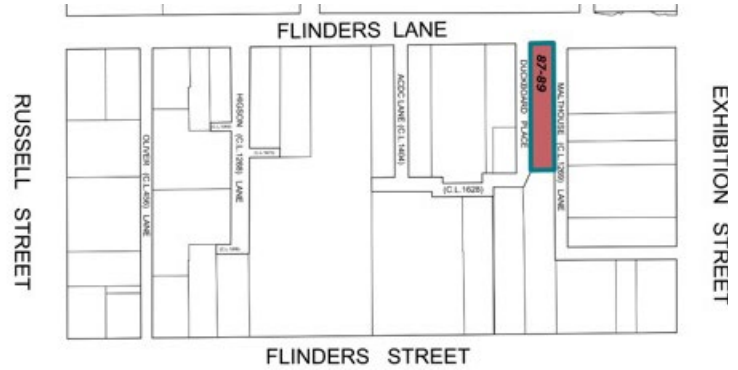


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE: Swiss Club of Victoria (87-89 Flinders Lane, Melbourne), April 2022

Heritage Place: Swiss Club of Victoria

PS ref no: HO1270



What is significant?

87-89 Flinders Street, now used by the Swiss Club of Victoria but built as a warehouse and manufacturing premises in 1906.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The building's original external form, materials and detailing

- The building's high level of integrity to its original design
- The pattern and size of fenestrations to its Flinders Lane façade (including ground level)
- The full height brick arches with deeply recessed timber framed windows
- Stucco capitals and arch mouldings
- Spandrel panels beneath windows
- Decorative horizontal spring course.

Later changes including the replacement of the ground floor glazing, the extension to the floor of two windows and additional windows added to the Malthouse Lane façade are not significant.

How it is significant?

87-89 Flinders Street is of local historic, representative and aesthetic significance to the City of Melbourne.

Why it is significant?

87-89 Flinders Lane, built in 1906, is historically significant for its association with clothing manufacturing in the City of Melbourne, particularly in the Flinders Lane area. The building is significant for its use as a factory and warehouse for clothing importers and manufacturers Britannia Tie Co and P C Warland Pty Ltd until 1921. Clothing manufacturing continued at the premises from 1922 with occupation by Parisian Mantle Manufacturers, J Sackville, and machinery indenters Dyer & Phillips. The building at 87-89 Flinders Lane is significant as an integral part of the important clothing and textile industry that was based around Flinders Lane and that provided an important source of employment for women in the city. (Criterion A)

87-89 Flinders Lane is fine early twentieth century warehouse and manufacturing premises; a building typology once common throughout the central city. It is also a fine example of the work of prominent commercial architects H W and F B Tompkins, a leading commercial firm who made a substantial contribution to the Melbourne city centre from the late 1890s to the 1950s. H W and F B Tompkins through their work for Myer, the Australian and Commercial Travellers Associations, and at Centreway Arcade, were the first architects in Melbourne to implement modern methods of steel frame construction and reinforced concrete in 1911. The building in Flinders Lane is a fine example of their American Romanesque style as applied to commercial buildings. (Criterion D)

Aesthetically, 87-89 Flinders Lane is significant as a three-storey urban form with both side elevations of red brick walls visible from the adjoining laneways. The façade has aesthetic significance for its three storey arches outlined in stucco mouldings and the deeply recessed windows with stucco spandrels to the upper two floors. (Criterion E)

Primary source

Hoddle Grid Heritage Review (Context & GJM Heritage, 2020) (updated March 2022)