

BUILDING TITLE: Robsons Pharmacy **BUILDING ADDRESS:** 160 Gray St
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B || C |X| D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** shop
DESIGNATION: HBR Reg No File # AHC File # NT File # Class || Rec ||
CONSERVATION AREA: Gray St Commercial **LEVEL OF STREETScape SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 |X| 3 ||
STYLE: Moderne

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. 1938
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

1. HSA DP Nos 225 & 226

MATERIALS:

Roof: corrugated iron
Walls: cream brick
Dressings: magnesium brick
Plinth: magnesium brick & cement render
Windows: steel
Paving:
Other: pressed metal fascia & soffit of cantilever verandah

SURVEY DATE: 7/3/91

NEG FILE: 2/25

REPORTER: TFH

INTEGRITY: E || G |X| F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:** Combination of cream and magnesium brick and steel windows.

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

SIGNIFICANCE:

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

| | | | |
|---------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Appropriate: | Rec | Inappropriate: | Rec |
| | | original shopfront replaced | O |
| | | painted sign | RAM |

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

| | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------|
| SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS: | ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS: | TITLE: |
| land to E Fowler, 8/09/52 | | Sec C A |
| R P Camp agent for the owner, the Union | | 5 7 |
| | Trustee Co of Aust, 1938 | |

COUNCIL COMPUTER # **MORE INFO OVER** **HAMDS59**

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Robson's Pharmacy
158 Gray Street

This building has local significance for its architectural interest as a chemist's shop in the Moderne style, and for its historical associations with a profession which played a key role in the early history of the Hamilton township. (i) An earlier chemist's shop, George Gill's pharmacy, survives at 152 Gray Street. (ii) Robson's Pharmacy, which dates from the late 1930s, was owned in 1938 by R Camp as agent for the Union Trustee Co of Australia. (iii) The building is another in the large number built in Hamilton between the wars and, while there is no evidence that it was the design of Seabrooke and Fildes, architects who designed so many buildings in Hamilton at that time, it could well be attributed to them on stylistic grounds. (iv) More certain is that it was built by Reg Williams who was very active then.

The building complements the other interwar development in Gray Street. It has new shop fronts but is otherwise intact. It is in good condition and contributes substantially to the streetscape.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town: 1930s
Tertiary Industry: Pharmacy.
Health: Chemists
Professions: Chemists

ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS

George Gill, chemist, 152 Gray Street.

REFERENCES

HSA DP No. 225-6, For R Camp, agent for Union Trustee Co. of Aust., Poiner's Cafe, 160 Gray Street, 31 October 1938;
For R P Camp - new sinks etc., 3 June 1959.
Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.
Hamilton Rate Books.

FOOTNOTES

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- i Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, passim.
ii *Hamilton Rate Book 1875*, No. 114 (Edward Howard Jackson, chemist, brick shop, NAV 30 pounds); 1904, No. 164 (George Gill, chemist, shop, NAV 30 pounds).
iii HSA DP No. 225-6.
iv The use of the zig-zag bricks and title panel mitigate against such an attribution.