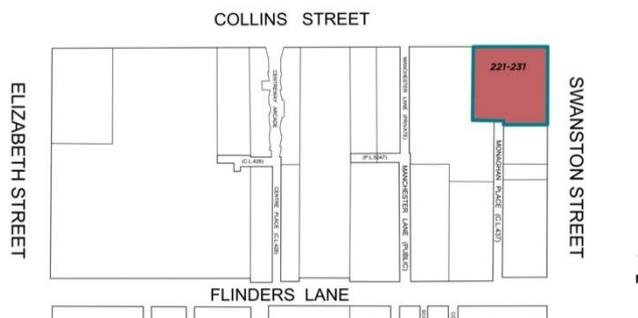


## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

**Heritage Place:** Wales Corner



**PS ref no:** HO1315



### What is significant?

Wales Corner, 221-231 Collins Street, a multi-storey office building constructed in 1964-66.

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.

Later alterations made to the street level facades are not significant.

### How it is significant?

Wales Corner at 221-231 Collins Street is of historical and representative significance to the City of Melbourne.

### Why it is significant?

Constructed in 1964-66 to a design by Stephenson & Turner, Wales Corner has a clear association with the postwar building boom which transformed central Melbourne into a modern high-rise city. The design of these commercial buildings from the late 1950s to the mid-1970s – many of which were architect designed – was driven by the commercial demands and the prestige afforded by a dominant city presence (Criterion A).

Wales Corner is a fine and highly intact representative example of a Post-War Modernist commercial building. The building strongly reflects the style which was popular in the 1960s to the mid 1970s, particularly in central Melbourne. Constructed as a 16-storey building on a prominent corner in Collins Street, Wales Corner clearly demonstrates typical characteristics of a 1960s to mid 1970s structure,

including a solid exterior of three grid-like glazed curtain wall facades containing alternating rows of glazing and solid spandrels, broad dividing mullions and fine horizontal members, a podium base and the use of materials such as metal spandrel cladding, aluminium framed windows and reconstructed stone facing. These demonstrate important aspects of the Post-War Modernist style (Criterion D).

**Primary source**

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Hoddle Grid Heritage Review (Context & GJM Heritage, 2020)