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# Hamilton Club



26536 Hamilton Club

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## Location

41 Gray St HAMILTON, Southern Grampians Shire

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Hamilton Club is the social focus of the squatters, professionals and merchants of the city. Its architecture represents formality, dignity and respectability.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hamilton Club  
41 Gray Street

This building has regional significance as the social focus of the squatters, professionals and merchants of the Hamilton district. Designed in 1878 by the notable architects, Smith & Johnson, ([i]) it has architectural interest for the quality of its classical detailing, including tripartite windows, frieze and obelisks. It has historical importance for its associations with the Hamilton Club, which was formed in 1875 and met at first in rented rooms at the Commercial Hotel. The aim was to provide relaxation and entertainment for leading townsmen and a place where pastoralists and other gentlemen could stay. ([ii]) According to an 1895 *Victorian Tourists' Guide*, it was 'frequented by the best of the Western District folks.' ([iii]) The first stage of the building, completed in 1879, cost 3,000 pounds. ([iv]) Additions were made to the east side of the building in 1956. ([v]) The building is significantly intact and in excellent condition. It is a key building in the streetscape of Gray Street being on the corner at the entrance to the commercial area. It is complimented by the adjacent former Mechanics Institute and the Post Office. Its architectural style can be compared with the early 20th Century facade of the Masonic Temple in Lonsdale Street.

[i] *Argus*, 9 October 1878, p 3 (tender notice); *IAN*, 3 October 1878 (171, illustration - perspective).

[ii] Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, pp 83, 84; *Australasian*, 2 May 1903 (illustration).

[iii] *The Victorian Tourists' Guide*, Melbourne, 1895, p 108.

[iv] Garden, p 86.

[v] National Trust of Australia (Vic), File No. 3672.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - City of Hamilton Conservation Study, Timothy Hubbard with Carlotta Kellaway & Michael Looker (plus Francis Punch), 1991;
Construction dates	1878, 1956,
Architect/Designer	Smith & Johnson,
Hermes Number	26536
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

### MATERIALS:

**Roof:** slate

**Walls:** rendered stone & brick

**Dressings:** cement render

**Plinth:** cement render

**Windows:** timber dhs

**Paving:**

Other: cast iron

balconettes

bluestone steps

**NOTABLE FEATURES:** Quality of classical detailing include tripartite windows, frieze and obelisks.

### Historical Australian Themes

**ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES**

Evolution of the Town: 1870s

Sport & Recreation: Clubs

**Integrity**

Integrity: E

**Physical Conditions**

Conditions: E

*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/>*