

COMMERCIAL BUILDING, 150-154 OXFORD ST, LEEDERVILLE



PLACE INFORMATION	
Place name	Commercial Building, 150-154 Oxford St
Other names	
Place type	Individual building or group

HERITAGE LISTING	
inHerit ID:	8733
State Heritage Register:	
Other Listing:	Municipal Inventory Adopted 13 Nov 1995

SITE LOCATION	
Street address	150-154 Oxford St
Locality	Leederville
Survey	LOT: 200 D/P: 50976
Vol/folio	2720/98
Reserve	—

SIGNIFICANCE	
Level of significance	<p>Moderate</p> <p>Contributes to the heritage of the locality. Has some altered or modified elements, not necessarily detracting from the overall significance of the item.</p>
Management category	<p>Category 3</p> <p>Conservation of the place is desirable.</p> <p>Any alterations or extensions should reinforce the significance of the place, and original fabric should be retained wherever feasible.</p>
Statement of significance	<p>The place is a good and largely intact example of shops and premises built in the Federation Italianate style on a prominent corner location which contributes to its landmark quality.</p> <p>The place reflects the expansion and development of residential and commercial buildings on the city fringes during the rapid population increase of the 1890's gold boom and the early years of the twentieth century.</p> <p>The place has historic value for its association with the common practice where small stores and services were located within walking distances of nearby homes, and the shop proprietors lived in the same premises.</p> <p>This place is valued by the community for the continuity of its presence in the streetscape which contributes to the community sense of place.</p> <p>The place has social value as an example of accommodation available for working families dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.</p>

PLACE USE	
Original use	Commercial: Shop/Retail Store Residential: Conjoined Residences
Current use	Commercial: Shop/Retail Store
Other use	Commercial: Office
CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	
Construction date	1904; 1930s
Walls	Painted Brick Rendered Brick
Roof	Corrugated Metal Sheeting
Architectural Style	Federation Italianate
Physical description	Two storey building surmounted with an ornate parapet which features stucco balusters, pediments and ball finials. The date '1904' is inscribed in the pediment facing Oxford Street. The building is truncated at the corner, with a doorway at street level and a window at the upper level within this corner. Horizontal stripes in the render on the ground floor are evidence of remodelling during the 1930's. The original verandah has been replaced. Nil setbacks to both streets. The brickwork has been painted and the ground floor façade and shop fronts have been modified.
Condition	Good
Integrity	Moderate
Authenticity	High

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The commercial building on the corner of Oxford and Vincent Street was constructed in 1904, on a prominent corner directly opposite the former Leederville Post Office. It comprised three shops with residences above, no detail of the architect or builder have been found.

This place was not shown on the early PWD plans for this area as these were drawn in 1897. No street numbers were listed in Wise's Post Office Directories until 1910 but in 1909 it appears that they might have been occupied by Mrs A.J. Gardiner (boot dealer) and Francis Robinson (green grocer).

In 1910, the numbers were listed but they were not the same as today, and were possibly No. 56 and No. 58. In 1912 No. 60 was listed for the first time. In that year the storekeepers were Archibald Chishol bootmaker at No. 56, John McNeil confectioner at No. 58 and Deverell & Sons cabinet makers at No. 60. For the latter business the names listed were Charles, Francis and Lewis Deverell.

In 1915, the shops were still occupied by cabinet makers Deverell & Sons, confectioner John McNeil and chemist Edward Baker. The shops were numbered 136-140 Oxford Street at this time and in 1917 they were changed to those of today. At that time No. 150 was John C. Kay electrician, No. 152 was still John McNeil but Louis H. Wishart was also listed at this address, however was not given an occupation, and Mrs P. Barlow was the storekeeper at No. 154. In 1925 the tenants were W.A Cornwall a cycle agent at No. 150, Edwin Moller of Spot Lager saloon at No. 152 and Frederick Iverson store keeper.

The original verandah was replaced and the ground level shop fronts were remodelled in the 1930s. During this time, the occupants were E.R. Stenhouse (furnishers), James Jackson (fruiterer) and Mrs K.H. Pope (mixed business). In 1949, the last year of the Directories, the places were occupied by R & M Sullivan toy dealers and specialty goods at No. 150, Skevington & Burgess drapers and mercers at No. 152 and Mrs Grace Risdon furniture dealer at No. 154.

In 2002, the place was occupied by the Flight Centre travel agency and the Hawker's Hut restaurant, that latter having occupied the premises for many years. Currently the place continues to be occupied by a range of commercial tenancies.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION	
Historic theme	Peopling WA: Demographic Development Cultural Life: Domestic Life Economy: Commerce
Associations	
Sources	Municipal Heritage Inventory 2006. Landgate Aerial photographs 1953-2024.

ADDITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS



ARCHIVAL IMAGES



View in 1983. Courtesy HCWA.