

BUILDING TITLE: Roxburgh House **BUILDING ADDRESS:** 64 Thompson Street
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B || C |X| D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** detached house
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: Italianate

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. 1874-5 (doctor's residence)
- 2.
3. 1950s (showroom addition)
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

- 1 Garden, D, Hamilton, p 92 and Hamilton Rate Books, 1874, No. 129
- 3 HSA DP No 264

MATERIALS:

Roof: slate
Walls: rendered brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: cement render
Windows: timber dhs
Paving: red brick
Other:

SURVEY DATE: 17/5/91 **NEG FILE:** 8/21 **REPORTER:** tfh

INTEGRITY: E || G |X| F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:** 1950s showroom addition at the side.

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

SIGNIFICANCE: One of the largest nineteenth century homes in Hamilton and significant for its associations with Dr Wylie, the first owner and with William Holden, the builder.

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

Appropriate:	Rec	Inappropriate:	Rec
		1950s showroom addition at the side	R
		dark paint colours	S
		square section spouting & downpipes	O
		missing verandah (?)	O
		front door	O
		front fence	S

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

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS:

land to D Cameron, 20/5/52
 Dr J R Wylie, owner 1875

ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:

TITLE:
 Sec CA
 5 1

COUNCIL COMPUTER #

MORE INFO OVER |X|

HAMDS151

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Roxburgh House
64 Thompson Street

Constructed in 1874-5 for Dr J R Wylie, Roxburgh House is of local significance both for its architecture and its historical associations as one of the large and elegant homes built for the Hamilton's medical men in the last century. ⁽ⁱ⁾ Roxburgh House had fourteen rooms and at the time was the largest house in the town costing 2,100 pounds. The builder was William Holden, who also constructed Dr Viall's Hewlett House at 36 Gray Street, St Ronan's for Sigismund Jacoby, and the Hamilton Academy (now St Mary's School). ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ Despite their affluent lifestyles, during the last century many Hamilton doctors died young. Wylie was only 33 years old when he died in 1876. ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ His widow, Mary Wylie, became the owner of Roxburgh House in 1877, which she leased to Henry James, surgeon, whilst she occupied an adjoining brick house and leased brick offices to Samuel Samuel, solicitor. ^(iv)

The style of the house is Italianate, although a simple and sober example of it, which was ubiquitously popular in Melbourne for domestic buildings about 1850 when it was used for Bishops Court, East Melbourne and Toorak House, the governor's residence. With Hewlett House, Roxburgh House is the best example of the style in Hamilton. It is also one of the few buildings with a slate roof. The appearance of the building has been seriously compromised by the addition of a new showroom at the side. Otherwise the building remains substantially intact and is in good condition. It is a major element within the streetscape.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Health: Doctors
Industry: Building

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Hewlett House, 36 Gray Street.
St Ronan's, 5 Dryden Street
St Mary's school (formerly the Hamilton Academy), corner Pope and Collins Streets.

REFERENCES

Hamilton Rate Books
Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.
HSA DP No 264

FOOTNOTES

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- ⁱ *Hamilton Rate Book 1874*, No. 129 (land.pt allot.20, NAV 12 pounds); 1875, No. 130 (house, NAV 200 pounds).
ⁱⁱ Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, p 92.
ⁱⁱⁱ Ibid.
^{iv} *Hamilton Rate Book 1877*, Nos. 126, 127 & 128. This may have been the former bank at 58-60 Thompson Street, with its residence and chamber.