

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 24/03/18

HERITAGE
COUNCIL
VICTORIA
HERITAGE
COUNCIL
VICTORIA

FORMER GEELONG GRAMMAR SCHOOL



FORMER GEELONG GRAMMAR
SCHOOL SOHE 2008



FORMER GEELONG GRAMMAR
SCHOOL SOHE 2008



1 ormer geelong grammar school
geelong front view



former geelong grammar school maud
street geelong front and grounds



former geelong grammar school maud
street geelong front stairs



former geelong grammar school maud
street geelong side view

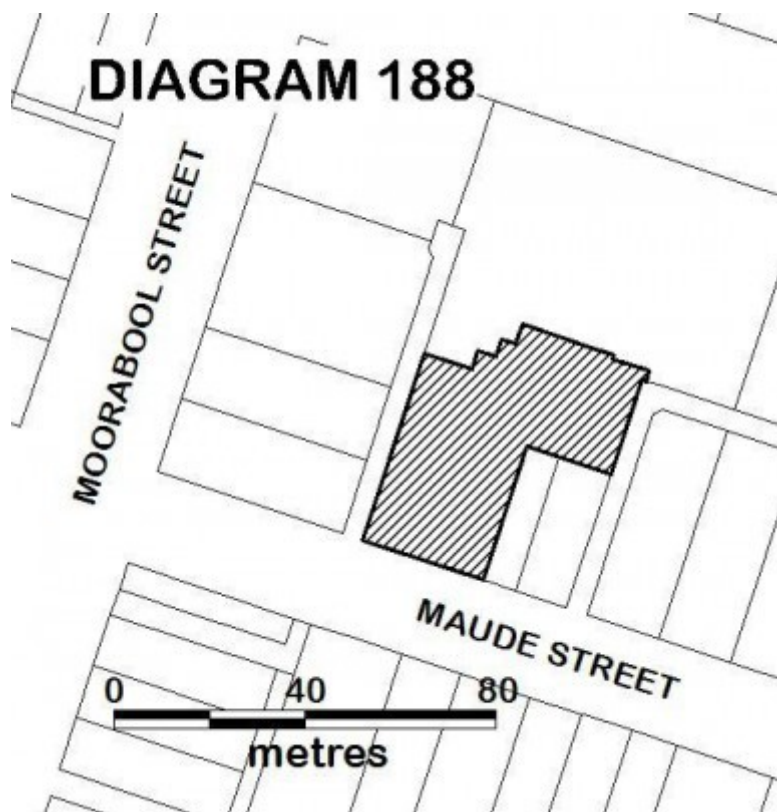


Diagram 188.JPG

Location

55 MAUD STREET GEELONG, Greater Geelong City

Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0188

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO12

VHR Registration

October 9, 1974

Amendment to Registration

October 8, 2015

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 11, 2004

What is significant?

The former Geelong Grammar School was built in Maud Street in 1857-58 to designs by architects, Backhouse and Reynolds. Their commission was the result of a competition for the design of a school for 525 pupils and a master's residence. The foundation stone was laid in June 1857 by the Governor of Victoria, Sir Henry Barkly, with the Bishop of Melbourne and the Archdeacon of Geelong in attendance, and the school, built with four wings around a quadrangle, opened a year later.

In 1860 the school was forced into bankruptcy and closed, however it was reopened in 1863 with the aid of a new group of trustees and the support of a number of influential Western District squatters. Such well known families as Armytage, Chirnside and Manifold were associated with the school from this time. By the 1870s boarding played a significant role at the school and despite the depression causing a decline in student numbers in the 1890s, numbers of students soon increased again.

Some alterations and additions were undertaken from 1906-1909, including a single storey extension to the north wing. In 1911 the School Council decided to move the school to a new 400 acre site at Corio, north of Geelong. Following the move to the site in 1914, the Maud Street building was purchased by the Geelong City Council, for possible use as a town hall, however the war intervened and much of the surrounding land was subsequently subdivided and sold. The west entrance wing was demolished in 1916 and the north wing became a factory that incorporated most of the quadrangle. The south and east wings were converted into a guest house, Dysart, and were converted again in 1961 into a Reformed Theological College. In 1960 the north wing was demolished.

The school was built in a quadrangular form, with three two storey wings and a small single storey wing placed around a courtyard. Designed in the Tudor Gothic style, the building was of rendered bluestone, with steep slate roofs and an original entrance wing with turretted tower on the west side. The south and east wings of the original building are the only remnants of this school, the former originally containing the principal's residence and the latter the service wing. Despite the demolition of the main west facade, the remaining south wing is illustrative of the style of the original quadrangular building. It retains the steep roof gables, decorated barges, attic dormers, rectangular window openings and contrasting quoined corners.

How is it significant?

The former Geelong Grammar School is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The former Geelong Grammar School is of architectural significance as an important and substantial work of the Geelong architectural firm, Backhouse and Reynolds. Although a portion of the building has been demolished, the remaining section is illustrative of the original school. The use of the Gothic style, particularly in the quadrangle form, shows connections to prestigious British colleges.

The former Geelong Grammar School is of historical significance due to its association with the foundation of one of Victoria's major private schools and its association with the early development of education in Geelong. [Online Data Upgrade Project 2004]

Permit Exemptions

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component.

General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Construction dates	1857,
Architect/Designer	Backhouse & Reynolds,
Heritage Act Categories	Heritage place,
Other Names	DYSART PRIVATE HOTEL,
Hermes Number	533
Property Number	

History

The former Geelong Grammar School was built in Maud Street in 1857-58 to designs by architects, Backhouse and Reynolds. Their commission was the result of a competition for the design of a school for 525 pupils and a master's residence. The foundation stone was laid in June 1857 by the Governor of Victoria, Sir Henry Barkly, with the Bishop of Melbourne and the Archdeacon of Geelong in attendance, and the school, built with four wings around a quadrangle, opened a year later.

In 1860 the school was forced into bankruptcy and closed, however it was reopened in 1863 with the aid of a new group of trustees and the support of a number of influential Western District squatters. Such well known families as Armytage, Chirnside and Manifold were associated with the school from this time. By the 1870s boarding played a significant role at the school and despite the depression causing a decline in student numbers in the 1890s, numbers of students soon increased again.

Some alterations and additions were undertaken from 1906-1909, including a single storey extension to the north wing. In 1911 the School Council decided to move the school to a new 400 acre site at Corio, north of Geelong. Following the move to the site in 1914, the Maud Street building was purchased by the Geelong City Council, for possible use as a town hall, however the war intervened and much of the surrounding land was subsequently subdivided and sold. The west entrance wing was demolished in 1916 and the north wing became a factory that incorporated most of the quadrangle. The south and east wings were converted into a guest house, Dysart, and were converted again in 1961 into a Reformed Theological College. In 1960 the north wing was demolished.

The draft statement of significance and the above history were produced as part of an Online Data Upgrade Project 2004. Sources were as follows:

- C. Kellaway. Research into Old Geelong Grammar School, Geelong, for National Trust of Australia (Victoria)
- A. Willingham. *Geelong Region. Historic Buildings and Objects Study.* 1986
- D. Wild. *Tale of a City. Geelong 1850-1950.* Melbourne 1950

Extent of Registration

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the **Heritage Act 1995**, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by modifying the following places in the Heritage Register:

Number: H0188
Category: Heritage Place
Place: Former Geelong Grammar School
55 Maud Street
Geelong
Greater Geelong City

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 188 encompassing all of Lots 1 to 5 on Title Plan 873299.

Dated 7 October 2015
TIM SMITH
Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* G40 8 October 2015 p.2142]

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 1995. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place data owner.

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