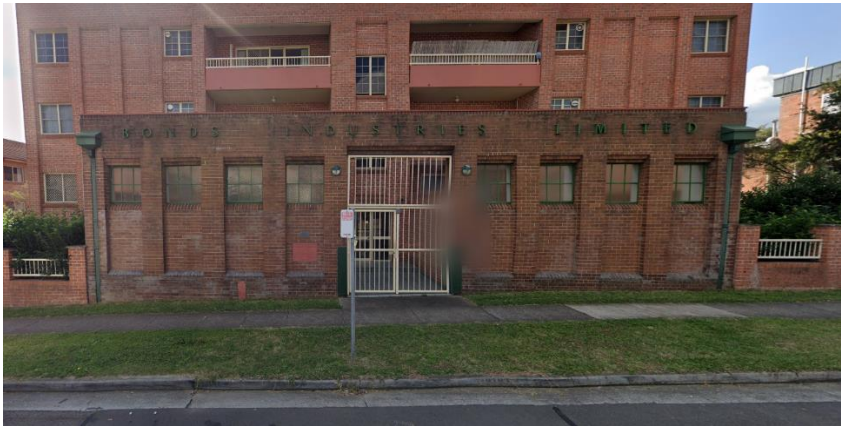


Heritage Inventory Sheet

Item Name	Former Bonds Bobbin Mill Facade		
Recommended Name	Former Bonds Bobbin Mill Facade		
Site Image			
Address	211-215 Dunmore Street, Pendle Hill NSW 2145		
Lot/Section/DP	65	-	881163
Current LEP ID	I228 (Cumberland LEP)		
Former LEP ID	I93 (Holroyd LEP)		
Heritage Conservation Area	Not included		
Date Updated	March 2020		
Significance Level	LOCAL		
Site Type	Level 1	Built	
	Level 2	Manufacturing and Processing	

Curtilage Map



Revised curtilage recommended – refer below

Statement of Significance

The Former Bonds Bobbin Mill Façade is of local significance for its historic, associative and rarity values. The façade is historically related to the cotton spinning operation at the Bonds factory site, located at 190–220 Dunmore Street. The building was an integral part of the operations of Bonds Factory, which manufactured the bobbins, cones and other wooden items used in the spinning process. The façade is an element of one of the original Bonds buildings and is now one of the few surviving industrial / manufacturing buildings of this period in the area.

Criteria Assessment

a) Historic	The façade is historically related to the cotton spinning operation at the Bonds Site, located at 190–220 Dunmore Street, being the place where bobbins, cones and other wooden items used in the spinning process were made.
b) Associative	The item is associated with the Bonds factory site located at 190–220 Dunmore Street.
c) Aesthetic/Technical	The item does not meet this criterion.
d) Social	The item does not meet this criterion.
e) Scientific	The item does not meet this criterion.
f) Rarity	The façade is an element of one of the original Bonds buildings and is now one of the few surviving industrial / manufacturing buildings of this period in the area.
g) Representativeness	The item does not meet this criterion.

Physical Description

The former Bond's Bobbin Mill includes the front façade of the former structure which has been incorporated into a brick residential apartment block. The façade is constructed of dark brick with expressed brick piers dividing the façade into eight bays with a central entrance. The central entrance consists of a coated steel gate with a stepped brick lintel. Each bay features a six-paned window with a metal frame and textured glass panes. The windows have sloped brick sills and stepped brick lintels. The upper façade reads 'Bonds Industries Limited' with a single string course of expressed brick, capped with a coloured concrete strip. The lower façade features a plaque that reads 'Wormald Brothers Grinnell Sprinkler Stop Valve Inside'. Each end of the façade features a recessed drain with a covered hood.

The façade has been incorporated into a three-storey residential apartment block, built c.1997. The apartment is constructed of brick and has made a conscious effort to follow the form of the façade with the use of expressed brick piers and fenestration of a similar scale. There are steel inserts supporting to Bobbin Mill façade which operates as an entrance to this residential complex.

The façade is framed either side with a fence. The fence consists of brick piers capped with concrete with a low brick balustrade topped with steel ladder inserts. Behind each fence is an informal hedge.

Overall, the condition of the item is fair. The brickwork appears to show some signs of salt attack.

Condition	Good	Fair	Poor
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Alterations and Additions

- Entire factory demolished in c.1997, construction of new residential development*
- Front façade retained and incorporated into residential development
- New entrance gate
- New landscaping

Although the immediate landscape Former Bobbin Mill is highly modified, the item retains a moderate level of integrity for its relationship to the Bonds Factory site and level of intact fabric retained on the front façade.

Integrity	High	Moderate	Low
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* element detracts from the overall cultural significance of the place

Historical Notes

Construction years	c.1939-1941
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Bonds Site

The following history of the Bonds Site has been summarised from the CMP prepared by Musecape, Orwell and Peter Phillips Architects, Roslyn Burge and Meredith Hutton:

In 1819 D'Arcy Wentworth, brother of William Charles Wentworth was given a Crown Grant of 2,200 acres west of Parramatta including the future site of "Dunmore" and the Bonds factory. By 1883 part of the Wentworth land known as the 'Wentworthville Estate' was owned by William Charles Wentworth's fourth child, Fitzwilliam Wentworth. In that year he sold 8 acres to William McMillan, then a Sydney merchant and a partner in A McArthur and Co., importers and warehousemen.

On 5 February 1884 William McMillan mortgaged his property at Wentworthville to secure a loan for the construction of 'Dunmore' and on 18 August he purchased the adjacent major portion of the property, with the remaining 27 acres of the Dunmore property purchased in July the following year. The railway station was renamed Wentworthville.

In 1886, a Sydney Morning Herald article indicated the development of the township of Wentworthville, advertising the sale of land allotments as part of a 500-acre picturesque estate (a portion of the D'Arcy

Wentworth 2200-acre grant). The following year William McMillan was elected to the NSW Legislative Assembly for the electorate of East Sydney. He divorced his wife Ada Charlotte and moved out of 'Dunmore'. By 1889 he was Colonial Treasurer of NSW.

In 1906 American George Alan Bond was operating a small trading firm in New Jersey when he decided to emigrate to Australia. Thirty years old at this stage, Bond had been born on 22 May 1876 at Louisville, Kentucky, USA, to George Henry Bond, a Scottish horticulturist and his wife Jane, née Redman. In 1915 he established a small hosiery and glove importing business, called George A Bond & Co. on the fourth floor of Aberdeen House, Clarence Street, Sydney and around December that year he moved his business to Pomeroy House in York Street, Sydney, taking over a whole floor for sales showrooms and a warehouse.

The First World War had started in 1914 and by 1917 shortages in the supply of locally produced clothing prompted Bond to go into manufacturing, establishing his first hosiery plant at Redfern. At this stage he was producing only black, white and tan cotton hosiery, not yet lisle and was possibly using imported art silk yarn.

In 1918 George Bond retained Pomeroy House for showrooms, and commenced underwear manufacturing in premises at Mallett Street, Camperdown. His warehouse was moved to a large shop at the corner of Parramatta Road and Mallett Street. Goods were dispatched from Camperdown until larger premises became available. During these early years, men's cotton athletics were manufactured under the name of Bonds Athletics.

With the enterprise now flourishing, Bonds became a public company, George. A. Bond & Co Ltd, with an issued capital of about £200,000 and Bond as Managing Director. George Bond became an Australian citizen in 1922. Between 1921 and 1923 all Bonds facilities had been consolidated at Camperdown where the well-known Sydney-based architectural firm of Robertson & Marks Designed an additional four floors of the premises. In 1922 the same firm was commissioned to design new factory premises at Wentworthville.

In 1923 Bond established Australia's first cotton spinning and weaving operation on his property at Wentworthville. George Bond resided in the grand Victorian mansion known as 'Dunmore' at 222-266 Dunmore Street, Wentworthville. Bonds cotton spinning and weaving operation was the first in the Southern Hemisphere and commenced the manufacture of lisle stockings from Australian cotton. Bond persuaded the railway authorities to build a platform on the western railway line so his employees would be within easy walking distance of the Pendle Hill station, which opened on 12 April 1924.

When construction of the Bonds factory started, the area was still semi-rural, with remnant stands of native woodland and only limited residential development, mostly around the railway stations. By the 1930s the factory occupied a considerable area and residential development had expanded nearby.

By 1925, Bonds were producing about a quarter of the total Australian output of hosiery and knitted goods. From 1926 Bonds received a bounty for manufacturing yarn from local cotton and George Bond formed a subsidiary company, George A Bond Cotton Mills Ltd. By the following year, the company was spinning cotton, throwing silk and manufacturing full fashioned hosiery, half hose, knitted underwear and woven towels and was described by The Bulletin as being the largest hosiery manufacturer in the British Empire. At this time the company employed some 2,600 people and had assets valued at £1,582,000.

The Great Depression was looming and in 1929 George A Bond & Co. went into liquidation, a victim of the impending downturn in world trade and United Kingdom import policies. In August that year Bond's Industries Ltd was formed after offers were made by a group of creditors to the liquidators of George. A. Bond & Co. and George. A. Bond Cotton Mills. The new company was listed on the NSW and Sydney Stock Exchange on 27 February 1930, with paid up capital of £171,009. The loss involved in the liquidation was probably the largest suffered by a manufacturing company to that date – all the share capital to the value of £700,000 had to be written off. George Bond was forced to sell "Dunmore" at a low price to an organisation operated by the Churches of Christ.

A satisfactory turnover was achieved in 1930 even though prices of commodities were reduced due to the Depression which continued into the late 1930s, forcing other states to cut prices, making it impossible for Bonds to retain a margin of profit. In April 1931 George Bond was declared bankrupt. Bond's Industries purchased Ladderproof Textiles Ltd and by this time had 3,000 employees.

Severe competition in 1932 forced further reduction in prices, offsetting losses and major changes were made to merchandising policies. Bonds Industries by now were producing 7,000 garments per hour, using 5 million pounds of cotton annually, including 70% of the Queensland crop. Bonds machinery then covered a total of 10 acres (4 hectares) at Wentworthville although company records do not indicate the locations for this machinery.

There was a heavy operating loss in 1934, largely due to stock write-downs. The cotton spinning industry was brought under Federal awards. A small net loss was incurred, mainly due to a falling market and reorganisation of the company's manufacturing and distribution methods. Hungerford, Spooner & Co were appointed auditors and W H 'Hermon' Slade became Chairman of the Board.

The effects of the Great Depression had begun to wane in 1934 and although sales volume declined, progress was achieved through cleaning up of stock and reduction of manufacturing and trading losses. A meeting of debenture holders was held to discuss temporary alleviation of the annual debenture interest charge. Bonds Industries returned to profitability in 1935 and arrangements were made with the Australian Investment Trust Ltd for the liquidation of its indebtedness for calls on shares. George Bond was discharged from bankruptcy in April 1935 and became manager of a small hosiery firm at Summer Hill, Jeanette Manufacturing Co., founded by his wife in 1928.

In 1939, Bond's iconic company identity came into being with the creation of Chesty Bond as part of a merchandising campaign to sell men's underwear, and the singlet in particular. The character was a co-creation of cartoonist Syd Miller and Ted Maloney, the Bond's account executive at advertising agency, J. Walter Thompson.

Bonds continued to expand throughout the 1940s with mills established in Rosebery and Five Dock to supplement the Wentworthville Mill. In 1952 a trade recession occurred, and Bonds was unable to pass on to its customers the higher costs incurred for raw materials, labour and other expenses. There was a reduction in output at Camperdown, Dubbo and Wentworthville due to reduced market demand, partly caused by the inability of manufacturers and retailers to finance purchases. A reduction in overseas and local prices of raw materials necessitated the writing down of stocks to market value. There was a reduction in output at the Wentworthville mill.

In 1960 a new extension to the Wentworthville mill was opened and alterations to the Five Dock plant were under construction. By 1967 employees of the Bonds group numbered 4,070. Sales of apparel rose substantially in 1968 and there were big improvements to warehouse and dispatch facilities which helped in the servicing of customers' orders. Bonds products at this stage were more than 90% cotton and trading was affected by increased cotton prices, higher labour costs, wage increases and additional costs associated with the establishment of the Lithgow Production Unit.

Bonds was taken over by Pacific Dunlop in June 1987 and company name changed to Bonds Industries Ltd. The Wentworthville site continues to operate, and the company continues to acquire various hosiery companies. In 2009, Pacific Brands announces it will lay off 1,850 staff and close most manufacturing sites in Australia, claiming they are no longer economically viable. The company announces it will move manufacturing operations to China.

In 2010 Pacific Brands cuts 1850 jobs and ceases manufacturing in Australia by September to reduce manufacturing costs. After public outrage and media coverage of the sacked staff a group of former employees band together to form Tuffys & Tuffetts underwear, buying some of Bonds old equipment and rehiring sacked staff. The site was sold to Rainbow Force Pty Ltd in 2012. The site remains unused and unoccupied.

Former Bobbin Mill

Directly across Dunmore Street from the Bonds factory is the site of the former bobbin mill, where bobbins, cones and other wooden items used in the spinning process were made. In 1941, it was reported in the Sydney Morning Herald that due to the improved profit brought by a larger turnover of products, Bonds Industries was carrying large stocks of imported raw cotton and other materials. It was found necessary to begin the manufacture of cotton reels, bobbins, spools and other wooden articles required in the mills, in house. This enabled the company to deliver products without interruption. The Bond's Bobbin Mill made bobbins for the spinning mills and also cotton reels for domestic use. Orders for Bonds were wheeled by trolley across the road to the main factory. The bobbin mill closed in 1978.

This building was later converted to a bicycle store at a time when the company's products included Malvern Star bikes. It was demolished in the 1997 to make way for an apartment building. Part of the brick facade was retained, and the building's former use is interpreted on a small metal plaque affixed to the wall. The area is now rezoned from light industrial to medium to high density residential.

Recommendations

Heritage Management		Existing Built and Landscape Elements		Future Development and Planning	
1. Maintain this item's heritage listing on the LEP.	X	6. Original fabric is highly significant and should be maintained.	X	12. Alterations and additions should respond to the existing pattern of development, with careful consideration of the setting (form, scale, bulk, setback and height).	
2. Maintain this item's listing as part of the Heritage Conservation Area.		7. Unsympathetic alterations that detract from the cultural significance of the item should be removed.		13. New alterations and additions should respect the historic aesthetic/character of the item and area (e.g. paint scheme, materiality, style, landscape elements).	
3. Consider delisting as an individual item from the LEP.		8. Maintain heritage landscape elements and schemes.		14. Future uses for this item should be compatible with its historical functions/associations.	
4. Consider additional research to nominate this item for the State Heritage Register.		9. Maintain the existing setting of the heritage item, informed by the historic pattern of neighbouring development (form, scale, bulk, setback and height).	X		
5. The heritage curtilage for this item should be revised/reduced.	X	10. Maintain the historic aesthetic/character of the item and area (e.g. paint scheme, materiality, style, landscape elements).	X		
		11. The condition of this item is poor. Condition and maintenance should be monitored.			

Other recommendations and/or comments:

- Due to the modern residential development to the rear of the façade the curtilage shown below should be considered as a revised curtilage for the 'Former Bobbin Mill Façade' in the Cumberland LEP. Should the revised curtilage be adopted, this listing sheet does not reflect the current Lot/DP which will need to be altered.



Listings		
Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number
Heritage Act – State Heritage Register	N/A	-
Local Environmental Plan	Former Bonds Bobbin Mill Façade	I228
Heritage Study	Former Bonds Bobbin Mill Façade	I228
National Trust Australia Register	N/A	-

Previous Studies			
Type	Author	Year	Title
Heritage Study	Extent Heritage Pty Ltd	2019	Cumberland LGA Heritage Study
Heritage Study	Graham Brooks & Associates	1998	Holroyd Heritage Study
Heritage Study	Nuestein & Associates	1992	Holroyd Heritage Study

Other References

- Karskens, G. 1991. *Holroyd - A Social History of Western Sydney*. Sydney: University NSW Press
- Musecape, Orwell and Peter Phillips Architects, Roslyn Burge and Meredith Hutton. 2016. *Bonds Factory Site, Dunmore Road Wentworthville Conservation Management Plan*. Prepared for JST (NSW) Pty Ltd.

Limitations

1. Access to all heritage items was limited to a visual inspection from the public domain. The interiors of buildings and inaccessible areas such as rear gardens were not assessed as part of this heritage study.
2. Condition and site modification assessment was limited to a visual inspection undertaken from the public domain.
3. Unless additional research was required, historical research for all heritage items was based on an assessment of previous LGA heritage studies, the Thematic History (prepared by Extent Heritage, 2019) and existing information in former heritage listing sheets.

Additional Images



View of façade from Dunmore Street.



View of façade from Dunmore Street.



Plaque on façade.



Detail of façade.



Detail of façade and gate.



Detail showing plaques affixed to façade.