
RAILWAY HOTEL

Location

291-293 ALBERT STREET,, BRUNSWICK VIC 3056 - Property No 5432

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO4

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

What is Significant?

The Railway Hotel at 291-293 Albert Street, Brunswick.

How is it Significant?

The Railway Hotel is of local historical and architectural Significance to the City of Moreland

Why is it Significant?

Historically, its location reflects the importance of the brickworks and potteries precinct, and possibly the railway, in generating hotel custom.

Architecturally, the size and reasonably ornate design reflect the confidence of the building boom of the late 1880s.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moreland - Keeping Brunswick's heritage: A Report on the Review of the Brunswick Conservation Study, Context Pty Ltd, 1990; Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999;
Hermes Number	58975
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Railway Hotel is a large three storey red brick building on the north-east corner of the Albert Street railway crossing. The main facade (to Albert Street) has large arched windows and an entrance at ground floor level; above these openings are two cantilevered window bays. Central recessed balconies with arched openings and ornate balustrading exist at first and second floor levels. An attic level is marked by stepped gables within which windows are placed, and the south east corner, which is chamfered in plan, is marked by a square tower to attic level. Moulded string courses mark the floors. The walls, once face brick, have been painted dark green, with openings trimmed in cream. Windows, all timber-framed, are a combination of double-hung sashes and casements. The roof is of corrugated iron. The upper floors of the hotel once provided considerable residential accommodation.

The building was clearly designed to address both Albert Street and the railway line, but a single storey extension to the west (the bottle shop), and the blocking-off of the corner entrance have re-oriented the building somewhat, although it is still a prominent landmark. Other alterations include the replacement of the ground floor windows on the south facade, and the enclosing of the balconies at first floor level.

Key Architectural Elements: prominent corner siting
ornate three-storey brick and render facade with recessed loggias

Conservation Guidelines: remove paint from brickwork
reinstate windows to original design at ground and first floor levels
reinstate missing decorative details to attic windows
remove infill from first floor loggia
preferably remove intrusive 20th century bottleshop

Principal Historic Themes: association with provision of entertainment and recreation facilities
association with 19th century brickmaking and clay industries

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/>