Manchester Unity Hall



215 Moorabool Street, Geelong

Location

215 Moorabool Street, GEELONG VIC 3220 - Property No 216436

Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO1637

HO1064

Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

B listed - Regional significance

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Historically linked with the friendly society movement which provided benefits and education to the working classes and, as a hall, the venue for other Geelong community groups for meetings such as the Geelong Young Men's Association.

Architecturally, a remarkably complete and adeptly designed facade which has valuable cemented detailing and rare ground floor elements. If the facade is from the 1868 reconstruction, it is made more valuable as early design sophistication.

REFERENCES

INV. Vo1.3/9

RB I867-8.28-9

RB I868-9.31

GA 12.9.72, GA 12.5.73, GA 17.9.73

VB1875.28

RB 1881, 27-8

RB 1890,21-2 8

1910,23-4

Australians Historical Dictionary p.164

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Geelong - Geelong Region Historic Buildings and Objects Study, Allan Willingham, 1986; Greater Geelong - Geelong City Urban Conservation Study, Volumes 2-5, Graeme Butler, 1991; Greater Geelong - Geelong City Urban Conservation Study Volume 1, Graeme Butler, 1993; Greater Geelong - Geelong City Urban Conservation Study, Volume 4(a), Helen Lardner, 1995;
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	20025
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

DESCRIPTION

Suggesting some form of redevelopment late last century, the facade of this building resembles that of the Hibernian Club (former YMCA building) in Ryrie Street which was rebuilt 1891-2 (q,v). Remarkably intact for a 9th century Geelong commercial building, the facade still has its ground floor rusticated pier divisions, each demarcating a distinct use the retail show window on the north, the hall entrance in the centre and the offices on the south. The upper facade has ornate cement detail arranged around segment and fully arched openings, each opening type differing in size to fit between the pilasters which follow the line of the ground floor piers. Architraves, blind oculi and colonettes around openings add to this effect. Above the cornice, the parapet continues the piers as supports for arched and raised parapet entablatures. Between each, garlands hang to provide inverse arch shapes, countering those of the parapet above.

External Integrity

Generally original except for new doors to the end openings, and the addition of signs and a canopy.

Streetscape

Relates closely to 205, 209 and 211 Moorabool Street, all from the 19th century and forming a commercial streetscape within precinct 5.4.

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/