



Part of MacRobertson's chocolate factory
156 Rose Street, Fitzroy

Fitzroy has always had a mix of housing: gracious mansions and villas, bluestone terrace houses, Hawthorn-brick workers' cottages—its changing fortunes reflected in its urban diversity.

Today, inner-city living is becoming very popular and the face of Fitzroy continues to change.

Many older cottages have been demolished to make way for modern units and flats. However, the current trend to convert deserted factories and warehouses to stylish apartments has meant that these buildings have been saved from demolition.

Margot Huxley, Adjunct Professor from the Department of Social Science and Planning at RMIT takes us through some of the streets of Fitzroy, pointing out the various styles of buildings which are now 'home sweet home' to a diverse range of people.

Our group will visit one factory conversion, previously part of the MacRobertson's chocolate factory Kerr Street complex.

Conversions, Apartments & Flats

The Fitzroy History Society invites you to a social and architectural walk in Fitzroy led by Margot Huxley.

Sunday 11 October 1998

10:30 am

Meet at the Max Apartments (former Gloweave factory) at the corner of Brunswick and St David Streets. We will return there at approximately 12:30 pm.

\$2 members \$3 non-members

Eileen
Bill
Hooper
+son

Fitzroy History Society Inc. Newsletter

October 1998

August Meeting

The August meeting of the Fitzroy History Society was an enjoyable get-together incorporating the Annual General Meeting and a talk by conservation architect and landscape consultant Meredith Gould on the Royal Exhibition Building. After the formalities of the AGM Meredith spoke on the process involved in preparing the nomination of the building for World Heritage listing. The talk, liberally illustrated with slides, was both entertaining and informative. It was fascinating to see the sketches and photographs of other exhibition buildings (built between the 1850s and the 1900s in places such as London, Paris, Philadelphia, Vienna) and compare them with our Melbourne structure. A compelling reason for World Heritage listing is the fact that our building is the only major central exhibition hall (the Palace of Industry) remaining from this great period of international exhibitions.

Edinburgh Gardens

Interpretive plaques are soon to be installed on a number of sites in Edinburgh Gardens: the grandstand, the Queen Victoria plinth (minus Her Majesty) and the D. J. Chandler drinking fountain. The plaques are an initiative of the Friends of Edinburgh Gardens and have been funded by the Yarra City Council.

Membership

Everyone is welcome. Just send \$5 to the address overleaf. You will receive a brochure of the year's events plus a newsletter every two months.

Gertrude Street shops saved

Good to see that the two shop frontages at 26-28 Gertrude Street will be preserved. After submissions from the community (including the Fitzroy History Society) the Yarra City Council has amended the plans. The shop front windows will be restored or reconstructed and the first floor facades and west-facing wing wall will be retained.

Kits for sale

Some time ago the Fitzroy History Society published a classroom history kit - *Living in Fitzroy* - designed for local students to get to know the history of their suburb. The Society has a number of the kits for sale. If you'd like to buy one, send \$10 to the Fitzroy History Society Inc. PO Box 180 Fitzroy 3065.

Royal Society Conference

The Great Australian Dream of Life on the 1/4 Acre Block 1838-1998 is the rather impressive title of what should be a stimulating and fascinating exploration of life in the suburbs. It's on Sunday 25 October at 717 Flinders Street, Melbourne. The \$35 cost will also get you a classic Sunday roast lunch in the magnificent domed gymnasium of the Missions to Seamen building. For more details call the Royal Historical Society of Victoria on 9670 1219.

Our War Heritage

A program to make Australians aware of their war memorabilia has been launched by the Commonwealth Department of Veterans Affairs. Titled *Their Service-Our Heritage*, the program aims to help local communities preserve wartime artefacts, monuments and memories. Information and resource material is available from:

The Dept of Veteran Affairs
The Argus Centre
300 Latrobe Street, Melbourne
or call 9284 6000.

Heritage Guidelines

The City of Yarra has recently prepared a draft *Guidelines for Heritage Places*. The aim of the policy is to "guide the nature of development within conservation areas and on individual sites of local significance". It addresses residential, industrial and commercial heritage places and also provides guidance for archaeological sites.

The document is available for purchase from the Council.

Any ideas for '99?

The Committee is busy planning next year's program. If you have any ideas or suggestions for talks, walks or activities please let us know.

Coming Events

Sunday 11 October at 10:30 am

A social and architectural walk in Fitzroy looking at flats, apartments and factory conversions.

Friday 4 December at 7:00 pm

The Society's Annual Dinner will be held at the Standard Hotel, 293 Fitzroy Street, Fitzroy.

Researching?

Two texts to get you started, both available from the Fitzroy Library:

- An excellent reference book to give you a good background on Fitzroy is *Fitzroy: Melbourne's First Suburb*, a well-researched text which explores the suburb through a range of topics such as housing, transport, business, politics, ethnicity, slums and work. I believe it's out of print now but a visit to some of our second-hand shops may reveal a copy.

- Local historian Carole Woods has prepared a comprehensive guide for researchers: *Fitzroy: A descriptive bibliography*, making it easy to see what books, journals, articles and other published and unpublished archival material is available on Fitzroy history.

Executive Committee 1998-1999

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