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# Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows Hall (Former)



Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows Hall (former), Hobsons Bay Heritage Study 2006



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## Location

26 Pasco Street WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

## Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO248

## Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The former Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows Hall, designed by Lawrence Worthington and constructed by Goss & Pitt in 1863 with later additions, at 26 Pasco Street, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The former Manchester Unity IOOF Hall at 26 Pasco Street, Williamstown is of local historic, social and aesthetic significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, it is significant for its strong associations with the early development of the Independent Order of Oddfellows as perhaps the first hall constructed for this association outside of the City of Melbourne. It also demonstrates the civic development of the Government Survey precinct, which was associated with the prosperity of the port at that time. (AHC criteria A4 and D2)

Socially, it is significant as an early public building that played an important role in the early development of the Williamstown community as a meeting place and venue for church services over a long period: (AHC criterion G1)

Aesthetically, it is significant as an early and original civic hall in a competently designed naive Renaissance revival style, which makes an important contribution to the historic character of Pasco Street and the Government Survey precinct. (AHC criteria E1)

Heritage Study/Consultant Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006;

Architect/Designer Worthington, Lawrence,

Hermes Number 22227

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

A parapeted stuccoed hall with segmental and gabled pediments to the two aedicule windows, placed either side of a similarly aedicule form doorway which has a four panel door. Above the cornice mould, itself supported on Tuscan pilasters, a severe, stepped parapet which is gently gabled at its highest point, holds the hall's name. An early colour scheme survives on the stucco. The hall resembles other early civic and commercial designs, including the *Williamstown Chronicle* building (q.v.), Parker Street, the Williamstown Grammar School (q.v.) and the former Savings Bank, Castlemaine.

The timber picket fence, though sympathetic, is not original. The original picket fence with its capped posts may be seen in *Williamstown Illustrated* 1904. The early colour scheme, which survived until the 1990s has been lost under the present scheme, and there have been some glazing changes.

## Integrity

External Integrity and condition

*Integrity* - Moderate. *Condition* - Fair.

## Physical Description 2

Context

Next to the similarly stuccoed and parapeted Crown Hotel and adjacent to 14, 16 and 22 Pasco Street, which share period detail.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

Developing cultural institutions and ways of life, Forming associations

## **Physical Description 3**

### *Associations*

Manchester Unity IOOF

*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/>*