

## COOPS SHOT TOWER AND FLANKING BUILDING



COOPS SHOT TOWER AND  
FLANKING BUILDING SOHE  
2008



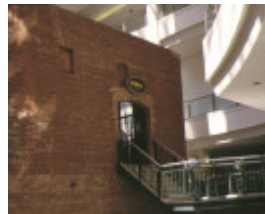
1 coops shot tower &  
flanking building knox place  
melb external view  
construction of melb central



coops shot tower &  
flanking building knox place  
melb front view



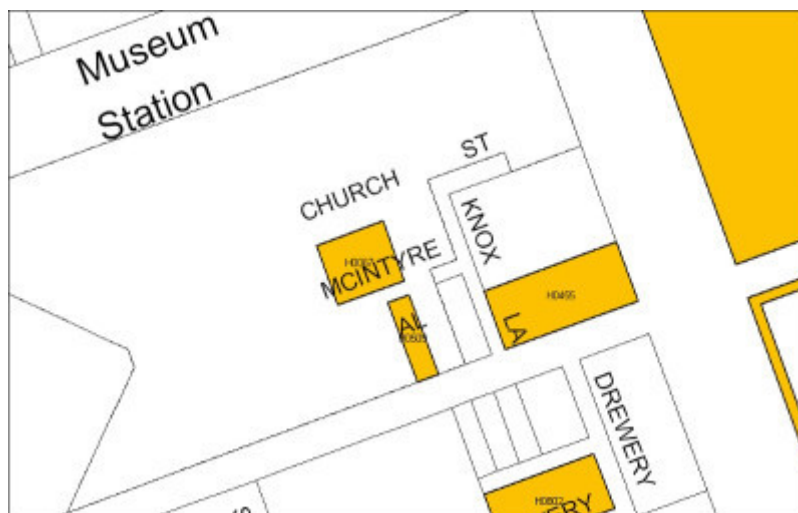
coops shot tower &  
flanking building knox place  
melb roof detail



coops shot tower &  
flanking building knox place  
melb side view



coops shot tower &  
flanking building knox place  
melbourne tower detail prior  
to erection of melbourne  
central



h00067 coops shot tower plan

KNOX PLACE MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

## **Municipality**

MELBOURNE CITY

## **Level of significance**

Registered

## **Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H0067

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO681

## **VHR Registration**

October 9, 1974

## **Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

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## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - November 15, 1999

What is significant?

Coop's Shot Tower and Flanking Building were erected in 1889-90 and consist of a two storey, three bay brick structure dominated by a fifty metre high castellated tower. The Tower was used for the manufacture of lead shot until closing in 1960. It remained unoccupied until being incorporated into the Melbourne Central shopping centre in the late 1980s-early 1990s.

How is it significant?

Coop's Shot Tower and Flanking Building are of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

Coop's Shot Tower and Flanking Building are of historical significance as evidence of an early industrial process, and for their association with the Coop family, who had extensive interests in shot manufacture and smelting, they owned both of the two remaining towers in Melbourne, the other being in Clifton Hill. The tower provides tangible evidence of the original process of lead shot production, a process now largely forgotten. Its form reflects the shot production process: the shot was produced by dropping molten lead through sieves at the top of the tower into water at the bottom. The height of the Tower was necessary to allow the shot to form into spheres before reaching the bottom. At the height of its productive life, the Tower was producing six tons of shot per week. Also manufactured in the associated buildings were a diverse range of lead products, including nails, washers, sheeting, tubes, pipes and solder for leadlighters and plumbers.

Coop's Shot Tower and Flanking Building are of historical significance as a reminder of the character of the 19th century city, in which residential, commercial and industrial uses existed in close proximity. There are now few remaining traces of central Melbourne's industrial past, giving the shot tower added importance.

Coop's Shot Tower and Flanking Building are of architectural significance as a fine example of a rare and distinctive building type and as a Melbourne landmark for more than a century. The Tower was one of the tallest buildings in Melbourne for many years, second only to the shot tower in Clifton Hill, and remained a significant Melbourne landmark long after its closure. The building is carefully massed with its campanile-style central tower above the two storey factory with fine arched openings.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

**Places of worship:** In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

**Subdivision/consolidation:** Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1889,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	768
Property Number	

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## History

Contextual History:History of Place:

Walter Coop, the owner of the Shot Tower, moved into Knox Place, then known as Little Church Street, in 1887. He was listed as the owner of three houses which he seems to have demolished to erect the shot tower and factory. The factory and tower were erected by 1890.

## Extent of Registration

*City of Melbourne. No. 67. Coop's Shot Tower and flanking building, 573-577 Knox Place, Melbourne.  
[Victoria Government Gazette No 100 Wednesday, October 9 1974 p.3647]*

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*