

BUILDING TITLE: Former Bank **BUILDING ADDRESS: 58-60 Thompson Street**
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || **B** || **C** | **X** | **D** || **E** || **BUILDING TYPE: bank**
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: Conservative Classical
CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:
1. 1860s
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
Sources:
Trethowan, B, *Bank Study*

MATERIALS:
Roof: corrugated iron
Walls: rendered brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: rockface bluestone
Windows: timber dhs
Paving: none
Other: cast iron downpipes

SURVEY DATE: 17/5/91 **NEG FILE: 8/20** **REPORTER: tfh**
INTEGRITY: E | **X** | **G** || **F** || **P** || **NOTABLE FEATURES: separate entries**

CONDITION: E | **X** | **G** || **F** || **P** ||
SIGNIFICANCE: One of very early banks in Hamilton and important as an element in the streetscape with its neighbours.
ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:
Appropriate: **Rec** **Inappropriate:** **Rec**
shutters instead of trellis front doors x 2 O
paint scheme S
trellis over windows R

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

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS:	ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:	TITLE:
land to J Hutchison, 20/5/52		Sec CA
Bank of Victoria, first owner (?)		5 20
	Lands Office, occupant 1938	
	Cameron & Lowenstein, occupant 1964	
	R E Henderson, owner 1980	

COUNCIL COMPUTER # **MORE INFO OVER** | **X** | **HAMDS150**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Former Bank
58-60 Thompson Street

This building has local significance for its architecture and historical associations. It was built on land originally sold by the crown at auction in 1852 to a J Hutchison. ⁽ⁱ⁾ This was probably John Hutcheson (c1819-70) who, with his brother George, was an early miller in Hamilton. ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ Hutcheson also bought the block next door and may have lived in the townhouse which survives there. The bank was built in the early 1860s or even the 1850s and it appears to have been occupied by the Bank of Victoria or the Colonial Bank. ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ It represents the first stage of banking in the town and is more humble than those which date from the next decades. The building has the standard plan and form of early banks with two entrances, one for the chamber at the front and one for the residence at the rear. It was most important that the bank manager lived on the premises. The Conservative Classical style was used to create a sense of reliability and respectability in the bank's depositors. The facade which has the simplest of classical detailing is slightly assymmetrical.

The building has long been used as offices both for the Lands Department and for various professionals. Now one section is occupied by the Medici Hair Salon and the other is vacant. The building remains significantly intact and is in good condition. Like several of its neighbours it represents the expansion of the Gray Street commercial area into surrounding streets. It is an important element within the streetscape, especially with its neighbour at 56 Thompson Street and in contrast to Roxburgh House, 64 Thompson Street.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town: 1860s
Tertiary Industry: Banking

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Roxburgh House, 64 Thompson Street
Townhouse, 56 Thompson Street
Former National Bank, 98 Thompson Street
Former CBA & ESA Bank, 94 Thompson Street
National Bank & former CBC Bank, 131 Gray Street

REFERENCES

Garden, D, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.
HSA DP No 262.
Trethowan, B, *A Study of Banks in Victoria, 1851-1939* for the HBPC, 1976.

FOOTNOTES

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- ⁱ *Township of Hamilton Parish Plan*. No other spelling mistakes have been found in the Parish Plan but the authors are confident that this is John Hutcheson. Alternatively the difference in spelling may be Garden's.
- ⁱⁱ Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 48-49.
- ⁱⁱⁱ It has not been possible to corroborate this with the Rate Books but this building seems to have preceeded the bank built at 131 Gray Street in 1867.