

**BUILDING TITLE:** Ansett's First Hangar **BUILDING ADDRESS:** Ballarat Road  
**LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:** A || B || C |X| D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** aircraft hangar  
**DESIGNATION:** HBR Reg No File # AHC File # NT File # Class || Rec ||  
**CONSERVATION AREA:** outside **LEVEL OF STREETSCAPE SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 || 3 ||  
**STYLE:** functional

**CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:**

1. 1936 (Hamilton airfield now Pedrina Park)
- 2.
3. 1991 (relocated to present site)
- 4.

**Sources:**

1. Garden, D, *Hamilton*, pp 208-13
3. *Hamilton Spectator*, Commemorative Supplement 23/2/91

**MATERIALS:**

**Roof:** corrugated iron  
**Walls:** corrugated iron  
**Dressings:** none  
**Plinth:** none  
**Windows:** none  
**Paving:** concrete  
**Other:** steel framing

**SURVEY DATE:** 16/5/91 **NEG FILE:** 10/1 **REPORTER:** tfh

**INTEGRITY:** E || G || F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:**

**CONDITION:** E || G || F || P ||

**SIGNIFICANCE:** Reg Ansett's first hangar, the practical start of Ansett Airways. It is now an important contributor to the streetscape of the highway.

**ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**Appropriate:** Rec **Inappropriate:** Rec  
none apparent

O=reinstate original design S=reinstate sympathetic alternative R=remove RAM=remove by approved method

**SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS:** **ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:** **TITLE:**  
Sec CA  
Reg Ansett  
Ansett Airways Museum  
**COUNCIL COMPUTER #** **MORE INFO OVER** |X| **HAMDS109**

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

### Ansett's First Hangar Ballarat Road

This aircraft hangar has local significance as the first of Reginald (later Sir Reginald) Ansett (1909-1981), who played a major role in Hamilton's development as a regional centre by his establishment in the 1930s of a network of transport services based in the town. Ansett was also largely responsible for Hamilton becoming a major aviation centre. He arrived in Hamilton in 1931 and by 1936 the Ansett Motors and Airways company had been established, becoming a public company by 1937. <sup>(i)</sup> The building was originally located at the airfield which became Pedrina Park. The first Ansett Airways flight to Melbourne took place 17 February 1936. <sup>(ii)</sup> The hangar was relocated to its present site and opened as a museum in February 1991.

While the relocation has somewhat compromised the hangar's significance, the building is significantly intact and in excellent condition. It is now an important contributor to the streetscape of the highway.

### ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Transport: Motors & Aviation  
Sport & Recreation: Museums

### ASSOCIATED HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Ansett's house, 12 Learmonth Street  
355 Gray Street (built for J Andrew who worked for Ansett).

### REFERENCES

*Hamilton Spectator*, Commemorative Supplement 23 February 1991.

### FOOTNOTES

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- <sup>i</sup> Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, pp 208-213.  
<sup>ii</sup> Ibid.