

Heritage Item #





MI Reference: 32 HCWA No: 1865	Place Name: Shamrock Hotel	Other Name/s: Rileys Bar; The Farmers Home Hotel
		Date of Review: September 2021



Address: 112 Fitzgerald Street East, Northam	Lot No: 26 and 27 Property Key: Plan Diagram: (D)69077 Vol Folio: 1723/045 Assess No: A11030
Locality: Northam	GPS: -31.651909, 116.673218
Current Use: Hotel	Original Use(s): Hotel
HERITAGE LISTINGS	
Listings: State Register of Heritage Places (2009)	
CONSTRUCTION	
Date of Construction: Original: c.1866, Remodelled: c.1890	
Architect / Builder: A.E. & A.B. Cox	
Architectural Style: Federation Filigree	
PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	
<p>Description:</p> <p>Shamrock Hotel, located at 112 Fitzgerald Street East, is a two-storey masonry and stone building with a concealed corrugated steel roof displaying characteristics of the Federation Filigree style of architecture.</p> <p>The building addresses a bend in the street where Ensign Dale Place meets Fitzgerald Street East. The hotel has a decorative parapet with two pediments and decorative rendered entablature. There is a rendered shamrock at the apex of the pediments with the words 'ESTABLISHED 1866' inscribed below. Below the parapet the words 'SHAMROCK HOTEL' are inscribed.</p> <p>The front façade has a two-storey corrugated steel bull nose verandah supported by square timber posts and corner brackets. The verandah is a contemporary reconstruction. The ground floor has random course stone construction above a rendered plinth with rendered masonry walls to the first floor. The ground floor openings are arched with tuckpointed face brick surrounds.</p> <p>The windows are timber casements with texture glass highlights. The doors are half glazed double timber doors with highlights. The doors are recessed with checkerboard</p>	

<p>tiles to the entrance. The first floor has double hung timber windows with painted brick surrounds.</p> <p>There are trees and plantings along the front footpath. To the rear of the building there is a contemporary addition that addresses Minson Avenue and the Avon River to the west.</p>
Condition: Good
HISTORICAL
<p>Notes:</p> <p><i>The following information includes extracts from the heritage assessment of 23-325 & 16-334 Fitzgerald Street and 1-15 & 12-18 Peel Terrace, Northam, prepared by Greenward Consulting, June 2015.</i></p> <p>The Shamrock Hotel was originally the Farmers' Home, built by a Mr J. Ainsworth. George Throssell purchased the property, intending to build a hotel. Initially he was refused a licence to sell alcohol, but it was granted in 1866. The hotel changed owners a few times, and trade was affected by the strength of the Temperance movement in Northam. Joseph O'Hara bought the Farmers' Home in 1891, with plans to make it the best hotel in town. The building originally displayed characteristics of the Victorian Georgian style of architecture before major extensions were added and the name was changed to the Shamrock Hotel.</p> <p>The following extract is from the <i>Sunday Times</i> (5 October 1902):</p> <p><i>Mr. A. C McCorry, of the Shamrock Hotel, Northam, has just completed extensive additions to his hotel, which now contains over 30 rooms, all well ventilated and lofty, and mostly fitted with electric light. There are single rooms and rooms for families. A balcony 170 feet long affords facilities for promenading and from which a lovely view is obtainable. The water supply is from underground tanks, pumped to an altitude, from which it gravitates through pipes to all parts of the house. The improvements were designed by Mr. Proctor [sic., Henry James Prockter), architect, and the work carried out by Messrs. Millington and Brabazon to the satisfaction of the owner. Mr. McCorry has a couple of farms, which supply dairy and other produce for the hotel. Butter is made on the premises, a cream separator being used to assist in this work. The yards and stables are up to date, and as Mr. McCorry is well and favorably known good business should result.</i></p> <p>The extra land that was part of the site began to be subdivided and sold from around 1913.</p> <p>Various internal and external upgrades were undertaken during the twentieth century. In 2011, the verandah was removed due to its poor condition with restoration works planned for the stonework and verandah.</p> <p>Originally designed in the Federation Filigree style, the loss of its verandahs caused the building to display aspects of the Federation Free Classical style. In 2019, restoration works to the building were completed resulting in the reinstatement of the verandah.</p> <p>As of September 2021, the building is occupied by Dome Café and Premier Hotel.</p>
Theme: Hospitality Industry and Tourism
<p>Associations: A.E. & A.B. Cox (1920s/ 30s alterations), Antonio Francisco & Geraldine Guijarro, Francis & Brigid Kirk, George Christmass, & son Charles Christmass snr, George Throssell & J.R. Morrell (brother in law), James Lever Ainsworth, Joseph & Margaret Ann O'Hara, Neville & Michelle Martin, Swan Brewery Co., Neville James & Michele Martin, Elmfield Investments Pty Ltd</p>
<p>Heritage Assessment or Conservation Plan: Heritage Assessment of 23-325 & 16-334 Fitzgerald Street and 1-15 & 12-18 Peel Terrace, Northam. Prepared by Greenward Consulting, June 2015.</p>

Public Access: Yes
SIGNIFICANCE
Level of Integrity: Medium
Level of Authenticity: Medium
Statement of Significance:
Shamrock Hotel is of cultural heritage significance for the following reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategic location of the Shamrock Hotel on the bend in Fitzgerald Street gives the building considerable aesthetic and streetscape value and contributes to the heritage character of the main commercial street of Northam. • The place being dominated by its 1890s extensions, is a good example of a substantial Federation period hotel, originally designed in the Federation Filigree style. • The place has historical significance as one of the earliest hotels in Northam, originally licensed in 1866. • The place has social significance as it has been the focus for much of the social life in the town. • The place is making a significant contribution to the growth of the tourism industry in the region.
Level of Significance: Exceptional
Heritage Category: 1

Additional Photographs	
	
East Façade Source: Municipal Heritage Inventory, 2012	East Facade Source: Stephen Carrick Architects September 2021
	
Parapet with decorated pediment Source: Stephen Carrick Architects September 2021	"Shamrock Hotel" inscribed below parapet Source: Stephen Carrick Architects September 2021



Ground Floor entry
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
September 2021



Verandah to front facade
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
September 2021



Contemporary addition to the rear
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
September 2021