
Royal Mail Hotel



17 Yarra Street, Geelong

Location

17 Yarra Street, GEELONG VIC 3220 - Property No 219216

Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO384

Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

C Listed - Local Significance

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Royal Mail Hotel on the south east corner of Yarra Street and Corio Street, Geelong was erected in 1851 for Martin Treacy, Geelong publican and entrepreneur. The first licensee upon opening in December, 1851, was Joseph Lewis, closely followed by WJ Holding.

The architect for the original three-storey building, of regularly forestated and restrained transitional Regency style, is not known. The building was reduced in height and remodeled following a catastrophic fire in January 1900. Although the premises have historical associations with several Geelong publicans, and is representative of early building traditions, there are finer examples of hotel buildings in Geelong of the same goldrush era.

RECOMMENDATIONS: PROTECTIVE MEASURES

This building is of insufficient importance to warrant listing on the Geelong Regional Commission Register.

REFERENCES

City of Geelong Rate Books, Bellarine Ward first entry

1852-53 Joseph Lewis, Royal Mail Hotel, 18 Rooms and 4 stall stable. AAV 600.

1853-54 WJ Holding, Royal Mail Hotel, brick 3 storeys, bar, pantry, two lots of rooms, upstairs, five weatherboard rooms.

For detailed account, see Historic Buildings Council File 83/3918, includes rate book extracts and history.

Geelong Advertiser -

1 February, 1851 - tender notice M Treacy

17 December 1851 - advertisement for newly erected Royal Mail Hotel, Joseph Lewis, proprietor.

16 August, 1859 - Royal Mail Hotel - For Sale Notice, includes description.

15 January, 1900, 'Fire at Royal Mail Hotel', description of destruction of two upper floors and rear buildings.

Geelong Commercial Directory and Almanac - Geelong 1854 - Advertisement for Messrs Holding & Co, Royal Mail Hotel.

For history of occupancy, see also;

National Trust of Australia (Victoria) File No F/N 4629 includes Data Form - National Trust declined to classify building in 1983.

Geelong History Records Centre photographs of 3 storey premises c1865.

RW Brownhill - History of Geelong and Corio bay, Wilke and Co, Melbourne, 1955. p.371, 378, 390, 455, 628, for references to Royal Mail Hotel and to Martin Treacy.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Geelong - Geelong Region Historic Buildings and Objects Study Volume 2, Allan Willingham, 1986;
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Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
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Hermes Number	21167
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Property Number	
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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/>