

BUILDING TITLE: Urquhart's Restaurant **BUILDING ADDRESS:** 58 Gray St
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A || B || C |X| D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:** shop
DESIGNATION: HBR Reg No File # 60 0016 4 **AHC File #** **NT File #** **Class** || **Rec** ||
CONSERVATION AREA: Gray St Commercial **LEVEL OF STREETScape SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 |X| 3 ||
STYLE: Mannerist

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. 1891
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

1 parapet

MATERIALS:

Roof: corrugated iron
Walls: rendered brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth:
Windows: timber dhs/alum shopfrnt
Paving: none
Other: plain brick on side
and rear

SURVEY DATE: 7/3/91 **NEG FILE:** 2/11 **REPORTER:** TFH

INTEGRITY: E || G |X| F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:** Four paned double hung sash windows which are elongated and the pediment with a missing bottom chord.

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

SIGNIFICANCE: Unusual architectural detailing in the windows and parapet. Also for its historical associations with notable locals.

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

Appropriate:	Rec	Inappropriate:	Rec
		glazed door on east side	S
		shopfront	S

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

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS:

land to J M McConarchy, 8/9/52
L Horwitz, owner 1890s

ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:

TITLE:

	Sec	C A
	9	5
J B Westacott, solicitor, c1907		
Eleventh Trafalgar Pty Ltd present owner		

COUNCIL COMPUTER # 10905.0007

MORE INFO OVER ||

HAMDS050

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Urquhart's Restaurant
58 Gray Street

This shop has local significance for its architectural interest which lies in its late Victorian Classical style and its combination of Mannerist and Gothic details. It also has historical associations with a number of well known Hamilton townsmen, including solicitors, a local architect and auctioneer. In the 1890s the buildings were associated with Louis Horwitz (1858-1919), who, after a brilliant beginning as Hamilton's youngest Mayor (at age 24), in the 1890s became the centre of a local financial scandal. ⁽ⁱ⁾ A wine shop on the site was owned at first by Horwitz and at the turn of the century by Myer Silberberg of Melbourne. ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾ By c1907 the property was owned by another wealthy Hamilton solicitor, John B Westacott (1868-1944), who also became Mayor of Hamilton. ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ Westacott extended the buildings c1908, letting offices to George Holgate (auctioneer), Horace Destree (accountant), and Frank Hammond (architect), who designed many of Hamilton's most prestigious buildings. ^(iv)

The building has lost its original verandah and shop front but otherwise remains substantially intact. It is in good condition. Along with its neighbours it is a significant part of the streetscape as one of a group of three.

ASSOCIATED HISTORICAL THEMES

Evolution of the Town: 1890s, 1900s
Professions: solicitors

ASSOCIATED BUILDINGS

James Berry House, 162 Gray Street, similar pediment
Mechanics' Institute, 47 Gray
Street (1903 additions by Frank Hammond)

REFERENCES

Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.
Hamilton Rate Books.

FOOTNOTES

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- ⁱ Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, pp 122, 173, and 185.
ⁱⁱ *Hamilton Rate Book 1894*, No. 249 (Thomas Tucker, owner/occupier); 1900, No. 248 (Horwitz owner, wine shop, NAV 45 pounds); 1905, No. 275 (M Silberberg, owner, wine shop, NAV 56 pounds).
ⁱⁱⁱ *Ibid.*, 1907, No. 284 (J B Westacott, owner, shop and dwelling, NAV 55 pounds); Garden, Don, *Hamilton*, p 173.
^{iv} *Hamilton Rate Book 1908*, No. 292-295 (J B Westacott, offices, NAV 75 pounds).