232 Trafalgar Street, Nelson

C ranked item on operative NRMP

DP 1740





[22 April 2024]

Group significance / contribution to streetscape. Part of Inner City Area historic character precinct. Age, style, design and history is of modest heritage value. 'High' local significance not supported by *Clark & Mueller's 2009* assessment statement.

Composite building on site by March 1928 (DP 1740); comprising a wooden building on the third fronting Trafalgar Street and a brick building on the remaining two-thirds fronting on to the right of way that is now part of Montgomery Square. Roofscape of current building suggests that pre-1928 brick building at rear of lot may still be extant, with 1928 masonry building overlooking Trafalgar Street having replaced earlier wooden structure.

Rear part of building may have been erected by JC Mercer bicycle manufacturers after 1904; front section was built by Page and Sons, furniture makers, in 1928. Tenders for improvements to the Trafalgar Street building were called by AR Griffin in March of that year, two months earlier a fire had destroyed Page and Sons' factory in Hardy Street.

Sold by Page and Sons in 1945, the year in which the company entered voluntary liquidation. Prior to the sale the building had been occupied by Page and Sons and CW Jones, a draper. Remains in commercial use, Whitcoulls having been a longstanding tenant.

Recommendation: do not schedule as individual heritage item; acknowledge contribution to historic character of Trafalgar Street.

26 May 2016 – updated 4 May 2023 [*Italicised text added 20 April 2024.*]

Assessment according to the heritage criteria:

Historic And Social Significance
The former Page and Sons building is not associated with a notable person or event and has some historic and social value as a demonstration of the early 20th century development of the city's central business district.

Cultural And Spiritual Significance
The former Page and Sons building has modest cultural value as a recognised character building in the central city.

Architectural And Aesthetic Significance
The former Page and Sons building has some architectural value as an example of local architect AR Griffin's interwar commercial style. The building is not a significant example of its style and the authenticity of its façade has been diminished by the modernisation of the shop fronts at the front and rear of the building.

Technological And Craftsmanship Significance
The former Page and Sons building has minor value under this criterion as an example of early 20th century masonry construction. The builder is unknown.

Archaeological Significance
The site of the building has potential archaeological significance given the colonial development of the central city in general and this site in particular.

Scientific Significance
The former Page and Sons building may have minor scientific value for its potential to provide further information about its original design and construction.

Group, Landmark And Contextual Significance
The former Page and Sons building has contextual value as a building that contributes to the established character of Trafalgar Street and the central city as a whole.

Summary Statement
The former Page and Sons building was built in two stages the early 20th century. The 1928 section fronting Trafalgar Street is an example of the commercial work of local architect AR Griffin. While it remains in commercial use and contributes to the established character and amenity of Trafalgar Street, the building has modest historic and architectural qualities.

Recommendation
Delete this item from Appendix 1 as it does not meet the heritage assessment criteria.

References:
M Clark & J Mueller 'Building Heritage Inventory' report for 232 Trafalgar Street, 2009.
Nelson Evening Mail 3 January 1901, p. 2; 14 February 1901, p. 2; 3 January 1928, p. 5; 10 March 1928, p. 1; 17 December 1928, p. 9; 15 May 1945, p. 4; 10 November 1945, p. 2; 12 December 1945, p. 2.
Press 27 July 1983, p. 32.
Historic street directories and certificates of title.

Review date: 20 April 2024