

Area: Geraldton	Place Number: 289	Category: 2
Assessment Date: 05/12/1996	Last Revision Date: 01/12/2009	
HCWA Number: 13452	Asset ID: MCH126708	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Mercantile Club
Other Names:	159-61 Marine Terrace
Type of Place:	Club/Shop
Address:	159-61 Marine Terrace
Suburb:	Geraldton

LOCATION

Map Reference:	14.15	GPS Northing:	6814618.00	GPS Easting:	266540.000
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Photo Description:

Triangular pediments a feature of the parapet (Date: 3/08/2007, R. Milne)

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 2	Assess No.:	11546
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	
Dia/Plan:			

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Club/Shops		
Current Use:	Club/Shops		
Ownership:			
Public Access:	Restricted	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Brick (Rendered)	Roof:	Corrugated Iron
Condition:	Good	Integrity:	
Original fabric:			
Modifications:	Ground floor shop fronts altered		

This large two storey painted rendered masonry building fronts directly on to the street. To the front elevation ground floor there are two shops with large shop windows and entry doors. Between the shops are centrally placed double timber entry doors which provide access to the second storey. A suspended box awning runs the entire length of the building and this is enhanced with a triangular extension in front of the main entry doors. The second storey has a rendered masonry parapet with two triangular pediments above a breakfront at each end of the building. To the centre of the building and below the parapet, raised masonry lettering spells out "Mercantile Club Inc." The windows to the first floor are aluminium framed and enhanced with plain rendered mouldings painted in contrasting colours. Below the central window a flagpole is set at an angle from the building. There is a new brick two storey extension to the rear with parking to the ground floor.

HISTORY

Construction Date:	unknown	Source:	See supporting information
Architect:	Unknown		
Builder:	Unknown		

The first annual meeting of the Mercantile Club was held in July 1901. At this time the Mercantile Club held their meetings in the Freemason's Hall

located at Town Lot 5, Marine Terrace.

In November 1949, the Mercantile Club purchased the buildings at Town Lot 7 (present location). At this time the property comprised of two shops, club premises, a billiard saloon, a dental surgery, a warehouse and a private residence. Old photographs of Marine Terrace reveal that this building was originally constructed between 1893 and 1910.

In 1973 the Mercantile Club building was modified, with extensive additions being constructed to the rear, including a suspended slab and internal alterations. A full set of plans are held in the State Records WA Collection (AU WA S1457- cons5094 2702). Selected plans are held in the Geraldton Regional Library (G 11453).

According to Shirley Scotter the building used to accommodate Lakes Jewellers and William Knott's Grocery Store.

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	308 Commercial services and industries 408 Institutions
AHC:	3.19 Marketing and retailing 8.5 Forming associations

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Mercantile Club has considerable aesthetic appeal given its large scale, style and retention of decorative elements to the second storey such as the triangular pediments and parapet. As such the place makes district.

RECOMMENDATION:

Many of the buildings on Marine Terrace, between Cathedral Avenue and Fitzgerald Street, have high streetscape value due to their similar scale, style, retention of decorative features and period of construction.

Consideration should be given to recognising this area as a precinct with encouragement given to owners to enhance the heritage values of the buildings.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category:	2
Level of Significance:	CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE: Very important to the heritage of the locality.
Management Recommendation:	Conservation of the place is highly recommended. Any proposed change should

not unduly impact on the heritage values of the place and should retain significant fabric wherever feasible.

OTHER LISTINGS

No other listings

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Considine & Griffiths Architects, "Geraldton Foreshore Conservation Plan", 2002 - Building 25.

Gallaher, K., "List of openings, inaugurations and foundations", GLLSC. GLLSPC - Marine Terrace.

Geraldton Rates Books, 1900.

"Western Mail", 20 July 1901, p.86.

"Geraldton Guardian", 12 November 1949, p. 2.

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

Large, prominent building in Marine Terrace (Date: 5/12/1996, Suba & Grundy)

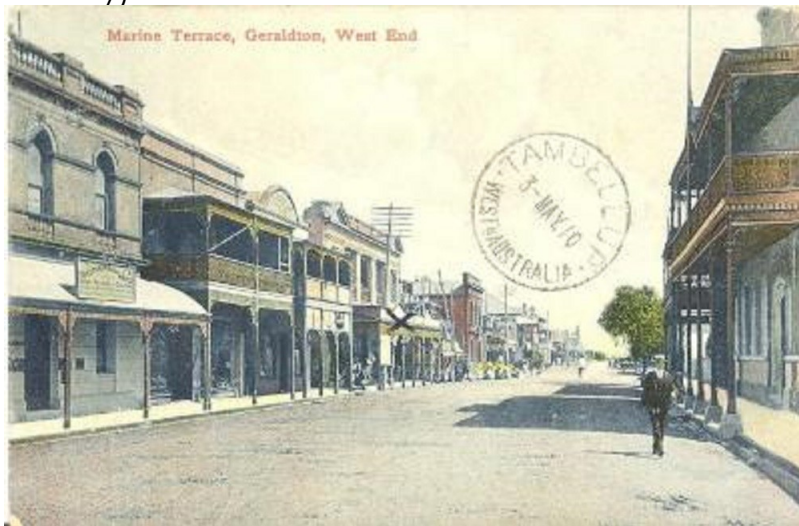


Photo Description:

Postcard, present day Mercantile Club building in view (nb. Cross marked on original) (Date: 1910)

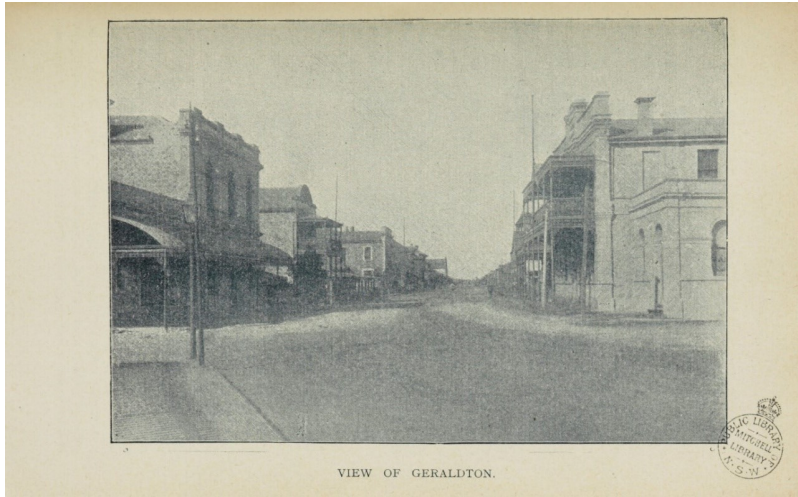


Photo Description:

Taken from "Western Australia in 1893" (Date: 1893, Francis Hart)