

BUILDING TITLE: Colonial Mutual Life Building **BUILDING ADDRESS:** 89 Gray Street
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B || C |X| D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** shops & offices
DESIGNATION: HBR Reg No File # **AHC File #** NT File # Class || Rec ||
CONSERVATION AREA: Gray Street Commercial area **LEVEL OF STREETScape SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 |X| 3 ||
STYLE: International

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. 1960s
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

MATERIALS:

Roof: corrugated iron
Walls: cream brick/concrete
Dressings: cement render/tiles
Plinth: red brick
Windows: aluminium
Paving: terrazzo
Other: tiled stallboards

INTEGRITY: E |X| G || F || P || **SURVEY DATE:** 5/8/91 **NEG FILE:** 12/18,19 **REPORTER:** tfh
NOTABLE FEATURES: Company logo in terrazzo, entrance lobby, tower with flagpole, period use of materials.

CONDITION: E |X| G || F || P ||

SIGNIFICANCE: Replaced the very significant Victoria Hotel and now forms the third modern corner of this critical intersection.

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

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

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS: **ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:** **TITLE:**
land to Acheson French, 6/10/51 **Sec** CA
James Blastock, owner of the Victoria Hotel,8 11
from 1855-57,

COUNCIL COMPUTER #

MORE INFO OVER |X|

HAMDS147

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Colonial Mutual Life Building
89 Gray Street

The land on which the CML Building was constructed was originally sold at auction by the Crown in 1851 to Acheson French, one of the most interesting and individual of the pioneers of Hamilton. ⁽ⁱ⁾ By 1855 James Blastock had built the Victoria Hotel on the site which proved to be one of the most important hotels in Hamilton. ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ It became a focus for the development of the commercial life of the town. It was demolished in the 1960s for the construction of the CML Building which is of local significance for its architecture and for the historical associations of this nineteenth century life assurance company. The builder was Reg Williams who had built many of the interwar developments in Gray Street. ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ It is a classic example of the period with its materials and details and appears to be constructed with a reinforced concrete frame. It is derivative of the International style. The building is significantly intact and in excellent condition.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town:	1960s
Tertiary Industry:	Life insurance
	Retail

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Uren's Pharmacy, 90 Gray Street
William's Building, 91 Gray Street
Walter House, 169 Gray Street

REFERENCES

Garden, D, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.

FOOTNOTES

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- ⁱ Garden, D, *Hamilton*, pp 14-15
ⁱⁱ Ibid. p 58.
ⁱⁱⁱ Conversation with his daughter, Mrs Peg Christie.