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# Steam Packet Hotel



Steam Packet Hotel,  
Hobsons Bay Heritage Study  
2006

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## Location

13 Cole Street WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

## Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO73

## Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The Steam Packet Hotel, designed by Alfred L Smith and constructed in 1862-63, at 13 Cole Street, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The Steam Packet Hotel is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, it is significant as one of the earliest surviving hotels in Williamstown and is notable for its continuous use as a hotel since it was constructed in 1862-63. It is representative of the development associated with the Port of Williamstown during its most prosperous period in the mid to late nineteenth century and demonstrates how hotels were established in proximity to the commercially important waterfront. (AHC criteria A4 and H1)

Aesthetically, it is significant as an intact example of a traditional hotel with typical form and corner siting and is notable for its early construction date and near original condition. It makes an important contribution to the historic character of Cole Street and the Government Survey precinct. (AHC criteria E1 and F1)

Socially, it is significant for its strong associations with the local community as a social centre and meeting place over a long period and demonstrates the importance of hotels in the early development of port communities like Williamstown. (AHC criterion G1)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006;
Construction dates	1862,
Architect/Designer	Smith, Alfred L,
Hermes Number	15002
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The Steam Packet is a two-storeyed stuccoed (over stone) and parapeted hotel set on the building lines of Aitken and Cole Streets with the traditional splayed corner and bar entrance; the residential entrance being to Cole Street. A cornice and string mould divide the storeys and symmetrical, architraved fenestration and corniced chimneys provide the Italian Renaissance derived ornament. An unparapeted similarly finished and fenestrated wing extends to the east.

The formerly four-panel entrance doors have been replaced; an illuminated sign attached and painted signs added to the stone wall on the north.

## Integrity

External Integrity and condition

*Integrity - High. Condition - Good.*

## Physical Description 2

Context

A major corner building which is now somewhat overwhelmed by the modern development next door. It relates in style to the shops at 1-3 Cole Street.

## Historical Australian Themes

Developing local, regional and national economies, Lodging people

### **Physical Description 3**

#### *Associations*

Simon Staughton, Samuel Staughton, Williamstown Racing Club, Alfred L Smith

*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/>*