

# WAREHOUSE



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warehouse flinders lane  
melbourne front view jan1979



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## Location

129-131 FLINDERS LANE MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

## Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0428

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO638

## VHR Registration

February 8, 1978

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 17, 1999

What is significant?

The warehouse at 129-131 Flinders Lane is a three storey bluestone building built for Levy and Robertson in 1857. The basement has oregon timber columns and beams. Externally the ground floor is heavily rusticated in a variety of finishes and is punctured with one semi-elliptical and two semi-circular arch openings. The central opening was the original entrance. The stuccoed upper storey is more austere, comprising of three windows with light architrave mouldings and slightly heavier hoods. Quoins and a cornice and parapet complete the main facade. The contractors were Nation and Company and the building was possibly designed by Robertson and Hale. Levy and Robertson (later Levy Brothers and Company) were established in the 1850s and became a large importing and wholesale business. Levy and Robertson moved to larger premises in the late 1860s and since that time the building has had a number of tenants. The rear, southern part of the building is a later addition.

How is it significant?

The warehouse at 129-131 Flinders Lane is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The warehouse at 129-131 Flinders Lane is historically significant as one of the oldest warehouses in the Central Business District. It is particularly unusual as the oldest building of its type in the eastern part of the City.

The warehouse at 129-131 Flinders Lane is architecturally significant as a fine example, for its proportioning and detail, of the Renaissance Revival style. The fine quality rusticated ground floor stonework contrasts to the relatively plain upper storey, and draws for inspiration on the architecture of High Renaissance palazzi.

## 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	1857,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	749
Property Number	

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## History

History of Place:

The 1857 warehouse replaced an earlier iron and stone cellar which may have survived to be incorporated into the new building. It was first occupied by Levy Robinson and Co. and then in 1860 by Levy Bros. This was a large import and export business begun in the 1850s and which operated from several addresses in the city. In 1869 the occupier was Michael Nolan, and in 1870 Alexander Thompson, both clothing manufacturers. In 1877 it became Stone and Robottom's brush factory. In the 1870s it was owned by George Douglas, operator of a local brass foundry. He let it as a store to Wm. Dean and Co, wholesale oil, varnish and colour merchants. In the twentieth century its main use seems to have been as a clothing warehouse.

## Extent of Registration

Historic Building No. 428, Bluestone Warehouse No. 129-131 Flinders Lane, Melbourne (to the extent of the total building carcass excluding the interior).

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. 10 - February 8, 1978 p.333]

*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/>*