

DOCUMENTATION SOURCES

- 01 GOVERNMENT RECORDS
- 02 LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS
- 03 ARCHIVES/CATALOGUES
- 04 ARCHITECTS INDEX
- 05 ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS/ILLUSTRATIONS
- 06 PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS
- 07 NATIONAL TRUST FILE/ HISTORIC BUILDINGS PRESERVATION COUNCIL FILE
- 08 PRIVATE RECORDS

06. SEE REF 2 BELOW

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1. AUSTRALIAN BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS NEWS 11. 8. 1888;
24. 3. 1888
- 2. SMITH, JAMES (ED) THE CYCLOPEDIA OF VICTORIA
MELB. 3 VOLS. 1901-1903 VOL 2 P 231 (EARLY PHOTO)

ASSESSMENT OF LISTING

CONDITION/INTEGRITY OF BUILDING SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT

SIGNIFICANCE OF BUILDING

LANDSCAPE/STREETSCAPE/ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE PART OF RECOMMENDED
AREA A.1.1.

DOCUMENTATION JACOBS LEWIS VINES DATE SEPTEMBER 1978.

ARCHITECTS

BALLARAT CLUB - 203 DANA STREET

BUILDING ANALYSIS AND DESCRIPTION

Tenders were called for this building on 24th March 1888 by Architect, C.D.Figgis.¹ On the 11th August of that year the foundation stone was laid with C.D.Figgis and Tappin, Gilbert and Denehy as joint architects.²

The building is of an unusual and striking composition; originally there was a simple tower over the eastern end.³ However the removal of this tower has not destroyed the harmony of the facade; in fact the building now appears more consistent in design and composition.

The composition is very flamboyant. The curved Byzantine arch of the pediment over the entrance bay is very unusual, as are the heavy face brick columns supported on urns. A modification of this column detailing is visible in 106 Sturt Street (upper floor) suggesting the same architects for this building. However the Ballarat Club provides the best example of this unusual design motif.

The projecting bay (with finely moulded window heads to the ground floor) is unified with the facade by the three bands of balustrading across the facade.

The interior is largely intact. One enters a lobby which leads to the stairwell. The timber work of the doors has been painted but must have been reasonably fine.

The stair itself is very imposing. It has elaborate square newell posts at the base, decorated with figures holding lamp standards. The balustrade consists of iron panels (fixed into the end of the stair treads) of a special design, with an anthemion motif at the bottom, the Eureka stars in the cross at the centre, and a rose, thistle and shamrock motif at the top. The timber work of the newell posts and handrails remains unpainted.

1. *Australian Builders & Contractors News* 24.3.1888.

2. op. cit. 11.8.1888.

3. *Cyclopedia of Victoria* Vol.2, p.231. Early photo.

BALLARAT CLUB - 203 DANA STREET
BUILDING ANALYSIS AND DESCRIPTION (contd.)

The bar room has been altered by the removal of a wall, and a more recent baronial fireplace. The principal rooms are relatively grand and there is an imposing variegated marble fireplace in the reading room at the front east side.

The billiard room is rather special. It has 3 bays with queen post trusses of which the queen posts and the central panel at the top chord are in turned timber. It appears to have had a clerestory above, which is now sheeted over. The ceiling is boarded and on the walls are intact cue racks and scoring boards.

In summary there is no main room which should be excluded from consideration, but the stairwell and billiard room are of particular note.