



(6)  
**T E Bostock Memorial, E H Lascelles  
Chemical Laboratory & Textile & Wool  
Building Complex  
2- Fenwick Street**

**History**

Liam Pye (schoolmaster) and Edmund Sasse (professor of drawing<sup>1</sup>) started their boys School of Art and Design in 1869, providing for mainly building and engineering apprentices. Four years later classes for girls were provided. It proved to be the forerunner to the General Gordon Memorial Technical College opened in 1887.<sup>2</sup>

Fronting Fenwick Street, Alexander Davidson's design for the first building was extended in 1889, 1891 and 1916.<sup>3</sup> Five years later, the first stage of this complex, the E H Lascelles Chemical Laboratory, was built along Gordon Avenue in the memory of '...the father of the Geelong Wool Trade and pioneer of the Mallee...'<sup>4</sup>. The memorial stone was laid by Howard Hitchcock<sup>5</sup>.

George King's period as secretary and then principal, included most of this new construction as well as the Bostock Memorial Science Building (wool oriented) commenced 1928.<sup>6</sup> By then the name of the complex had become the Gordon Institute of Technology and its scope much broader than the first art and design school.<sup>7</sup>

The Bostock Building was considered a tribute to its namesake as well as providing a fitting continuation of the E H Lascelles Chemistry Laboratory.

Thomas E Bostock (1863-1922) was both a Geelong councillor (1894-1909, mayor 1905-7) and woolbroker. Educated in England, at Brighton Grammar, he joined Strachan Bostock & Co. in 1889 and became managing director of wool-brokers Strachan Murray & Shannon, a council member of Geelong Grammar and enthusiastically supported many sporting endeavours, particularly the Barwon Heads Golf Club.<sup>8</sup> Bostock also was a major force in rationalizing Geelong's water supply and sanitation.

- 1 WD1880
- 2 GTP p.38
- 3 Willingham card 186
- 4 Long, p22 quote
- 5 September 1921
- 6 F.ST. laid by Hon. Don Mackinnon 13.7.28
- 7 V&R V2 p1076
- 8 GA 14.7.28 p1; Gibney & Smith, V1, p71

City of Geelong Urban Conservation Study  
Significant Sites

separating the drying and wool washing rooms from the main mill rooms. To the east of the southern main room was the smoke stack, boiler and engine rooms<sup>1</sup>. Further east, was Smith's old Clyde wool scouring works which is still visible today.

**Description**

(Further inspection needed)

In Factories Road, the coloured brickwork, basalt plinth, castellated parapet and bell-tower make that complex visually unusual and perhaps the most valuable of the 19th century Geelong mill structures, albeit altered and reduced in scale. The application of the coloured brickwork resembles Davidson & Henderson's 41-43 McKillop Street, (1870); the castellated tower also suggesting the firm's Scottish Baronial inspirations.<sup>2</sup>

**External Integrity**

Openings sealed up, fencing replaced and part of the brickwork painted. Reputedly a storey has been removed.

**Streetscape**

Relates historically and visually to the two Swanston Street mill complexes to the north and west.

**Significance**

Historically, the site of and part of one of Geelong's and the State's earliest group of woollen mills and earliest secondary industries. It is externally (in part) one of the State's oldest group of factories.

Architecturally, the Factories Road complex is both early and stylistically distinctive for an industrial complex, also the red brick parts of the complex relate closely to the Valley Mills on the north.

Conservation analysis required.

---

1 GW&ST field book  
2 Willingham, sheet 191