
Royal Hotel, 60 Napier Street, ST ARNAUD



SD 155a - Royal Hotel, 60
Napier Street, ST ARNAUD



SD 155b - Early Photo prior
to erection of verandah.
Photo from St. Arnaud, A
Pictorial Journey.

Location

60 Napier Street ST ARNAUD, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 18, 2004

The Royal Hotel, 60 Napier Street, St. Arnaud, contributes to the architectural amenity of the predominantly Victorian and Federation streetscape. Built in 1873 for Solomon Cox, this hotel subsequently experienced several owners and proprietors. It has significance as one of the 19th century extant hotels constructed in St. Arnaud, although the removal of the ogee form verandah, painting over the brick wall construction and the alteration to the first floor windows has substantially impacted the intactness of the place.

Although altered, the Royal Hotel is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates some original rudimentary Victorian design qualities. These qualities include the two storey composition with a simple parapet having projecting brick courses that form a large title and date panel, with three original, incised rectangular

panels that read: "Royal Hotel, 1874, Royal Hotel". Other intact qualities include the brick wall construction (albeit inappropriately painted), chamfered building corner, segmentally arched ground floor window and door openings, timber framed double hung ground floor windows with decorative leadlighting, and the ground floor window voussoirs.

The Royal Hotel is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the development of a hotel business by Solomon Cox, emigrant of Wilshire, England, in 1873. Cox and his family operated and lived at the Royal Hotel until 1881, when it was sold to C.E. Beggs. The hotel is also associated with a succession of subsequent owners.

The Royal Hotel is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised and valued by the St. Arnaud community as a local meeting place for social interaction.

Overall, the Royal Hotel is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Hermes Number	111560
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Although altered, the Royal Hotel, 60 Napier Street, St. Arnaud, contributes to the architectural and visual amenity of the predominantly Victorian and Federation streetscape.

The two storey, brick (with introduced paint), rudimentary Victorian hotel building is characterised by an original, simple parapet with projecting brick courses forming a large title and date panel which has three original, incised rectangular panels that read: "Royal Hotel, 1874, Royal Hotel". Another significant original feature of the design is the chamfered corner, which allows the building to prominently address the site. The ground floor features introduced glazed tile wall dados and early segmentally arched window and door openings. The timber framed double hung windows appear to be early, as do the decorative leadlighting. The doors are recent. The first floor consists of a series of substantially altered window openings (that were originally more elongated), with introduced double hung timber framed windows. There is also evidence of the early ogee form return verandah which once adorned the building, with the regular row of punctuations in the walls above the ground floor windows. An early decorative feature of the design is the window voussoirs on the ground floor, now covered in recent paintwork.

To the rear of the main building is a later unpainted brick two storey addition, which has replaced the original two storey gabled roof wing.

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/>