



134 Macquarie Street (GPO Box 618)  
Hobart Tasmania 7001  
Phone: 1300 850 332 (local call cost)  
Email: [enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au)  
Web: [www.heritage.tas.gov.au](http://www.heritage.tas.gov.au)

**Name:** Hobart Town Hall  
**Status:** Provisionally Registered  
**Tier:** State

**THR ID Number:** 12039  
**Municipality:** Hobart City Council  
**Boundary:** CPR11253

### Location Addresses

50 MACQUARIE ST, HOBART 7000 TAS  
MACQUARIE ST, HOBART 7000 TAS

### Title References

142916/1

### Property Id

2567107



Hobart Town Hall c.1920s  
Tasmanian Archives: NS892/1/64



Hobart Town Hall, c1875  
State Library of Tasmania.



Hobart Town Hall foyer  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Hobart Town Hall, grand staircase  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Assembly room  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Assembly room and organ  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Hobart Town Hall, Macquarie Street  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Corner Macquarie & Argyle St  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Hobart Town Hall, Argyle Street  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Hobart Town Hall, Davey St  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Davey St Wing, Elizabeth Street  
Heritage Tasmania 2021



Corner Elizabeth & Davey St  
Heritage Tasmania 2021

### Statement of Significance: (non-statutory summary)

Hobart Town Hall demonstrates the establishment and growth of local government administration in Tasmania . Hobart Town Hall is the location of the first local government in Tasmania that has occupied the site since 1866. The site has the potential to contain subsurface features and deposits associated with use during the earliest years of British settlement in Van Diemen's Land. Hobart Town Hall is important as a place of representation , and of high social significance to the people of Tasmania as a place for community and formal events, protests, recreation and representation. Hobart Town Hall a substantial and centrally located civic building. The 1924 addition to the Argyle Street wing and Davey Street wing/Annexe demonstrates the evolving function of local council, and the need to represent and provide services for an increasing population. Hobart Town Hall has strong associations with notable nineteenth century architect, Henry Hunter, and Hobart architectural firm Bush Parkes Shugg & Moon, and Hobart City Council. The Town Hall is a prominent landmark on Macquarie Street, a main thoroughfare through Hobart that features several grand nineteenth century civic and commercial buildings.

### Why is it significant?:

The Heritage Council may enter a place in the Heritage Register if it meets one or more of the following criteria from the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995:

**a) The place is important to the course or pattern of Tasmania's history.**

Hobart Town Hall demonstrates the establishment and growth of local government administration in Tasmania . Hobart Town Hall is the location of the first local government in Tasmania and has occupied the site since 1866. The increasing population of Hobart and the evolution of role of the Council is demonstrated through alterations and additions on site, including 1920s Argyle Street wing addition, 1924 Caretaker's Cottage, c1940s substation and 1964 Davey Street extension.

**b) The place possesses uncommon or rare aspects of Tasmania's history.**

No Data Recorded

**c) The place has the potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Tasmania's history.**

Hobart Town Hall has the potential to contain subsurface features and deposits associated with the use of the site during the earliest years of British settlement for the Van Diemen's Land , including the first Government House, as well as the use of the site by the Hobart City Corporation (later Council).

**d) The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of place in Tasmania's history.**

Hobart Town Hall is of historic cultural heritage significance as an example of a substantial and centrally located civic building dating from 1866, as the seat of local government in Hobart, the capital city of Tasmania. The grand and imposing character of Hobart Town Hall reflects this important role . While the building has undergone several additions and alterations, the Town Hall is highly intact, externally and internally. The 1924 addition to the Argyle Street wing and Davey Street wing/Annexe demonstrates the evolving function of local council, and the need to represent and provide services for an increasing population.

**e) The place is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement.**

No Data Recorded

- f) **The place has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social or spiritual reasons.**

Hobart Town Hall is important as a place of representation, and of high social significance to the people of Tasmania as a place for community and formal events, protests, recreation and representation.

- g) **The place has a special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Tasmania's history.**

Hobart Town Hall has strong associations with notable nineteenth century architect, Henry Hunter, and Hobart architectural firm Bush Parkes Shugg & Moon. The place has had an association with the Hobart City Council, the first local government in Tasmania, since 1866.

- h) **The place is important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.**

Hobart Town Hall is a prominent landmark on Macquarie Street, a main thoroughfare through Hobart that features several grand nineteenth century civic and commercial buildings. Hobart Town Hall is part of an assemblage of nineteenth century civic buildings and spaces centrally located on Macquarie Street, including the Hobart Museum/Royal Society Building (part of THR#6648), Franklin Square (THR#2333) and the Treasury Complex and Public Buildings (THR#11734).

**Heritage approval is required for work that will result in changes to the nature or appearance of the fabric of a Heritage place, both internal and external.**

**Please refer to the Heritage Council's Works Guidelines ([www.heritage.tas.gov.au](http://www.heritage.tas.gov.au)) for information about the level of approval required and appropriate outcomes.**

**Heritage Advisors are also available to answer questions and provide guidance on [enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@heritage.tas.gov.au) or Tel 1300850332**

**This data sheet is intended to provide sufficient information and justification for listing the place on the Heritage Register. Under the legislation, only one of the criteria needs to be met. The data sheet is not intended to be a comprehensive inventory of the heritage values of the place, there may be other heritage values of interest to the Heritage Council not currently acknowledged.**

### **Setting:**

Hobart Town Hall is located on a large and prominent site in the Hobart CBD. The building occupies most of a city block bounded by Macquarie, Argyle, Davey and Elizabeth Streets, main thoroughfares through the city. Hobart Town Hall is a prominent element in the Hobart streetscape, and it is surrounded by other prominent civic and commercial buildings and public spaces. The former Tasmanian Public Library/Carnegie Building (THR# 12038) sits adjacent on the south-eastern corner of the same block. As one of the main thoroughfares through Hobart, Macquarie Street has several grand nineteenth century civic and commercial buildings.

### **Description:**

The Hobart Town Hall is formed by a collection of buildings constructed in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Town Hall is a two-storey sandstone building, a classical, Renaissance Revival design built in the early Victorian period. The main wing fronts onto Macquarie Street, and is flanked by Argyle Street and Elizabeth Street wings. The Caretaker's Cottage (1924), HEC Substation (c1940s) and Modernist style Davey Street extension (1964) sit behind.

#### **Hobart Town Hall (1866)**

The principal and symmetrical façade of the Town Hall addresses Macquarie Street, with paved forecourt area, including garden beds, deciduous trees and cast-iron lamp posts. A section of low cast iron fencing is retained on the Elizabeth Street elevation. A small grassed and landscaped area on the north-eastern corner is enclosed by a sandstone fence and retaining wall with cast iron gate. The exterior of the building is finely detailed, commensurate with its status as a grand public building on Macquarie Street - in particular, the central bay of the main wing.

Hobart Town Hall sits on rock-faced ashlar foundations, the external walls are constructed from picked ashlar blocks. Different shades of sandstone have been used on the exterior. The fine detail is articulated through white stone, including a plinth string course, vermiculated and ridged quoins, moulded window surrounds and sills, and dentils.

The main wing has three bays. The central bay is set forward and is larger in scale with more elaborate decoration than the flanking wings, including grander fenestration and cornice detail. A projecting and elevated portico with granite

steps, sandstone arches, columns, dentils and consoles, capped with a low balustrade, marks the formal entrance. Alterations to improve accessibility, undertaken in 2001 and 2013, includes the addition of a ramp and level access to the main doors – the c1900 tile floor is viewed through glass panels. The centrally placed main entrance is via double glazed timber doors with decorative etching. Evenly spaced, timber framed sash fenestration feature on each elevation. Centrally placed engaged columns with segmental arch, on the ground floor of the side bays and southern elevation of the Elizabeth Street wing, mark where former doorways have been converted to window openings. Doorways remain on the Argyle Street and Elizabeth Street elevations; the Elizabeth Street door has a columnated porch.

Hipped roof forms are clad with glazed terracotta tiles and corrugated iron. Tall, corbelled sandstone chimneys sit on the main and Elizabeth Street wings; some chimneys have pots. The Argyle Street wing has a flat roof, with c1920s rendered extension with steel framed windows and gabled roof clad with corrugated iron.

The slope down to Sullivans Cove creates a basement level at the back of the Town Hall .

Alterations have been made to accommodate varying uses of spaces in the Town Hall , however, formal spaces including foyer, entrance hall, main staircase, assembly room, reception rooms, council chambers and rooms, strong room and offices retain many original nineteenth century features - timber joinery, including architraves, doors, paneling, floorboards, staircases with balustrade, mantle pieces, pressed tin ceiling linings, lath and plaster walls and ceilings, decorative plaster cornices and ceiling roses, paint finishes. Internally Hobart Town Hall is highly intact.

The main foyer is characterised by intricate decoration, including coloured c1900 ceramic tiles laid in geometric patterns with blue Greek key border, and carved Blackwood World War One honour board by Ellen Nora Payne (designed by Mr Louis Dechaineaux) that extends across three walls (Atkinson 1975, p.70).

The assembly room upstairs is large and highly decorative, incorporating a coved plaster ceiling, plastered walls with recessed panels, niches, and elaborately detailed cornices, ceiling roses and late Victorian-era colour scheme. A raised timber stage runs across the width of the room at the eastern end; the original timber stage sits underneath. The large JW Walker & Sons organ pipes fill the original arched stage opening, and the timber organ unit sits in front of the stage.

Fixtures and furniture that form part of the registration, include;

- JW Walker & Sons organ,
- Council Chamber furniture – timber table and podium, carved and upholstered Mayors chair, U-shaped timber table for Aldermen, upholstered chairs for Aldermen, semi-circular timber table,
- padded Council Chamber door,
- gilt mantle mirror in the Lady Osbourne Room,
- cedar cupboards flanking the fireplace in the Aldermans' Lounge

#### **Davey Street wing (Annexe, Bush Parkes Shugg & Moon, 1964)**

A four-storey rectangular building, with three floors of office, open carpark and plaza at ground level, and basement carpark abutting the Tasmanian Public Library/Carnegie Building; the carpark boundary is marked by low red brick walls. The Davey Street wing abuts the back of the Town Hall building, and numerous openings join the two. The building sits on concrete piers and pads, the upper three levels are formed by non-structural reconstructed stone panels and horizontal bands of glazing; exterior awnings were added in 2005. An entrance and glazed stairwell are accessed at the Davey Street end of the building.

#### **Old Government House (1804-1858)**

Potential subsurface archaeological features and deposits relating to British settlement in Van Diemen's Land , including the Old Government House and gardens, are located beneath the land bounded by Macquarie, Argyle, Davey and Elizabeth streets on which the Hobart Town Hall (THR#12039) and the Tasmanian Public Library/Carnegie Building (THR#12038) are located, as well as the surrounding footpaths.

### **History:**

Hobart is located within the country of the Mouheneenner people.

#### **Early Hobart**

Hobart Town was established by British settlers in February 1804. The small settlement centred around Sullivan's Cove, developing as the capital and the administrative centre of Van Diemen's Land during the early nineteenth century. As the seat of government Hobart Town secured several official buildings, such as the Treasury (THR#11734) and Custom House (now Parliament House THR#2525) (Alexander & Petrow 2005, p9.176-7).

### **Government House**

Within weeks of the settlement's establishment, a Government House, a two or three roomed house of rough timber and wattle and daub, was constructed for Lieutenant-Governor David Collins on the escarpment facing the Cove - near the current entrance to the Town Hall. By 1807 a three-roomed brick house was constructed adjacent to the earlier structure, however by 1811 Governor Macquarie denounced Government House as '...much too small, incommodious and in a state of decay'. Repairs, rebuilds, alterations and additions were made to the makeshift structure over the subsequent years, by 1831 fourteen extra rooms had been added. A ballroom, designed by Colonial Architect William Porden Kay, was completed in 1850. The grounds around the house and down to the Cove contained large eucalypts, garden beds, carriageways and paths, shown in a number of contemporary sketches and paintings (Freeman 2016, p.9, 12).

Plans for a new Government House (THR#2926), adjacent to the Colonial Gardens (Botanical Gardens THR#11999) on the Queens Domain, were not realised until 1858. In the following year most of the old Government House and gardens were demolished, only the ballroom was left standing (Freeman 2016, p.2-25). Initially the Government intended to sell the valuable site in the centre of the city, and to extend Elizabeth Street down to the Cove and Davey Street to the east, however, it allowed the Hobart Town Municipal Council usage and management of the ballroom, as a meeting place and a town hall (Freeman 2016, p.25).

### **Hobart Town Municipal Corporation/Hobart Municipal Council and the establishment of Local Government in Tasmania**

In August 1842 Royal Letters Patent constituted the City of Hobart Town, however, it was not until 1846 that elections were held to elect 12 commissioners representing the five wards of Hobart Town to undertake limited municipal administration, such as paving, lighting and cleaning the city streets (Freeman 2016, p.21). Due to a lack of adequate financing the Commissioners were short-lived. Municipal elections were held in 1853 and the first Mayor, Alderman William Carter, and other elected aldermen convened as the Hobart Town Municipal Corporation. The Corporation temporarily met in a large room in the nearly completed New City Market (now the site of City Hall THR#2426), while searching for somewhere to build a town hall.

Following the cessation of transportation in 1853, Van Diemen's Land became Tasmania, and the former colony was granted self-government in 1856. Subsequently more local government structures were set up in this period, Launceston City Council was established in 1853, and 19 rural municipalities were proclaimed by 1866. Initially local government was concerned with property services, with property rates the principal form of revenue to ease the burden on the colonial Treasury. The Local Government Act (1906) introduced a new system, consisting of the cities of Hobart, Launceston and 48 municipalities, providing varied essential and social services (Scott 2005, pp.219-20).

### **The Ballroom Town Hall**

In 1859 the Government offered the ballroom allotment to the Hobart Town Municipal Corporation as a gift; the ballroom was used by the people of Hobart for balls, exhibitions and gatherings, however the need for an appropriate, purpose designed and built meeting place and venue for celebration and culture was voiced by newspapers, politicians and the citizens of Hobart (Freeman 2016, p.28, 37). At the same time the remaining western section of the site was given over to the creation of Franklin Square, a memorial in honour of former Lieutenant-Governor Sir John Franklin (Franklin Square THR#2333), adjacent to the Treasury Complex and Public Buildings (THR#11734).

In 1862 the Council/Corporation elected to hold an architectural competition to design a Town Hall building for the site and called for designs. The new building was to have several public functions, including a large hall, library and reading room, City Court, and prisoners cells below.

The old ballroom was demolished in the same year (Freeman 2016, p.33, 38).

### **A new town hall**

The design brief emphasised the civic importance of the new building, and was very specific, 'The Building to be erected is to occupy the centre of the allotment fronting on Macquarie Street, and is to be in a line as near as possible, with the New Museum, now erecting, which is eight feet back from the line of the street marked in red on the plan of the site... Bold and effective frontages will be more desirable than elaborately decorated Architecture, and due

regard must be paid to the other sides of the Building which must have good appearances, as one will front on Argyle Street, the other be seen from Davey Street [and] from the Harbour.' (Freeman p43). Furthermore, the building materials and workmanship were to be obtained in the Colony and the whole of the building costs was not to exceed 12 000 pounds (Freeman 2016, p.43).

Ten entries were received with the contract being awarded to Henry Hunter, despite his design initially ranking fifth out of the ten. Hunter reworked his original ecclesiastical Gothic style to a preferred symmetrical Italianate style, a flexible design that could be built in stages around the central core. In 1863 tenders were called for the construction of the first stage (central section and part of the Elizabeth Street wing) of the new Town Hall, the contract was awarded to Hobart builder John Gowland. The foundation stone was laid in April the following year by Governor Thomas Gore Browne surrounded by great pomp and ceremony, with the ceremony commencing with a procession from Market Place and the day declared a public holiday (Freeman 2016, p.43, 54, 57-8).

### **Henry Hunter (1832-1892)**

Henry Hunter, originally from Nottingham, England studied architecture under his father prior to relocating to South Australia in 1848 with his family, then to Hobart Town. He worked in varied professions before practising as an architect in Tasmania, where he designed numerous and grand civic, commercial and ecclesiastical buildings, including All Saints Church, South Hobart (THR#91), the redesigned St Mary's Cathedral (THR#3307), Derwent and Tamar Assurance Offices (THR#2531), many schools for the Board of Education, private residences, and a grandstand at Elwick Racecourse. In 1860 Hunter's design for the Hobart Museum/Royal Society Building (THR#6648) was accepted and constructed on the adjacent corner to the Town Hall. By the 1870s Hunter had become one of Hobart's most successful architects (ADB McDonald).

### **Construction**

Built from sandstone quarried from the River Derwent at Bridgewater and Knocklofty, the Town Hall was completed in stages, and formally opened in September 1866 with a grand ball and supper, which went from dusk until dawn and was attended by 1130 guests (Council facts and figures). The building was described in the J Walch & Son newsletter, '...The centre building was designed on the example of the Farnese palace at Rome, and produces all the leading beauties of the Italian order.' (Freeman 2016, p.62).

The building accommodated varying functions and purposes - on the lower floor were offices, committee rooms, court room (in 2021 the Mayor's reception room), prison cells and police accommodation in the basement; on the upper floor the Town Hall itself occupied the whole central section of the building, a Library and Reading Room in the Elizabeth Street wing - the second public library to open in Hobart, when the first closed down in 1867 after operating for seven years (HCC facts and figures). From the outset the Town Hall assembly room and committee rooms were rented to generate income for the Council.

The Town Hall has hosted Royal visits and international performances, official receptions, fundraising and celebratory balls, flower shows, exhibitions, meetings, musical events, and the 1874 inaugural Hobart Show (Freeman 2016, p.71-84). For special events and visits the Town Hall was lavishly decorated with lights, flags and banners.

### **Improvements, alterations and additions**

In the years following the opening of the Town Hall construction work continued on the site to complete or rectify issues. These items include the installation of drainage to the River Derwent, laying steps and flagging to the principal entrances and levelling the surrounding area. In 1871 masonry gateposts and cast-iron gates were constructed on the Davey Street allotment behind the Town Hall building, planting and landscaping was also carried out (Freeman 2016, p.78).

A substantial JW Walker & Sons organ was installed in the main room at the Town Hall in early 1870. Since the 1870s there have been eight City Organists, an extremely prestigious position; the organ has been rebuilt twice (Freeman 2016, pp.231-260). In 1897 electric lighting was used in the main hall for the first time (Freeman, 2016, p.104-6), and in the 1920s the Argyle Street wing was altered to create additional functional floor space. The portico structure was rebuilt in 1928, due to structural issues previously flagged in 1918 (Freeman 2016, p.139-40).

### **City Hall**

By the 1890s the Town Hall was also too small for a growing city like Hobart, with comparisons drawn to the Albert Hall in Launceston, which was able to seat 3600 people, compared to the 600 people capacity in the Hobart Town Hall. Numerous suggestions were considered, including a large hall behind the existing Town Hall, and a second storey on top of the Hobart Exhibition Building in Macquarie Street. The subsequent destruction of the Exhibition

Building by fire in 1909 provided a site for a new hall that could accommodate 3500 people and be used for large civic events and functions; City Hall was opened in 1915 (see THR#2426 for further information on City Hall).

### **Tasmanian Public Library (Carnegie Building, Maritime Museum)**

By the late nineteenth century demand for its facilities had outgrown the building, the Council's offices were full to overflowing as was demand for the assembly room and Public Library. In 1902 the Council requested help from the Carnegie Foundation, established by Scottish-American philanthropist and industrialist Andrew Carnegie, to construct a new library behind the Town Hall on the corner of Argyle and Davey Streets (Freeman 2016, p.112). The new two-storey Library was opened in 1907, which cleared space in the Town Hall building for Council administration and relocation of the Council Chambers (see THR#12038 for further information on the Tasmanian Public Library/Carnegie Building).

Following the relocation of the Library in 1962 the Council's Health Department, and Recreation Department moved into the renovated ground floor in 1979, and a link with the Town Hall was created (Freeman Vol 1 p.18). During the 1990s and 2000 an exhibition space known as the Carnegie Gallery was established on the first floor (Freeman 2016, pp.206-7). The Maritime Museum has occupied the building since 1999.

### **Caretaker's Cottage and HEC Substation**

In 1924 a caretaker's cottage, planned as part of general Town Hall improvements, was completed on the site between the Carnegie Building and the Town Hall (*Mercury* 26 Feb 1924 p9). The two-storey brick structure was constructed in a similar style to the Carnegie Building, rather than the Town Hall. There are no known plans or documentation of construction (Freeman Vol 1 p.17). A red brick HEC substation was constructed in front of the Caretaker's Cottage c1940s; the detailing also mimics the Classical decoration on the Carnegie Building. The Caretaker's Cottage and HEC Substation form part of the registration for Tasmanian Public Library/Carnegie Building, THR#12038.

### **Child Welfare Association building**

In 1930 a single storey red brick building, designed by the Council's Building Surveyor, and architect, Rudolph Koch, was constructed for the Child Welfare Association on the Davey Street allotment behind the Town Hall (Freeman 2016, p.142). The Child Welfare Association grew out of the early twentieth century movement to improve health and welfare in Australia; formidable female campaigners such as Emily Dobson and Edith Waterworth were members of the Association. A clinic was established in Hobart in 1918, where mothers and babies received health and mothercraft advice from a government-employed nurse, volunteers and doctors (Waters 2005, p.72), demonstrating a government priority to reduce infant mortality. By the 1960s the building housed the city inspector, superintendent of reserves and parking meter attendants (*Mercury* 6 July 1962 p158).

### **Davey Street extension (Annexe, Bush Parkes Shugg & Moon, 1964)**

Overcrowding continued to be an issue throughout the twentieth century. In the early 1960s Hobart City Council engaged local architectural firm, Bush Parkes Shugg and Moon, in collaboration with City Architect Mr BL Dechaineaux, to design a new office wing to accommodate council staff and provide additional car parking. The Child Health Care Centre and gardens, including water fountain, were demolished to make way for the new building, '...three floors will accommodate the City Treasurer's and City Architect's department and part of the City Engineer's Department. The long-term plan provides for a future additional multi-storey building parallel to Davey Street, and fronting on the proposed civic square'. AE Groombridge of Moonah was awarded the contract. The new building was opened on 14 April 1964, coinciding with the 100th year since the laying of the Town Hall foundation stone (Freeman 2016, p.191). During the mid to late twentieth century Bush Parkes Shugg and Moon were responsible for several large projects in the transforming and developing greater Hobart area, such as Empress Towers, Battery Point (1967), Repatriation General Hospital, Battery Point, Bowen Park Visitor Centre 'The Pyramids', Risdon Cove (1978), Savings Bank of Tasmania, 'Jaffa House', Hobart (1978), Hydro Electric Commission (HEC), Hobart (1981) and Hobart College, Mount Nelson (1984).

### **Expansion of HCC**

The ongoing issue with accommodation were largely resolved when Hobart City Council purchased the former Hydro-Electric Commission building on the corner of Davey and Elizabeth Streets, diagonally opposite the Town Hall c1994 (Freeman 2016, p.209; THR#2332). The relocation of customer service and most of the Council's administrative staff, following redevelopment and renovation of the HEC building, allowed the Town Hall building to revert to its original function, as a venue for formal events, and offices for the Lord Mayor.

### **Associated Collections**



A large collection of administration records from Hobart City Council are held by the Tasmanian Archives at Libraries Tasmania. The Tasmanian Archives also hold several plans of the Town Hall (Agency Number TA114). These documents do not form part of the registration and are not regulated or managed in accordance with any provisions of the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*.

## Comparative Analysis

Town Halls were built in many Tasmanian towns and cities during the late nineteenth century. Nineteen rural municipalities were proclaimed in Tasmania by 1866. In 1906 there were 48 local government areas in Tasmania, their administration housed in repurposed and purpose-designed buildings. In 2021 there are 29 local government areas. The size, scale and architectural style of town halls across Tasmania varies greatly, depending on the size of the town, settlement or city, and generally reflects the prosperity of the area and locally available building materials. Town Halls commonly accommodated various public and civic services, including council administration, libraries, public venues, courts and police, including Council Chambers and administration, police, courts, library, war memorials and public space for community events.

Launceston City Council and Hobart City Council were both established in 1853, and their town halls were constructed simultaneously during the 1860s. Hobart Town Hall and Launceston Town Hall are both grand Victorian buildings with classical, Renaissance Revival ornamentation. In the 1850s Launceston was prospering from the effects of the goldrushes in Victoria and the cessation of convict transportation to Tasmania – both these influences were evident in the choice of prominent location and grand style of building for Launceston's new Town Hall, designed by Peter Mills and built by Francis and Galvin (Morris-Nunn 1989, p.42).

Smaller regional councils across Tasmania occupy more modest buildings. Oatlands Town Hall (THR#5527), constructed in 1880, is a substantial two-storey sandstone building that functioned as a Council Chambers, place for community events, and library; a war memorial sits in front of the building. Green Ponds Council Chambers and Probation Station (THR#5451) at Kempton is formed by a complex of modest buildings, initially constructed c1834 as a convict road station and probation station, later becoming a police reserve (c1841), watch house (1848) then Council Chambers in 1880; a memorial clock tower built in 1922 sits in front of the complex. The Former Municipal Building at Wynyard (THR#10970) was constructed c1909 as the Table Cape Council Chambers, Police Station and Court House. Sorell Council Chambers (THR#10423) was where the gaol and courthouse were located in the 1820s, the council chambers were constructed in 1910. Bruny island Council Chambers (THR#10909) is a modest weatherboard structure built in 1938 that was also used as a courthouse, and at Swansea the municipal buildings dating from the 1860s were also utilised as Council Chambers and Court House (THR#1533).

## REFERENCES

Alexander, A & S Petrow. 'Hobart' in A Alexander (ed) (2005) *The Companion to Tasmanian History*, University of Tasmania, Hobart. pp176-7.

Atkinson, R. (1975) *Ellen Nora Payne: woodcarver of Tasmania*, RO Atkinson, Launceston.

Freeman Collett. 'Hobart Town Hall Precinct, Conservation Management Plan.' Vols 1-4. June 1995.

Freeman, P., B Lennard & K Evans (2016) *Municipal Magnificence, the Hobart Town Hall 1866-2016*, Hobart City Council, Hobart.

McDonald, D. 'Hunter, Henry (1832-1892)', Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/hunter-henry-3825/text6069>, accessed 12 May 2021

Morris-Nunn, Miranda (1989) 'Rich and chaste: building ornamentation in Victorian Launceston', Queen Victoria Museum, Launceston.

Scott, M. 'Local Government' in A Alexander (ed) (2005) *Companion to Tasmanian History*, University of Tasmania, Hobart. pp219-20.

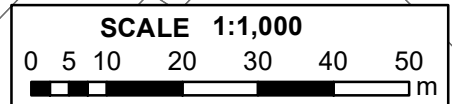
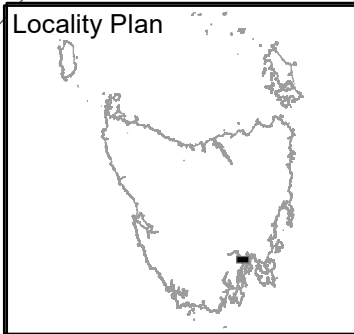
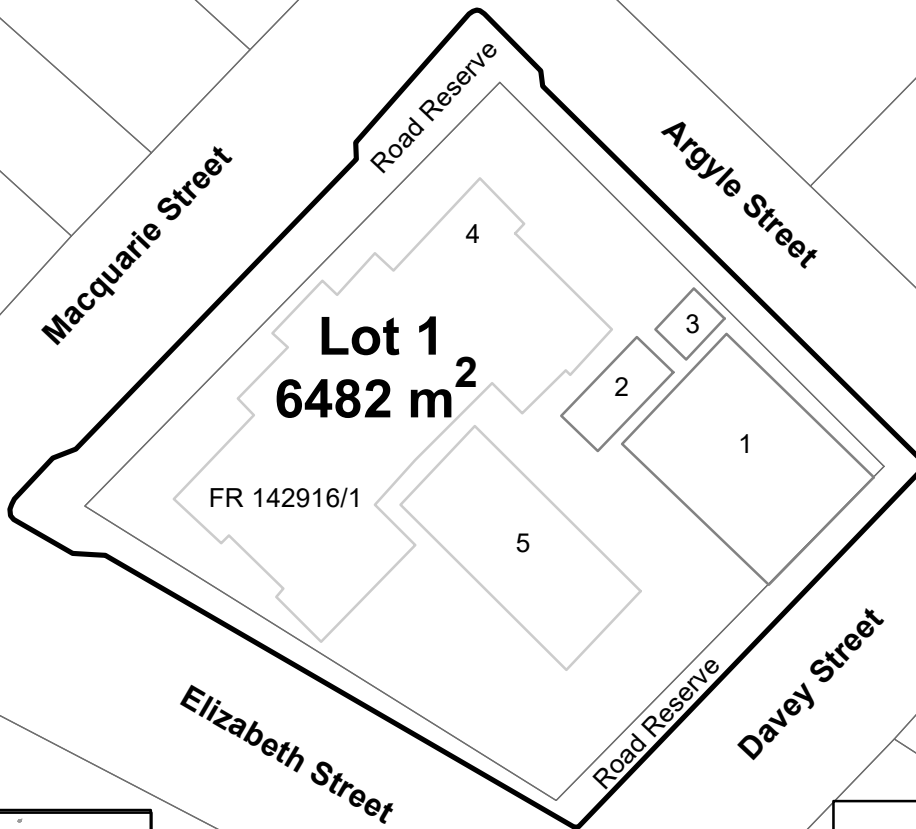
Waters, J. 'Child Welfare Association' in A Alexander (ed) (2005) *The Companion to Tasmanian History* University of Tasmania, Hobart. p72.

**Note**

- 1. For the purpose of S15(4)(b) of the Historic Cultural Act 1995, this plan represents the registered boundary for 'Tasmanian Public Library/ Carnegie Building' (THR#12038) and 'Hobart Town Hall' (THR# 12039), on the Tasmanian Heritage Register.
- 2. Lot 1 is the whole of parcel of FR 142916/1 & the partial road parcel the boundary of which is marked by a heavy black line.
- 3. All boundaries are parcel boundaries unless otherwise described, details of individual land parcel boundaries may be accessed through the Land Information System Tasmania (LIST).

**Point & Boundary Description**

Boundary follows outer edge of concrete kerbing



**Key**

- 1. Tasmanian Public Library/ Carnegie Building (THR# 12038)
- 2. Caretakers Cottage (THR# 12038)
- 3. HEC Substation (THR# 12038)
- 4. Hobart Town Hall (THR# 12039)
- 5. Davey Street Wing (THR#12039)

TASMAP: HOBART - 5225

GRID: MGA94 / ZONE 55

DATUM: AHD

CONTOUR INTERVAL: N/A

No.	PRODUCTION / AMENDMENT	AUTHORITY	REFERENCE	DRAWN	APPROVED	DATE
1	Production	THC	12038 & 12039	AW	A.ROBERTS	27.6.22



**Tasmanian Public Library/  
Carnegie Building.  
Hobart Town Hall.  
50 Macquarie St, Hobart**

**CENTRAL PLAN REGISTER**

p.p. Surveyor General:

Date Registered: 1.7.22

**CPR  
11253**