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# National Bank & Chambers



53 Malop Street, Geelong

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## Location

53 Malop Street, GEELONG VIC 3220 - Property No 215194

## Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO991

## Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

B Listed - Regional Significance

Significance

Historically, a major public building over a 60 year period and an indication of the growth and consolidation of banking companies after World War One and, particularly, the Great Depression. Architecturally, one of a rare breed in Geelong of the large early 20th century commercial buildings, also seen in Melbourne in greater

numbers and larger scale. With its relatively larger scale, goes the amplification of the prevailing, Greek Revival Style into Geelong's best (and only example at this scale).

## References

CTHE open 27.1.28; RB 1927, 373; RB 1928, 378f.

Geelong Advertiser 28/1/28

MUAI

Trethowan 'Banks in Victoria'

D 1930-61

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Geelong - Geelong City Urban Conservation Study, Volumes 2-5, Graeme Butler, 1991;
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	19434
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

### Description

Greek Revival in detail, the bold rounded corner form is also typical of many 19th century Renaissance revival examples. This bank differs in the simplification or reinterpretation of period detailing and fenestration, as demanded by greater daylight penetration. Upper windows are vertical slots, with paneled spandrels lower level windows fill the Ionic pilastrade with multipane metal framed glazing. The main chamber is typically near double-height, to achieve the monumentality inherent in the style. Stone and cement-render are blended skillfully to achieve a convincing classical character and the saltire-cross, used in balustrading and window mullions, hint at the Greek sources.

### External Integrity

Generally original, added signs.

### Streetscape

Opposite National Mutual Life (c1924), the altered former Solomons Department Store 1914, Colonial Mutual Chambers 1927 and formerly across from the old Commonwealth Bank and Victoria Hotel both sites (both demolished), this bank was once part of a visually cohesive group of some of the town's most prestigious commercial buildings. Today it relates closely to the CML and NML Buildings and other landmark corner sites such as the T & G Building (1932) and Bank of New South Wales (1938).

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*