BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.   **Ref:** 157

Richard Peterson Architect & Conservation Consultant. Daniel Catrice Historian 1994.

NAME: Royal Hotel.

PREVIOUS NAME: Murray's Family Hotel; McCanny's Family Hotel; National Bank of Australia; Colonial Bank.

ADDRESS: Main Street (NW cnr Young Street).

TITLE DETAILS:

USE: Hotel

PREVIOUS USE: Hotel and bank.

SIGNIFICANT DATE: **CONSTRUCTION DATE:** c1863   **SOURCE:** 1
1870s ?

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: **DATE:** c1874, 1888, 1891 (stables)
SOURCE: 3,4.

DESIGNER: 1888: Mr Adamson; 1891: D.R. Stewart   **SOURCE:** 4,6

CRITERIA: H1; So3./ H2; Ar1,3. **HISTORIC THEME:** Community life; Township

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DESCRIPTION: **STYLE:** Early   **STORIES:** 2   **DETACHED.**

MATERIALS: **WALLS** Brick   **ROOF** Iron   **STRUCTURE** Lb.

CONDITION: Fair   **INTACTNESS:** Fair   **THREATS:** -

SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:

FORM. FACADE. USE.
EAVES DECORATION.
WALL DECORATION. WINDOWS.
OUTBUILDINGS.
STREET FURNITURE.

SIGNIFICANCE:

TYPE: HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL. SOCIAL.

LEVEL: LOCAL.

DESIGNATION EXISTING: Nil

RECOMMENDED CONTROL: PLANNING SCHEME.

MAP NO: U4.07   **SURVEY:** RP   **DATE:** 19.1.94   **NEGS:** 12.25, 13.1, 4 & 5

HISTORY: Built as Murray's Family Hotel for James Innes Murray, who purchased the site at the corner of Young Street on January 30, 1863.[1] Also purchased was an adjoining allotment, on August 29 1862, on which the National Bank of Australasia (ref: 152) was established several months later. This single-storey building was later occupied by the Colonial Bank, 1865-72, then incorporated into the hotel, which had since changed its name to the Royal.[2]

James Innes Murray leased the hotel to a brother-in-law, Sutherland Miller, who was granted the licence after Murray was drowned in a coaching accident in August 1863. Three years later, the licence was transferred to Thomas M'Canny, and the hotel operated for several years as M'Canny's Family Hotel, and from 1869, as the Royal Hotel. Richard Manning acquired the premises in 1874, placing his brother-in-law, William Kilpatrick, as licensee and proprietor.[3] In 1888, a second two storey building was added to the Young Street frontage. This addition, designed by a Mr Adamson, provided an additional eleven bedrooms, a dining-room, billiard room, two bathrooms and a commodious kitchen and scullery with an underground cellar.[4]

Stables were erected in Young Street in 1891, for the hotel required a complex of outbuildings, including a buggy shed, horse stalls, fowl house and dairy.[5] Designed by D.R. Stewart, the stables attracted favourable attention in the local press:

> resembling more a two-storey military barracks in outward appearance, while inside the loose boxes with their sliding doors and windows, enamelled iron manger and hay racks, brick floors and overhead hay loft, are of a class only to be found in first-class training establishments. The overhanging eaves, depressed gables, iron finials, and round cornered bricks used in this building give it a finished and pleasing appearance, denoting the hand of an architect.[6]

Richard Manning died in 1896, leaving the hotel to a son, Frederick. The family sold the premises after the Second World War.[7]

VISUAL DESCRIPTION: A two storey nineteenth century hotel of tuckpointed brick. It has 5 bays with a 3 bay single storey addition to Main Street and 2 bays with a 6 storey early addition to Young Street. It has hip roofs with rock-face stone quoins at corners, and at the Main Street entrance, which has a label-mould over an expressed flat lintel. Other openings have rock-faced stone lintels. There is a dado of 1930s ceramic tiles on Main Street. The corner bar has two Edwardian leadlight decorative windows inscribed "Bar" on a scroll.

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[1] "Murray's Family Hotel", Local History File, BMDHS.

[2] Moore and Oomes, *Bacchus Marsh: A Pictorial Chronicle*, p.44.

[3] Williams, *A History of Bacchus Marsh and its Pioneers*, p.239.

[4] *Bacchus Marsh Express*, 4 August 1888.

[5] Ibid, 16 May 1891.

[6] Ibid.

[7] "Murray's Family Hotel", Local History File, BMDHS.

The Young Street addition is entirely brick on a rock-faced ashlar base. Its double-hung sash windows have single vertical glazing bars. The Young Street door has sidelights and an annular fanlight, with a guilloche moulding on the doorhead. Eaves have timber brackets in pairs over the windows. There are two chimneys here, with mouldings. There never appears to have been a verandah.

On the Main Street footpath, which is paved with pre-cast concrete diamond *pavers,* is a reinforced concrete *horsetrough* "Donated by Annis & George Gills. Australia".

At the rear is a two-storey *stables.* This has a half-hipped roof with finials, an attic gable with gantry, doors, gablet vents and a pendant barge. Generally there is quadrant spouting which oddly extends across the gable ends, on a false 'eaves' and fascia, and ogee spouting on the barges giving the effect of a truncated pediment. Below the line of the quadrant gutter around the building is a brick band, 5 courses deep. Gable-end openings have fine tuckpointed voussoir brick-heads. Brickwork is Flemish bond. There are cast-iron vents over the windows on the northern side. The building is surrounded by a recent single-storey skillion roofed store. The interior was not inspected.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: There are five operating old town hotels in Bacchus Mars, four of these, including the Royal, have developed and expanded over time (refs: 71, 72 and 153). The Royal is the second earliest (1863) after the Bridge Inn (1850), but the earliest two-storey hotel in the town. Three have stables surviving (also ref: 72 and 174). However the stables at the Royal are architect-designed and the most impressive.

SIGNIFICANCE: An early two-storey corner brick hotel built in about 1863, part of which was once used as banks. It has splendid two-storey architect-designed stables (1891).

The Royal has local historical significance for its association with developments in the community life of the town, as a business on the Ballarat Road, for its hospitality and as a representative embodiment of the community's life for over 130 years.

It is of local architectural significance as a representative example of a relatively intact early hotel and for the survival of its stables, as a building type. Finally it is of social significance as a traditional focus and meeting place for the community and for travellers.

INTACTNESS: Hotel: fair. Stables: good. The hotel corner first floor window has been sealed. Various doors have become windows and windows, doors. The horsetrough appears to have replaced an earlier one. It is now filled in. The single storey front has been altered. Chimneys have been removed. The stables windows have been altered and probably there are ground level alterations, now obscured. Finials are truncated.

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Good.

N

1891
STABLES. ②

157

② 1888. ADDITION

YOUNG STREET

1862
FORMER NATIONAL
BANK
HOTEL 1872
①

1863
MURRAY'S FAMILY HOTEL
②

①

DIAMOND PAVING.

HORSE
TROUGH

MAIN STREET