

Wylde Street Apartments

Address 17 Wylde Street, Potts Point, NSW, 2011

Practice Aaron M Bolot

Designed 1948 Completed 1951

History & Description Designed in 1948 and completed in late 1951 due to shortages in building materials, this apartment building was one of the largest buildings of any type to be constructed in the inner city area of Sydney following the Second World War. Wylde Street Apartments was built for a company called Urban Co-operative Multi-Home Units as an early effort to build apartments for owner-occupancy. It is a nine-storey concrete framed residential building planned so that each of the rendered brick apartments, with its horizontal steel framed ribbon windows have an outlook to the north facing view. Street entry is located at the centre of the plan. This gives access to two separately located lifts and fire stairs. Apartments within the building are paired and serviced by one of two service cores. The typical floor plan consists of the principal rooms with a northerly aspect. The service cores and the kitchen and bathroom to each apartment are located to the rear of the building overlooking the rear court. All rooms have access to natural daylight and are naturally ventilated.

Statement of Significance Wylde Street Apartments is an important work of Aaron M. Bolot and an example of Modern International aesthetics and rationalised apartment planning. It is significant as an example of the way Modern continental aesthetics had an influence on Sydney's non-speculative property market. It is important for its ability to reveal Council's acceptance, as well as the property market's confidence, in accepting Modernist ideals and aesthetics. It is significant as a prestige residential flat building – originally designed as tenant owned flats within fashionable Potts Point and it has remained largely in good condition.

Criteria Applicable **N1.** Significant heritage value in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or period of design
N2. Significant heritage value in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics
N6. Significant heritage value in demonstrating a high degree of technical achievement of a particular period



Exterior front view (Source: *Building and Engineering* (September 1951))



Entrance porch (Source: *Architecture* (January-March 1952))



Typical living-dining room (Source: *Architecture* (January-March 1952))