

# Local Heritage Register: R.A.O.B Hall and Club



Miss C. Box's and Lonegrans Store, SLQ image 5525

<b>Building Name:</b>	Buffalo Club and Hall / Miss Box's Store
<b>Street Address:</b>	39-41 Victoria Street
<b>Property Description:</b>	Lot 4 on SP122887 and Lot 1 on RP711697
<b>Land Area:</b>	911 <sup>m2</sup>

## Description

**Details are sketchy on these two buildings which now appear as a single complex. The 'corner store' shop front was once a general store but the circumstances of the connection of the buildings is unknown.**

## History

The Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes (R.A.O.B) have had a presence in Mackay since 1931 when the Mackay Lodge No. 34 opened with a handful of members. In the war years the order had significant membership and after operating for some years from the Oddfellows Hall in Wood Street, moved to North

Mackay. The order purchased the Trocadero dance hall in 1939 when the roll featured almost 300 members.

By 1952 this number was 150 members, however the order maintains a strong presence in Mackay and special association with the region.

## The Building

39 Victoria Street comprises the corner shop constructed by William Guthrie in 1936 to a Harold Vivian Marsh Brown design. This building is significant in demonstrating the development and nature of Art Deco buildings in Mackay during the interwar period.

The corner shop retains Art Deco

detailing above its awnings and has a degree of aesthetic value in contributing to the low scale character of the streetscape.

The first tenant was likely Miss Clarice Box, who operated a store on the corner. Interestingly Miss Box married Mr. Guthrie's son, John Andrew on 15 September 1936 but filed for divorce on the grounds of abandonment in 1951.

41 Victoria Street has a special association with the R.A.O.B who acquired the site following loss of their hall: the "Trocadero" in the 1958 floods.

The builder and age are unknown. It is also not known when the R.A.O.B. merged the two buildings with the intervening structure.

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## Statement of Historical Significance

The corner store at 39 and the now adjoining hall at 41, 2016, Mackay Regional Council

Criteria	Significance
<b>A: Historical significance</b>	39 Victoria Street comprises the corner shop constructed by William Guthrie in 1936 to a H.V.M. Brown design. 41 Victoria Street is a single storey masonry building constructed in the 1930s. The buildings are significant in demonstrating the development and nature of interwar Art Deco buildings.
<b>B: All aspects of heritage significance</b>	Does not meet this criterion.
<b>C: Scientific significance</b>	Does not meet this criterion.
<b>D: Architectural significance</b>	Does not meet this criterion.
<b>E: Aesthetic / architectural significance</b>	39 Victoria Street retains Art Deco detailing above its awning. 41 Victoria has a prominent parapet bearing the RAOB name and emblem. Both have a degree of aesthetic value in contributing to the low scale character of the streetscape
<b>F: Aesthetic or other significance</b>	Does not meet this criterion.
<b>G: Social significance</b>	41 Victoria Street has a special association with the Royal Antediluvian Order of Buffaloes who acquired the site following loss of their hall in 1958. The RAOB have had a presence since 1931 when the Mackay Lodge No. 34 opened with a handful of members. By 1952 this number had grown to more than 150 and the order maintains a strong presence and special association with the region.
<b>H: Historical significance</b>	Does not meet this criterion.

## References:

- Woods, R., 1996, 'Heritage Places Criteria', Mackay City Council
- Daily Mercury, 'Wedding Bells' 23/09/36 p.3, 'Divorce Action', 09/06/51, p.3, and 'Trocadero Changes Hands', 18/07/39 p.8.

**For more information phone strategic planning on 1300 MACKAY (1300 622 529)**