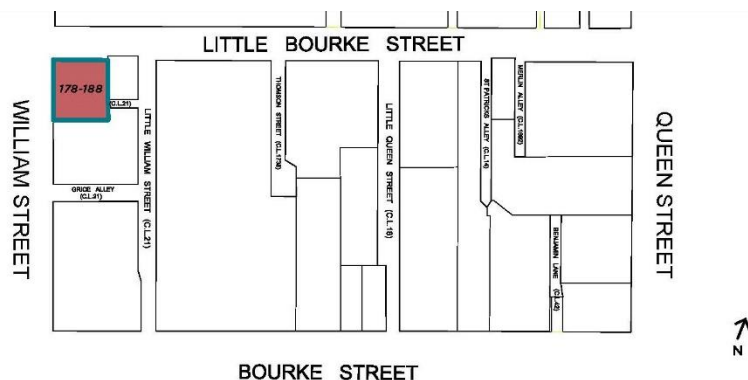


STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Heritage Place: Office building



PS ref no: HO1377



What is significant?

The office building at 178-188 William Street, a multi-storey office building constructed in 1972-73.

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 very high level of integrity to its original design.

How it is significant?

The office building at 178-188 William Street is of historical and representative significance to the City of Melbourne.

Why it is significant?

Constructed in 1972-73 to a design by McIntyre McIntyre & Partners, the office building at 178-188 William Street 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).

The office building at 178-188 William Street 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. The 11-storey building clearly demonstrates typical characteristics of a later postwar structure, including two grid-like walls of repetitive loadbearing precast concrete units, with distinctive sloped sills, which frame individual windows, as well as the use of materials such as precast concrete panels. These demonstrate important aspects of the Post-War Modernist style. The building remains very highly intact to clearly

demonstrates the principle characteristics of a Post-War Modernist commercial high-rise building (Criterion D).

Primary source

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