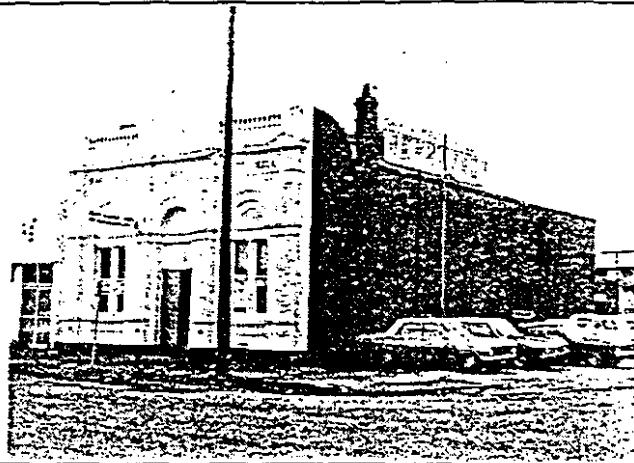


BUILDING TITLE MANCHESTER UNITY HALL
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF BALLAARAT

NATIONAL ESTATE PROJECT No.
DOCUMENTATION OF LISTED HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN VICTORIA

DESIGNATION H.B.P.C. REGISTER No. NATIONAL TRUST FILE No.

BUILDING TYPE HALL
 BUILDING NAME MANCHESTER UNITY HALL
 STATE VICTORIA
 LOCAL GOVT AREA CITY OF BALLAARAT
 STREET GRENVILLE STH. No. 9.
 SUBURB/TOWN BALLARAT C.B.D.
 CITY BALLAARAT POSTCODE 3350
 RURAL
 NEAREST CENTRE Km.



TITLE REFERENCE Vol Fol
 DIRECTORY
 NEGATIVE FILE FILM 6 / FRAME 14

PHOTOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION
 DATE OF SURVEY/INSPECTION JULY 1978

OWNERSHIP ORIGINAL MANCHESTER UNITY HALL
 PRESENT MANCHESTER UNITY INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS
 ADDRESS 9 GRENVILLE ST. STH.

ARCHITECT/PRACTICE JAMES & PIPER
 BUILDER
 ARTISANS/TRADES

TENDERS REFERENCE
 DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1886
 ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE
 ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

BUILDING CITATION

The Manchester Unity Hall was constructed in 1886 to the design of James & Piper Architects. The building is an interesting essay in neo-Renaissance Revival hall facade composition. The facade is an eclectic three bay composition. The central bay consists of an arched entrance and a semicircular recess above the cornice with a triangular pedimental motif, probably once flanked by urns. The side bays have paired lights with a similar semicircular recess.

The interior is of interest; the main hall has an apparently illogical roof structure. The hall is spanned by a 3 sectioned arch, the side arch members having no apparent structural purpose. Iron tie rods decorated with bosses restrain the lateral thrust.

This building is more restrained than the Trades Hall in Camp Street (also by James & Piper of 1887). The facade is well detailed and the repetition of certain elements provide a unity to the facade, resulting in a pleasing composition. The building is substantially intact (apart from the removal of urns and the painted render), and is in good condition. The interior is also of significance and is substantially intact. It forms an important streetscape element to this precinct.

RECOMMENDATIONS

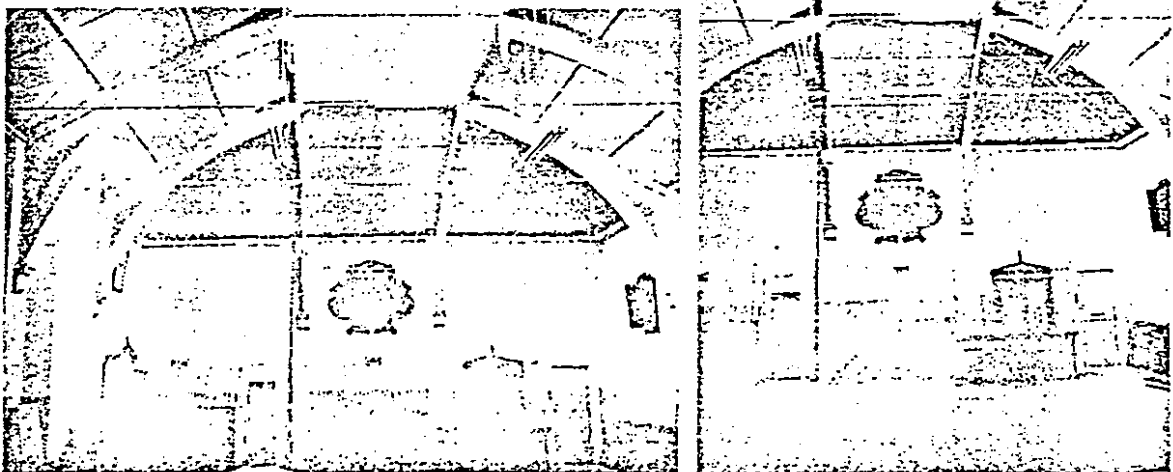
It is recommended that this building be added to the Historic Buildings Register, the Register of the National Estate, and be specified under Clause 8 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Third Schedule).

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. SUTHERLAND, A (ED) VICTORIA AND ITS METROPOLIS
VOL 2 p187
2. COURIER 8.i.1887



ASSESSMENT OF LISTING

CONDITION/INTEGRITY OF BUILDING *SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT*

SIGNIFICANCE OF BUILDING

LANDSCAPE/STREETSCAPE/ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE *PART OF RECOMMENDED AREA A1.2*

DOCUMENTATION *JACOBS LEWIS VINES*
ARCHITECTS 108

DATE *SEPTEMBER 1978*

MANCHESTER UNITY HALL, 9 GRENVILLE STREET SOUTH

BUILDING ANALYSIS AND DESCRIPTION

The Manchester Unity Hall was constructed in 1886¹ to the design of James & Piper Architects². It is an eclectic three bay composition : the central bay consists of an arched entrance and semicircular recess above the cornice with a triangular pedimental motif, probably once flanked by urns. The side bays contain windows with balustrades below sill level. The windows comprise two lights divided by a slim colonette with a horizontal lintel above which is an arch and a decorated semi-circular tympanium. This is capped above cornice urns by a balustraded parapet. The facade is divided into bays by fluted pilasters which run into small pedestal blocks at cornice level.

The interior is noteworthy. The main hall has an apparently illogical roof structure; the hall is spanned by an effective arch in 3 sections, the side sections sloping and the central section horizontal. The arch members below the sloping section have no apparent structural purpose and there is no constraint against the spread of the arch in this place. At the mid point of each bay is a horizontal iron tie rod decorated with bosses and a vertical king tie at the centre of the span.

This building is an interesting essay in neo-Renaissance Revival hall facade composition. It is more restrained than the Trades Hall in Camp Street (also by James & Piper in 1887), with the use of more restrained architectural elements.

It is substantially intact and in good condition. It is an important streetscape element, situated opposite the Protestant Hall and offset by the Water and Sewerage Office.

1. *Courier* 8.1.1887.

2. Sutherland A. (Ed) *Victoria and its Metropolis*, Vol.2, p.187.