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## George Hotel (Former)



George Hotel (former),  
Hobsons Bay Heritage Study  
2006



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### Location

82 Cecil Street WILLIAMSTOWN, Hobsons Bay City

### Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

### Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO57

### Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The George Hotel (Former), designed by JM Anderson and constructed by George Pontin and George Goble in 1888, at 82 Cecil Street, Williamstown.

How is it Significant?

The George Hotel (Former) is of local historic, social and aesthetic significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

#### Why is it Significant?

Historically, it is significant as an example of the new hotels built in Williamstown during the boom years of the late nineteenth century that demonstrates the prosperity of Williamstown during that time as well as changes to licensing laws. It is also associated with George Goble, a former Williamstown Mayor, successful commercial figure and linked with the early convict role in Williamstown's public works. (AHC criteria A4, D2 and H1)

Socially, it is significant as one of a relatively large number of early hotels situated throughout the Government Survey area of Williamstown that demonstrate their important role in the early development of the community. (AHC criterion G1)

Aesthetically, it is significant as a conservative Italian Renaissance Hotel that is distinguished by unusual cement details and high degree of integrity. (AHC criteria E1 and F1)

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

Architect/Designer Anderson, JM,

Hermes Number 14986

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

Two-storeyed and stuccoed, the former hotel is a conservative adaptation from the palazzos of Italian Renaissance architecture; it is also well preserved, with the exception of its parapet (presumably due to its early delicensing). Unusual cement ornament, particularly the broken pediment over the central window and the aedicule frame to those at each side, distinguishes the old hotel among other contemporary commercial buildings. The bar room window survives with its twin-arched joinery, as do the residential and bar entry doors, more typically replaced in nineteenth century hotels which have retained their licenses. A mature elm stands nearby, relating to less fortunate and less aged elms in the avenues along Cecil Street.

The parapet balustrading has been altered; the bricks painted and openings altered on the side walls. The colours are sympathetic to the period.

## Integrity

External Integrity and condition

*Integrity* - Moderate to High. *Condition* - Good.

## Physical Description 2

Context

Contrasting to an adjoining mixed residential streetscape, expressing its former non-residential use.

## Historical Australian Themes

Lodging People

## Physical Description 3

### *Associations*

George Goble, Mrs. Mary Dick, JM Anderson

*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/>*