



ROCKINGHAM HOTEL, KENT STREET ROCKINGHAM
Archival Record



HOCKING HERITAGE + ARCHITECTURE

May 2024

Cover Image

Figure 1 Rockingham Hotel in the early 1920s
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana

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HHS Job No. 2023-27

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-	Prue Griffin, Dinah Mujati	3 May 2024

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1.0 Background

Foreshore Group, the owners of the land parcel which includes the Rockingham Hotel applied to the City of Rockingham to demolish the building as part of a program of development for the site. Formal approval for the demolition application was granted at the City of Rockingham Council meeting of 19 December 2023.

The approval was granted with four conditions, Condition 2 relates to the preparation of an Archival Record as stated below:

2. *Prior to applying for a Demolition Permit, a detailed and photographic Archival Record, prepared by a Heritage Consultant, of the existing Rockingham Hotel building must be prepared in accordance with the "Guide to Preparing An Archival Record" (Heritage Council 2019) and submitted to and approved by the City of Rockingham. The Archival Record shall also include roof plans, internal elevations, sections, joinery details and video recording/s of the internal and external spaces within the defined Heritage Curtilage.¹*

Hocking Heritage + Architecture have been engaged to prepare the Archival record which has been prepared in accordance with the Department of Planning Lands and Heritage *Guide to Preparing an Archival Record*² and fulfils all the requirements of Condition 2.

2.0 Project Team

This report is the culmination of a successful collaborative effort by the following people to whom acknowledgement is given:

Hocking Heritage + Architecture

Prue Griffin, Historian

Dinah Mujati, Architect

Marlene Del Campo, Architectural Technician

Matthew Collins, Architectural Technician

Emirge

Nicole Knight, Contract Administrator

¹ City of Rockingham, Reference No. 20.2023.226.1 AD23/151545, Form 2 *Planning and Development Act 2005* CITY OF ROCKINGHAM TOWN PLANNING SCHEME No. 2 and METROPOLITAN REGION SCHEME, NOTICE OF DETERMINATION ON APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL. [ordinary-council-minutes-december-2023 \(rockingham.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.rockingham.wa.gov.au/ordinary-council-minutes-december-2023)

² [Guide to preparing an archival record \(www.wa.gov.au\)](https://www.wa.gov.au/guide-to-preparing-an-archival-record)



3.0 Statement of Significance

The following statement has been taken from the registration documentation prepared by Heritage Council in connection with the proposal to enter the place on the State Register. Although the registration did not proceed, the statement of significance has been adopted by City of Rockingham.

Rockingham Hotel, comprising a two-storey limestone, brick, tile and iron hotel, limestone walls of the former beer garden, and mature Norfolk Island Pines, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

- The place is the last remnant of a once extensive seaside resort and has been an important location for social gathering, entertainment and holidays since the 1890s, particularly for farming and working-class families, and contributes to the local and wider community's sense of place;
- The place is important for its association with settler families of the district including Bell, Hymus and Grigg;
- The place has landmark value, due to its prominence on the Rockingham foreshore;
- The place has been partially constructed in honeycomb (vuggy) limestone from the 'karst' landscape endemic to the East Rockingham area which is a rare building material;
- Alterations to the Hotel demonstrate the changing nature and requirements of hotels from the 1890s to present day, facilitating a decline in the provision of accommodation and an increase in tavern trade; and
- The place is representative of the type of buildings and facilities considered appropriate for a seaside hotel complex in the 1930s.

4.0 Location

The Rockingham Hotel is located within Lot 99 of Diagram 88032 as described in Certificate of Title Volume 2029 Folio 634 (See Appendix A). The site is bound by Kent Street, Flinders Lane, Marine Terrace and multi storey residential properties to the south west.

Within Lot 99 are buildings, structures and trees. These elements on the site have been considered differently in the demolition application as shown in the figure below.



Rockingham Hotel – the subject of the Archival Record although reference has been made to the whole site in the documentary evidence.



Walls of vuggy limestone and trees, including some large pine trees. These elements on the site will be retained and protected during the demolition process.



Night Club and service station to be demolished without an Archival Record.



Figure 2 Location Map
 Courtesy Google Maps, accessed 2024

5.0 Heritage Listings

Place No. and Name	Listing Type	Date	Comment
2321 Rockingham Hotel (Port Hotel fmr)	Heritage List	24 April 2018	City of Rockingham
	State Register	7 June 2011	Removed
	Local Heritage Survey	24 October 1995 April 2018	Category A
	Statewide Hotel Survey	1 November 1997	Completed
17865 Rockingham Hotel site	RHP – assessed below threshold	28 September 2007	
3217 Rockingham Hotel Walls	Local Heritage Survey	24 April 2018	Category C
3218 Rockingham Hotel Trees	Local Heritage Survey	24 April 2018	Category C

6.0 Brief History

The following information has been largely drawn from the assessment documentation prepared for the Heritage Council of WA in 2011 for its consideration of inclusion on the State Register of Heritage Places. It was prepared by Irene Sauman, Historian and Ian Hocking of Hocking Planning & Architecture, in October 2006, with amendments and/or additions by HCWA staff and the Register Committee. Acknowledgment is extended to these authors for this work.

Further minor additions and amendments have been included in response to information found since the preparation of that document and to bring it up to date [2024].

The documentation includes reference to all the structures which were formerly on the site, including the Trocadero, cottages, and gardens.

6.1 Chronology

Date	Event
60,000BC to present	Whadjuk Boodja - a continuing association with country over thousands of years.
1872	Rockingham Jetty constructed to support the timber industry in Jarrahdale which led to the development and growth of the Rockingham community.
1874	Survey of the Rockingham townsite.
17 June 1875	Lot 12 purchased by Daniel Hymus.
1886	Construction of the single storey Port Hotel on the site by Jim Bell who was issued with a Wayside Liquor License which he held for 10 years.
28 September 1890	Lot 12 mortgaged to James Bell (Snr) for £400.
8 September 1895	Lot 12 is transferred to Danny Hymus who took over the license of the Port Hotel.
1896-1898	Construction of the two-storey stone portion of the hotel with a 6-bay verandah across the Kent Street frontage. During some of this time it was known as 'Peron Hotel'.
1890-1905	Decline of Rockingham as a timber port
1914	Transfer of license to Leslie Hymus.
C1915	Verandah extended by one bay around the western elevation of the two-storey portion of the hotel to create.
1921	Rockingham Hotel offered for sale by Leslie Hymus.
1922	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lot 12 transferred to Reginald Harrison who rebuilt the single storey portion of the hotel in a Federation Arts and Crafts and Bungalow style and added a new wing to the eastern wing of the two storey portion. A new 'Jazz Hall' was built on the adjacent Lot 11. • November 1922 opening of the renovated hotel by Premier Sir James Mitchell.
1923 - 1924	Acquisition of adjacent lots 11, 13 and 14 by Harrison and construction of new facilities in the grounds for the hotel patrons.
1925	Transfer of all lots to George Grigg who extended the hotel gardens. Daughter Doris Grigg oversaw the accommodation section of the business and son Reg Grigg also worked at the hotel.
1927	Increase in the verandahs of the single storey portion of the hotel.
1928	Lots 9, 10 and 15 purchased by George Grigg.
1932	George Grigg transfers licence to his son, Reginald Grigg.
1933	A Resident's Lounge, later the Sportsman's Bar built on Lot 14.
1934-35	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New balcony balustrades and roof line altered on the two storey portion of the hotel

Date	Event
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nov 1935, Provision of electricity to the town of Rockingham and formally started by Lieutenant Governor James Mitchell at a ceremony at the Hotel Rockingham. • 1935 Construction of the Trocodero Dance Hall and gardens enlarged.
1938	Addition to the western end of the two-storey portion of the hotel at a higher level to the original.
1939	Modification of the single storey portion of the hotel in the Inter War Art Deco style. Addition of a new dining room and lounge room.
1952	Addition of the Beer Garden with vuggy limestone block walls on 3 sides.
1953	Death of George Grigg.
27 August 1953	Property transferred to executors Reginald George Grigg and Alec Ambrose Stenning and Arthur David Watt.
2 Feb 1956	Lot 1 transferred to Frederick Carter, Francis and Ivy Maddigan.
1957	Additions to the bars and cellar by architect W.G. Bennett.
1966-1968	Renovations and additions to the Hotel and demolition of other buildings on the site. Upper floor of the original hotel converted to accommodation units and the Kent Street verandahs removed. Rendering of the stone walls of the two storey portion of the hotel.
1972	Extension of the dining room on the north elevation.
19 February 1988	Lot 13 transferred to Mirco Brothers and Palermo Nominees.
c1989	Construction of alfresco dining area and enlarged dining room.
1990s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority of the former beer garden built over to accommodate a nightclub and bottleshop. Portion of the 1940s vuggy limestone walls removed. • Kent Street road level raised.
2009	The Trocodero Building on the northeast corner of the site demolished.
2021	Closure of the Rockingham Hotel as an operating business.
2022	Property transferred to the Foreshore Group.
2023	Closure of the bottle shop. Approval of demolition of all structures on the site apart from the trees and walls identified of cultural heritage value.
2024	Demolition of the Rockingham Hotel and salvage of heritage fabric for interpretation within a new tavern planned for the corner of Flinders Avenue and Rockingham Beach Road.

6.2 Documentary Evidence

Rockingham Hotel is a stone, brick and iron building, with two-storey and single-storey sections, constructed c1898 as the Port Hotel, extended in 1923-24, remodelled in the 1930s in an Inter war Arts and Crafts style, and altered and extended at various times since. T

The hotel is located in a large lot adjacent to the Rockingham Beach foreshore. In the past the site included a range of facilities for the clientele of the Rockingham Hotel. The majority of these ancillary structures were demolished in the 1970s. A Night Club and bottle shop were built on the corner of Kent Street and Flinders Lane in the 1990s, while the 1935 Trocadero Dance Hall located on the corner of the Flinders Lane and Rockingham Beach Road was demolished in 2009.

The establishment of Rockingham townsite in the early 1870s was a function of the growth of the timber industry. A jetty was constructed at Rockingham to enable tall ships to load jarrah and sandalwood brought by rail from Jarrahdale.³ Evidence of the former railway line can be determined in the alignment of the present-day Patterson Road and Railway Terrace, which led to the original jetty.

The settlement of the Rockingham region at this time was in two key locations, farmers settling in the strip of arable land in East Rockingham, and those settling in the townsite providing services to the timber industry.

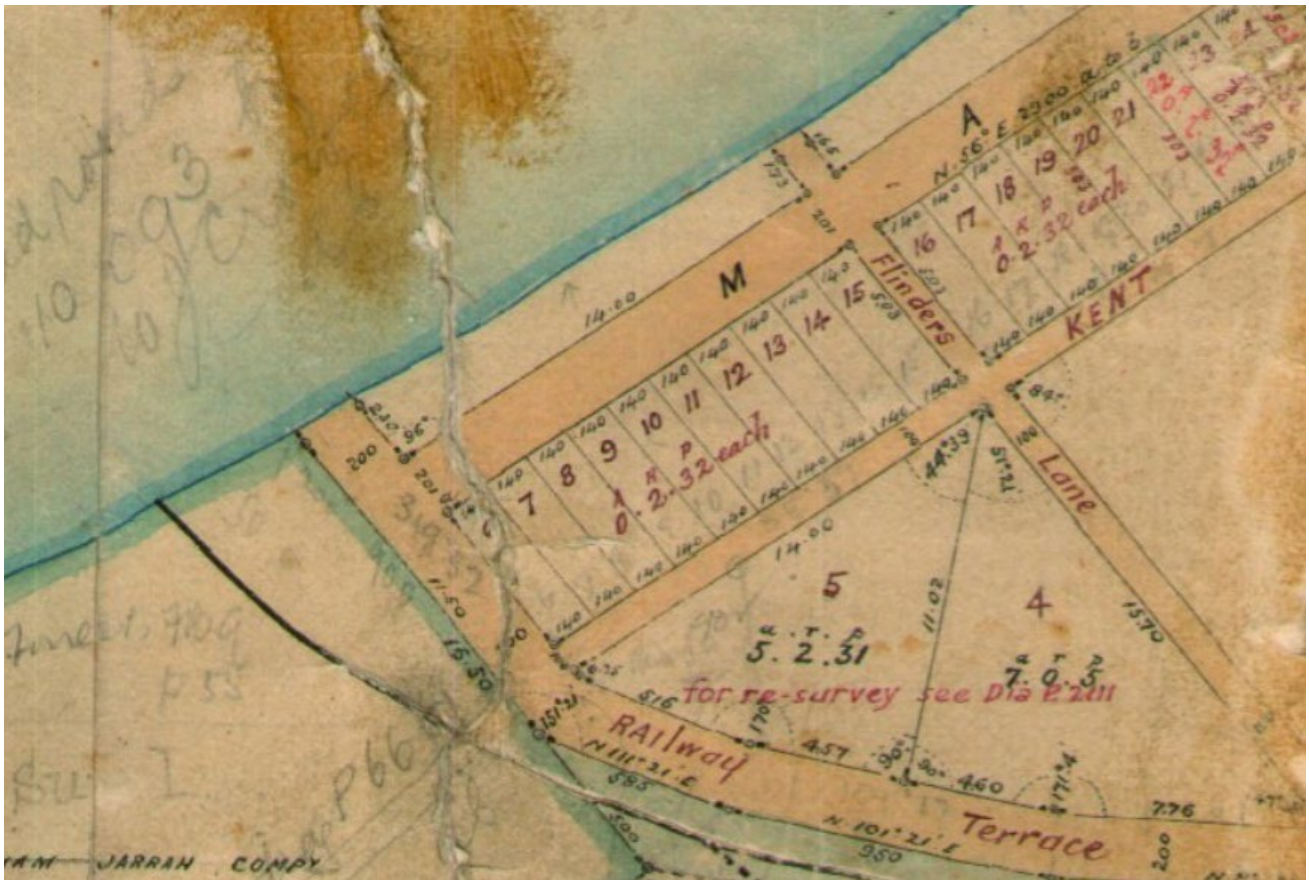


Figure 3 Portion of 1875 survey of the Rockingham townsite showing the original lots over the site of the future Rockingham Hotel
Courtesy SROWA cons 3868, item 374 Rockingham 22B

The Rockingham townsite was surveyed in 1874 and a number of lots were purchased soon after, among them Lot 12, by Daniel Hymus in 1875.⁴ Hymus (1835-1920) had arrived in the Colony in 1842 with his parents and he later farmed along the Mandurah Road, in East Rockingham. In 1867, Daniel married Fanny Bell, the daughter of James Bell Snr (1821-1911). James Bell Snr had worked as a ship's carpenter and boat builder at Mandurah, later farming at East Rockingham, from where he supplied meat to ships. James Bell Snr was responsible for the construction of the East Rockingham Hall/School in the 1860s.⁵ His son James (Jim) Bell (1857-1927) may have learnt his trade from his father as he also worked as a builder.⁶

³ Fall, V. G., *The Sea and the Forest: a history of the port of Rockingham, Western Australia*, Nedlands, UWA Press, 1972; Draper, Richard, *Rockingham: the vision unfolds: a history of the Rockingham district*, City of Rockingham, c.1997.

⁴ Country Grant 4533, Rockingham Lot 12, 17 June 1875.

⁵ Erickson, Rica, *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians*, Perth, UWA Press, 1988, pp. 190 & 1590.

⁶ Erickson, Rica, *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians*, Perth, UWA Press, 1988, pp. 190.

The Port Hotel was built on Lot 12 in 1886 by Jim Bell who was granted a Wayside house license for the sale of liquor from 1886.⁷ The license enabled the sale of liquor to travellers as well as accommodation.

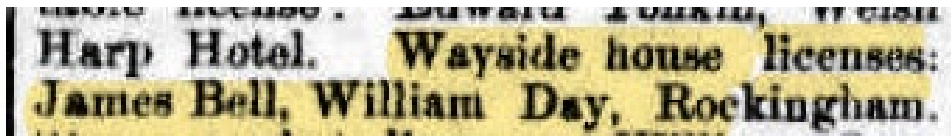


Figure 4 Excerpt from Fremantle Annual Licensing Court, showing license issued to James Bell 1886
Courtesy The Western Mail, 11 December 1886, p. 34

Earliest photographs of the Port Hotel show a domestic scaled structure, single-storeyed at the Kent Street frontage, with the gradient of the land sloping toward the beach creating a raised verandah looking toward the beach.⁸ [See Figure 5] The building was the home for Jim Bell and his wife Margaret Lucinda Ramsay (1858-1900) who had married in March 1886.⁹ The couple had three of their four children whilst living at the hotel, and it is likely that the place accommodated staff as well as travellers.



Figure 5 Port Hotel, c1890s, a simple weatherboard construction by James Bell Snr
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana

In 1890, a Deed of Memorial records that Daniel Hymus mortgaged Lot 12 to the first licensee Jim Bell for £400 with a proviso for redemption.¹⁰ Jim Bell held the Wayside License for the hotel until November 1895 when it was transferred to his brother-in-law Daniel Hymus when he repaid the final £250 of the mortgage.¹¹

It is proposed that Daniel Hymus oversaw the construction of the two-storey stone addition on the Kent Street side of the original soon after he took over the license, as a photograph dated c1898 shows the original hotel and the two-storey addition. [See Figure 6]

No details relating to the builder or designer of the stone portion of the building have been found in this, or previous research. It is possible that the Bell family were involved in the construction of the building although no

⁷ *Western Mail*, 11 December 1886, p. 34. It is also noted in an article in *The Western Mail* December 1927, p. 24 on the death of James Bell records that James Bell built the hotel in 1886.

⁸ Draper, Richard & Kerferd, Dale, *Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988*, Rockingham City Council, 1988, p. 32; Taggart, Nora, *Rockingham looks back: a history of the Rockingham district 1829-1982*, Rockingham District Historical Society, c.1984, pp. 132-133.

⁹ Erickson, Rica, *Bicentennial Dictionary of Western Australians*, Perth, UWA Press, 1988, pp. 190.

¹⁰ *Western Australian Almanack, Directory 1880-1889*; Deed of Memorial, Book 12 No. 222, 28 Sep 1890.

¹¹ *The West Australian*, 22 November 1895, p. 6. Lands & Survey Dept, Deed of Memorial, Book 19 No. 218, 8 September 1895.

details of tenders for contractors were found in the local press. A description in *Rockingham Looks Back* states that the new two storied portion of the hotel consisted of;

.. on the ground floor, a public bar, a private bar, a kitchen, a dining room and an office and upstairs, several bedrooms and living quarters for the family.¹²



Figure 6 Port Hotel, 1898, viewed from the foreshore side showing the original simple weatherboard construction and the stone addition to the rear on Kent Street

Courtesy City of Rockingham, Planning and Asset Services Committee Agenda, 11 December 2023, p. 262

The use of local limestone for the two-storey portion of the hotel is consistent with the building practice in the district at that time. Many of the local homesteads, including the homestead of James Bell Snr in East Rockingham¹³ were built of the locally found limestone, designated as honeycomb (vuggy) limestone for its distinctive texture.¹⁴ The stone is likely to have been sourced from East Rockingham where the stone was commonly found and quarried.

The upgrading of the Hotel took place before the port seriously declined with the opening of the Southwestern Railway to Bunbury in 1893 and the opening of the Fremantle inner harbour four years later. Most importantly, it was the increasing size of ships that impacted on the viability of the port as the sand bars into Cockburn Sound limited the size of vessel that could enter Mangles Bay and berth safely at Rockingham Jetty.¹⁵

By the mid-1900s, the port of Rockingham was no longer exporting timber and the place became a quiet seaside town frequented by holidaymakers who made the journey over bush tracks or more often by sea in yachts or launches. Families pitched tents under the shelter of the jetty while the more affluent rented the vacant timber workers' cottages.¹⁶

¹² Taggart, Nora, *Rockingham looks back: a history of the Rockingham district 1829-1982*, Rockingham District Historical Society, c.1984, p. 101.

¹³ P2329 Bell Cottage (ruin), Rockingham. [inHerit - State Heritage Office \(dph.wa.gov.au\)](https://inHerit.dph.wa.gov.au)

¹⁴ Honeycomb limestone is an example of a 'karst' landscape, where limestone rock is eroded by acidic water. Water can become acidic as it moves through vegetation matter. The erosion can be any size, from the small honeycombing, as at East Rockingham, to large caves.

¹⁵ Fall, V. G., op cit; Taggart, Nora, op cit; Draper, Richard, op cit.

¹⁶ Fall, V. G., op cit; Taggart, Nora, op cit; Draper, Richard, op cit; Stenning, Doris (nee Grigg), Batty Library Oral History 2511/30, 1992, as quoted in *Rockingham Hotel Heritage & Townscape Assessment for Mirco Brothers Pty. Ltd.* By Hocking Planning and Architecture, January 2007, p. 7.



Figure 7 Campers under the Rockingham Jetty, 1900s
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana and Rockingham Campus Community Library

In 1914, the license for the Port Hotel was transferred to Leslie Hymus, one of the sons of Daniel Hymus.¹⁷ The following year Leslie Hymus called for tenders for the erection of a balcony to the Port Hotel.¹⁸

Photographs from this period indicate that the new balcony wrapped around the western elevation. (See Figure 8 and Figure 9)

¹⁷ *The Daily News*, 20 October 1914, p. 3.

¹⁸ *The West Australian*, 10 February 1915, p. 2.



Figure 8 Port Hotel (Rockingham Hotel) c1912 showing the 1898 façade with 6 bay verandah
Courtesy City of Rockingham, Planning and Asset Services committee Agenda, 11 December 2023, p. 262



Figure 9 Port Hotel c1915 the verandah has been extended by one bay to the west to wrap around the western elevation
Courtesy Rockingham Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow, p. 1

Although Leslie Hymus was the licensee, the manager of the Hotel was L.D. Hicks according to the Post Office Directories. Under his management the place was known as the Peron Hotel, or sometimes the Perrin Hotel, in recognition of nearby Point Peron.¹⁹

Following the death of Daniel Hymus in 1920, his sons Leslie and Worsley Hymus were appointed executors of his estate. The Hotel was mortgaged by Leslie Hymus for £600 to John Edward Abbott, of Fremantle, with a proviso for redemption and detailed provisions for the buildings to be well maintained, continually licensed and operated as a public house for the sale of 'fermented and spiritous liquors' and the 'reception accommodation and entertainment of travellers, guests and other persons frequenting same'.²⁰

In May 1921, Leslie Hymus advertised the sale of the Perrin Hotel in which it was stated that the hotel was:

... a two-storied stone and jarrah building, consisting of 22 rooms and outbuildings with spacious verandahs and sleeping out accommodation. Three minutes from beach.

Bathing and fishing unequalled.

Good shooting in vicinity.

An ideal holiday resort. Best beach in WA.²¹

In May 1922, the property was sold to Reginald Court Harrison, previously licensee of the Criterion Hotel in Perth. Harrison paid £2,000 for Lot 12 with 'all buildings erections and landlord's fittings and fixtures'.²² It was at this time that the name was changed to 'Hotel Rockingham', which is the name entered in the Western Australian tourist directory, but the place was also known as Rockingham Hotel in some publications of the time, including the Post Office Directory.²³

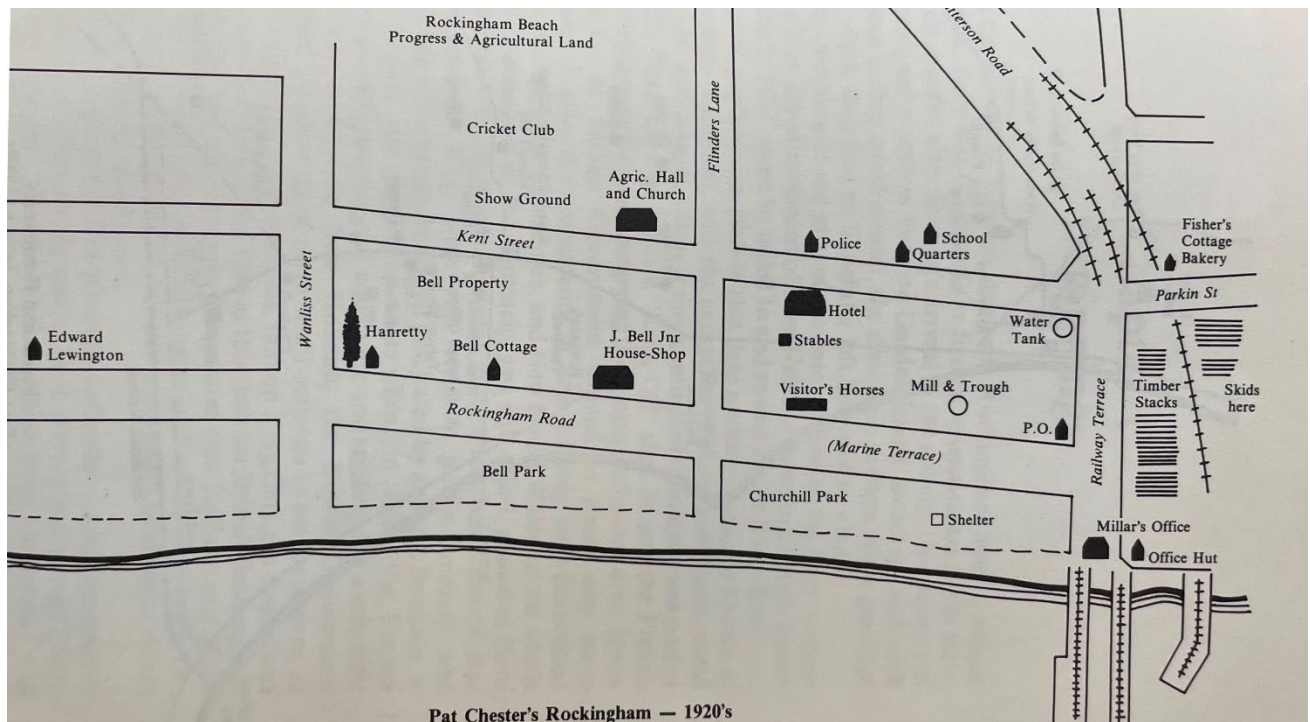


Figure 10 Rockingham 1920s as recalled by Pat Chester
Courtesy Nora Taggart *Rockingham Looks Back*, p. 17

In the 1920s, motor vehicles were making the Rockingham seaside more accessible, and Reg Harrison immediately proceeded to enlarge and upgrade the Hotel Rockingham, to take advantage of the growing tourist trade. The Hotel was described at that time as being 'just a small two-storey building' and Harrison spent some £12,000 on the place 'making it nice'.²⁴

¹⁹ Wise's Post Office Directory, 1897-1925.

²⁰ Deed of Memorial, Book 19 No. 219, 15 August 1921.

²¹ *The West Australian*, 9 May 1921, p. 9.

²² Deed of Memorial, Book 19 No. 419, 3 May 1922.

²³ *Western Australian Tourists' Guide and Hotel and Boarding House Directory, 1921-1929*, Perth, West Australian Tourist Bureau; *Wise's Post Office Directory, 1921-1923*.

²⁴ Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit; Taggart, Nora, op cit, fp. 132-133; Draper, Richard & Kerferd, Dale, op cit, p. 16.

In November 1922, the renovated hotel was opened by the Premier Sir James Mitchell in a gala event.²⁵ An article in the local press recording the event noting that;

*The old Rockingham Hotel has practically disappeared, and in its stead is a handsome two-storey building, containing every convenience. It is electrically lighted throughout and is furnished in a most modern fashion. It has wide verandahs, broad corridors, and the living accommodation is first class and up-to-date. The bar and the dining rooms and fifty other rooms are likewise up-to-date. Adjoining is the Jazz Hall in which Mr. Harrison accommodated all his guests quite easily.*²⁶

Harrison also acquired the title to the adjoining Lots 11, 13 and 14 in 1923 and built cottages for extra bedroom accommodation, with names such as 'Lingalonga' and 'Why Worry'.²⁷ The advertisement for Rockingham Hotel in the 1922-23 West Australian tourist directory stated that 'the Hotel has been brought right up to date, and is replete with all City Conveniences'.²⁸ The hotel had a tennis court, regulation bowling green, dancing pavilion, children's playground and a large garage, with boating, fishing, promenade jetties and a launch available. The launch took parties out to Garden Island or sometimes Point Peron, while the dancing pavilion was a separate hall on Lot 11 that Harrison had added on the Kent Street frontage. Accommodation at Rockingham Hotel was listed as 60 beds in c.1922-23 and 80 in c.1924-25.²⁹

Documentation relating to the detail of the modifications to the hotel have not been found, however photographic evidence demonstrates that a new wing was constructed across the eastern end of the two-storey portion of the hotel. (See Figure 11, Figure 12 and Figure 13) This addition extended beyond the original rear elevation creating a projecting wing housing a new foyer accessed by a simple portico and included new the timber stairs and chimney to serve fireplaces on both levels. It is likely that a new balcony was added to the north or rear elevation of the upper level of the two-storey portion. The verandah across the Kent Street elevation was increased by 2 bays.

The original timber portion of the hotel was where most of the changes occurred as a photograph from around this time (See Figure 12) shows that this portion of the hotel is much larger and features large verandahs to the north and eastern elevations. Possibly some of the 1886 portion of the building was retained as it is occupied roughly the same footprint. The new gables in the single storey and two storey portion demonstrate Federation Arts and Crafts and Federation Bungalow styles.³⁰

²⁵ *The Weekly Judge* 10 November 1922, p. 5.

²⁶ *The Weekly Judge* 10 November 1922, p. 5.

²⁷ Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit; Certificates of Title, Vol. 824 Fol. 35 (Lot 13), 15 February 1923 & Vol. 825 Fol. 42 (Part Lot 14) 28 February 1923; 1953 site plan, Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, SROWA, WAS 2213, CONS 5708 Item A460 v4, 1925-1988.

²⁸ *Western Australian Tourists' Guide* ...,op cit, c.1922-23, p. 11.

²⁹ Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit; *Western Australian Tourists' Guide*, op cit, c.1922-23, p. 11.

³⁰ Apperley, R., Irving, R., & Reynolds, P. (1989). *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture. Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*. North Ryde: Angus and Robertson, pp. 140-147.



Figure 11 Rockingham Hotel, c1922 showing the addition at the eastern end of the elevation which created a new entrance on the east elevation, extension toward the original single storey building which included a small gable in the roof. The single storey portion of the hotel was substantially rebuilt and features new verandahs
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana



Figure 12 View of the Rockingham Hotel, 1920s from the north showing the adaptation of the original 1886 building and the addition to the two-storey stone portion with a new gable and upper-level balcony
Courtesy Draper & Derford, Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988, p. 16



Figure 13 Hotel Rockingham Hotel, early 1920s showing the detail of the new addition on the eastern elevation
 Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana

Reg Harrison only remained at Rockingham until 1925. For family reasons he wanted to sell up and leave the State, so he offered the Rockingham Hotel and associated land to his friend George Grigg.³¹

Victorian born George Grigg (1879-1953) settled in WA in 1895 and established a coach building business in Perth with his father.³² He relocated to Rockingham in the early 1920s leaving his son Reg to manage the business in Perth. George Grigg had also secured funds from the Government following the resumption of a property in the Perth hills. According to the recollections of his daughter Doris, he was looking for investment properties. Harrison was asking £8,000 for Rockingham Hotel but Grigg only had £4,000, which Harrison is reported to have accepted. The Deed of Memorial for the sale of Lot 12 with 'all buildings, erections and landlords' fixtures and fittings' records the sale figure as £1,500, so presumably the rest of the £4,000 covered Lots 11, 13 and 14 and associated buildings.³³

Doris Grigg was appointed to manage the accommodation section of the business, where she remained for the next fifteen years. A publican was engaged to manage the bar trade while George Grigg was interested in the development of the site and other business interests. The cottages provided only bedroom accommodation for the Hotel and were favoured by families.³⁴ Meals were still provided in the main hotel building.

Reg Grigg joined the family business in Rockingham after he broke his leg in a motorbike accident in 1925 and closed the coach-building business in Perth.³⁵

To assist the growing number of visitors by car, a petrol bowser was installed in the front of the hotel. As far as can be determined from the available research this was a Shell bowser installed sometime in 1927.³⁶

³¹ Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit.

³² *Coastal District Star*, 3 September 1953, p. 1.

³³ Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit; Deed of Memorial, Book 19 No. 1082, 18 February 1925; Certificates of Title, Vol. 824 Fol. 35 (Lot 13), Vol. 825 Fol. 42 (lot 14) 18 February 1925 & Vol. 887 Fol. 81 (first Torrens title for Lot 12), 20 April 1925.

³⁴ Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit.

³⁵ *The Sunday Times*, 27 September 1925, p. 2; Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit.

³⁶ *The Sunday Times*, 11 December 1927, p. 47.



Figure 14 View of the western end of the Hotel Rockingham Hotel, n.d. showing the water tower and petrol bowser in use to fill a Hotel Rockingham truck annotated with 'Geo E Grigg'. The building at the centre left is the pavilion built by Harrison
 Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana

In 1927, George Grigg applied to the Licensing Court to enlarge the whole of the front verandah of the hotel.³⁷ This application was granted and although the verandah is not designated is likely to have referred to the front veranda of the single storey portion of the hotel which in a photograph from the 1930s (see Figure 15) has generous verandahs for the patrons.³⁸

In 1928, George Grigg purchased Lot 15 on the corner of Flinders Lane and more cottages were added on the site behind the garage on the corner of Kent Street.³⁹ In the same year, Lots 9 and 10 to the west were purchased by Grigg for more cottages, creating a substantial parcel of seven lots on the waterfront under the ownership and management of the Grigg family.

The bar trade at Rockingham Hotel was relatively quiet during the week, when only a few locals frequented the place. But on the weekends, especially Sundays, the place was busy. It was located just outside the twenty-mile city limit, allowing it to trade on Sundays for the benefit of travellers. At these times there were sometimes two sittings for lunch in the dining room.⁴⁰

During the summer season the accommodation was booked out. In January, it was families from the city, women and children would come down for the week and their husbands would join them at the weekend, while in February it was farming families from the wheatbelt coming to the coast for their seaside break. This was followed by a quiet period before the company picnics began, when around 100 or so people would arrive by boat for a day out. The Hotel would cater a meal at one shilling and sixpence or two shillings a head and the men would play cricket on the recreation ground across the other side of Kent Street while the women and children enjoyed the Hotel gardens and the beach. Dances were held in the pavilion on a Saturday night.⁴¹

Between the Hotel grounds and the beach, the area was scrub and sand dunes. George Grigg was a member of the local Road Board, serving as Chairman on three occasions, and during the Depression, when the Road Board provided sustenance work for the unemployed, he had the area levelled and grassed. He organised for

³⁷ *Daily News*, 9 December 1927, p. 3.

³⁸ *The Daily News*, 9 December 1927, p. 3.

³⁹ Deed of Memorial, Book 10 No. 65; Book 20 No. 85, 4 November 1965 & No. 117, 16 January 1928; Certificate of Title, Vol. 993 Fol. 68, 18 February 1928; 1953 site plan, Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit.

⁴⁰ Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit.

⁴¹ Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit.

small trees at East Rockingham to be relocated to the foreshore to create the picnic area adjacent to the beach.⁴² The Hotel gardens begun by Harrison were extended and maintained by the Griggs, although it is not known exactly when specific plantings were undertaken, such as the distinctive and remaining Norfolk Pine trees.



Figure 15 View of the Rockingham Hotel, c1930 from the north. The pine tree in the left foreground may be an indication of when the existing Norfolk Island Pine trees were planted.
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana

A view from the upper level of the two storey portion of the hotel (Figure 16) shows the roof form of the single storey portion of the hotel and the many cottages available for visitors.

⁴² Stenning, Doris L. (nee Grigg), op cit.



Figure 16 View over the roof of the single storey portion of the Rockingham Hotel, c1930
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana

By 1933, a resident's lounge (later Sportsman's Bar) was built on Lot 14, overlooking the tennis courts, which were located on the Kent Street frontage.⁴³

Reg Grigg took over as licensee of Rockingham Hotel in 1932,⁴⁴ and in the next few years he undertook several programs of additions and alterations. The first stage of work was the enlargement of the verandahs on the two-storey portion of the hotel. New solid balustrades were installed on the verandahs in the Inter War Art Deco style. The bull nose verandah roof was removed and the roof line altered to incorporate the verandah roof.

⁴³ *Western Australian Tourists' Guide ...*, 1933, p. 79; Regehr, Mervyn Bell, 'The Hostel and the Trocadero', *Rockingham Historian*, August 2002, pp. 5-7.

⁴⁴ *The Sunday Times*, 22 May 1932, p. 2.



Figure 17 View of the Rockingham Hotel, c1934 showing the works undertaken on the verandah
 Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana

These additions and alterations were completed by November 1935 when a ceremony was held at the Rockingham Hotel for the official opening of the Extension of Electric Light to the Rockingham District. Lieutenant-Governor Sir James Mitchell undertook the formal switching on of the facilities on 15 November 1935.⁴⁵ The opening ceremony program shows the new verandahs and trees placed by each of the uprights.

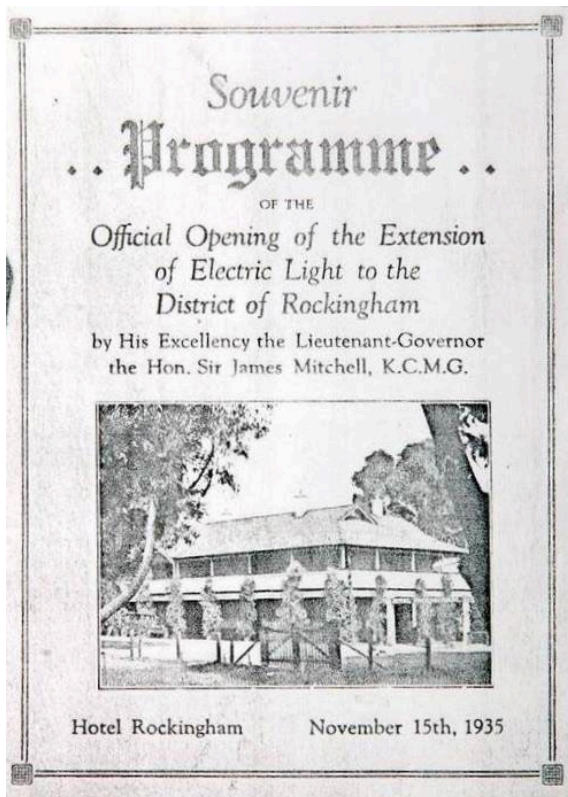


Figure 18 Electric Light Extension Opening Ceremony
 Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana

⁴⁵ *The Sunday Times*, 24 November 1935, p. 3 and 33.



Figure 19 Hotel Rockingham Hotel, 1935 at the time of the Electric Light Extension Opening Ceremony
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana

Also in 1935, George Grigg commissioned the construction of a new two storey building on Lot 15 on the corner of Flinders Lane and Rockingham Beach Road. The new hostel was designed to replace the single storey bungalow style boarding house and tearoom which was previously on the site. It was named the 'Hostel Rockingham' and later known as the 'Trocadero'.⁴⁶



Figure 20 Hostel Rockingham construction, 1935-36
Courtesy Draper & Kerford, *Rockingham from Port to City 1888*, p. 59

⁴⁶ Photograph 16: Draper, Richard & Kerferd, Dale, op cit, p. 59.

The new hostel was constructed of the local vuggy limestone with brick trim and included 'Fibrolite' or asbestos ceilings.⁴⁷ The builder, A. Nelson, employed many migrants and the workforce was dubbed 'the League of Nations' by local residents. The upper floor contained bedrooms, several bathrooms and sitting rooms for guests, while the lower floor had a lounge, dining room, kitchen and several storerooms. While the upper floor became accommodation for hotel guests, the ground floor remained unused for several years, with guests dining at Rockingham Hotel.⁴⁸

In 1944, a cafe was opened by Jack and Kay Cosier in the corner front room on the ground floor of the Hostel. The Cosiers lived on the premises. They named their cafe the Trocadero and before long the dance hall and the entire building were being referred to as the Trocadero.⁴⁹

Well known dance instructor Stan Grey gave lessons and organized Saturday night dances in the unused Hostel dining room. The room was a staple of social life at Rockingham well into the 1950s. It was used for twenty-first birthday parties, sporting club trophy nights, weekly darts club, visiting variety shows and by community organisations for fund raising events. A feature of the room was the wide fireplace built of a mixture of brick and stone and some of the black basalt rocks brought to Rockingham in the nineteenth century as ballast on sailing ships.⁵⁰

Several of the smaller rooms at the rear of the Hostel, opening into a courtyard, were used for overnight accommodation by the police constables who came from Fremantle to maintain order at the weekends, and one room served as a temporary lockup. On the far side of the courtyard, the room originally planned as the kitchen was occupied by Rockman Cool Drinks as a cool drink factory.



Figure 21 Hostel Rockingham, (Trocadero) 1952
Courtesy SLWA image b2377183_1

Following the modifications of the Hotel in 1934-35, further additions were undertaken c1938 to the west of the two-storey portion along the Kent Street elevation. It mimicked the balcony of the existing hotel but was at a higher level than the original building. The roof line was also higher than the original. (See Figure 23)

⁴⁷ *The Mirror*, 2 May 1936, p. 26.

⁴⁸ Regehr, Mervyn Bell, op cit; Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit; *Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1926.

⁴⁹ Regehr, Mervyn Bell, op cit; 1953 site plan and correspondence November 1958, Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit.

⁵⁰ Regehr, Mervyn Bell, op cit. It is apparent that the chimney was never functional.



Figure 22 A street view of Hotel Rockingham, 1938 showing the addition on the western elevation
Courtesy NAA K1131 W3577D



Figure 23 Hotel Rockingham, c1938 showing the addition on the western elevation at a higher level
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana



Figure 24 Passengers from ferry, on the way to the Rockingham Hotel, 1939
Courtesy Rockingham Campus Community Library

An item in the *Mirror* in November 1939 described the changes at the Hotel as follows.

Rockingham Hotel, which was enlarged last year, is being further altered and modernised to the extent of £2500. A handsome new lounge, now being prepared, has an area of 60 x 30 and the dining room is being extended.⁵¹

This addition and of remodelling was consistent with similar projects at this time, such as the Raffles Hotel, at Canning Bridge, converted from a Federation period style to an Art Deco style, by the architect, W. G. Bennett. Previous research has concluded that the Rockingham Hotel works were also designed by Bennett.⁵² The major works were in the single storey portion of the building which were extensively remodelled in the modern style. The exterior of the single storey portion of the building was rendered and the roof reclad with tiles. From later aerial photographs it can be seen that the roof line was significantly altered in these works. The new double pitched tile roof was significantly different to the previous simple pitched roof clad in corrugated iron. Photographs taken of the interior of the dining room show the Art Deco styling and the changes in furnishings within a few years.

⁵¹ *Mirror*, 25 November 1939, p. 18.

⁵² The conclusion that W.G. Bennett was the architect for this work has been taken from previous research which identified a close association between W.G. Bennett and Reg Grigg for later works. In the mid-1930s Bennett was working with the firm Eales Cohen and Bennett before he started his own practice in June 1935. See Taylor, Dr John J., 'William Garnsworthy Bennett (1896-1977)', *Western Australian Architect Biographies*, <http://www.taylorarchitects.com.au/Biographies.html> accessed 13 March 2024.



Figure 25 Rockingham Hotel Dining Room, late 1930s
Courtesy Mrs L. Ross as reproduced in Draper & Kerford, Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988, p. 152



Figure 26 Rockingham Hotel Dining Room, c1941
Courtesy SLWA image b3416437_1

Photographs attached to the Rockingham Hotel advertisement in the 1941-42 issue of the West Australian tourist directory show internal views of the work completed.



Figure 27 Rockingham Hotel Lounge Room, c1940
Courtesy SLWA image



Figure 28 Rockingham Hotel Lounge Room, c1941
Courtesy SLWA image

A photograph from the late 1950s shows the external form and detail of these modifications.



Figure 29 View of the northern elevation of the Rockingham Hotel, c1959
 Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana

Accommodation at Rockingham Hotel was listed at 200 beds in 1941-42, most of which were provided in the ten cottages and six flats that were scattered around the seven-lot site around the Hotel buildings, sheds, Hostel, licensee's flat, tennis courts and garage. Staff at this time comprised nine bar tenders, three waitresses, four housemaids, three cooks, three yardmen and eleven 'others'. Reg Grigg and his family occupied the licensee's flat in the centre of the site.

Reg Grigg had big plans for the hotel which he developed in response to the assurance that the refinery was going ahead in Kwinana. As noted in *The West Australian*;

With the recent assurance of the establishment of the refinery, business people are going ahead with plans for expansion of their businesses.

Two hotels have large extension programmes and one will begin work on additions within a fortnight. The proprietor of the Rockingham Hotel (Mr. R. Grigg) is proceeding with extensive alterations to the hotel which he expects will be completed within two years.

A new cocktail bar of 30ft. is nearing completion and will be part of additional bar space of 70ft.

A large beer garden, catering for 300 people and surrounded by a stone wall on three sides is almost finished on the north of the hotel.⁵³

The beer garden occupied the site of the tennis court closest to the entrance to Rockingham Hotel and had a honeycomb limestone block wall built on three sides.⁵⁴ The Cocktail Bar was located within what was most recently the Lounge Bar in the centre of the building and a frosted glass panel with the cursive script 'Cocktails' was located above the entrance from the Main lounge. This panel has since been broken by vandals since the closure of the hotel.

⁵³ *The West Australian*, 18 October 1952, p. 5.

⁵⁴ *Western Australian Tourist Guide and Accommodation Directory*, 1941-42 op cit, pp. 144-145; 1953 site plan, op cit.

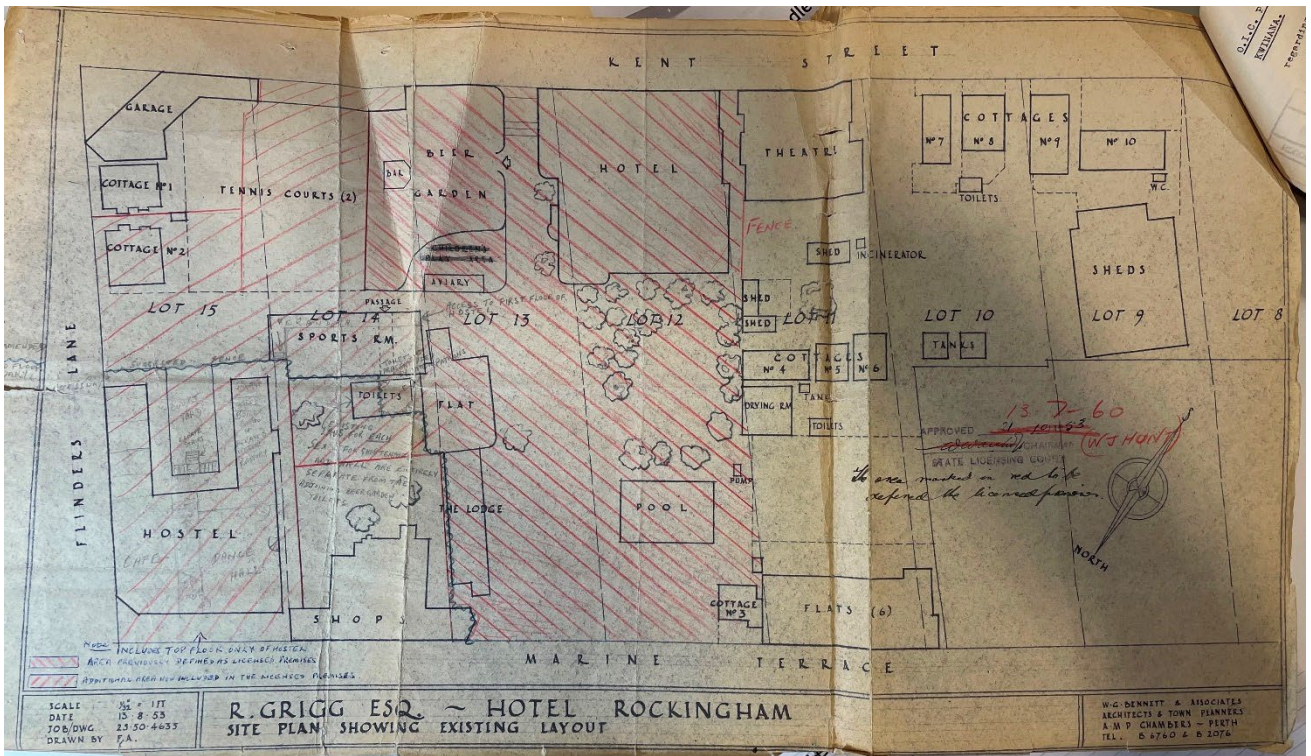


Figure 30 Site plan drawing, 1953
Courtesy SROWA Cons 5708 item A460 v4, Rockingham Hotel



Figure 31 View of the northern elevation of the Rockingham Hotel, c1952
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana

George Grigg died in December 1953 and it is probably this event that led to Reg Grigg shelving his plans for the development of the hotel. In 1956, Rockingham Hotel passed out of Grigg family hands into the ownership of Frederick Carter and Francis (Frank) and Ivy Maddigan. Frank Maddigan held the licence.⁵⁵

In the development boom of the post-World War Two years, the State Government took the decision to make Cockburn Sound the second harbour for Perth. Industrial development in the adjoining Shires of Cockburn and Kwinana had a flow-on effect for Rockingham, where home construction increased. Improvements to the facilities and layout of Rockingham Hotel were ongoing through the 1950s and the 1960s as the public and the Licensing Court demanded higher standards.⁵⁶

In 1957, improvements were undertaken by architects W. G. Bennett and Associates and included considerable extensions to the Public Bar and the re-positioning of the Lounge Bar counter and alterations to the Stewards' Bar. Existing storerooms and a cool room were to form the new Public Bar area, under which a large cellar was to be formed, which would in effect enlarge the existing cellar. Improved toilet facilities were a major consideration. Crowds in the vicinity of the Hotel numbered up to 2,000 in summer, as Rockingham continued to be a popular seaside holiday resort. In 1960, the upper floor of the Hostel was included in the licensed premises.⁵⁷



Figure 32 Aerial View of the Hotel and grounds, 1964
Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana

In 1965, architects Forbes & Fitzhardinge were engaged to undertake major works on the Rockingham Hotel and the Hostel building. Several cottages were demolished, including the two on Lot 15. The beer garden was extended into the former area of the tennis courts and a drive-in bottle shop was constructed behind the garage. The Hostel underwent considerable alteration with removal of the third level lookout and re-roofing, conversion of the downstairs areas into shops, and installation of bathrooms in the upper floor bedrooms to create twenty motel-style units.

The hotel verandahs addressing Kent Street were removed and replaced with cantilevered concrete balconies to the upper floor units and a new entry foyer and reception office were created. Seven motel style units,

⁵⁵ Certificates of Title, Vol. 824 Fol. 35, Vol. 825 Fol. 42, Vol. 887 Fol. 81 & Vol. 993 Fol. 68, 2 February 1956; Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit.

⁵⁶ Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit.

⁵⁷ Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit; 1960s tourist brochure, PR8679/ROC/29.

similar to those at the Hostel, were established on the upper floor.⁵⁸ It is probable that it was during this program of works that the exterior of the two storey portion of the hotel was rendered with thick cement render.

In 1971, Frank Maddigan, the licensee and part owner during this period, was reported as managing the hotel well during a difficult period and by personal attention and forethought had managed to avoid trouble when the nearest hotels on either side were drawing undesirable elements and having riots each Saturday.⁵⁹ Maddigan died in July 1972, and title to the property passed to his wife Ivy.

In February 1973, Dino Guerinoni leased the place as licensee. He obtained an entertainment permit and live entertainment was held in the lounge area on Saturday and Wednesday evenings. Under-age drinking was an ongoing problem at Rockingham Hotel in the 1970s and 1980s.⁶⁰

In 1972, the dining room on the northern side of the hotel was extended.⁶¹



Figure 33 View of Kent Street, 1970s with the original road level and the walls of the beer garden
Courtesy Rockingham Campus Community Library

In 1988, Mirco Bros Pty Ltd and Palermo Nominees Pty Ltd acquired title to Rockingham Hotel.⁶² The licence was held by Vito Palermo. In 1989, the dining room was enlarged to create the central lounge area and the restaurant was added at the rear with an alfresco area to a design by architects Oldfield Knott.⁶³

Aerial photographs indicate that the road level of Kent Street was raised sometime in the 1990s which meant the entrance to the hotel was no longer directly from the street. A footpath was created below the road level to access the hotel.⁶⁴

⁵⁸ Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit; *Coastal District Times*, news items, 8 October 1965, p. 2; 12 November 1965, p. 1; 31 December 1965, p. 4 & photograph of the removal of verandahs at the Hostel showing the name 'Trocadero' above the corner entrance, 1 April 1966, p.3.

⁵⁹ Correspondence 2 April 1971, Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit.

⁶⁰ Police licensing file, Rockingham Hotel, Item A460 v4, op cit.

⁶¹ Some reports refer to this extension as a Steak House. See Quoin Structural Report, p. 1. PD-043/23 – Attachment 16 in the City of Rockingham December 2023 Ordinary Council.

⁶² Certificates of Title, Vol. 1791 Fols. 172-176, compiled in 1994 into Vol. 2029 Fol. 634, Diagram 88032.

⁶³ Plans for new Alfresco Dining area held by the City of Rockingham.

⁶⁴ Aerial photographs, 1970-2005, Landgate.



Figure 34 View of the hotel following the alfresco area addition, 1989. Licensee's residence at centre left
Courtesy SLWA image b3699114_6

In the 1990s, the beer garden was removed and the Liquid Niteclub building constructed on the site. This alteration entailed the removal of an amount of the 1940s honeycomb limestone wall that had encircled the beer garden. The upper floor of the Hostel became a backpackers' hostel, with some permanent residents, and shops continued to adapt and occupy the ground floor on both street frontages.

Since the 1990s, there were few major changes to the hotel premises. The Trocadero was demolished in 2009 and the place continued to function as a licensed premises until 2021. The drive through bottle shop operated until 2023. Following closure of the premises the place has been subject to vandalism and further deterioration.

7.0 Photographs

7.1 Key Plans

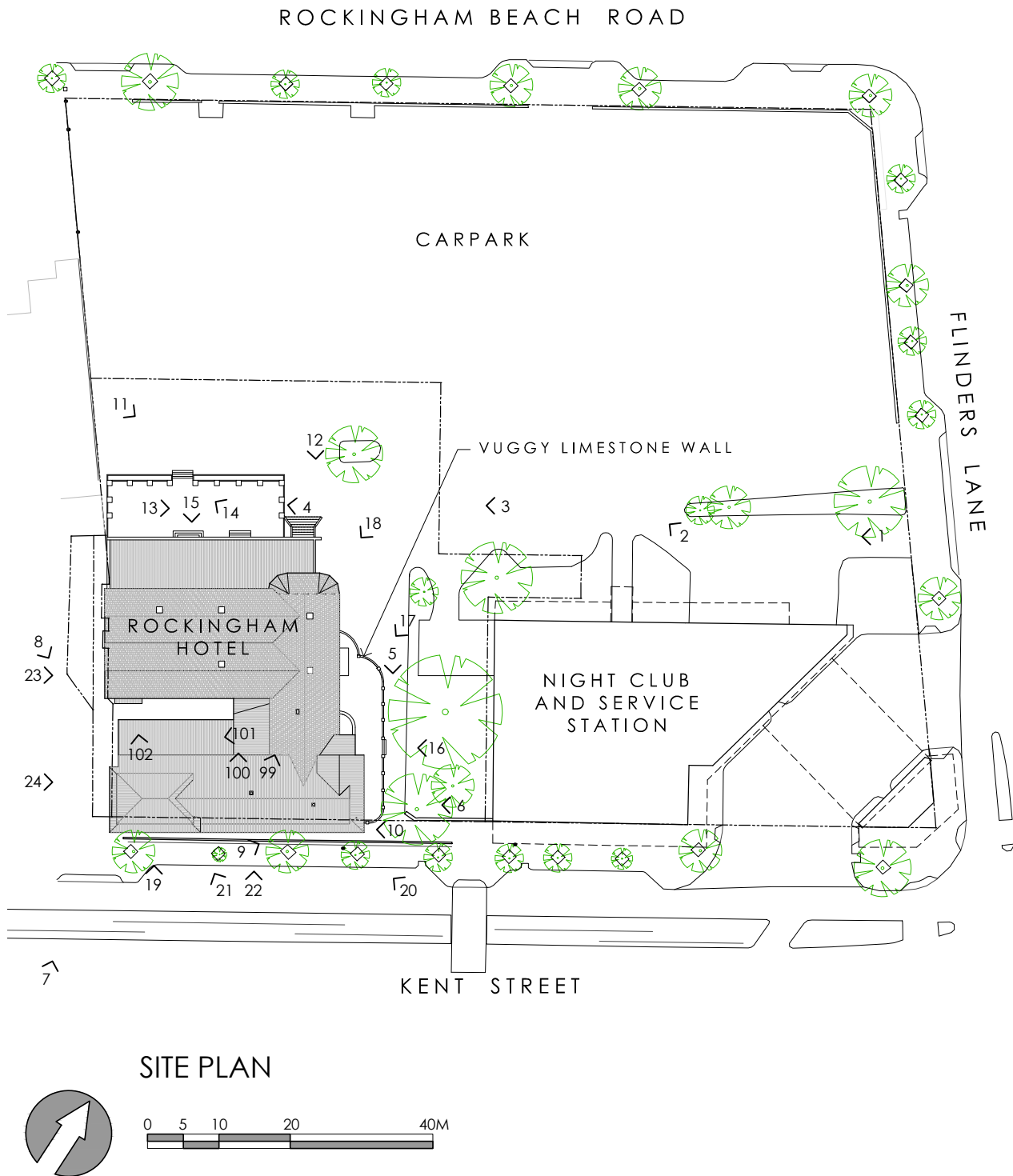
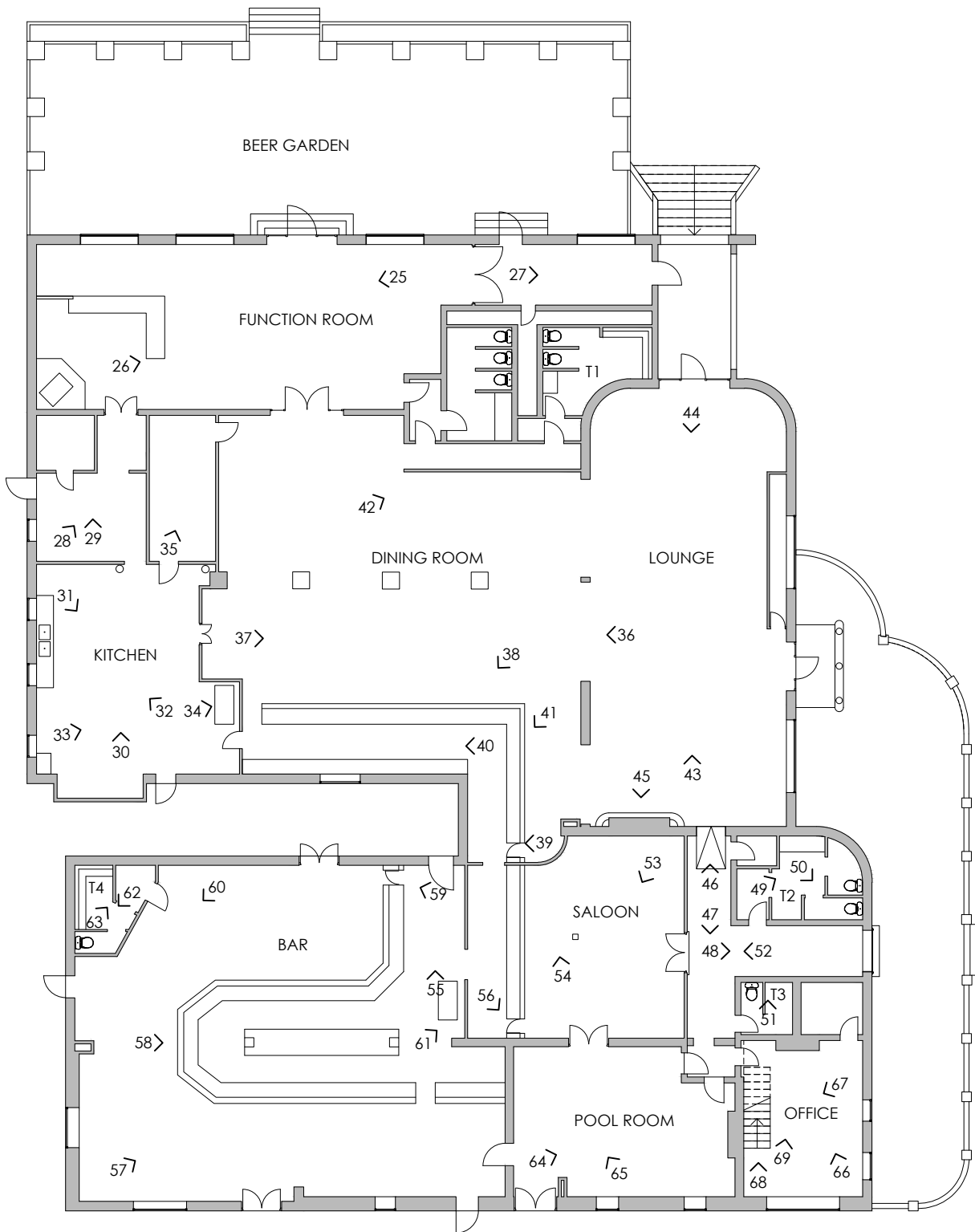


Figure 35: Site Key Plan





GROUND FLOOR PLAN

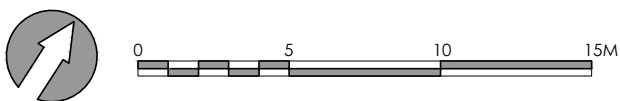
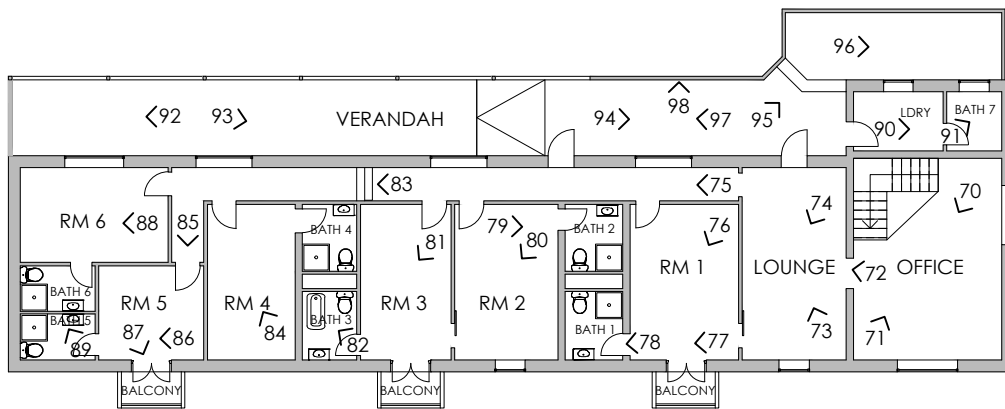
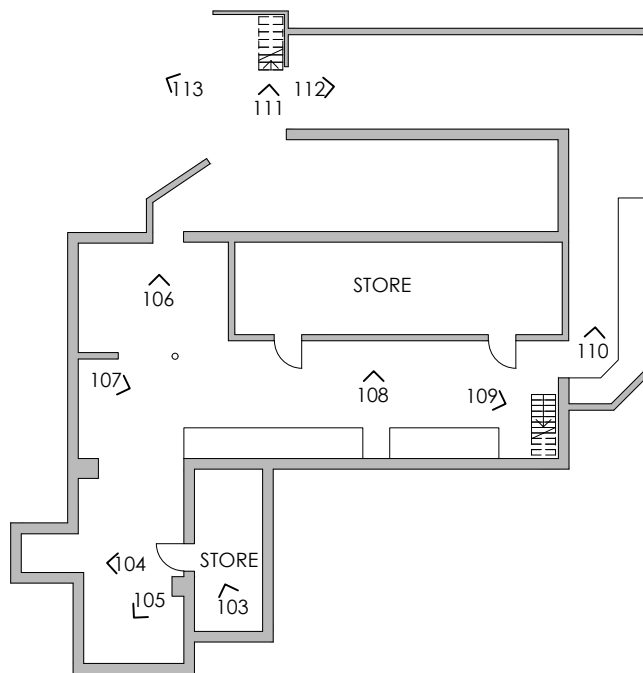


Figure 36: Ground Floor Key Plan





FIRST FLOOR PLAN



BASEMENT PLAN



Figure 37: First Floor and Basement Key Plans



7.2 The Place and its Setting

Refer to Section 7.1 [Key Plans](#) for location of photo. Photos were taken by Hocking Heritage + Architecture in April 2024 unless otherwise noted.



View 1 View from Flinders Lane of the former night club and service station adjacent to Rockingham Hotel
Courtesy Emirge, June 2023



View 2 View of the carpark with the Norfolk pine tree in the distance



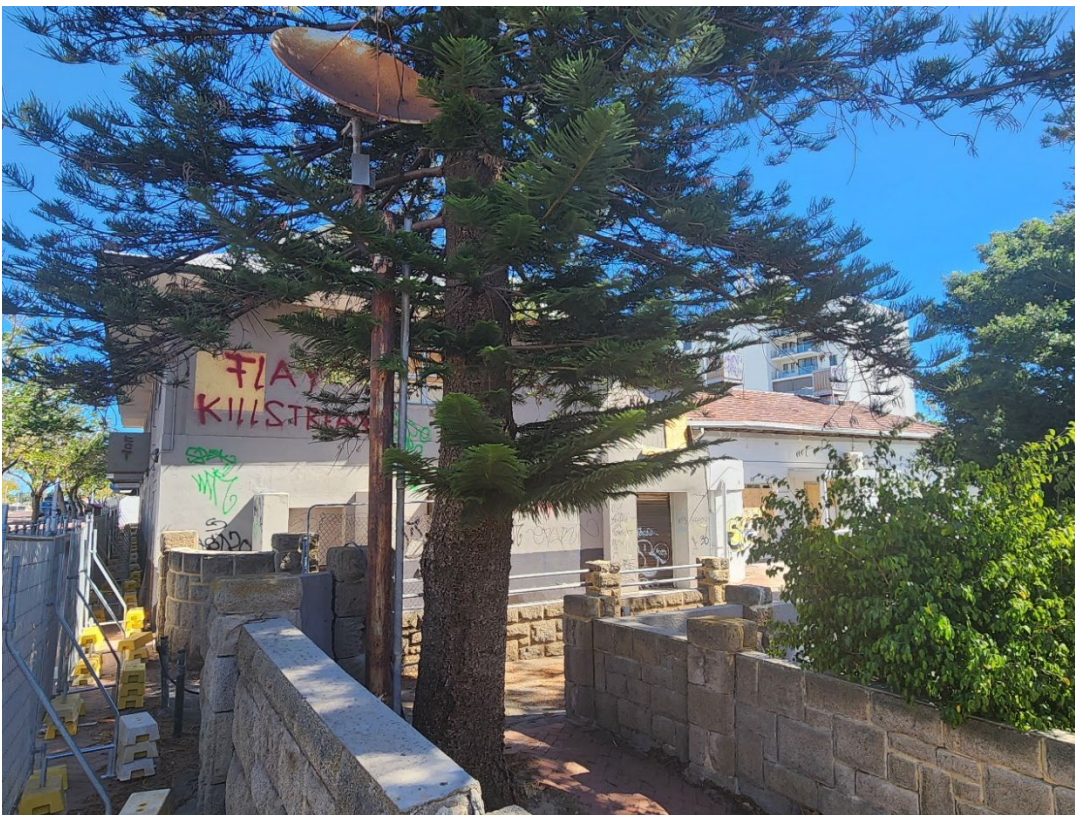
View 3 Northeast corner of the building



View 4 View of the beer garden and carpark over from the entry staircase



View 5 Vuggy limestone walls lining the accessway to Kent Street



View 6 Southwest corner of the building showing vuggy limestone boundary walls along Kent Street



View 7 View of the western and southern side of the building from Kent Street



View 8 Western side of the building from the neighbouring accessway



View 9 Balconies on the southern side of Rockingham Hotel facing Kent Street
Courtesy Emirge, June 2023



View 10 Level difference between pedestrian footpath and building apron along Kent Street

7.3 External Elevations

Refer to Section 7.1 [Key Plans](#) for location of photo. Photos were taken by Hocking Heritage + Architecture in April 2024 unless otherwise noted.



View 11 Northern elevation of Rockingham Hotel with remnant individual lettering signage and hoardings following asbestos removal



View 12 Main entry staircase accessed from carpark



View 13 Glazed balustrade and pier barriers to the Beer Garden



View 14 Metal gate connecting the Beer Garden to the carpark



View 15 Raised entry connecting the Beer Garden and Function Room inside
Courtesy Emirge, June 2023



View 16 East elevation of Rockingham Hotel with some cladding removed during recent asbestos removal



View 17 Vuggy limestone retaining walls with metal handrails to the outdoor area outside the Lounge



View 18 Painted walls to the Rockingham Hotel Lounge
Courtesy Emirge, February 2024



View 19 View of the southern corner facing Kent Street



View 20 View of the southeastern corner facing Kent Street



View 21 Close up view of rendered walls with paint finish on the southern elevation



View 22 Wide eaves of the upper storey with timber fascia exposed and 'HOTEL' neon sign still extant



View 23 Western elevation prior to recent removal of asbestos cladding to gables
Courtesy Emirge, February 2024



View 24 Upper section of the oldest part of the building following recent removal of asbestos cladding to verandah

7.4 Internal photographs

Refer to Section 7.1 [Key Plans](#) for location of photo. Photos were taken by Hocking Heritage + Architecture in April 2024 unless otherwise noted.



View 25 Function room with concrete flooring and service counter in the background



View 26 Function room looking from the bar area to the opening to the Beer Garden



View 27 Tiled passage to the main entry porch



View 28 Cool room in the back of house of the Kitchen and ramped access from the Function Room



View 29 Timber flooring in the back of house area adjacent to the Kitchen



View 30 Vinyl flooring in the Kitchen with structural columns still extant



View 31 View of the northern wall of the Kitchen connecting to the Dining Room



View 32 Extant bench and plumbing fixtures in the Kitchen



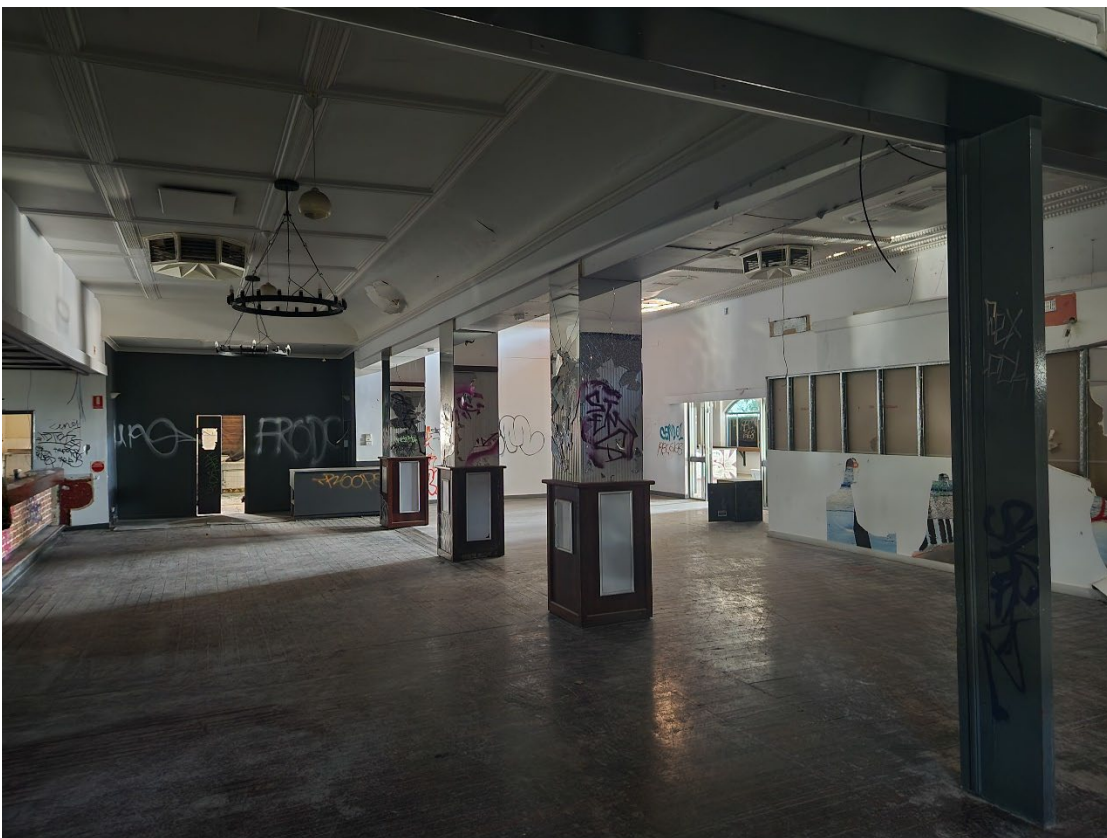
View 33 Doorways connecting the Kitchen and Dining Room



View 34 Trap door access to the Basement from the Kitchen floor



View 35 Flue in the Kitchen



View 36 View of the Dining Room



View 37 View of the Dining Room with timber floorboards



View 38 View of the counter in the Dining Room



View 39 Detail view of access behind the counter in the Dining Room



View 40 Timber floorboards and steel benchtops behind the counter



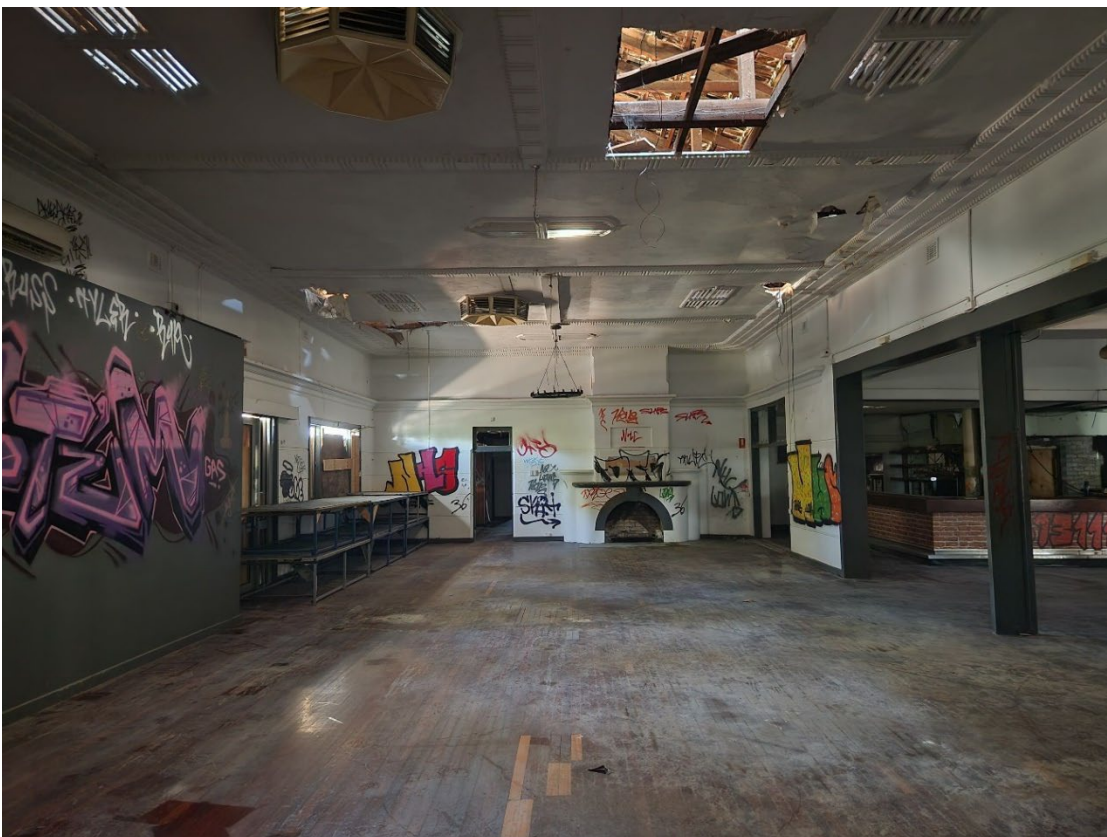
View 41 View of the counter from the Lounge



View 42 Access to the toilets from the Dining Room area



View 43 View of the Lounge with decorative detail in ceiling and curved walls in the background



View 44 View of the Lounge facing south



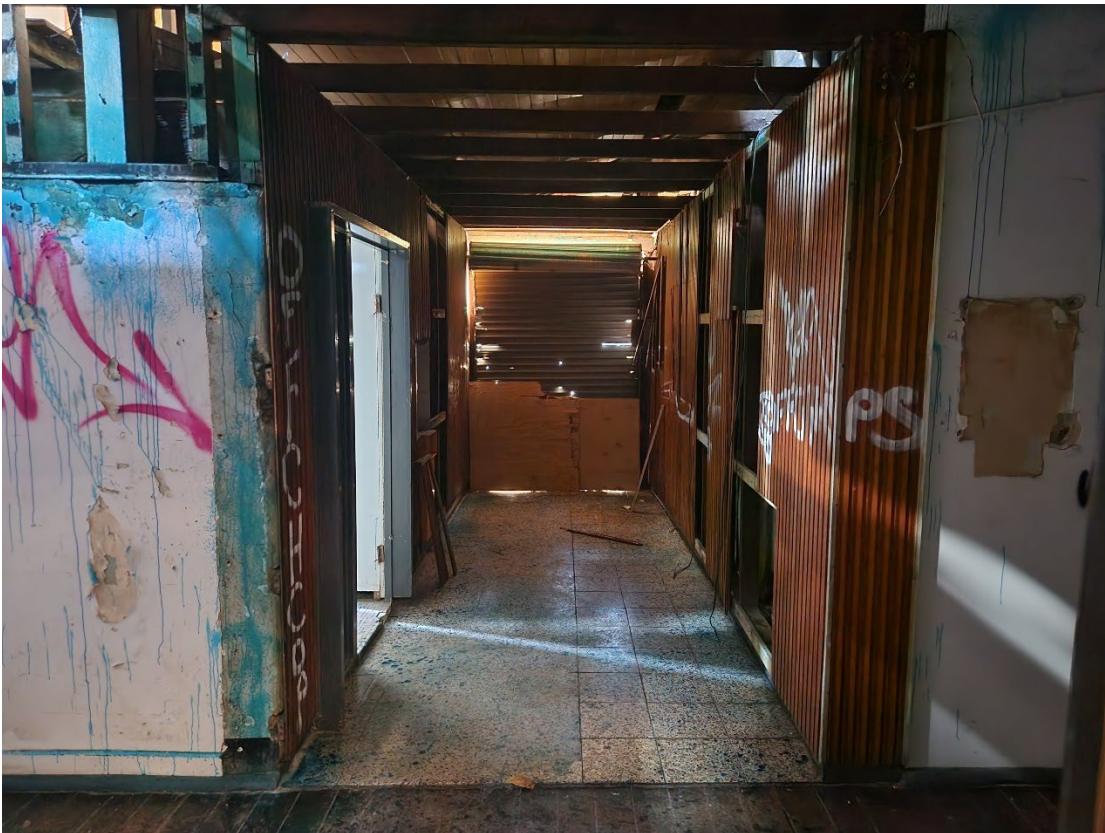
View 45 Detail of door fanlight (left) and fireplace (right) in the Lounge
Courtesy Emirge, May 2023



View 46 Ramped access covering the step down into the passage way off the Lounge



View 47 Corridor off the Lounge (asbestos containing linings removed recently)



View 48 Access to the north eastern porch at the far end



View 49 Female toilet with timber louvred windows along curved section of wall



View 50 Tiling to toilet floor and walls



View 51 Fitout of male toilet



View 52 Saloon



View 53 Saloon interior with 160mm wide timber floorboards and timber dado



View 54 Counter in the Saloon and timber panelling and boards around the walls and bulkheads



View 55 Door leading to the service yard from behind the counter



View 56 Sample of remnant equipment



View 57 View of the Bar from the southern corner



View 58 Detail of the countertop and area behind the counter in the Bar



View 59 Detail of tiling to metal framed swing door of the counter



View 60 Access to the toilets of the Bar on the far right and timber dado detail along the walls



View 61 Trap door access to the basement from the Bar



View 62 Interior of the toilets off the Bar



View 63 Detail of mosaic tile flooring in the toilets off the Bar



View 64 Concrete floor in the Pool Room



View 65 Access into the Saloon from the Pool Room



View 66 Office adjacent to the Pool Room with fireplace



View 67 Stair access to the upper floor from the Office



View 68 Detail of timber staircase (left) and newel post (right) leading to the upper floor



View 69 Detail of timber balustrade in the upper floor



View 70 First Floor Office showing the access into the Lounge



View 71 First Floor Office with timber floor boards



View 72 Floor threshold between the First Floor office and lounge



View 73 Recent damage to plasterboard walls in the Lounge



View 74 Cabinetry detail in the south wall of the Lounge



View 75 Hallway to the bedrooms



View 76 Room 1 interior



View 77 Stepped access up to the bathroom in Room 1



View 78 Room 1 bathroom interior with tiled floor and walls



View 79 View of stepped access into Room 2 bathroom



View 80 Room 2 interior with timber floorboards and recently damaged walls



View 81 Timber floor boards in Room 3; access to balcony in the background



View 82 Interior of Room 3 bathroom



View 83 Hallway steps where the floor level changes



View 84 Interior of Room 4



View 85 View into Room 5 of the passageway



View 86 Metal framed door and fanlight in Room 5 leading to the balcony



View 87 View of the balcony off Room 5



View 88 Interior of Room 6



View 89 View of adjacent toilets off Rooms 5 and 6



View 90 Interior of the laundry off the verandah on First Floor



View 91 Existing toilet in the Laundry



View 92 Looking towards the west of the verandah



View 93 Openings in the First Floor external wall facing the



View 94 Looking towards the east of the verandah with the Laundry door in the background



View 95 Timber steps down into the lower section of the verandah



View 96 External area north of the Laundry in the First Floor



View 97 Timber roof structure over verandah (linings removed during recent asbestos clearing works)



View 98 View of the roof space above the over Saloon



View 99 View of the tiles and corrugated metal roofing over the Ground Floor structure as viewed from the verandah on First Floor



View 100 Configuration of the skillion metal roofing and tiled hipped roofs above the Bar, Saloon and Lounge



View 101 Timber structure and metal cladding of the verandah



View 102 Rear brick wall of the Kitchen as viewed from the verandah

7.5 Basement Photos

Refer to Section 7.1 [Key Plans](#) for location of photo. Photos were taken by Hocking Heritage + Architecture in April 2024 unless otherwise noted.



View 103 Inside one of the lockable rooms in the basement



View 104 Area open to the outside



View 105 Plastered walls in the basement under the oldest section of Rockingham Hotel



View 106 Brick walls in the basement with steel beam supports to the floor above



View 107 Looking towards the entry steps into the basement in the far end



View 108 Trough in the basement



View 109 Detail of timber steps and metal handrail access into the basement from the bar area



View 109 Pulley under the steps



View 110 View in the basement



View 111 Steps from the basement leading up to the trap door in the Kitchen



View 112 Remnant timber shelving in the basement



View 113 Rubble stones under the later part of the basement with timber stumps supporting the Ground Floor



View 113 More rubble and redundant fixtures under the basement



View 113 Sealed tunnel at the northern end of the basement inserted in vuggy limestone blocks



View 113 Brick infill in opening in the basement



View 113 Crawl space in the basement with timber stumps, bearers and joists supports



View 113 Service pipes in the basement

8.0 Measured Drawings

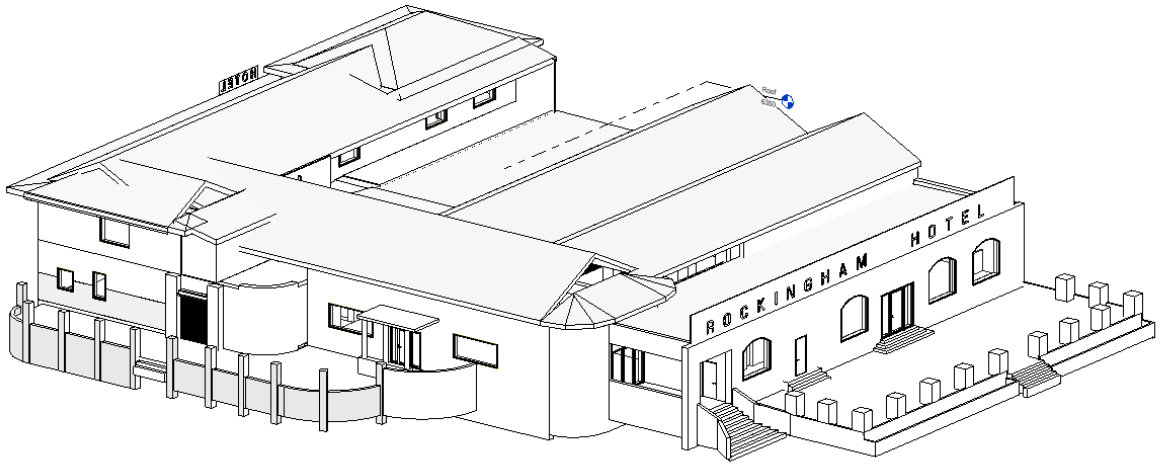
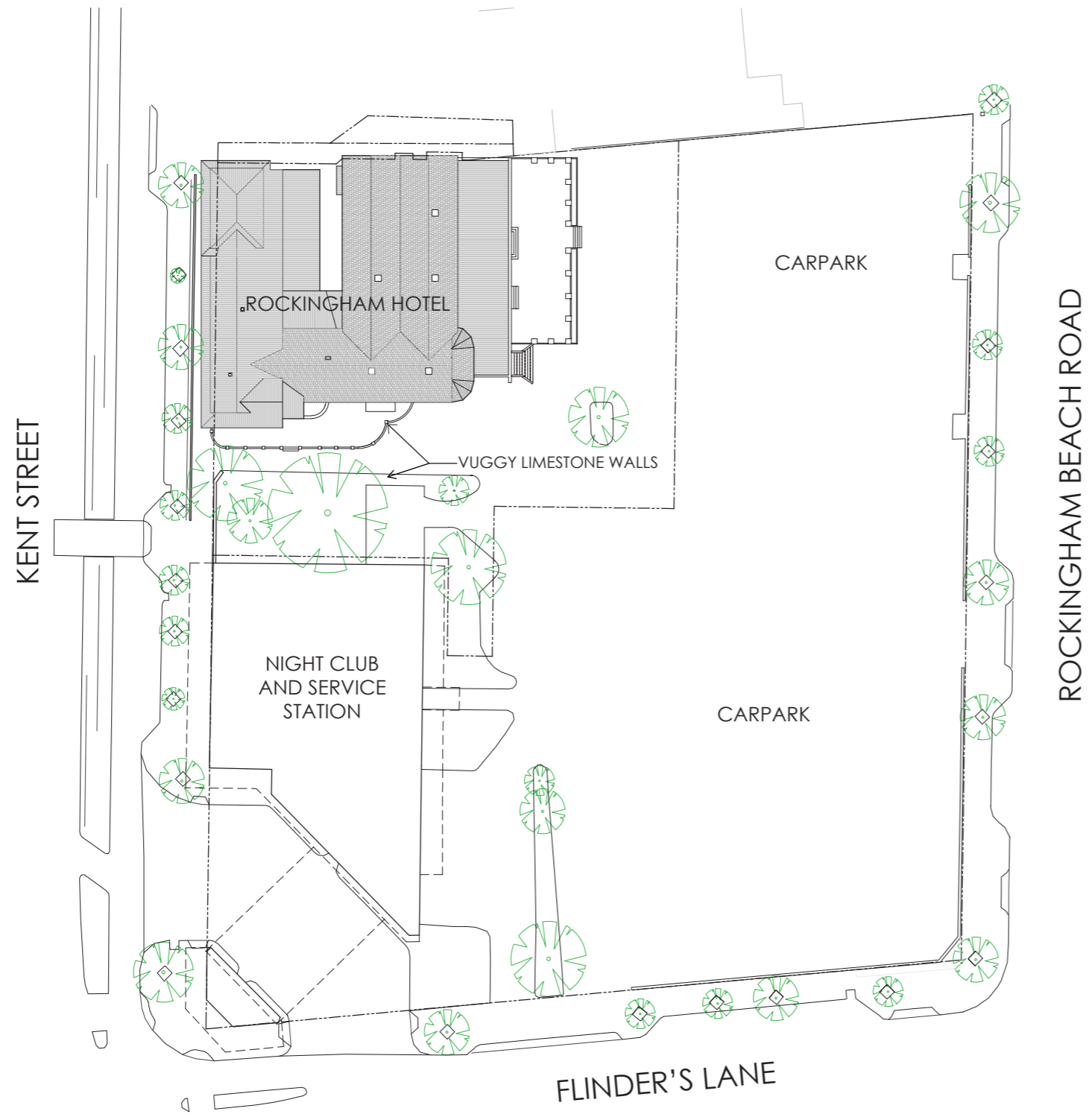


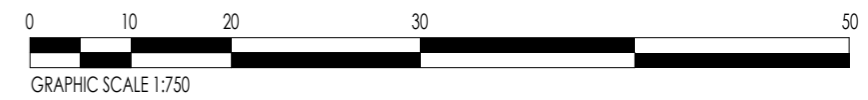
Figure 38 Rockingham Hotel axonometric view
Hocking Heritage + Architecture

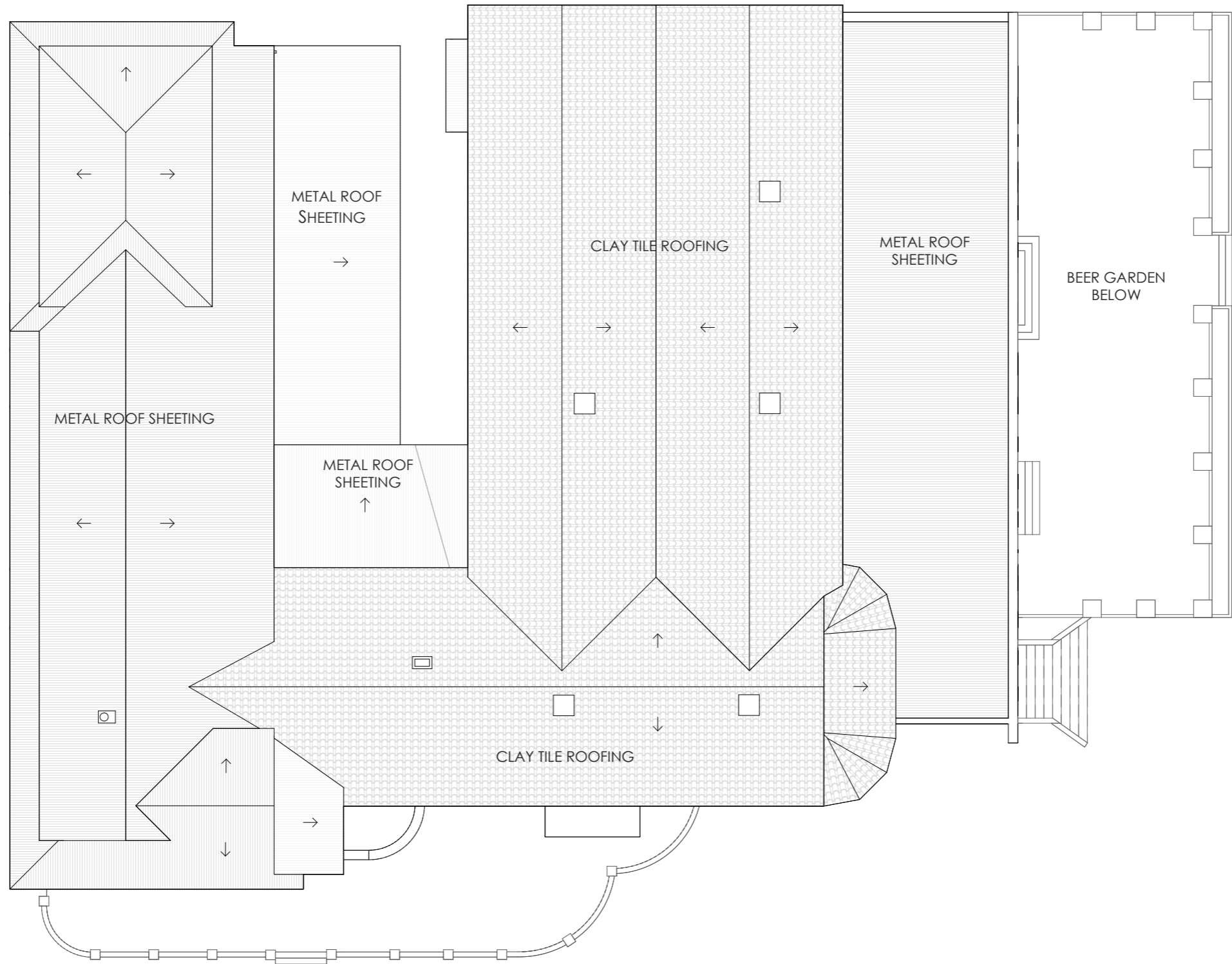
Disclaimer:

These drawings are for archival recording only and not intended for engineering design plans or to be used for construction. They are not surveyed plans. All measurements are given in good faith and believed to be correct.

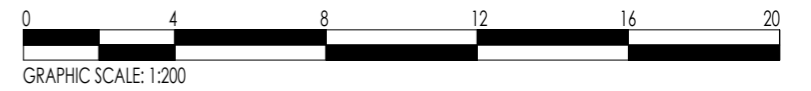


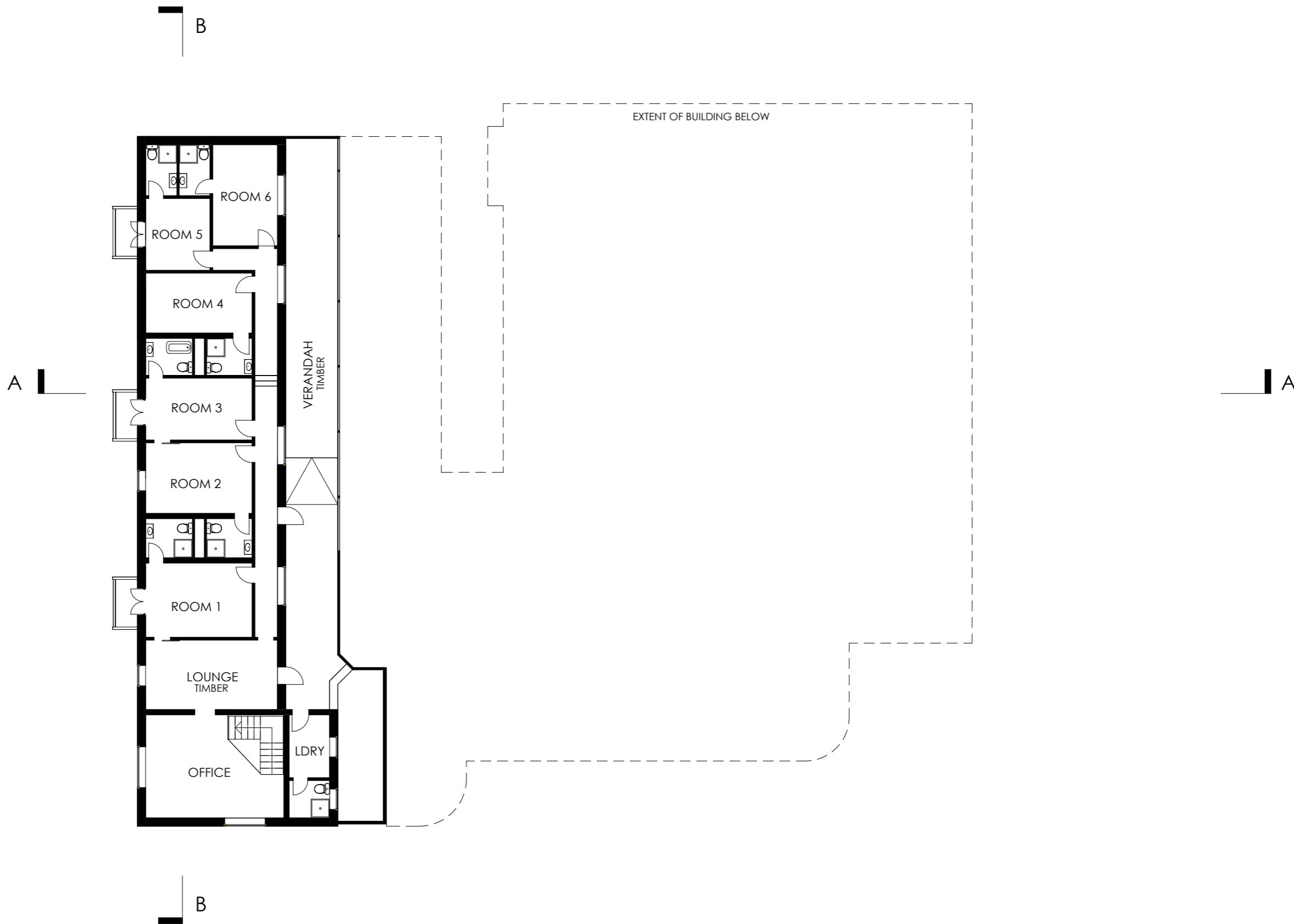
SITE PLAN
SCALE 1: 750 @ A3





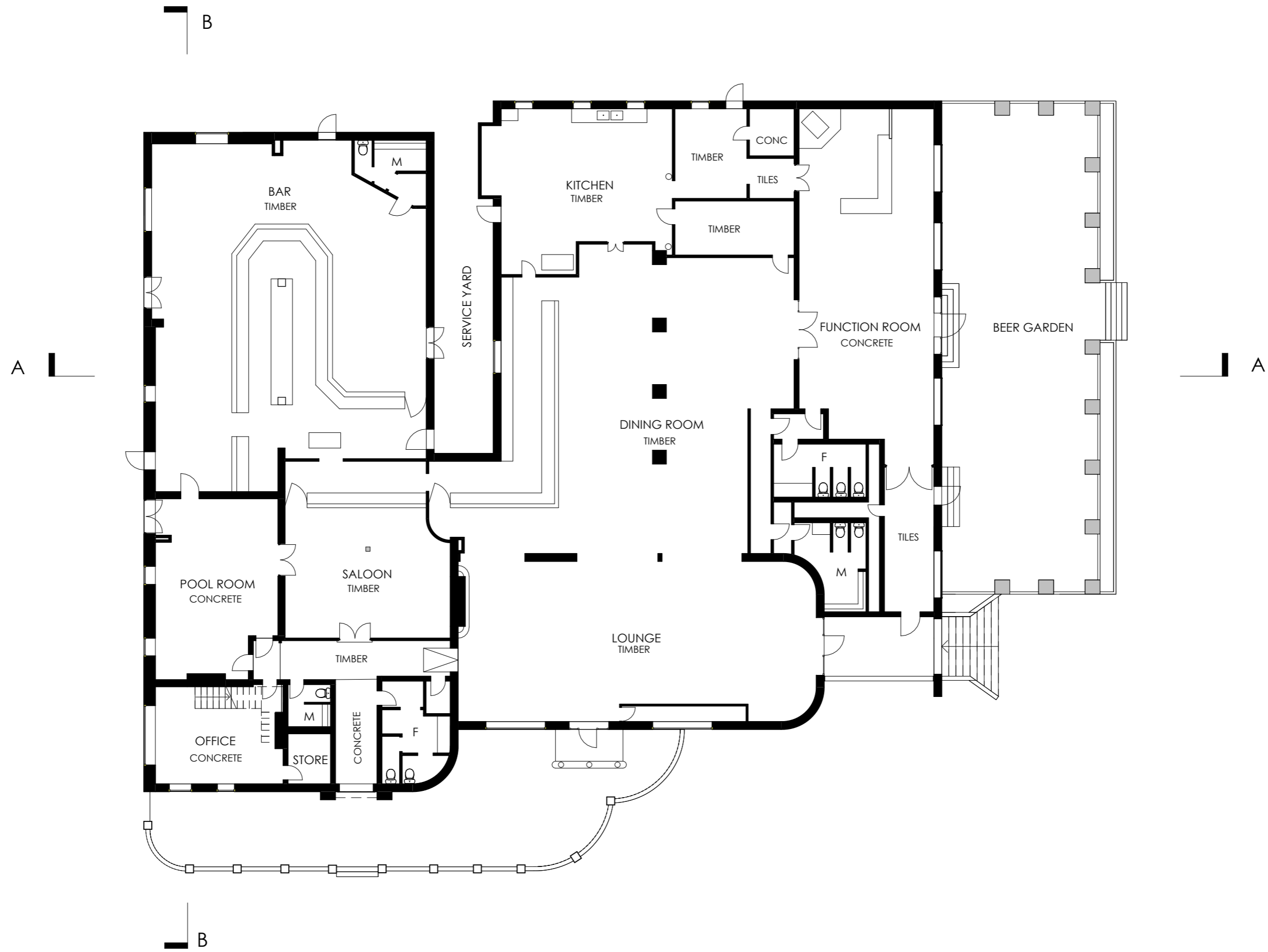
ROOF PLAN
SCALE 1: 200 @ A3



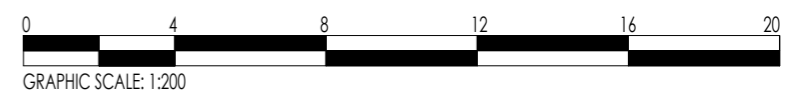


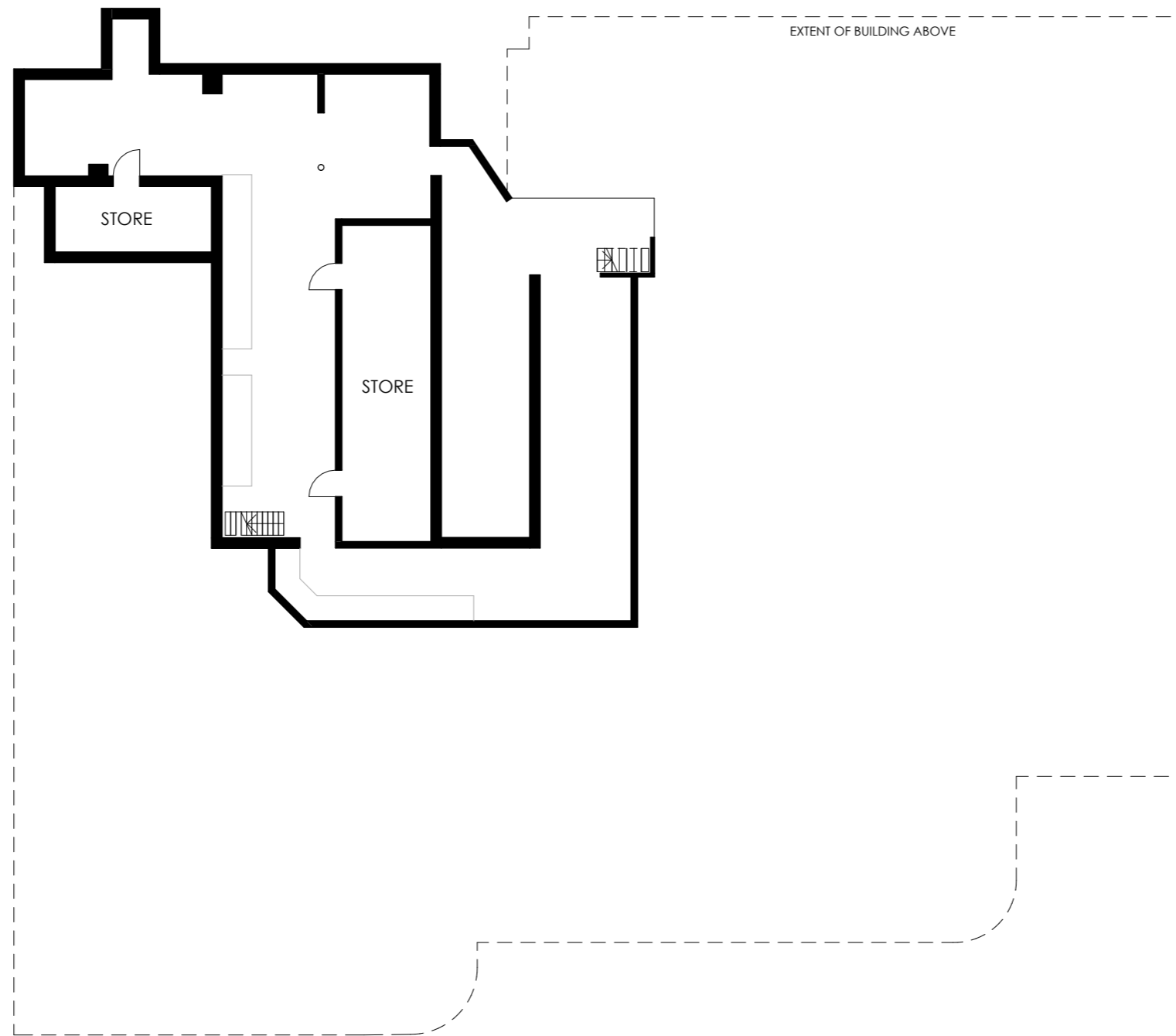
FIRST FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1: 200 @ A3





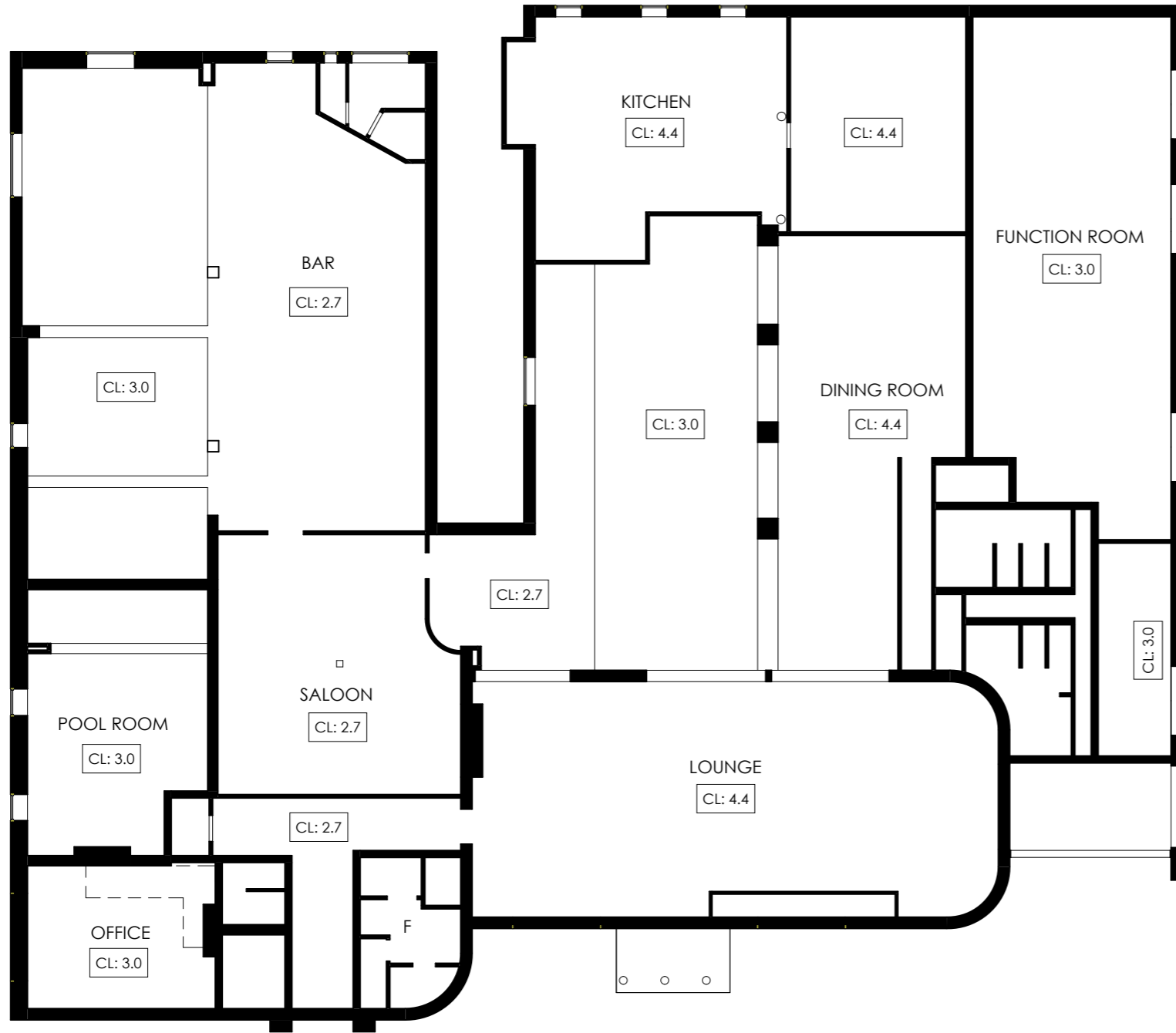
GROUND FLOOR PLAN
SCALE 1: 200 @ A3



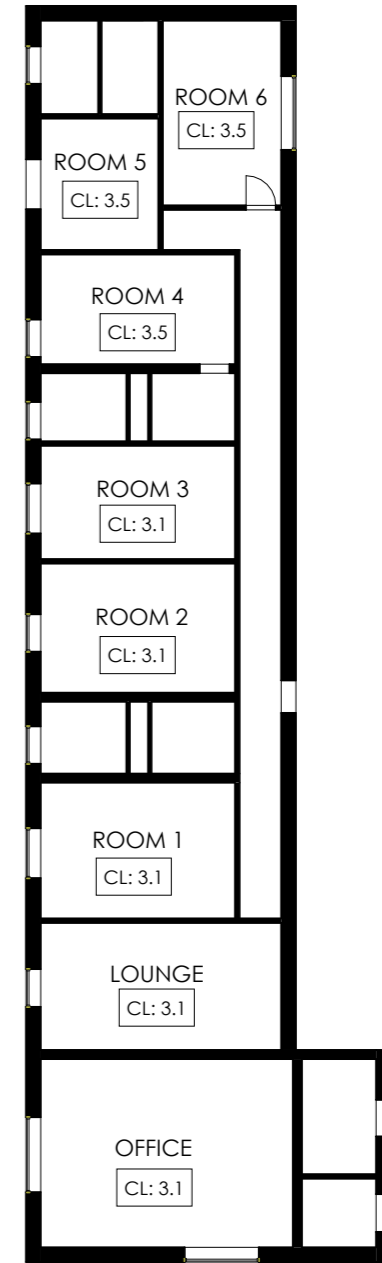


BASEMENT PLAN
SCALE 1: 200 @ A3



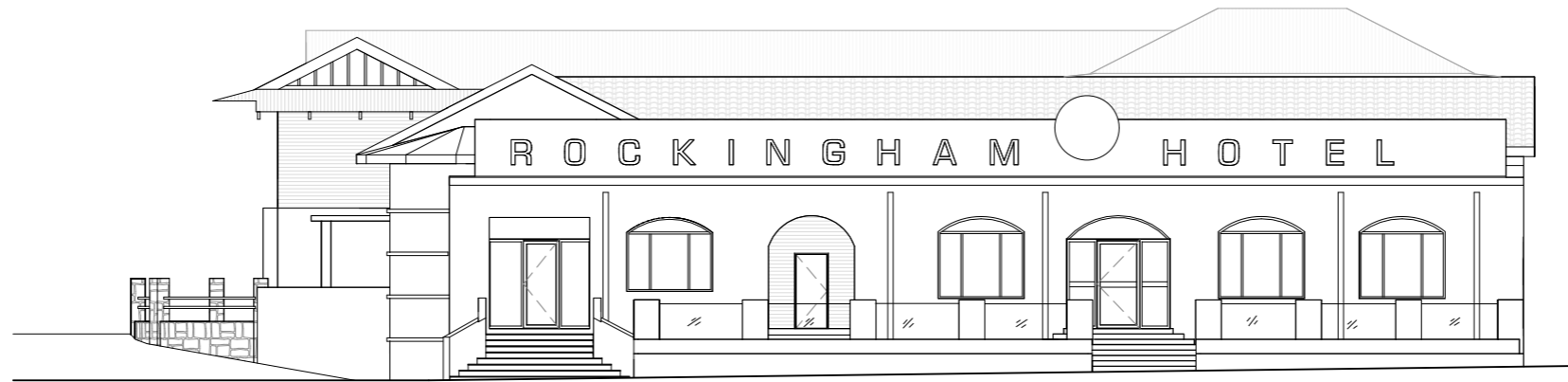


GROUND FLOOR REFLECTED CEILING PLAN
SCALE 1: 200 @ A3



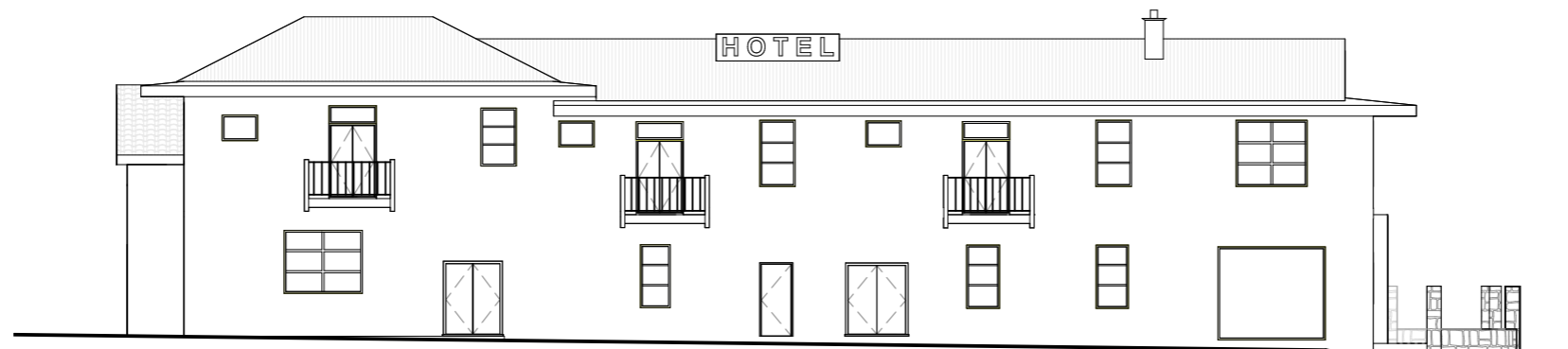
FIRST FLOOR REFLECTED CEILING PLAN
SCALE 1: 200 @ A3





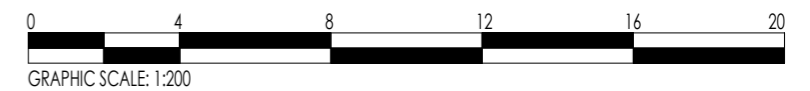
NORTH ELEVATION

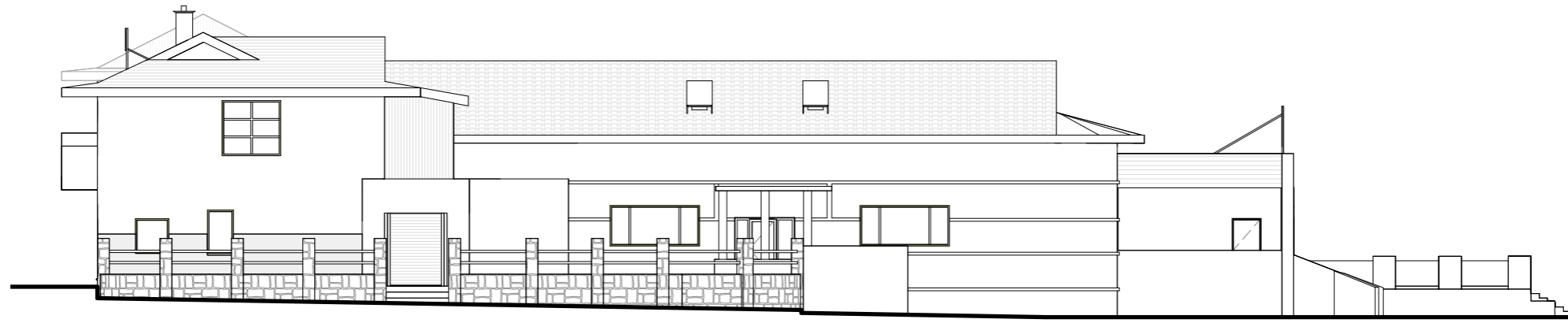
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SOUTH ELEVATION

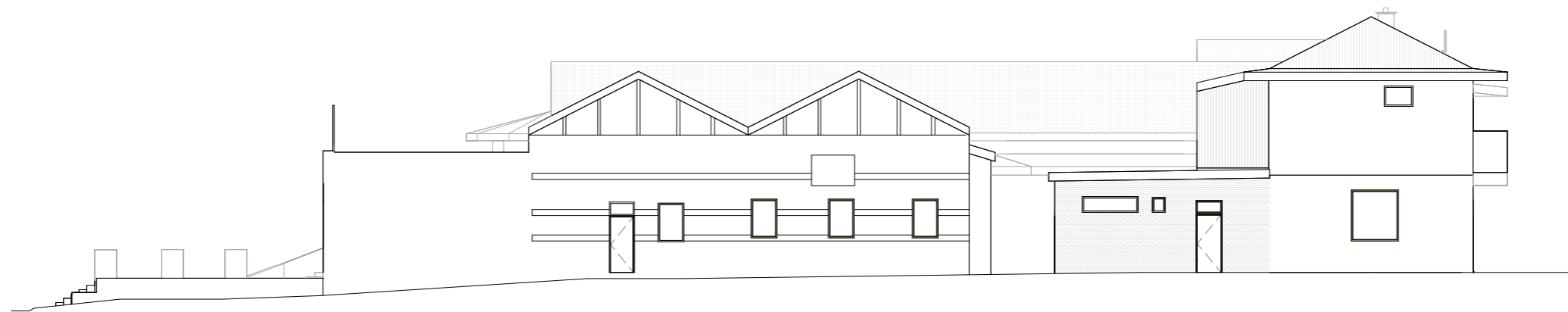
SCALE 1: 200 @ A3





EAST ELEVATION

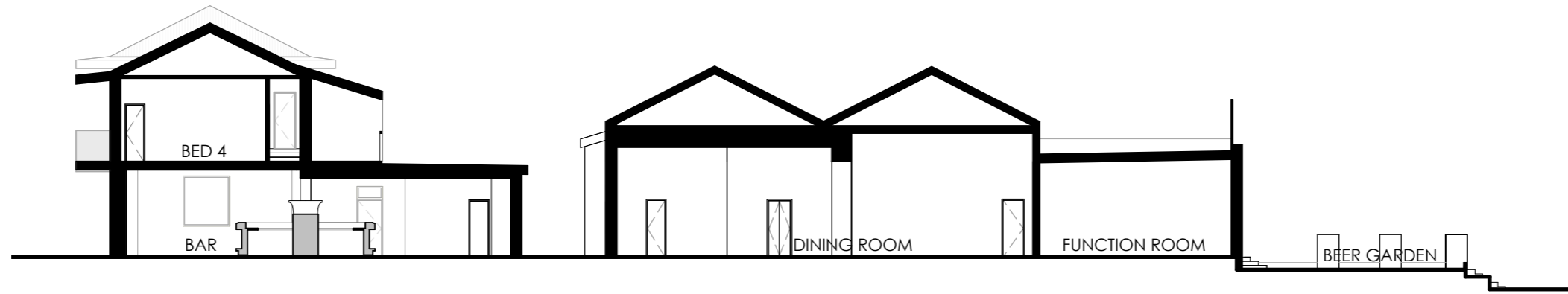
SCALE 1: 200 @ A3



WEST ELEVATION

SCALE 1: 200 @ A3





SECTION A-A

SCALE 1: 200 @ A3



SECTION B-B

SCALE 1: 200 @ A3

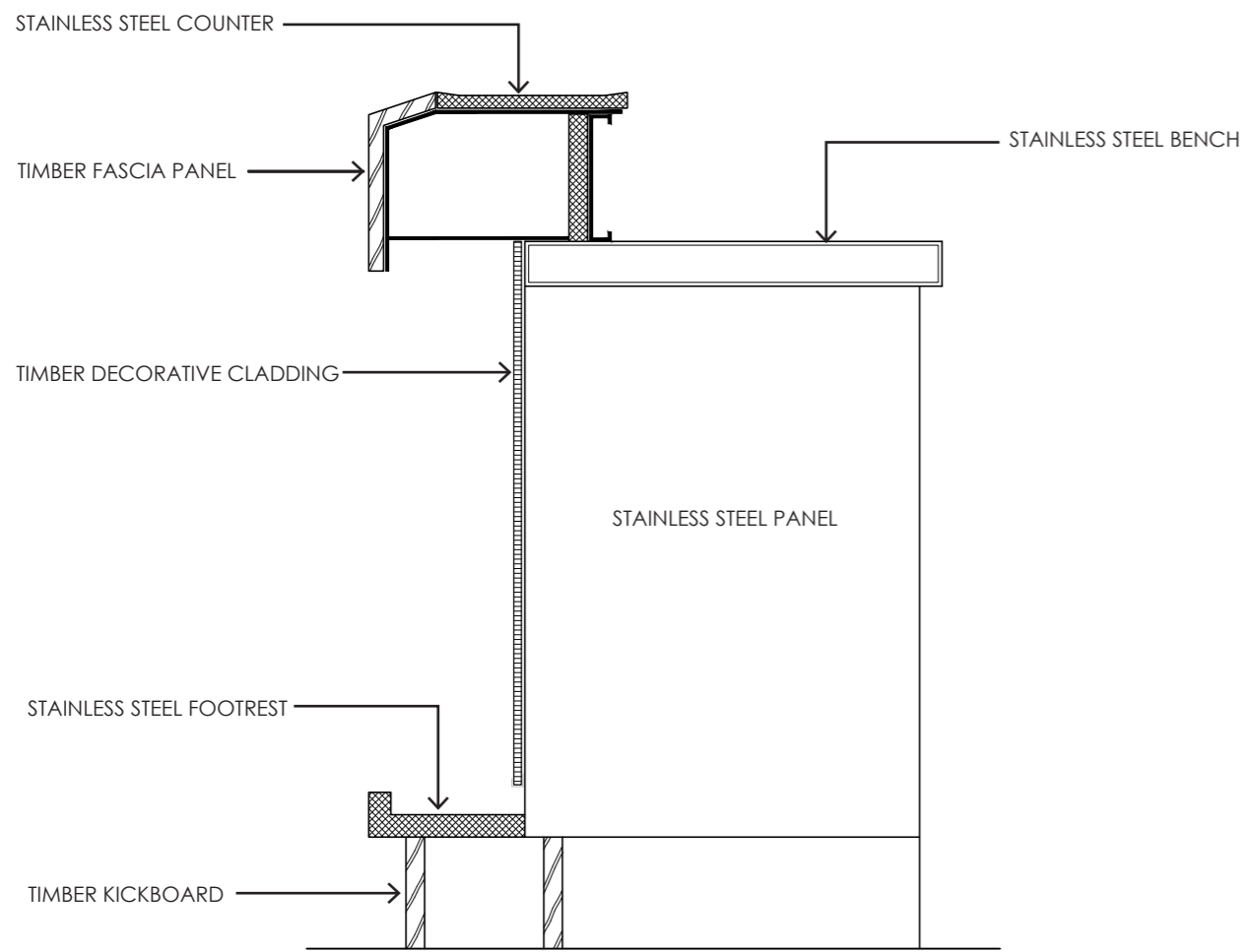




FIREPLACE AT GROUND FLOOR OFFICE



DOOR HANDLE TO STORE ROOM AT BASEMENT



BAR COUNTER DETAIL



NEWEL POST TO STAIRCASE OF ORIGINAL BUILDING



DETAIL OF CORNICE IN POOL ROOM



DETAIL OF CEILING CORNICE IN LOUNGE

DETAILS
NOT TO SCALE

9.0 Bibliography

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Appendix A – Certificate of Title



TITLE NUMBER	
Volume	Folio
2029	634

RECORD OF CERTIFICATE OF TITLE UNDER THE TRANSFER OF LAND ACT 1893

The person described in the first schedule is the registered proprietor of an estate in fee simple in the land described below subject to the reservations, conditions and depth limit contained in the original grant (if a grant issued) and to the limitations, interests, encumbrances and notifications shown in the second schedule.

BGRoberts
REGISTRAR OF TITLES 

LAND DESCRIPTION:

LOT 99 ON DIAGRAM 88032

REGISTERED PROPRIETOR: (FIRST SCHEDULE)

FORESHORE GROUP PTY LTD OF SUITE 8 420 BAGOT ROAD SUBIACO WA 6008
(T P454773) REGISTERED 17/2/2023

LIMITATIONS, INTERESTS, ENCUMBRANCES AND NOTIFICATIONS: (SECOND SCHEDULE)

1. T10264/1961 EASEMENT BENEFIT SEE TRANSFER 10264/1961 AND VOL 2029 FOL 634. REGISTERED 1/1/1961.
2. T10263/1961 EASEMENT BURDEN SEE TRANSFER 10263/1961. REGISTERED 1/1/1961.
3. L662431 MEMORIAL. CONTAMINATED SITES ACT 2003 REGISTERED 24/6/2011.
4. P454774 MORTGAGE TO MCLERNON GROUP SUPERANNUATION PTY LTD, IN 225/1000 SHARE, ALWAYS HOLDINGS PTY LTD, IN 125/1000 SHARE, AUSPACIFIC PTY LTD, IN 100/1000 SHARE, REDCLIFFE HOLDINGS PTY LTD, IN 150/1000 SHARE, GOLDCART CORPORATION PTY LTD, IN 275/1000 SHARE, ABVB PTY LTD, IN 125/1000 SHARE, ALL OF CARE OF MATRIX PARTNERS SUITE 8 420 BAGOT ROAD SUBIACO WA 6008, AS TENANTS IN COMMON REGISTERED 17/2/2023.

Warning: A current search of the sketch of the land should be obtained where detail of position, dimensions or area of the lot is required. Lot as described in the land description may be a lot or location.

-----END OF CERTIFICATE OF TITLE-----

STATEMENTS:

The statements set out below are not intended to be nor should they be relied on as substitutes for inspection of the land and the relevant documents or for local government, legal, surveying or other professional advice.

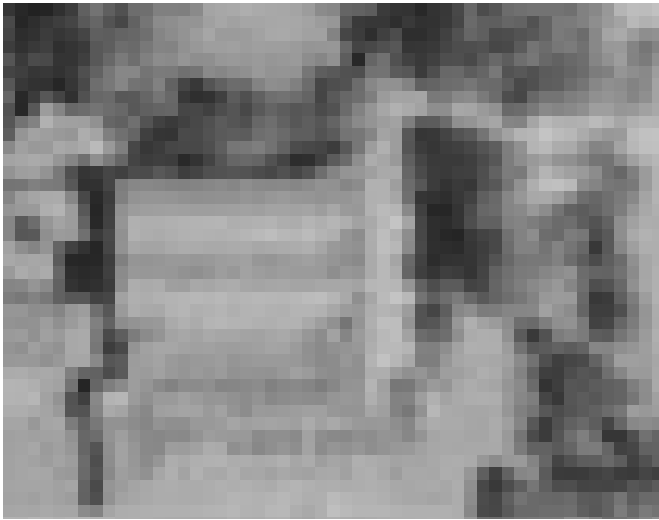

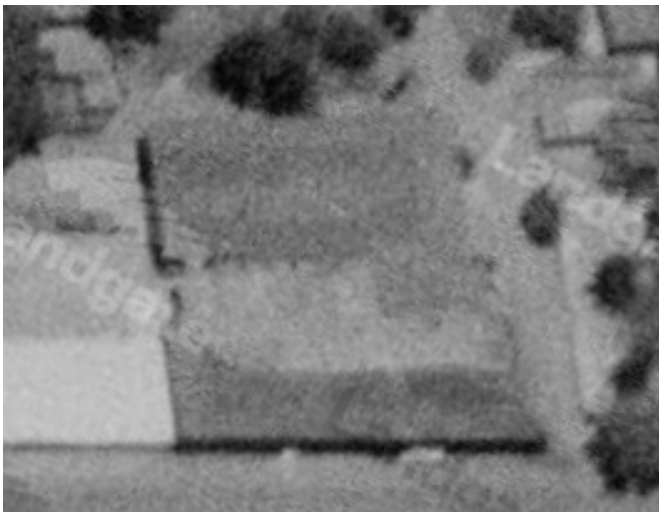



SKETCH OF LAND: 2029-634 (99/DS8032)
 PREVIOUS TITLE: 1791-172, 1791-173, 1791-174, 1791-175, 1791-176
 PROPERTY STREET ADDRESS: 26-40 KENT ST, ROCKINGHAM.
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY: CITY OF ROCKINGHAM







NOTE 1: K636856 DEPOSITED PLAN 61221 (INTEREST ONLY) 61221 LODGED.







Appendix B – Sequence of Aerial Photographs

All images have been sourced from Landgate aerial photography.

Rockingham Hotel - Detail	Lot 99
	<p>1942</p> 
	<p>1953</p> 
	<p>1961</p> 

Rockingham Hotel - Detail	Lot 99
	<p data-bbox="850 264 959 315">1965</p> 
	<p data-bbox="850 891 959 943">1970</p> 
	<p data-bbox="850 1429 959 1480">1974</p> 

Rockingham Hotel - Detail	Lot 99
	<p data-bbox="850 232 959 286">1977</p> 
	<p data-bbox="850 792 959 846">1981</p> 
	<p data-bbox="850 1375 959 1429">1985</p> 

Rockingham Hotel - Detail

Lot 99



1995



2000



2005



Rockingham Hotel - Detail

Lot 99



2010



2016



2023



Appendix C - Archival Documents - Images

The following images have been sourced from collections held by a variety of organisations, private owners and businesses.

The following abbreviations apply.

- SLWA – State Library of Western Australia
- RWHS – Royal Western Australian Historical Society
- NAA – National Archives of Australia
- RDHS – Rockingham District Historical Society.
- RCCL – Rockingham Community Campus Library.



Rockingham Hotel

View of the Rockingham Hotel addressing Rockingham Beach Road, **early 1890s**. Courtesy Draper & Kerford, *Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988*, p. 32.



Rockingham Hotel (1886) foreground with two storey stone addition at rear (1898). Courtesy City of Rockingham, Planning and Asset Services committee Agenda, 11 December 2023, p. 262.



Port Hotel (Rockingham Hotel) c1912. Courtesy City of Rockingham, Planning and Asset Services committee Agenda, 11 December 2023, p. 262.



Rockingham Hotel c1915. Courtesy *Rockingham Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow*, p. 1. Note the verandah has been extended to the west to wrap around the western elevation.



Soldiers outside Rockingham Hotel, World War One 1914-1919. Courtesy *Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow*, p. 7.



10th Light Horse passing the Rockingham Hotel at right. WWI. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana and Rockingham Campus Community Library.



10th Light Horse passing the Rockingham Hotel at left. WWI. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana.



10th Light Horse passing the Rockingham Hotel. WWI. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana.



View of Rockingham Hotel, c1922 prior to the modifications by Harrison. Courtesy *Mirror*, 6 April 1940, p. 5.



Rockingham Hotel, c1922 showing the addition at the eastern end of the elevation and the enlarged single storey portion of the hotel. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana.



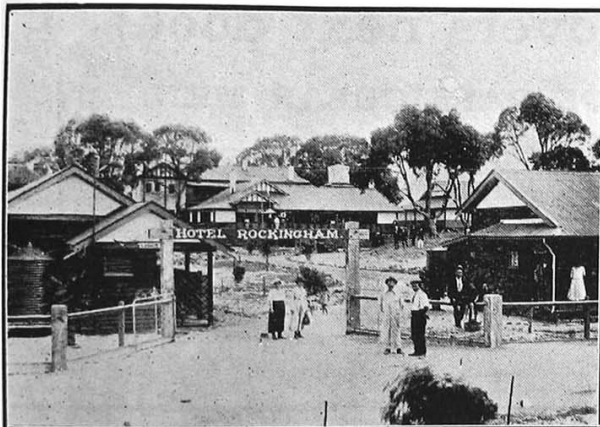
Kent St elevation shortly after the additions by Harrison in 1922. Courtesy RDHS.



Charabancs outside the Rockingham Hotel, 1920s, Courtesy City of Fremantle Local History Collection, image 1838.

HOTEL ROCKINGHAM BY THE SEA.

17 Miles from Fremantle.



The Hotel has been brought right up to date, and is replete with all City Conveniences.

- TENNIS COURT. BOATING AND FISHING.
- REGULATION BOWLING GREEN.
- DANCING PAVILION.
- CHILDREN'S PLAY GROUND.
- LAUNCH AND PROMENADE JETTIES.
- LARGE GARAGE. Oil and Naphtha in Stock.

TARIFF.

£4 4s. per week, 14s. 6d. per day.

W.A.'s Paradise for Healthful Pleasure.

Intending Dining Parties will please 'Phone No. 2 Rockingham, or A 4075, Perth.

11

Western Australian Tourists' Guide and Hotel and Boarding House Directory, c1922-23, p. 11. Courtesy SLWA call number 994.1 WES.



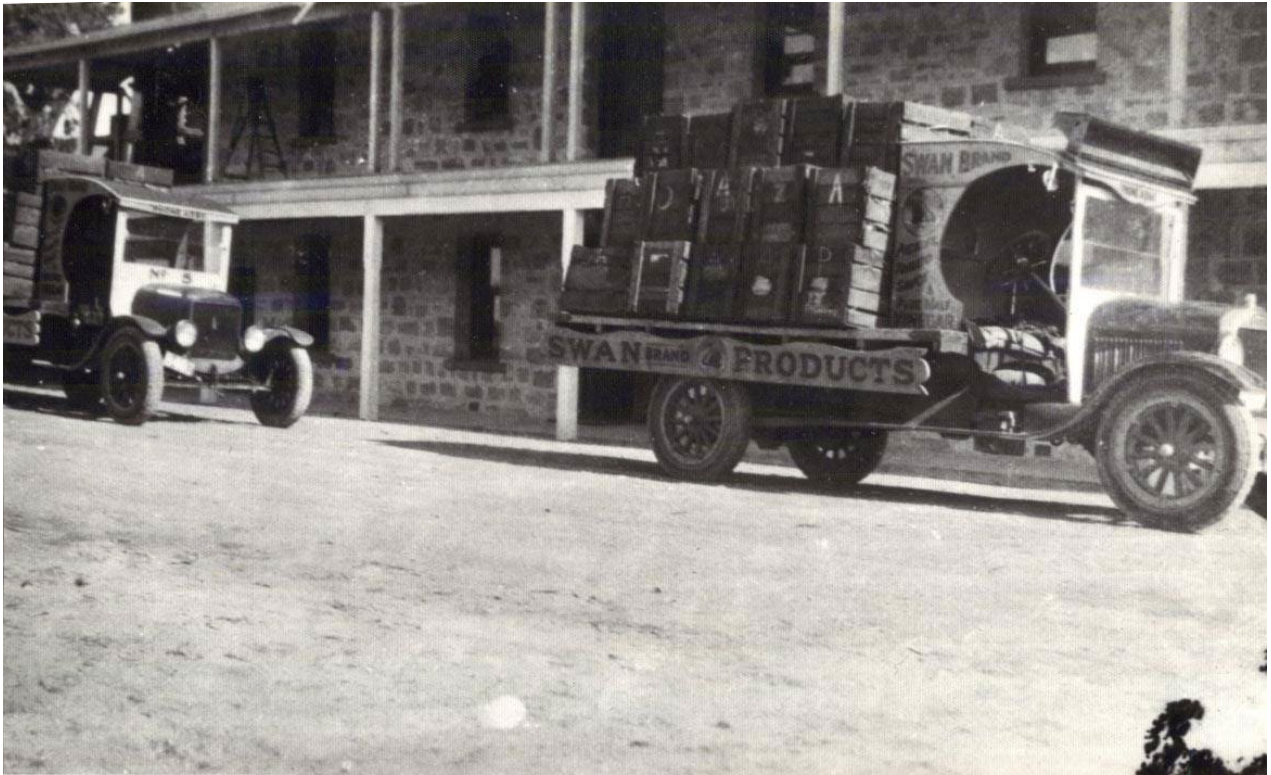
View of the Rockingham Hotel, 1920s showing the enlarged single storey building. Courtesy Draper & Derford, *Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988*, p. 16.



View of the cabin accommodation adjacent to Rockingham Beach Road, Rockingham Hotel in the background, 1920s. Courtesy SLWA b4182345_1.



View of the Rockingham Hotel, 1920s. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana.



Rockingham Hotel, Kent St elevation with works underway, c1934. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana.



Rockingham Hotel workers, Kent St elevation, n.d. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham | Kwinana.



Trucks and workers on Kent Street outside the water tower of the Rockingham Hotel at right. Note the name Geo. E. Grigg on the truck, c1934. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana.





Rockingham's First Petrol Bowser beside the hotel, mid 1930s. Courtesy Taggart, *Rockingham Looks Back*, pp. 132-133. Coloured version by My Heritage, accessed from Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana.



Rockingham Hotel, November 1935 at the opening of the electric light in Rockingham. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana.



Programme for electric light opening, November 1935. Courtesy Facebook History of Rockingham and Kwinana



Rockingham Hotel, c1935 at the opening of the electric light in Rockingham. Courtesy History of Rockingham / Kwinana Facebook page, colourised by My Heritage.



Rockingham Hotel with addition to the west showing the different roof form of the c1938 addition. Courtesy Former owners of the Rockingham Hotel.



Rockingham Hotel with addition to the west, late 1930s. Courtesy Facebook History Rockingham I Kwinana.



View of Rockingham Hotel, **1935**. Courtesy SLWA image b2390876_1.



Rockingham Hotel Dining Room, late 1930s, Courtesy Mrs L. Ross as reproduced in Draper & Kerford, *Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988*, p. 152.



Rockingham Hotel employees, c1936. Courtesy Mrs L. Ross as reproduced in Draper & Kerford, *Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988*, p. 152.



View of the Rockingham Hotel from Rockingham Beach Road, (former Marine Terrace), **1937**. Courtesy RWAHS image 1999.3856.



Hotel Rockingham, **1937**. Courtesy RWAHS image P1999.3857.



Rockingham Hotel and gardens, **1937**. Courtesy RWAHS image P1999.3858.



Rockingham Hotel fountain and tennis courts in background, **1937**. Courtesy RWAHS image P1999.3859.



Rockingham Hotel, **1937**. Courtesy RWAHS image P1999.3861.



View of Kent Street and Rockingham Hotel at right, **1938**. Courtesy NAA K1131 W3577D



View of Kent Street and Rockingham Hotel at left, **1938**. Courtesy NAA K1131 W3577E.



The Salvation Army Band at practice in the gardens of the Rockingham Hotel, **late 1930s**. Courtesy Draper & Kerford, *Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988*, p. 13.

R 3868



View in Hotel Gardens, Rockingham, W.A.

Hotel Rockingham gardens following remodelling c1940. Courtesy RWAHS P1999.3868.

Hotel Rockingham

By-the-Sea

The Best Winter Resort in Australia
17 Miles from Fremantle
(Bitumen Road)

Accommodation for 200 Guests

'Phone Rockingham 21



Most
Up-to-Date
Lounge
in
Western
Australia



Fishing : Boating : Golf
Excellent Swimming
Hot Water
Electric Light
Spacious Lawns
3 Tennis Courts

JIM FITZPATRICK
Proprietor
(Late of Kalgoorlie and Boulder)

FURNISHED FLATS
and BUNGALOWS

Government Tourist and Publicity Bureau, *The Western Australian Tourist Guide and Accommodation Directory of the Principal Cities, towns and Holiday Resorts.* 1941-42, p. 144. Courtesy SLWA, call number 994.1 WES.



Rockingham Hotel Dining Room, c1941. Courtesy SLWA image b3416437_1.



Rockingham Hotel Lounge Room, c1941. Courtesy SLWA image b3416437_2.



Rockingham Hotel Lounge Room, c1941. Courtesy SLWA image b3416437_3.



Soldiers marching past the Trocadero, c1940. Courtesy Mrs Y France as reproduced in Draper & Kerford, *Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988*, p. 107.



Aerial view of Rockingham showing Rockingham Hotel and Trocadero at centre left **1944-47**. Courtesy NAA A14435 A-181, Item ID 202880965.



Aerial view of Rockingham showing Rockingham Hotel and Trocadero at centre left **1944-47**. Courtesy NAA A14435 A-181, Item ID 202880966.



Aerial view late 1940s, Courtesy RDHS as reproduced in Draper & Kerford, *Rockingham from Port 1872 to City 1988*, p. 152.



View of the Rockingham Hotel Gardens, 1952. Courtesy SLWA b2109897_1.



View along Rockingham Beach Road (formerly Marine Terrace), 1952. Courtesy Lost Rockingham Facebook page.



Pond within the Rockingham Hotel grounds and cottages, 1961. Courtesy SLWA b5234507_1.

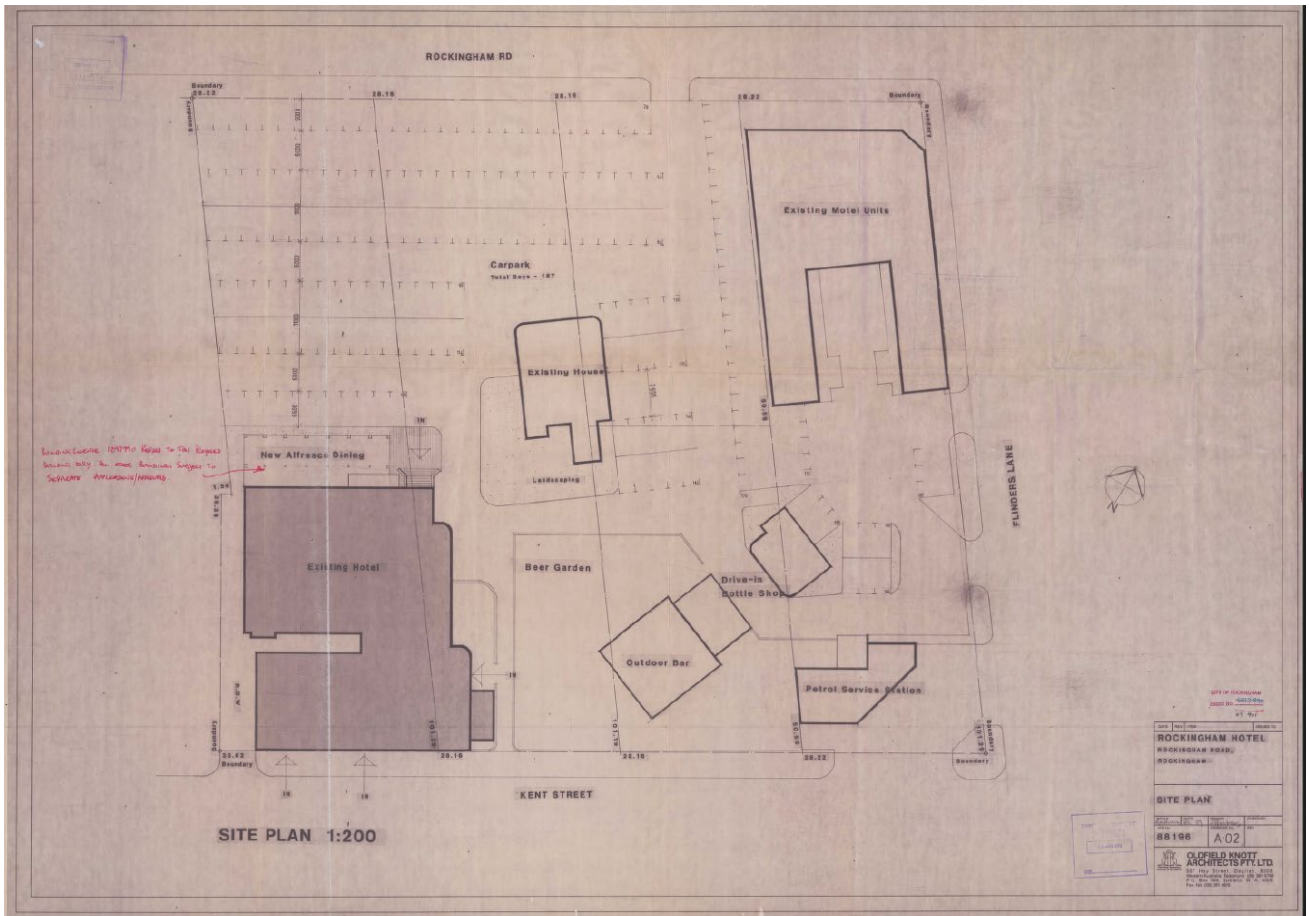


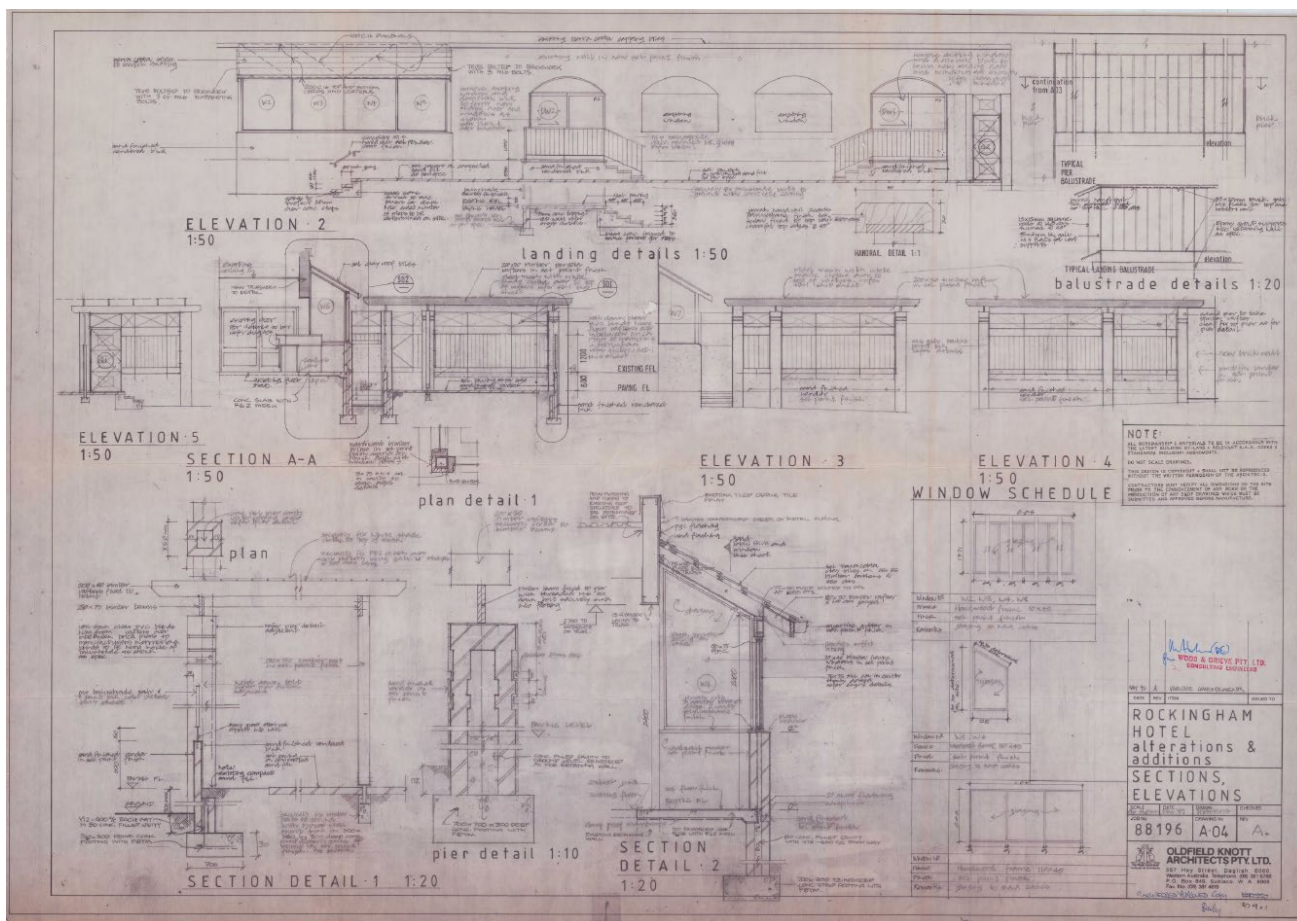
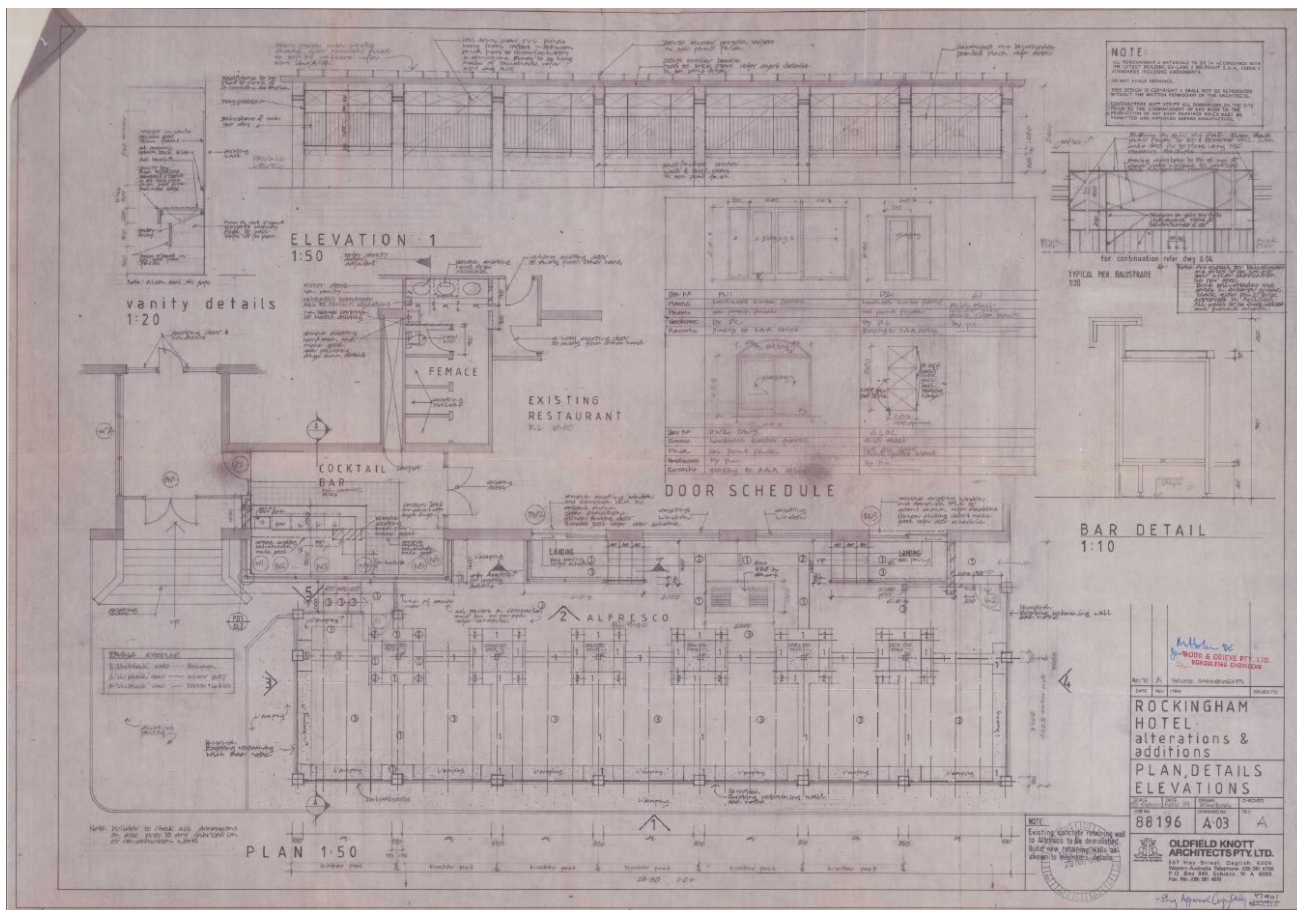
North elevation of the Rockingham Hotel at right, and former residence adjacent, 1989. Courtesy SLWA b3699114_6.

Appendix D - Archival Documents - Plans

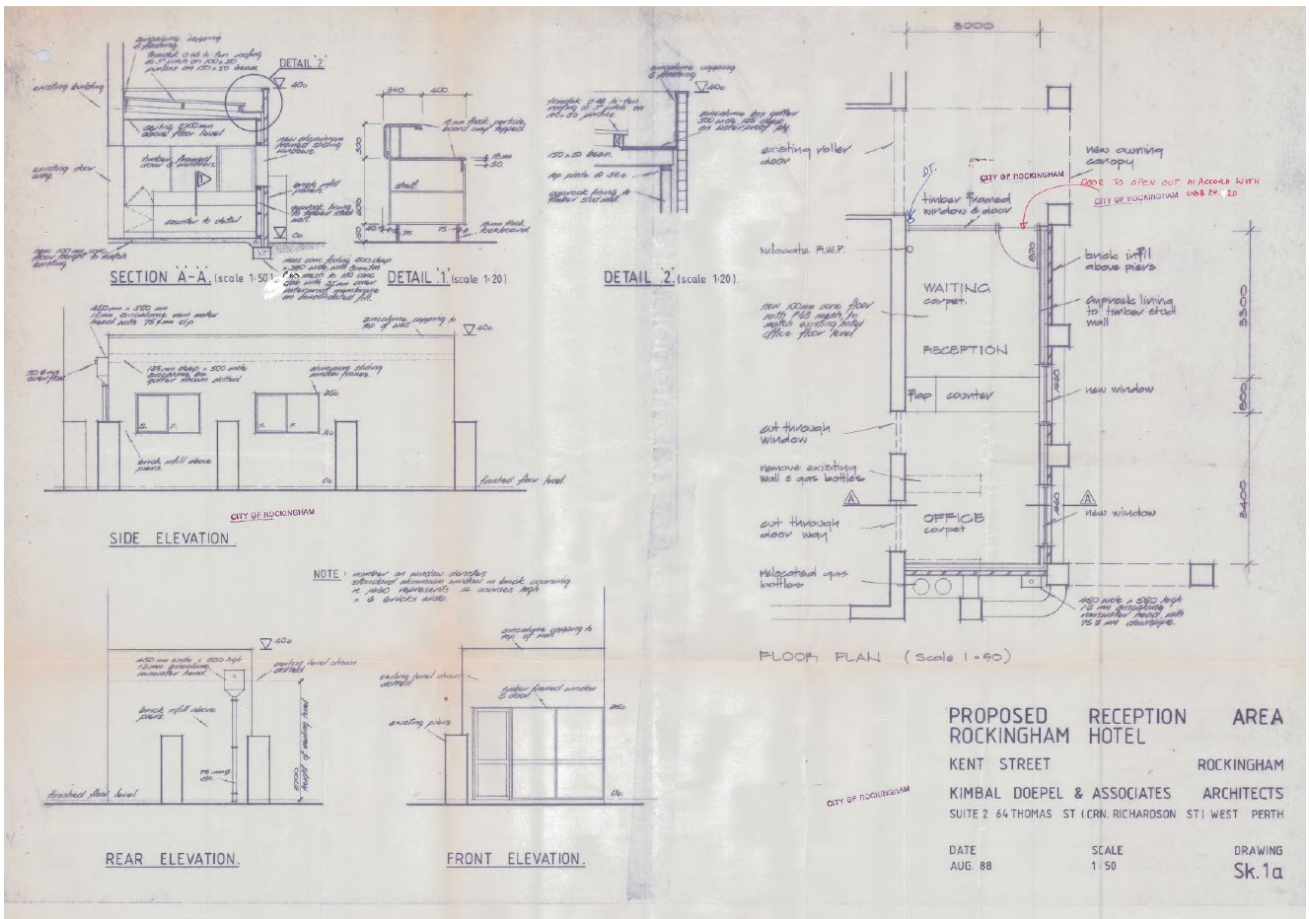
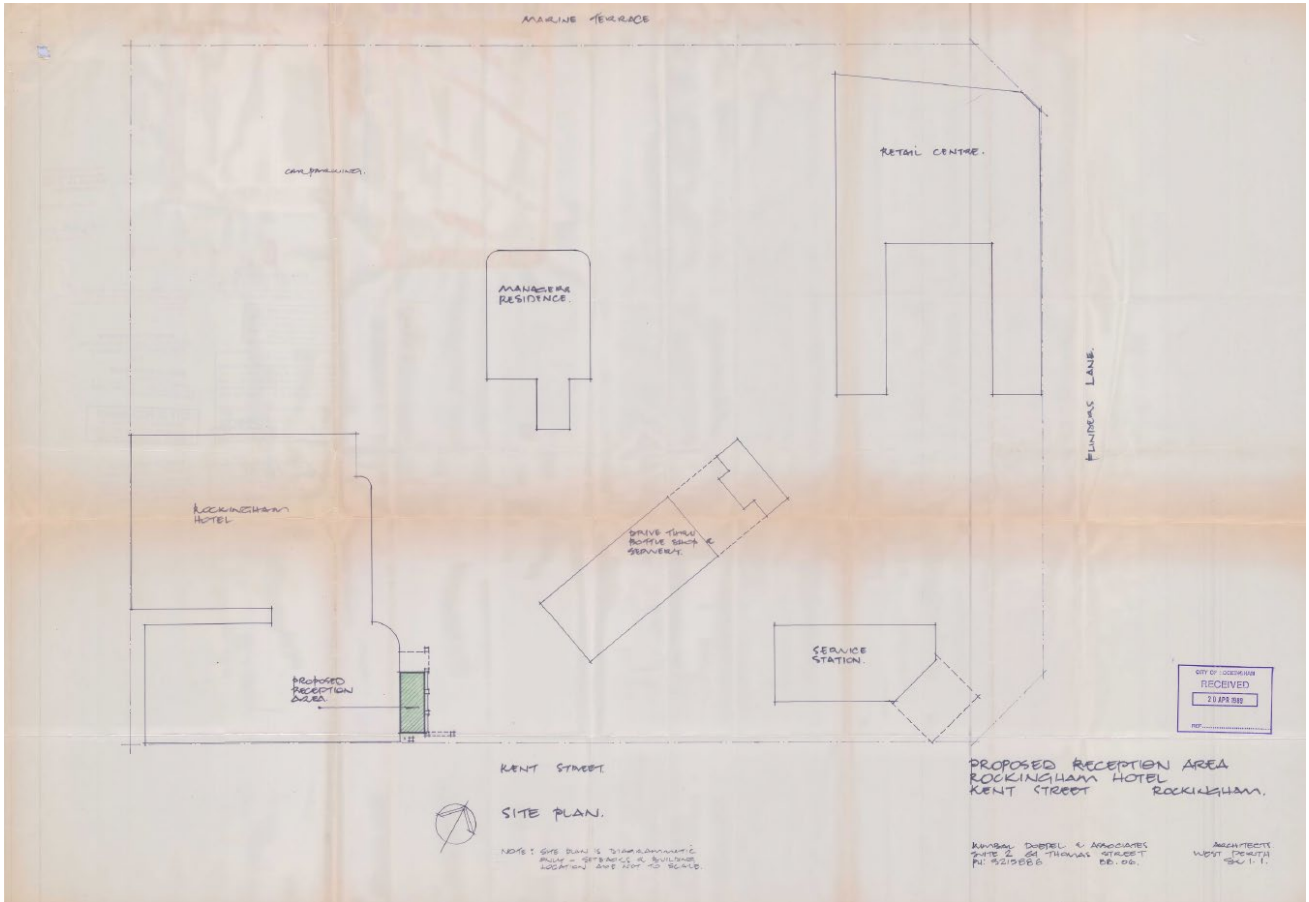
CITY OF ROCKINGHAM ARCHIVES

New Alfresco Dining additions, Oldfield Knott Architects. 1989.





Proposed Reception Area Kimbel Doepal & Associates Architects, 1989.

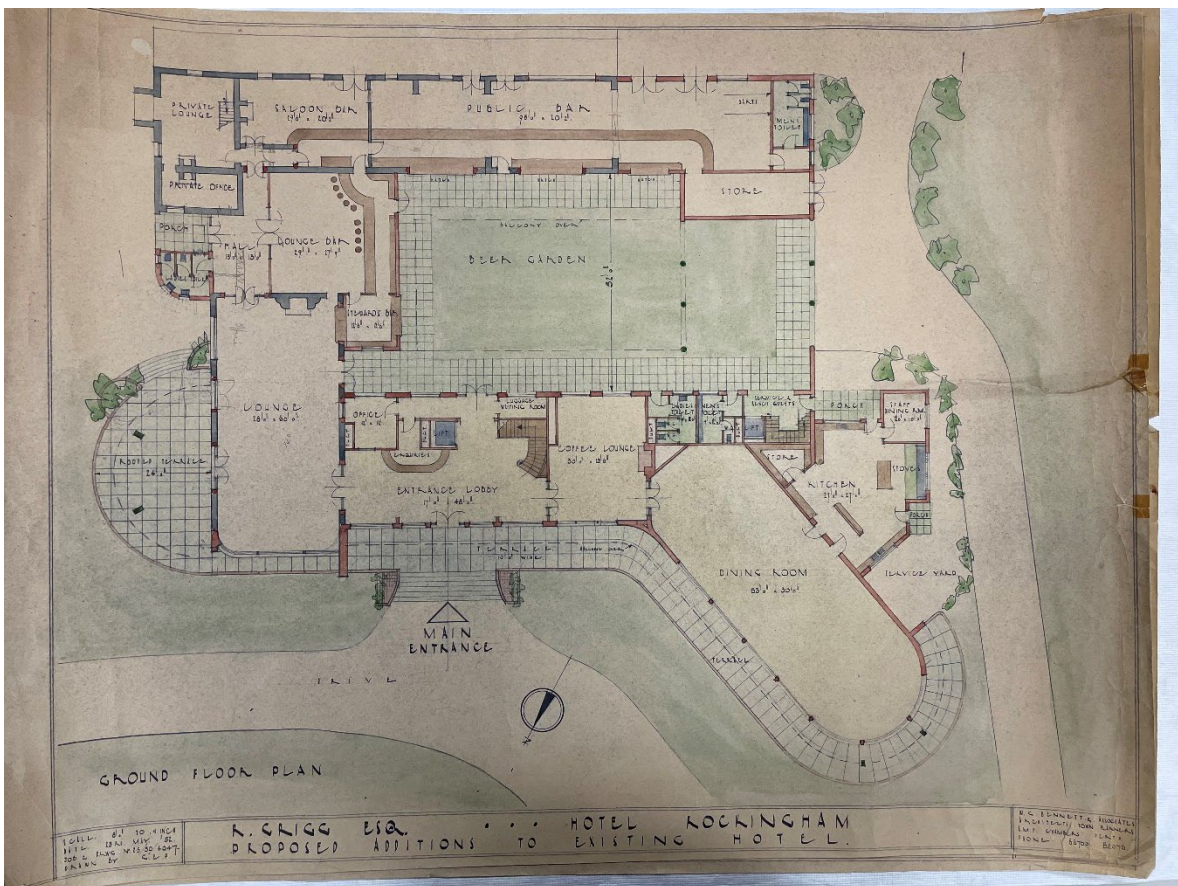
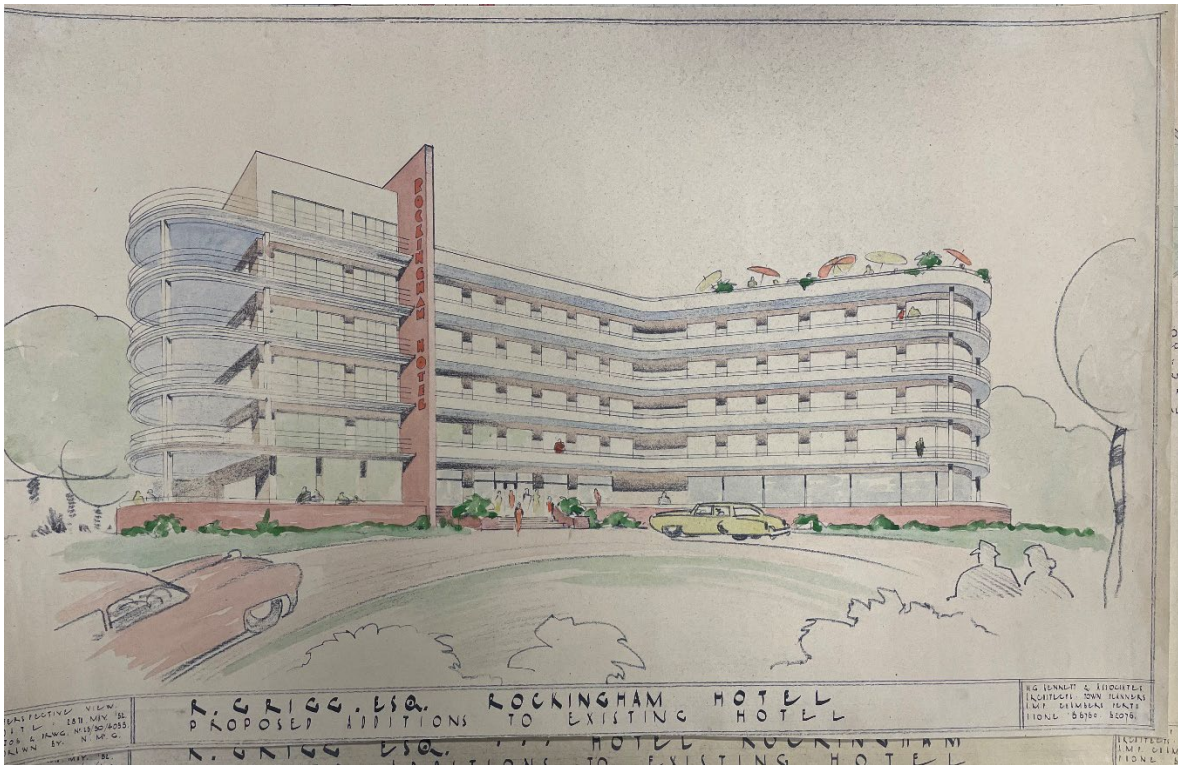


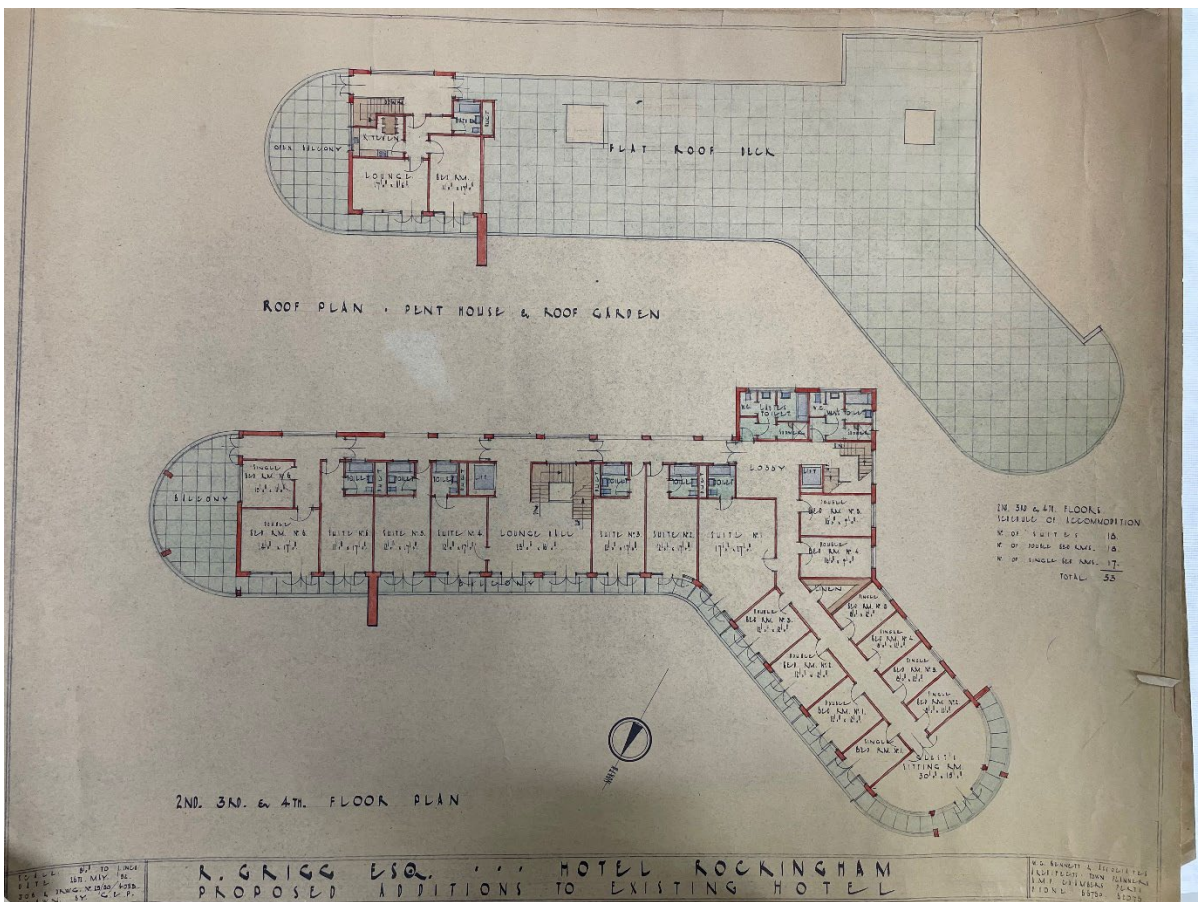
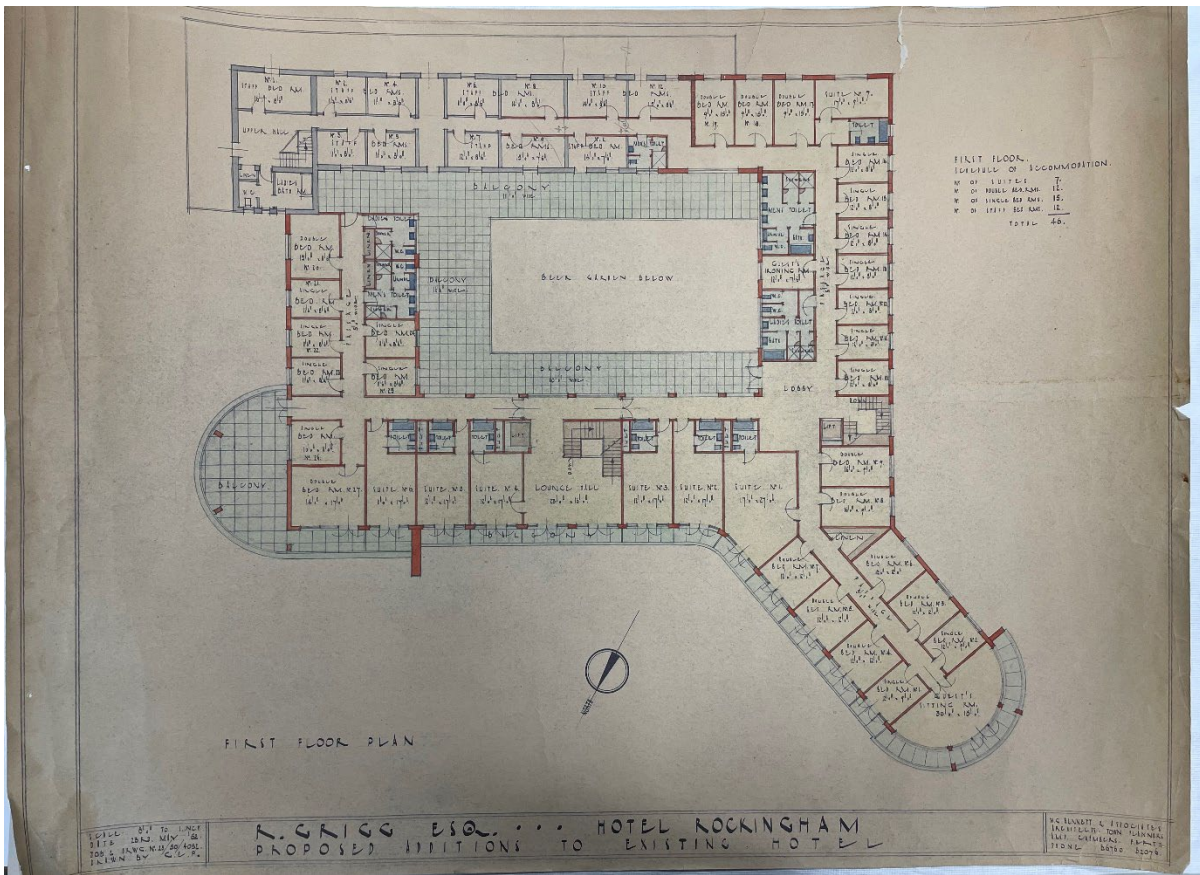
STATE LIBRARY OF WA

William G. Bennett & Associates, Architects

ACC 9654A/1 CHARTS Proposed additions to existing Rockingham Hotel for R. Grigg Esq.

This 1952 proposal did not progress.





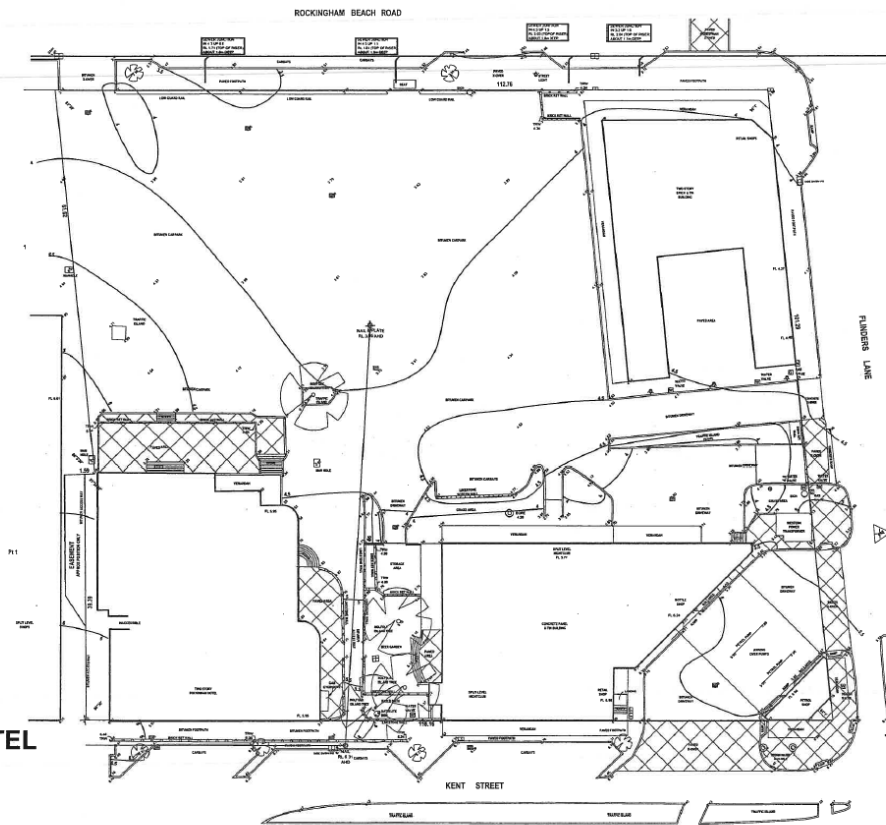
Silver Thomas Hanley Architects - 2002

Proposed Hotel Redevelopment for Micro Brothers, 2002.

This 2002 proposal did not progress.

ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT STAGE 1 APARTMENTS

SILVER
THOMAS
HANLEY
ARCHITECTS
HEALTH PLANNERS
INTERIOR DESIGNERS



LOT No. 99
AREA 1190m²
SECTION 40-1/4-11

SITE PLAN 1:500

DRAWN	
CLIENT	SILVER THOMAS HANLEY
PROJECT	ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT - STAGE 1 APARTMENTS & ROCKINGHAM BEACH ROAD
CITY	ROCKINGHAM
LOCAL AUTHORITY	CITY OF ROCKINGHAM
PROJECT No.	10592
REF. No.	30047
DATE	
BY	
CHECKED	

SURVEYOR SITE INSPECTION REPORT	
DATE	
BY	
CHECKED	

TITLES	
LOT No.	DWG. 8820
LOCATION	CT 304 202
REFERENCE	FDL 6X

NOTES

LEGEND	
Symbol	Description
Symbol	Description
Symbol	Description
Symbol	Description
Symbol	Description
Symbol	Description
Symbol	Description

E.C. LEITCH & ASSOCIATES
LICENSED LAND & SURVEYING SERVICES
2025 10TH ST, SUITE 100
MELBOURNE VIC 3000
PH: (03) 9412 3000
WWW.LEITCHANDASSOCIATES.COM.AU

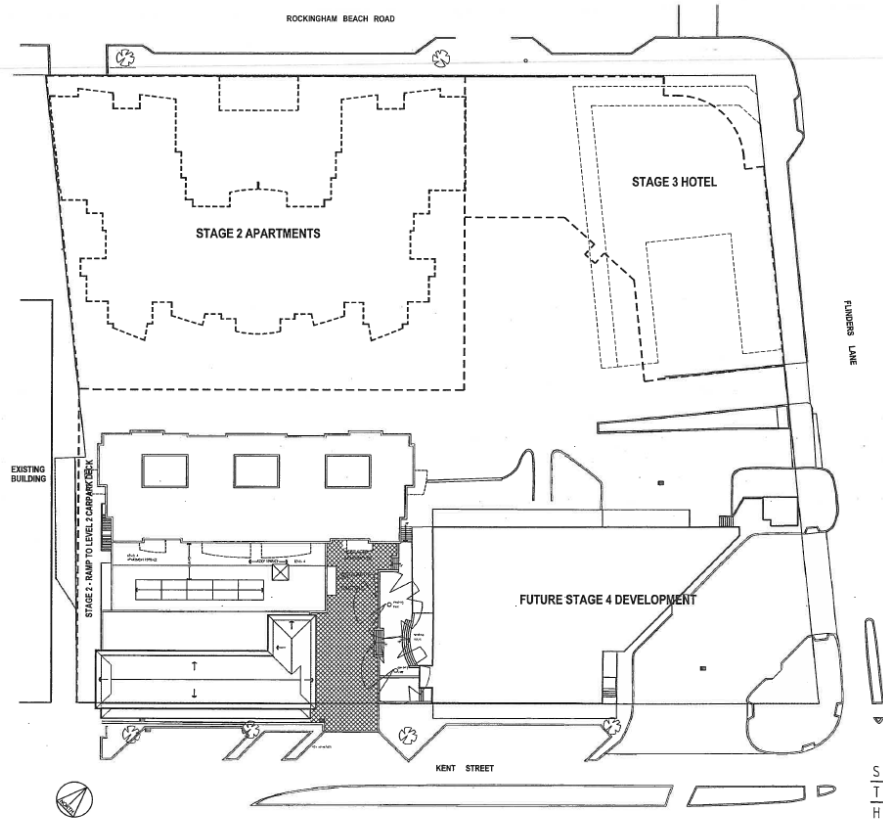
SITE PLAN 1:500

ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT SITE PLAN - EXISTING

Dwg No. SK01. Scale 1:500 Drawn By: C.M. Plot Date: 15.02.02
CAD Path: F:\W.D.\1985 Rockingham\Schematic Design Development\
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SILVER
THOMAS
HANLEY
ARCHITECTS
HEALTH PLANNERS
INTERIOR DESIGNERS

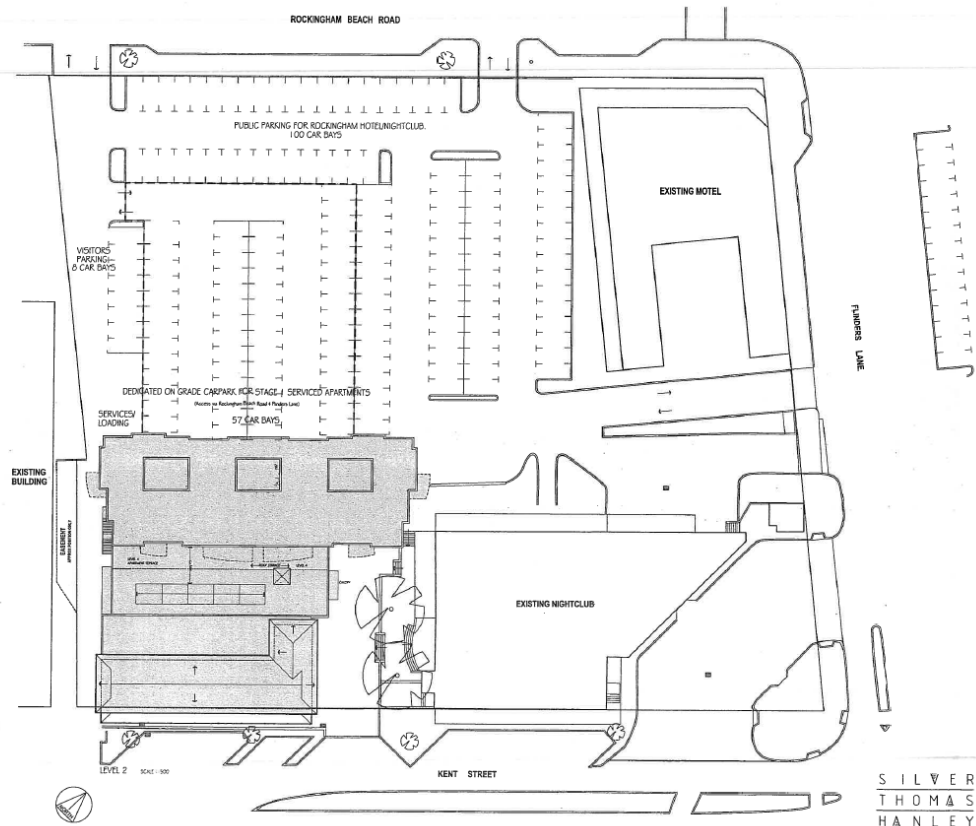




ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT
SITE PLAN - STAGES 1,2,3 & 4

Dwg No. SK02. Scale 1:500 Drawn By: C.M. Plot Date: 03.04.02
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 HANLEY
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 HEALTH PLANNERS
 INTERIOR DESIGNERS

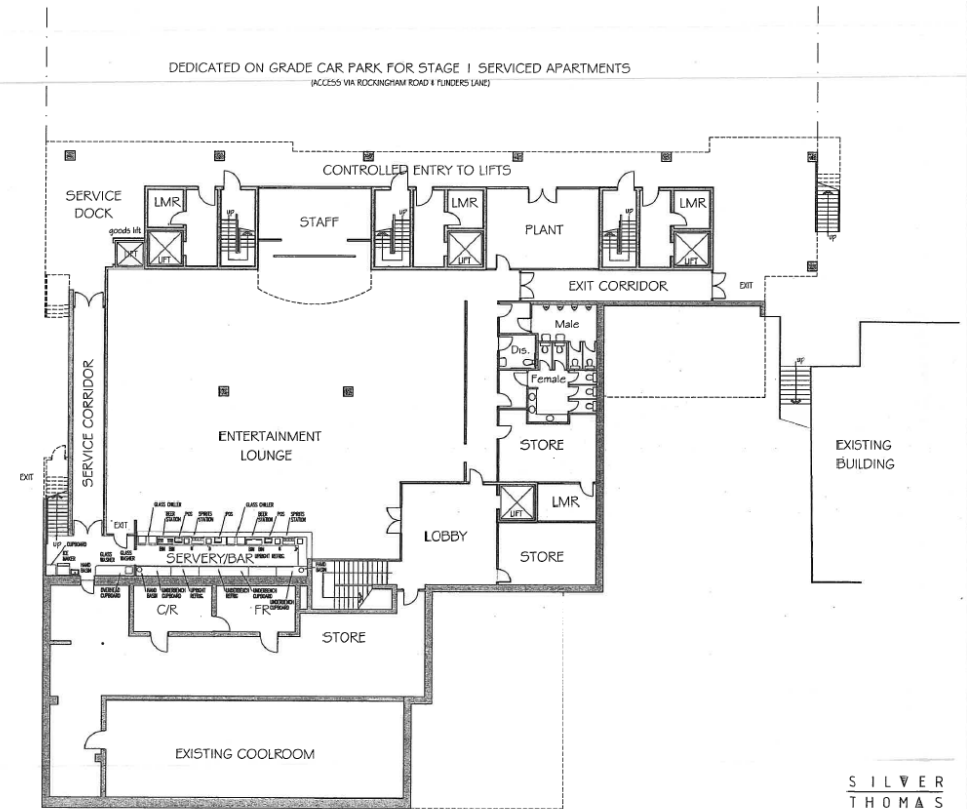


ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT
SITE PLAN - STAGE 1

Dwg No. SK02a Scale 1:500 Drawn By: C.M. Plot Date: 15.02.02
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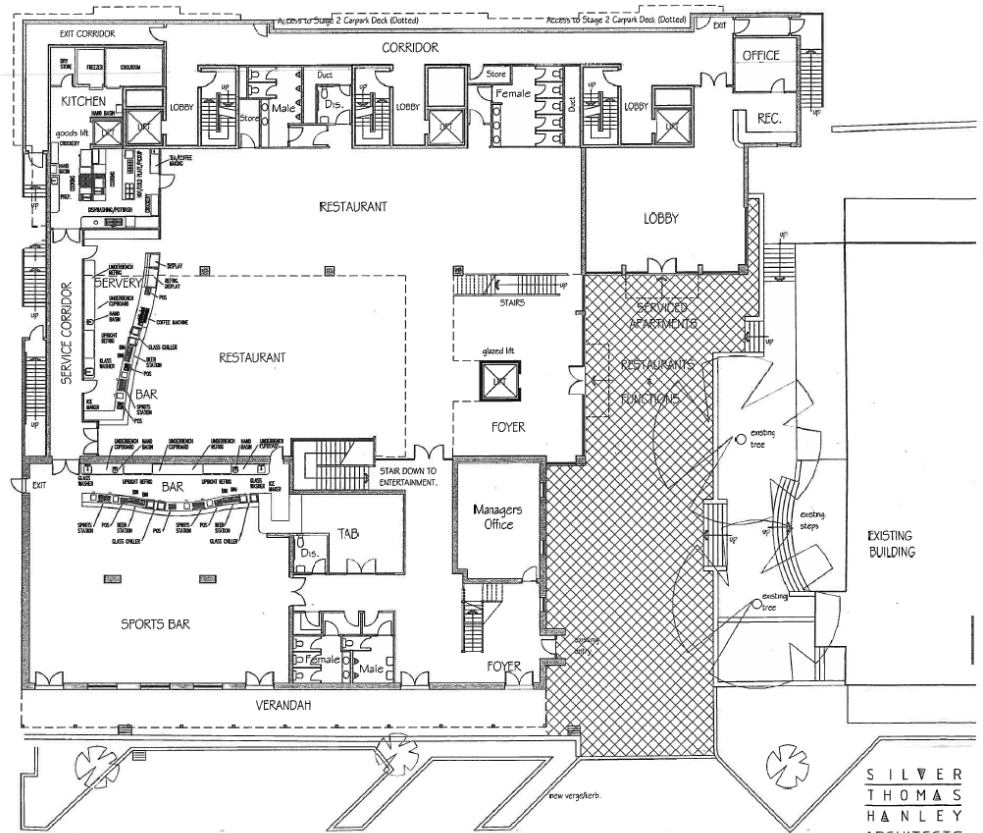
ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT

LEVEL 1 - FLOOR PLAN

Dwg No. SK03. Scale 1:200 Drawn By: C.M. Plot Date : 11.03.02
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 sth\Drawings\1985-plans\Heritage Hotel & Serviced Apart.

LEVEL 1 SCALE 1:200

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ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT

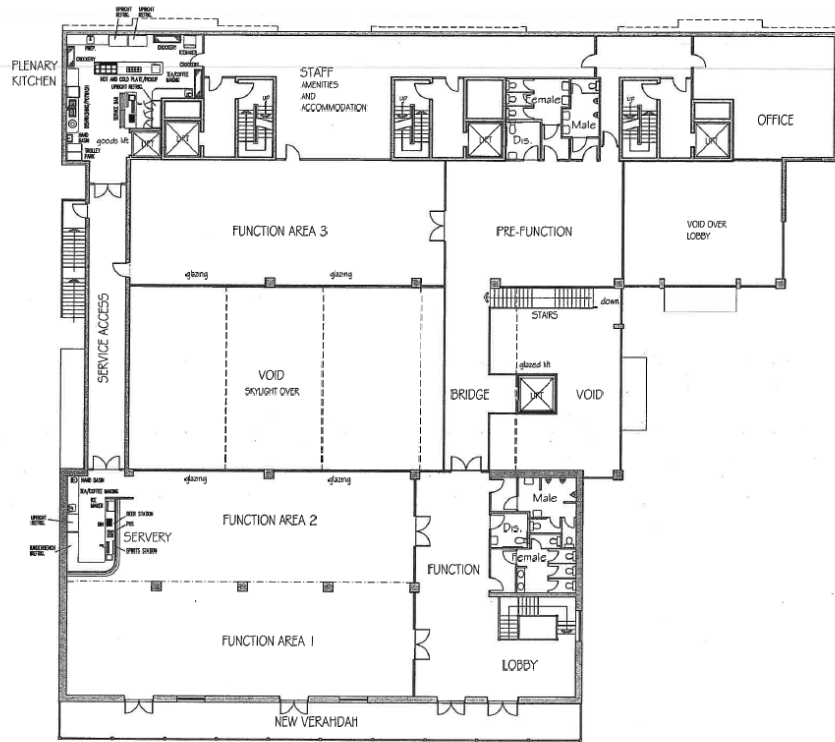
LEVEL 2 - FLOOR PLAN

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LEVEL 2 SCALE 1:200

SILVER
 THOMAS
 HANLEY
 ARCHITECTS
 HEALTH PLANNERS
 INTERIOR DESIGNERS



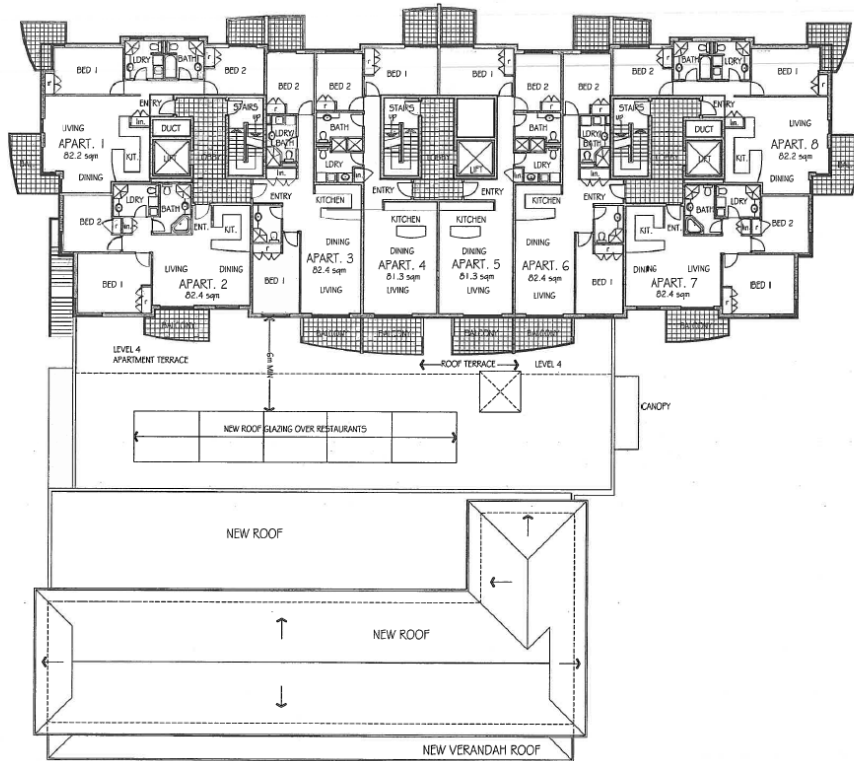


**ROCKINGHAM HOTEL
REDEVELOPMENT
LEVEL 3 - FLOOR PLAN**

Draw No. SK065. Scale 1:200 Drawn By: C.M. Plot Date: 03.04.02
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LEVEL 3 SCALE 1:200

SILVER
THOMAS
HANLEY
ARCHITECTS
HEALTH PLANNERS
INTERIOR DESIGNERS



**ROCKINGHAM HOTEL
REDEVELOPMENT
LEVEL 5 - FLOOR PLAN**

Draw No. SK066. Scale 1:200 Drawn By: C.M. Plot Date: 03.04.02
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SILVER
THOMAS
HANLEY
ARCHITECTS
HEALTH PLANNERS
INTERIOR DESIGNERS





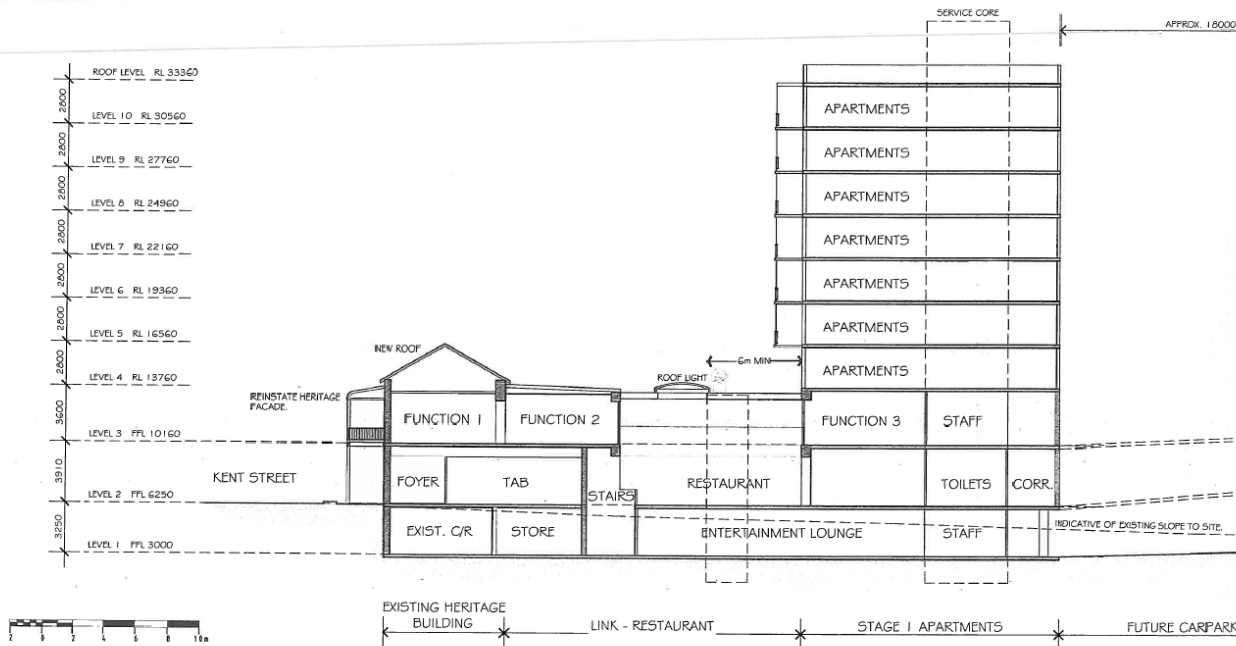
ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT

KENT STREET ELEVATION SCALE 1:200

KENT STREET ELEVATION

Dwg No. SK07. Scale 1:200 Drawn By: C.M. Plot Date : 15.02.02.
 CAD Path : F:\W.D.1985 Rockingham\Schematic Design Development\
 sth\Drawings\1985-plans\Heritage Hotel & Serviced Apart.

SILVER
 THOMAS
 HANLEY
 ARCHITECTS
 HEALTH PLANNERS
 INTERIOR DESIGNERS



TYPICAL SECTION SCALE 1:200

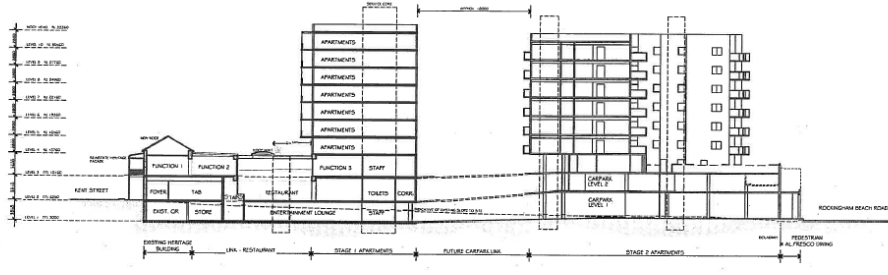
ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT

TYPICAL SECTION

Dwg No. SK08. Scale 1:200 Drawn By: C.M. Plot Date : 03.04.02
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SILVER
 THOMAS
 HANLEY
 ARCHITECTS
 HEALTH PLANNERS
 INTERIOR DESIGNERS





TYPICAL SECTION SCALE 1:500

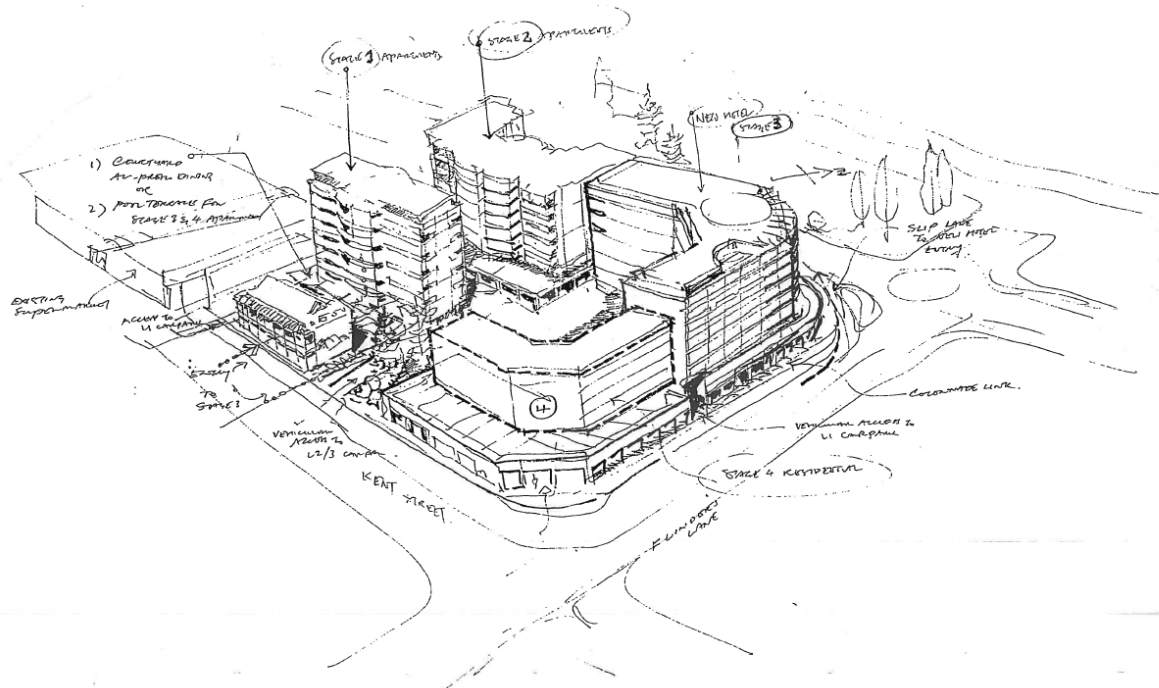


ROCKINGHAM HOTEL REDEVELOPMENT

TYPICAL SECTION

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SILVER
 THOMAS
 HANLEY
 ARCHITECTS
 HEALTH PLANNERS
 INTERIOR DESIGNERS



Appendix E – Archival Documents

Archival Documents relating to the Rockingham Hotel are held in three known depositories. The State Records Office, State Library of WA and the City of Rockingham.

A search of the catalogues of the State Library of WA and State Records Office of WA revealed the following entries.

STATE RECORDS OFFICE OF WA

1. File: Liquor Licensing – Rockingham Hotel - 1925-1988. Cons 5708 A460
2. File: Liquor Licensing – Rockingham Hotel - 1978-1991, Cons 5708 A130.
3. File: Supreme Court of WA Harry Birkbeck Kelly vs Laurence Arthur Brewer - 1945.
Re: work and labour done and performed at Cuballing Hotel and Rockingham Hotel. Cons 3580
1945/K005

STATE LIBRARY OF WA

Rockingham Hotel Register c1925-1933 – One volume. Acc1143A

CITY OF ROCKINGHAM

The City of Rockingham hold files in their records management system that are related to the Rockingham Hotel. These files are not available to the public although in time they may be deposited with the State Records Office of WA.

The City of Rockingham do enable archive plans to be viewed with the permission of the owners. The Foreshore Group sourced the plans held by the City of Rockingham and these are held at Appendix C.

Appendix F – Film and Video Recordings

An online search was undertaken of the catalogues of known public depositories of film and video recordings for references to Rockingham.

The collections searched were:

- State Library of WA
- National Film and Sound Archive
- National Archives of Australia
- City of Rockingham Local History Collection

1. Reg Grigg Personal Film 1950s.

SLWA FN13 Parts 1 and 2

A collection of 13 reels of film taken by the former proprietor of the Rockingham Hotel Reg Grigg.

The films are of a variety of places but there are many views of the Rockingham area which include glimpses of the **Hotel**.

[COLLECTION NAME \(SURNAME, firstname\) \(slwa.wa.gov.au\)](https://slwa.wa.gov.au)

2. H.C. Lynch Personal Film, Reel 2, 1950s and 1960s.

SLWA VDA780 VHS

Includes swimming races with rope lane markers at jetty; Road making in Rockingham and area; Crowd assembled on new sports ground with bunting decorations; **Rockingham Hotel**, houses and beach area; Road works; Lawn bowls; Family groups; Brief view of Swan River from Kings Park; Bicycle racing; Shops; Football match; Fishing activities, etc. The film was made by Mr Lynch in the Rockingham area in the 1950s and 1960s.

3. Abandoned Derelict and Damaged Rockingham Hotel 2023

Author: Scaryscooby (copyright)

<https://youtu.be/D4JILCoi1a8?si=Oh4KUImVTDMS0I3E>

Appendix G – Oral Histories

A review of the collections held by the State Library of WA and the City of Rockingham was undertaken to determine if there were recordings that had specific reference to the Rockingham Hotel.

The following recordings were selected from the description supplied.

Interview with Norman James Snow [sound recording] / [interviewed by Rod Moran].

[Snow, Norman James, 1922-2008.](#)

Oral History | 1992. Available Online (Call number: OH2511/24) plus 2 more.

Memories of holidays at the old Point Peron turtle factory, early Rockingham Hotel, personalities from Local Government over the years, business and commerce in the town, the role of the Tourist Bureau, the Chamber of Commerce, the Silver Sands Carnival, education and the crucial role of the P and C organisations, sky-diving over the town's outskirts, the history of the Police and Citizens Youth Club, Rotary and the Sea Cadets.

1. Interview with Thomas Lake [sound recording] / [interviewed by Michael Adams].

[Lake, Thomas, 1898-1991.](#)

Oral History | 1978.

Born in New South Wales; family background; father, James Lake, an explosives expert, who came to Western Australia in approximately 1906; life in Kalgoorlie; his father's work at the Perseverance Gold Mine, and then in Collie; housing conditions; school life; mother's death; father's remarriage; return to Kalgoorlie in 1914; enlisting in the army under-age; training at Blackboy Hill; army routine; food; overseas to Ypres; and fighting on the Hindenburg Line; north-west work; then as cellarman at the Savoy Hotel; duties; staff problems; managing the Rockingham Hotel; moving to Merredin; social life; local farming identities; railway refreshment rooms; the tearooms; the Depression; shopping facilities; the wheat strike; auctions; business and motor vehicle agencies.

2. [Interview with Chucka Crawford] [sound recording] / [interviewed by Rod Moran].

[Crawford, Cyril James, 1903-](#)

Oral History | 1992. Available at Online (Call number: OH2511/14) plus 2 more.

Recollections reach back to the 1930s and beyond. Talks of a range of characters from various areas around Rockingham. Memories of war service, work at Rockingham Hotel and Perth businessmen who had holiday shacks in the area in the 1930s.

3. [Interview with Doris Stenning, nee Grigg] [sound recording] / [interviewed by Rod Moran].

[Stenning, Doris Levina, 1904-1995.](#)

Oral History | 1992. Available at Online (Call number: OH2511/30) plus 2 more

Her memories of some of the very early pioneering families of the area such as the Bells and the Hymus family. Gives the inner-history of the family's business dealings and family relations, including her father's coach building business in Perth and the Rockingham Hotel, which they purchased in the early 1920s. Mrs Stenning ran the hotel, mainly as a residential establishment and provides a useful portrait of the pub as a social centre.

4. [Interview with Isobelle Grigg, nee Lister] [sound recording] / [interviewed by Rod Moran].

[Grigg, Isobelle Noelle, 1928-](#)

Oral History | 1992. Available at Online (Call number: OH2511/33).

Mentions a range of individuals and families in the district. Also gives an interesting catalogue of the Grigg family itself and the role they played in the earlier years of Rockingham's development, from the late 1920s onward. Family bought the Rockingham Hotel in 1927, and in which she herself worked during the 1950s.



5. [Interview with Francis Friedlander] [sound recording] / [interviewed by Rod Moran].

[Friedlander, Francis Patrick, 1909-1998.](#)

Oral History | 1992. Available at Online (Call number: OH2511/1).

Background to the Friedlander family and his own work history before moving into the Rockingham Beach area. Presents an analysis of the wider social role played by the Rockingham Hotel. Other important aspects of his 45 years in the town involve various clubs of the area and their development.

6. [Interview with Gordon Bennett] [sound recording] / [interviewed by Rod Moran].

[Bennett, Gordon Owen, 1918-1994.](#)

Oral History | 1992.

Available at 2nd Floor Oral History Stack (Call number: OH2511/6 Synopsis (Access)) plus 2 more.

Arrived Rockingham 1946. Memories of the 1950s, small and close-knit community, mutual help in community affairs. Theatres, restaurants, dances and the hotel. His association with the Rockingham Council as an outdoor worker.

7. [Interview with Arch Godwin] [sound recording] / [interviewed by Rod Moran].

[Godwin, Archibald Alfred, 1916-1999.](#)

Oral History | 1992. Available at Online (Call number: OH2511/40) plus 2 more

Recollects early memories of Rockingham as quite literally a 'one horse town' with a hotel, one small block of shops - and that was it. Recalls the virgin bush, wind-mills, dusty limestone tracks, bucket-type toilets emptied by a 'night soil' man, wild beaches and no industry.

Appendix H – Newspaper Articles

Throughout its history, the Rockingham Hotel has been included in articles in local newspapers. Most newspapers published in Western Australia can be found online at the National Library of Australia website TROVE. [Home - Trove \(nla.gov.au\)](http://Home-Trove.nla.gov.au)

A sample of the articles found on this database have been included here although many others can be found to illustrate the history of the Rockingham Hotel and the site as a whole.

table license: Edward Tonkin, Welsh Harp Hotel. Wayside house licenses: James Bell, William Day, Rockingham. Steam packet license: William Ogg.

The Western Mail, 11 December 1886, p. 34.

FREMANTLE LICENSING MEETING.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3.

(Before Mr. R. Fairbairn, R.M., Mr. D. K. Congdon, Dr. Hope, Dr. Barnett, and Mr. L. W. Clifton.)

The following licenses were granted:—

GENERAL LICENSES.

J G Flindell, Pier Hotel; P Hagan, Victoria Hotel; Thomas Wand, Club Hotel; E H Fothergill, Cleopatra Hotel; T F McCarthy, National Hotel; Jarvis Hault, Pearl's Hotel; F T Pamment, Freemason's Hotel; A A Davies, Oldfellows' Hotel; and F Caesar, Richmond Hotel.

WAYSIDE LICENSES.

Mr Day, Rockingham Hotel; J Bell, Port Hotel.

The Western Mail, 8 December 1888, p. 3.

APPLICATION FOR A WAYSIDE HOUSE LICENSE.

To the Worshipful the Justices of the Peace acting in and for the District of Fremantle, in Western Australia.

I, DANIEL HYMUS, married, now residing at Rockingham, in the district of Fremantle, do hereby give notice that it is my intention to apply at the next Licensing Meeting, to be holden for this district, for a Wayside House License for the sale of liquor in the house and appurtenances thereunto belonging, situated at Rockingham, and known as the Port Hotel, consisting of three sitting rooms and three bedrooms, exclusive of those required by my family, which is my own freehold property, and for which I hold a transferred license from Mr. Jas Bell, and which I intend to keep as an Inn or Public House. I have held a transfer from Mr. Jas. Bell for six weeks.

Given under my hand this 11th day of November, 1895.

DANIEL HYMUS.

HOUSEHOLDERS' CERTIFICATE FOR A WAYSIDE HOUSE LICENSE.

WE, the undersigned householders, residing within the district of Fremantle, do hereby certify that the above Daniel Hymus, of Rockingham, is a person of good fame and reputation, and fit and proper to be licensed to keep an Inn or Public House for the sale of fermented and spirituous liquors therein.

Witness our hands this 11th day of November, 1895.

Jas. Bell, junr.
John Chester
John Thorp
C. G. Mead
Wm. Day, senr.

The West Australian, 22 November 1895, p. 6

The PORT HOTEL,
ROCKINGHAM.

(One Minute from Three Jetties.)
Beautiful Beach, Unrivalled for Safe
bathing, Clear Shallow Water,
Absolutely No Under-Tow.
Good Accommodations for Visitors.
MODERATE CHARGES.
The Best of Liquors, The Best of
Attention, The Best of Cigars,
The Best of Everything.
Yachtmen Catered for, Cool Drinks,
Splendid Facilities for Campers-
Out, Yachting, Boating, Fishing,
Swimming, The Best Holiday Resort
in the State.
D. HYMUS, Proprietor.

The Evening Mail, 27 December 1909, p. 2.

Acting Hon. Secretary.
FIFTH SCHEDULE.
APPLICATION FOR TRANSFER.
To the Licensing Court for the Murray
District:

I, DANIEL HYMUS, being the Li-
censee of the Port Hotel, at Rocking-
ham, near Fremantle, in the State of
Western Australia, do hereby make
APPLICATION for a TRANSFER of the
Wayside House Licence held by me in
respect of the said premises to LESLIE
CHARLES HYMUS, of Rockingham,
aforesaid, Farmer, and I the said Leslie
Charles Hymus do hereby concur in
such application, and request that the
said transfer may be made.

Dated the 16th day of October, 1914.
DANIEL HYMUS.
Signature of Transferrer.
LESLIE CHARLES HYMUS.
Signature of Transferee.
UNMACK and THOMAS, Solicitors,
Fremantle.

The Daily News, 20 October 1914, p. 3.

T E N D E R S.

TENDERS are invited for the **ERECTION**
of a **BALCONY** to the Port Hotel, Rocking-
ham, up to the 15th inst.
Specifications to be seen at the hotel.
Lowest tender not necessarily accepted.
Apply—
L. HYMUS,
At the Hotel.

The West Australian, 10 February 1915, p. 2.

PERRIN HOTEL, ROCKINGHAM

TENDERS are invited for the **PUR-**
CHASE of the **FREEHOLD** of the above
Hotel, which is a two-storied stone and
jarrah building, consisting of 22 rooms and
outbuildings, with spacious verandahs
and sleeping out accommodation. Three
minutes from beach.
Bathing and fishing unequalled.
Good shooting in vicinity.
An ideal holiday resort. Best beach
in W.A.
Tenders close on May 25, 1921, to be ad-
dressed to
L. HYMUS,
Rockingham.

The West Australian, 9 May 1921, p. 9.

REVIVAL OF ROCKINGHAM.

The Tourist Trade.

The recent activities of Mr. S. J. Hayward, of the Government Tourist and Publicity Bureau, in directing attention to the natural advantages of Rockingham from a holiday viewpoint, and urging that they should be exploited, have already begun to bear fruit. A strong committee, representing the Rockingham and Fremantle Road Boards, the Fremantle Business Men's Association, and transport and other interests has been organised; and there are indications that by next summer the old timber port will be in a position to make a bold bid for its share of the seaside holiday trade.

Millars' Timber and Trading Co. is interesting itself in the project, and is considering the question of erecting a number of furnished cottages; and Mr. Reg. Harrison, an old admirer of the Rockingham beach, has decided to purchase the Peron Hotel. This will in future be known as the Hotel Rockingham, and Mr. Harrison, who will take it over on May 1, intends to reconstruct and renovate the whole building. A large dining-room and a wide verandah, with an ocean outlook, are part of the scheme, which includes the installation of a lighting plant large enough to provide current for lighting the jetties. On the adjacent block which he has also acquired, Mr. Harrison proposes to erect cubicles for campers and garages for cars.

The West Australian, 29 April 1922, p. 11.

ROCKINGHAM AS TOURIST RESORT

INTERESTING OPENING.

The Premier (Sir James Mitchell) was the chief guest at the official opening of the Rockingham tourist season at the Hotel Rockingham on Monday last. The function was unique in the history of Rockingham, and never before has this old seaport witnessed such an animated scene as was provided on Monday. Fully three hundred people of both sexes were the guests of the Rockingham Tourist Association at what was formerly known as the Hotel Peron.

This old fashioned hostel has during the past few months been transformed into an ideal seaside hotel, the proprietors, of whom Mr. Reg. Harrison is the guiding spirit, having it is stated, expended over £10,000 on improvements. Accommodation has been extended, and the hotel and lay out generally has undergone such a change as would fill former visitors with wonderment.

Bowling greens, tennis courts are amongst the many features provided, the management having even gone to the extent of installing its own electric light plant, which is used not only for domestic purposes, but for the illumination of the jetty.

Visitors were greatly impressed with the hotel and surroundings, and it is to be hoped that the enterprise will reap the reward to which it is entitled.

The Advertiser, 10 November 1922, p. 4.

TO HOTELKEEPERS AND INVESTORS.

**CRITERION HOTEL,
ROCKINGHAM HOTEL.**

Mr. R. C. Harrison who is going on an extended trip to Europe invites **TENDERS** for **CRITERION HOTEL, Perth: Five years lease, rent £30. Tender for lease and purchase of furniture and plant, walk in, walk out. Stock at valuation.**

**ROCKINGHAM HOTEL,
Premier Resort of W.A.**

Magnificent bathing opposite door. Motor launch and boats. Char-a-banc service daily from Fremantle and s.s. Venus every Sunday. Outside new limit for bona fide travellers.

Two-storey building, stone and wood, substantially new. Five bungalows and lodge. Accommodation for 70. Garage for sixteen cars. Dining hall, seat 70. Large dance hall. Bowling green. Tennis courts. Children's playground. Electric light plant, supplying town and wharves, septic tank. Abundant water laid on throughout.

Tenders for freehold (two acres), furniture and plant, walk in, walk out, stock at valuation.

Deposit £50, with each tender. No tender necessarily accepted. Books open to bona fide buyers.

TENDERS close **NOON** on Tuesday, February 20, at the offices of

KIRK and McDONALD, Solicitors for Vendor, Commercial Travellers' Association Buildings, Perth.

The West Australian, 14 February 1923, p. 1.

ADDITIONS TO HOTEL ROCKINGHAM.

The Licensing Court yesterday afternoon consented to an application by Mr. F. G. Unmack (on behalf of the licensee of the Hotel Rockingham, Geo. E. Grigg) to enlarge the whole of the front verandah of the premises.

The Daily News, 9 December 1927, p. 3.

* * *

The **Hymus** Brothers, well known down **Rockingham** way, are big men and their teeth and jaw muscles are fittingly developed. None of them have any use for bottle openers—the ordinary "crown cork" is removed from a beer bottle at one quick bite. So expert has the best known of them become, that he has been appointed official bottle opener to all the best known business, social and society shivoos, anywhere from Mandurah to South Beach.

* * *

The Weekly Judge, 1 August 1924, p. 6.

PIONEER OF ROCKINGHAM.

The Late Mr. James Bell.

A pioneer of the Rockingham district, Mr. James Bell, died last week at the age of 70 years. He was born in Rockingham, the son of James Bell, who arrived in this State in 1845 in H.M.S. Driver, and had lived in the district all his life. When a lad he assisted in hauling jarrah with bullock teams to Rockingham for shipment. At the age of 16 he was connected with the construction of the Jarrahdale Timber Company's railway from Jarrahdale to Rockingham, which was one of the early railways constructed in this State.

In 1868 he was an eye-witness of the escape of the Fenian convicts in an American whaler. He saw two horse-drawn vehicles approaching Rockingham at a fast gallop, the cutters leaving the whaler and the picking up of the occupants of the vehicles at what was known as Malagup's Landing. Mr. Bell's father and the late Mr. Daniel Hymus took the vehicles back to Fremantle, and were the first to report the escape. In 1886 deceased built the present Rockingham Hotel, then known as the Port Hotel, and was the licensee for 10 years. After giving up the hotel he became a general storekeeper and shipping providore. He

The Western Mail, 8 December 1927, p. 24.

Gun-Barrel Bursts.

When Jack Hymus, of Rockingham, was duck shooting at Bay Lake, near Rockingham, yesterday afternoon, a barrel of his shotgun burst and blew off the middle finger, and part of another finger of his right hand. Hymus, who cannot walk easily owing to war injuries, crawled 100 yards, to a sulky and drove to the Rockingham Hotel. He received treatment from Dr. J. A. Kidstan, of the Naval training sloop Margeurite, who was summoned by flag signals from the shore.

The West Australian, 17 February 1928, p. 19.

ROCKINGHAM—The recent road board election resulted in Messrs. Grigg, Derby and Peters being elected, Messrs. Dvoretzky, Mead, Fletcher and Churcher were unopposed.—Mr. Grigg has transferred the licence of the Rockingham Hotel to his son.—Schnapper are still plentiful.

The West Australian, 24 June 1932, p. 24.

ROCKINGHAM.

A Popular Seaside Resort.

As a holiday resort Rockingham has many claims to advance. It is situated on Margles Bay, about 19 miles from Fremantle, and is reached by a good road through the fertile Spearwood area. Rockingham's principal attraction is its magnificent beach, which is protected from heavy ocean swell by a number of islands. The beach stretches for miles to the north, and extends southwards to Point Peron. Opposite Rockingham, only some five miles away, is Garden Island. Points Peron and Mersey and Penguin Island are other attractive spots within easy distance. Varied accommodation is obtainable, and includes the Hotel Rockingham, also furnished cottages at both Rockingham and Point Peron. Adjacent to the hotel are spacious picnic grounds, well grassed and planted with numerous shade trees. Parts of these grounds are being laid with tracks for foot racing. Nearby are two turf cricket pitches, a football ground, a golf course, a number of tennis courts, electrically lit at night, and a bowling green. Rockingham is thus provided with the necessary sporting facilities to supplement other pleasures, such as fishing and bathing, that make this resort so popular to visitors. At one time much timber was shipped from Rockingham. There is a fine jetty, and those fond of fishing have here ample opportunities of pursuing the sport. Rockingham is served by a frequent transport from Fremantle and Perth, and is visited by the pleasure steamer Emerald on Sundays.

Western Mail, 15 March 1934, p. 9.

NED KELLY'S ARMOR

Death of Its Maker

A link with the bushranging past snapped last week when died in Sydney Mr. Joseph Grigg, the unwilling maker of the armor worn by Ned Kelly in the Glenrowan battle of June, 1880.

The deceased was 82 at the time of his demise, and was an uncle of the well-known George Grigg, of Rockingham, and Ernest, contractor, of Perth.

The story of how Ned Kelly invaded the smithy of Joe Grigg in the Glenrowan district and compelled him to make the armor to be worn later in the bushrangers v. police battle at Mrs. Jones' Glenrowan Hotel, is not generally known, as even in the long years that followed the wiping out of the gang, it was dangerous to talk too much of the ways and means by which the Kellys lived and avoided their pursuers.

While Joe Grigg made the armor from parts of ploughs and harvesting machines, Ned Kelly kept him under lock and key and strict watch, Dan Kelly coming along at intervals to relieve while the latter slept. When the job was finished Ned Kelly paid for it, and paid for it well in good golden sovereigns, the origin of which Joe Grigg could only guess, but as he immediately told the authorities all about it at a very confidential meeting, he was told to keep the cash as he had honestly earned it.

The late Joe Grigg was the partner of the one-time well-known coach-building firm of A. A. and J. Grigg, City-road, South Melbourne.

It is estimated that out of 46,219 10 h.p. cars built in England in 1933, nearly 20,000 were Hillman Minx.

Sunday Times, 26 August 1934, p. 7.

ROCKINGHAM PROGRESS

Important Land Sale

Recent developments at Rockingham tend to show the rapidly growing importance of that popular seaside resort. Lately, by an arrangement of concessions of 21 years with the Fremantle and Rockingham road boards, respectively, the Fremantle Tramway and Electric Lighting Board decided to extend the electric lighting from Spearwood to Rockingham, Safety Bay and Point Peron. The Metro Omnibus Co. have also instituted a daily bus service between Rockingham and Fremantle, which is a great convenience at and en route to the seaside resort, as well as to holidaymakers.

Last week an important land sale was completed when Mr. Geo. Grigg, proprietor of the Hotel Rockingham, concluded negotiations with Millars Timber and Trading Co. Ltd. for the purchase of what is known as Lot 1, Rockingham, which comprises 50 acres of land close to the hotel and includes the jetty. It is Mr. Grigg's intention to immediately subdivide the land and offer it for sale to the public.

The tunny caught off the jetty the other day is, incidentally, to figure in a sort of ceremonial feast on New Year's Day, when it will be removed from the refrigerator where it has reposed and will regale the festive board.

Sunday Times, 30 December 1934, p. 6.

NAVAL BASE HOTEL

Taken Over by Mr. G. Grigg

Negotiations have been finalised by Mr. George E. Grigg, proprietor of the Hotel Rockingham, to take over the lease of the Naval Base Hotel from Mr. A. N. Wakeham.

The hotel is on Government property, and Mr. Grigg has taken over the existing lease, which still has about 20 years to run. He said today that he proposed to renovate the premises and conduct the hotel on up-to-date lines. The renovations are expected to be ready by Easter.

Having transferred the licence of the Hotel Rockingham on February 1 to his son (Mr. Reg. Grigg) and daughter (Miss D. Grigg), the new lessee will supervise the conduct of the Naval Base Hotel, assisted by a manager.

Mr. Grigg recently purchased Millar's estate at Rockingham, which has been sub-divided into 200 blocks. Several offers have been received by Mr. Grigg for the purchase of blocks which are suitable for the erection of summer cottages, but no sale has as yet been effected.

Following on the purchase of the estate, extensive improvements are to be undertaken at Rockingham, including a swimming pool and the erection of bathing sheds on the beach.

The Daily News, 14 February 1935, p. 5.

**HOLIDAY RESORTS
WHERE TO STAY**

DON'T Miss Spending Your Next Holidays at **ROCKINGHAM** (18 miles south of Fremantle), one of Australia's finest stretches of beach, sheltered by Point Peron and Garden Island, is safe for Bathing, ideal for Fishing, Boating and Launch Trips.

HOTEL ROCKINGHAM, a most up-to-date hotel, picturesquely set in spacious tree-shaded lawns and gardens overlooks this ideal beach. Self-contained Furnished Bungalows and Flats are also provided at **Hotel Rockingham**; electric light and sewerage throughout. Three Tennis Courts. Quotes and any further particulars will be promptly forwarded on request. Ring or write **HOTEL ROCKINGHAM**, F.M. 2650. Miss Doris and Mr. Reg **Grigg**, Lessees.

Kalgoorlie Miner, 30 March 1935, p. 9.

Popular Hotel Rockingham

The ideal place to stay at when visiting Rockingham is the Hotel Rockingham.

With popular Reg Grigg as its licensee, the hotel provides first-class accommodation, hot and cold water, ample garages and electric light and every possible comfort that the holiday-maker could wish for. The tariff of the Rockingham Hotel is exceedingly moderate at 12/ per day or £3/10/ per week, and all inquiries can be made by ringing L2650 (2d. call).

Rockingham is indeed fortunate in possessing such a modern and up-to-date hotel, and such a young and enthusiastic licensee, who always makes it his personal business to see that visitors receive the utmost satisfaction and service.

The Mirror, 27 November 1937, p. 16.



HOTEL ROCKINGHAM

for your holiday

EVERY MODERN CONVENIENCE

The State's Finest Bathing Beach
Fishing, Boating and Tennis
Dancing and Pictures

Furnished self-contained flats and bungalows. Electric light, firewood free, Water laid on

Reg **Grigg** - - Licensee
PHONE L 2650

South Western Advertiser, 6 October 1939, p. 7.

Rockingham Hotel, which was enlarged last year, is being further altered and modernised to the extent of £2500. A handsome new lounge, now being prepared, has an area of 60 x 30 and the dining room is being extended.

Licensee Reg Grigg has a friendly, courteous manner that has made him very popular and the staff, taking him as their pattern, set themselves out to give visitors splendid service.

Rockingham Hotel has earned an enviable reputation for the excellence of its service, for its comfort and for that very important item, its cuisine. And its popular features include the cool and pleasantly grassed surroundings which appeal particularly to family parties.

With its improvements, Rockingham Hotel will be catering for bigger crowds than ever this summer.

The Mirror, 25 November 1939, p. 18.

Proprietor of the Hotel Rockingham, Mr. Reg. Grigg, is proceeding with extensive alterations to his hotel which he expects will be completed within two years.

Included in the extensions is a new wing of 28 bedrooms and extensions of 70ft. to bars, including a new cocktail bar of 30 feet.

A beer garden to the north of the hotel will be established to cater for 300 and the existing dining room will be enlarged to seat 140.

Mr. Grigg has completed plans for a ladies' hairdressing salon and a furniture and soft furnishing shop in Kent-street.

Other shops in the town are planning to make extensive alterations, and surgeries for a doctor and a dentist will be built.

South Western Advertiser, 20 March 1952, p. 1

At Rockingham

For 18 months the Rockingham Hotel has been opening on Sundays for 4½ hours.

The licensee (Mr. R. Grigg) said last night that he had been informed that the local police had not received sufficient advice of any change in the licensing laws and he was to use his discretion.

Few people were prepared for the 11 a.m. opening, but the word quickly spread that the trading hours had not been altered and by noon all bars opened were packed.

Trading between 3.30 and 6 p.m. was brisk.

Rockingham residents were given entry to the bars.

The new laws operated at Sawyer's Valley and Chidlow without incident.

The West Australian, 14 January 1952, p. 3.