Volume 2b
Inventory forms for recommended heritage listings
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heritage item inventories</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Alexandria</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. 33A Bourke Road (and 6 Euston Road)</td>
<td>Sydney Water sewer pipeline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. See map for location</td>
<td>Doody Street stormwater channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. See map for location</td>
<td>Macdonaldtown stormwater channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. See map for location</td>
<td>Shea's Creek stormwater channel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. 2-6 Birmingham Street</td>
<td>Former Walter Barr Pty Ltd factory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. 22-30 Birmingham Street</td>
<td>Former Sil-Ora Dental Products factory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. 27 Birmingham Street</td>
<td>Electricity Substation No. 375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. 29-33 Birmingham Street</td>
<td>Former H. G. Whittle &amp; Sons factory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. 602-612 Botany Road (and 27-31 Ralph Street)</td>
<td>Former Coote &amp; Jorgenson Engineers factory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. 684 Botany Road</td>
<td>Former White Way service station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. 47-49 Bourke Road</td>
<td>Former Q Store</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. 138-196 Bourke Road</td>
<td>Former Commonwealth Industrial Gases oxygen factory and demonstration block</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. 16 Euston Road</td>
<td>Electricity Substation No. 117</td>
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<tr>
<td>14. 40A-42 Maddox Street (and 58-68 Euston Road)</td>
<td>Former Alexandria Spinning Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. 1-3 Mandible Street</td>
<td>Former Standard Telephones &amp; Cables industrial building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. 30 Mandible Street</td>
<td>Former Lempriere &amp; Co office building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. 124 McEvoy Street</td>
<td>Former Electricity Substation No. 152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. 52-54 O’Riordan Street</td>
<td>Former National Motor Springs igloo building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. 82 O’Riordan Street</td>
<td>Electricity Substation No. 225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. 38 Ralph Street</td>
<td>Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. 212-214 Wyndham Street</td>
<td>Former Electric Light Substation No. 89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annandale</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. 1B Booth Street</td>
<td>Sewage Pumping Station No. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Camperdown</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. 6-10 Mallett Street</td>
<td>Former Grace Bros Repository</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. 64-106 Mallett Street</td>
<td>Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors, Substation No. 181, Chesty Bond Mural and former commercial building façade for “Bonds Cafeteria” at 97-99 Church Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Darlington</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. 2-10 Golden Grove Street</td>
<td>Former Jones IXL factory garage</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. 181 Lawson Street</td>
<td>Former McMurtrie, Kellermann &amp; Co factory (The Foundry)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No.</td>
<td>Address</td>
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<td>27.</td>
<td>7-19 Coulson Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>28.</td>
<td>127 Railway Parade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29.</td>
<td>18-20 Victoria Street</td>
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<td>30.</td>
<td>19 Ross Street</td>
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<td>31.</td>
<td>113 Mitchell Street</td>
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<td>32.</td>
<td>10-12 Egan Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>33.</td>
<td>197-207 Wilson Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>34.</td>
<td>53-63 Great Buckingham Street (and 611-619 Elizabeth Street)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35.</td>
<td>99 Renwick Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36.</td>
<td>6-8 Crewe Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37.</td>
<td>85-113 Dunning Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38.</td>
<td>88 Dunning Avenue</td>
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<td>39.</td>
<td>115-133 Dunning Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>40.</td>
<td>120 Dunning Avenue</td>
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<td>41.</td>
<td>135-151 Dunning Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>42.</td>
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<tr>
<td>43.</td>
<td>1-11 Hayes Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44.</td>
<td>61-71 Mentmore Avenue (and 34 Morley Avenue)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45.</td>
<td>268-274 Devonshire Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>46.</td>
<td>470-484 Elizabeth Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>47.</td>
<td>5 Fitzroy Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48.</td>
<td>1-15 Foveaux Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>49.</td>
<td>47-97 Marlborough Street</td>
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<td>50.</td>
<td>13-15 Marshall Street</td>
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<td>51.</td>
<td>11-13 Randle Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>52.</td>
<td>4-34 Wentworth Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>53.</td>
<td>115 Clarence Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>54.</td>
<td>185 Clarence Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55.</td>
<td>193-195 Clarence Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56.</td>
<td>123-129 Clarence Street (and 252-258 Kent Street)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number</td>
<td>Address</td>
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<td>57.</td>
<td>426-430 Kent Street</td>
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<td><strong>Ultimo</strong></td>
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<td>58.</td>
<td>10-16 Bay Street</td>
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<td><strong>Waterloo</strong></td>
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<td>723 Elizabeth Street</td>
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<td>378 George Street</td>
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<td>23 Lachlan Street</td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Zetland</strong></td>
</tr>
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<td>62.</td>
<td>146-158 Joynton Avenue</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conservation area inventories**

**Alexandria**

63. North Alexandria industrial heritage conservation area

**Alexandria & Beaconsfield**

64. William Street industrial heritage conservation area
Updated names note

Some item names have been updated to reflect information uncovered while finalising inventories or for consistency with other item naming conventions. They do not alter the affected land, as described in the planning proposal.

Additional text is shown below underlined and deleted text as strikethrough.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria</td>
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<tr>
<td>33A Bourke Road (and 6 Euston Road)</td>
<td>Sydney Water sewer pipeline</td>
<td>Sydney Water sewer pipeline</td>
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<td>Doody Street stormwater channel</td>
<td>Doody Street stormwater channel</td>
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<td>See map for location</td>
<td>Macdonaldtown stormwater channel</td>
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<td>No change</td>
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<tr>
<td>See map for location</td>
<td>Shea's Creek stormwater channel</td>
<td>Shea's Creek stormwater channel</td>
<td>No change</td>
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<td>2-6 Birmingham Street</td>
<td>Former Walter Barr Pty Ltd factory including interiors</td>
<td>Former Walter Barr Pty Ltd factory including interiors</td>
<td>No change</td>
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<tr>
<td>22-30 Birmingham Street</td>
<td>Former Sil-Ora Dental Products factory including interiors</td>
<td>Former Sil-Ora Dental Products factory including interiors</td>
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<td>Former H.G. Whittle &amp; Sons warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former H.G. Whittle &amp; Sons warehouse factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic use</td>
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<tr>
<td>602-612 Botany Road (and 27-31 Ralph Street)</td>
<td>Former Coote and Jorgenson Engineers warehouses including interiors</td>
<td>Former Coote &amp; Jorgenson Engineers warehouses factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic use and formatted consistently with others</td>
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<td>684 Botany Road</td>
<td>Inter-war service station including interiors</td>
<td>Former White Way service station including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to include historic name and add ‘former’ for past use</td>
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<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Old Name and Use</td>
<td>New Name and Use</td>
<td>Changes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td>------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>47-49 Bourke Road</td>
<td>Q Store including interiors</td>
<td>Former Q Store including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>138-196 Bourke Road</td>
<td>Former Commonwealth Industrial Gases warehouse &amp; stores building including interiors</td>
<td>Former Commonwealth Industrial Gases warehouse &amp; stores building oxygen factory and demonstration block including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic use for identified buildings</td>
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<td>16 Euston Road</td>
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<td>Former Alexandria Spinning Mills including interiors</td>
<td>Former Alexandria Spinning Mills including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>1-3 Mandible Street</td>
<td>Former Standard Telephones &amp; Cables industrial building including interiors</td>
<td>Former Standard Telephones &amp; Cables industrial building including interiors</td>
<td>No change</td>
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<td>30 Mandible Street</td>
<td>Former Lempriere &amp; Co office building including interiors</td>
<td>Former Lempriere &amp; Co office building including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>124 McEvoy Street</td>
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<td>Former Electricity Substation No. 152 including interiors</td>
<td>No change</td>
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<tr>
<td>52-54 O'Riordan Street</td>
<td>Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors</td>
<td>Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors</td>
<td>No change</td>
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<tr>
<td>82 O'Riordan Street</td>
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<td>Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>38 Ralph Street</td>
<td>Former Wilson Bros Willow Kitchenware Co. warehouse and factory including interiors</td>
<td>Former Wilson Bros Willow Kitchenware Co. warehouse and Ware factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic name and use</td>
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<tr>
<td>212-214 Wyndham Street</td>
<td>Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors</td>
<td>Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors</td>
<td>No change</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Annandale**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1B Booth Street</strong></td>
<td>Sewage Pumping Station No. 3 including interiors</td>
<td>Sewage Pumping Station No. 3 including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Camperdown</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>6-10 Mallett Street</td>
<td>Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors</td>
<td>Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors</td>
<td>No change</td>
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<tr>
<td>64-106 Mallett Street</td>
<td>Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors, Substation No. 181, Chesty Bond Mural and former commercial building façade for “Bonds Cafeteria” at 97-88 Church Street</td>
<td>Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors, Substation No. 181, Chesty Bond Mural and former commercial building façade for “Bonds Cafeteria” at 97-88 Church Street</td>
<td>Correction to match existing schedule 5 item name for the cafeteria</td>
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<td>Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors</td>
<td>Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>181 Lawson Street</td>
<td>The Foundry including interiors</td>
<td>The Foundry Former McMurtie, Kellermann &amp; Co factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic name and use</td>
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<td><strong>Erskineville</strong></td>
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<td>7-19 Coulson Street</td>
<td>H. Brightwell &amp; Sons Pty Ltd. south-east warehouse building including interiors</td>
<td>H. Brightwell &amp; Sons Pty Ltd. - Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic name</td>
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<td>18-20 Victoria Street</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Glebe</strong></td>
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<td>113 Mitchell Street</td>
<td>Former Volunteer Brigade Fire Station including interiors</td>
<td>Former Glebe Volunteer Brigade Fire Station including interiors</td>
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<td><strong>Newtown</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10-12 Egan Street</td>
<td>Former Sydney Confectionery Company factory including interiors</td>
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<td>197-207 Wilson Street</td>
<td>Former Gissing Bros warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former F. W. Gissing Bros warehouse factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changes to primary historic name and use</td>
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<td><strong>Redfern</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>53-63 Great Buckingham Street (and 611-619 Elizabeth Street)</td>
<td>Former Hordern &amp; Sons warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former A. Hordern &amp; Sons warehouse factory complex including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic name and use</td>
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<td>99 Renwick Street</td>
<td>Electricity Substation No. 112 including interiors</td>
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<td><strong>Rosebery</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>6-8 Crewe Place</td>
<td>Former Wrigley’s factory</td>
<td>Former Wrigley’s factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to clarify includes interiors as with others</td>
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<td>85-113 Dunning Avenue</td>
<td>Former Rosella Preserving Manufacturing Co. buildings including interiors</td>
<td>Former Rosella Preserving and Manufacturing Co. buildings factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic name and use</td>
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<td>115-133 Dunning Avenue</td>
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<td>Former Name (and Use)</td>
<td>Former Name (and Use)</td>
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<td>Former R.C. Henderson Ltd warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former R.C. Henderson Ltd warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former R.C. Henderson Ltd factory including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>61-71 Mentmore Avenue</td>
<td>Former Cyclone Co. of Australia factory including interiors</td>
<td>Former Cyclone Fence and Gate Co. of Australia factory including interiors</td>
<td>Former Cyclone Fence and Gate Co factory including interiors</td>
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<td>Surry Hills</td>
<td>Surry Hills</td>
<td>Surry Hills</td>
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<tr>
<td>268-274 Devonshire Street</td>
<td>Former Hill &amp; Co warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former Edward Hill &amp; Co warehouse factory including interiors</td>
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<td>470-484 Elizabeth Street</td>
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<td>Former W. C. Penfold &amp; Co. Ltd warehouse factory including interiors</td>
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<td>5 Fitzroy Place</td>
<td>Electricity Substation No. 229 including interiors</td>
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<td>1-15 Foveaux Street</td>
<td>Former Farleigh Nettheim &amp; Co Ltd warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former Farleigh Nettheim &amp; Co Ltd warehouse including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>47-97 Marlborough Street</td>
<td>Former David Jones factory including interiors</td>
<td>Former David Jones factory including interiors</td>
<td>No change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-15 Marshall Street</td>
<td>Former Allington Stoveworks warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former Allington Stoveworks warehouse factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic use</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-13 Randle Street</td>
<td>Former R.C. Henderson Ltd warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former R.C. Henderson Ltd warehouse factory including interiors</td>
<td>Name changed to primary historic use</td>
</tr>
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<td>Address</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>4-34 Wentworth Avenue</td>
<td>Group of warehouses including interiors</td>
<td>Group of warehouses including interiors</td>
<td>Former warehouse including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sydney</td>
<td>Former Noyes Brothers Ltd warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former Noyes Bros warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former Noyes Bros warehouse including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>185 Clarence Street</td>
<td>Former McLaughlin &amp; Co Pty Ltd warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former McLaughlin &amp; Co Pty Ltd Shelley warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former Shelley warehouse including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>193-195 Clarence Street</td>
<td>Shorter House store &amp; offices including interiors</td>
<td>Shorter House store &amp; offices including interiors</td>
<td>Shorter House including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>123-129 Clarence Street (and 252-258 Kent Street)</td>
<td>Former Edwards Dunlop &amp; Co warehouses including interiors</td>
<td>Former Edwards Dunlop &amp; Co warehouses including interiors</td>
<td>Former Edwards Dunlop &amp; Co warehouses including interiors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>426-430 Kent Street</td>
<td>Clarence Kent House warehouse</td>
<td>Former Clarence Kent House warehouse including interiors</td>
<td>Former Grace House warehouse including interiors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ultimo</td>
<td>Part Bay Street Depot including interiors</td>
<td>Part Bay Street Depot including interiors</td>
<td>Part Bay Street Depot including interiors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>Former William Brooks industrial building including interiors</td>
<td>Former William Brooks industrial building including interiors</td>
<td>Former William Brooks factory including interiors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>723 Elizabeth Street</td>
<td>Electricity Substation No. 75 including interiors</td>
<td>Electricity Light Substation No. 75 including interiors</td>
<td>Electricity Substation No. 75 including interiors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>378 George Street</td>
<td>Former Electricity Substation No. 109 including interiors</td>
<td>Former Electricity Substation No. 109 including interiors</td>
<td>Former Electricity Substation No. 109 including interiors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zetland</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address</td>
<td>Original Description</td>
<td>Updated Description</td>
<td>Notes on updates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>---------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>146-158 Joynton Avenue</td>
<td>Former Joseph Lucas industrial building including interiors</td>
<td>Former Joseph Lucas industrial building, showroom, workshop and office including interiors</td>
<td>Name changes to primary historic uses</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Conservation area name (2014)** | **Updated name (2015)** | **Notes on updates** |
---|---|---|
**Alexandria** | | |
North Alexandria industrial heritage conservation area | North Alexandria industrial heritage conservation area | No change |

**Alexandria & Beaconsfield** | | |
William Street industrial heritage conservation area | William Street industrial heritage conservation area | No change |
**Item name:** Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors  

**Address:** 30 Mandible Street  
**Suburb/nearest town:** Alexandria  
**State:** NSW  
**Local govt area:** Sydney  
**Parish:**  
**County:**  
**Sydney South**  

**Location:** 30 Mandible Street  
**State:** NSW  
**Local govt area:** Sydney  
**Parish:**  
**County:**  

**Sydney City Council**  

**Study number**  

**SHI number** 5062446  
**Full report**  

---

**Aboriginal area:** Eora  

**Curtilage/boundary:** Former office building and immediate surrounding land, as described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan  

**Item type:** Built  
**Group:** Commercial  
**Category:** Commercial Office/Building  

**Owner:** Private - Corporate  

**Admin codes:** Commercial  

**Current use:** Office  

**Former uses:**  

**Assessed significance:** Local  
**Endorsed significance:**  

**Statement of significance:**  

The former Lempriere & Co office building forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.  

The building is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative values.
This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The suburb of Alexandria was once part of a vast sand dune system covered by heath, low scrub, creeks and freshwater wetlands that dominated the landscape of the southern suburbs of Sydney. It provided a habitat for a range of fauna such as birds, fish and eels, and was a good food source for the Gadigal, the local Aboriginal people.

The land that today incorporates the areas of Alexandria, Waterloo, Zetland and Rosebery was originally one large estate. Originally granted to former convict and public servant William Hutchinson in 1823, the estate, its buildings and water mill, were then sold to Daniel Cooper and Solomon Levy in 1825 before Cooper became its sole owner in 1833.

For a large part of the nineteenth century, the area was semi-rural low-lying land with swamps. The principal activities were market gardening, dairying and wool-washing. A number of dams were built in this area, including the Little Waterloo Dam, the Big Waterloo Dam and the Upper Dam, as shown on 1885-1890 Higinbotham and Robinson maps of Alexandria and Waterloo.

Waterloo Council was formed in 1860. The municipality of Alexandria was separated from Waterloo and became the Borough of Alexandria in 1868. The area was connected to the city through a network of trams extending along Botany Road and Elizabeth Street.

The land of the Cooper Estate was progressively subdivided into small acreages and sold for residential purposes in 1872 and 1884 with the final sale taking place in 1914. The release of the Cooper Estate opened up large tracts of land for industrial uses at a time when surrounding areas had become more densely populated. This resulted in the relocation of many industrial establishments from Redfern and Surry Hills to the Alexandria and Waterloo area.

This intensive period of industrial development increased land value in the area and forced out all but a few of the remaining market gardeners. Fellmongering, tanning and wool-washing industries were typical of Alexandria. The wetlands of the area offered ideal features for these industries which needed to be located close to a plentiful water supply.

By 1943 an Alexandria Council celebratory publication claimed that Alexandria was the largest industrial municipality in Australia, proudly proclaiming that ‘an area of 1,024 acres has been crowded not less than 550 factories’ (Alexandria Municipal Council 1943, p78). Secondary industries declined in the area from the 1970s as industry expanded to the outer suburbs.

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep's back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians
were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Site history:

The subject office building was constructed for O T Lempriere & Co Pty Ltd, a non-ferrous metals smelting company, which began operations on the adjoining site in 1923. This office was built between 1943 and 1949 at the northern end of the enlarged O T Lempriere site located between Bowden and Mandible Streets on either side of the stormwater channel.

O T Lempriere & Co Pty Ltd first established its plant in 1923 on the adjoining land fronting Bowden Street. Originally established to smelt tin ores, the company expanded its activities to smelt and refine antimony ore, reclaim and refine scrap metal and to manufacture non-ferrous alloys. During World War II, O T Lempriere was very active, manufacturing and refining ores and metals for munitions for the war effort.

The factory was originally located on a smaller site of ½ acres to the south of the stormwater channel. By 1943 the Lempriere factory had grown to extend over 7 acres on both sides of the stormwater channel. The land was recorded at the time as ‘all occupied except a small portion of the frontage to Mandible Street’ (Alexandria: “The Birmingham of Australia” 1868-1943 – 75 Years of Progress, Sydney, 1944, pp 98-101).

The subject land originally formed part of the adjacent industrial site for Mainwaring Brothers Ltd with its main frontage to Bourke Road. O T Lempriere & Co Pty Ltd purchased the land of 28-30 Mandible Street from Mainwaring Brothers Ltd on 25 November 1936 for £1,250. The land was then described as 3 roods 31 perches on the southeast side of Mandible Street, bound on the south and southwest by a brick stormwater drain (Old System Deed, No 583 Bk 1767).

On 13 March 1939, a valuation of the land recorded the site as vacant (Valuer-General, Valuation List, Alexandria 19/8588, No 320). By 1943 the land was still shown as vacant in an aerial survey (1943 aerial photograph, SIX, LPI).

The earliest available record showing the constructed building is the December 1949 aerial photograph (1949 Aerial photo AO112, NSCA). The 1950 civic survey sheet shows the office as a single-storey building (1950 Civic Survey, East Alexandria, 1950, COS).

The 1956 detail sheet records the outline of the office building, including the addition of the eastern wings, and its ownership by O T Lempriere & Co Pty Ltd at this time. The office building was the only building recorded on the Lempriere site north of the stormwater channel. Four other larger buildings of O T Lempriere & Co, and smaller ancillary buildings, were located to the south of the stormwater channel. Two of these buildings to the south are described as the ‘Antimony Smelting Plant’ and ‘Bath Hse’ (1956 Building Surveyor’s Sheet 23, NSCA).

In 1965 an application was lodged to repair the building and recondition machinery (11 February 1965). Green Loch Pty Ltd applied on 6 April 1965 for alterations and additions valued at £3,000. Shortly after, further alterations and additions were proposed on 6 May 1965, worth £1,800 (30 Mandible Street, Street Cards, NSCA).

From the late 1960s, the office building was used for transport and storage. IPEC applied to use the site as a parcel depot on 15 January 1968. On 2 April 1968, Peter Miller proposed alterations and additions with works valued at £30,000. On 25 August 1977, Johnston’s Transport Industrial proposed to use the building for storage.
From 30 January 1986, the site was used as a transport depot with warehousing by K & S Freighters Pty Ltd (30 Mandible Street, Street Cards, NSCA).

Following substantial redevelopment of the site, the office building is the only surviving built structure from the original development for O T Lempriere & Co.

Themes:
- National theme
  - 3. Economy
- State theme
  - Commerce
- Local theme
  - Factory
  - Industry
  - Activities associated with the n

Designer: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Year started: 1943
Year completed: 1949
Circa: Yes

Physical description:
The former Lempriere & Co office building is located on a triangular corner of the site formed between the junction of Mandible Street and the stormwater channel. While the building is aligned parallel to the stormwater channel along the side property boundary, the chamfered corner at the west end of the building responds to the angle of the street.

The former office comprises a single-storey building with brick walls and pitched roofs concealed behind parapet walls at the east and western ends. The roof is raised on the southern elevation to form a second level of window openings. The eastern return of the L-shaped building abuts the bank of the stormwater channel.

While constructed during or immediately following World War II, the building is designed in the earlier inter-war functionalist style. The building's modest form and decoration demonstrate the material shortages of this time. Its design exhibits typical features of the inter-war architectural style including simple geometric massing, pitched roof with parapet walls, string courses emphasising horizontal lines, chamfered corner to the street, curved concrete hood above the corner entrance, stripped ornamentation, stepped skyline and vertically proportioned window openings grouped singularly and in banks of three.

Some window frames have been replaced and the corner entrance altered.

Internally, the roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.


Physical condition: Good
Archaeological potential level: Not assessed
Archaeological potential Detail:
**Item name:** Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

**Location:** 30 Mandible Street  Alexandria 2015

**Modification dates:**
- 1923
  O T Lempriere & Co Pty Ltd was established to smelt tin ores originally occupying a site in Bowden Street, Alexandria

- 25 November 1936
  Conveyance by Mainwaring Brothers Ltd to O T Lempriere & Co Pty Ltd of 3 roods 31 perches on southeast Side of Mandible Street bounded on the south and southwest by a brick stormwater drain, for £1250

- 13 March 1939
  Valuation of the 3 roods 31 perches of the subject land records the site as vacant

- 1949
  Building shown on aerial photo

- 1950
  Building shown on Civic Survey sheet as single storey building

- 1956
  Building shown on detail sheet as owned by O T Lempriere & Co Pty Ltd

- 11 February 1965
  Application to use for site repairing and reconditioning machinery

- 6 April 1965
  Alterations and additions worth £3,000 by Green Loch Pty Ltd.

- 6 May 1965
  Alterations and additions worth £1,800 by Green Loch Pty Ltd

- 15 January 1968
  Application to use premises as parcel depot by IPEC

- 2 April 1968
  Application by Peter Miller for alterations and additions worth $30,000

- 25 August 1977
  Used for storage by Johnstons Transport Industrial

- 30 January 1986
  Used as transport depot with warehousing by K & S Freighters Pty Ltd
Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Recommended management:
The building should be retained and conserved.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development should be undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Stepped parapet, chamfered corner, curved concrete hood, window openings and other original building features should be maintained and conserved.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external industrial character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Management:
Management name
Statutory Instrument List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Further comments:
Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

Criteria a):
[Historical significance]
Built between 1943 and 1949 for the tin-smelting company, O T Lempriere & Co, this former office building represents the industrial development of Alexandria during the mid-twentieth century. It is historically significant for its connection to the Australian production of tin and other metals used for manufacturing munitions for World War II, and as evidence of this formerly widespread metals industry in Alexandria.

The office building represents the only surviving building from the large former factory of O T Lempriere & Co which once extended to Bowden Street. Its construction demonstrates the later expansion of the company due to the high demands of World War II for metal and munitions, while the modest form and decoration demonstrate the material shortages at this time.

The former Lempriere & Co office building forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Criteria b):
[Historical association significance]
This building has significant associations with World War II and post-war operations of the tin-smelting company of O T Lempriere & Co.
Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Criteria c):
[Aesthetic/Technical significance] The building represents a modest late example of a factory office building designed in the inter-war functionalist style, completed during or immediately following the second world war. The building exhibits typical features of the inter-war style including simple geometric massing, pitched roof with parapet walls, string courses emphasizing horizontal lines, chamfered corner to the street, curved concrete hood above the corner entrance, stepped skyline, stripped ornamentation and vertically proportioned window openings grouped singularly and in banks of three.

With its close proximity to the street and stormwater channel, ornamental corner and long side profile, the building is visible from a number of vantage points and contributes to the mid-twentieth century character of Mandible Street and the banks of the stormwater channel.

Criteria d):
[Social/Cultural significance] Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value to communities. It may have social value to the former employees of O T Lempriere & Co as the only surviving building from this major factory site.

Criteria e):
[Research significance]

Criteria f):
[Rarity] As the only surviving building from the large former metal-smelting factory of O T Lempriere & Co, the building is a rare remnant of this company's operations in Alexandria.

Criteria g):
[Representative] The building represents a modest example of a factory office building demonstrating typical features of the inter-war functionalist style, completed during or immediately following the second world war.

Intactness/Integrity: Relatively intact externally

References:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Terry Kass</td>
<td>Industrial and warehouse buildings research - site history</td>
<td>2014</td>
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<td>Scott Cumming</td>
<td>Chimneys and Change: Post European Environmental Impact</td>
<td>2004</td>
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<td>Alexandria Municipal Council</td>
<td>Alexandria, “the Birmingham of Australia” 75 years of progress</td>
<td>1943</td>
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<td>O.T. Lempriere &amp; Co</td>
<td>O. T. Lempriere &amp; Co. O.T.L. quality metals</td>
<td>1934</td>
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Studies:

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<td>City Plan Heritage</td>
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Parcels:

Latitude: Longitude:
Location validity: Spatial accuracy:
Map name: Map scale:
AMG zone: 

Listing:

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<td>Heritage study</td>
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Data entry: Data first entered: 05/08/2014    Data updated: 21/05/2015    Status: Completed
Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street  Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Chamferred corner building frontage to Mandible Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 03/03/2014


Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Image:

Caption: Street and side elevation fronting stormwater channel

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage and JCIS Consultants

Image date: 16/08/2013


Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Image:

Caption: Part street frontage and northern elevation as viewed from Mandible Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 03/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345a9b63e68f53a4a6fa8d023ae63dac3c5.JPG

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345a9b63e68f53a4a6fa8d023ae63dac3c5.JPG
Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: North elevation of the building

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage and JCIS Consultants

Image date: 16/08/2013


**Item name:** Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

**Location:** 30 Mandible Street  Alexandria 2015

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**Image:**

![Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345a272924fb3da4189b801ea65486058fc.JPG)

**Caption:** Part of south elevation fronting stormwater channel

**Copy right:** City of Sydney

**Image by:** Claudine Loffi

**Image date:** 03/03/2014

**Image number:**

- **Image url:** http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345a272924fb3da4189b801ea65486058fc.JPG
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Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street  Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: East building wings fronting the stormwater channel

Copyright: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 03/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345db8e7928f02743f8957fb7b7c4eef4f.JPG

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Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street  Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: 1949 aerial survey of the City of Sydney (AO112) showing the constructed office building

Copy right: City of Sydney archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/12/1949

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345ba8a470a2b174bf7b5e7ccd08166eeaa8.jpg
Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 11956 detail sheet showing the subject site, circled, and surrounding industries

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image number:


Item name: Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

Location: 30 Mandible Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Former Lempriere factory building, since demolished (Alexandria the Birmingham of Australia, 1943)

Copy right:

Image by: Alexandria Municipal Council

Image date: 01/01/1943

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3456afeb1becf7d441c8f128515d5b363f4.jpg

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**Item name:** Former Lempriere & Co office building including interiors

**Location:** 30 Mandible Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

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**Image:**

[Image of O.T. Lempriere & Sons anti-friction metals brochure]

**Caption:** 1934 marketing of O. T. Lempriere & Sons anti-friction metals, giving their location in

**Copy right:** National Library of Australia (http://nla.gov.au/nla.obj-40661350)

**Image by:** O.T. Lempriere & Sons

**Image date:** 01/01/1934

**Image number:**


---

**Date:** 21/05/2015

**Full report**

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.
Item name: Former Electricity Substation No.152 including interiors

Location: 124 McEvoy Street Alexandria 2015

Address: 124 McEvoy Street

Suburb/nearest town: Alexandria 2015

Local govt area: Sydney

State: NSW

Planning: Sydney South

Parish: Alexandria

County: Cumberland

Other/former names:

Area/group/complex:

Aboriginal area: Eora

Curtilage/boundary: As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan

Item type: Built

Group: Utilities - Electricity

Category: Electricity Transformer/Substation

Owner: Private - Corporate

Admin codes:

Code 2: 

Code 3: 

Current use: Cafe

Former uses: Electricity substation

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance:

Date: 21/05/2015

Full report

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Built in 1924, Electricity Substation No. 152 represents a surviving example of the original network of more than 360 substations built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1936, which first supplied electricity to Sydney's industries and houses. The period and location of the substation records the expansion of Sydney's electricity network and the growth of electricity use in Alexandria. The building also marks the major changes electricity brought for Alexandria’s growth, development and population.

Aesthetically, the building demonstrates the characteristic modest form, quality of design and construction for Sydney's substations, which were designed to a higher standard than required for their function in order to integrate into their established urban contexts by reflecting neighbouring architecture or popular styles of the time.

Electricity Substation No. 152 represents a good example of a simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation from the inter-war period. It demonstrates typical characteristics of this architectural period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, symmetry of the main building, roof form concealed behind a parapet wall, face brickwork, original signage, multi-paned timber windows and an emphatic portal accentuated by surrounding decoration, including a classical bracketed cornice.

The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area. Its conversion into a cafe has retained the architectural integrity of the building as a recognisable former substation.

Electricity Substation No. 152 forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Electricity Substation No. 152 and the other surviving substations demonstrate the fundamental role that electricity played in powering Australia's industrialisation and how technological innovations of the time, specifically electricity, defined Sydney's industrial development during the twentieth century. Often constructed to service the high energy demands of factories in the near vicinity, the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth century industrial centres and factories in the way that chimney stacks mark the location of factories predating electricity.

The larger number of substations in Alexandria demonstrates its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity. Alexandria’s McEvoy Street was mostly occupied by industries during the first half of the twentieth century.

Substation No.152 at is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative significance.
Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The suburb of Alexandria was once part of a vast sand dune system covered by heath, low scrub, creeks and freshwater wetlands that dominated the landscape of the southern suburbs of Sydney. It provided a habitat for a range of fauna such as birds, fish and eels, and was a good food source for the Gadigal, the local Aboriginal people.

The land that today incorporates the areas of Alexandria, Waterloo, Zetland and Rosebery was originally one large estate. Originally granted to former convict and public servant William Hutchinson in 1823, the estate, its buildings and water mill, were then sold to Daniel Cooper and Solomon Levy in 1825 before Cooper became its sole owner in 1833.

For a large part of the nineteenth century, the area was semi-rural low-lying land with swamps. The principal activities were market gardening, dairying and wool-washing. A number of dams were built in this area, including the Little Waterloo Dam, the Big Waterloo Dam and the Upper Dam, as shown on 1885-1890 Higinbotham and Robinson maps of Alexandria and Waterloo.

Waterloo Council was formed in 1860. The municipality of Alexandria was separated from Waterloo and became the Borough of Alexandria in 1868. The area was connected to the city through a network of trams extending along Botany Road and Elizabeth Street.

The land of the Cooper Estate was progressively subdivided into small acreages and sold for residential purposes in 1872 and 1884 with the final sale taking place in 1914. The release of the Cooper Estate opened up large tracts of land for industrial uses at a time when surrounding areas had become more densely populated. This resulted in the relocation of many industrial establishments from Redfern and Surry Hills to the Alexandria and Waterloo area.

This intensive period of industrial development increased land value in the area and forced out all but a few of the remaining market gardeners. Fellmongering, tanning and wool-washing industries were typical of Alexandria. The wetlands of the area offered ideal features for these industries which needed to be located close to a plentiful water supply.

By 1943 an Alexandria Council celebratory publication claimed that Alexandria was the largest industrial municipality in Australia, proudly proclaiming that ‘an area of 1,024 acres has been crowded not less than 550 factories’ (Alexandria Municipal Council 1943, p78). Secondary industries declined in the area from the 1970s as industry expanded to the outer suburbs.

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians...
were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Substations history:

One of the major innovations in industry during the nineteenth century was the development of electricity as a power and lighting source, which rivalled and then replaced water and steam power. The mills and workshops of the earlier Industrial Revolution in Britain and North America were mainly water and steam powered, whereas Australia's twentieth century industrial buildings were powered by electricity.

As part of supplying electricity to Sydney's houses and industries for the first time, Sydney Council built Sydney's first power stations and substations during the first half of the twentieth century. Sydney Council, then known as Sydney Municipal Council or the Municipal Council of Sydney, was charged with supplying electricity to Sydney city and surrounding areas in 1896 through the law named the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill passed on 16th October 1896. Electricity supply was managed through the council's department known by a number of names: the Electric Lighting Committee, the Electric Light Department and the Electricity Department from 1920 to 1935. From 1936 the electricity undertaking was named Sydney County Council when it was reformed as a separate authority as a result of the Gas & Electricity Act of 1935. The various names for the council and subsequent electrical authority are recorded in the initials and building names inscribed in substation facades.

Sydney's first power station at Pyrmont began operating in 1904. The large network of substations were constructed in strategic locations to supply power from these power stations to individual customers and other electricity networks. Their specific purpose was to house machinery to convert high voltage electricity for industrial or domestic use. Substations were often erected in close proximity to factories to service their high energy demands. Consequently the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth-century factories and industrial centres in the way that chimney stacks marked factories pre-dating electricity.

Alexandria demonstrates this pattern with its larger number of substations reflecting its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity.

Alexandria’s McEvoy Street was mostly occupied by industries during the first half of the twentieth century. By 1956, these surrounding industries included the large Acme Bedstead Co. factory site on which the substation was located, Pioneer Heals to the immediate west, Kia Ora Industries to the east, and J. McCarthy & Co located on the opposite side of McEvoy Street.

The period and location of surviving substations record the progressive extension of Sydney's electrical network from the centre of Sydney to surrounding areas, the scale and importance of this network, and the fundamental changes electricity brought for Sydney's growth, development and society. Sydney Municipal Council built its first substations at Town Hall, Taylor Square, Woolloomooloo and Ultimo, followed by Glebe, Newtown, Camperdown and surrounding areas. From 1904 to 1935, Sydney Council built more than 360 substations and almost 400 pole transformers throughout Sydney and surrounding suburbs. More continued to be built in the following decades. The Energy Australia (AusGrid) heritage and conservation register records that 33 of the surviving substations are located within the City of Sydney. This number excludes those no longer owned or operated by the electricity supplier, including the subject substation.

Each substation has its own number inscribed on the building facade, which reflects its role in the broader
Item name: Former Electricity Substation No.152 including interiors

Location: 124 McEvoy Street Alexandria 2015

Sydney City Council

The rise of electricity during the late nineteenth century, and in particular small motors for driving machinery and electrical lights, changed the configuration of industrial buildings and machinery. Electricity meant that factories could be designed with a more flexible layout because small electric motors eliminated the need for belt and shaft drives from the steam plant. Factory building design became less reliant on windows for natural light and gas lighting ventilation because of the advent of electric lighting. Electricity also created a new market for factories to produce the new consumer goods reliant on electric power, such as fridges, washing machines, telephones, stoves, ice cream, and the engineering for electric lights, trains and trams.

Site history:

This substation was constructed by the end of 1924 and began operating during the following year.

During the later Sydney County Council era, the cement-finished areas of the exterior were painted and the “SMC” lettering for Sydney Municipal Council on the name panel above the doorway was removed.

The substation remained in service until August 2003. The property was sold in June 2004. The building has been retained and re-used as a cafe.

(Pennington 2012)

Themes:

National theme
3. Economy
4. Settlement

State theme
Technology
Utilities

Local theme
Electricity
Electricity Substation

Designer: Sydney Municipal Council
Builder: Sydney Municipal Council

Year started: 1924
Year completed: 1924
Circa: No
Physical description: Substation No. 152 was built by Sydney Municipal Council in 1924. The substation comprises a single-storey brick building contained under a pitched roof concealed behind parapet walls. The street elevation is constructed of face brickwork with the upper portion rendered and painted, except for the brick-on-edge detailing for the parapet wall.

The substation exhibits typical characteristics of the inter-war architectural period applied to a utilitarian building, including the heavy geometric massing, symmetry of the main building, roof form concealed behind a parapet wall, face brickwork and an emphatic portal. The central entrance is accentuated through surrounding decoration, including the classical bracketed cornice and signage. Original multi-paned timber windows flank the entrance.

Original signage integrated into the facade through relief lettering above the entrance records the origins of the building and the substation's number within Sydney's electricity network. The removal of the "SMC" reflects the transfer of the electrical network from Sydney Municipal Council to Sydney County Council.

The front corrugated iron fence and timber gate which accessed the former transmission yard have been replaced.

The building has been converted into a cafe, while maintaining its architectural integrity and recognisable form as a former substation.

Internally, the roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.


Physical condition: Good

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

During the Sydney County Council era the cement-finished areas of the exterior were painted and the “SMC” lettering on the name panel above the doorway removed (Pennington 2012).

2003-4
Substation use ceased

2012-13
Building altered for change of use to a cafe, including new front door, painted signs and deck with awning in side courtyard (former transmission yard)
**Item name:** Former Electricity Substation No.152 including interiors  
**Location:** 124 McEvoy Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

**Recommended management:**
The building should be retained and conserved.

- A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.
- Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.
- Do not render or paint face brickwork.
- No vertical additions should be made to the building.
- Ensure original architectural detailing, windows, signage and other original features of the substation are maintained.
- New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

**Management:**

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**Further comments:**
Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

**Criteria a): [Historical significance]**

- **Built in 1924,** Electricity Substation No. 152 represents a surviving example of the original network of more than 360 substations built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1936, which first supplied electricity to Sydney's industries and houses. The period and location of the substation records the expansion of Sydney's electricity network and the growth of electricity use in Alexandria. The building also marks the major changes electricity brought for Alexandria’s growth, development and population.

  Electricity Substation No. 152 forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

  Electricity Substation No. 152 and the other surviving substations demonstrate the fundamental role that electricity played in powering Australia's industrialisation and how technological innovations of the time, specifically electricity, defined Sydney's industrial development during the twentieth century. Often constructed to service the high energy demands of factories in the near vicinity, the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth century industrial centres and factories in the way that chimney stacks mark the location of factories predating electricity.

  The larger number of substations in Alexandria demonstrates its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity. Alexandria’s McEvoy Street was mostly occupied by industries during the first half of the twentieth century.
Item name: Former Electricity Substation No.152 including interiors

Location: 124 McEvoy Street  Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Criteria b): [Historical association significance]
The substation has significant associations with the Municipal Council of Sydney, who constructed the building as part of its early twentieth-century responsibility for the generation and distribution of electricity throughout the greater Sydney area from 1904 until 1936. The building also has associations with surrounding industries for which is once supplied electricity, in particular the large Acme Bedstead Co. factory site on which the substation was located.

Criteria c): [Aesthetic/Technical significance]
The building demonstrates the characteristic modest form, quality of design and construction for Sydney's substations, which were designed to a higher standard than required for their function in order to integrate into their established urban contexts by reflecting neighbouring architecture or popular styles of the time.

Electricity Substation No. 152 represents a good example of a simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation from the inter-war period. It demonstrates typical characteristics of this architectural period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, symmetry of the main building, roof form concealed behind a parapet wall, face brickwork, original signage, multi-paned timber windows and an emphatic portal accentuated by surrounding decoration, including a classical bracketed cornice.

The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area. Its conversion into a cafe has retained the architectural integrity of the building as a recognisable former substation.

Criteria d): [Social/Cultural significance]
Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value to communities. The building may have value to community members with an interest in the history, buildings and technology for Sydney's electrification.

Criteria e): [Research significance]
The building may offer research potential into the evolution of architectural design for substations in Sydney.

Criteria f): [Rarity]
The building represents a good example of a substation from the inter-war period.

Criteria g): [Representative]
The substation forms part of a collection of extant substations, which together represent the growth of Sydney's electrical network and the major change that electricity brought for Sydney's growth, development and population during the twentieth century, in particular for the development of industry.

Of more than 360 originally built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1930 in metropolitan Sydney, the current Energy Australia (AusGrid) heritage and conservation register records that 33 surviving substations are located in the City of Sydney. This number excludes those no longer owned or operated by the electricity supplier, including the subject substation.

Intactness/Integrity: Largely intact externally

References:

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**Location:** 124 McEvoy Street Alexandria 2015

**Latitude:**

**Longitude:**

**Location validity:**

**Spatial accuracy:**

**Map name:**

**Map scale:**

**AMG zone:**

**Easting:**

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**Data entry:** Data first entered: 05/08/2014  
Data updated: 13/05/2015  
Status: Completed  

**Study number:**

**SHI number:** 5062447

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This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.
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<td>124 McEvoy Street  Alexandria 2015 Sydney</td>
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### Image:
![Image of Former substation in 2014 following its conversion to a cafe](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/34513936433db2c4969938b3feaf37d6b04.JPG)

**Caption:** Former substation in 2014 following its conversion to a cafe

**Copy right:** City of Sydney

**Image by:** Claudine Loffi

**Image date:** 05/03/2014

**Image number:**

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Item name: Former Electricity Substation No.152 including interiors

Location: 124 McEvoy Street Alexandria 2015

Sydney City Council

SHI number 5062447
Study number

Image:

Caption: Detail of original decoration and signage above entrance

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage and JCIS Consultants

Image date: 05/09/2013

Image number:


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Item name: Former Electricity Substation No.152 including interiors

Location: 124 McEvoy Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: The building in 1928 shortly after construction

Copy right: Ausgrid

Image by: Ausgrid

Image date: 05/09/2013

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Item name: Former Electricity Substation No.152 including interiors

Location: 124 McEvoy Street Alexandria 2015

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing subject substation and surrounding industries

Copyright: City of Sydney archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956


**Item name:** Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

**Location:** 52-54 O' Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

**Address:** 52-54 O'Riordan Street

**Planning:** Sydney South

**Suburb/nearest town:** Alexandria 2015

**Local govt area:** Sydney

**State:** NSW

**Parish:**

**County:**

**Other/ former names:** Undercarriage Annex, National Motor Springs Annex, National Art Metal Company (NAMCO) Pty Ltd, National Securities P

**Area/group/complex:**

**Aboriginal area:** Eora

**Curtilage/boundary:** Igloo building and immediate surrounding land, as described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan

**Item type:** Built

**Group:** Manufacturing and Processing

**Category:** Other - Manufacturing & Processing

**Owner:**

**Admin codes:**

**Code 2:**

**Code 3:**

**Current use:** Industrial/ commercial

**Former uses:** Factory

**Assessed significance:** State

**Endorsed significance:**
Statement of significance: Purpose-built in 1941 as a government annex to manufacture aircraft undercarriages for the Australian military, this former National Motor Springs factory represents the industrial development of Alexandria during the mid-twentieth century. It is historically significant for its connection to Australian manufacturing of the Beaufort bomber, Beaufighter and Lincoln aircraft for World War II, and subsequently aircraft components and NAMCO furniture during peacetime. The building provides evidence of Australia’s wartime industry and the formerly widespread engineering industry in Alexandria.

The scale of the building demonstrates the importance of the munitions and engineering industry for Sydney and Australia during the twentieth century and documents the growth of this industry to support the war effort. As a former government annex, the building provides evidence of the construction of Australian 'shadow factories' for civilian manufacture of munitions for World War II.

The building also represents the development of new technology and innovations of the twentieth century for wartime factory, building and aircraft design. Significant Australian innovations in aircraft design were developed at this site for improved safety of Australian military aircraft, including Arthur Bishop’s design of a rear landing wheel used in the Beaufort and Lincoln bombers. The building also demonstrates Australian wartime experimentation with previously little-used types of timber-framed building construction in order to conserve steel and other materials in high demand for the war effort.

Architecturally, the building demonstrates a rare surviving example of a semi-cylindrical building, or igloo-style building, first used in the Nissen Huts for World War I, constructed during World War II. It represents the first known igloo-style building constructed by the significant Sydney plywood manufacturer Ralph Symonds using arches of laminated timber. The building is also believed to be the first large-scale building in Australia to use glue-laminated timber arches as its principal structural members. The building’s construction demonstrates an early and innovative structural use of laminated timber to achieve the quick construction, efficient use of materials and wide spans needed for wartime factories at a time of materials and labour shortages.

The distinctive curved building form, robust industrial construction and large building footprint makes the building a landmark in the local area, which is highly visible from a number of surrounding vantage points in the streetscapes of Beaconsfield Street, William Street and William Lane. While possibly re clad in corrugated metal, the building retains a high degree of integrity from its original 1940s construction. As one of a group of largely intact industrial buildings in the near vicinity constructed during World War II, it contributes to the industrial mid-twentieth century character of the area.

The building has research potential for its ability to yield information about Australian design and construction of semi-cylindrical huts, or igloo-style buildings, during World War II. This information is not readily available from other similar buildings because surviving igloo buildings from this period are rare locally and are potentially rare in New South Wales. As the first known example of its type of construction in Australia, the site also represents a benchmark in the evolution of timber-framed building construction, specifically the early use of
glue-laminated timber as structural members for large-scale buildings.

The site may hold significance to former Australian military personnel for its connection to the manufacture of the Beaufort bomber used during World War II. As a major former employer in the local area when manufacturing aircraft components for the Australian Government, the building may have value to the community of former employees of National Motor Springs. The post-war association of this site with the tubular steel-framed furniture of NAMCO found in many Australian households during the second half of the twentieth century may hold meaning to some members of the community.

The former National Motor Springs annex forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The igloo building is of local heritage significance, and potentially of state heritage significance, in terms of its historical, association, aesthetic, research, rarity and representative values.
Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The suburb of Alexandria was once part of a vast sand dune system covered by heath, low scrub, creeks and freshwater wetlands that dominated the landscape of the southern suburbs of Sydney. It provided a habitat for a range of fauna such as birds, fish and eels, and was a good food source for the Gadigal, the local Aboriginal people.

The land that today incorporates the areas of Alexandria, Waterloo, Zetland and Rosebery was originally one large estate. Originally granted to former convict and public servant William Hutchinson in 1823, the estate, its buildings and water mill, were then sold to Daniel Cooper and Solomon Levy in 1825 before Cooper became its sole owner in 1833.

For a large part of the nineteenth century, the area was semi-rural low-lying land with swamps. The principal activities were market gardening, dairying and wool-washing. A number of dams were built in this area, including the Little Waterloo Dam, the Big Waterloo Dam and the Upper Dam, as shown on 1885-1890 Higinbotham and Robinson maps of Alexandria and Waterloo.

Waterloo Council was formed in 1860. The municipality of Alexandria was separated from Waterloo and became the Borough of Alexandria in 1868. The area was connected to the city through a network of trams extending along Botany Road and Elizabeth Street.

The land of the Cooper Estate was progressively subdivided into small acreages and sold for residential purposes in 1872 and 1884 with the final sale taking place in 1914. The release of the Cooper Estate opened up large tracts of land for industrial uses at a time when surrounding areas had become more densely populated. This resulted in the relocation of many industrial establishments from Redfern and Surry Hills to the Alexandria and Waterloo area.

This intensive period of industrial development increased land value in the area and forced out all but a few of the remaining market gardeners. Fellmongering, tanning and wool-washing industries were typical of Alexandria. The wetlands of the area offered ideal features for these industries which needed to be located close to a plentiful water supply.

By 1943 an Alexandria Council celebratory publication claimed that Alexandria was the largest industrial municipality in Australia, proudly proclaiming that ‘an area of 1,024 acres has been crowded not less than 550 factories’ (Alexandria Municipal Council 1943, p78). Secondary industries declined in the area from the 1970s as industry expanded to the outer suburbs.

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians
were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Igloo building and war-time construction history:

The earliest form of igloo-style buildings, or semi-cylindrical huts, were developed during World War I. Known as Nissen Huts, these buildings were named after their inventor, a mining engineer of the British Army, Major Peter Norman Nissen.

Igloo-style buildings continued to be built during World War II to meet the wartime demands for manufacturing, aircraft and housing. The buildings were designed for the economic use of materials, mass production, portability and fast construction.

Igloo-style buildings that used timber rather than steel for framing were devised in America.

The concept of glue laminating timber to form heavy structural members had been introduced to Australia by the CSIR as early as November of 1938 (Nolan 1994). However, its first recorded use was not until 1941 when short-span glue laminated beams were used in store building designed by the architect, H. Garnet Alsop (Nolan 1994). Alsop designed a laminated timber beam using reconditioned kiln-dried hardwood that was found to be particularly useful for spanning large distances (Building, 24 October 1941, p 80). The firm of Ralph Symonds Pty Ltd was making arches of laminated timber (Building, 24 September 1942, p 50-1).

The Commonwealth Department of Munitions was established in 1939. Before the war, it had been developing ‘annexes’ based on the British ‘shadow factory’ programme, whereby existing civilian firms were provided with buildings and machinery in semi-separate facilities ready to produce munitions when needed. These ‘annexes’ were built on land owned by private companies that were then leased to the Commonwealth. Alternatively, private companies operated the ‘annexes’ with their own equipment and staff on behalf of the Commonwealth. (D P Mellor, The Role of Science and Industry, p.30)

During World War II, the Australian government also established the Allied Works Council (AWC) to control the construction of defence projects for the Allied armies during the war. This council built thousands of defence buildings all over Australia, mostly in timber. The main building types they constructed including wool stores, sawtooth-roofed workshops and stores, aircraft hangars, arched stores and workshops, curved-roof inland stores and workshops with quadrangular roof trusses. (Nolan 1994)

Many of these buildings experimented with previously little-used types of timber-framed building construction because the war removed previous restrictions on timber design and construction in Australia and steel and other materials in high demand for the war effort needed to be conserved. (Nolan 1994)

One of these buildings constructed for the Allied Works Council as a government annex included the subject igloo building at National Motor Springs, built by Ralph Symonds. The subject annex appears to be the Allied Works Council’s only glue-laminated arch building. Their subsequent arch storage buildings were all hand-nailed igloo structures. (Nolan 1994)

While the Allied Works Council abandoned glue-laminated arches, Ralph Symonds' successful experience with this building began a series of developments in arched industrial building forms. He constructed at least three more foundation arch buildings prior to the war's end, with one other known in Melbourne. (Nolan 1994)

Site history during World War II:
This subject building was purpose-built in 1941 as a government annex to manufacture aircraft undercarriages for the Beaufort bomber during World War II. The building was constructed as a large-span igloo-style building by Ralph Symonds Pty Ltd for the initial owner and prominent industrialist, Sir John Stanley Storey, his companies of National Motor Springs Ltd and National Securities Pty Ltd, and the Allied War Council. Ownership of the land during World War II was transferred to the Commonwealth of Australia.

Sir John Stanley Storey originally established National Motor Springs Pty Ltd in 1929 to manufacture automotive-parts. Storey was very interested in the most modern method of automotive component production and business management.

On 8 September 1936, the subject land comprising 3 acres 3 roods 12 perches on O'Riordan Street, Alexandria, were transferred to Sir John Stanley Storey, described in the land titles records as a company manager of Melbourne, Victoria (CT 4257 f 69).

By 24 July 1937, a number of other buildings had been constructed on this site (SMH, 24 July 1937 p 18).

On 5 November 1937, John Stanley Storey registered his company of National Securities Pty Ltd in New South Wales (ASIC Company name search, 11 September 2014). On the same day, the subject land was transferred to this company (CT 4257 f 69).

Due to a shortage of British industrial components, the Australian Government resolved to manufacture aircraft independently in Australia. This occurred at a time when the export of British components was restricted due to the British defeat in France.

Sir John Stanley Storey was appointed the director of the Beaufort aircraft construction programme by Essington Lewis, Director-general of the additional Department of Aircraft Production. Sir Storey sub-contracted to approximately six hundred firms across Australia, forming a network of sites to manufacture the bombers.

The subject igloo building was built for Sir Storey and the Allied Works Council as a government annex to manufacture the undercarriages for the Bristol Beaufort bomber. It formed part of a network of factories which produced components for seven sub-assembly workshops and, finally, the main assembly plants at Fishermens Bend in Victoria and at Mascot in Sydney. The railway workshops at Chullora undertook major sub-assembly of the fuselage and the fabrication of numerous parts.

Ralph Symonds constructed the building. Ralph Symonds (1895-1961) was an innovator with timber and a world authority on the use of laminated veneers and timbers. His products were used in major construction works throughout Australia during the 1940s and 1950s including the Myer Music Bowl, Glenbawn and Warragamba Dams. Ralph Symonds founded Standardised Furniture Co. at Marrickville in 1924, Panels Pty Ltd at Newtown in 1933 and Ralph Symonds Pty Ltd in 1942 (State Library of NSW, Ralph Symonds Ltd collection, Biographical Information). Ralph Symonds laminated timber was later used to finish the interiors of the Sydney Opera House.

The National Motor Springs Annex was the first building Symonds erected using arches of glue laminated timber (C Brown, Driven by Ideas: The story of Arthur Bishop a great Australian inventor, University of New South Wales Press, Sydney, 2003, p 14-5, 17). This building is also believed to be the first large-scale building in Australia to use glue-laminated timber as its principal structural members (Nolan 1994).

Laminated timber was cheaper than steel and allowed small sections of low grade local timber to be used when materials were in short supply and in high demand due to the war (Building, 24 September 1942, p 50-1). The arched form took advantage of the new laminated timber technology and minimised the materials required.

The manufacturing of these laminated arches was also efficient. Ralph Symonds developed air-driven jacks to press the arch laminates together. His work team could manufacture one rib every two hours. Quality-control was
poor, meaning the butt joints often opened during pressing to leave gaps up to 10 millimeters. However, this did not appear to affect the performance of the subject building, which still stands with minimal maintenance. (Nolan 1994)

By mid-November of 1941, the igloo building was complete and operational. It was already producing hydraulic undercarriages for the Beaufort bomber when the Governor General, Lord Gowrie, visited the works at this time. A photograph of his visit was published on the front page of Army News (Army News, 27 Nov 1941, p 1).

The Beaufort bomber was a British design, which eventually evolved into the rugged Beaufighter, a night-fighter and fighter-bomber. The Beaufort bomber needed almost 2,000 modifications before the first Australian-made aircraft flew late in 1941.

Australian designer Arthur Bishop, associated with the Undercarriage Annex, devised a rear landing wheel which eliminated the dangerous shimmy of the rear wheel of the Beaufort when landing. A similar modification was made for the Lincoln bomber when manufacture was being arranged in Australia. (C Brown, Driven by Ideas, p 26, 32-41, 47-9)

At this Annex, National Motor Springs, without the advantage of data on manufacturing procedure or designs for tools, succeeded in meeting the requirements of tail-wheel struts and oleo legs for the Beaufort, and later for the Beaufighter and the Lincoln bomber, at a cost of about half the landed cost of the same components from the United States (Mellor 1958:392).

The land valuation of the larger site on 8 April 1943 recorded that it was then occupied by a brick and corrugated fibro factory and offices with a corrugated fibro roof. The building comprised two dressing rooms, shower room and lavatory, a fibro canteen and a fibro carpenters’ shop (Valuer-General, Valuation List, Alexandria, SRNSW 19/8587, No 335). It is not clear which of these buildings represented the subject building. Nevertheless, the subject igloo building was recorded as constructed in 1943 located behind the main factory buildings in the aerial photograph of this year (1943 aerial photograph, SIX, LPI).

On 21 May 1943, the Commonwealth of Australia resumed the subject part of the site occupied by the undercarriage annex (CT 4257 f 69). A new certificate of title was issued to the Commonwealth of Australia for that land on 26 July 1944 (CT 5437 f 82).

By 1944, the annex was employing over 600 workers (C Brown, Driven by Ideas, p 21).

Post-war site history:

In November 1945 when the war ended, the Commonwealth Government announced that it would continue producing aircraft in its annexes including the one at National Motor Springs Ltd (SMH 17 Nov 1945, p 4).

After the war, National Motor Springs Pty Ltd extended its activities manufacturing furniture. In 1946, the company registered a large number of designs for furniture such as armchairs and lounge chairs, tables and tubular furniture (Search, Series A 1337, NAA).

On 19 October 1948, large stocks of aeroplane seats and other fittings worth £5,000 were destroyed by a fire at this plant. Two sheds were also badly damaged (SMH, 19 Oct 1948 p 3; Adelaide News, 19 Oct 1948, p 4).

Between 1950 and 1952, undercarriage production was transferred to the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation at Lidcombe (NAA, NRS MP287/1, 5763).

On 15 June 1951, the government annex was leased to National Securities Pty Ltd (CT 5437 f 82). On 16 March 1953, the company applied to council for approval to retain and continue the use of the existing building at the rear of 52 O’Riordan Street (52 O’Riordan St, Street card, NSCA).
By 1956, the igloo building was in use by NAMCO Products Pty Ltd (1956 Building Surveyor sheet 23, COS). NAMCO, the abbreviated name for the National Art Metal Company, made two types of products: kitchenware and tubular steel-framed furniture. This furniture appears to have been produced in the annex for some years.

Ownership of the annex was finally transferred to National Securities Pty Ltd on 14 June 1957 (CT 5437 f 82).

By 1959, the main NAMCO works were located at Kirrawee (Women’s Weekly, 9 Dec 1959, p 66).

The National Motor Springs Pty Ltd company name was changed to National Springs Pty Ltd on 13 July 1965 (CT 5437 f 82).

By 1959, the main NAMCO works were located at Kirrawee (Women’s Weekly, 9 Dec 1959, p 66).

The National Motor Springs Pty Ltd company name was changed to National Springs Pty Ltd on 13 July 1965 (CT 5437 f 82).

The subject igloo building was constructed in 1941 as a government annex for National Motor Springs to manufacture aircraft undercarriages. While the site has a street address on O'Riordan Street, the subject building addresses Beaconsfield Street. It has little setback from the street boundary and the eastern side property boundary.

The igloo building comprises a large-span, timber-framed, semi-cylindrical structure of one storey with glue-laminated timber arch framework and corrugated metal cladding for the curved roof and vertical end walls. The apex of the roof has an elevated semi-circular skylight along the ridge for ventilation. The main curved roof is lifted on the east and west elevations for a horizontal band of windows. Windows have metal louvres.

The factory interior is one large uninterrupted space with no internal columns, high clearances under the arched roof, concrete slab floors and exposed curved roof structure. The arched structure provides no vertical side walls, only the north and south end walls. Partitions to the side enclose some administration rooms within the arched frame.

As documented in the 1994 architectural thesis by Gregory Nolan, the building's construction comprises a regular three-pin parabolic arch structure of 17 bays at 14 feet (4.3 metres) centres. Each arch spans 95 ft (29 metres). The ribs were butt-joint laminated on site from 29 layers of low-grade rimu, a New Zealand timber, using casein glues. The detailing in the remainder of the building is very simple. The purlins run simply-supported over the arches and are fixed with nail blocks. Bracing is also nailed hardwood. The end walls are framed with 10 x 3 ins (240 x 75 mm) solid hardwood at 9 ft (2.7 metres) centres. Nolan's 1994 measured drawings of the building are included in this inventory as images.

Earlier historical records indicate that the building may have originally been clad with corrugated asbestos fibre. With the possible exception of new cladding in a material consistent with its style of construction, the building appears largely intact externally.

Internally, the roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.


Physical condition level: Fair
Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Physical condition: Archaeological

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

8 September 1936
Ownership transfer of 3 acres 3 roods 12 perches on O’Riordan Street, Alexandria to John Stanley Storey, Melbourne, Victoria, company manager

24 July 1937
Records note buildings constructed in Alexandria in past 18 months include National Motor Springs Ltd

5 November 1937
Site purchased by National Securities Pty Ltd

20 December 1937
Valuation of land owned by National Securities Pty Ltd in O’Riordan Street, Alexandria, shows site is occupied by brick and factory and offices, with a fibro and glass roof

November 1941
Photograph of Governor General, Lord Gowrie, visiting the National Motor Springs Ltd, works producing hydraulic under carriages for Beaufort bombers published on front page of Army News

21 May 1943
Acquisition of part of site by Commonwealth of Australia with easements and right of way

1943
Igloo warehouse shown as constructed in aerial photo

26 July 1944
New certificate of title issued to Commonwealth of Australia for 2 roods 38 perches occupied by the igloo factory

19 October 1948
Large stocks of aeroplane seats and other fittings worth £5,000 destroyed by fire at the plant

1950-2
Undercarriage production transferred to Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation, Lidcombe

15 June 1951
Land leased to National Securities Pty Ltd

16 March 1953
Application for consent to retain use of existing building at rear and to continue existing work

1956
Igloo building used by NAMCO Products Pty Ltd

14 June 1957
Ownership transfer to National Securities Pty Ltd
Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Recommended management:
Retain and conserve the building.
A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.
Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.
No vertical additions should be made to the building.
The original form, laminated timber structure and materials should be conserved and maintained.
Repairs should match existing materials as closely as possible, or where currently asbestos fibre, replaced with materials of a similar appearance and finish.
New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external industrial character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Management:
Management category: Statutory Instrument
Management name: List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Further comments:
Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only.
Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

Criteria a): [Historical significance]
Purpose-built in 1941 as a government annex to manufacture aircraft undercarriages for the Australian military, this former National Motor Springs factory represents the industrial development of Alexandria during the mid-twentieth century. It is historically significant for its connection to Australian manufacturing of the Beaufort bomber, Beaufighter and Lincoln aircraft for World War II, and subsequently aircraft components and NAMCO furniture during peacetime. The building provides evidence of Australia’s wartime industry and the formerly widespread engineering industry in Alexandria.
The scale of the building demonstrates the importance of the munitions and engineering industry for Sydney and Australia during the twentieth century and documents the growth of this industry to support the war effort. As a former government annex, the building provides evidence of the construction of Australian ‘shadow factories’ for civilian manufacture of munitions for World War II.
The building also represents the development of new technology and innovations of the twentieth century for wartime factory, building and aircraft design. Significant Australian innovations in aircraft design were developed at this site for improved safety of Australian military aircraft, including Arthur Bishop’s design of a rear landing wheel used in the Beaufort and Lincoln bombers. The building also demonstrates Australian wartime experimentation with previously little-used types of timber-framed building construction in order to conserve steel and other materials in high demand for the war effort.
The former National Motor Springs annex forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.
**Sydney City Council**

**Criteria b): [Historical association significance]**
The building has significant associations with Sir John Stanley Storey who established National Motor Springs and then oversaw its wartime role as a component manufacturer.

As a purpose-built government annex for World War II munitions manufacturing, the building is also associated with the Australian manufacture of the Beaufort bomber for World War II, the Allied Works Council, and technical innovations in bomber and wartime building design.

The building construction also has significant associations with the significant Sydney plywood manufacturer, Ralph Symonds.

After the war, the building had associations with NAMCO (the National Art Metal Company) and the tubular steel-framed furniture made at this site during the 1950s.

**Criteria c): [Aesthetic/Technical significance]**
Architecturally, the building demonstrates a rare surviving example of a semi-cylindrical building, or igloo-style building, first used in the Nissen Huts for World War I, constructed during World War II. It represents the first known igloo-style building constructed by the significant Sydney plywood manufacturer Ralph Symonds using arches of laminated timber. The building is also believed to be the first large-scale building in Australia to use glue-laminated timber arches as its principal structural members. The building’s construction demonstrates an early and innovative structural use of laminated timber to achieve the quick construction, efficient use of materials and wide spans needed for wartime factories at a time of materials and labour shortages.

The distinctive curved building form, robust industrial construction and large building footprint makes the building a landmark in the local area, which is highly visible from a number of surrounding vantage points in the streetscapes of Beaconsfield Street, William Street and William Lane. While possibly reclad in corrugated metal, the building retains a high degree of integrity from its original 1940s construction. As one of a group of largely intact industrial buildings in the near vicinity constructed during World War II, it contributes to the industrial mid-twentieth century character of the area.

**Criteria d): [Social/Cultural significance]**
Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value for the local community. The site may hold significance to former Australian military personnel for its connection to the manufacture of the Beaufort bomber used during World War II. As a major former employer in the local area when manufacturing aircraft components for the Australian Government, the building may have value to the community of former employees of National Motor Springs.

The post-war association of this site with the tubular steel-framed furniture of NAMCO found in many Australian households during the second half of the twentieth century may hold meaning to some members of the community.

**Criteria e): [Research significance]**
The building has research potential for its ability to yield information about Australian design and construction of semi-cylindrical huts, or igloo-style buildings, during World War II. This information is not readily available from other similar buildings because surviving igloo buildings from this period are rare locally and are potentially rare in New South Wales.

As the first known example of its type of construction in Australia, the site also represents a benchmark in the evolution of large timber-framed building construction, in particular the early use of glue-laminated timber as structural members for large scale buildings.

**Criteria f): [Rarity]**
The building is rare as a surviving largely intact example of a semi-cylindrical building, or igloo-style building constructed during World War II. Surviving igloo buildings from this period are rare locally and are potentially rare in New South Wales.

The building is also rare as the first known example of its type constructed in Australia, as a large-scale timber-framed building using glue-laminated timber arches as its principal structural members, constructed by Ralph Symonds.

**Criteria g): [Representative]**
The building demonstrates a good and rare example of of a semi-cylindrical building, or igloo-style building, constructed during World War II, and a government annex built specifically to manufacture aircraft components.
Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Intactness/Integrity: Largely intact

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<td>Dr Terry Kass</td>
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| Data entry: | Data first entered: 05/08/2014 | Data updated: 14/05/2015 | Status: Completed |

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.
Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: Eastern (side) and northern elevations of subject building viewed from Beasconsfield Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 05/03/2014

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345abaf8b33d48459ca8a1dabb4de89dc3.JPG
Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: North elevation of subject building facing Beaconsfield Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 05/03/2014

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345a5857746575b46d79dadde7623e6024b.JPG
Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Image:

Caption: Building interiors

Copy right: Knight Frank

Image by: Knight Frank

Image date:

Image number:


Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1943 aerial showing the subject curved-roof building (on right) shortly after construction

Copy right: Lands and Property Information, SIX maps

Image by: RTA

Image date: 01/01/1943

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345b16665d4f04c49e1832d9c5a0190ba03.jpg

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Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: Transverse section of the igloo building, as recorded in the 1994 thesis by Gregory Nolan

Copy right: Gregory Nolan

Image by: Gregory Nolan

Image date: 01/10/1994

Image number:

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Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Caption: Plan and construction details of the igloo building, as recorded in the 1994 thesis by Gregory Nolan

Copy right: Gregory Nolan

Image by: Gregory Nolan

Image date: 01/10/1994


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Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1943 land title plan with the subject site outlined in red as the land resumed by the Commonwealth

Copy right: Land titles office

Image by: Land titles office (CT 5437 f 82)

Image date: 01/01/1943


**Item name:** Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

**Location:** 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

**Image:**

![Image of the building](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/3452b33b50f0584453db74d3c7226f37a04.png)

**Caption:** 1956 detail sheet showing the subject building circled and surrounding industries

**Copyright:** City of Sydney archives

**Image by:** City Building Surveyors Department, City of Sydney

**Image date:** 01/01/1956

**Image number:**

**Image url:** http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/3452b33b50f0584453db74d3c7226f37a04.png

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Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: Manufacturing in the subject Annex in 1942, showing the drilling of oleo cylinders (Brown 2003: 23)

Copy right: Clare Brown

Image by: Unknown

Image date: 01/01/1942

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Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street  Alexandria 2015

Image: [Image of the Bristol Beaufort Bomber in circa 1940]

Caption: The Bristol Beaufort Bomber in circa 1940

Copy right: State Library of Queensland

Image by: John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland

Image date: 01/01/1940

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Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: Bomber crew loading a Beaufort for a reconnaissance flight in 1943 (likely in Victoria)

Copy right: State Library of Victoria

Image by: State Library of Victoria (ID: 49314063)

Image date: 01/01/1943

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345b9bcc63519644a6f8a4a7c5935d4d1d3.jpg

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Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Caption: Beaufort bombers flying in formation in 1943 patrolling shipping areas

Copy right: State Library of Victoria

Image by: State Library of Victoria (ID: 49314065)

Image date: 01/01/1943

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34537bdefb5379c4717b19347b3c3f02f0.jpg

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Item name: Former National Motor Springs igloo building including interiors

Location: 52-54 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Caption: A selection of NAMCO tubular steel furniture advertised in 1953 Women's Weekly

Copy right: National Library of Australia

Image by: Women's Weekly

Image date: 02/09/1953


Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street  Alexandria 2015

Address: 82 O'Riordan Street

Suburb/nearest town: Alexandria 2015

Local govt area: Sydney

State: NSW

Parish: Alexandria

County: Cumberland

Other/former names: Doody Street Substation

Planning: Sydney South

Area/group/complex:

Aboriginal area: Eora

Curtilage/boundary: As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan

Item type: Built

Group: Utilities - Electricity

Category: Electricity Transformer/Substation

Owner: State Government

Admin codes:

Code 2:

Code 3:

Current use: Electricity substation

Former uses: Electricity substation

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance:
Electricity Substation No. 225 represents a surviving example of the original network of more than 360 substations built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1936, which first supplied electricity to Sydney's industries and houses. The period and location of the substation records the expansion of Sydney's electricity network and the growth of electricity use in Alexandria. The building also marks the major changes electricity brought for Alexandria’s growth, development and population.

Aesthetically, the building demonstrates the characteristic modest form, quality of design and construction for Sydney's substations, which were designed to a higher standard than required for their function in order to integrate into their established urban contexts by reflecting neighbouring architecture or popular styles of the time.

Electricity Substation No. 225 represents a good example of a simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation from the inter-war period. It demonstrates typical characteristics of this architectural period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, roof form concealed behind a parapet wall, decorative face brickwork, simple surfaces, emphatic entrance framed by bull-nose brick pilasters, a stepped ornamental lintel surmounting the entrance, prominent and decorative building signage, and string courses along the parapet wall. The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area.

Electricity Substation No. 225 forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Electricity Substation No. 225 and the other surviving substations demonstrate the fundamental role that electricity played in powering Australia's industrialisation and how technological innovations of the time, specifically electricity, defined Sydney's industrial development during the twentieth century. Often constructed to service the high energy demands of factories in the near vicinity, the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth century industrial centres and factories in the way that chimney stacks mark the location of factories predating electricity.

The larger number of substations in Alexandria demonstrates its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity. Alexandria’s O’Riordan Street was almost exclusively occupied by industries during the first half of the twentieth century, predominantly for metals, machinery, textiles, printing, soap works and industrial gases in the immediate surrounds to the substation.

Electricity Substation No. 225 is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative values.
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street  Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Historical notes of provenance:

Early development of the locality:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The suburb of Alexandria was once part of a vast sand dune system covered by heath, low scrub, creeks and freshwater wetlands that dominated the landscape of the southern suburbs of Sydney. It provided a habitat for a range of fauna such as birds, fish and eels, and was a good food source for the Gadigal, the local Aboriginal people.

The land that today incorporates the areas of Alexandria, Waterloo, Zetland and Rosebery was originally one large estate. Originally granted to former convict and public servant William Hutchinson in 1823, the estate, its buildings and water mill, were then sold to Daniel Cooper and Solomon Levy in 1825 before Cooper became its sole owner in 1833.

For a large part of the nineteenth century, the area was semi-rural low-lying land with swamps. The principal activities were market gardening, dairying and wool-washing. A number of dams were built in this area, including the Little Waterloo Dam, the Big Waterloo Dam and the Upper Dam, as shown on 1885-1890 Higinbotham and Robinson maps of Alexandria and Waterloo.

Waterloo Council was formed in 1860. The municipality of Alexandria was separated from Waterloo and became the Borough of Alexandria in 1868. The area was connected to the city through a network of trams extending along Botany Road and Elizabeth Street. The land of the Cooper Estate was progressively subdivided into small acreages and sold for residential purposes in 1872 and 1884 with the final sale taking place in 1914. The release of the Cooper Estate opened up large tracts of land for industrial uses at a time when surrounding areas had become more densely populated. This resulted in the relocation of many industrial establishments from Redfern and Surry Hills to the Alexandria and Waterloo area.

This intensive period of industrial development increased land value in the area and forced out all but a few of the remaining market gardeners. Fellmongering, tanning and wool-washing industries were typical of Alexandria. The wetlands of the area offered ideal features for these industries which needed to be located close to a plentiful water supply.

By 1943 an Alexandria Council celebratory publication claimed that Alexandria was the largest industrial municipality in Australia, proudly proclaiming that ‘an area of 1,024 acres has been crowded not less than 550 factories’ (Alexandria Municipal Council 1943, p78). Secondary industries declined in the area from the 1970s as industry expanded to the outer suburbs.

Substations history:

One of the major innovations in industry during the nineteenth century was the development of electricity as a power and lighting source, which rivalled and then replaced water and steam power. The mills and workshops of the earlier Industrial Revolution in Britain and North America were mainly water and steam powered, whereas Australia's twentieth century industrial buildings were powered by electricity.

As part of supplying electricity to Sydney's houses and industries for the first time, Sydney Council built Sydney's first power stations and substations during the first half of the twentieth century. Sydney Council, then known as Sydney Municipal Council or the Municipal Council of Sydney, was charged with supplying electricity to Sydney city and surrounding areas in 1896 through the law named the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill passed on 16th October 1896. Electricity supply was managed through the council's department known by a number of names: the Electric Lighting Committee, the Electric Light Department and the Electricity Department from 1920 to 1935. From 1936 the electricity undertaking was named Sydney County Council when it was reformed as a separate authority as a result of the Gas & Electricity Act of 1935. The various names for the
Sydney City Council

Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Sydney's first power station at Pyrmont began operating in 1904. The large network of substations were constructed in strategic locations to supply power from these power stations to individual customers and other electricity networks. Their specific purpose was to house machinery to convert high voltage electricity for industrial or domestic use. Substations were often erected in close proximity to factories to service their high energy demands. Consequently the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth-century factories and industrial centres in the way that chimney stacks marked factories pre-dating electricity.

Alexandria demonstrates this pattern with its larger number of substations reflecting its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity.

Alexandria’s O’Riordan Street was almost exclusively occupied by industries during the first half of the twentieth century, predominantly for metals, machinery, textiles, printing, soap and tallow works (beef by-products) and industrial gases in the immediate surrounds to the substation. By 1956, these surrounding industries included the Mooreland Metal Co. to the immediate north of the substation, R. S. Lamb and Co. to the south on the other side of the channel, and Brighton Soap Works, Bird Bros. and the large Commonwealth Industrial Gases site located on the opposite side of O’Riordan Street.

The period and location of surviving substations record the progressive extension of Sydney's electrical network from the centre of Sydney to surrounding areas, the scale and importance of this network, and the fundamental changes electricity brought for Sydney's growth, development and society. Sydney Municipal Council built its first substations at Town Hall, Taylor Square, Woolloomooloo and Ultimo, followed by Glebe, Newtown, Camperdown and surrounding areas. From 1904 to 1935, Sydney Council built more than 360 substations and almost 400 pole transformers throughout Sydney and surrounding suburbs. More continued to be built in the following decades. The Energy Australia (AusGrid) heritage and conservation register records that 33 of the surviving substations are located within the City of Sydney. This number excludes those no longer owned or operated by the electricity supplier.

Each substation has its own number inscribed on the building facade, which reflects its role in the broader electrical network and generally the total number, sequence and period of construction, with some exceptions where disused numbers were reallocated. Most substations were constructed in established urban areas on a small portion of land acquired or subdivided specifically for this purpose. These buildings, while modest in scale and different in function to surrounding buildings, were designed and constructed to a good standard, in a style designed to harmonise with surrounding architecture, in order to reduce community fears or resistance to the incursion of this new technology and impacts on the appearance of streets.

The rise of electricity during the late nineteenth century, and in particular small motors for driving machinery and electrical lights, changed the configuration of industrial buildings and machinery. Electricity meant that factories could be designed with a more flexible layout because small electric motors eliminated the need for belt and shaft drives from the steam plant. Factory building design became less reliant on windows for natural light and gas lighting ventilation because of the advent of electric lighting. Electricity also created a new market for factories to produce the new consumer goods reliant on electric power, such as fridges, washing machines, telephones, stoves, ice cream, and the engineering for electric lights, trains and trams.

Site history:

The site was chosen for a substation during the first half of 1926 located within the property of R. S. Lamb & Co, a manufacturer of tallow and fertiliser and also a merchant for coal and timber. The site was eventually acquired by resumption and became the property of the Sydney Municipal Council in May 1927.
It is likely that this substation was intended to replace an existing pole transformer located in O’Riordan Street near Doody Street.

Work on the site began around September 1927. In the meantime, a temporary substation was put into service to reinforce supplies of electricity in the vicinity pending completion of the permanent installation.

The building for the permanent substation was completed during the second half of 1928 and the installation began operations before the end of that year.

Sydney County Council was the precursor to Energy Australia and Ausgrid, as the electricity authority by this time after these operations separated from Sydney Municipal Council.

In 1947 Sydney County Council was contacted by the accountant and auditor for R. S. Lamb & Co about the ownership of the substation site. This revealed that the company had never submitted a claim for payment following the land resumption by Sydney Municipal Council in 1927. The company immediately submitted a claim for £100, however, the Sydney County Council denied liability. Records do not indicate whether the company’s claim was successful. (Pennington 2012)

Substation No. 225 was built by Sydney Municipal Council in 1928 on the north bank of the Doody Street stormwater channel. The substation comprises a single-storey brick building contained under a skillion roof concealed behind a parapet wall. The parapet wall returns along the southern elevation fronting the Doody Street stormwater channel.

The building is constructed of tuck-pointed face brickwork on the street elevation and common bricks on other elevations. The front wall steps down in height to form the fence and entrance to the side transformer yard. A small set-back of the building from the street is paved in concrete and edged by a low brick wall.

The substation exhibits typical characteristics of the inter-war architectural period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, roof form concealed behind a parapet wall, decorative face brickwork, simple surfaces, emphatic entrance and decorative features. Decorative elements include the bull-nose brick pilasters framing the entrance, a stepped ornamental lintel surmounting the entrance containing decorative substation signage and string courses along the parapet wall.

Original signage is integrated into the facade through relief lettering above the entrance, which records the origins of the building and the substation's number within Sydney's electricity network.

The off-centre position of the main entrance on the main front facade is unusual for inter-war substations of this kind. The entrance is, however, still located centrally within the street elevation when including the wall fronting the side yard.

Internally, the roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.


Physical condition level: Good
Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

82 O’Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

The building should be retained and conserved. A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development should be undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Unpainted brickwork should not be painted, rendered or sealed.

Decorative detailing, original signage and other original features of the building should be retained and conserved.

No vertical additions should be made to the building.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management.
**Item name:** Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors  
**Location:** 82 O’Riordan Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

**Criteria a):**  
**[Historical significance]**  
Built in 1928, Electricity Substation No. 225 represents a surviving example of the original network of more than 360 substations built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1936, which first supplied electricity to Sydney’s industries and houses. The period and location of the substation records the expansion of Sydney’s electricity network and the growth of electricity use in Alexandria. The building also marks the major changes electricity brought for Alexandria’s growth, development and population.

Electricity Substation No. 225 forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Electricity Substation No. 225 and the other surviving substations demonstrate the fundamental role that electricity played in powering Australia's industrialisation and how technological innovations of the time, specifically electricity, defined Sydney's industrial development during the twentieth century. Often constructed to service the high energy demands of factories in the near vicinity, the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth century industrial centres and factories in the way that chimney stacks mark the location of factories predating electricity.

The larger number of substations in Alexandria demonstrates its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity. Alexandria’s O’Riordan Street was almost exclusively occupied by industries during the first half of the twentieth century, predominantly for metals, machinery, textiles, printing, soap works and industrial gases in the immediate surrounds to the substation.

**Criteria b):**  
**[Historical association significance]**  
The substation has significant associations with the Municipal Council of Sydney, who constructed the building as part of its early twentieth-century responsibility for the generation and distribution of electricity throughout the greater Sydney area from 1904 until 1936. It also has associations with the surrounding industries, in particular the tallow and fertiliser manufacturer and coal and timber merchant, R. S. Lamb & Co.

**Criteria c):**  
**[Aesthetic/Technical significance]**  
The building demonstrates the characteristic modest form, quality of design and construction for Sydney's substations, which were designed to a higher standard than required for their function in order to integrate into their established urban contexts by reflecting neighbouring architecture or popular styles of the time.

Electricity Substation No. 225 is a good example of a simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation from the inter-war period. It demonstrates typical characteristics of this architectural period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, roof form concealed behind a parapet wall, decorative face brickwork, simple surfaces, and emphatic entrance framed by bull-nose brick pilasters, a stepped ornamental lintel surmounting the entrance, prominent and decorative building signage and string courses along the parapet wall.

The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area. Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value to communities. The building may have value to community members with an interest in the history, buildings and technology for Sydney’s electrification.

**Criteria d):**  
**[Social/Cultural significance]**  
Electricity substation No. 225 may offer research potential into the evolution of technology for electricity supply and architectural design for substations in Sydney.

**Criteria e):**  
**[Research significance]**

**Criteria f):**  
**[Rarity]**
The building represents a good example of a substation from the inter-war period.

The substation forms part of a collection of extant substations, which together represent the growth of Sydney's electrical network and the major change that electricity brought for Sydney's growth, development and population during the twentieth century, in particular for the development of industry.

Of more than 360 originally built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1930 in metropolitan Sydney, the current Energy Australia (AusGrid) heritage and conservation register records that 33 surviving substations are located in the City of Sydney. This number excludes those no longer owned or operated by the electricity supplier.

**Intactness/Integrity:** Intact externally

**References:**
- TZG Architects and Orwell & Peter Phillips Architects
  - Conservation Management Plan: Substation No. 6 and Underground Mens Conveniences, Taylor Square
  - 2002
- James Pennington
  - Electricity Substations of the Sydney Municipal Council, p.97-98, 431-432
  - 2012
- Scott Cumming
  - Chimneys and Change: Post European Environmental Impact Assessment
  - 2004
- Frances Pollon
  - The book of Sydney suburbs
  - 1996
- Higinbotham & Robinson
  - Alexandria Sydney
  - 1890
- Higinbotham & Robinson
  - Waterloo Sydney
  - 1890

**Studies:**
- City Plan Heritage
  - City of Sydney Industrial & Warehouse Buildings Heritage Study
  - 2014

**Parcels:**

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Latitude: Location validity: Spatial accuracy: Map name: Map scale: AMG zone: Easting: Northing: Listing:
- Name: City of Sydney Industrial and Warehouse Buildings Heritage Study
- Title: City of Sydney Industrial & Warehouse Buildings Heritage Study
- Number: 2014
- Listing Date: 21/05/2015

**Data entry:**
- Data first entered: 05/08/2014
- Data updated: 13/05/2015
- Status: Completed

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street  Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Caption: Front elevation of the substation

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 05/03/2014


Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street  Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: Front and southern elevation of the substation in 2014

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 05/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3452a1e501c968849fa98cf55655eb372c0.JPG

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3452a1e501c968849fa98cf55655eb372c0.JPG
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Image:

Caption: Substation viewed from the north-west

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 05/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34596355b9fda104791b1351faac07d6f89.JPG

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Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street  Alexandria 2015  

Image:

Caption: The substation in 1930 shortly after construction and before construction of the adjacent building

Copy right: Ausgrid

Image by: Ausgrid

Image date: 01/01/1930

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345139eb0a3264948ac9307869f41ac01dc.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345139eb0a3264948ac9307869f41ac01dc.jpg
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Caption: Substation (on right) and O'Riordan Street in 1936, viewed from the south-west

Copyright: State Library of New South Wales

Image by: Government Printing Office 1 - 29688

Image date: 15/10/1936


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34595614b08e2314e48898fcaf10b9566e3.jpg
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: Substation in 1963, photographed when the road collapsed under a road-sweeping machine

Copy right: City of Sydney archives

Image by: City Engineers Photographic Negativerd CRS 48/3465

Image date: 24/06/1963

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345c7e8d16994144214ae28e535f44eb57c.jpg
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 225 including interiors

Location: 82 O'Riordan Street Alexandria 2015

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing subject substation and surrounding industries

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City Building Surveyors Department, City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956


Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Address: 38 Ralph Street
Suburb/nearest town: Alexandria 2015

State: NSW
Local govt area: Sydney

Planning: Sydney South
Parish:

County:

Other/former names: Willow Kitchen Ware, Auschen Corporate Clothing

Area/group/complex:

Aboriginal area:

Curtilage/boundary: As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan

Item type: Built
Group: Manufacturing and Processing
Category: Other - Manufacturing & Processing

Owner:

Admin codes:

Current use: Commercial, industrial
Former uses: Office, factory, warehouse

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance:

Date: 21/05/2015
Full report

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Statement of significance: Built in 1939 for the kitchenware manufacturers, Wilson Bros, this factory and office building represents the industrial development of Alexandria during the mid-twentieth century. It is historically significant for its connection to the Australian production of household goods, in particular the well-known Willow ware kitchen tins.

While altered and reduced in length, the building survives as the only remaining building erected for the New South Wales' factory for Wilson Bros at Alexandria which once extended to the surrounding land.

The building represents a good example of a large mid-twentieth century factory. It demonstrates the industrial building typology which contains administrative, manufacturing and power supply in distinctly different building forms, including the characteristic sawtooth-roof factory located behind a more architecturally distinctive office or showroom on the street frontage. The inclusion of a substation within the building form of the factory provides evidence of the high energy demands of the former factory and the influence of the expansion of Sydney’s electrical network on factory design and operations during this period.

Architecturally, the two-storey office and showroom building is a representative example of the inter-war stripped classical style. The building exhibits typical characteristics of the style including face brickwork, symmetrical facade, strong piers emphasising vertical proportions, division of the facade into vertical bays, simple wall surfaces with minimal ornamentation and vertically-proportioned steel-framed windows.

The building contributes to the streetscape of Ralph Street. It forms one of a number of single and two-storey industrial buildings from the inter-war and post-war periods in the local area, which give Alexandria a distinct character.

The site may have social value for the community of former Wilson Bros workers. As the source of the widely-used Willow ware kitchen tins found in many Australian households from the 1930s to the 1980s, the site may hold significance to the Australian community.

The former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The former Wilson Bros factory is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative values.
Sydney City Council

**Item name:** Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

**Location:** 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015

**Study number:** 5062451

**Historical notes of provenance:**

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The suburb of Alexandria was once part of a vast sand dune system covered by heath, low scrub, creeks and freshwater wetlands that dominated the landscape of the southern suburbs of Sydney. It provided a habitat for a range of fauna such as birds, fish and eels, and was a good food source for the Gadigal, the local Aboriginal people.

The land that today incorporates the areas of Alexandria, Waterloo, Zetland and Rosebery was originally one large estate. Originally granted to former convict and public servant William Hutchinson in 1823, the estate, its buildings and water mill, were then sold to Daniel Cooper and Solomon Levy in 1825 before Cooper became its sole owner in 1833.

For a large part of the nineteenth century, the area was semi-rural low-lying land with swamps. The principal activities were market gardening, dairying and wool-washing. A number of dams were built in this area, including the Little Waterloo Dam, the Big Waterloo Dam and the Upper Dam, as shown on 1885-1890 Higinbotham and Robinson maps of Alexandria and Waterloo.

Waterloo Council was formed in 1860. The municipality of Alexandria was separated from Waterloo and became the Borough of Alexandria in 1868. The area was connected to the city through a network of trams extending along Botany Road and Elizabeth Street.

The land of the Cooper Estate was progressively subdivided into small acreages and sold for residential purposes in 1872 and 1884 with the final sale taking place in 1914. The release of the Cooper Estate opened up large tracts of land for industrial uses at a time when surrounding areas had become more densely populated. This resulted in the relocation of many industrial establishments from Redfern and Surry Hills to the Alexandria and Waterloo area.

This intensive period of industrial development increased land value in the area and forced out all but a few of the remaining market gardeners. Fellmongering, tanning and wool-washing industries were typical of Alexandria. The wetlands of the area offered ideal features for these industries which needed to be located close to a plentiful water supply.

By 1943 an Alexandria Council celebratory publication claimed that Alexandria was the largest industrial municipality in Australia, proudly proclaiming that ‘an area of 1,024 acres has been crowded not less than 550 factories’ (Alexandria Municipal Council 1943, p78). Secondary industries declined in the area from the 1970s as industry expanded to the outer suburbs.

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians...
were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Site history:

Wilson Brothers constructed its New South Wales factory on this site in 1939 to manufacture its well-known Willow Ware goods of tinned kitchenware and other household items. The factory site originally extended across a larger site including land to the north and west of the current site, as shown in the 1956 detail survey.


Almost every Australian household from the 1930s until the 1980s would have owned or used Willow Ware tinnedware products. The lozenge-shaped Willow Ware trademark stamped on its products became familiar to most Australians. Today, many Australian households will still have at least one Willow Ware item stored in the cupboard.

The 1939 land valuation for the subject property records the construction of the factory on this site. The 9 March 1939 valuation indicated that a brick factory with a corrugated fibro roof and two galvanised iron sheds and offices with corrugated fibro roof had recently been built on this site (Valuer-General, Valuation Lists, Alexandria, SRNSW 19/8587, no 466). A certificate of title was issued to Wilson Bros Pty Ltd on 3 July 1940 after conversion from Old System title for the land covering 1 acre 3 roods 33½ perches (Certificate of Title 5152 f 8).

By the 1940s, the firm was manufacturing buckets, kitchen rubbish bins, domestic garbage bins, beach buckets, billy cans and baking dishes. As Australian lifestyles changed with greater leisure opportunities, Willow Ware expanded its range of products to include barbecues and cooler bricks for inserting into eskmes.

The 1943 aerial photograph documents the buildings constructed on the factory site by this time, with the prominent ‘Welcome to Willow’ painted in large lettering across one of the sawtooth roofs (1943 Aerial photo SIX LPI).

By 1945, the workplace survey listed Wilson Bros Pty Ltd of 38-40 Ralph Street, Alexandria, in the business of tinnedware and galvanizing. It was recorded as using electrical machinery rated at 135 horse power and employing 91 workers by this time. (SRNSW 7/6847)

The 1949 aerial photograph records that the roof signage expanded to extend across all three sawtooth roofs to add ‘The Home of Willow Kitchenware’ and the lozenge-shaped company logo (1949 Aerial photo AO130, NSCA).

From the 1950s to the 1970s, a number of applications were submitted to alter the buildings. On 21 December 1951, Wilson Bros Pty Ltd proposed to erect a generating plant designed by architects Stafford Moor & Farrington. On 5 February 1960, Wilson Bros Pty Ltd applied to erect a mezzanine floor with works valued at £1,500, and then, on 15 September 1960, to erect an elevated floor worth £2,500. On 31 July 1962, the company proposed to extend the mezzanine floor with works at an estimated cost of £1,500. On 12 September 1962, they...
applied to use the premises for manufacturing kitchenware and to add additional new staff amenities.

From 1966 to 1975, there were numerous applications from architect N Dellit followed by Victor Dellit for various alterations and additions. The most substantial were on 2 May 1974 for alterations and additions with works valued at $130,000 and 14 March 1975 for alterations and additions to the office building with works valued at $70,000 (38 Ralph St, Street Cards, NSCA).

In 2000, as part of the larger site redevelopment including 26-36 Ralph Street and 15-21 Doody Street, South Sydney Council approved the demolition of the rear half of the factory building.

In 2000 Auschen Corporate Clothing applied to use the subject retained building in the south-east corner of the larger site for warehousing clothing, ancillary offices and showroom (DA 00714/00). Drawings submitted with this application include the building floor plan which record the presence of an internal substation located halfway along its eastern elevation at this time.

These changes to the building and surrounding sites are not shown in the 2003 aerial photograph. The approved demolition of the rear part of the building appears to have occurred in approximately 2004. The removal and redevelopment of this part of the building and the adjoining site of 34-36 Ralph Street first appears in the 2007 aerial photograph.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item name</th>
<th>Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>38 Ralph Street, Alexandria 2015</td>
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</table>

### Physical condition
- **Level:** Good

### Archaeological potential
- **Level:** Not assessed
  - **Detail:**

---

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.
Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Modification dates: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

9 March 1939
Valuation list records a brick factory with corrugated fibro roof and galvanised iron sheds, plus offices with corrugated fibro roof, located on this site

3 July 1940
Certificate of title issued to Wilson Bros Pty Ltd after conversion from old system title

1943
Aerial photograph records constructed buildings with ‘Welcome to Willow’ painted on the roof

1945
Workplace survey listed Wilson Bros Pty Ltd of 38-40 Ralph Street, Alexandria, in the business of tinware and galvanizing, using electrical machinery rated at 135 hp, with 91 employees

1949
Aerial photograph shows expanded roof signage reading ‘The Home of Willow Kitchenware Welcome to Willow’

21 December 1951
Application to erect building for generating plant by Wilson Bros Pty Ltd

5 February 1960
Application for mezzanine floor by Wilson Bros Pty Ltd worth £1,500

15 September 1960
Application for elevated floor by Wilson Bros Pty Ltd worth £2,500

31 July 1962
Application for extension of mezzanine floor by Wilson Bros Pty Ltd worth £1,500

12 September 1962
Application to use premises for manufacturing kitchenware plus additional new staff amenities

20 January 1966
Application by N Dellit to erect building for manufacturing homeware at rear of the premises

16 January 1967
Application by N Dellit for additions for manufacturing homeware

2 December 1970
Application by Victor Dellit for alterations and additions worth $2,000

April 1974
Application by Victor Dellit for extensions

2 May 1974
Application by Willow Ware Pty Ltd for alterations and additions worth $130,000

14 March 1975
Application by Victor Dellit for alterations and additions to office building worth $70,000

19 April 2000
**Item name:** Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

**Location:** 38 Ralph Street  Alexandria 2015 Sydney

South Sydney Council approved redevelopment of 26-40 Ralph Street and 15-21 Doody Street, including demolition of some buildings and re-subdivision (U99-01288)

December 2004

Occupation certificate issued by private certifier for 36 Ralph Street redevelopment (V00/05743)

**Recommended management:**

The building should be retained and conserved.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development should be undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Maintain or reinstate original architectural features of the former office and showroom building.

Remove air conditioning units from windows on street elevation.

Do not paint, render or seal face brick walls.

Consider new uses for the building that will re-use and expose its industrial features to retain its former industrial character as an integral part of the new use. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

**Management:**

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**Further comments:**

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

**Criteria a): [Historical significance]**

Built in 1939 for the kitchenware manufacturers, Wilson Bros, this factory and office building represents the industrial development of Alexandria during the mid-twentieth century. It is historically significant for its connection to the Australian production of household goods, in particular the well-known Willow ware kitchen tins.

While altered and reduced in length, the building survives as the only remaining building erected for the New South Wales' factory for Wilson Bros at Alexandria which once extended to the surrounding land.

The former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

**Criteria b): [Historical association significance]**

The buildings has significant associations with the kitchen ware manufacturers, Wilson Bros, as their New South Wales factory from the 1930s to the 1970s and the associated manufacturing of Willow ware kitchen tins and other products during this period.
The building represents a good example of a large mid-twentieth century factory. It demonstrates the industrial building typology which contains administrative, manufacturing and power supply in distinctly different building forms, including the characteristic sawtooth-roof factory located behind a more architecturally distinctive office or showroom on the street frontage. The inclusion of a substation within the building form of the factory provides evidence of the high energy demands of the former factory and the influence of the expansion of Sydney’s electrical network on factory design and operations during this period.

Architecturally, the two-storey office and showroom building is a representative example of the inter-war stripped classical style. The building exhibits typical characteristics of the style including face brickwork, symmetrical facade, strong piers emphasising vertical proportions, division of the facade into vertical bays, simple wall surfaces with minimal ornamentation and vertically-proportioned steel-framed windows.

The building contributes to the streetscape of Ralph Street. It forms part of a number of single and two-storey industrial buildings from the inter-war and post-war periods in the local area, which give Alexandria a distinct character.

Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value to communities. The site may have social value for the community of former Wilson Bros workers. As the source of the widely-used Willow ware kitchen tins found in many Australian households from the 1930s to the 1980s, the site may hold significance to the Australian community.

The building survives as the only remaining building erected for the Wilson Bros factory at Alexandria which once extended to the surrounding land.

The building represents a good example of a large mid-twentieth century factory.

Externally intact with minor alterations

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References:

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dr Terry Kass</td>
<td>Industrial and warehouse buildings research - site history</td>
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Location validity: Spatial accuracy:  
Map name: Map scale:  
AMG zone: Easting: Northing:  

Date: 21/05/2015  
Full report  
This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Listing: Name
City of Sydney Industrial and Warehouse Heritage study

Data entry: Data first entered: 05/08/2014 Data updated: 15/05/2015 Status: Completed

Data updated: 15/05/2015
Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Ralph Street elevation

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage and JCIS Consultants

Image date: 29/08/2013

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34596c70ac074b14d9d9c6bc1a1adfeab96.jpg

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Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Facade detail

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 05/03/2014


Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015

Caption: South-eastern and north-eastern elevations of the office on Ralph Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 05/03/2014


Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Historic image of the operating Wilson Bros factory before subsequent alterations (undated)

Copy right: Willow

Image by: Willow

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34565f93be2900944ed93acd1265bc6f1d5.jpg
Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing the subject site, circled, and surrounding industries

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image number:

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Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street  Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: 1943 aerial of Willow factory site at this time

Copy right: Lands and Property Information, SIX Maps

Image by: RTA

Image date: 01/01/1943

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3455e0d5e503f3241bdad6dbd9677bb32fa.jpg

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**Image:**

![Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/Thumb_test3456242e355c53b4803b3502f562e45d596.jpg)

**Caption:** 1949 aerial photo showing the expanded roof signage

**Copy right:** City of Sydney archives

**Image by:** City of Sydney

**Image date:** 01/01/1949

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Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Caption: 2003 aerial photograph showing the former factory with the current site annotated in blue

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/2003

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Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Caption: 2000 ground floor plan of the former office and factory building at this time

Copyright: Auschen Corporate Clothing

Image by: A. S. Chan & Associates

Image date: 01/02/2000

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345f493cba92dca4abc90e62e0c0a98540a.jpg

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Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1960 Willow cooler bricks likely made at this factory, used to cool eskies

Copy right: Powerhouse Museum

Image by: Powerhouse Museum (http://from.ph/288629)

Image date: 01/01/1960

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345e2979553d0904ca7942c56522a0b656d.jpg

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Item name: Former Wilson Bros Willow Ware factory including interiors

Location: 38 Ralph Street  Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: 1970s Willow Ware tinware and marketing

Copy right: Women’s Weekly

Image by: Women’s Weekly

Image date: 19/12/1973

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP\P/345d19e11221dde4dc9a0933d0d27c919c8.jpg

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**Item name:** Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors

**Location:** 212-214 Wyndham Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

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Item name: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors

Location: 212-214 Wyndham Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Statement of significance: Built in 1917, Electric Light Substation No. 89 represents a surviving example of the original network of more than 360 substations built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1936, which first supplied electricity to Sydney's industries and houses. The period and location of the substation records the expansion of Sydney's electricity network and the growth of electricity use in Alexandria. The building also marks the major changes electricity brought for Alexandria’s growth, development and population.

Aesthetically, the building demonstrates the characteristic modest overall form, quality of design and construction for Sydney's substations, which were designed to a higher standard than required for their function in order to integrate into their established urban contexts by reflecting neighbouring architecture or popular styles of the time.

Electricity Substation No. 89 represents a good example of a simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation from the inter-war period. It demonstrates typical characteristics of this architectural period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, symmetry of the main building, parapet to the gabled roof, face brickwork, original signage, pattern of small windows openings with brick arch lintels and an emphatic centrally-placed entrance.

The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area. The building's conversion to offices and some earlier alterations have retained its architectural integrity as a recognisable former substation.

Substation No. 89 is also rare in the locality as an example of a two-storey substation and the oldest known surviving in Alexandria. The different form and earlier period of the building compared to other substations in the local area reflect its additional original functions to accommodate workers and storage, mostly on the second level.

Substation No. 89 forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Substation No. 89 and the other surviving substations demonstrate the fundamental role that electricity played in powering Australia's industrialisation and how technological innovations of the time, specifically electricity, defined Sydney's industrial development during the twentieth century. Often constructed to service the high energy demands of factories in the near vicinity, the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth century industrial centres and factories in the way that chimney stacks mark the location of factories predating electricity.

The larger number of substations in Alexandria demonstrates its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity. Alexandria’s Wyndham Street contained a number of industries during the first half of the twentieth century, as well as housing to the north near Alexandria Park.

Electric Light Substation No. 89 is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic, rarity and representative values.
Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The suburb of Alexandria was once part of a vast sand dune system covered by heath, low scrub, creeks and freshwater wetlands that dominated the landscape of the southern suburbs of Sydney. It provided a habitat for a range of fauna such as birds, fish and eels, and was a good food source for the Gadigal, the local Aboriginal people.

The land that today incorporates the areas of Alexandria, Waterloo, Zetland and Rosebery was originally one large estate. Originally granted to former convict and public servant William Hutchinson in 1823, the estate, its buildings and water mill, were then sold to Daniel Cooper and Solomon Levy in 1825 before Cooper became its sole owner in 1833.

For a large part of the nineteenth century, the area was semi-rural low-lying land with swamps. The principal activities were market gardening, dairying and wool-washing. A number of dams were built in this area, including the Little Waterloo Dam, the Big Waterloo Dam and the Upper Dam, as shown on 1885-1890 Higinbotham and Robinson maps of Alexandria and Waterloo.

Waterloo Council was formed in 1860. The municipality of Alexandria was separated from Waterloo and became the Borough of Alexandria in 1868. The area was connected to the city through a network of trams extending along Botany Road and Elizabeth Street.

The land of the Cooper Estate was progressively subdivided into small acreages and sold for residential purposes in 1872 and 1884 with the final sale taking place in 1914. The release of the Cooper Estate opened up large tracts of land for industrial uses at a time when surrounding areas had become more densely populated. This resulted in the relocation of many industrial establishments from Redfern and Surry Hills to the Alexandria and Waterloo area.

This intensive period of industrial development increased land value in the area and forced out all but a few of the remaining market gardeners. Fellmongering, tanning and wool-washing industries were typical of Alexandria. The wetlands of the area offered ideal features for these industries which needed to be located close to a plentiful water supply.

By 1943 an Alexandria Council celebratory publication claimed that Alexandria was the largest industrial municipality in Australia, proudly proclaiming that ‘an area of 1,024 acres has been crowded not less than 550 factories’ (Alexandria Municipal Council 1943, p78). Secondary industries declined in the area from the 1970s as industry expanded to the outer suburbs.

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney's twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians...
Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Substations history:

One of the major innovations in industry during the nineteenth century was the development of electricity as a power and lighting source, which rivalled and then replaced water and steam power. The mills and workshops of the earlier Industrial Revolution in Britain and North America were mainly water and steam powered, whereas Australia's twentieth century industrial buildings were powered by electricity.

As part of supplying electricity to Sydney's houses and industries for the first time, Sydney Council built Sydney's first power stations and substations during the first half of the twentieth century. Sydney Council, then known as Sydney Municipal Council or the Municipal Council of Sydney, was charged with supplying electricity to Sydney city and surrounding areas in 1896 through the law named the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill passed on 16th October 1896. Electricity supply was managed through the council's department known by a number of names: the Electric Lighting Committee, the Electric Light Department and the Electricity Department from 1920 to 1935. From 1936 the electricity undertaking was named Sydney County Council when it was reformed as a separate authority as a result of the Gas & Electricity Act of 1935. The various names for the council and subsequent electrical authority are recorded in the initials and building names inscribed in substation facades.

Sydney's first power station at Pyrmont began operating in 1904. The large network of substations were constructed in strategic locations to supply power from these power stations to individual customers and other electricity networks. Their specific purpose was to house machinery to convert high voltage electricity for industrial or domestic use. Substations were often erected in close proximity to factories to service their high energy demands. Consequently the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth-century factories and industrial centres in the way that chimney stacks marked factories pre-dating electricity.

Alexandria demonstrates this pattern with its larger number of substations reflecting its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity.

Alexandria’s Wyndham Street contained a number of industries during the first half of the twentieth century. By 1956, these surrounding industries included the Hollywood Textile Co. to the immediate south, the National Biscuit Co. to the east and W. Cooper Carrier opposite, as well as housing, mostly terraced rows to the north.

The period and location of surviving substations record the progressive extension of Sydney's electrical network from the centre of Sydney to surrounding areas, the scale and importance of this network, and the fundamental changes electricity brought for Sydney's growth, development and society. Sydney Municipal Council built its first substations at Town Hall, Taylor Square, Woolloomooloo and Ultimo, followed by Glebe, Newtown, Camperdown and surrounding areas. From 1904 to 1935, Sydney Council built more than 360 substations and almost 400 pole transformers throughout Sydney and surrounding suburbs. More continued to be built in the following decades. The Energy Australia (AusGrid) heritage and conservation register records that 33 of the surviving substations are located within the City of Sydney. This number excludes those no longer owned or operated by the electricity supplier, including this Substation No. 89.

Each substation has its own number inscribed on the building facade, which reflects its role in the broader electrical network and generally the total number, sequence and period of construction, with some exceptions.
where disused numbers were reallocated. Most substations were constructed in established urban areas on a small portion of land acquired or subdivided specifically for this purpose. These buildings, while modest in scale and different in function to surrounding buildings, were designed and constructed to a good standard, in a style designed to harmonise with surrounding architecture, in order to reduce community fears or resistance to the incursion of this new technology and impacts on the appearance of streets.

The rise of electricity during the late nineteenth century, and in particular small motors for driving machinery and electrical lights, changed the configuration of industrial buildings and machinery. Electricity meant that factories could be designed with a more flexible layout because small electric motors eliminated the need for belt and shaft drives from the steam plant. Factory building design became less reliant on windows for natural light and gas lighting ventilation because of the advent of electric lighting. Electricity also created a new market for factories to produce the new consumer goods reliant on electric power, such as fridges, washing machines, telephones, stoves, ice cream, and the engineering for electric lights, trains and trams.

Site history:

The land for this substation was acquired in mid 1916. The building was constructed and equipped by early 1917.

As well as transforming mains electricity to low-voltage for use in the immediate area, the building was also designed to accommodate personnel working on the mains and as a store for their construction materials. These facilities occupied the rear portion of the ground floor, the entire top floor and the remainder of the substation site.

Likely during the 1920s, the roller shutter opening in the front wall of the building was enlarged to allow installation of a large induction voltage regulator. This resulted in the removal of the leading-in block and the decorative lintel bearing the Sydney Municipal Council monogram and the substation number.

During the early 1950s, the transformers were moved outside of the switch room within the building to a new wire mesh enclosure on the opposite side of the driveway leading to the rear yard.

In 1996 the electrical load of the substation was transferred to a new small kiosk-type substation in the forecourt of the existing building. The depot facilities were also relocated and the substation decommissioned at that time.

In September 2012 the property was sold and subsequently converted for use as offices.

(Pennington 2012: 45, 276)

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<th>National theme</th>
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**Designer:** Sydney Municipal Council  
**Builder:** Sydney Municipal Council  
**Year started:** 1917  
**Year completed:** 1917  
**Circa:** No
Item name: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors

Location: 212-214 Wyndham Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Physical description: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 was built by Sydney Municipal Council in 1917. The substation comprises a two-storey brick building contained under a gabled roof with a parapet wall facing the street.

This simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation from the inter-war period exhibits typical characteristics of inter-war architecture applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, symmetry of the main building, parapet to the gabled roof, face brickwork, original signage, pattern of small window openings with multi-paned sashes, brick arch lintels on the side wall, and an emphatic centrally placed entrance. The recessed rendered section of the street facade, pilasters between the bank of three windows on the upper level, and documented former decoration over the entrance demonstrate some classical references typical of a number of inter-war styles.

A large identity plaque surmounts the main entrance. Some of the lettering and other original decoration around this entrance has been removed and the entrance door replaced.

The two-storey scale and building form is rare for substations in the local area, which reflects its additional original functions to also accommodate workers and storage, mostly on the second level. The larger sash windows and loading dock with attached hoist located on the upper level of the side northern elevation reflect the original use of the upper level for workers and storage. By comparison, the smaller elevated windows on the ground floor of the same elevation reflect the design of this level for mostly containing the substation machinery.

The building's conversion to offices and some earlier alterations have retained its architectural integrity as a recognisable former substation.

The former side transmission yard with its ancillary buildings of the same period and materials are set back from the street.

Internally, the roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.


Physical condition level: Good

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail:

Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

1920s
Roller shutter opening in the front wall of the building enlarged, resulting in the removal of the leading-in block and decorative lintel bearing the Sydney Municipal Council monogram

1997 (approx)
Building decommissioned and replaced by small kiosk-style unit constructed in close proximity for supply of low-voltage electricity

2012
Substation adaptively reused as commercial premises
**Sydney City Council**

**Item name:** Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors  
**Location:** 212-214 Wyndham Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

**Recommended management:** The building should be retained and conserved.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

Archival and photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

No vertical additions should be made to the building.

Face brickwork, original signage, windows, openings, hoist and other original building features should be conserved and maintained.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities.

Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

**Management:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Management category</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Statutory Instrument</td>
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**Further comments:**

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.
Item name: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors
Location: 212-214 Wyndham Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Criteria a): [Historical significance]
Built in 1917, Electric Light Substation No. 89 represents a surviving example of the original network of more than 360 substations built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1936, which first supplied electricity to Sydney's industries and houses. The period and location of the substation records the expansion of Sydney's electricity network and the growth of electricity use in Alexandria. The building also marks the major changes electricity brought for Alexandria’s growth, development and population.

Substation No. 89 is rare in the locality as an example of a two-storey substation and the oldest known surviving in Alexandria. The different form and earlier period of the building compared to other substations in the local area reflect its additional original functions to accommodate workers and storage, mostly on the second level. The surviving hoist is evidence of the building’s original storage function.

Substation No. 89 forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Substation No. 89 and the other surviving substations demonstrate the fundamental role that electricity played in powering Australia's industrialisation and how technological innovations of the time, specifically electricity, defined Sydney's industrial development during the twentieth century. Often constructed to service the high energy demands of factories in the near vicinity, the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth century industrial centres and factories in the way that chimney stacks mark the location of factories predating electricity.

The larger number of substations in Alexandria demonstrates its history as a major industrial area mostly developed after the advent of electricity and before substations of this kind were no longer needed for supplying electricity. Alexandria’s Wyndham Street contained a number of industries during the first half of the twentieth century, as well as housing to the north near Alexandria Park.

Criteria b): [Historical association significance]
The substation has significant associations with the Municipal Council of Sydney, who constructed the building as part of its early twentieth-century responsibility for the generation and distribution of electricity throughout the greater Sydney area from 1904 until 1936.

Criteria c): [Aesthetic/Technical significance]
The building demonstrates the characteristic modest overall form, quality of design and construction for Sydney's substations, which were designed to a higher standard than required for their function in order to integrate into their established urban contexts by reflecting neighbouring architecture or popular styles of the time.

Substation No. 89 represents a good example of a simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation from the inter-war period. It demonstrates typical characteristics of this architectural period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, symmetry of the main building, parapet to the gabled roof, face brickwork, original signage, pattern of small window openings with brick arch lintels and an emphatic centrally placed entrance.

The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area. The building's conversion to offices and some earlier alterations have retained its architectural integrity as a recognisable former substation.

Criteria d): [Social/Cultural significance]
Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value to communities. The building may have value to community members with an interest in the history, buildings and technology for Sydney's electrification.

Criteria e): [Research significance]
The building may offer research potential into the evolution of architectural design for substations in Sydney, and specifically those custom-designed to accommodate workers and storage as part of supplying electricity to Sydney's suburbs.
Item name: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors

Location: 212-214 Wyndham Street Alexandria 2015 Sydney

Criteria f): Substation No. 89 is rare in the locality as an example of a two-storey substation and the oldest known surviving in Alexandria. The different form and earlier period of the building compared to other substations in the local area reflect its additional original functions to accommodate workers and storage, mostly on the second level.

Criteria g): The substation represents a good example of a substation from the inter-war period.

[Rarity]

[Representative]

The substation forms part of a collection of extant substations, which together represent the growth of Sydney's electrical network and the major change that electricity brought for Sydney's growth, development and population during the twentieth century, in particular for the development of industry.

Of more than 360 originally built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1930 in metropolitan Sydney, the current Energy Australia (AusGrid) heritage and conservation register records that 33 surviving substations are located in the City of Sydney. This number excludes those no longer owned or operated by the electricity supplier, including this substation.

Intactness/Integrity: Largely intact externally

References:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Pennington</td>
<td>Electricity Substations of the Sydney Municipal Council, pp.45</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>RTA</td>
<td>Aerial Photographs of Sydney May-June 1943.</td>
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<td>1956</td>
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<td>Scott Cumming</td>
<td>Chimneys and Change: Post European Environmental Impact</td>
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<td>Frances Pollon</td>
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<td>TZG Architects and Orwell &amp; Peter Phillips</td>
<td>Conservation Management Plan: Substation No. 6 and Undergr</td>
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Data entry: Data first entered: 05/08/2014 Data updated: 13/05/2015 Status: Completed
Item name: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors

Location: 212-214 Wyndham Street Alexandria 2015

Image:

Caption: Former substation in 2014 following its conversion to offices

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 01/04/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345b317ea0b2abe4db3afa275dfb6f1fdeb.JPG

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Item name: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors

Location: 212-214 Wyndham Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Image:

Caption: Street elevation showing the side transmission yard and ancillary buildings

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage and JCIS Consultants

Image date: 21/08/2013

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345b1a56dbedaf2430a8be05694f34b32f1.jpg

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Item name: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors

Location: 212-214 Wyndham Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Image:

Caption: Original architectural drawing and 2009 photo contained in the 2012 Pennington publication

Copy right: James Pennington

Image by: James Pennington

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345b192640844704852b20a893a0a9c72d1.jpg

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Item name: Former Electric Light Substation No. 89 including interiors

Location: 212-214 Wyndham Street  Alexandria 2015  Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing subject substation and surrounding industries

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345c8b33a80445847018874561b21899d5a.jpg
**Item name:** Sewage Pumping Station No.3 including interiors

**Location:** 1B Booth Street  Annandale 2038  Sydney

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**Endorsed significance:** State
**Item name:** Sewage Pumping Station No.3 including interiors  

**Location:** 1B Booth Street Annandale 2038 Sydney

**Statement of significance:**
Built in 1904 by the Department of Public Works, this sewage pumping station represents a period of major improvement to public infrastructure in the inner city areas of Sydney around the turn of the century. The construction of this structure as one of originally twenty purpose-built sewage pumping stations provides evidence of a significant government initiative aimed at improving public health and living conditions in Sydney following the outbreaks of typhoid between the 1870s and 1890s and the bubonic plague in 1900.

The pumping station, and associated construction of the Southern Outfall Sewer ten years earlier, demonstrates significant advancements in sewage management technology by ending the discharge of sewage into the harbour. These changes constituted major improvements to the services and the environment in the inner city at the turn of the century which supported the residential housing and subsequent development of industries in the area.

This sewage pumping station represents a fine example of small-scale industrial building designed in the Federation Queen Anne style, which displays a combination of superior utilitarian design, construction and craftsmanship. The building demonstrates typical features of this architectural style including face brick walls, slate roof with terracotta ridge capping, front-facing gable with timber louvred vents and timber-framed casement windows with multi-paned top lights. The pumping station provides evidence of the importance of Federation-period public utilities through its overall design quality and craftsmanship, such as the stone dressings and tuck-pointed brickwork. The significance of the place is enhanced by the intactness of the original lifting crane and timber gates. The quality of design of the superstructure by the Department of Public Works reflects the body of work emanating from the then Government Architect, Walter Liberty Vernon.

The pumping station is technically significant for its continuous functioning for over a century as a low-level sewage pumping station, as originally designed and constructed, apart from minor mechanical and electrical modifications. It has educational and interpretation potential to reveal information about the development of sewage pumping engineering and architectural tastes from a period when utilitarian buildings were given as much careful attention as public buildings.

This sewage pumping station forms one of a group of surviving sewage pumping stations built between 1902 and 1904 by the Department of Public Works comprising a mechanical substructure and a superstructure of a small single-storey Federation building. It is rare as part of Sydney’s network of first generation low-level sewage pumping stations which served the historically significant Southern Outfall Sewer, and the only first generation station which has its original lifting crane intact.

As infrastructure required to support the densely-developed housing and industry of the inner city, this sewage pumping station forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The sewage pumping station is of local and state heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic, technical, rarity and representative values.
Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney's industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the 'second industrial revolution' which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Site history:

The subject sewage pumping station was constructed prior to 1904 by the Department of Public Works as one of twenty low-level sewage pumping stations constructed at this time.

In 1859 Sydney's sewerage system consisted of five outfall sewers which drained into Sydney Harbour. By the 1870s, the Harbour had become grossly polluted. The nearby abattoir at Glebe Island was a major polluter. Towards the end of the nineteenth century, Sydney’s intensified development, growing population and combined system for stormwater and sewage disposal contributed to severe public health crises. Outbreaks of Enteric Fever (Typhoid) plagued Sydney from the 1870s to 1890s. The bubonic plague spread to Sydney in 1900.

In response to these issues, the NSW Government created the Sydney City and Suburban Health Board to investigate an alternative means of disposing of the City's sewage. This led to the construction of two gravitation sewers in 1889 by the Public Works Department, including the northern sewer, known as the Bondi Ocean Outfall Sewer, and the southern sewer which drained to a sewage farm at Botany Bay.

A number of low-lying areas around the harbour could not use gravity to drain into the new outfall sewers and continued to drain to the old City Council harbour sewers. Low-level pumping stations were needed to collect the sewage from these areas and pump it by means of additional sewers, known as rising mains, to the main gravitation system.

The first comprehensive low-level sewage system was developed in the early twentieth century when the Public Works Department constructed a group of twenty low-level sewage pumping stations around the foreshores of the inner harbour. These sewage pumping stations were handed over to the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewage in 1904. The subject sewage pumping station in Annandale was built as part of this system.

A 1903 newspaper article from the Sydney Morning Herald reported the construction of these sewage pumping stations, which were then described as ‘nearing completion’. The sewage pumps were designed and constructed by the Clyde Engineering Company and contained electric motors produced by Westinghouse. The pumping
stations consisted of three wells which were 20-30 feet deep, one used as a machinery chamber and the other two as receptacles for sewage. The article also described the construction of the brick building over the machinery chamber as ‘in no way suggestive of a sewage pumping station’. The pumping stations were fitted with electric lights and lined with opalite tiles. (SMH, 17 August 1903, p8)

The improvements made to the sewage system during this period dramatically improved the living conditions for city workers and residents by ending the discharge of sewage into the harbour and moving sewage away from industry and settlements.

Works were undertaken prior to 1913 which involved the replacement of the original plunger pumps and the DC current.

The 1943 and 1949 aerial photographs show the subject sewage pumping station and the surrounding dense pattern of residential development mixed with large-scale industrial buildings. The building lies to the north of the former Alexandra Hospital for Children also shown in the 1956 detail sheet.

Most of the mechanical and electrical components of the sewage pumping station were upgraded during the 1970s. The slate roof was replaced between 2003 and 2007 and the timber double doors have been replaced with a roller shutter.

Themes:
- National theme: Settlement
- State theme: Utilities
- Local theme: Sewage pumping station

Designer: New South Wales Public Works Department (Government Architect, Walter Liberty Vernon)

Builder: New South Wales Public Works Department

Year started: 1902  Year completed: 1904  Circa: No

Physical description: Sewage Pumping Station No 3 was constructed by the New South Wales Public Works Department in 1904 on the site adjacent to the Johnsons Creek stormwater channel in Annandale. The pumping station consists of two distinct parts: a concrete substructure which houses the machinery and sewage chambers and a superstructure which comprises a single storey brick building contained under a half-gabled slate roof.

The building was designed in the Federation Queen Anne style. It exhibits typical features of this architectural style applied to a utilitarian building including face brick walls, slate roof with terracotta ridge capping, front-facing gable with timber louvred vents and timber-framed casement windows with multi-paned top lights. The roof features exposed eaves with timber sarking boards. The walls are dark red-brown tuck-pointed face brick in English bond with a splayed brick plinth and engaged brick piers capped with rubbed sandstone. The windows feature rock-faced sandstone sills and lintels. The stormwater drainage comprises galvanised steel quadrant eaves gutters and a cast iron downpipe. The site contains an original wall-mounted lifting crane and timber gates at the entrance.

Records from circa 2000 indicate that the interior of the building comprise rendered walls which simulate ashlar coursing and a ceiling lined with tongue and groove boarding. The substructure is divided into a machinery well containing two vertical spindle centrifugal pumps, each direct coupled to electric motors. Adjacent are two sewage wells and an inlet well. The walls are finished to match the superstructure.

Most of the mechanical and electrical components of the sewage pumping station were upgraded in the 1970s. The slate roof cladding replaced the earlier corrugated iron roof cladding between 2003 and 2007. The timber double doors have been replaced with a roller shutter.


Physical condition level: Good
**Item name:** Sewage Pumping Station No.3 including interiors

**Location:** 1B Booth Street Annandale 2038 Sydney

**Physical condition:** Largely intact and in good condition. Exposed tuck pointing has weathered. Stone sills are moderately weathered.

**Archaeological potential level:** High

**Archaeological potential Detail:** Archaeological potential to reveal details of the concrete construction of the substructure.

**Modification dates:**
- Pre-1913
  - Original plunger pumps and DC current replaced
- 1970s
  - Most mechanical and electrical components upgraded
- 2003-2007
  - Former corrugated iron roof was re-clad with slates
- Others
  - Timber double doors on the front elevation replaced with a roller shutter

**Recommended management:**
Retain and conserve the sewage pumping station.

Manage the place and its significant components in accordance with the Heritage Council State Owned Heritage Asset Management Guidelines and the Minimum Standards of Maintenance and Repair in the NSW Heritage Regulations.

Where works are not exempt, obtain necessary approvals from City of Sydney in accordance with Sydney Water environmental impact assessment guidelines.

A Conservation Management Plan or heritage assessment, as well as Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared prior to any major works being undertaken on the site.

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes. Copies of the archival record are to be lodged with Sydney Water Archives, City of Sydney and the Heritage Division of the Office of Environment and Heritage.

Do not paint, render or seal face brick walls and sandstone finishes.

Timber-framed windows, slate roof, half hipped roof, original lifting crane and other original features and structures should be conserved and maintained.

**Management:**

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**Further comments:**

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.
Built in 1904 by the Department of Public Works, this sewage pumping station represents a period of major improvement to public infrastructure in the inner city areas of Sydney around the turn of the century. The construction of this structure as one of originally twenty purpose-built sewage pumping stations provides evidence of a significant government initiative aimed at improving public health and living conditions in Sydney following the outbreaks of typhoid between the 1870s and 1890s and the bubonic plague in 1900.

The pumping station, and associated construction of the Southern Outfall Sewer ten years earlier, demonstrates significant advancements in sewage management technology by ending the discharge of sewage into the harbour. These changes constituted major improvements to the services and the environment in the inner city at the turn of the century which supported the residential housing and subsequent development of industries in the area.

The pumping station provides evidence of the importance of Federation-period public utilities through its overall design quality and craftsmanship such as the stone dressings and tuck-pointed brickwork. It also demonstrates the growth and expansion of municipal services during the early twentieth century.

As infrastructure required to support the densely-developed housing and industry of the inner city, this sewage pumping station forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The sewage pumping station is associated with the Department of Public Works which was responsible for the large scale upgrade of the sewage system in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century. The pumping station is also associated with the Clyde Engineering Company which designed and installed the sewage pumps, and Westinghouse who provided the motors for the sewage pumps.

This sewage pumping station represents a fine example of small-scale industrial building designed in the Federation Queen Anne style, which displays a combination of superior utilitarian design, construction and craftsmanship. The building demonstrates typical features of this architectural style including face brick walls, slate roof with terracotta ridge capping, front-facing gable with timber louvred vents and timber-framed casement windows with multi-paned top lights.

The significance of the place is enhanced by the intactness of the original lifting crane and timber gates.

The quality of design of the superstructure by the Department of Public Works reflects the body of work emanating from the then Government Architect, Walter Liberty Vernon.

The pumping station is technically significant for its continuous functioning for over a century as a low-level sewage pumping station, as originally designed and constructed, apart from minor mechanical and electrical modifications.

Social assessment requires further study to ascertain its value for the local community.

The site has educational and interpretation potential to reveal information about the development of sewage pumping engineering, and architectural tastes, from a period when utilitarian buildings were given as much careful attention as public buildings.

The sewage pumping station is rare as part of Sydney's network of first generation low-level sewage pumping stations which served the historically significant Southern Outfall Sewer, later the Southern and Western Suburbs Ocean Outfall Sewer. It is also rare as the only first generation station which has its original lifting crane intact.
The site represents a good example of a low-level sewage pumping station from the Federation period. The site includes pumps and motors that have been replaced. In terms of the criteria, the site is largely intact and represents a significant example of Federation period engineering. The references provided include historical and heritage studies, aerial photographs, and city surveys, all of which contribute to understanding the site's significance. The listings in the Heritage Act include State Heritage Register entries and the NSW State agency heritage register, with the latter being updated in 2000. The data entry indicates that the report was completed on 05/08/2014, and the report was finalized on 27/04/2015.
Item name: Sewage Pumping Station No.3 including interiors

Location: 1B Booth Street Annandale 2038 Sydney

Image: Front (north-eastern) elevation of the sewage pumping station building

Caption: Front (north-eastern) elevation of the sewage pumping station building

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34590a86c1721f249f6a0449d2f8472e626.JPG

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Item name: Sewage Pumping Station No.3 including interiors

Location: 1B Booth Street  Annandale 2038  Sydney

Image:

Caption: South-western elevation of the sewage pumping station building

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage and JCIS Consultants

Image date: 08/11/2013


Item name: Sewage Pumping Station No.3 including interiors

Location: 1B Booth Street Annandale 2038 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Section of the Johnsons Creek stormwater channel adjacent to the subject sewage pumping station

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3453635e49081ba4af8b880a0f471b9fa08.JPG

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Item name: Sewage Pumping Station No.3 including interiors

Location: 1B Booth Street Annandale 2038

Caption: 1949 aerial showing the site circled with the inner circle indicating the building location

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 15/12/1949

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34533f35c0a68e84194b18a031708fb9b67.jpg

Item name: Sewage Pumping Station No.3 including interiors

Location: 1B Booth Street Annandale 2038 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing the site circled with the inner circle indicating the building location

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image number:


Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street  Camperdown 2050  Sydney

Address: 6-10 Mallett Street
Suburb/nearest town: Camperdown 2050
Local govt area: Sydney
State: NSW
Planning: Sydney South
Parish: Petersham
County: Cumberland

Other/former names:
Area/group/complex: Eora
Aboriginal area: Eora
Curtilage/boundary: As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan

Item type: Built
Group: Commercial
Category: Warehouse/storage area
Owner: Multiple Owners

Admin codes: Code 2:

Current use: Commercial offices
Former uses: Warehouse

Assessed significance: Local
Endorsed significance:
Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Statement of significance: Built in approximately 1924 as a furniture repository for major Sydney retailers, Grace Bros, this building represents the industrial development of Camperdown during the first half of the twentieth century. It is historically significant for its connection to the twentieth century growth of Sydney’s retail industry, in particular relating to furniture. As the most intact of two former Grace Bros repositories on Mallett Street, the building provides evidence of the success, scale and expansion of the Grace Bros retail empire during the 1920s, one of Sydney's earliest major department stores.

Architecturally, the building demonstrates a representative example of a purpose-designed warehouse from the inter-war period. It exhibits typical features of this period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, symmetrical facades, face brick materials, rendered lintels, regular pattern of window openings, pilasters on the main street frontage, emphatic cornice, hipped roof concealed behind a parapet wall, and prominent rooftop tower.

The imposing form of the building extending across the full width of the block and the prominent corner tower add to the building’s landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood. The building makes an important contribution to the streetscapes of Mallett, Isabella and Mason Streets and is visible in the round from a number of near and distant vantage points in surrounding streets.

The building design also likely represents the work of architects, D.T. Morrow & Gordon, who designed the adjoining furniture repository at 47-71 Pyrmont Road and a number of buildings for Grace Bros including the Grace Bros Emporium on Broadway and Grace Hotel in central Sydney.

The adaptive reuse of the building as offices during the 1980s retained the external integrity of the building. It survives as the most intact of two buildings originally constructed as furniture repositories for Grace Bros during the 1920s on Mallett Street.

For its association with the significant employer of the time, Grace Bros, the building may have value to the community of former Grace Bros workers involved in its furniture removals and storage operations from the 1920s to the 1960s.

The building forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings in Australia, which records Sydney’s rich industrial past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of industrial and warehouse buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The former Grace Bros Repository is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic, associations and representative values.
**Sydney City Council**

**Item name:** Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

**Location:** 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

**Historical notes of provenance:**

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The inner-city suburb of Camperdown forms part of the 240 acre estate granted to Governor Bligh in August 1806. Bligh named the area Camperdown in memory of a 1797 naval battle. The grant extended from the junction of Orphan School Creek and Johnston's Creek in the north, and across Parramatta Road to Cook's River Road. A model farm was initially established on the grant. In 1841 the Bligh estate was subdivided as O'Connell Town on Cook's River Road and Camperdown on Parramatta Road.

The University of Sydney was incorporated in 1850 and Edmund Blackett's Great Hall opened in 1859. The northern area of the university was built on the former farm known as Grose Farm, comprising 30 acres leased to Lieutenant-Governor Francis Grose in 1792. By 1802 the land was in use as a government experimental farm. The whole block of land between Parramatta, City and Missenden Roads was named after this farm.

In 1868 a public meeting held in Sydney decided to erect a permanent memorial to commemorate the "providential escape of Her Majesty’s son at Clontarf in March 1868". In 1873 12 acres of the university paddock, intended for use as Wesleyan College, were chosen as the site for a memorial hospital. Opened in 1882, the hospital was named Prince Alfred Hospital.

Mallett Street was named after an early mayor of Camperdown Council, C. S. Mallett, who was a strong supporter of ratepayers in the area.

(Pollon, 1988, pp.47-48)

**Industrial history:**

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

**Grace Bros history:**

Grace Bros represents one of Sydney's earliest major department stores, which was first established by English immigrant brothers, Joseph Neal Grace and Edward Albert Grace, in 1885 at Broadway. It began as a modest retail drapery venture of these two brothers.
Over 25 years, Grace Brothers expanded their Broadway retailing outlet. Between 1897 and 1904 the Model Store was built on the western corner of Bay Street and Parramatta Road. Between 1909 and 1929 the Moxham Store was built on the site directly opposite on the eastern corner of Bay Street and Parramatta Road. The twin clock towers of these two buildings, crowned by matching globes, became one of Sydney’s well-known landmarks.

Grace Bros' retail empire continued to expand through Chippendale, Camperdown, Glebe and central Sydney from the late nineteenth century until the 1930s. Grace Bros purchased other sites or buildings within the area. In 1904 they built an electric power generating station in Grose Street. They also opened a clothes manufacturing factory in Knox Street, Chippendale, where they also fitted upholstery and made mattresses and picture frames. In the 1910s Grace Bros diversified into furniture removals and storage by purchasing or building stores in Camperdown and Forest Lodge.

Grace Bros was a major employer and a major commercial enterprise, which continues today under the name Myer.

(City Plan Heritage, 2008, p 26)

Site history:

Major Sydney retailer Grace Bros diversified into furniture removals and storage in the 1910s. Grace Bros used a number of buildings in the vicinity of Mallett Street as furniture repositories. The building at 10 Mallett Street was purpose-built by Grace Bros as a furniture repository between 1921 and 1924. It was numbered as the fifth of the Grace Bros repository buildings in the 1956 building survey map.

Grace Bros removal service was established in 1911. It became an important and highly visible part of the company’s business portfolio. Grace Bros’ 1923 furniture catalogue stated that the company specialised in interstate removals by road, rail or sea. The numerous catalogues produced in the 1920s illustrate the huge range of furniture and services offered by the company, which boasted 3000 employees by 1923. The general catalogue of that year illustrated a pharmacy, hairdresser and portrait photography services. The 1927 furniture catalogue showed colour images of the showroom floor with furniture extending across 3.5 acres. (Sydney Living Museums, http://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/stories/sydneys-home-furnishing-stores-1890-1960, accessed 20 March 2015)

In early 1911, Grace Bros purchased a furniture and storage company in Mallett Street, Camperdown, previously owned by Vintner & Co (Brash 1985). Furniture was stored at this premises in Mallett Street and nearby.

Grace Bros Limited applied to council on 23 August 1920 to build a ‘new building (furniture repository) (114 x 75)’ at Mallett Street, on the corner of Mason & Isabella Streets. It was followed on 31 May 1921 by an application for a sprinkler tank (Street Cards, NSCA). The 1921 Assessment book recorded Grace Bros Ltd as the owner of vacant land between Mason and Isabella streets (1921 Camperdown Assessment book, No 319, NSCA).

A new certificate of title was issued to Grace Bros Limited on 1 May 1923 for the land of 10 Mallett Street between Mason Street and Isabella Street (CT 3447 f 51). The 1924 Assessment book documented the construction of the subject building since the last assessment in 1921. These records showed that Grace Bros Ltd had constructed 6-10 Mallett Street, then described as a five room, five storey brick store with an iron roof (1924 Camperdown Assessment book, No 323, NSCA).

An application on 27 February 1928 by Grace Bros Limited for a ‘new building (furniture repository)’ listed in the street cards should not be confused with this site (Mallett Street cnr Layton St & Mason & 45/61 Pyrmont Bridge Road (Grace Bros), Street Cards, NSCA).

The repository continued in use for many years. On 17 December 1959, D R Martin proposed to install
The removals and transport division of Grace Bros Limited moved to Lidcombe in December 1970 (Brash 1985).

The property at 10 Mallett Street was transferred to Brambles Holdings Ltd on 16 August 1984 (CT 3447 f 51). This was followed by a number of applications to convert parts of the property to offices (6-10 Mallett Street, Street Cards, NSCA). On 14 October 1988, the property was transferred to Desane Properties Pty Ltd (CT 3447 f 51). From this time, the property has largely been used as offices.

Architectural history:

It is likely that the building was designed by D.T. Morrow & Gordon because of the similarity in design, period, use and owner to the adjacent former Grace Bros repository from 1928 designed by this firm. This practice designed a number of buildings for Grace Bros.

In 1887, Morrow worked as an architect in George Street, Newtown. By the turn of the century Morrow had designed a number of city and suburban works. He was also an Alderman of Redfern Municipal Council for some years. In 1900, he entered in partnership again with William De Putron who had become the chief draftsman in the office of Robertson & Marks. In 1909, Morrow hired his nephew P.J. Gordon as a pupil. In 1922, the name of the firm was altered to Morrow De Putron & Gordon. Following the resignation of De Putron due to ill health, the name again changed to Morrow & Gordon Architects in 1925. After Morrow resigned, Gordon became the senior partner in 1932, however the firm retained the same name until 1992. During the boom years the partnership carried out a large quantity of work employing at one time nearly 30 draftsmen in the office. Notable buildings designed by the firm include the Grace Brothers Emporium on Broadway, AWA Building and the Grace Building at the corner of York, King and Clarence Streets (AIA, Morrow biography).

Themes:

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<th>National theme</th>
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<td>5. Working</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Economy</td>
<td>Commerce</td>
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Designer: DT Morrow & Gordon (attributed)
Builder: Unknown
Year started: 1921  Year completed: 1924  Circa: Yes
Physical description: The building was constructed in approximately 1924 as a repository for Grace Bros. The site fronts Mallett Street and extends to Mason Street to the north and Isabella Street to the south. The repository comprises a five-storey brick building contained under a hipped roof concealed behind a parapet wall.

The repository was constructed in the inter-war period. It exhibits typical features of this period applied to a utilitarian building including its heavy geometric massing, hipped roof concealed behind a parapet, symmetrical facades, face brick materials contrasting with rendered lintels, alternating square and rectangular openings, pilasters on the main street frontage and an emphatic cornice below the parapet. The brick rooftop tower on the south-west corner contains arched openings. This feature may have been designed to accommodate a water tower. Loading docks are still visible on the Isabella Street elevation. The building name “Grace Bros Repository” is inscribed on the Mallet Street parapet.

The former repository was adaptively reused for offices in the 1980s and the window frames replaced. This conversion maintained the external integrity of the building.

Internally, the roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.

Physical condition level: Good
Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Physical condition:

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail: Early 1911

Modification dates:

23 August 1920
Application by Grace Bros Limited for ‘new building (furniture repository) (114 x 75”)’

31 May 1921
Application by Grace Bros Limited for sprinkler tank

1921
Assessment book shows Grace Bros Ltd as owner of land between Mason and Isabella streets

1 May 1923
Certificate of title issued to Grace Bros Limited for land in Mallett Street between Mason and Isabella Streets

1924
Assessment book shows Grace Bros Ltd as owner and occupier of 6-10 Mallett Street, then described as a store of five storeys and five rooms built of brick with an iron roof

17 December 1959
Application by D R Martin to install mechanical ventilation on 4th floor worth £900

December 1970
Removals and transport division moved to Lidcombe

16 August 1984
Brambles Holdings Ltd purchased the site

23 August 1988
Application by Lester Firth & Associates to refurbish warehouse for use as offices

14 October 1988
Desane Properties Pty Ltd purchased the site

13 September 1989
Westpac Banking Corporation proposed an office fitout for level 4 at an estimated cost of $40,000

8 November 1990
Australia Youth Hostels propose fitout as offices with works valued at $10,000

23 November 1990
Application by Desane Properties Pty Ltd for office fitout on third floor at an estimated cost of $10,000
The building should be retained and conserved.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development should be undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Do not paint, render or seal face brickwork.

Face brick finishes, rendered lintels, window openings, pilasters, parapet wall, cornice detailing, rooftop tower and other original building features should be maintained and conserved.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external industrial character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

Built in approximately 1924 as a furniture repository for major Sydney retailers, Grace Bros, this building represents the industrial development of Camperdown during the first half of the twentieth century. It is historically significant for its connection to the twentieth century growth of Sydney’s retail industry, in particular relating to furniture. As the most intact of two former Grace Bros repositories on Mallett Street, the building provides evidence of the success, scale and expansion of the Grace Bros retail empire during the 1920s, one of Sydney’s earliest major department stores.

The building forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings in Australia, which records Sydney’s rich industrial past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of industrial and warehouse buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The building has significant associations with Grace Bros, one of Sydney’s earliest major department stores, from the 1920s to the 1960s.

The building design is likely associated with architects, D.T. Morrow and Gordon, who designed the adjoining furniture repository at 47-71 Pyrmont Road in 1928, together with a number of buildings for Grace Bros including the Grace Bros Emporium on Broadway and Grace Hotel in central Sydney.
Criteria c): Architecturally, the building demonstrates a representative example of a purpose-designed warehouse from the inter-war period. It exhibits typical features of this period applied to a utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, symmetrical facades, face brick materials, rendered lintels, regular pattern of window openings, pilasters on the main street frontage, emphatic cornice, hipped roof concealed behind a parapet wall, and prominent rooftop tower.

The imposing form of the building extending across the full width of the block and the prominent corner tower add to the building’s landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood. The building makes an important contribution to the streetscapes of Mallett, Isabella and Mason Streets and is visible in the round from a number of near and distant vantage points in surrounding streets.

While adaptively reused as offices, the building retains external integrity. It survives as the most intact of two buildings originally constructed as furniture repositories for Grace Bros in the 1920s on Mallett Street.

Criteria d): Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value to communities. For its association with the significant employer of the time, Grace Bros, the building may have value to the community of former Grace Bros workers involved in its furniture removals and storage operations from the 1920s to the 1960s.

Criteria e): The former Grace Bros repository is the most intact example of the pair of Grace Bros furniture repositories constructed on Mallett Street during the 1920s.

Criteria f): The former Grace Bros repository is a representative example of an inter-war warehouse and the buildings constructed for the growth of the Grace Bros retail empire.

Intactness/Integrity: Externally intact.

References:

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<td>John Sands</td>
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<td>Dr Terry Kass</td>
<td>Industrial and warehouse buildings research - site history</td>
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<td>Nicholas Brash</td>
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Studies:

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**Item name:** Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

**Location:** 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

**Study number**

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**Data entry:** Data first entered: 05/08/2014  Data updated: 11/05/2015  Status: Completed
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**Image:**

![Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/34559672d4108b3473ba552d03bdcb43319.jpg)

**Caption:** Former Grace Bros repository viewed from Parramatta Road

**Copy right:** City of Sydney

**Image by:** City Plan Heritage

**Image date:** 08/11/2013

**Image number:**

**Image url:** http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/34559672d4108b3473ba552d03bdcb43319.jpg

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**Item name:** Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

**Location:** 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

**Image:**

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**Caption:** Former Grace Bros repository showing Isabella Street corner

**Copy right:** City of Sydney

**Image by:** Claudine Loffi

**Image date:** 18/03/2014

**Image number:**

**Image url:** http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3453734038609f847d4ab6dbf8ec4da0d9c.JPG

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Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Image:

Caption: 1912 advertisement for Grace Bros removals service

Copy right:

Image by: Nicholas Brash, The Model Store, p 194

Image date: 01/01/1912

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3450abb918a92514de084eeecdd51515c7e.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3450abb918a92514de084eeecdd51515c7e.jpg
Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Grace Brothers removal vans in 1913

Copyright:

Image by: Nicholas Brash, The Model Store, p 196

Image date: 01/01/1913

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345038e6dd200514e0f97707b5a3cea2d97.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345038e6dd200514e0f97707b5a3cea2d97.jpg
Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1948 civic survey showing a five-storey building occupied by Grace Bros on the subject site

Copy right: City of Sydney archives

Image by: 1938-1950 Civic Survey, City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1948

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34530e445983e7243e2aa863b2f31cffe57.jpg
Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing the subject and surrounding Grace Bros repositories at this time

Copyright: City of Sydney archives

Image by: City Building Surveyors Department, City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34541f01cad84404c5ba9cad045a177580b.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34541f01cad84404c5ba9cad045a177580b.jpg
Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Caption: D.T. Morrow & Gordon architectural drawing for Grace Bros repository on adjoining site

Copy right: City of Sydney archives

Image by: D.T. Morrow & Gordon

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34548b85debe1894d8bb4b7d768c45eeeba.jpg
Item name: Former Grace Bros Repository including interiors

Location: 6-10 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Image: [Image]

Caption: D.T. Morrow & Gordon architectural drawing for Grace Bros repository on adjoining site

Copy right: City of Sydney archives

Image by: D.T. Morrow & Gordon

Image date:

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3450d4998ae0c9492d8b4b73c5e6b181de.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3450d4998ae0c9492d8b4b73c5e6b161de.jpg
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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Item name:</strong></th>
<th>Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors</th>
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<td><strong>Location:</strong></td>
<td>64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>Address:</strong></th>
<th>64-106 Mallett Street</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Suburb/nearest town:</strong></td>
<td>Camperdown 2050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Local govt area:</strong></td>
<td>Sydney</td>
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<td><strong>State:</strong></td>
<td>NSW</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Other/former names:</strong></td>
<td>Raritan Knitting Co, Church Dunblane substation, George A. Bond &amp; Co Ltd, University of Sydney Mallett Street Campus, B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Aboriginal area:** | Eora |
| **Curtilage/boundary:** | As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan |

| **Item type:** | Complex / Group |
| **Group:** | Manufacturing and Processing |
| **Category:** | Other - Manufacturing & Processing |

| **Owner:** | University |
| **Admin codes:** | |

| **Current use:** | University of Sydney campus, faculty of nursing, church |
| **Former uses:** | Textiles and clothing manufacturing, electricity substation |

| **Assessed significance:** | Local |
| **Endorsed significance:** | |

**Sydney City Council**

**SHI number**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study number</th>
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This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
**Item name:** Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors  
**Location:** 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney  

**Statement of significance:**  
Built for major Australian textile manufacturers in the 1920s and 1930s, the former Bonds Industries complex represents the large-scale industrial development of Camperdown during the mid-twentieth century. It is historically significant for its connection to the Australian manufacturing of clothing and as evidence of the formerly widespread textiles industry in the City of Sydney. The scale of the site and its buildings demonstrate the importance of the textiles and clothing industry to Sydney and Australia during the twentieth century.

Through its significant association with Bonds Industries from the 1920s through to the 1980s, the site also demonstrates the early development of this iconic Australian textiles company, which has produced a well-known range of clothing for almost 100 years.

The site and its "Chesty Bond" mural is likely to have value to the local community for its connection to the widely-used and recognised Bonds products made at this site and as a local landmark. As a major former employer in the local area for most of the twentieth century, the complex and its buildings are also likely to have social value to the community of former Bonds workers and their families.

Comprising a number of buildings mostly constructed by Bonds in the 1920s and 1930s, the complex represents a good example of a large inter-war industrial precinct. The multi-storey scale of the buildings demonstrates a different building typology for factory and mill buildings in this part of the City of Sydney, compared to the predominant form for the large southern Sydney factories from the same period of single-storey, sawtooth-roofed buildings.

The scale of the site, its buildings, and the tower with the "Chesty Bond" mural, give the site landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood. The former Bonds buildings, tower and mural are highly visible from a number of near and distant vantage points in the surrounding streets and adjacent park. They make an important contribution to the streetscapes of Mallett, Church and Fowler Streets and Hampshire Lane, and strongly define the edge of Camperdown Park.

A number of the buildings in this precinct demonstrate the work of the prominent architectural firm, Robertson & Marks. These buildings (buildings A, B, C, F and G) represent good examples of the inter-war free classical style in their geometric massing, surviving inter-war features and pattern of fenestration.

The "Chesty Bond" murals painted on the tower of building D near Hampshire Lane are rare surviving markers of this Australian textiles icon, which represent a reproduction of the graphic designed by J. Walter Thompson.

Substation No.181 (Church Dunblane) represents a good example of an inter-war electricity substation with aesthetic and historical significance for its association with the former Bonds Industries and as evidence of the expansion of Sydney’s electrical network to serve factories. The construction of a substation on this site records the high energy demands of the former factory and the importance of electricity for industrial development, factory design and operations during this period.

The facade of the former cafeteria on Church Street demonstrates recognisable remnants of a confident and accomplished example of the inter-war Art Deco style.

The complex forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The former Bond’s Industries complex is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic, social and representative values.
**Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors**

**Location:** 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

**Study number**

**Historical notes of provenance:**

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: [http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/](http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/)

The inner-city suburb of Camperdown forms part of the 240 acre estate granted to Governor Bligh in August 1806. Bligh named the area Camperdown in memory of a 1797 naval battle. The grant extended from the junction of Orphan School Creek and Johnston's Creek in the north, and across Parramatta Road to Cook's River Road. A model farm was initially established on the grant. In 1841 the Bligh estate was subdivided as O'Connell Town on Cook's River Road and Camperdown on Parramatta Road.

The University of Sydney was incorporated in 1850 and Edmund Blackett's Great Hall opened in 1859. The northern area of the university was built on the former farm known as Grose Farm, comprising 30 acres leased to Lieutenant-Governor Francis Grose in 1792. By 1802 the land was in use as a government experimental farm. The whole block of land between Parramatta, City and Missenden Roads was named after this farm.

In 1868 a public meeting held in Sydney decided to erect a permanent memorial to commemorate the "providential escape of Her Majesty’s son at Clontarf in March 1868". In 1873 12 acres of the university paddock, intended for use as Wesleyan College, were chosen as the site for a memorial hospital. Opened in 1882, the hospital was named Prince Alfred Hospital.

Mallett Street was named after an early mayor of Camperdown Council, C. S. Mallett, who was a strong supporter of ratepayers in the area.

(Pollon, 1988, pp.47-48)

**Robertson & Marks history:**

The prominent Sydney architects, Robertson & Marks, was established in 1892 and continues to practice today as Robertson & Marks Pty Ltd. The original partners were George Birrell Robertson and Theodore John Marks. Struan Robertson inherited both partners' shares upon their deaths in 1913 and 1941. John Trevor Guy joined the practice in 1940.

Much of the practice's early work was connected with racing due to the connections of the partner, Theodore Marks. Marks was a member of the Australian Jockey Club (AJC) from 1893, an original shareholder in the Victoria Park Racing and Recreation Grounds Co Ltd for pony-racing, and chairman of the Rosehill Racing Club between 1919-41. Marks designed many of the buildings and alterations at Randwick and Warwick Farm Racecourses for the AJC in 1922 and the since demolished Leger Stand at Rosehill (1920), amongst others.

Robertson & Marks designed a large number of significant buildings in Sydney. Between 1892 and 1941 these works included the: Edwards Dunlop & Dunlop Warehouses, Kent Street (1901); Briscoe & Co Ltd bulk store, Ultimo (1901); W. Horace Friend Warehouse, Clarence Street (1906); Oswald Sealy Building, Clarence Street (1906); Richardson & Co Emporium, Armidale (1908); the original Challis House, Martin Place (1908); Perpetual Trustee Co, Hunter Street (1917); Daily Telegraph Building, King Street, with Samuel Lipson (1912-16,1934); Proudts Ltd, Pitt Street (1920); Hotel Australia Rowe Street wing (1923); Warwick Farm Racecourse grandstand (1925), Bank of NSW head office, Martin Place (1927-32); Mercantile Mutual Building, Pitt Street (1929); Asbestos House, York Street, with John Reid & Sons (1930-5); and the AWA Building, York Street, as Robertson, Marks & McCreddie with Morrow & Gordo (1937-39).

In its earlier days, the practice also designed numerous houses for the elite of Sydney society, including: 'Goondee', Wahroonga (1897); 'Glensley', Turramurra (1897); 'Gorawin', Killara (1903); Brunton house, Bellevue Hill (1904); 'Heverlee', Wahroonga (1904); and 'Wanstead' (Gowing), Lindfield (1911).
The architectural styles of the firm changed both with time and the building type. Their major commercial buildings in the early years of the century were bold Federation warehouses with Romanesque arches at either ground or top floor level. The arches gave way to a simple rectilinear, trabeated facade treatment in later warehouses and offices. During the inter-war period, the firm's large Sydney buildings demonstrated a number of inter-war styles including the commercial palazzo style (Farmer & Co. department store, Market Street, 1920, and Gowings Bros Building, Market Street, 1912-29, with C.H. Mackellar), inter-war functionalist (S.H. Hoffnung & Co. Building, 1939, with Samuel Lipson) and restrained inter-war Mediterranean styles (Bondi Surf Pavilion, Bondi Beach, 1930 with L. McCredie). (Robertson, 2011)

Bonds and site history:

The iconic brand of Bonds has been part of Australia for almost 100 years. In 1915, an American, George A. Bond, moved to Australia and established a small company in Sydney importing a range of women’s hosiery and gloves. Two years later, the company began manufacturing hosiery in Redfern and subsequently moved to Camperdown where it began manufacturing underwear. (Bonds website ‘About Bonds’, 2013)

Between 1918 and 1927 George A Bond and Co, purchased over thirty allotments in what was then a largely residential area along the south-eastern side of Camperdown Park between Mallett and Church Streets, with some allotments in the surrounding area. The company constructed its head office on this land, together with a number of industrial buildings to manufacture hosiery, socks and underwear. The buildings were designed by the prominent architects, Robertson & Marks.

The expansion of Bonds through the 1920s was remarkable for its innovative products, niche marketing and distinctive brand name. However this did not ensure financial success. By 1927 George A Bond Pty Ltd was in receivership and a newly restructured Bond Industries was formed in 1930. The company became profitable again by 1935.

The company built one of Australia’s first cotton spinning mill at Wentworthville in 1932. George Bond’s original house in Wentworthville, ‘Dunmore House’, still survives adjacent to the current Bond’s Head Office. (Bonds website ‘About Bonds’, 2013)

A cafeteria was constructed on the site for the Bond's factory workers during the 1930s. The architect for the design of this building is unknown.

In 1938 J Walter Thompson created the symbol of “Chesty Bond”, one of the most famous Australian company icons. Bonds later became known as ‘the largest hosiery manufacturer in the British Empire’.

During the 1950s, the company also operated factories at Cessnock and Dubbo

In 1970, the company merged with the British firm, Coats Paton Pty Ltd.

In 1986 Bonds Coats Patons Ltd sold the Camperdown site to the Sydney College of Advanced Education and moved its operation to Wentworthville except for Building G which remained as the head office. In 1987, the company was taken over by Pacific Dunlop Limited. In 1990, the company transferred its head office from Camperdown to Wentworthville and closed its warehouses at Five Dock and Leichhardt to open one central distribution centre at Minto. (Bonds website ‘About Bonds’, 2013)

In approximately 1988 the interior fabric and part of the external walls to the cafeteria were demolished and the shell of the building was adapted for undercover parking for the college.

With the demise of tertiary education colleges, parts of the Sydney College of Advanced Education were amalgamated with the University of Sydney. In 1990, the Mallett Street Campus passed into the ownership of the university.
In 2009 part of the site adjoining Church Street was redeveloped to accommodate a medical centre and research establishment associated with the Brain and Mind Research Institute of the University of Sydney. As part of this redevelopment, the side walls of the former cafeteria were retained, the façade restored and incorporated into a new four level building. This new building, designed by BVN Architecture, won the Health Category Award at the World Architecture Festival in 2010.

Since 1915, Bonds has sold over 400 million "Chesty Bonds" singlets, 155 million pairs of Cottontails pants and 20 million baby Wondersuits. Bonds remains today one of the largest Australian manufacturers of t-shirts and underwear. (Bonds website ‘About Bonds’, 2013)

Building history summary:

Building A (M02A):
The original spinning mill of Bond’s Industries was built in 1925 to the design of Robertson & Marks. It was refurbished in 2001 by the University of Sydney.

Building B (M02B):
This building was constructed in 1924 on some earlier structures including the boiler house, hosiery dye house and yarn dye house. The site was redeveloped as a mill in 1924 to the design of Robertson & Marks. It was refurbished in 2000.

Building C (M02C):
This building was constructed in 1925-26 to the design of Robertson & Marks and was one of the original hosiery mills on the site. It was refurbished in 2002.

Building D (M02D):
Purchased in 1918, this was the first premises of George Bond. This building is located at the corner of Mallett Street and Hampshire Lane and was likely occupied by Raritan Knitting Co before George Bond’s started operating there. It is unknown when the tower was built. The building was considerably altered in the late 1980s when it was adapted for educational and car parking uses.

In 1938, a mural of ‘Chesty Bond’ was painted on the tower’s north and west faces. Its current design is based on a graphic designed by J. Walter Thompson, however it is possible that the design has been modified over time as the mural has been progressively renewed.

Building E (M02E, Electricity Substation):
In late 1925, George A Bond & Co agreed to construct a substation on its property and lease it to the Sydney Municipal Council for the purpose of supplying electricity to the Bond’s cotton mill and factory building. A clause in the agreement allowed the Sydney Municipal Council to supply electricity to other consumers, subject to the demand of the company first being met. The substation building was designed by the City Architect in February 1926.

The substation building was erected on Church Street frontage and was connected to the network in July 1926. The substation became an important switching centre on the 5.5kV network and also supplied several sets of low-voltage street mains in the vicinity.

In conjunction with the erection of the substation, the company also built a new six-storey mill building on its adjoining land. The new mill building fronted Mallett Street, but extended across the block through to Church Street.

In approximately 1950, when Bond & Co began to transfer machinery from Camperdown to its factory at Wentworthville, electrical demand at the Camperdown factory was drastically reduced. Demand for electricity from Bond & Co at Camperdown rose again in 1958 and further in 1964.
During the early 1990s, the substation was renamed as Church Dunblane. Several new kiosk-type substations were established in the surrounding area in the following years. In July 2009, after eighty three years’ service, the substation was disconnected from the network. The equipment was removed and the building acquired by Sydney University. (Pennington, 2012)

Building F (M02F):
This building was the original spinning and underwear mill built in 1926–27 to the design of Robertson & Marks. It was refurbished in 2003 by the University of Sydney for educational purposes.

Building G (M02G):
This was the original Bonds head office building built in 1924 and 1925 by J. Porters and Sons to the design of Robertson & Marks. It remained the Bonds head office until 1990 when it was incorporated as part of the Mallett Street campus of Sydney University. The building was refurbished in 2005 as part of the Brain and Mind Research Institute.

Building H (M02H):
This former garage was designed by William R. Laurie and Eric F. Heath during the late 1930s. It was refurbished in 2005 by the University of Sydney for use as part of the campus.

Building K (M02K):
This was the original Bonds’ Cafeteria, a two storey building with Art Deco detailing built during the 1930s. The architect is unknown. In approximately 1988 the interior fabric and part of the external walls were demolished and the shell of the building was adapted for undercover parking for the university.

In 2008-9 the side walls of the former cafeteria were retained and the facade restored and incorporated into a new four level research building. It is currently occupied by the Brain and Mind Research Institute of the University of Sydney.

Themes:
National theme | State theme | Local theme
--- | --- | ---
3. Economy | Industry | Factories
3. Economy | Technology | Electricity
5. Working | Labour | Activities associated with work
3. Economy | Commerce | Warehouses
6. Educating | Education | Public education

Designer: Robertson & Marks (buildings A, B, C, F & G) Heath & Laurie (building H), J. Walter Thompson (mural)

Builder: J. Porter & Sons (building G), unknown for other buildings

Year started: 1924 | Year completed: 1939 | Circa: Yes
Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallet Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Physical description: The former Bonds Industries complex occupies a large site comprising most of the block fronting Camperdown Park on the west and Church Street to the east. The precinct comprises nine main buildings dating from the inter-war years with frontages to Mallet and Church Streets and Hampshire Lane, numbered as buildings A-H and K (or M02A-H and M02K).

The textile mill, factory and office buildings (buildings A, B, C, F and G) were constructed in the 1920s to the design of prominent architects Robertson & Marks in the inter-war free classical style for George Alan Bond. Building D may have already existed when George A Bond purchased the site in 1918. The garage (building H) was designed by architects William R Laurie and Eric F. Heath for Bonds.

All the buildings except for building G were altered internally when they were converted for educational use in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Building A (M02A):
A six-storey rendered brick building originally constructed as a spinning mill. The building has large rectangular massing with large multi-paned windows and tall lead downpipes dividing the main facade into three bays. The upper-most level walls are rendered with an ashlar finish and feature a brick cornice with a slight return along the side facades. The building was refurbished in 2001. The ground level is currently used as garage while the upper storeys are used by the University of Sydney.

Building B (M02B):
This single-storey painted brick building was constructed as a mill in 1924 to the design of Robertson & Marks. It was redeveloped as a garage at ground level with a contemporary addition to the rooftop level behind the facade parapet. Some original windows have been infilled with bricks. Original downpipes are still visible on the facade. The building was refurbished in 2000 by the University of Sydney. The condition of these facades are generally lower than other buildings on the site.

Building C (M02C):
A six-storey rendered brick building with ashlar finishes on the first two levels and south-west corner. It has large rectangular massing with large multi-paned windows and tall lead downpipes dividing the main facade into three bays. Rendered cornices are located below and above the third level. The upper storeys and the window fenestration appear to have been altered. The building was refurbished in 2002.

Building D (M02D):
A modest two-and-a-half-storey rendered brick building with large multi-paned rectangular windows at the second level. The ground floor fenestration has been altered with some openings infilled with bricks. The facades contain rendered string course and an applied cornice. A metal deck roof slopes inwards to an open courtyard. Level two has a partly exposed timber-framed structure.

The painted brick tower located at the north-eastern corner near Hampshire Lane feature murals of ‘Chesty Bond’ painted on its north and west faces. Its current design is based on a graphic designed by J. Walter Thompson. It is possible that the design has been modified over time as the mural has been progressively renewed.

Building E (M02E):
The former Electricity Substation No.181 (Church Dunblane Substation) is an inter-war electricity substation built in 1927 fronting Church Street. It is a two-storey brick building with a part face brick and part rendered facade with a decorative rendered pediment and entablature over the entrance. A large identification sign with the electricity substation number is located above the front door and a large symbol of the Sydney Municipal Council is carved into the pediment. The multi-paned steel window on the main facade is framed by a rendered architrave. The side windows have rendered lintels.

Building F (M02F):

A seven-storey rendered brick building with ashlar finishes to the first two storeys and north-west and south-west corners. The substantial building has geometric massing with large multi-paned windows. The upper levels and windows appear to have been altered. A decorative string cornice runs along the facade above the third level. The building was refurbished in 2003 by the University of Sydney.

Building G (M02G):

A six-storey rendered brick office building used as the Bond's head office until 1990. The facade contains steel and aluminium-framed windows and a 1970 metal awning over the main entrance. The substantial building has geometric massing with large multi-paned windows and a service tower over the roof. An elevated corridor links this building to Building F at the sixth level.

Internally, the building retains its original concrete and timber structure and an original precast terrazzo and metal main staircase. Stair treads have been replaced on lower floors. The room adjacent to the front door retains original floor and wall tiles. The ground floor entrance lobby, visitors area, lavatories and upper floor executive areas have decorative fit-outs from the 1970s. The fourth floor contains a safe room with safe door.

The building was refitted in 2005 for the Brain and Mind Research Institute.

Building H (M02H):

A modest single-storey building with clerestory windows over the central part of the corrugated iron roof. The main facade features simple rectangular openings infilled with glass bricks. This building was refurbished in 2005 by the University of Sydney.

Building K (M02K):

A four-level building constructed in 2008 which incorporates the facade and side walls of the former 1930s cafeteria. The facade retains Art Deco features including its rendered brick construction with ceramic tile finish to the entrance loggia and base of the facade, scribed and applied string courses, pilasters, vertical relief pattern in render above north and south windows, metal frame windows, and shopfronts and street awnings with stays.

The roofs, foundations and floor structures of the buildings on the site were not inspected by the authors.


Physical condition level: Good

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail:
Modification dates:

1988 (approx): Cafeteria interior fabric and part of the external walls demolished and remaining shell adapted for undercover parking for the university.

2009: Cafeteria side walls retained and façade restored and incorporated into a new four level building for a medical centre and research establishment associated with the Brain and Mind Research Institute of the University of Sydney.

1980s: Mural repainted.

Recommended management:

A Conservation Management Plan should be prepared for the ongoing management of the heritage values of the complex.

A Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development should be undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

The inter-war buildings, and their surviving original or early internal and external features, should be retained and conserved. The mural should be retained and conserved, including views to the mural from Mallett Street and Hampshire Lane.

Future redevelopment of the inter-war buildings should consider reinstatement of original facade features, where possible.

New uses for the buildings are to complement and enhance the internal and external industrial character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Management:

Management category: Statutory Instrument
Management name: List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Further comments:

Parts of the site, comprising the former Head Office (building G) at 100-106 Mallett Street and the former cafeteria (building K) at 97-99 Church Street were first listed as heritage items with the gazettal of Amendment No. 3 of South Sydney LEP 1998 on 28th July 2000. The whole site was listed on the Section 170 Register of the University of Sydney on 23rd November 2010.

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.
### Sydney City Council

| Item name: | Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors |
| Location:  | 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney |

**Criteria a): [Historical significance]**

Built for major Australian textile manufacturers in the 1920s and 1930s, the former Bonds Industries complex represents the large-scale industrial development of Camperdown during the mid-twentieth century.

It is historically significant for its connection to the Australian manufacturing of clothing and as evidence of the formerly widespread textiles industry in the City of Sydney. The scale of the site and its buildings demonstrate the importance of the textiles and clothing industry to Sydney and Australia during the twentieth century.

Through its significant association with Bonds Industries from the 1920s through to the 1980s, the site also demonstrates the early development of this iconic Australian textiles company, which has produced a well-known range of clothing for almost 100 years.

Electricity substation No.181 (Church Dunblane) is significant for its association with the former Bonds Industries and as evidence of the expansion of Sydney’s electrical network to serve factories.

The complex forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

**Criteria b): [Historical association significance]**

The precinct has significant associations with Bonds Industries as their centre of their Sydney operations from the 1920s to the 1980s.

Five of the inter-war building designs are associated with the prominent architectural firm of Robertson & Marks.

The substation has significant associations with the Municipal Council of Sydney, who constructed the building as part of its early twentieth-century responsibility for the generation and distribution of electricity throughout the greater Sydney area from 1904 until 1936.

**Criteria c): [Aesthetic/Technical significance]**

Comprising a number of buildings mostly constructed by Bonds in the 1920s and 1930s, the complex represents a good example of a large inter-war industrial precinct. The multi-storey scale of the buildings demonstrates a different building typology for factory and mill buildings in this part of the City of Sydney, compared to the predominant form for the large southern Sydney factories from the same period of single-storey, sawtooth-roofed buildings.

The scale of the site, its buildings, and the tower with the "Chesty Bond" mural, give the site landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood. The former Bonds buildings, tower and mural are highly visible from a number of near and distant vantage points in the surrounding streets and adjacent park. They make an important contribution to the streetscapes of Mallett, Church and Fowler Streets and Hampshire Lane, and strongly define the edge of Camperdown Park.

A number of the buildings in this precinct demonstrate the work of the prominent architectural firm, Robertson & Marks. These buildings (buildings A, B, C, F and G) represent good examples of the inter-war architectural styles, most closely the Chicagoesque and Commercial Palazzo styles, in their geometric massing, surviving inter-war features and pattern of fenestration.

The "Chesty Bond" murals painted on the tower of building D near Hampshire Lane are rare surviving markers of this Australian textiles icon, which represent a reproduction of the graphic designed by J. Walter Thompson.

Electricity substation No.181 (Church Dunblane) represents a good example an electricity substation, demonstrating typical features and surviving ornamentation of the inter-war architectural period.

The facade of the former cafeteria on Church Street demonstrates recognisable remnants of a confident and accomplished example of the inter-war Art Deco style.
Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Criteria d): [Social/Cultural significance]
Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value to communities. The site is likely to have value to the local community for its connection to the widely-used and recognised Bonds products made at this site.
As a major former employer in the local area for most of the twentieth century, the complex and its buildings are also likely to have social value to the community of former Bonds workers and their families.

As a major former employer in the local area for most of the twentieth century, the complex and its buildings is also likely to have social value to the community of former Bonds workers and their families.

As a symbol of the major former presence of Bonds in Camperdown and a long-standing and highly visible local landmark, the “Chesty Bonds” murals holds particular social value to the local community of Camperdown, as demonstrated by the community opposition to the proposal to paint over the mural in the late 1980s.

Criteria e): [Research significance]
The building may offer research potential into the evolution of technology for electricity supply and architectural design for substations in Sydney.

Criteria f): [Rarity]
The Former Bonds Industries complex is rare as a multi-storey industrial complex from the major textile manufacturing operations of Bonds during the twentieth century in the City of Sydney.

Criteria g): [Representative]
The site is a good example of a large inter-war industrial precinct. The buildings on the site represent good examples of a multi-storey textiles manufacturing mill, an externally intact two-storey inter-war substation and the industrial work of Robertson & Marks.

Intactness/Integrity: Moderately intact externally. The mural has been repainted in the last 20 years.

References:

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<thead>
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<tr>
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<td>Trevor Williams</td>
<td>Paper on Faculty of Nursing Mallet Street buildings presented</td>
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<td>Ian Gregory little</td>
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Location validity: Spatial accuracy:

Map name: Map scale:

AMG zone: Easting: Northing:
**Item name:** Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors  

**Location:** 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050  

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Data first entered: 14/07/2014  
Data updated: 13/05/2015  
Status: Completed
Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Aerial photo of the former Bonds complex with the subject buildings circled

Copy right: Bing.com

Image by: Bing Maps

Image date: 01/01/2013

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP\P/3453f867aec826743488ae75e37b52779c5.jpg

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Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050  

Image:

Caption: Buildings D (M02D) and C (M02C) viewed from Mallett Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage

Image date: 04/02/2014

P/345111fbff81fc44691a9d58bf60e83383b.jpg

P/Thumb_test345111fbff81fc44691a9d58bf60e83383b.jpg
Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Caption: Building C (M02C) viewed from Mallett Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage

Image date: 04/02/2014

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345fed41b5f95c243a8b8ad98a76f0d6fd9.jpg

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Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

SHI number 5062403

Study number

Image:

Caption: Building G (M02G) right, Building H (M02H) & part of F (M02F) to the far left

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345a62a5bf142de43749c562ef0094c66a0.JPG

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Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Image:

Caption: Building K (M02K), the former Bonds Cafeteria with the 2009 addition

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage

Image date: 04/02/2014

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/Thumb_test3458a3a9906648954520a0aabdca216c24631.jpg
**Item name:**  Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

**Location:**  64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

**Image:**
![Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/thumbnail3452ff6f4955dc44a6b13ff08993620e94.jpg)

**Caption:**  Substation No.181 included within the Former Bonds Industries site, Building E (M02E)

**Copy right:**  City of Sydney

**Image by:**  City Plan Heritage

**Image date:**  04/02/2014

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Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Building B (M02B) viewed from Church Street

Copyright: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 19/03/2014

Image number:


Item name:  Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location:  64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Image:

Caption:  Chesty Bond mural on the tower near Hampshire Lane

Copy right:  City of Sydney

Image by:  City Plan Heritage

Image date:  28/08/2014

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Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1930s photo of the Bonds complex

Copy right: Fairfax Media, National Library of Australia

Image by: Fairfax archive of glass plate negatives, National Library of Australia (nla.pic)

Image date: 01/01/1930


Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Image:

Caption: Photograph of the staff in 1920s in front of Building C (M02C) in Mallett Street

Copy right: Bonds & Co

Image by: Bonds & Co

Image date: 01/01/1920


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345a60b564992244fb79d704c75088f5613.jpg
Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Image:

Caption: Opening of Camperdown Park playground showing Bond’s factory in background in 1935

Copy right: City of Sydney archives

Image by: Sydney Reference Collection, SRC10416

Image date: 12/12/1935

Image number:


Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallet Street Camperdown 2050 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Winding bobbins in the Bond's Factory

Copy right: Bonds & Co

Image by: Bonds & Co

Image date:

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345a68b0dd44176451f8cbbe898860cac4f.jpg
Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Image:

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing Bonds Industries complex and surrounds

Copy right: City of Sydney archives

Image by: City Building Surveyors Department, City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345b03b1998066d44c1ac05a540a1a0a66.jpg

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Item name: Former Bonds Industries complex including interiors

Location: 64-106 Mallett Street Camperdown 2050

Caption: Mallett Street campus site map showing building numbers (M02I is excluded from the Bonds site)

Copy right: University of Sydney

Image by: University of Sydney


Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Address: 2-10 Golden Grove Street
Suburb/nearest town: Darlington 2008
Local govt area: Sydney
State: NSW
Parish: Petersham
County: Cumberland
Other/former names: H Jones and Co (Sydney) Pty Ltd, IXL, H. Jones & Co Ltd Products, Jones-IXL building, Building H07 – University Garage
Area/group/complex: Group ID:
Aboriginal area: Eora
Curtilage/boundary: As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan
Item type: Built
Owner: University
Group: Manufacturing and Processing
Category: Other - Manufacturing & Processing
Admin codes: Code 2: Code 3:
Current use: Office and storage facility
Former uses: Factory garage
Assessed significance: Local
Endorsed significance:

Planning: Sydney South
Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Statement of significance: Built in 1937 as a motor garage for the Henry Jones and Company factory, this former garage represents the industrial development of Darlington during the mid-twentieth century. The Henry Jones and Company garage is historically significant for its connection to the development of the Australian food processing industry for jams, tinned fruits and other processed foods. The construction of the garage to house delivery trucks for the former IXL jam factory also represents technological advancements of the inter-war period through the growing use of motor vehicles for the distribution of products.

The building is significant for its historical association with Henry Jones and Company, better known by its iconic brand name ‘IXL’, which dominated the food processing industry in Australia for most of the twentieth century. The construction of this purpose-built garage demonstrates the growth of the company and the popularity of its products during the inter-war period in New South Wales.

Aesthetically, this former garage represents a good example of a modest inter-war functionalist industrial building exhibiting typical architectural features of this style including simple geometric massing, symmetrical composition, stepped and gabled parapets, polychromatic face brickwork, engaged piers, multi-paned steel windows and prominent signage.

The adaptive reuse of the building into offices and storage facility has retained its architectural integrity as a recognisable former garage. As a rare surviving example of inter-war development in the street, the building makes a positive contribution to the streetscapes of Golden Grove Street and Darlington Lane.

As a major former employer in the area, the remnant building may hold significance to the former workers of the Henry Jones and Company factory. The site may also hold significance to the community for its connection to the well known brand of IXL jam produced by this company, reinforced by the surviving original signage from this use.

The former garage is rare locally as the only known building surviving from the former industrial use of Henry Jones and Co in Darlington, since the main factory was demolished in the 1980s.

The former Henry Jones and Co garage forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The former garage is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic, representative and rarity values.
Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The locality of Darlington was earmarked for school uses from the early years of the colony. In 1801, the area was granted to the trustee of the Female Orphan Institution who leased out sections as an income source. The land was divided and parts re-granted by 1819. The Black Wattle Swamp Creek ran through parts of Darlington, resulting in swampy land in the location of the present Darlington Public School.

The 52 acres of land known as ‘Golden Grove’ or the ‘Bullock Paddock’ was granted to William Hutchinson in 1819. Thomas Shepherd also received 28.5 acres of land where he established a garden and nursery, named the ‘Darling Nursery’, in 1927. The name of the suburb was derived from Shepherd’s nursery business.

The land was developed for housing from the 1850s. The municipality of Darlington was established in 1864. Eveleigh, as one of the largest employers in Sydney at the turn of the century, played a significant role in the development of the local area.

In 1879 the ‘Golden Grove’ Estate was subdivided into 36 sections for housing. By 1890 industries operating in Darlington included a jam factory, iron foundry, a zinc and brass works, two cabinet factories, a cordial factory, a portmanteau factory and other small industries. These industries generated a need for further residential development and also encouraged further sale of the ‘Golden Grove’ Estate to house the workers. The tram route then ran along Cleveland and Abercrombie Streets with stops at Wells, Codrington, Shepherd, Golden Grove and Wilson Streets to Newtown.

During the twentieth century, the importance of the Eveleigh railway yards declined as steam propulsion was replaced by diesel engines. During the 1920s the area became less desirable for residential purposes and by the 1940s the houses were considered slums.

The expansion of Sydney University from the late 1950s resulted in the redevelopment of a large area and the demolition of approximately 650 dwellings as well as shops, factories, the bank, post office, Town Hall and other amenities.

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.
Henry Jones and Company:

Henry Jones (1862–1926), jam manufacturer, entrepreneur and financier, initially began working in George Peacock’s jam factory on Hobart’s Old Wharf.

Henry Jones and Co was founded in Hobart in 1891. In approximately 1898 Jones, popularly known as ‘Jam Tin Jones’, adopted the brand name IXL. Jones purchased the Old Wharf factory in Hobart in partnership with Achalen Palfreyman and Ernest Peacock in 1889. The business expanded to Victoria and Darlington during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

Jones expanded into the fruit export market in the late 1890s, then into the hop-growing and timber industries. He purchased and invested in large orchards and financed many other fruit growers in order to ensure a reliable fruit supply. He also established a small fleet of local and interstate sailing vessels, known as the ‘jam fleet’, and established long-term relationships with the major British shipping lines. Jones also became a leading Australian financier and one of the early advisors to the Commonwealth Bank.

Henry Jones was knighted in 1919. He was the driving force behind the expansion of the business. ‘IXL’ is believed to be based on Jones’ personal motto ‘I will excel in everything I do’.

Throughout most of the twentieth century, the company thrived as a food processing company and as a leading brand. Its factory in Darlington was a major local employer including an employer of Aboriginal people.

In 1974 Elder Smith Goldsbrough Mort & Co Ltd merged with Henry Jones IXL to form Elders IXL under the managing directorship of John Elliott. It was subsequently sold in 1989 to The J.M. Smucker Company based in America. By 2004, Henry Jones IXL became the leading manufacturer of fruit spreads in Australia. The company was sold to SPC Ardmona Ltd in 2004 (Australian Dictionary of Biography).

Site history:

This subject building was purpose-built in 1937 as a motor garage for Henry Jones and Co (Sydney) Pty Ltd, better known by its brand name of IXL. The firm’s major Sydney factory producing tinned fruits and jams was located on the opposite side of Golden Grove Street. The garage was constructed in 1937 and was in continuous use by Henry Jones until the property was purchased by the University of Sydney in 1973. The university also continued to use the building as a garage for a short time.

The site originally contained a group of separate houses at 2-10 Golden Grove Street (Sands, Directory, 1932-3, p 332). On 18 May 1936, lots 38, 39 and 40 of part of the Golden Grove Estate were purchased by H Jones and Co (Sydney) Ltd (CT 4658 f 116). By 9 December 1936, the houses had been demolished and the land was vacant (Valuer-General, Valuation Lists, Darlington, SRNSW 19/13886, Numbers 383).

A land valuation on 17 February 1938 first recorded the construction of the subject building on the site which was then described as including a new brick building of two floors, with a ramp, garage and bowser (Valuer-General, Valuation Lists, Darlington, SRNSW 19/13886, Numbers 383).

In April 1938, fire damaged the main factory building causing part of the floor to collapse (SMH, 14 April 1938, p 8). The garage was visible in the 1943 aerial photograph (1943 aerial photograph, SIX, LPI).

The building continued in use as a garage until at least the 1970s. On 22 July 1954, the Department of Labour and Industry notified council that Harry C Bowden was using 10 Golden Grove Street for motor repairs (10 Golden Grove St, Street cards, NSCA). H Jones and Co applied on 9 May 1961 to alter the ground floor of the building to use it as a cold store (2-10 Golden Grove St, Street cards, NSCA).

John Elliot purchased IXL in 1973 with the intention of restructuring the company. In the same year, the
**Item name:** Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

**Location:** 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

University of Sydney purchased the subject property (CT 4658 f 116, 10 August 1973). On 1 June 1973, almost two months before purchasing the land, the University of Sydney applied to use the building as a garage and bookstore. This was followed by another application to use the building as a garage and joinery shop on 5 October 1973 (2-10 Golden Grove St, Street cards, NSCA). The University of Sydney then applied on 23 March 1978 to use the building as student housing along with 311-323 Rose Street. The works for this new use were valued at $500,000 (2-10 Golden Grove St, Street cards, NSCA).

The main factory building opposite the garage was demolished between 1979 and 1984. By 1989 the main factory site had been replaced by a housing complex. The subject garage remained as the only known building from the former Henry Jones and Co factory operations in Darlington.

The garage building is now known as ‘Building H07 - University Garage’ and is used as an office and storage facility.

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**Designer:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Year started:** 1937

**Year completed:** 1937

**Circa:** Yes

**Physical description:** The building was constructed in 1937 as a garage for the Henry Jones and Company (IXL) factory originally located on the opposite side of Golden Grove Street. The garage is located on a corner site at the junction of Golden Grove Street and Darlington Lane. The former garage comprises a two-storey brick building contained under a gabled roof concealed behind a parapet wall with two street frontages to Golden Grove Street and Darlington Lane. The building has no setback from the street and occupies the majority of the site except for a small area in the north-east corner.

The building is designed in the inter-war functionalist architectural style. It exhibits typical features of this style including simple geometric massing, heavy masonry construction, symmetrical composition, stepped and gabled parapet, polychromatic face brickwork, division of the façade into bays by brick piers, multi-paned steel windows and original signage.

The building retains two former vehicular entrances, a loading dock with timber doors on the laneway elevation and multi-paned steel-framed windows. The pattern of openings is accentuated through painted lintels and bullnosed brickwork detailing. Other decorative details include relief brickwork on the street frontage and parapet wall and prominent lettered signage on the parapet wall reading ‘IXL H. Jones & Co Ltd Products’.

The two former vehicular entrances on the main street have been glazed with the southernmost converted to a pedestrian entrance. The adaptive reuse of the building for offices and storage has retained its architectural integrity as a recognisable former garage.

The roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.

**Category:** Individual Building. **Style:** Inter-war functionalist. **Storeys:** 2. **Facade:** Face Brick. **Windows:** Multi-paned steel framed. **Roof:** Gable with metal cladding.

**Physical condition level:** Good

**Physical condition:**

Date: 21/05/2015

Full report

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

14 January 1935
Valuation of 2 to 10 Golden Grove Street records dwelling houses on this site

18 May 1936
Lots 38, 39 and 40 (now 2-10 Golden Grove Street) of the Golden Grove Estate transferred to H Jones and Co (Sydney) Ltd

9 December 1936
Valuation of part of lots 36-39 now owned by H Jones and Co Ltd shows land as vacant

17 February 1938
Valuation of part of lots 36-39 records a new brick building of two floors, with a ramp, garage and bowser

April 1938
Fire damaged main factory building nearby

1943
Garage visible in 1943 aerial photograph

22 July 1954
Labour and Industry notification to council for use of site by Harry C Bowden for motor repairs

9 May 1961
Application by H Jones and Co (Sydney) Pty Ltd for alterations and additions to part of ground floor for use as a cold store

1 June 1973
Application by University of Sydney to use building as garage and bookstore

10 August 1973
Transfer of property to the University of Sydney

5 October 1973
Application by University of Sydney for its use as garage and joinery shop

23 March 1978
Application by University of Sydney for its use as student housing, including works worth $500,000
Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Recommended management: The building should be retained and conserved.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development should be undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

Archival and photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Do not paint, render or seal face brick walls.

Face brickwork, decorative relief brickwork details, original signage, steel windows, loading docks, timber doors, and other original building features should be conserved and maintained.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the former industrial internal and external character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Management:

Management category: Statutory Instrument
Management name: List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Further comments: Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

Criteria a): Built in 1937 as a motor garage for the Henry Jones and Company factory, this former garage represents the industrial development of Darlington during the mid-twentieth century. The Henry Jones and Company garage is historically significant for its connection to the development of the Australian food processing industry for jams, tinned fruits and other processed foods.

The construction of the garage to house delivery trucks for the former IXL jam factory also represents technological advancements of the inter-war period through the growing use of motor vehicles for the distribution of products.

The former Jones IXL factory garage forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings in Australia, which records Sydney’s rich industrial past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of industrial and warehouse buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Criteria b): The building is associated with Henry Jones and Company, better known by its iconic brand name ‘IXL’, which dominated the food processing industry in Australia for most of the twentieth century. The company was particularly well known for their IXL jams and tinned fruits which were widely used and recognised in the Australian market.
Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Criteria c):
[Aesthetic/Technical significance] The building represents a good example of a purpose-built garage in the inter-war functionalist architectural style. The building features typical elements of this style including simple geometric massing, symmetrical composition, stepped and gabled parapets, polychromatic face brickwork, engaged piers, multi-paned steel windows and prominent signage. The adaptive reuse of the building into offices and storage facility has retained its architectural integrity as a recognisable former garage. As a rare surviving example of inter-war development in the street, the building makes a positive contribution to the streetscapes of Golden Grove Street and Darlington Lane.

Criteria d):
[Social/Cultural significance] Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value to the local community. As a major former employer in the area, the remnant building may hold significance to the former workers of the Henry Jones and Company factory. The site may also hold significance to the community for its connection to the well known brand of IXL jam produced by this company, reinforced by the surviving original signage from this use.

Criteria e):
[Research significance] Criteria f):
[Rarity] Criteria g):
[Representative]
The former garage is rare locally as the only known building surviving from the former industrial use of Henry Jones and Co in Darlington since the main factory was demolished in the 1980s. It is also rare as a surviving example of inter-war development in the street. The former H Jones and Co garage is a good example of a modest inter-war functionalist industrial building exhibiting typical features of this style. The construction of the garage to house delivery trucks for the former IXL jam factory also represents technological advancements of the inter-war period through the growing use of motor vehicles for the distribution of products.

Intactness/Integrity: Externally intact

References:

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<td>Industrial and warehouse buildings research - site history</td>
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Studies:

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Latitude: Longitude: Location validity: Spatial accuracy: Map name: Map scale: AMG zone: Easting: Northing:
**Item name:** Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

**Location:** 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

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**Data entry:** Data first entered: 05/08/2014  
Data updated: 21/05/2015  
Status: Completed
Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Image:

Caption: Front elevation of the former garage

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 18/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34555499ea178624e728bcec9648d50c5f5.JPG

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Item name:  Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location:  2-10 Golden Grove Street  Darlington 2008

Image:

Caption:  North elevation along Darlington Lane

Copy right:  City of Sydney

Image by:  Claudine Loffi

Image date:  18/03/2014

Image url:  http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34571e6d47ec6d244dbb0f935436adadaac.JPG

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Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Image:

Caption: Detail of front elevation showing original brickwork, steel-framed window and signage

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 18/03/2014

Image number:

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Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Caption: IXL delivery trucks in 1937 likely showing the former factory in the background, since demolished

Copyright: State Library of NSW

Image by: ML hood_15975, 16 October 1937

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345547181fa55214cd29c8d97c675892d7d.jpg
Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Image:

Caption: Former IXL factory buildings at 1-13 Golden Grove Street, since demolished

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney Archives - NSCA CRS 1140

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345630eec2df41045ba836ad8db7e8f772f.jpg
Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Caption: 1939 advertisement for IXL giving the factory address

Copy right: Directory of Manufacturers of Australia

Image by: Directory of Manufacturers of Australia, C E S Turner & Sons, Sydney and Melbourne

Image date: 01/01/1939

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3455c8dba60a7dc4df3a4a4c384c6e795ab.jpg

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Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Sydney

Caption: Further IXL marketing from 1960

Copy right: Women's Weekly

Image by: Women's Weekly, 2 March 1960, p 22

Image date: 02/03/1960


Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Image:

Caption: The site in 1949 showing the garage circled and former IXL factory opposite before its demolition

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 15/12/1949


Item name: Former Jones IXL factory garage including interiors

Location: 2-10 Golden Grove Street Darlington 2008

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing the garage site circled and factory opposite

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney Archives

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34516ee6d3928954536b6b2ea49fe0b2af0.jpg

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Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street  Darlington 2008

Address: 181 Lawson Street

Suburb/nearest town: Darlington 2008

Local govt area: Sydney

State: NSW

Other/former names: McMurtie and Co, Parkinson and Cowan (Australasia), Nedor Holdings, Nedor House; Damure Corporation Pty Ltd, The Fou

Area/group/complex: Group ID:

Aboriginal area: Eora

Curtilage/boundary: As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan

Item type: Built

Group: Manufacturing and Processing

Category: Factory/Plant

Owner: Multiple Owners

Admin codes:

Current use: Residential and commercial

Former uses: Factory

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance:

Date: 21/05/2015

Full report

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Statement of significance: Built in approximately 1883 as a boot factory for McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co and later converted to a gas meter manufacturing works for Parkinson and Cowan, this former factory represents the industrial development of Darlington from the late nineteenth century to the mid twentieth century. The building is historically significant for its connection to the Australian manufacturing of shoes from the 1880s to the 1920s and gas meters from the 1920s to the 1960s. The former factory also represents the historical development of the labour movement as the site of large strikes in 1935 protesting the replacement of skilled with unskilled workers.

The building has significant associations with one of Australia's largest boot manufacturers, McMurtrie, Kellermann and Co, which employed over 400 people by 1888 and supplied boots throughout Australia and the Pacific Islands. The building is also associated with one of only two manufacturers of gas meters in New South Wales by 1940, Parkinson and Cowan.

Architecturally, the building represents a good example of a late nineteenth century factory designed in the Federation warehouse style with a consistent later extension. It demonstrates typical features of this style including heavy masonry construction, parapet and cornice detailing emphasising the rectangularity of facades, contrasting polychromatic face brickwork, regular pilasters dividing facades into bays, the pattern of paired windows and strongly emphasised arches. The adaptive reuse of the building into residential units and commercial offices retains its architectural integrity as a recognisable former factory.

Through its prominent corner position, distinctive height and Federation features, the building is a landmark in the local neighbourhood marking the junction of five streets. The building is visible in the round from a number of near and distant vantage points and makes an important contribution to the surrounding streetscapes of Lawson, Ivy, Abercrombie and Wilson Streets and Ivy Lane.

The building may hold significance to the former workers of McMurtrie, Kellermann and Co boot manufacturers and Parkinson and Cowan gas meter manufacturers as major former employers in the Darlington area. The site may also hold significance to the community as the source of boots and gas meters found in many Australian homes. The building’s landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood may have value to recent and past residents as a point of reference and tangible connection to the industrial past of Darlington.

The former factory forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The former factory is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, association, aesthetic and representative values.
Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

The locality of Darlington was earmarked for school uses from the early years of the colony. In 1801, the area was granted to the trustee of the Female Orphan Institution who leased out sections as an income source. The land was divided and parts re-granted by 1819. The Black Wattle Swamp Creek ran through parts of Darlington, resulting in swampy land in the location of the present Darlington Public School.

The 52 acres of land known as ‘Golden Grove’ or the ‘Bullock Paddock’ was granted to William Hutchinson in 1819. Thomas Shepherd also received 28.5 acres of land where he established a garden and nursery, named the ‘Darling Nursery’, in 1927. The name of the suburb was derived from Shepherd’s nursery business.

The land was developed for housing from the 1850s. The municipality of Darlington was established in 1864. Eveleigh, as one of the largest employers in Sydney at the turn of the century, played a significant role in the development of the local area.

In 1879 the ‘Golden Grove’ Estate was subdivided into 36 sections for housing. By 1890 industries operating in Darlington included a jam factory, iron foundry, a zinc and brass works, two cabinet factories, a cordial factory, a portmanteau factory and other small industries. These industries generated a need for further residential development and also encouraged further sale of the ‘Golden Grove’ Estate to house the workers. The tram route then ran along Cleveland and Abercrombie Streets with stops at Wells, Codrington, Shepherd, Golden Grove and Wilson Streets to Newtown.

During the twentieth century, the importance of the Eveleigh railway yards declined as steam propulsion was replaced by diesel engines. During the 1920s the area became less desirable for residential purposes and by the 1940s the houses were considered slums.

The expansion of Sydney University from the late 1950s resulted in the redevelopment of a large area and the demolition of approximately 650 dwellings as well as shops, factories, the bank, post office, Town Hall and other amenities.

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.
Site history:

The building was originally constructed in approximately 1883 as a boot and shoe factory for McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co. Between the 1920s and the 1960s, the building operated as the manufacturing works for Parkinson and W & B Cowan Ltd, which was one of only two manufacturers of gas meters in New South Wales.

The boot and shoe manufacturing business known as J and G McMurtrie originated in 1866 and became known as McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co in 1877 (Aldine Centennial History of NSW, 1888, Biographical entry for McMurtrie & Co).

On 4 July 1882, the land bounded by Wells (now Lawson), Ivy and Wilson Streets was purchased by George McMurtrie, Frederick Kellermann, and John Farleigh (Old System Deed, No 725 Bk 248). The land was mortgaged to the Mutual Life Association of Australasia on 2 February 1883, which was likely to have financed the construction of the factory (Old System Deed, No 374 Bk 263). McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co first appeared in the Sands Directory in 1884 at 95 Wells Street West, Redfern (Sands, Directory, 1884, p 304).

After the death of John Farleigh in 1884 and the retirement of Frederick Kellermann in early 1888, the firm became known as McMurtrie and Co (Aldine Centennial History of NSW, 1888, Biographical entry for McMurtrie & Co).

The factory was constructed on the northern part of the site and later extended to the south in stages. The 1888 survey showed the factory building on the northern part of the site facing Lawson Street and a separate building extending along the southern boundary of the site on Wilson Street (Lands Department, Metropolitan Detail Survey, Redfern, Sheet 24, 1888).

By 1888, the company was a large manufacturer of boots and shoes with its offices in Pitt Street and its factory in Wells Street (now Lawson Street). At this time, the company was considered to be the largest boot manufacturer in Australia and employed over 400 people. Products made by this company were sold in the Pacific Islands and every Australian state except Victoria. (Aldine Centennial History of NSW, 1888, Biographical entry for McMurtrie & Co)

George McMurtrie died on 14 May 1891 (Stamp Duties Office, Deceased Estate File, SRNSW 20/21B).

The 1893 detail survey showed the building on the northern part of the site facing Lawson Street marked as ‘boot factory’ (Lands Department, Metropolitan Detail Survey, Redfern, Sheet 24, 1888).

The company applied to convert the land to Torrens title on 24 July 1900 (RPA 11557). A certificate of title for the land then known as lots 1-9 of section 1 of the Golden Grove Estate was issued to McMurtrie & Co Ltd on 27 January 1901 (CT 1346 f 84).

On 27 August 1920, the site was purchased by Parkinson and W & B Cowan Ltd, a British Company established in 1900 to manufacture gas meters and other equipment (CT 1346 f 84).

A valuation of this site on 1 December 1920 recorded a detached boot factory constructed of brick and concrete with three floors, a basement and iron hipped roof. The site also contained an office, chimney stack, brick stables and coach house with six stalls and an iron roof (Valuer-General, Valuation Card, Redfern 13/7792, No 1029). A new valuation of the site on 1 July 1926 records that the site had hardly been altered, despite the new owner and different use of the site (Valuer-General, Valuation List, Redfern 19/9390, No 918).

The company, which was an amalgamation of two of the oldest British firms in the trade, was renamed Parkinson and Cowan in 1928 (http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/Parkinson_and_W._and_B._Cowan, accessed 3 Oct 2014).

On 30 June 1931, Parkinson and Cowan Ltd sold the property to Parkinson and Cowan (Australasia) Ltd (CT 1346 f 84). This was the Australian subsidiary of the British company (SMH, 27 Oct 1931, p 6).
By 1935, the company was manufacturing gas meters from sheet metal as well as cast iron. The transition towards the use of sheet metal meant that a large skilled labour force was largely displaced by ‘juvenile labour’, causing a strike of 150 metal workers on the site in 1935 (SMH, 13 Nov 1935, p 17).

By 1940, the company was one of only two manufacturers of gas meters in New South Wales (Directory of Manufacturers of Australia, C E S Turner & Sons, Sydney and Melbourne, 1939-40, p 315).

A 1943 aerial photograph shows the factory building on the northern part of the site, and that a new western wing had been constructed along Ivy Street. The photograph also indicates the presence of another lower building located along the eastern boundary of the site in the location of the later additions.

On 5 March 1946, a press notice reported that Electricity Meter and Allied Industries Ltd had acquired the assets of Parkinson and Cowan (SMH, 5 March 1946, p 6). However, a notation on the certificate of title on 27 January 1961 recorded the company name as Parkinson Services Pty Ltd, suggesting that the business may have still been operating under this name (CT 1346 f 84).

On 14 December 1964, the building was purchased by Nedor Holdings Pty Ltd and was subsequently purchased by Damure Corporation Pty Ltd on 14 March 1988. On 6 August 1964, Nedor Holdings applied to use the premises for manufacturing handbags (181 Lawson Street, Street cards, NSCA). On 5 July 1989, Tullio Calgaro purchased the property (CT 1346 f 84). During the 1990s, the building was occupied by the Australia Council.

In 2002, the site was adaptively reused as residential units. This involved the construction of a new wing at the rear of the main factory building in the south-eastern corner of the site. The building now functions as a mixed use development with residential units and some commercial office space.

**Themes:**

**National theme**

3. Economy

**State theme**

Commerce

**Local theme**

Warehouses

Activities associated with the

Factories

**Designer:** Unknown

**Builder:** Unknown

**Year started:** 1882  

**Year completed:** 1943  

**Circa:** Yes
The building was constructed as a boot factory in approximately 1883 for McMurtrie, Kellermann and Co, with later additions in two main stages. The building is located on a prominent corner site at the junction of Ivy, Lawson, Abercrombie and Wilson Streets and Ivy Lane. The building has no setback from the Ivy, Abercrombie and Lawson Streets and occupies the majority of the site except for a courtyard area at the rear off Wilson Street.

The factory comprises a three to four storey brick building, including basement, contained under three hipped roof forms concealed behind parapet walls. The building contains three main phases of construction including the northern section constructed first, the early western wing along the Ivy Street boundary which continued the original building form and design, and a modern addition in the south-west corner of the site.

Although largely constructed during the late nineteenth century, the building is designed in the Federation warehouse architectural style. It exhibits typical features of this style including heavy masonry construction, parapet and cornice detailing emphasising the rectangularity of facades, contrasting polychromatic face brickwork, regular pilasters dividing facades into bays, the pattern of paired windows and strongly emphasised arches.

The facades are divided vertically into bays by rendered pilasters. Each storey of the building is distinguished by a projecting rendered spandrel. The corner of the building at the intersection of Ivy and Lawson Streets is pronounced by two closely spaced rendered pilasters.

The bays contain single or paired windows in different configurations for each level. The basement level has single arched windows with iron bars between each pilaster. The first and third storeys have paired windows contained under separate arches with continuous sills. The paired windows of the second storey are contained under two halves of a single arch. Entrances, likely the former loading docks for the factory, are emphasised by double-height arches spanning the width of bays. Contrasting polychromatic brickwork accentuate the arched window heads and openings along the length of the primary facades.

The former loading dock opening have been glazed. The central and eastern openings function as entrances.

A more recent three storey wing is located on the south-eastern corner of the site dating from 2002. A three-storey metal walkway has also been constructed on the eastern side of the western wing. The 2002 addition is visually distinguished from the former factory through its contemporary style, curved form and use of concrete, sheet metal cladding and aluminium framed windows.

The adaptive reuse of the building into residential units and offices has retained its architectural integrity as a recognisable former factory.

The roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.

Physical condition: Good

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed
Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Modification dates: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

- 4 July 1882
  Land bounded by Wells Street (now Lawson Street), Ivy Street and Wilson Street purchased by George McMurtrie, Frederick Kellermann and John Farleigh

- 2 February 1883
  Land mortgaged to the Mutual Life Association of Australasia

- 1884
  McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co boot manufacturers first appear at 95 Wells Street West, Redfern

- 1888
  Detail survey sheet shows building on northern part of site facing Lawson Street

- 1893
  Detail survey sheet shows building on northern part of site facing Lawson Street marked as ‘Boot Factory’

- 24 July 1900
  Application to convert the land to Torrens title

- 27 January 1901
  Certificate of title for lots 1-9, section 1 of the Golden Grove Estate issued to McMurtrie & Co Ltd

  Early twentieth century (date unknown)
  Rear wing added to the factory building extending along the Ivy Street boundary of the site.

- 27 August 1920
  Site sold to Parkinson and W & B Cowan Ltd

- 1 December 1920
  Valuation of the site recorded a detached brick on concrete boot factory of three floors with basement, iron hipped roof, office and chimney stack, brick stables and coach house with six stalls and iron roof

- 30 June 1931
  Parkinson and Cowan Ltd, originally Parkinson and W & B Cowan Ltd, sold the site to Parkinson and Cowan (Australasia) Ltd

- 5 March 1946
  Press notice that Electricity Meter and Allied Industries Ltd Head acquired the assets of Parkinson and Cowan (Australasia) Pty Ltd

- 27 January 1961
  Notation on title that company name is now Parkinson Services Pty Ltd

- 14 December 1964
  Transferred to Nedor Holdings Pty Ltd

- 6 August 1964
  Application by Nedor Holdings Application to use building for manufacturing handbags

- 14 March 1988
  Damure Corporation Pty Ltd purchased the building
Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

SHI number: Sydney City Council

Study number: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Recommended management:

The building should be retained and conserved.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development should be undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

Archival and photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Do not paint, render or seal face brick walls.

Face brickwork, pilasters, arches, windows and other features from the original building and early extension should be conserved and maintained.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Management:

Management category: Statutory Instrument
Management name: List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Further comments:

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

Criteria a): [Historical significance]

Built in approximately 1883 as a boot factory for McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co and later converted to a gas meter manufacturing works for Parkinson and Cowan, this former factory represents the industrial development of Darlington from the late nineteenth century to the mid twentieth century. The building is historically significant for its connection to the Australian manufacturing of shoes from the 1880s to the 1920s and gas meters from the 1920s to the 1960s.

The former factory also represents the historical development of the labour movement as the site of large strikes in 1935 protesting the replacement of skilled with unskilled workers.

The former factory forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Criteria b): [Historical association significance]

The building has significant associations with one of Australia's largest boot manufacturers, McMurtrie, Kellermann and Co, which employed over 400 people by 1888 and supplied boots throughout Australia and the Pacific Islands. The building is also associated with Parkinson and Cowan, who were one of only two manufacturers of gas meters in New South Wales by 1940.
Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Criteria c):
[Aesthetic/Technical significance]
Architecturally, the building represents a good example of a late nineteenth century factory designed in the Federation warehouse style with a consistent later extension. It demonstrates typical features of this style including heavy masonry construction, parapet and cornice detailing emphasizing the rectangularity of facades, contrasting polychromatic face brickwork, regular pilasters dividing facades into bays, the pattern of paired windows and strongly emphasised arches. The adaptive reuse of the building into residential units and commercial offices retains its architectural integrity as a recognisable former factory.

Through its prominent corner position, distinctive height and Federation features, the building is a landmark in the local neighbourhood marking the junction of five streets. The building is visible in the round from a number of near and distant vantage points and makes an important contribution to the surrounding streetscapes of Lawson, Ivy, Abercrombie and Wilson Streets and Ivy Lane.

Criteria d):
[Social/Cultural significance]
Social assessment requires further study to ascertain its value to the local community. The building may hold significance to the former workers or their descendants of McMurtrie, Kellermann and Co boot manufacturers and Parkinson and Cowan gas meter manufacturers, both major former employers in the Darlington area.

The site may also hold significance to the community as the source of boots and gas meters found in many Australian homes. The building’s landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood may have value to recent and past residents as a point of reference and tangible connection to the industrial past of Darlington.

Criteria e):
[Research significance]

Criteria f):
[Rarity]

Criteria g):
[Representative]
The building represents a good example of a late nineteenth century factory in the Federation warehouse style with a consistent later extension.

Intactness/Integrity: Largely intact externally

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Latitude: Longitude: Location validity: Spatial accuracy:
Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Caption: Ivy and Lawson Street elevations

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 18/03/2014

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345d944f299353c4182ba2459fc08bf986b.JPG
Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008

Image:

Caption: Lawson Street elevation

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 18/03/2014


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**Image:**

![Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/34593344fca623b4579ae5e7a780ddec450.JPG)

**Caption:** South and eastern elevations of the western wing and courtyard at rear of site

**Copyright:** City of Sydney

**Image by:** Claudine Loffi

**Image date:** 18/03/2014

**Image number:**

**Image url:** http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/34593344fca623b4579ae5e7a780ddec450.JPG

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Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Image:

Caption: South-eastern addition viewed from Ivy Lane

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 18/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3456a9c5e10caa141b2ae0b2ff9faecc69f.JPG

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Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Extract from 1888 detail sheet showing the former factory site before the western wing extension

Copy right: State Library of New South Wales

Image by: City of Sydney Section Detail Sheets, Surveyor General's Office Sydney N.S.W

Image date: 01/01/1888

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Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008

Image:

Caption: 1949 aerial photograph showing the subject building and site circled

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 15/12/1949

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Item name: Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

Location: 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing the subject site and surrounding industries

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image number:


**Item name:** Former McMurtrie, Kellermann & Co factory including interiors

**Location:** 181 Lawson Street Darlington 2008 Sydney

**Image:**

![Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345c5c638fc3a9f4dbab4dead68a8ae75a.jpg)

**Caption:** Current aerial showing former factory site circled including the new south-eastern wing

**Copy right:** Lands and Property Information

**Image by:** RTA

**Image date:** 01/01/2014

**Image number:**

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**Caption:** 1904 advertisement showing an example of the products made by Parkinson and W & B Cowan

**Copyright:** website: http://www.gracesguide.co.uk/Parkinson_and_W._and_B._Cowan

**Image by:** Image retrieved from Grace’s Guide of British Industrial History

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**Item name:** Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

**Location:** 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

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**Address:** 7-19 Coulson Street

**Suburb/nearest town:** Erskineville 2043

**Local govt area:** Sydney

**State:** NSW

**Parish:**

**County:**

**Other/former names:** Bakewell Brothers Pty Ltd, H Brightwell and Sons

**Area/group/complex:** Group ID:

---

**Aboriginal area:** Eora

**Curtailage/boundary:** Brick building in the south-eastern corner of the site only, as described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan

**Item type:** Built

**Group:** Commercial

**Category:** Warehouse/storage area

**Owner:** Private - Corporate

**Admin codes:** Code 2: Code 3:

**Current use:** Container distribution and warehouses

**Former uses:** Brickworks and pottery manufacture

---

**Assessed significance:** Local

**Statement of significance:**

Built prior to 1919 for brick and pottery manufacturers, Bakewell Brothers, this former warehouse represents the industrial development of Erskineville during the early twentieth century. The building is historically significant for its connection to the Australian manufacturing of bricks and pottery. It provides evidence of this formerly widespread brick-making and pottery industry of Erskineville when it formed part of Sydney's largest brick-making centres in the late nineteenth century.

The building is significant for its historical association with brick and pottery manufacturers, Bakewell Brothers, and the products made at their larger Erskineville site. Ceramics made by this company demonstrate the development of Australian artware during the first half of the twentieth century, including the Australian traditions of ceramic design, the use of Australian imagery and experimentation with coloured glazes for commercially manufactured pottery. The construction of this warehouse provides evidence of the operations and growth of the company and the popularity of its products during the first half of the twentieth century.

Aesthetically, the building demonstrates a representative example of a modest inter-war warehouse with typical characteristics of this style applied to a utilitarian building, including its load bearing masonry construction, wall areas more dominant than window areas, facades divided into bays by engaged brick piers, vertically proportioned windows and doors with shallow arches, parapeted gable and restrained ornamentation.

As a major former employer within Erskineville, the warehouse is likely to hold significance to the former workers of Bakewell Brothers. The building may also hold significance to the community for its connection to the well known products manufactured by Bakewell Brothers which now form part of a collection of Australian ceramics held by the Powerhouse Museum.

The former warehouse forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The building is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative values.

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Date: 21/05/2015

Full report

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

SHI number 5062459

Study number

Historical notes of provenance:

Early development of locality:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

Land in the area to the south of Central Station was granted to Nicholas Devine, a superintendent of convicts, in 1794 and 1799. Devine built a house called Burren Farm near the corner of present George Street and Erskineville Road. After his death in 1830, the property was passed on to Bernard Rochford and his wife who had cared for Devine in his old age. Rochford subdivided and sold the estate. Some of the land was bought by Reverend George Erskine, a Wesleyan Minister who built Erskine Villa in 1830. He died there in 1834. The villa was subsequently owned by Mr Robert Henderson, a naturalist, followed by William Toogood, a Sydney inn-keeper. When Toogood died, he left the property to the Church of England and it became the rectory for the Holy Trinity Church in Macdonaldtown. (Pollon 1996)

By 1852, Erskineville had been developed with a mix of housing and industry. The discovery of rich clay deposits around the area now known as Sydney Park led to the development of a number of brickworks in the surrounding suburbs including Erskineville, Alexandria and St Peters. The area became one of the largest brick producing areas of the city. In the 1890s, it was said that “as many as 1,500,000 bricks were manufactured in Alexandria every day [and that] the greatest part of the city of Sydney has been built from the brickyards of Alexandria” (Alexandria – The Birmingham of Australia, p.78).

In 1893, part of what was formerly known as Macdonaldtown became a new suburb when parliament passed the Borough of Erskineville Naming Act. In 1911, electric trams began running to Erskineville. By 1920 the suburb had become the home of many workers, some employed in local brickmaking, bootmaking and hat manufacturing industries. (Pollon 1996)

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Bakewell Brothers:

In 1884, English immigrant William Bakewell established Bakewell Brothers and began manufacturing bricks and pipes in Erskineville. The company’s range of manufactured products quickly expanded to include tiles, pots and jars. From 1891, the company also made Bristol-glazed bottles, safe stands for the protection of food from ants, butter pots and other domestic and commercial pottery wares.
In 1906, the Sydney Mail and New South Wales Advertiser published an article featuring a photograph of a display of Bakewell pottery exhibited by the Australian Natives Association. The article described the collection of products as an ‘admirable example of high class Australian pottery’. At this time, the Bakewell manufacturing site in Erskineville occupied five acres of land and employed over 250 people. (Sydney Mail and NSW Advertiser, 10 January 1906, p89)

Between 1905 and 1914, Bakewell Brothers manufactured transfer-printed earthenware patterned in green and sepia with Australian flora or English designs. However, the company was unable to compete with imported wares of this type from England.

In 1914, William Bakewell donated a number of pots to the museum which eventually became part of the collection of Sydney’s Powerhouse Museum. The museum’s 1914 annual report described the donation as ‘a very fine collection of specimens of domestic pottery’ which was considered a reflection of the success of the Australian ceramic industry at this time.

After William Bakewell died in 1918, the business continued under the management of his son, Frederick William Bakewell who relinquished his pastoral interests at Scone to become the director of Bakewell Bros Pty Ltd. Frederick William Bakewell died in 1933 (SMH, ‘F.W. Bakewell’, 11th September 1933, p8).

During the 1930s, art deco elements appeared in the ornamental pottery produced by the company. The ‘newtone’ range of products produced by Bakewell Brothers in 1937 included pottery hand painted with bush landscapes and typical Australian scenes. Daisy Victoria Merton, artist, was associated with the production of the ‘newtone’ range. Her signature can be found on the bottom of many of these items.

The company also produced small koala bears, kookaburras and pin dishes made from moulds in the late 1930s and after the second world war. Small painted dishes in the shape of Australia were also produced for a short time after 1945.

The ceramic industry suffered significant decline as a result of the introduction of plastics and pressed metals, competition from imports and the 66.6% sales tax on artwares which was introduced in 1949.

In 1955, Bakewell Brothers closed. Some of the company’s pottery moulds continued to be used by a former employee until the early 1960s.

The products produced by Bakewell Brothers now forms part of a collection of Australian artware which documents the tradition of ceramic design, the use of Australian imagery and the experimentation of coloured glazes for commercially manufactured pottery.

Site history:

The subject building is located on the south-eastern corner of the site on Coulson Street. Other buildings on the site include an early building in the western corner of the site, a larger warehouse building at the rear of the subject building and a brick office attached to the western side of the subject building.

No records were found which definitively established the date of construction of the subject building. However, the building was likely to have been constructed by brick and pottery manufacturers Bakewell Brothers by 1919 on land they purchased in 1914 as an extension to their pottery works which had been operating on the south side of Coulson Street since 1884. The absence of excavation on the site suggest that the subject building was used as a warehouse for the storage of products from the opposite Bakewell brick and pottery manufacturing site located on the south side of Coulson Street.

On 19 August 1883, a certificate of title was issued to Thomas Pearce Weeks, freeholder of Newtown, for the land on which the subject building is situated, then part of 1 acre, 2 roods and 10 perches of lot 15 of Thurlow’s
The 1895 Detail Survey sheet records that a single building had been constructed on the south-eastern corner of the site facing Coulson Street (Lands Department, Metropolitan Detail Survey, Erskineville, sheet 13). The configuration of this early building does not correspond with the current configuration of the subject warehouse. The early building may have been incorporated into the subject warehouse or demolished for the construction of the current building.

A street alignment survey from 12 February 1913 records the construction of an additional brick building labelled the ‘power house’, which appears to correspond to the existing building located on the western corner of the site (E.6.2566, Crown Plan).

The 1914 Wise’s Directory listed Bakewell Brothers Ltd on Coulson Street, Erskineville, as brick and pottery manufacturers (Wise, Directory, 1914, p 207).

A valuation from 31 December 1919 of the 1 acre, 2 roods and 10 perches of land owned by Bakewell Brothers Ltd recorded that this site was then occupied by a two storey brick bulk store, a brick powerhouse and a wood and iron cooling tower and stack, all with iron roofs (Valuer General, Valuation Card, Erskineville, SRNSW 13/7588, No 87). As the 1913 street alignment survey recorded the ‘power house’ in the south-western corner of the site, it is likely that the subject south-eastern building comprised the brick bulk store described in this 1919 land valuation.

Part of the land was leased to the Municipal Council of Sydney on 21 September 1927. This may have related to the power house for use as part of council’s electrical network (C T 662 f 24).

The Sands Directory does not provide specific information about buildings and occupiers of the Bakewell Brothers site on the north side of Coulson Street for the period between 1883 and 1933. However, Bakewell Brothers pottery manufacturers on Coulson Street were listed in the 1936 Wise’s Directory (Wise, Directory, 1936, p 223).

In 1949, the land was subdivided and sold. The central section of the site, known as Lot C of DP 22910, was purchased by Brightwell Real Estate Pty Ltd on 18 November 1949 (C T 662 f 24).

The eastern-most section of the site containing the subject warehouse, known as Lot E of DP 22910, was purchased by Sydney merchant Frank Abraham Cocks on 18 November 1949 (C T 662 f 24). This Lot was subsequently purchased by Brightwell Real Estate on 6 December 1949 (CT 6289 f 96).

The western-most section of the site which contained the south-western powerhouse building, known as Lot D of DP 22910, was purchased by merchant Frank William Shearing on 18 November 1949 (C T 662 f 24). On 1 December 1954, this western section was also sold to Brightwell Real Estate Pty Ltd (CT 6279 f 131).
Therefore, by 1954, Brightwell owned all three lots that comprised the subject site. H Brightwell & Sons transport and storage company had been established in 1880. The 1956 Wise’s Directory recorded H Brightwell & Sons, carriers, at 165 Wyndham St Alexandria and 230 Sussex St Sydney (Wise, Directory, 1956, p 124, 934).

The 1950 Civic survey records that this site was then occupied by Gordon Brandon Pty Ltd bulk store and by Penn-Wealth Oils Pty Ltd.

Brightwell & Sons submitted a number of applications for works to the site during the 1950s and 1960s.

On 17 July 1950, H Brightwell & Sons applied to undertake works valued at £300 involving the construction of additional toilets and offices on the site (Coulson St, Street Cards, NSCA). On 1 September 1952, John E Allsopp applied on behalf of H Brightwell & Sons to erect a building to be used as bulk storage (Coulson St, Street Cards, NSCA). Another application was submitted by J Allsopp on 3 March 1955 proposing additions valued at £30,000 (Coulson St, Street Cards, NSCA). It is likely that this application eventuated in the construction of the large building at the rear of the subject building which is visible on the 1956 Building Surveyors Detail Sheets and 1975 aerial photograph of the site.

On 17 January 1963, H Brightwell & Sons applied to erect a brick office block. On 2 July 1963, another application was submitted for an office block, with works valued at £6,500 (Coulson St, Street Cards, NSCA). It is likely that the brick office building with Brightwell & Sons signage adjoining the western elevation of the subject building formed part of these 1960s works by H Brightwell & Sons. This building is visible in the 1975 aerial photograph of the site.

A 1993 photograph of Coulson Street records that the subject building formerly had three upper level windows on the south elevation. These windows have since been removed likely when part of the brickwork of the south elevation was reconstructed.

Themes:
- National theme
  3. Economy
- State theme
  Commerce
- Local theme
  Warehouses

Designer: Unknown
Builder: Unknown
Year started: 1914
Year completed: 1919
Circa: Yes
Physical description: The subject building was constructed prior to 1919 likely as a warehouse for Bakewell Brothers, brick and pottery manufacturers. This building occupies the south-eastern corner of the site with no setback from Coulson Street and comprises a two-storey brick building contained under a pitched roof. The roof is asymmetrical with a gable end to the western side and rear.

The building features typical elements of the inter-war style applied to a utilitarian building, including its load bearing masonry construction, wall areas more dominant than window areas, facades divided into bays by engaged brick piers, vertically proportioned windows and doors with shallow brick arches, parapeted gable and restrained ornamentation.

The walls are constructed of face brick in Flemish bond. The bricks were likely manufactured at the Bakewell site from local clay deposits. The asymmetrical roof and vertical line of projecting bricks on either side of the parapeted gable may indicate the original intention to extend the building to the west. The western elevation of the building features a blind arch below the parapeted gable as well as two loading docks; an upper floor loading dock with timber doors and a ground floor loading dock with a garage roller door. There is no entrance on the main street frontage of the building. Windows are timber double-hung sashes with shallow arch brick lintels and rendered brick sills.

The partial reconstruction of the southern elevation of the building and the removal of the second level windows is evident through the different colour of the bricks. This alteration occurred after 1993.

Other buildings on this site are not the subject of this inventory. These include a large warehouse building with a sawtooth roof dating from the 1950s that adjoins the northern elevation of the subject building, a flat-roofed brick office building dating from the 1960s attached to the western elevation of the building, and another early brick building likely a former power house, to the west of the subject building.

The roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.

Date: 21/05/2015

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage.
Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Modification dates: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

16 August 1883
Certificate of title issued to Thomas Pearce Weeks, freeholder of Newtown, for 1 acre, 2 roods and 10 perches for lot 15 Thurlow’s subdivision

1895
Detail Survey shows single building on south-eastern corner of this parcel of land

12 February 1913
Street alignment survey showed a brick building labelled ‘power house’ on this site

13 January 1914
Site resumed by Chief Commissioner for Railways and Tramways

27 October 1914
Site transferred to William Bakewell of Scone

17 December 1914
Site transferred to Bakewell Brothers Ltd

31 December 1919
Valuation of 1 acre 2 roods 10 perches owned by Bakewell Brothers Ltd shows site is occupied by two-storey brick bulk store, a brick powerhouse, a wood and iron cooling tower and stack, all with iron roofs

21 September 1927
Part of land leased to Municipal Council of Sydney, likely the powerhouse

1943
Aerial photo shows two buildings at eastern and western corners of the site on Coulson Street, including subject building

18 November 1949
Lot D, DP 22910, the westernmost part of the land including the powerhouse was transferred to Frank William Shearing, merchant of Caringbah

18 November 1949
Lot C, DP 22910 transferred to Brightwell Real Estate Pty Ltd

18 November 1949
Lot E, DP 22910, the easternmost part of the land including the subject building was transferred to Frank Abraham Cocks, merchant of Sydney

6 December 1949
Lot E, DP 22910 transferred to Brightwell Real Estate Pty Ltd

1950
Civic survey sheet shows it is occupied by Gordon Brandon Pty Ltd bulk store and by Penn-Wealth Oils Pty Ltd

17 July 1950
Application by H Brightwell & Sons for additional toilets and offices worth £300

1 September 1952
Application for erection of building for use as bulk storage by John E Allsopp for H Brightwell & Sons
### Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

### Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

- **3 March 1955**
  Application for additions by J E Allsopp worth £30,000

- **17 January 1963**
  Application for proposed erection of brick office block for H Brightwell & Sons

- **2 July 1963**
  Application for office block worth £6,500

- **28 October 1963**
  Application by H Brightwell & Sons for alterations and additions worth £1,500

- **28 October 1963**
  Application by H Brightwell & Sons for alterations and additions worth £2,000

### Recommended management:

Retain and conserve the building.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Do not paint, render or seal face brick walls.

Original bricks, piers, windows, loading docks and other original building features should be conserved and maintained.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Future redevelopment or new uses of the building should explore opportunities to reinstate the former upper level windows of the south elevation.

### Management:

<table>
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<td>Statutory Instrument</td>
<td>List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)</td>
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### Further comments:

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.
Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

Criteria a): [Historical significance]
Built prior to 1919 for brick and pottery manufacturers, Bakewell Brothers, this former warehouse represents the industrial development of Erskineville during the early twentieth century. The building is historically significant for its connection to the Australian manufacturing of bricks and pottery. It provides evidence of this formerly widespread brick-making and pottery industry of Erskineville when it formed part of Sydney's largest brick-making centres in the late nineteenth century.

The building is significant for its historical association with brick and pottery manufacturers, Bakewell Brothers, and the products made at their larger Erskineville site. Ceramics made by this company demonstrate the development of Australian artware during the first half of the twentieth century, including the Australian traditions of ceramic design, the use of Australian imagery and experimentation with coloured glazes for commercially manufactured pottery. The construction of this warehouse provides evidence of the operations and growth of the company and the popularity of its products during the first half of the twentieth century.

The former warehouse forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Criteria b): [Historical association significance]
The building is associated with brick and pottery manufacturers, Bakewell Brothers, and the products made at their larger Erskineville site, from 1910s to the 1940s.

Criteria c): [Aesthetic/Technical significance]
Aesthetically, the building demonstrates a representative example of a modest inter-war warehouse with typical characteristics of this style applied to a utilitarian building, including its load bearing masonry construction, wall areas that are more dominant than window areas, facades divided into bays by engaged brick piers, vertically proportioned windows and doors with shallow arches, parapeted gable and restrained ornamentation.

The original brick walls likely demonstrate examples of the bricks manufactured by Bakewell's brickworks from local clay deposits.

Criteria d): [Social/Cultural significance]
Social significance requires further study to ascertain its value for the local community. As a major former employer within Erskineville, the warehouse is likely to hold significance to the former workers of Bakewell Brothers.

The building may also hold significance to the community for its connection to the well known products manufactured by Bakewell Brothers which now form part of a collection of Australian ceramics held by the Powerhouse Museum.

Criteria e): [Research significance]

Criteria f): [Rarity]

Criteria g): [Representative]
The building represents an example of a modest inter-war warehouse with typical characteristics of this style applied to a utilitarian building.

The warehouse is also representative of the formerly widespread industry of brick-making and pottery industry in Erskineville.

Intactness/Integrity: The building appears to be relatively intact externally.
Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

References:

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<td>Dr Terry Kass</td>
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<td>Sheas Creek Woolsheds, Conservation Management Plan</td>
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<td>The Sydney Mail and New South Wales</td>
<td>Messrs Bakewell Brothers - A surprising exhibit</td>
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<td>Bakewells Teapot and Cover, c1930-1940</td>
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<td>Brightwell Group</td>
<td>‘Welcome to Brightwell transport’</td>
<td>2011</td>
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<td>NSW Department of Lands</td>
<td>City of Sydney section cartographic materiel- Erskineville, shec</td>
<td>1885</td>
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<td>Sydney Morning Herald, September</td>
<td>Mr F. W. Bakewell</td>
<td>1933</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Sands</td>
<td>Sands Directories, Macdonaldtown -1886-1930</td>
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Studies:

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Latitude: Longitude: Spatial accuracy: Map scale:

AMG zone: Easting: Northing:

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Data entry: Data first entered: 06/08/2014 Data updated: 21/05/2015 Status: Completed
Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

Caption: Southern and eastern elevations of the subject building.

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 15/01/2014

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34528e3a581bda3434cbfbd5314e0c24883.JPG

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Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Western and southern elevations of the subject building and H Brightwell and Sons office addition

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 15/01/2014


Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: Western elevation of the subject building showing parapeted gable and loading docks

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 15/01/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345e37b44920ddd432b8251ff899f0c34bc.JPG

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Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: Detail of southern elevation showing original window opening and Flemish bond face brickwork

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 15/01/2014


Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Caption: 1993 photograph showing the building prior to the removal of the upper level windows

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/345230757fa3b96489084a0f64eeef1941ce.jpg

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Copyright: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: Sydney Reference Collection

Image date: 15/11/1993
Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

Caption: 1890s map showing the vacant subject site marked by a star and the Bakewell brickworks to the south

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: Higinbotham & Robinson


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test34594efbac03b72408c964312bb414f3960.jpg
Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: 1895 map showing an early building in the south-east corner of the otherwise vacant site, circled

Copy right: State Library of New South Wales

Image by: NSW Department of Lands, City of Sydney Section, Erskineville Sheet 13.

Image date: 01/01/1895


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Item name:  Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location:  7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

Sydney

Image:

Caption:  1895 map showing the earlier building on the subject site, circled, and other Bakewell buildings

Copy right:  State Library of New South Wales

Image by:  NSW Department of Lands, City of Sydney Section, Erskineville Sheet 14.

Image date:  01/01/1895


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Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1937 photograph looking south from Flora Street likely showing the Bakewell site in the distance

Copyright: State Library of New South Wales

Image by: Government Printing Office, d1_28060

Image date: 01/08/1937

Image number:

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Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image: 1943 aerial showing the subject building circled and the Bakewell site to the south

Caption: 1943 aerial showing the subject building circled and the Bakewell site to the south

Copy right: RTA

Image by: RTA

Image date: 01/01/1943

Image number:


Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing the subject building circled and surrounding industries

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image number:


Item name: Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

Location: 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image: 

Caption: Bakewell pottery display at the 1906 Australian Natives Association exhibition

Copy right: The Sydney Mail and the NSW Advertiser

Image by: The Sydney Mail and the NSW Advertiser

Image date: 10/01/1906

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345f5d0cb7afd914c1ab0c8fa48928cb86f.jpg

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**Item name:** Former Bakewell Brothers south-east warehouse building including interiors

**Location:** 7-19 Coulson Street Erskineville 2043

**SHI number**

**Study number**

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**Image:**

![Teapot image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345930a24d88f364136a833310ab86b3160.jpg)

**Caption:** Teapot from the 'newtone' range made in the 1930s by Bakewell in Erskineville

**Copy right:** Powerhouse Museum

**Image by:** Powerhouse Museum

**Image date:** 13/02/2007

**Image number:**

**Image url:** http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345930a24d88f364136a833310ab86b3160.jpg

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| Item name: | Former factory chimney stack |
| Location: | 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043 Sydney |

| Address: | 127 Railway Parade |
| Planning: | Sydney South |
| Suburb/nearest town: | Erskineville 2043 |
| Local govt area: | Sydney |
| State: | NSW |
| Other/former names: | Murray Spinning Mills, Golds Hosiery Mills, The Gramophone Co Ltd (His Master’s Voice); Australia Silknit Pty Ltd; Printex |
| Area/group/complex: | Chimney stack and surrounding open space, as described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan |
| Aboriginal area: | Eora |
| Item type: | Built |
| Group: | Manufacturing and Processing |
| Category: | Factory/Plant |
| Owner: | Multiple Owners |
| Admin codes: | |
| Code 2: | |
| Code 3: | |
| Current use: | Chimney stack |
| Former uses: | Chimney stack |
| Assessed significance: | Local |
| Endorsed significance: | |
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

Statement of significance: Built in approximately 1916 as part of the underwear and hosiery factory for Murray Spinning Mills, this chimney stack represents the industrial development of Erskineville during the early twentieth century. The remnant chimney stack is historically significant for its connection to Australian manufacturing of hosiery and underwear during the 1920s and 1940s, gramophones and records in the 1920s and 1930s and textiles between the 1940s and 1980s. The continued association of the site with manufacturing textiles provides evidence of the formerly widespread textiles industry within the City of Sydney.

The chimney stack is significant for its association with one of the first manufacturers of underwear and hosiery in Australia, Murray Spinning Mills. The construction of the former factory represents the growth of the company and the popularity of its products during the inter-war period. The chimney stack is also significant for its association from 1925 with one of Australia’s earliest manufacturers of gramophones, the Gramophone Company, better known by its brand name ‘his masters voice’ or HMV.

The chimney demonstrates or is associated with technological changes during the early twentieth century in power sources, textiles manufacturing and music reproduction. The chimney provides evidence of the former use of steam to power industrial machinery before the advent of and widespread access to electricity. As a surviving remnant of the former Murray Spinning Mills and later Gramophone Company, the chimney is also associated with the expansion of Australia's textiles industry into fine knitted undergarments and technological advancements in music reproduction by these two Australian manufacturers during the early twentieth century.

The structure represents a good example of an inter-war period chimney stack. It exhibits typical characteristics of this period applied to a utilitarian structure including its simple geometric massing, face brickwork in garden wall bond and corbelled brick detailing. The height and prominence of the chimney stack makes it a local landmark, which is visible in the round from a number of vantage points in surrounding streets.

The remnant chimney stack may hold significance to the former workers of Murray Spinning Mills, the Gramophone Company and other large-scale textile manufacturers who subsequently occupied the site. The chimney’s landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood may have value to recent and past residents as a point of reference and tangible connection to the industrial past of Erskineville. Community opposition to the proposed demolition of the chimney stack demonstrated its value to the local community. The site may also have value to the Australian community as the place where well-known hosiery and lingerie and later HMV records and gramophones were made during the inter-war period.

The chimney stack survives as a rare intact remnant of the former Murray Spinning Mills and Gramophone Company factory in Erskineville following the site’s extensive redevelopment for housing.

As a remnant of the former Murray Spinning Mills, the chimney stack forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The former factory is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative values.
Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

Land in the area to the south of Central Station was granted to Nicholas Devine, a superintendent of convicts, in 1794 and 1799. Devine built a house called Burren Farm near the corner of present George Street and Erskineville Road. After his death in 1830, the property was passed on to Bernard Rochford and his wife who had cared for Devine in his old age. Rochford subdivided and sold the estate. Some of the land was bought by Reverend George Erskine, a Wesleyan Minister who built Erskine Villa in 1830. He died there in 1834. The villa was subsequently owned by Mr Robert Henderson, a naturalist, followed by William Too good, a Sydney inn-keeper. When Too good died, he left the property to the Church of England and it became the rectory for the Holy Trinity Church in Macdonaldtown. (Pollon 1996)

By 1852, Erskineville had been developed with a mix of housing and industry. The discovery of rich clay deposits around the area now known as Sydney Park led to the development of a number of brickworks in the surrounding suburbs including Erskineville, Alexandria and St Peters. The area became one of the largest brick producing areas of the city. In the 1890s, it was said that “as many as 1,500,000 bricks were manufactured in Alexandria every day [and that] the greatest part of the city of Sydney has been built from the brickyards of Alexandria” (Alexandria – The Birmingham of Australia, p.78).

In 1893, part of what was formerly known as Macdonaldtown became a new suburb when parliament passed the Borough of Erskineville Naming Act. In 1911, electric trams began running to Erskineville. By 1920 the suburb had become the home of many workers, some employed in local brickmaking, bootmaking and hat manufacturing industries. (Pollon 1996)

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Murray Spinning Mills:

Thomas Murray was born in Scotland in 1859. He came to Australia as the manager of a factory in Geelong. In 1899, Thomas Murray established a small knitting mill in Richmond, Victoria. The company was one of the earliest manufacturers of underwear and hosiery in Australia.
Murray Spinning Mills may be associated with the well known Murrays Mills of Manchester, England, who were large scale manufacturers in the cotton trade throughout the nineteenth century.

In 1902 Mr F. F. Robinson joined the firm which subsequently became known as Thomas Murray and Co in 1904. There were such high demands for the undergarments produced by the company that the Richmond factory site grew to more than three times its original size in the early twentieth century. In 1908, the company manufactured golden fleece woollen underwear and subsequently expanded to include the manufacture of swimwear. The company became known as Australian Knitting Mills in 1910. (The Argus, Melbourne, Wednesday 22 September 1937, p34)

In 1906, the company commenced its operations in Alexandria under the name Murray S.M. Company Ltd. By 1916, the company had also commenced operations in Erskineville. During the period of its expansion to Sydney, the company was also known as Thomas Murray, Son and Co and Murray Spinning Mills (Richmond Guardian, Saturday 24 March 1917, p2).

Thomas Murray died in 1916. He was considered to be a pioneer of the hosiery trade in Australia (SMH, Monday 25 September 1916, p10). The company’s operations were continued by his son, Robert Murray.

Prior to the 1920’s, the manufacture of hosiery and knitted goods was conducted on a very small scale in Australia (C Forster, Industrial Development in Australia 1920-1930, Australian National University, Canberra, 1964, p 93).

During the 1920s, the range of production of textiles extended to finer qualities of yarn and cloth. By the end of the decade, textile imports had been reduced to a minor portion of the market. Australia's cotton manufacturing was a new emerging industry throughout the twenties. Cotton spinning began in Sydney in 1923. Import tariffs played a role in the success of local manufacturers. Australian manufacturers focussed on displacing the imported cloth and producing woollen yarn for knitting mills. (http://www.kooriweb.org/cland/textile.html#_ftn20, accessed 15 January 2015).

The hosiery and knitted goods trade in Australia supported the production of a wide variety of products including stockings, socks, underwear, outer wear and bathing costumes. Many of the goods produced by this industry utilised Australian wool and cotton. (The Argus, Melbourne, Wednesday 22 September 1937, p34)

Site history:

The chimney stack is located in the centre of the former industrial site on the corner of Railway Parade and Clara Street. This structure was likely constructed as part of the factory erected for Murray Spinning Mills in 1916. The construction of a chimney stack for the spinning mill reflects the prevalent use of steam to power industrial machinery before the advent and widespread access to electricity.

In 1916, a number of lots on Railway Parade were purchased by Thomas Murray. The lots were amalgamated to form one parcel of land and then sold to Murray Spinning Mills. A certificate of title for the lots 36-46 of deposited plan 4062 was issued to the company on 3 February 1916 (CT 2642 f 66).

On 11 June 1916, the Sunday Times reported the construction of a new factory for Murray Spinning Mills in Erskineville. The factory was designed by John Reid and Son and was built by H J and J W Thompson at an estimated cost of £4,100 (Sunday Times, 11 June 1916, p 4). The factory was in use by the end of 1916. The chimney stack was likely to have been built as part of these works and may have related to the generation of power for the machinery used in the factory.

The Erskineville factory site was an expansion of the company originally established in 1899 by Thomas Murray in Richmond, Victoria. The construction of the Murray Spinning Mills in Erskineville reflects the rapid growth of the Australian textile manufacturing industry in the inter-war period.
In September 1916, E N Chambers left the Queensland Woollen Mills in North Ipswich to take up the position of manager of Murray Spinning Mills in Erskineville (Queensland Times [Ipswich], 2 September 1916, p 7).

The site’s occupation by Murray Spinning Mills Ltd was recorded in the Sands Directory in 1917 and every subsequent year until 1920 (Sands, Directory, 1917, p 411; 1918, p 318; 1919 p 323; 1920, p 334).

On 7 October 1920, the factory was purchased by Golds Hosiery Mills Ltd who operated four mills in Sydney at that time (CT 2642 f 66).

In 1921, Sydney Combing Mills were listed as occupants of the site (Sands, Directory, 1921, p 348). However, from 1922-1924, Golds Hosiery Mills were listed at the same address (Sands, Directory, 1922, p 362; 1924 p 364).

The company suffered significant decline and by 1925, was in liquidation. The company attributed its failure to overseas imports. This resulted in a call for stronger tariff protection for Australian manufacturers and motivated the Federal government to increase the tariffs on these goods (C Forster, Industrial Development in Australia 1920-1930, p 95).

On 4 May 1925, the factory was sold to the Gramophone Company Ltd, also known by its well known brand name HMV which stood for ‘his master’s voice’ (CT 2642 f 66). The company intended to commence the production of gramophones at the site in the same year and employ approximately 400 workers in Sydney (SMH Thursday 7 May 1925, p9). After its conversion for the manufacture of gramophones, the factory was officially opened by Jack Lang, Premier of New South Wales. The factory was subsequently described as ‘the most complete and well equipped record factory outside of England and America’ (SMH Tuesday 19 January 1926, p11). Numerous newspaper articles described gramophone manufacturing as a new Australian industry in the 1920s and highlighted the company’s intention to supply enough records for the whole of Australia (Queensland Times (Ipswich), Firday 8 May 1925, p9).

The Sands Directories listed the Gramophone Company at this address from 1926 to 1931 (Sands, Directory, 1927 p 365; 1928 p 374; 1929, p 395; 1930, p 384; 1931, p 354). By 1940, the main works of the company had been relocated to Parramatta Road in Homebush (Directory of Manufacturers of Australia, C E S Turner & Sons, Sydney and Melbourne, 1939-40, p 204).

On 2 October 1940, the site was purchased by Australia Silknit Ltd and was likely used for the manufacture of ladies lingerie (CT 2642 f 66). Australia Silknit operated as a public company in New South Wales since 30 December 1927 (The ‘Digest’ Year Book of Public Companies Australia & New Zealand, 1949, Jobson’s Publications Pty Ltd, Sydney, p 29). During the 1940s, the company occupied a number of properties around Sydney in addition to the Erskineville site. In 1940, the company was listed at Parramatta Road, Camperdown (Directory of Manufacturers of Australia, C E S Turner & Sons, Sydney and Melbourne, 1939-40, p 73). In 1949, the company’s office was located at 45 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills (The ‘Digest’ Year Book of Public Companies Australia & New Zealand, 1949, Jobson’s Publications Pty Ltd, Sydney, p 29).

The 1950 Civic Survey showed the site was occupied by Printex Pty Ltd (Civic Survey sheet NSCA). However, the 1956 Building Surveyors Detail Sheet showed it was occupied by Australia Silknit Ltd (Building Surveyors Detail Sheet 19 NSCA).

On 7 August 1963, the site was purchased by B H Consolidated Pty Ltd (CT 2642 f 66). On 6 October 1966, the property was leased to B & B Dyers and Bleachers Pty Ltd (CT 2642 f 66). On 8 November 1968, the property was purchased by Bart Properties Pty Ltd (CT 2642 f 66).

On 20 June 1969, Quilton Pty Ltd applied to use the site for the manufacture of bedspreads, curtains and quilting (127-145 Railway Parade, Street cards, NSCA).

On 20 June 1969, Osti Holdings Ltd, a manufacturer of stylish women’s clothing, applied to undertake
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

alterations and additions on the site. These works were valued at $5,400 (127-145 Railway Parade, COS Street cards). On 7 July 1975, Osti Holdings applied to use the site as offices and accommodation. This was followed by another application on 10 September 1975 to erect office partitions. These works were valued at $8,000 (127-145 Railway Parade, Street cards, NSCA).

The property was purchased by S D T Pty Ltd on 26 May 1983 and was subsequently purchased by Finma Pty Ltd on 12 January 1989 (CT 2642 f 66).

In 1997, the site was recorded as being used as a factory, warehouse and offices of a textile company.

On 23 July 1997, an application for the redevelopment of the site into 45 residential units was approved by council.

On 16 August 2000, a section 96 application for the demolition of the chimney stack was refused. Strong support for the retention of the chimney stack was expressed among members of the local community.

In 2001, the chimney’s brickwork was repointed and the structure was strengthened with metal bands.

Themes:

3. Economy Commerce Factory
3. Economy Industry Factories

Designer: John Reid and Son
Builder: H J and J W Thompson

Year started: 1916 Year completed: 1916 Circa: Yes

Physical description: The chimney stack was likely constructed in 1916 as part of the factory for Murray Spinning Mills. The chimney stack is located within the redeveloped former factory site bound by Railway Parade, Clara Street and Ada Street. The brick chimney measures approximately 26.7 metres in height and 2.5 metres across the base.

The chimney stack exhibits typical characteristics of the inter-war period applied to a utilitarian structure including its simple geometric massing, face brickwork in garden wall bond and corbelled brick detailing.

The tall chimney stack is visible from a number of near and distant vantage points.

Alterations to the chimney stack have included repointing its brickwork and strengthening the structure through regularly placed metal bands installed in approximately 2001.

The surrounding site was redeveloped for housing between 1998 and 2003 resulting in the extensive demolition of the former factory. The chimney stack and the heavily altered factory façade remain as the only intact surviving remnants of the industrial use of the site.

The foundations and internal structure of the chimney have not been inspected by the authors.


Physical condition level: Good

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail:
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

SHI number 5062460
Study number

Modification dates: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

1916
Thomas Murray purchased a number of allotments in Erskineville which he amalgamated into a larger parcel of land and sold to Murray Spinning Mills Ltd

3 February 1916
Certificate of Title for Lots 36 to 46, DP 4062 issued to The Murray Spinning Mills Ltd

June 1916
New factory constructed in Erskineville by H J and J W Thompson to the plans by architects John Reid and Son for Murray Spinning Mills Ltd, manufacturer of women’s underwear and hosiery.

1917
Murray Spinning Mills Ltd first appeared on this site in the Sands Directories and continued to be listed until 1920

7 October 1920
Site sold to Golds Hosiery Mills Ltd

1921
Directory listed Sydney Combing Mills at 133-7 Railway Parade

1922 to 1924
Directory listed Golds Hosiery Mills Ltd. at 133-7 Railway Parade

4 May 1925
Golds Hosiery Mills Ltd (in liquidation) sold the site to Gramophone Company Ltd

1925
Factory converted for use by the Gramophone Company

1927 to 1931
Directory listed Gramophone Company Ltd (His Master’s Voice)

2 October 1940
Site sold to Australia Silknit Ltd

1950
Civic Survey sheet shows site occupied by Printex Pty Ltd

1956
Building Surveyors sheet shows the site was occupied by Australia Silknit Ltd

7 August 1963
Site sold to B H Consolidated Pty Ltd

6 October 1966
Site leased to B & B Dyers and Bleachers Pty Ltd

8 November 1968
Site sold to Bart Properties Pty Ltd

20 June 1969
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

Application to use premises for the manufacture of bedspreads, curtains and quilting by Quilton Pty Ltd

16 October 1969
Application for additions and alterations by Osti Holdings Ltd worth $5,400

7 July 1975
Application for proposed offices and accommodation by Osti Holdings Pty Ltd

10 September 1975
Application to erect office partitions worth $8,000 by Osti Holdings Ltd

26 May 1983
Site sold to S D T Pty Ltd

12 January 1989
Site sold to Finna Pty Ltd

23 July 1997
Council approved an application of 45 residential units with the retention of the chimney and the brick facades along the Clara Street and Railway Parade elevations

1998-2003
Site redeveloped for residential units

On 16 August 2000
Section 96 application for the demolition of the chimney stack refused

2001
Brickwork of the chimney repointed and the structure strengthened with metal bands

Recommended management:
The chimney stack should be retained and conserved.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the structure prior to any major works being undertaken.

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Do not paint, render or seal face brickwork.

Management:

Management category: Statutory Instrument
Management name: List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Further comments: Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

Criteria a): [Historical significance]
Built in approximately 1916 as part of the underwear and hosiery factory for Murray Spinning Mills, this chimney stack represents the industrial development of Erskineville during the early twentieth century. The remnant chimney stack is historically significant for its connection to Australian manufacturing of hosiery and underwear during the 1920s and 1940s, gramophones and records in the 1920s and 1930s and textiles between the 1940s and 1980s. The continued association of the site with manufacturing textiles provides evidence of the formerly widespread textiles industry within the City of Sydney.

The chimney stack is significant for its association with one of the first manufacturers of underwear and hosiery in Australia, Murray Spinning Mills. The construction of the former factory represents the growth of the company and the popularity of its products during the inter-war period. The chimney stack is also significant for its association from 1925 with one of Australia’s earliest manufacturers of gramophones, the Gramophone Company, better known by its brand name ‘his masters voice’ or HMV.

The chimney demonstrates or is associated with technological changes during the early twentieth century in power sources, textiles manufacturing and music reproduction. The chimney provides evidence of the former use of steam to power industrial machinery before the advent of and widespread access to electricity. As a surviving remnant of the former Murray Spinning Mills and later Gramophone Company, the chimney is also associated with the expansion of Australia’s textiles industry into fine knitted undergarments and technological advancements in music reproduction by these two Australian manufacturers during the early twentieth century.

As a remnant of the former Murray Spinning Mills, the chimney stack forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Criteria b): [Historical association significance]
As a remnant of the former factory on this site, the chimney stack is associated with one of the first manufacturers of underwear and hosiery in Australia, Murray Spinning Mills from 1916 to 1925, then one of Australia’s earliest manufacturers of gramophones, the Gramophone Company or HMV from 1925 to 1940. It was subsequently associated with Silknit's manufacture of ladies lingerie from the 1940s to 1960s, Quilton's manufacture of bedspreads and curtains in the 1960s, and Osti's manufacture of ladies clothing until the 1980s.

Criteria c): [Aesthetic/Technical significance]
The structure represents a good example of an inter-war period chimney stack. It exhibits typical characteristics of this period applied to a utilitarian structure including its simple geometric massing, face brickwork in garden wall bond and corbelled brick detailing.

Criteria d): [Social/Cultural significance]
The height and prominence of the chimney stack makes it a local landmark, which is visible in the round from a number of vantage points in surrounding streets.

Criteria e): [Research significance]
The remnant chimney stack may hold significance to the former workers of Murray Spinning Mills, the Gramophone Company and other large-scale textile manufacturers who subsequently occupied the site.

The chimney’s landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood may have value to recent and past residents as a point of reference and tangible connection to the industrial past of Erskineville.

The site may also have value to the Australian community as the place where well-known hosiery and lingerie and later HMV records and gramophones were made during the inter-war period.

Community opposition to the proposed demolition of the chimney stack demonstrated its value to the local community.

Criteria f): [Rarity]
The chimney stack survives as a rare intact remnant of the former Murray Spinning Mills and Gramophone Company factory in Erskineville following the site’s extensive redevelopment for housing.
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

Criteria g): The structure represents a good example of an inter-war period chimney stack.

Intactness/Integrity: Intact

References:
- CES Truner & Sons, Sydney and Melbourne
  - Directory of Manufacturers of Australia
  - Certificate of Title 2642 f 66
- Jobson’s Publications
  - The ‘Digest’ Year Book of Public Companies Australia & New Zealand
- Sunday Times, 11 June 1916
  - Gramophones - a Sydney factory
- Dr Terry Kass
  - Industrial and warehouse buildings research - site history
- John Sands
  - Sands Directories, 1917-1931
- Sydney Morning Herald, 25 September 1916
  - The Late Mr Thomas Murray
- Sydney Morning Herald, 7 May 1925
  - Australian made gramophone industry
- Queensland Times (Ipswich), 8 May 1925
  - Australian made, government policy, absolute preference
- The Argus, Melbourne, Wednesday 22 February 1937
  - Hosiery and knitted goods for all
- Richmond Guardian, 24 March 1917
  - Topics of the week
- Colin Forster
  - Industrial Development in Australia 1920-1930
- Clare Land
  - The Textile Industry
- Sydney Morning Herald, 19 January 1926
  - Australian made, government policy, absolute preference
- City of Sydney/ City Building Surveyors Department
  - City Building Surveyors Detail Sheets
- RTA
  - Aerial Photographs of Sydney May-June 1943.
- City of Sydney
  - Aerial Survey of the City of Sydney

Studies:
- City Plan Heritage
  - City of Sydney Industrial & Warehouse Buildings Heritage Study
  - Number: 2014

Parcels:
- Parcel code: PART LOT
- Lot number:
- Section number:
- Plan code: SP
- Plan number: 68110

Latitude: Location validity: Spatial accuracy:
Longitude:
Map name: Map scale:
AMG zone: Easting:
Northing:

Listing:
- Name: City of Sydney Industrial and Warehouse Buildings
  - Title: Heritage study
  - Number:
  - ListingDate:

Data entry:
- Data first entered: 06/08/2014
- Data updated: 21/05/2015
- Status: Completed

Date: 21/05/2015
Full report

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image:

Caption: View of the chimney stack from Clara Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage

Image date: 08/11/2013

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345e62fb4e29e6547d3ac7f41655e65e5f6.jpg
**Item name:** Former factory chimney stack

**Location:** 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

**Image:**

Caption: View of the chimney stack from the corner of Railway Parade and Clara Street

**Copy right:** City of Sydney

**Image by:** Claudine Loffi

**Image date:** 17/03/2014

**Image number:**

**Image url:** http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3451689e9816847462aa71b9da915383b25.JPG

**Thumbnail url:** http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3451689e9816847462aa71b9da915383b25.JPG
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: View of redeveloped factory site and chimney stack from Railway Parade

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3451ee1ccf816cf4f64ae148f16b32e048a.JPG

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3451ee1ccf816cf4f64ae148f16b32e048a.JPG
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Plan showing the boundaries of the site in 1916

Copyright:

Image by: Certificate of title 2642 f 66

Image date: 01/01/1916

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3454101cee47be348adaacdb0bc26a2932a.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3454101cee47be348adaacdb0bc26a2932a.jpg
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: Extract from 1949 aerial showing the chimney stack circled on the former factory site

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 15/12/1949

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345fc12c05e942a4af2b707cc3fbf66b3ce.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345fc12c05e942a4af2b707cc3fbf66b3ce.jpg
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing the subject site of the chimney and surrounding industries

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345e7b32f5852ed4a79b8f0bc0054e1e333.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345e7b32f5852ed4a79b8f0bc0054e1e333.jpg
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image:

Caption: The subject chimney stack in 1965 viewed from the corner of Railway Parade and Newton Street

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: CRS 48/4763 (NSCA CRS 48, City Engineers Photographic Negatives 1953-1973)

Image date: 06/05/1965

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345aeb6c5a0b6be44a885739c7b7a4f094b.jpg

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/Thumb_test345aeb6c5a0b6be44a885739c7b7a4f094b.jpg
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Current aerial photograph of the site showing the location of the chimney stack circled

Copy right: Lands and Property Information

Image by: Lands and Property Information with City of Sydney mark up

Image date: 01/01/2012

Image number:


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test3459a149e1628834353b58b125baf3b04a.jpg
Item name: Former factory chimney stack

Location: 127 Railway Parade Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image: 

Caption: View of the landscape of other chimney stacks to the south of the subject site in 1937

Copy right: State Library of New South Wales

Image by: Government Printing Office, d1_28060

Image date: 01/08/1937

Image number:


Sydney City Council

Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street  Erskineville 2043  Sydney

Address: 18-20 Victoria Street

Planning: Sydney South

Suburb/nearest town: Erskineville 2043

Local govt area: Sydney

State: NSW

Other/former names: Cleveland Shoe Co, Selby Shoe Manufacturing Company, Selby Shoes Aust Pty Ltd., J Robins (Chippendale) Pty Ltd, Di Ver

Area/group/complex: Group ID:

Aboriginal area: Eora

Curtilarge/boundary: As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan

Item type: Built  Group: Manufacturing and Processing  Category: Factory/ Plant

Owner: Commercial offices

Code 2: Code 3:

Former uses: Shoe factory

Assessed significance: Local

Endorsed significance:

Statement of significance:
Built in approximately 1923 for major Australian shoe manufacturers, Cleveland Shoe Company, this former factory represents the industrial development of Erskineville during the inter-war period. The building is historically significant for its connection to the Australian manufacturing of shoes. The continuous use of the building for the manufacture of shoes until the late 1980s demonstrates the success of this shoe-making industry in Sydney during the twentieth century.

The former factory has significant associations with one of the largest wholesale shoe manufacturers within New South Wales, the Cleveland Shoe Company, from the 1920s to the 1940s, and the largest American manufacturers of fashion shoes, Selby Shoes, from the late-1940s to the mid-1960s.

Aesthetically, this building represents a good example of a multi-storey inter-war factory designed in the inter-war Chicagoesque style. The building demonstrates typical characteristics of this style including its grid-like facades divided vertically into bays by engaged brick piers, large window openings, limited ornamentation, and three-light timber-framed windows. With its multi-storey scale prominent corner site and inter-war industrial character, the building is a distinctive feature in the Erskineville neighbourhood, which makes an important contribution to the streetscapes of Prospect and Victoria Streets and Morrissey Road.

The multi-storey scale of the building demonstrates a different building typology for factory buildings in this part of the City of Sydney, compared to the predominant form for the large southern Sydney factories from the same period of single-storey, sawtooth-roofed factories.

As major former employers within Erskineville, the building may hold significance to the former workers of the Cleveland Shoe Company and Selby Shoes. The site may also hold significance to the Australian community for its connection to the well known Selby fashion shoes manufactured at this site. The building’s landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood may have value to recent and past residents as a point of reference and tangible connection to the industrial past of Erskineville.

This factory forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The former factory is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative values.
Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

Land in the area to the south of Central Station was granted to Nicholas Devine, a superintendent of convicts, in 1794 and 1799. Devine built a house called Burren Farm near the corner of present George Street and Erskineville Road. After his death in 1830, the property was passed on to Bernard Rochford and his wife who had cared for Devine in his old age. Rochford subdivided and sold the estate. Some of the land was bought by Reverend George Erskine, a Wesleyan Minister who built Erskine Villa in 1830. He died there in 1834. The villa was subsequently owned by Mr Robert Henderson, a naturalist, followed by William Toogood, a Sydney inn-keeper. When Toogood died, he left the property to the Church of England and it became the rectory for the Holy Trinity Church in Macdonaldtown. (Pollon 1996)

By 1852, Erskineville had been developed with a mix of housing and industry. The discovery of rich clay deposits around the area now known as Sydney Park led to the development of a number of brickworks in the surrounding suburbs including Erskineville, Alexandria and St Peters. The area became one of the largest brick producing areas of the city. In the 1890s, it was said that “as many as 1,500,000 bricks were manufactured in Alexandria every day [and that] the greatest part of the city of Sydney has been built from the brickyards of Alexandria” (Alexandria – The Birmingham of Australia, p.78).

In 1893, part of what was formerly known as Macdonaldtown became a new suburb when parliament passed the Borough of Erskineville Naming Act. In 1911, electric trams began running to Erskineville. By 1920 the suburb had become the home of many workers, some employed in local brickmaking, bootmaking and hat manufacturing industries. (Pollon 1996)

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Site history:

This former factory was constructed in approximately 1923 by the Cleveland Shoe Company for the manufacture of boots and shoes. By 1950, the site was occupied by Selby Shoes and continued to be used for the manufacture of shoes by various companies until the late 1980s.
The Cleveland Shoe Company Limited acquired the subject site in Erskineville in 1922. The company likely constructed the factory shortly thereafter.

The Sands directory first recorded the Cleveland Shoe Company on the site in 1924 (Sands, Directory, 1924, p 305). The factory continued to be listed in the Sands Directories between 1924 and 1929 on Victoria Street between Prospect and Pleasant Streets. After 1929, the factory was listed on Prospect Street.

In 1924 newspapers reported that a bootmaker employed at the site stole a number of wooden shoe lasts, leather sole stiffeners and shoe tacks from the factory in Erskineville (SMH, 30 Sept 1924 p 6). These thefts took place between January and September, thus demonstrating that the factory was in operation by January of 1924.

By August 1927, the Cleveland Shoe Company was identified as one of the major wholesale shoe manufacturers in New South Wales (World News, 27 Aug 1927, p 37).

It is likely that the company employed workers who had studied at the Erskineville Bootmaking School. The school operated in the former boot factory of Mr FJ Walters between 1906 and 1940 and played an important role in training apprentices for the local bootmaking industries (Dictionary of Sydney, 2010, http://dictionaryofsydney.org/entry/erskineville_bootmaking_school).

A newspaper article from 1935 indicates that the McMurtrie family, who had interests in a number of boot and shoe making enterprises, were involved with the Cleveland Shoe Company (SMH, 9 March 1935, p 16). This family was also associated with the McMurtrie Kellermann and Co boot manufacturing company in Lawson Street, Darlington in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

In 1949 the factory was still reported as the manufacturing premises of the Cleveland Shoe Company (SMH, 23 March 1949 p 19). However, the 1949 aerial photograph shows the factory on Victoria Street with lettering for ‘Selby Shoes Aust Ltd’ on the roof.

Selby Shoes began manufacturing shoes in Australia during the 1930s. The company originated from Portsmouth, Ohio and was recognised as one of the largest manufacturers of shoes in the America (The Brisbane Courier, 29 September 1931, p10). The company produced a wide range of styles of men’s and women’s shoes, many marketed as fashion items.

The 1951 Civic Survey and the 1956 City Building Surveyors Detail Sheet shows the factory was then operating as Selby Shoes, who were originally based in Renwick Street, Redfern.

A number of photographs taken in September 1954 show the building clearly with signage for Selby Shoes. The photographs also record the extent of development on the site at this time including the main multi-storey factory building constructed along the south, east and north site boundaries and a single-storey building to the west adjacent to a small undeveloped area (Jack Hickson, 1954, SLNSW). The configuration of the factory shown in the 1954 photographs appears to correspond with that shown in the earlier 1943 and 1949 aerial photographs of the site.

Whilst a number of photographs show that the site was already occupied by Selby Shoes, it was not recorded in the certificate of title until 18 March 1966 (CT 1328 f 10).

On 3 May 1966, J Robins (Chippendale) Pty Ltd applied to use the factory for shoe manufacturing (18-20 Victoria Street and Prospect Street, Street Cards, COS). On 15 July 1966, this company purchased the site (CT 1328 f 10). On 18 January 1968, the company proposed alterations and additions to the factory. The works were valued at $15,000 (18-20 Victoria Street and Prospect Street, Street Cards, COS). It is likely that this application resulted in the additions to the west.

The 1975 aerial photograph shows the original factory with a western addition, then occupying the full site.
On 17 March 1988, the site was purchased by Cesare Di Veroli, Lily Di Veroli, Alex Di Veroli and Esther Di Veroli (CT 1328 f 10). The site was leased to Di Veroli Shoes Pty Ltd on 25 May 1989.

On 17 November 1989, Cesare Di Veroli Pty Ltd applied to use the premises to store, display, repair and assemble antique furniture (18-20 Victoria Street, Street Cards, COS). The site was subsequently leased to Corso De Fiori Pty Ltd on 15 October 1990 (CT 1328 f 10).

Between 2004 and 2011, part of the building was used as a dance studio.

### Physical description

The building was constructed as a factory in approximately 1923 for the Cleveland Shoe Company on the prominent corner site between Prospect and Victoria Streets and Morrissey Road. The building occupies the entire site with no setback from the streets. The factory comprises a three storey painted brick building contained under a gabled and skillion roof form.

The building is designed in the inter-war Chicagoesque architectural style. It exhibits typical features of this style including its grid-like facades divided vertically into bays by engaged brick piers, large window openings, limited ornamentation, and three-light timber-framed windows. The building also features a parapeted gable on the south and north elevations, bullnosed brickwork on the south-west corner of the building and original multi-paned timber-framed windows with rendered lintels and brick sills. The main entrance of the building is located on Prospect Street.

A large addition on the western side of the building was constructed between 1968 and 1975. The two storey addition is constructed of face brick walls under a skillion roof with vertically emphasised metal-framed windows and a loading dock at ground level. Except for the 1970s western addition, the factory appears substantially unaltered since its construction.

The roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.

### Physical condition

<table>
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### Themes

- **National theme**: Commerce
- **State theme**: Factory
- **Local theme**: Activities associated with the n
Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Modification dates: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

20 February 1922
Southern half of Lot 18 section B, Edward Devine’s subdivision sold to Cleveland Shoe Company Limited

January to September 1924
Report of theft at Cleveland Shoe Company Limited, Erskineville

1924
Cleveland Shoe Company Limited, Victoria Street between Prospect and Pleasant Streets, listed in Sands directory and continues to be listed there until 1929, after which it was listed in Prospect Street

August 1927
Cleveland Shoe Company Limited of Prospect Street and Victoria Street Erskineville identified as one of the major wholesale shoe manufacturers

1951
Civic survey sheet shows site occupied by Selby Shoes

15 September 1954
Photographs taken by Jack Hickson of Selby Shoes, Prospect Street Erskineville

1956
Building surveyors’ sheet shows site occupied by Selby Shoe Manufacturing Company Pty Ltd

18 March 1966
Company now known as Selby Shoe Manufacturing Company Pty Ltd

3 May 1966
Application by J Robins (Chippendale) Pty Ltd to use building for shoe manufacture

15 July 1966
Site sold to J Robins (Chippendale) Pty Ltd

18 January 1968
Application by J Robins and Sons Pty Ltd for alterations and additions worth $15,000

1975
Aerial photograph of the site showing an addition on the western side of the factory

17 March 1988
Site sold to Cesare Di Veroli, Lily Di Veroli, Alex Di Veroli and Esther Di Veroli

25 May 1989
Site leased to Di Veroli Shoes Pty Ltd

17 November 1989
Application by Cesare Di Veroli Pty Ltd to store, display, repair and assemble antique furniture

15 October 1990
Site leased to Corso De Fiori Pty Ltd

2004-2011
Part of building occupied by a dance studio
Recommended management:

- Retain and conserve the building.
- A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.
- Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.
- Brickwork, original windows, the pattern of fenestration and other original building features should be conserved and maintained.
- Do not render painted brick facades. Any repainting should utilise a colour scheme appropriate to the inter-war character of the building.
- New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external industrial character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities.
- Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Management:

<table>
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Further comments:

Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

Criteria a): [Historical significance]

- Built in approximately 1923 for major Australian shoe manufacturers, Cleveland Shoe Company, this former factory represents the industrial development of Erskineville during the inter-war period. The building is historically significant for its connection to the Australian manufacturing of shoes. The continuous use of the building for the manufacture of shoes until the late 1980s demonstrates the success of this shoe-making industry in Sydney during the twentieth century.

- This building forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Criteria b): [Historical association significance]

- The former factory has significant associations with one of the largest wholesale shoe manufacturers within New South Wales, the Cleveland Shoe Company, from the 1920s to the 1940s, and the largest American manufacturers of fashion shoes, Selby Shoes, from the late-1940s to the mid-1960s.

- When operating as the Cleveland Shoe Company, the site was also associated with the prominent boot and shoe making family, the McMurtrie family, who ran a major boot-making factory in Lawson Street, Darlington, during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.
Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Criteria c):
[Aesthetic/Technical significance]
Aesthetically, this building represents a good example of a multi-storey inter-war factory designed in the inter-war Chicagoesque style. The building demonstrates typical characteristics of this style including its grid-like facades divided vertically into bays by engaged brick piers, large window openings, limited ornamentation, and three-light timber-framed windows.

With its multi-storey scale, prominent corner site and inter-war industrial character, the building is a distinctive feature in the Erskineville neighbourhood, which makes an important contribution to the streetscapes of Prospect and Victoria Streets and Morrissey Road.

The multi-storey scale of the building demonstrates a different building typology for factory buildings in this part of the City of Sydney, compared to the predominant form for the large southern Sydney factories from the same period of single-storey, sawtooth-roofed factories.

Criteria d):
[Social/Cultural significance]
As major former employers within Erskineville, the building may hold significance to the former workers of the Cleveland Shoe Company and Selby Shoes.

The site may also hold significance to the Australian community for its connection to the well known Selby fashion shoes manufactured at this site.

The building’s landmark qualities in the local neighbourhood may have value to recent and past residents as a point of reference and tangible connection to the industrial past of Erskineville.

Criteria e):
[Research significance]

Criteria f):
[Rarity]

Criteria g):
[Representative]
The building represents a good example of a multi-storey factory from the inter-war period constructed in an established residential area.

Intactness/Integrity: Intact externally

References:

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<tr>
<th>Author</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Industrial and warehouse buildings research - site history</td>
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<td>The Sydney Morning Herald, 30 September</td>
<td>Stolen boot lasts</td>
<td>1942</td>
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<td>John Sands</td>
<td>Sands Directories</td>
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<td>Jack Hickson</td>
<td>Selby Shoe factory, Prospect Street, Erskineville (three photographs)</td>
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<td>Shoe Industry</td>
<td>1931</td>
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<td>1975 aerial photograph of Sydney</td>
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<td>Frances Pollon</td>
<td>The Book of the Sydney Suburbs</td>
<td>1996</td>
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<td>Alexandria, &quot;The Birmingham of Australia&quot; 75 years of progress</td>
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<td>City of Sydney/City Building Survey</td>
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<td>City of Sydney</td>
<td>1949 aerial survey of the city of Sydney, sheet 199</td>
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<td>Mark Dunn</td>
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Studies:

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This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
## Item name:
Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

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18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043
Sydney

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**Data entry:**
- Data first entered: 06/08/2014
- Data updated: 21/05/2015
- Status: Completed
Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Image: [Image of the factory]

Caption: Southern and western elevations of the former factory on the corner of Victoria and Prospect Streets

Copyright: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage

Image date: 08/11/2013

Image number:


Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: Southern elevation of the former factory on Victoria Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image number:


Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Caption: Eastern and northern elevations of the former factory viewed from Morrisey Road

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3455f62b0c40c34a0297f15139306847ef.JPG

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Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: Western elevation of the subject factory showing the original rear section and the 1970s addition

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image number:


Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: 1949 aerial photograph showing the former factory site circled with ‘Selby Shoes’ lettering on roof

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 15/12/1949


Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345ea198fcc3060485f8f66b2c49b62d8a1.jpg
Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: Southern and eastern elevations of the factory occupied by Selby Shoes in 1954

Copyright:

Image by: Jack Hickson, Australian Photographic Agency – 42875

Image date: 15/09/1954

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3452f3652c585af4ef9a38a60c5653f9014.jpg

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Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Image: [Image]

Caption: Southern and western elevations in 1954 prior to the 1970s addition

Copy right: State Library of New South Wales

Image by: Jack Hickson, Australian Photographic Agency – 04011

Image date: 15/09/1954

Image number:


Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Northern and western elevations of the factory in 1954 before 1970s addition

Copy right: State Library of New South Wales

Image by: Jack Hickson, Australian Photographic Agency – 42877

Image date: 15/09/1954


Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Sydney City Council

SHI number 5062461

Study number

Image:

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing the subject site and surrounding industries at this time

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image number:


Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043

Image:

Caption: Advertisement showing the marketing of Selby Shoes as a fashion item in 1960

Copy right: Womens Weekly

Image by: Womens Weekly

Image date: 07/09/1960

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345f2f7a6e04f994084b5d66107515d991e.jpg

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Item name: Former Cleveland Shoe Company factory including interiors

Location: 18-20 Victoria Street Erskineville 2043 Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1969 advertisement showing the products made by Selby Shoes

Copy right: The Canberra Times

Image by: The Canberra Times

Image date: 16/10/1969


**Item name:** Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors  

**Location:** 19 Ross Street  Forest Lodge 2037  
Sydney

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**Aboriginal area:** Eora  

**Curtilage/boundary:** As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan  

**Item type:** Built  
**Group:** Utilities - Electricity  
**Category:** Electricity Transformer/Substation  

**Owner:** State Government  

**Admin codes:**  
**Code 2:**  
**Code 3:**  

**Current use:** Electricity substation  
**Former uses:** Electricity substation  

**Assessed significance:** Local  
**Endorsed significance:**
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors

Location: 19 Ross Street Forest Lodge 2037 Sydney

Statement of significance: Built in 1929 to supply electricity for the metal building products factory, GE Crane & Sons, Electricity Substation No. 267 represents a surviving example of the original network of more than 360 substations built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1936, which first supplied electricity to Sydney's industries and houses. The period and location of the substation records the expansion of Sydney's electricity network and the growth of electricity use in Forest Lodge. The building also marks the major changes electricity brought for Forest Lodge’s growth, development and population.

Aesthetically, the building demonstrates the characteristic modest form, quality of design and construction for Sydney's substations, which were designed to a higher standard than required for their function in order to integrate into their established urban contexts by reflecting neighbouring architecture or popular styles of the time.

Electricity Substation No. 267 represents a good example of a simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation with design elements of the inter-war Romanesque style. It demonstrates typical characteristics of this period and style applied to a small utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, asymmetry, low-pitched gable roof concealed behind a gabled parapet wall, original signage, face brickwork with decorative relief detailing along the parapet, timber multi-paned windows and emphatic arched entrance. The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area.

Electricity Substation No. 267 forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Electricity Substation No. 267 and the other surviving substations demonstrate the fundamental role that electricity played in powering Australia's industrialisation and how technological innovations of the time, specifically electricity, defined Sydney's industrial development during the twentieth century. Often constructed to service the high energy demands of factories in the near vicinity, the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth century industrial centres and factories in the way that chimney stacks mark the location of factories predating electricity.

Forest Lodge demonstrates this pattern with its substation reflecting the suburb's history as an inner-city area of both factories and workers homes. Forest Lodge’s Ross Street and nearby St Johns and Bridge Roads contained a number of surrounding industrial sites, which by 1956 included Newsletter Press and McGregor Wiggins Pty Ltd to the immediate north of the substation, W Neveill & Co Ltd behind the substation and GE Crane Pty Ltd opposite the substation.

Electricity Substation No. 267 is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative values.
Historical notes of provenance:

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

Forest Lodge is a small residential suburb located between Glebe and Parramatta Road, which was named after the house built in 1836 by Mr Ambrose Foss, a well known chemist and druggist in Sydney. The house was demolished in 1912.

The land in the area was originally part of the church lands reserved in 1789. In 1795, 20 acres on the eastern side of the creek and between Bridge and Parramatta Roads were granted to Catherine King and the property was named Catherine Farm. In 1806 the area west of Orphan School Creek was granted to William Bligh. By the mid-nineteenth century, the suburb began developing as a residential area for workers housing.

Industrial history:

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

Substations history:

One of the major innovations in industry during the nineteenth century was the development of electricity as a power and lighting source, which rivalled and then replaced water and steam power. The mills and workshops of the earlier Industrial Revolution in Britain and North America were mainly water and steam powered, whereas Australia's twentieth century industrial buildings were powered by electricity.

As part of supplying electricity to Sydney's houses and industries for the first time, Sydney Council built Sydney's first power stations and substations during the first half of the twentieth century. Sydney Council, then known as Sydney Municipal Council or the Municipal Council of Sydney, was charged with supplying electricity to Sydney city and surrounding areas in 1896 through the law named the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill passed on 16th October 1896. Electricity supply was managed through the council's department known by a number of names: the Electric Lighting Committee, the Electric Light Department and the Electricity Department from 1920 to 1935. From 1936 the electricity undertaking was named Sydney County Council when it was reformed as a separate authority as a result of the Gas & Electricity Act of 1935. The various names for the council and subsequent electrical authority are recorded in the initials and building names inscribed in substation facades.
Sydney's first power station at Pyrmont began operating in 1904. The large network of substations were constructed in strategic locations to supply power from these power stations to individual customers and other electricity networks. Their specific purpose was to house machinery to convert high voltage electricity for industrial or domestic use. Substations were often erected in close proximity to factories to service their high energy demands. Consequently the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth-century factories and industrial centres in the way that chimney stacks marked factories pre-dating electricity.

Forest Lodge demonstrates this pattern with its substation reflecting the suburb’s history as an inner-city area of both factories and workers homes. Forest Lodge’s Ross Street and nearby St Johns and Bridge Roads contained a number of surrounding industrial sites, which by 1956 included Newsletter Press and McGregor Wiggin Pty Ltd to the immediate north of the substation, W Neveill & Co Ltd behind the substation and GE Crane Pty Ltd opposite the substation.

The period and location of surviving substations record the progressive extension of Sydney's electrical network from the centre of Sydney to surrounding areas, the scale and importance of this network, and the fundamental changes electricity brought for Sydney's growth, development and society. Sydney Municipal Council built its first substations at Town Hall, Taylor Square, Woolloomooloo and Ultimo, followed by Glebe, Newtown, Camperdown and surrounding areas. From 1904 to 1935, Sydney Council built more than 360 substations and almost 400 pole transformers throughout Sydney and surrounding suburbs. More continued to be built in the following decades. The Energy Australia (AusGrid) heritage and conservation register records that 33 of the surviving substations are located within the City of Sydney. This number excludes those no longer owned or operated by the electricity supplier.

Each substation has its own number inscribed on the building facade, which reflects its role in the broader electrical network and generally the total number, sequence and period of construction, with some exceptions where disused numbers were reallocated. Most substations were constructed in established urban areas on a small portion of land acquired or subdivided specifically for this purpose. These buildings, while modest in scale and different in function to surrounding buildings, were designed and constructed to a good standard, in a style designed to harmonise with surrounding architecture, in order to reduce community fears or resistance to the incursion of this new technology and impacts on the appearance of streets.

The rise of electricity during the late nineteenth century, and in particular small motors for driving machinery and electrical lights, changed the configuration of industrial buildings and machinery. Electricity meant that factories could be designed with a more flexible layout because small electric motors eliminated the need for belt and shaft drives from the steam plant. Factory building design became less reliant on windows for natural light and gas lighting ventilation because of the advent of electric lighting. Electricity also created a new market for factories to produce the new consumer goods reliant on electric power, such as fridges, washing machines, telephones, stoves, ice cream, and the engineering for electric lights, trains and trams.

Site history:

The substation was constructed by Sydney Municipal Council to cater for the increased electricity requirements of Crane & Sons, as well as for those of local networks. The GE Crane & Sons factory was located on the south-western corner of Ross Street and St Johns Road. At this time, this company was consolidating their works for manufacturing sheet metal building products and planned to extend their premises.

A shortage of space on the GE Crane and Sons site necessitated the acquisition of a site elsewhere in the immediate vicinity. In July 1927, an offer was made for a site opposite Crane & Sons at 19 Ross Street.

During the first half of 1928, the plans and specifications for the substation building were prepared. In 1928 tenders were invited for the construction of the substation with works scheduled to begin in the first week of October and to be completed within fourteen weeks.
By the beginning of April in 1929, the builder’s contract work had been completed and the equipment installed. The substation was connected to the network the following month. A proposal was put forward in 1948 to re-equip the substation with more modern switchgear, but this was never carried out. The equipment was eventually replaced in 2011.

**Physical description:**
Substation No. 267 was built by Sydney Municipal Council in 1929. The substation comprises a single-storey brick building contained under two pitched roofs with box gutters, concealed behind a parapet wall. The building is set-back from the street alignment behind a low brick wall and gates.

This simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation exhibits typical characteristics of the inter-war period with elements of the inter-war Romanesque style applied to a utilitarian building. These features include the heavy geometric massing, asymmetry, low-pitched gable roof concealed behind a gabled parapet wall, face brickwork with decorative relief detailing along the parapet, timber multi-paned windows and an emphatic arched entrance.

The two main entrances are accentuated by over-sized double-height openings, a round-arched opening for the main entrance, bull-nosed brick and brick-on-edge surrounds and a large original sign mounted over the second entrance. Both double-height entrances contain steel roller shutter doors and concrete thresholds raised a step above ground level. The roller shutter of the arched entrance has an inset smaller personnel door. A separate lower pedestrian entrance is located centrally between the two double-height openings, with a multi-paned timber window beside each main entrance.

Original signage is integrated into the facade through relief lettering recording the origins of the building and the substation's number within Sydney's electricity network.

The building has a dual street frontage, with the two sections detailed differently. The south-east frontage is more pronounced with a central arched opening and gabled parapet. The north-west frontage is slightly set-back with a square-headed opening, the large identification sign supported on brackets, and straight parapet wall. Both frontages contain a small multi-paned timber window with bull-nosed brick sills and brick-on-edge lintels.

The dual building frontage is less common for single-storey substations in the City of Sydney which typically have an open transformer yard to the side of the main building and no second roof form.

The switchgear equipment, gutters, downpipes and roller doors have been replaced.

Internally, the roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.

**Physical condition:**
Minor crack above roller door. Downpipe discharges to surface. Some missing concrete paving in the front garden.
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors

Location: 19 Ross Street Forest Lodge 2037 Sydney

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail:

Modification dates:

Recommended management:
The building should be retained and conserved.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development should be undertaken in accordance with the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

No vertical additions should be made to the building.

Do not render, paint or seal face brickwork.

Face brick finishes, decorative brickwork, parapet wall, original entrances, windows, signage, brick fence and other original features of the substation should be maintained and conserved.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Management:

Management category: Statutory Instrument
Management name: List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Further comments: Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors

Location: 19 Ross Street  Forest Lodge 2037 Sydney

Criteria a): [Historical significance]
Built in 1929 to supply electricity for the metal building products factory, GE Crane & Sons, Electricity Substation No. 267 represents a surviving example of the original network of more than 360 substations built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1936, which first supplied electricity to Sydney's industries and houses. The period and location of the substation records the expansion of Sydney's electricity network and the growth of electricity use in Forest Lodge. The building also marks the major changes electricity brought for Forest Lodge's growth, development and population.

Electricity Substation No. 267 forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Electricity Substation No. 267 and the other surviving substations demonstrate the fundamental role that electricity played in powering Australia's industrialisation and how technological innovations of the time, specifically electricity, defined Sydney's industrial development during the twentieth century. Often constructed to service the high energy demands of factories in the near vicinity, the number, concentration and location of substations provide markers of twentieth century industrial centres and factories in the way that chimney stacks mark the location of factories predating electricity.

Forest Lodge demonstrates this pattern with its substation reflecting the suburb's history as an inner-city area of both factories and workers homes. Forest Lodge’s Ross Street and nearby St Johns and Bridge Roads contained a number of surrounding industrial sites, which by 1956 included Newsletter Press and McGregor Wiggin Pty Ltd to the immediate north of the substation, W Neveill & Co Ltd behind the substation and GE Crane Pty Ltd opposite the substation.

Criteria b): [Historical association significance]
The substation has significant associations with the Municipal Council of Sydney, who constructed the building as part of its early twentieth-century responsibility for the generation and distribution of electricity throughout the greater Sydney area from 1904 until 1936. The building also has associations with the surrounding industries for which it was built to supply electricity, in particular the metal building products factory, GE Crane & Sons.

Criteria c): [Aesthetic/Technical significance]
The building demonstrates the characteristic modest form, quality of design and construction for Sydney's substations, which were designed to a higher standard than required for their function in order to integrate into their established urban contexts by reflecting neighbouring architecture or popular styles of the time.

Electricity Substation No. 267 represents a good example of a simply detailed, purpose-designed and built substation with design elements of the inter-war Romanesque style. It demonstrates typical characteristics of this period and style applied to a small utilitarian building including the heavy geometric massing, asymmetry, low-pitched gable roof concealed behind a gabled parapet wall, original signage, face brickwork with decorative relief detailing along the parapet, timber multi-paned windows and emphatic arched entrance. The two main entrances are accentuated by over-sized double-height openings, a round-arched opening for the main entrance, small flanking windows, bullnosed brick detailing and a large sign mounted over the second entrance. The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area.

Criteria d): [Social/Cultural significance]
The building contributes to the streetscape and is a significant example of civic architecture in the area.

Criteria e): [Research significance]
The building may offer research potential into the evolution of technology for electricity supply and architectural design for substations in Sydney.
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors

Location: 19 Ross Street Forest Lodge 2037 Sydney

Criteria f): (Rarity) The dual building frontage is less common for single-storey substations in the City of Sydney which typically have an open transformer yard to the side of the main building and no second roof form.

Criteria g): (Representative) The building represents a good example of a substation from the inter-war period with elements of the Romanesque style.

The substation forms part of a collection of extant substations, which together represent the growth of Sydney’s electrical network and the major change that electricity brought for Sydney’s growth, development and population during the twentieth century, in particular for the development of industry.

Of more than 360 originally built by Sydney Municipal Council from 1904 to 1930 in metropolitan Sydney, the current Energy Australia (AusGrid) heritage and conservation register records that 33 surviving substations are located in the City of Sydney. This number excludes those no longer owned or operated by the electricity supplier.

Intactness/Integrity: Substantially intact externally

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<tr>
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<td>Conservation Management Plan: Substation No. 6 and Underground Mens Conveniences, Taylor Square</td>
<td>2002</td>
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<td>Schwager Brooks and Partners Pty Ltd</td>
<td>Energy Australia (Ausgrid) section 170 heritage and conservation register, database record 3430377</td>
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<td>James Pennington</td>
<td>Electricity Substations of the Sydney Municipal Council, pp.59</td>
<td>2012</td>
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<td>MacLaren North</td>
<td>Energy Australia Heritage Register Review</td>
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<td>Wilkenfeld and Spearitt</td>
<td>Electrifying Sydney</td>
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Item name: Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors

Location: 19 Ross Street  Forest Lodge 2037 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Street elevation of the substation

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image number:


| Item name: | Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors |
| Location: | 19 Ross Street  Forest Lodge 2037 Sydney |

| Image: |
| ![Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34532d42d99ae9d4d43900f2ef932139221.JPG) |

| Caption: | Detail of original signage |
| Copy right: | City of Sydney |
| Image by: | Claudine Loffi |
| Image date: | 14/03/2014 |

| Image number: |

Date: 21/05/2015  Full report  Page 10 of 13

This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Item name: Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors

Location: 19 Ross Street Forest Lodge 2037

Image:

Caption: Substation in 2008 as recorded in Pennington (2012) publication

Copy right: James Pennington

Image by: James Pennington

Image date: 01/01/2008

Image number:


Item name: Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors

Location: 19 Ross Street Forest Lodge 2037 Sydney

Image:

Caption: Substation in 1930 shortly after its construction

Copy right: Ausgrid

Image by: Ausgrid

Image date: 01/01/1930

Image number:

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Item name: Electricity Substation No. 267 including interiors

Location: 19 Ross Street  Forest Lodge 2037 Sydney

Caption: 1956 detail sheet showing subject substation and surrounding industries and housing

Copy right: City of Sydney archives

Image by: City Building Surveyors Department, City of Sydney

Image date: 01/01/1956

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3458f148d6ee95f40c3b9c0e1029cb6147a.png

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Date: 21/05/2015
Full report
This report was produced using the State Heritage Inventory application provided by the Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage
Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street Glebe 2037 Sydney

Address: 113 Mitchell Street Planning: Sydney South
Suburb/nearest town: Glebe 2037
Local govt area: Sydney
State: NSW
Other/former names: Volunteer Brigade fire station, Glebe Fire Station, The Old Fire Station, Peoples Hall
Area/group/complex: Group ID:
Aboriginal area: Eora
Curtilage/boundary: As described in Sydney Local Environmental Plan
Item type: Built Group: Utilities - Fire Control Category: Fire Station
Owner: State Government
Admin codes:
Current use: Community Hall
Former uses: Fire station, screw manufacturing
Assessed significance: Local
Endorsed significance:
Statement of significance: Built in 1892 for the Glebe Volunteer Fire Company and later modified for industrial use, this former fire station represents the non-residential development of Glebe between the late-nineteenth century and mid-twentieth century. The building provides evidence of the establishment of the first official fire-fighting services in Glebe during the late nineteenth century and the need for these services as a result of intensified residential and industrial development of inner city suburbs during this period. The building is also historically significant for its extended connection to industry for most of the twentieth century from the 1940s to the 1980s, including manufacturing of screws during the 1950s.

The site has significant associations with the Glebe Volunteer Fire Company and the first official fire-fighting services for Glebe from 1877. The purpose-built fire station has significant associations with the Glebe Volunteer Fire Company from 1892 to 1908. The building and its inter-war addition are also significant for its association with manufacturing for the Automatic Screw Company during the 1950s, which likely supported the construction, automotive and other industries.

The building represents a good example of a small-scale fire station designed in the Victorian free classical architectural style with an integrated inter-war industrial addition. The symmetrical façade of the Victorian fire station, its classical pediment, colosseum motif, parapet concealing the roof structure, moulded cornice, multi-paned timber fanlights, arched openings with keystones between fluted pilasters and classical motifs decorating the skyline of the parapet wall demonstrate characteristic features of the Victorian free-classical architectural style. The addition from the inter-war period exhibits typical characteristics of this architectural period including its simple geometric massing, parapet wall, saw tooth roof, multi-paned timber windows and rectangular fanlight and restrained ornamentation of simple wall surfaces through relief brickwork panels and bullnosed detailing.

With its Victorian and inter-war features, classical architectural motifs, distinctive parapet and sawtooth roof forms applied in a concentrated manner to a modestly-scaled infill building, the building forms a distinctive feature within the predominantly residential streets of Glebe. Its corner position makes the building visible from a number of near and distant vantage points. The building makes an important contribution to the dual streetscapes of Mitchell Street and Campbell Lane.

In terms of social value, the building may hold significance to the community of former fire fighters involved in the Glebe Volunteer Fire Brigade, the former workers of the Automatic Screw Company, local residents who use the building in its more recent function as a community hall.

As a service established to support industry and housing in Glebe and later used for industry, the former fire station forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

The former fire station is of local heritage significance in terms of its historical, aesthetic and representative values.
**Historical notes of provenance:**

This site forms part of the land of the Gadigal people, the traditional custodians of land within the City of Sydney council boundaries. For information about the Aboriginal history of the local area see the City’s Barani website: http://www.sydneybarani.com.au/

Glebe is bound by Blackwattle Bay and Rozelle Bay to the north and Wentworth Park to the east. The northern point of Glebe extends into Rozelle Bay. Across the bay, Glebe Island was connected to the mainland through the construction of the Glebe Island Bridge in 1857. The bridge was replaced in 1901 with an electrically operated central swing span.

‘The Glebe’ was considered part of the Kangaroo Grounds or Petersham district which was reserved as church land by Governor Phillip in 1789. The area was originally swampy land which was later raised and landscaped. Reverend Richard Johnson (1753-1827) began clearing the land grant of 400 acres. However, the area remained largely undeveloped except for the area near the present Parramatta Road.

In 1828 the majority of the church lands were sold. Glebe became a fashionable area during the early to mid-nineteenth century when substantial houses with gardens were constructed in the area. Toxteth House and the Georgian residence known as Lyndhurst House were two of the earliest houses constructed during this period. The area known as the Bishopthorpe Estate, including Derwent, Westmoreland and Mount Vernon Streets, was originally selected for the residence of the Bishop of Sydney. All revenue from this land was to provide a personal income for the Bishop.

In April 1857 the architect Edmund Blacket began designing buildings in the area. The cottages and terrace houses erected in the 1860s and 1870s demonstrate the variety of architectural styles of Sydney’s houses. Glebe was proclaimed a borough in 1859.

The area was progressively developed for workers housing, turning Glebe into a working class suburb by the early 1900s.

**Industrial history:**

As one of only two major centres for historic Australian industry during the period when industry was centred in cities, Sydney’s industrial development is part of the national history of industrialisation. Australia’s industrialisation formed part of the ‘second industrial revolution’ which began during the mid-nineteenth century. This second revolution was driven by major technological innovations including the invention of the internal combustion engine and the assembly line, development of electricity, the construction of canals, railways and electric-power lines.

Sydney's twentieth century industrial development records when and how Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific and the diversification of Australia's economy beyond primary industry. Together with Melbourne, Sydney’s twentieth century industrial boom expanded Australia’s economy from the ‘sheep’s back’ to the ‘industry stack’ or from primary production to manufacturing. By 1947 more Australians were working in city industries than in farms or mines.

Sydney’s industrial development not only impacted on the national economy. Twentieth-century industry in Sydney also played a major role in developing Australia’s self-sufficiency, growth, urbanisation, society and its contribution to the war effort for World War II. Sydney’s industrial development has affected the lives of many Australians directly and indirectly, whether through the number of workers employed, goods and technology produced, the prosperity it engendered, or the social change and urban environments it generated.

**Site history:**

The subject building was constructed in 1892 for the Glebe Volunteer Fire Company. It continued in use until
1908 when a new fire station was constructed on St Johns Road. The subject fire station was extended in the inter-war period with the construction of an industrial addition. The site was continuously used for industrial purposes between the 1940s and 1980s.

The site originally formed part of the St Philip’s Glebe Estate, which had been leased for long periods by the Church of England from the 1840s.

The Glebe Volunteer Fire Company formed in 1877 on Mitchell Street in Glebe (C Adrian, Fighting Fire, Sydney, 1984, p 26, 249). In 1879 the Volunteer Fire Brigade applied to install a hydrant plug opposite the new fire station in Glebe, suggesting that a building had already been built by this stage (COS 26/160/13100). The fire station was first listed in the 1880 Sands Directory on the north side of Mitchell Street, west of Campbell Street (Sands, Directory, 1880, p 198). This description corresponds with the location of the subject site, but predates the construction of the subject building. These records suggest that the subject building replaced an earlier building for the same use on this site.

Whilst records show that the volunteer fire brigade occupied the site prior to 1880, the site underwent major renovations in 1892, including the construction of the subject building (Solling 2007, p109). This construction date is displayed on the building’s parapet. The 1889 detail survey shows an L-shaped building occupying the eastern and northern sections of the site and a vacant area in the location of the existing fire station building. The subject building was likely built within the vacant area shown on the 1889 detail survey. No reference to the construction or opening of a new fire station was found in newspapers from this period.

A photograph of the building from approximately 1896-1898 shows the former Volunteer Fire Brigade in two horse-drawn carriages in front of the subject fire station. The building signage is depicted in this photo as ‘1892, Glebe Fire Station’ which differs from the existing lettered signage on the building.

The opening of the new fire station on St Johns Road in 1908 meant that the fire brigade no longer needed the subject building (C Adrian, Fighting Fire, Sydney, 1984, p 89). The 1908 Sands Directory recorded the occupation of the site at 115 Mitchell Street by George W Munro (Sands, Directory, 1908, p 336). A range of different tenants occupied the site thereafter.

The 1943 aerial photograph of the site shows a saw-toothed roof addition constructed on the remainder of the site to the north-west and north-east of the fire station building (1949 Aerial Survey, sheet 69). The 1950 Civic Survey also records a single-storey building occupying the entire site (Civic Survey, Glebe East, 1950).

On 19 September 1950, Leichhardt Council approved the use of a shed to house an emergency power plant for the Automatic Screw Company Pty Ltd (113-115 Mitchell Street, Glebe Street cards, NSCA). This indicates the use of the subject site as well as the adjoining terrace at 115 Mitchell Street by the Automatic Screw Company. A 1953 photograph taken from the corner of Glebe Point Road shows the adjoining terrace with signage also for the Automatic Screw Company.

The use of mechanically automated screw machines to manufacture screws and other small parts begun in the 1860s. The 1950s was a period of technological change for the screw manufacturing industry with the introduction of computerised screw machines.

In 1951 the Automatic Screw Company at 115 Mitchell Street advertised for experienced machinists to operate an automatic screw machine (Truth, Sydney, 22 July 1951, p41). The use of a shed as an emergency power plant and the requirement of experienced machinists suggest the use of industrial machinery on the site, likely for the manufacture of screws and other small mechanical parts produced by screw machines.

On 16 June 1955 council approved the use of the site as an office and storage for Component Parts Pty Ltd. This application likely referred to the use of the adjoining terrace at 115 Mitchell Street. On 17 June 1955 council approved the use of 113 Mitchell Street as a warehouse for storage of screws, nuts and bolts for The Belmont Trading Company (113-115 Mitchell Street, Glebe Street cards, NSCA). On 15 September 1970 council
Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street  Glebe 2037

Sydney

permitted Australian Chicago Products Pty Ltd to use the site for the storage of motor parts (113-113A Mitchell Street, Glebe Street cards, NSCA).

A photograph of the former fire station from the 1970s shows a metal roller door concealing the central panel of the front façade of the inter-war addition, located below the existing rectangular fanlight. The 1970s photo suggests that this panel was originally a vehicular opening, infilled after the 1970s. A photograph of the site in 2005 shows this brick panel as existing with its shuttered window.

On 6 May 1986 council approved the use of the building by the Glebe Estate Community Centre (113-113A Mitchell Street, Glebe Street cards, NSCA). The building has continued in community use since this time.

Themes:

National theme: Settlement
State theme: Utilities
Local theme: Fire station

Designer: Unknown
Builder: Unknown

Year started: 1892  Year completed: 1943  Circa: Yes

The building was constructed in 1892 as a fire station for the Glebe Volunteer Fire Company with an addition from the inter-war period. The building occupies the corner site at the junction of Mitchell Street and Campbell Lane with no set back from the street. The former fire station comprises a single-storey rendered brick building contained under a gabled roof concealed behind a parapet wall. The northern inter-war is constructed of brick walls with a saw tooth roof.

The fire station is designed in the Victorian free classical architectural style. The fire station component demonstrates typical features of this style including its symmetrical façade, classical pediment, colosseum motif, parapet concealing the roof structure, moulded cornice, multi-paned timber fanlights, and arched openings between fluted pilasters. Classical motifs including the central pediment with decorative moulding, volutes and projecting urns provide a characteristically decorative skyline for the parapet wall.

The former fire station building retains two former vehicular entrances within the wide arched openings on either side of a vertically proportioned central arch, all with keystones and decorative moulding. The embossed lettering above the arched openings reads ‘1892, The Old Fire Station, Peoples Hall’. This replaced the original lettered signage in the same position below the cornice.

The northern addition to the former fire station features typical characteristics of inter-war industrial buildings including its simple geometric massing, parapet wall, saw tooth roof, multi-paned timber windows and rectangular fanlight. Ornamentation of the simple wall surfaces is characteristically restrained, limited to relief brickwork panels and bullnosed brick detailing. The unrendered brick walls have been painted.

The recessed brick panel in the Mitchell Street elevation of the inter-war addition contains a centrally-placed window with a shallow brick arch, bullnosed brick sill and timber shutters. This wall and window located below the rectangular fanlight is likely a later addition which infilled a former vehicular opening shown in a 1970s photo concealed by a roller shutter door.

The roof, foundations and floor structures have not been inspected by the authors.


Physical condition level: Good

Physical condition:
Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street Glebe 2037 Sydney

Archaeological potential level: Not assessed

Archaeological potential Detail:

Modification dates: Timeline of known dates for changes to the site:

1877
Glebe Volunteer Fire Company formed in Mitchell Street, Glebe

1880
Glebe Volunteer Fire Brigade Station, Mitchell Street (north side, west of Campbell Street, at Glebe Road)

September 1889
Detail survey shows building with different footprint to current building

1892
Existing fire station constructed

1908
New fire station constructed on St Johns Road, replacing need for Mitchell Street fire station

1908
George W Munro recorded as an occupant of 115 Mitchell Street

1943
Aerial photograph showing 1892 fire station building extended to occupy entire site

19 September 1950
Approval to use shed to house emergency power plant by Automatic Screw Company Pty Ltd

16 June 1955
Council approved Component Parts Pty Ltd to use the site for office and storage

17 June 1955
Council approved Belmont Trading Company to use Number 113 to store screws, nuts and bolts

15 September 1970
Council approved Australian Chicago Products Pty Ltd to use the site to store motor parts

6 May 1986
Council approved alterations and renovation of the former fire station to accommodate the Glebe Estate Community Centre
Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street  Glebe 2037  Sydney

Recommended management:
Retain and conserve the building including both the Victorian and inter-war components.

A Heritage Assessment and Heritage Impact Statement should be prepared for the building prior to any major works being undertaken.

All conservation, adaptive reuse and future development of the site should be undertaken in accordance with the Australian ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (The Burra Charter).

Archival photographic recording, in accordance with Heritage Council guidelines, should be undertaken before major changes.

Saw tooth and gabled roofs, decorative parapet, rendered and painted brickwork, moulded cornice, fluted pilasters, arched openings, timber windows, and other original building features should be conserved and maintained.

New uses for the building are to complement and enhance the internal and external industrial character of the building by conserving and interpreting significant fabric and spatial qualities. Alterations for a new use, including changes for compliance with Australian building standards, should allow the essential form of the building to remain readily identifiable.

Management:
Management category: Statutory Instrument
Management name: List on a Local Environmental Plan (LEP)

Further comments:
Heritage Inventory sheets are often not comprehensive, and should be regarded as a general guide only. Inventory sheets are based on information available, and often do not include the social history of sites and buildings. Inventory sheets are constantly updated by the City as further information becomes available. An inventory sheet with little information may simply indicate that there has been no building work done to the item recently: it does not mean that items are not significant. Further research is always recommended as part of preparation of development proposals for heritage items, and is necessary in preparation of Heritage Impact Assessments and Conservation Management Plans, so that the significance of heritage items can be fully assessed prior to submitting development applications.

Criteria a): Built in 1892 for the Glebe Volunteer Fire Company and later modified for industrial use, this former fire station represents the non-residential development of Glebe between the late-nineteenth century and mid-twentieth century. The building provides evidence of the establishment of the first official fire-fighting services in Glebe during the late nineteenth century and the need for these services as a result of intensified residential and industrial development of inner city suburbs during this period. The building is also historically significant for its extended connection to industry for most of the twentieth century from the 1940s to the 1980s, including manufacturing of screws during the 1950s.

As a service established to support industry and housing in Glebe and later used for industry, the former fire station forms part of one of the largest known collections of industrial and warehouse buildings of its kind in Australia, which records City of Sydney’s past as one of only two historic industrial heartlands in Australia. This collection of buildings provides evidence of Australia’s twentieth century transformation through industrialisation when Sydney became one of the largest industrialised cities in the South Pacific.

Criteria b): The site has significant associations with the Glebe Volunteer Fire Company and the first official fire-fighting services for Glebe from 1877. The purpose-built fire station has significant associations with the Glebe Volunteer Fire Company from 1892 to 1908. The building and its inter-war addition are also significant for its association with manufacturing for the Automatic Screw Company during the 1950s, which likely supported the construction, automotive and other industries.
The building represents a good example of a small-scale fire station designed in the Victorian free classical architectural style with an integrated inter-war industrial addition. The symmetrical façade of the Victorian fire station, its classical pediment, colosseum motif, parapet concealing the roof structure, moulded cornice, multi-paned timber fanlights, arched openings with keystones between fluted pilasters and classical motifs decorating the skyline of the parapet wall demonstrate characteristic features of the Victorian free-classical architectural style.

The addition from the inter-war period exhibits typical characteristics of this architectural period including its simple geometric massing, parapet wall, saw tooth roof, multi-paned timber windows and rectangular fanlight and restrained ornamentation of simple wall surfaces through relief brickwork panels and bullnosed detailing.

With its Victorian and inter-war features, classical architectural motifs, distinctive parapet and sawtooth roof forms applied in a concentrated manner to a modestly-scaled infill building, the building forms a distinctive feature within the predominantly residential streets of Glebe. Its corner position makes the building visible from a number of near and distant vantage points. The building makes an important contribution to the dual streetscapes of Mitchell Street and Campbell Lane.

Social assessment requires further study to ascertain its value for the local community. The building may hold significance to the community of former fire fighters involved in the Glebe Volunteer Fire Brigade, former workers of the Automatic Screw Company, and local residents who use the building in its more recent function as a community hall.

The building represents a good example of a Victorian fire station designed in the free classical architectural style and inter-war industrial addition.

Intactness/Integrity: Externally intact
Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street  Glebe 2037  Sydney

Parcels:

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Location validity: 
Spatial accuracy:

Map name: 
Map scale:

AMG zone: 

Easting: 
Northing:

Listing: 

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</table>
Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street  Glebe 2037  Sydney

Image:

Caption: Front facade of the former fire station and inter-war industrial addition on Mitchell Street

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: City Plan Heritage

Image date: 15/11/2013

Image number:


Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street, Glebe 2037, Sydney

Caption: Campbell lane elevation showing the side profile of the inter-war addition

Copy right: City of Sydney

Image by: Claudine Loffi

Image date: 17/03/2014

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/34582e69f1a66934e1eafc8e942450e8e6f.JPG

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Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street  Glebe 2037

Image:

Caption: Glebe Volunteer Fire Brigade photographed in front of the fire station in c1896-1898

Copy right: Unknown

Image by: Max Solling, The History of Glebe, p.109, 1896-1898)

Image date: 01/01/1898

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3454eb39097d8ae4bfaab1c8e6bbfef3fc5.jpg

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Date: 21/05/2015

Full report
Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street Glebe 2037 Sydney

Image: [Image]

Caption: The building in the 1970s with the former vehicular opening in the position of the recessed panel

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: SRC23928 Bernard Smith

Image date:

Image number:


Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street Glebe 2037

Image:

Caption: South-east and north-east elevations in 2005

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: Maureen Sharpe, Mark Stevens Collection, 050/050231

Image date: 17/03/2005

Image number:

Image url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/34579c60c84a0ad4960805f660cab7420c5.jpg

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Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street  Glebe 2037  Sydney

Image:

Caption: 1889 plan of Glebe showing the subject site, circled, before construction of the subject building

Copy right: State Library of New South Wales

Image by: City of Sydney Section Detail Sheets, Surveyor General's Office Sydney N.S.W

Image date: 01/01/1889

Image number:


Item name: Former Glebe Volunteer Fire Station including interiors

Location: 113 Mitchell Street  Glebe 2037

Image: [Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3459f529c7a83584377b9656addfccb36bb.jpg)

Caption: 1949 aerial photograph showing the subject building circled

Copy right: City of Sydney Archives

Image by: City of Sydney

Image date: 15/12/1949

Image number:

Image url: [Image](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3459f529c7a83584377b9656addfccb36bb.jpg)

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**Image:**

![1950 survey plan showing the former fire station site circled](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3457524bce2409a43c5a8317afcbe0a81d.jpg)

**Caption:** 1950 survey plan showing the former fire station site circled

**Copy right:** City of Sydney Archives

**Image by:** City Engineers Department, City of Sydney

**Image date:** 01/01/1950

**Image number:**

**Image url:** [Link](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/3457524bce2409a43c5a8317afcbe0a81d.jpg)

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