

BUILDING TITLE M.G. BENJAMIN & CO PTY LTD  
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF BALLAARAT

NATIONAL ESTATE PROJECT No.

DOCUMENTATION OF LISTED HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN VICTORIA

DESIGNATION

H.B.P.C. REGISTER No.

NATIONAL TRUST ☒ ☒ FILE No.

BUILDING TYPE OFFICE

BUILDING NAME

STATE VICTORIA

LOCAL GOVT AREA CITY OF BALLAARAT

STREET LYDIARD STH. No. 56

SUBURB/TOWN BALLARAT C.B.D.

CITY BALLAARAT POSTCODE 3350

RURAL

NEAREST CENTRE

Km.

TITLE REFERENCE

Vol

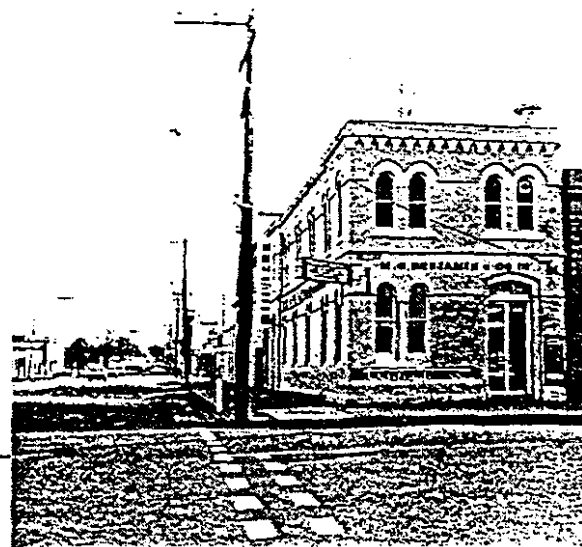
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DIRECTORY

NEGATIVE FILE FILM 8 / FRAME 16

PHOTOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION

DATE OF SURVEY/INSPECTION JULY 1978



OWNERSHIP

ORIGINAL

PRESENT

ADDRESS

BENJAMIN & C.H.C. HOLDINGS PTY. LTD /  
REAL ESTATE OFFICE

ARCHITECT/PRACTICE

BUILDER

ARTISANS/TRADES

TENDERS

REFERENCE

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION

ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

#### BUILDING CITATION

This building reputedly occupies the site of the first house constructed in Ballarat. The present building displays a combination of somewhat exotic medieval detailing and an unmodelled facade surface with a ground floor in which paired arched windows are divided by a Corinthian shaft (which, in the medieval fashion, is much slimmer than the springing). The failure to match the shaft at the sides of the openings gives a rather bizarre imbalance. The entrance door has been replaced, but is surmounted by a flat pointed arch. In the upper floor the windows are paired, divided by a full pier, and the arched heads are loosely reflected by the rising impost moulding of a nail head pattern which carries a hint of the Florentine or Venetian arch. Finally a Gothic arcaded corbel table of Venetian/Lombardic derivation supports a cornice, on the face of which are small lions heads. The facade is in brick, now painted, but was probably polychrome.

This corner building is of considerable architectural interest. It terminates an extremely significant streetscape sequence, and provides an important corner component. It is substantially intact and in good condition.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this building be added to the Register of the National Estate, and be specified under Clause 8 of the Town and Country Planning Act. (Third Schedule).

#### DOCUMENTATION SOURCES

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- 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 1 BELOW

08 COLE COLLECTION, S.L.V.

1856 AUSTRALIAN HOTEL (J. LACKCRAFT LICENSEE)

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#### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1. J. FELDHEM VICTORIA OLD & NEW MELB 1912. (SKETCH OF 1ST HOUSE IN BALLARAT)
- 2. LITTLE W. BALLARAT'S BIRTH 1837 PUB 1904 (FIRST HOUSE IN BALLARAT CONSTRUCTED ON THIS SITE)

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#### ASSESSMENT OF LISTING

CONDITION/INTEGRITY OF BUILDING SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT

SIGNIFICANCE OF BUILDING

LANDSCAPE/STREETScape/ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE PART OF RECOMMENDED AREA A.I.I.

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DOCUMENTATION JACOBS LEWIS VINES DATE SEPTEMBER 1978.

ARCHITECTS