

## GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

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**Site Name:** Former White Hart Hotel

**Project File No:** 1057

**Address:** 178 & 178A Moorabool Street Geelong 3220

**Approx. Date:** 1902c, 1925c

**Integrity:** Low-Moderate

**Significance Level:** C (Local)

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**Photograph No:** 10.10

**Survey Date:** March 2002

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### History

This site, at 178 and 178A Moorabool Street, Geelong, is located on part of Allotment no. 20, Section 34, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1858. The land was owned by Alfred Woolley.

Alfred Woolley sold the land at this site to Thomas Taylor for 150 pounds when his holding was subdivided in May 1848. The "Red Lion Hotel" appears to have been built on this land in 1851-52, coinciding with the expiry of the licence of Patrick Hede at the earlier Red Lion Inn in Corio Street in July 1851. This new stone building consisted of 8 rooms, a kitchen and stables when Neil McInnes succeeded Patrick Hede as hotel keeper there in 1854-55. By 1860, the size of the hotel had increased to 12 rooms, with kitchen and 6 stables. Thomas Taylor owned the premises until his death in January 1871, whereupon the Executors of his will sold the property to Denis Hourigan for 2,000 pounds. Denis handed ownership of the building over to his wife, Honora Mary Hourigan, of Newtown.

Honora Hourigan took possession of a 2 storeyed stone hotel, with a bar, 9 rooms and verandah. Publicans of the hotel under her ownership included William Hodgson, John Dalton, James Heagney, Michael James Gleeson, Mathilde Reyvaud and Mary Maher. In c.1902, major alterations to the hotel (then addressed as 196 Moorabool Street) occurred

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when the name of the business and building was changed to "The White Hart Hotel". The number of rooms was increased from 11 to 20, plus a pantry or scullery was added at this time. From 1905, the building was also described as being of brick, rather than of stone, which suggests that a completely new building was constructed at this time. After Honora's death on 31 October 1917, the property was in the hands of her Trustees - firstly James Ernest Piper & Trustees Executors Agency Pty. Ltd., until their resignation in 1926, and then Agency Co., Ltd. Some further changes occurred in c.1925, when the accommodation capacity was reduced to 16 rooms. There may also have been external changes.

Hourigan's Estate administered the White Hart Hotel from the 1920s to the 1950s. Honora's will provided that Mary Teresa Forbes was to be a life tenant. She may have been succeeded by James O'Connell as hotel keeper at the White Hart Hotel in 1925, followed by Elizabeth Lloyd in 1930. Two shops were attached to the hotel on the ground floor by 1939, when they were occupied by Raymond Leslie Holohan, a hairdresser, and Joseph Pizer, a tailor. Joseph Pizer was still there in 1950, by which time Frederick George Martin had taken over the hairdresser's shop.

National Trustees succeeded Agency Co., Ltd. as Trustees of the Hourigan Estate in the 1940s, and the property was sold to Frederick Purcell, of 47 The Esplanade, Geelong West, who held it until he died in July, 1976.

### Description

The former White Hart Hotel, 178 & 178A Moorabool Street, Geelong, takes up the full width of the site and is situated on the front boundary.

The symmetrical, two storey, rendered brick former White Hart Hotel building is characterised by a three bayed composition that probably dates from the c.1902-05 changes. There is a central slightly recessed first floor bay with a projecting balcony and three sets of early timber framed and glazed 10 paned French doors and an early shallow hipped slate hood (supported by early cast iron brackets) above. Flanking the central bay are two vertically-oriented pavilions adorned with projecting oriel windows having early timber framed 8 paned windows and bullnosed galvanised corrugated iron roofs. These oriels also possibly date from the c.1902-05 changes.

The first floor is also characterised by simple geometric detailing that may have been introduced in c.1925. The crowning central shallow parapet pediment, together with the rectangular parapet piers with incised panels and other simple decoration of the flanking pavilions, and the rectilinear balcony piers with simple rectangular and diagonal steel balustrades, especially relate to architectural trends of the interwar period. The inappropriate, internally illuminated signage that projects from the parapet has been introduced.

The projecting cantilevered verandahs are a later addition, and the ground floor shopfronts have been substantially altered and are also recent additions.

The side rendered brick walls terminate in simple parapets with a broad hipped roof beyond, that is clad in terra cotta tiles. This roof possibly dates from the c.1902-05 changes, as may the two galvanised iron ventilation stacks that project beyond the parapet level.

At the rear of the site is an introduced, three storey painted brick building with crowning parapets. There is a side two storey section to the north with an exposed galvanised corrugated steel hipped roof. This building has timber framed windows and side external

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timber stairs.

### Statement of Cultural Significance

The former White Hart Hotel, 178 & 178A Moorabool Street, Geelong, has significance for its historical associations with the former Red Lion Hotel from the 1851-52 and with the former White Hart Hotel from c.1902. The building also has architectural importance in reflecting the major changes carried out in c.1902-05 and in c.1925, and it has been more recently altered.

The former White Hart Hotel, 178 & 178A Moorabool Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. Although altered (especially the ground floor shopfronts), it still demonstrates some original design qualities associated with the changes carried out in c.1902-05 and c.1925. These qualities include the symmetrical composition, two storey height, rendered brick wall construction, hipped roof clad in terra cotta tiles, three bayed composition from the main facade, central slightly recessed first floor bay with projecting balcony and three sets of timber framed and glazed 10 paned French doors, shallow hipped slate hood (supported by cast iron brackets), and the flanking vertically-oriented pavilions adorned with projecting oriel windows having early timber framed 8 paned windows and bullnosed galvanised corrugated iron roofs. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the simple geometric detailing such as the central shallow parapet pediment, rectangular parapet piers with incised panels and other simple decoration on the flanking pavilions, rectilinear balcony piers and the simple rectangular and diagonal steel balustrades, and the two galvanised iron ventilation stacks that project beyond the parapet level on the south facade.

The former White Hart Hotel, 178 & 178A Moorabool Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with the development of the former Red Lion Hotel from 1851-52 (and with the original hotel keeper, Patrick Hede). The building - named the White Hart Hotel from c.1902 - experienced major alterations in c.1902-05 and in c.1925 and represents an important legacy of the 19th and 20th century hotel in Geelong.

Overall, the former White Hart Hotel, 178 & 178A Moorabool Street is of LOCAL significance.

### References

Reports and Drainage Plans, Barwon Water profits system, 1930, 1958, 1960, 1970, 1972, 1978, 1983, 1985, 1989, 1993.

Land Title Search App 61577, Lands Office, Marland House, Bourke Street, Melbourne.

Sands & McDougall's Directory of Geelong, 1972, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Sands & McDougall's "Invicta" Geelong Directory, 1968, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Geelong City Council Rate Books (Kardinia Ward), 1854-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Town Plan of Geelong 1858, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Morrow, W., J., Index to the Geelong Advertiser, 31 August, 1848, 19 October, 1852, 23 March, 1853.

"In old Geelong by Corian No.1", extract from "The Time" (pre 1923), reprinted in "Investigator", Magazine of the Geelong Historical Society, May, 1967.

## GEELONG CITY 'C' CITATIONS

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**Site Name:** Former Brian Boru Hotel

**Project File No:** 1062

**Address:** 208A & B Moorabool Street Geelong 3220

**Approx. Date:** 1851, 1918

**Integrity:** Moderate

**Significance Level:** C (Local)

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**Photograph No:** 10.12

**Survey Date:** March 2002

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### History

These sites at 208A and 208B Moorabool Street, Geelong, are located on part of Crown Allotment 18, Section 34, of the Geelong Town Plan of 1858. The land was originally the property of Burnly and Lyons.

The Brian Boru Hotel was built at this location possibly as early as 1851. John Hurley, who previously ran a boarding house, moved to Moorabool Street in October 1849, and immediately applied for a liquor licence, which was at first refused. His freehold property nevertheless enabled him to qualify as an Elector to the N.S.W. Legislative Council in April 1850. Following a second and successful application, Hurley's licence was renewed in 1851, and presumably his hotel was constructed soon afterwards. In the 1855 Rate Book for Kardinia Ward, the Brian Boru Hotel is described as "brick, with 9 rooms and brick stables and stalls". John Brian was the licensee from 1855 to 1857. On 12 August 1857, Andrew McWilliams called tenders for bricklaying, masonry and carpentry of the Brian Boru Hotel in Moorabool Street. McWilliams was an engineer by profession, and had formed a partnership with a Mr Harvey soon after he arrived in the colony of Victoria in 1853, but after the dissolution of the partnership by July 1854, McWilliams advertised as an architect, engineer and surveyor in sole practice, operating from his office in Malop Street West.