

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 20/01/20



Riversdale Hotel

Location

277 Auburn Road HAWTHORN, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO595

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The Riversdale Hotel, 277 Auburn Road, Hawthorn, designed by architect William Pitt and constructed in 1888 for owner John J Rosney. The hotel was run by JJ Rosney until his death in the early 1890s, after which his widow, Annie Rosney, was the owner and licensee until 1930.

The two-storey addition to the east side of the Riversdale Road frontage is not significant.

How is it significant?

The Riversdale Hotel is of local aesthetic, architectural and historic significance to the City of Boroondara.

Why is it significant?

The Riversdale Hotel is of aesthetic and architectural significance as a representative example of the Italianate Boom style of the late 1880s as applied to a major commercial building. Typical features of this style include Renaissance-inspired triangular and segmentally arched pediments to upper-storey windows, a balustrade

parapet, and an ornate double-storey arcade at the centre of the Auburn Road facade, all executed in cement render. (Criterion E)

The Riversdale Hotel is of architectural significance as a rare commercial design by William Pitt in the City of Boroondara. Pitt (1855-1918) was one of the leading practitioners of the 'Boom style' in 1880s metropolitan Melbourne, designing major landmarks ranging from Queen's Bridge, the Princess Theatre, St Kilda and Brunswick town halls, the suite of Venetian Gothic Olderfleet, Stock Exchange and Rialto buildings, and numerous local hotels. (Criterion H)

The Riversdale Hotel is of historic significance as a local landmark and gathering place - as licensed premises - since it was built in 1888. It provided a visual and economic anchor to the new commercial precinct which grew at the intersection of Auburn and Riversdale roads, accelerated by the coming of a horse-drawn tram terminus in January 1890, just after the hotel was built. The hotel also illustrates the new burst of hotel

construction that came with the new residential subdivisions and the overall property development boom of late 1880s metropolitan Melbourne. (Criteria A & G)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Hawthorn Heritage Study, Meredith Gould Conservation Architects, 1993; Boroondara - Individual Heritage Citations, City of Boroondara, 2016; Boroondara - Municipal-Wide Heritage Gap Study Volume 3: Hawthorn, Context, 2018;
Other Names	Riversdale Hotel,
Hermes Number	199603
Property Number	

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place data owner.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>