

Area: Geraldton	Place Number: 299	Category: 1
Assessment Date: 30/10/1996	Last Revision Date: 18/12/2009	
HCWA Number: 1067	Asset ID: MCH127019	

PLACE DETAILS

Name:	Homeswest Building
Other Names:	Union Bank, ANZ Bank & Quarters
Type of Place:	Office
Address:	201 Marine Terrace
Suburb:	Geraldton

LOCATION

Map Reference: 14.15	GPS Northing: 6814561.00	GPS Easting: 266404.000
		000



Photo Description:
13/04/2008
Tanya Henkel
Refurbished offices.

SITE DETAILS

Lot No.:	Lot 2	Assess No.:	11553
Reserv No.:		Vol/Fol:	
Dia/Plan:			

USE OF PLACE

Original Use:	Bank		
Current Use:	Office		
Ownership:	Homeswest		
Public Access:	Restricted	Occupied:	Occupied

DESCRIPTION

Walls:	Brick (Rendered)	Roof:	Corrugated Iron
Condition:	Good	Integrity:	
Original fabric:			
Modifications:			

The two storey, former Union Bank building is of rendered brick (or stone) construction in a 'Victorian Free Classical' [1] style. Internal inspection was not possible; however, the layout appears to indicate the typical banking chamber facility/offices of the period, on the ground floor, with a manager's residence above. Painted, rendered walls with horizontal banding, and rendered mouldings over arched windows, dominate the facade on the front street boundary. Off the street front, on the south west corner of the building, a two storey verandah on two sides of an 'L' shaped forecourt, identifies the entry. Lattice balustrading and friezes on the verandah may be an improvisation on original detailing. This confuses the original fabric and period a little as does a low, rendered wall with wrought iron panels enclosing the forecourt on the street line. On the other hand, the questionable replacement of timber with aluminium window frames on the street front, can not be confused, and has been a pragmatic solution facilitating the ongoing useful occupation of the building for office purposes. The roof is hipped, corrugated iron and extends out over the wall to form a narrow eaves supported on pairs of small console brackets. Several large chimneys with rendered mouldings complete the roof scape. The paint scheme for the overall building is strong and compliments its character in today's street scape, but may not reflect an accurate representation of its original time frame.

[1] Apperly R et al., "A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture": (Sydney: Angus & Robertson 1989), pp 104 - 107

HISTORY

Construction Date:	1885	Source:	"Victorian Express"
Architect:	G.C. Inskip		
Builder:	E. Keane		

The original Union Bank premises were located on Gregory Street near the Geraldton Hotel. ("Victorian Express", 7/1/1885) Geraldton Town Lot 2 was officially registered to the Union Bank on 30 May, 1885. ("Victorian Express", 6/6/1885) Tenders were called for the erection of the Union Bank by the Architect G.C. Inskip on 25 April, 1885. ("Victorian Express", 9/5/1885) Mr E. Keane was the contractor for the Union Bank in Marine Terrace as well as the Western Australian Bank, which was constructed simultaneously. A local newspaper report described the building: "The Union Bank design is a particularly charming one, and is highly creditable to the architect, Mr Inskip. The work is in thoroughly competent hands, as Mr Keane has already proved himself by work done in the colony to be a contractor of ability and experience." ("Victorian Express", 20/6/1885)

HISTORIC THEMES

HCWA:	308 Commercial services and industries 104 Land allocation and subdivision 107 Settlements
AHC:	3.18.2 Banking and lending 4.1.1 Selecting township sites

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Union Bank building has high aesthetic, social and historic significance for Geraldton as an example of an early business premises with residential accommodation above; it provides a sample of the former architecture of the town, where much of it has disappeared, and it makes a significant contribution to the streetscape.

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 buildings.

Some research needs to be conducted to ensure the accuracy of interpretation of the finishes and detailing of the former Union Bank so that, at an appropriate time in the future, any corrections that might be desirable can be incorporated so as to add to the integrity of the

contribution the building already makes to the town.

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY

Management Category:	1
Level of Significance:	EXCEPTIONAL SIGNIFICANCE: Essential to the heritage of the locality.
Management Recommendation:	Conservation of the place is considered essential. Any proposed change should not unduly impact on the significance of the place and be in accordance with either a Conservation Plan or Heritage Impact Statement.

OTHER LISTINGS

No other listings

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Considine & Griffiths Architects, "Geraldton Foreshore Conservation Plan", 2002 - Building 33.
"Victorian Express".
GLLSPC - Buildings (Miscellaneous) & Marine Terrace.
Feilman & Associates, "Survey of Places of Historic and Landscape Significance in Geraldton", 1977.

OTHER PHOTOS



Photo Description:

30/10/1996

Suba, Callow & Grundy

View from Marine Terrace.