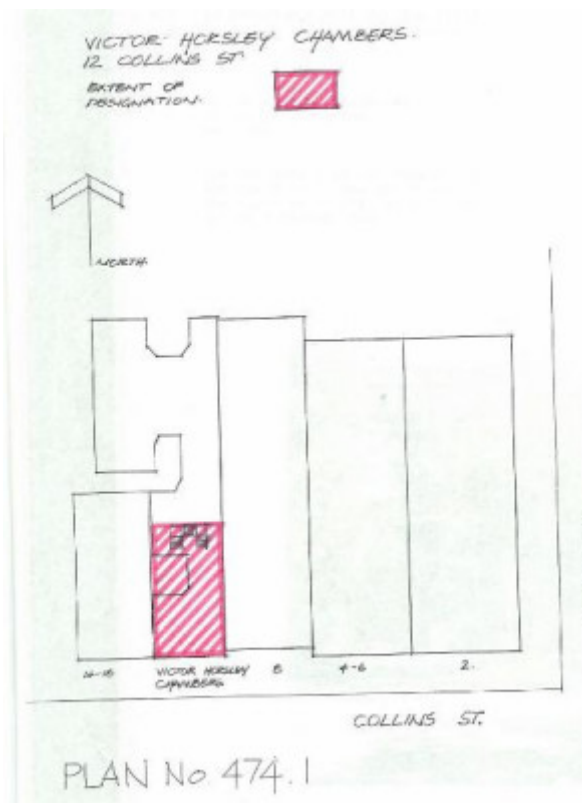
VICTOR HORSLEY CHAMBERS



1 victor horsley chambers
collins street melbourne front
view



victor horsley chambers
collins street melbourne top
end collins street



victor horsley diag.JPG

Location

12 COLLINS STREET MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0474

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO563

VHR Registration

August 27, 1980

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 7, 2000

What is significant?

Victor Horsley Chambers was constructed between 1922-26 for Victor Horsley of Horsley and Evans Costume Manufacturers for leasing as professional chambers. It was designed by W A M Blackett of Blackett and Forster architects. It is a five storey building in the Georgian Revival style constructed in concrete and brick with a stone facing. The ground floor facade is faced with smooth banded rustication and relates directly to the nearby Treasury building. The first floor level has symmetrically arranged windows with a pedimented triple window in the centre. On the fourth storey there is a cantilevered balcony with iron railing. The windows to the second and third floors are twelve-pane double-hung sashes and the walling on these upper floors is rendered. A balustraded parapet crowns the composition. Behind the ornamented facade is the lobby and lift with metal cage lift shaft with concrete wrap-around stair.

How is it significant?

Victor Horsley Chambers is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

Victor Horsley Chambers is architecturally significant as an early example of the Georgian Revival style which became increasingly prevalent from the mid 1920s. The building is significant for its polite classicism and the conscious attempt to blend in with neighbouring structures.

Victor Horsley Chambers is historically significant to the State of Victoria for its associations with some of the nation's most prominent medical practitioners, including Sir Victor Hurley.

Permit Exemptions

General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage

Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Construction dates | 1922, |
| Architect/Designer | Blackett, WAM, |
| Heritage Act Categories | Registered place, |
| Hermes Number | 714 |
| Property Number | |

History

History of Place:

This building was constructed in 1922-26 for Victor Horsley of Horsley and Evans Costume Manufacturers, 240 Bourke Street Melbourne. It was designed by leading architects Blackett and Forster. The building replaced on the site a twelve-roomed brick building which had been owned by Walter Coates Glover of Toorak. The new owners, Victor Horsley Chambers Pty. Ltd., had purchased the site for 56,000 pounds. Victor Horsley Chambers Pty. Ltd. owned the property until 1936 when Manchester Unity Fire Insurance Company paid 74,500 pounds for it and in June 1971 the current owners acquired it. It has been tenanted largely by the medical profession ever since it was constructed and in fact was obviously constructed as an investment building.

According to Geoffrey Mewton, (a pupil of Blackett, Forster and Craig architects) the building was designed by Hugh Craig. Mewton said of Craig that he believed Australian architecture should be developed from the work of Greenway and other early colonial architects. This is not particularly surprising, given the positive reception to the publication of Hardy Wilson's 'Old Colonial Architecture in New South Wales and Tasmania' (1923), which led to a renewed interest in colonial and specifically Georgian architecture.

(from notes on file)

Associated People: Victor Hurley

Extent of Registration

Historic Building No. 474 Victor Horsley Chamber, 10-12 Collins Street, Melbourne (to the extent of the facade and the building to the north wall of the first stairwell, as indicated on plan number 474.1 held at the offices of the Historic Buildings Preservation Council).

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No.72 27 August 1980 p.2927]

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/>