Flinders Lane East Precinct

Statement of Significance

This precinct includes most of the buildings on the south side of Flinders Lane between Russell Street nearly to Spring Street. They were built from the 1850s to the 1930s, almost all for industrial or warehouse purposes. Some buildings are tall and architecturally pretentious examples of their period in Edwardian, 1920s Stripped Classical or Art Deco styles while others are smaller and simpler in design.

They vary in height, but are generally on narrow frontages with deep lots. They are all served by lanes to the side or the rear, or in the case of AC/DC lane, a loop. Like the rest of Flinders Lane, they were mostly built for or occupied by the rag trade in the first half of the 20th century. Built on an escarpment they are all taller at the rear than the front.

The precinct is significant as a largely intact tightly built up industrial strip, located just behind the highly desirable Collins Street hill, demonstrating the variety of functions that the central city once supported. The streetscape is varied, but includes many buildings of individual architectural importance. The ‘lanescapes’ are also notably intact, with continuous walls mostly in red-brick industrial styles. AC/DC Lane with Duckboard Place forms a rare loop lane, and Spark Lane features a collection of four storey walls all with tall timber escape stairs.
Pink indicated buildings with individual HO, blue those that will gain one with the C186 Amendment, and green buildings with a grading, or worthy of grading.