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Future History

Kingsway, Glen Waverley has changed enormously in the past half-century and it can be presumed that significant changes will be noticeable in the next half-century. When The Glen Shopping Centre was built, it was thought by some in the community that Kingsway would 'die' and become a staid backwater in Glen Waverley. The opposite has happened. With restaurants, theatres and nightlife, it is a vibrant and busy neighbourhood and more expansion and progress is planned in the future.

To press this thought further, a major residential development is taking place on the site of the two-storey railway buildings, adjacent to the Glen Waverley station. It is difficult to stress the importance of this new project, in terms of what it will mean for future expansion in the City of Monash. Known as the **Ikon Development** it will tower 10 stories over Kingsway, have 116 one- and two-bedroom apartments, nine office spaces and 14 ground floor retail outlets. The pointers to the future indicate that this may just be the tip of the multi-storey development iceberg for Melbourne's eastern suburbs and Monash in particular. In a climate where similar large-scale multi-storey

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structions have been quashed by local protests, this one got through! How? It would seem that because it was exclusively marketed and 100% sold in China, it might have sneaked under the guard of any potential local protest groups. The apartments were initially priced at between AU\$335,000 and AU\$700,000. In any case, it IS going ahead.

Like it or not – it is progress. I believe that because of the significance of this building and what it may mean for our future, we have an opportunity to document the entire building process – ‘future history’ – I call it. By keeping photographic records,

photographs and records were available of specific local site, to document for history?

With this in mind, I have taken the opportunity to embark on completing a record of development of this site/project from start to finish. This includes collecting all available relevant documentation and photographing at various time intervals. I have chosen 8 ‘photo points’ around the site and I am continuing to take pictures as demolition and construction moves forward. When complete, the package will be presented to WHS for inclusion in the files.

Earlier in the year, demolition of the old railway buildings was temporarily halted. This appears to be because of a minor building



Photos: Jeffrey Turnbull

documents and memorabilia of the building process right now, we will have a record; the significance of which may not be recognised for many decades to come. How often in the past, have we wished that more



and scaffolding collapse of the south wall onto Coleman Parade on 27 April last. I can only guess that WorkSafe have been involved. By coincidence, I was in my car in Coleman Parade on the day, perhaps five cars back from the corner and witnessed the wall tumble down in a cloud of dust. It was apparent that nobody was injured and no property damaged. I quickly grabbed a camera and returned to the corner to take photographs. It is presumed that before long, the tower will begin to rise over Glen Waverley, signalling a new era for us. I think that to keep records of this – now is a significant contribution to the continuing story of the City of Monash. I will keep you posted although, very soon, you won't be able to miss it!

Jeffrey Turnbull