

BUILDING TITLE: The George Hotel				BUILDING ADDRESS: 205-221 Gray St			
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A	B	C	X	D	E	BUILDING TYPE:	
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. 1883 (Grange Family Hotel)							
2. 1920s (named George Hotel)							
3. 1938 (sewered)							
4. 1965-66 (motel extensions)							
5.							
6.							
Sources:							
1 D Garden, Hamilton, pp 221, 130-1							
Hamilton Spectator, 4/1/1883,							
3 HSA DP 125 for Mrs J F Burge (1938)							
4 ibid, 1965-66							
MATERIALS:							
Roof:	corr'ed iron?						
Walls:	brick						
Dressings:	cement render						
Plinth:	brick						
Windows:	aluminium						
Paving:							
Other:	enamelled steel sign						
SURVEY DATE: 7/3/91				NEG FILE: 2/33		REPORTER: TH	
INTEGRITY: E	G	F	X	P	NOTABLE FEATURES: Enamelled steel sign over glass block tower from Seabrook & Fildes alterations.		
CONDITION: E	G	X	F	P			
SIGNIFICANCE: Keystone building in the streetscape which has undergone many alterations, the most significant of which were the 1938 alterations designed by Seabrook & Fildes, prominent Melbourne architects.							
ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:							
Appropriate:	Rec	Inappropriate:				Rec	
O=reinstate original design S=reinstate sympathetic alternative R=remove RAM=remove by approved method							
SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS:				ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:		TITLE:	
land to Thos Smith, 18/2/52				Seabrook & Fildes, architects 1938		Sec C A	
Mrs J F Burge (owner 1938)				Reg Williams, builder, 1938		1 5 14 15	
				The George Hotel/Motel Pty Ltd (1965-70)			
				L Roberts (owner 1980)			
				Malseed Holdings present owner			
COUNCIL COMPUTER # 10114.0021				MORE INFO OVER		X	
						HAMDS037	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

George Hotel
213 Gray Street

This building has local significance for its associations with the early history of brewing and hotels in Hamilton, and particularly with Charles Haferhorn, publican and brewer. It was opened as the Grange Family Hotel in 1883 by Haferhorn, who, in the 1860s, ran the Grange Brewery in Gray Street and, in the 1870s, hotels at Balmoral and Coleraine. He died in 1884. ⁽ⁱ⁾ Nearly closed in 1919 on account of its dilapidated condition, the building became known as the George Hotel during the 1920s. ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ It enjoyed a major refurbishment under the ownership of Mrs J F Burge in 1938 with a new facade by the prominent Melbourne architects, Seabrook and Fildes who were very active in Hamilton between the wars. Their favourite motif, a strongly vertical glass brick tower has been covered over by enamelled sheet metal. The design has been seriously compromised by other unsympathetic alterations. Their renovations at the Argyle Arms Hotel at 235 Gray Street survive better. Motel unit extensions were made in 1965-66. ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ Nonetheless, the building still acts as a keystone in the Gray Street streetscape for its size and scale.

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Evolution of the Town: 1880s, 1920s, 1960s
Secondary Industry: Breweries
Tertiary Industry: Hotels & Motels.

ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS

7 Gray Street (1878, address for Richard Heath, publican)
5 Skene Street (occupied in the 1870s by David Brayshay, publican etc.)
Scullions, 196 Gray Street
Millers Department Store, 121 Gray Street
Argyle Arms Hotel, 235 Gray Street

REFERENCES

Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.
HSA DP No. 125, for Mrs J F Burge, dated 9 June 1938.
HSA DP No. 125, proposed extensions (designed by G W Kearnot), dated 4 October 1965.
HSA DP No. 125, alterations and additions to motel units 30 May 1966.

FOOTNOTES

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- ⁱ Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, pp 130-131; *Hamilton Spectator*, 12 August 1882, 4 January 1882, 11 October 1884 and 16 October 1884.
ⁱⁱ Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, p 221.
ⁱⁱⁱ *HSA DP* No. 125, designed by G W Kearnot.