

PLACE NAME: FORMER ROYAL MAIL HOTEL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF GEELONG

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY (References)

STYLE OR PERIOD: Australian Regency (Transitional)

ARCHITECT(S)/DESIGN ORIGIN: Not recorded. Tenders

Reference: were advertised in the name of Martin Treacy, publican.

BUILDER: Not recorded.

Reference:

PRINCIPAL ARTISANS/ARTISTS/TRADES Not recorded.

Reference:

TENDER NOTICE: Martin Treacy calls tenders for

Reference: building on corner of Yarra and Corio Streets
Geelong Advertiser 1 February, 1851

DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION 1851

Reference: Geelong Advertiser, 17 December 1851.

ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE

SUBSEQUENT WORKS/ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

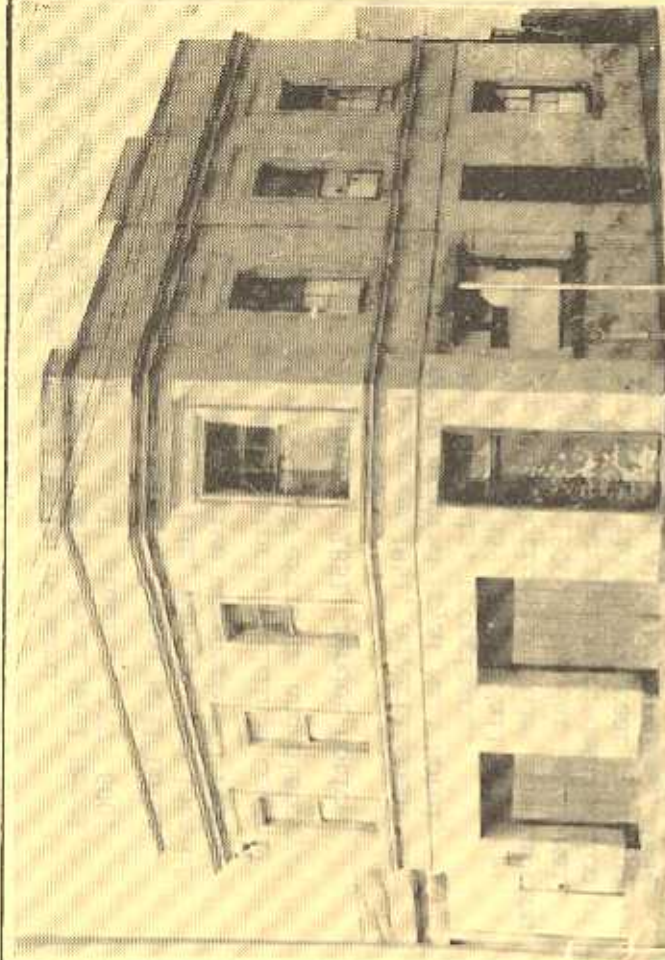
The original hotel building was largely destroyed by fire on 14 January, 1900. The top floor was demolished and the two-storey section then rebuilt. The ground floor has more recently been stripped out and new openings made in the Corio Street facade.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S)/OCCUPANT(S) Martin Treacy original owner. Joseph Lewis 'Wooltraders' Newtown, first Licensee.

SUBSEQUENT SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/OCCUPANTS

See rate book extracts for complete list H.B.C. File File 83/3918.

OTHER NOTES The name of the Royal Mail Hotel changed to the Duke of Edinburgh Hotel in 1867 and reverted in 1874.



NEGATIVE FILE:

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Australian Heritage Commission
Register of National Estate

☐

Historic Buildings Preservation Council
Register No.
File No.

☐

National Trust of Aust. (Vic)
Classified/Recorded
File No.

☒

Geelong Regional Commission
Register No. 384

IDENTIFICATION DATA

PLACE NAME ROYAL MAIL HOTEL (FORMER)

ADDRESS 17 Cnr. Corio & Yarra Streets

GEELONG

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA City of Geelong

TITLE INFORMATION

MAP REFERENCE

PRESENT USE Vacant

PRESENT OWNER/LESSEE S.B.C.

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE

PLACE NAME FORMER ROYAL MAIL HOTEL
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF GEELONG

DOCUMENTATION REFERENCES AND BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

City of Geelong Rate Books, Bellarine Ward.
first entry 1852-53 Joseph Lewis, Royal Mail Hotel,
18 rooms and 4 stall stable. AAV 600.
1853-54 W.J. Holding, Royal Mail Hotel,
brick, 3 storeys, bar, pantry, two lots of
rooms, upstairs, five weatherboard rooms.
For a detailed account, see Historic Buildings Council
File 83/3918, includes rate book extracts and history.
Geelong Advertiser 1 February 1851, tender notice
M. Treacy.
17 December 1851, advertisement for
newly erected Royal Mail Hotel,
Joseph Lewis, proprietor.
16 August 1859, Royal Mail Hotel -
For Sale Notice, includes description
15 January 1900, 'Fire at Royal Mail
Hotel', description of destruction of
two upper floors and rear buildings.
Geelong Commercial Directory and Almanac, Geelong, 1854 -
Advertisement for Messrs. Holding and Co., Royal Mail
Hotel.
For history of occupancy, see also:
National Trust of Australia (Victoria) File No. P/N 4629
includes Data Form - National Trust declined to classify
building in 1983.
Geelong Historical Records Centre photograph of
3 storey premises, c.1865.
R.W. Brownhill, The History of Geelong and Corio Bay,
Wilke and Co., Melbourne, 1955, pp.371,
378, 383, 390, 455, 628, for references
to Royal Mail Hotel and to Martin Treacy.

CITATION The former Royal Mail Hotel on the south east
corner of Yarra Street and Corio Street, Geelong, was
erected in 1851 for Martin Treacy, Geelong publican and
entrepreneur. The first licensee upon opening in December,
1851, was Joseph Lewis, closely followed by W.J. Holding.
The architect for the original three-story building, of
regularly forestated and restrained transitional Regency
style, is not known. The building was reduced in height
and remodelled following a catastrophic fire in January,
1900. Although the premises have historical associations
with several Geelong publicans, and is representative
of early building traditions, there are finer examples
of hotel buildings in Geelong of the same post goldrush
era.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PLACE

- ☐ Its creative and/or technical accomplishment.
- ☐ Its demonstration of a way of life, custom, process or function no longer practised.
- ☐ Its demonstration of being lost or of exceptional interest.
- ☐ Its strong association with an important figure or figures, development, or cultural phase.
- ☐ Its townscape and/or landscape value.
- ☐ Its scarcity value.

SIGNIFICANCE

☐ LOCAL ☐ REGIONAL ☐ STATE ☐ NATIONAL ☐ WORLD

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ GOOD ☐ FAIR ☒ DETERIORATED ☐ RUINS

INTEGRITY

☐ HIGH ☐ LOW ☒ ALTERED ☒ DAMAGED

RECOMMENDATIONS: PROTECTIVE MEASURES

'This building is of insufficient importance to
warrant listing on the Geelong Regional Commission
Register.'

DOCUMENTATION - Allan Willingham, Architect, 151 McKean St.,
North Fitzroy, 3068. Tel: 03 489 8492.

SIGNATURE

DATE