

Local Heritage Register: 91-95 Victoria Street



91-95 Victoria Street, 1929

Building Name:	91-95 Victoria Street, Fred Bourne's buildings
Street Address:	91, 93, 95 Victoria Street
Property Description:	Lot 3 on RP700800, Lot 2 on RP700799, Lot 1 on RP700799
Land Area:	656m ²

Description

These three identical shops are a significant heritage feature of the Victoria Street streetscape and were constructed by a high profile community member.

History

Mr Bourne was born on 15 November 1853 and was a school teacher in Sydney for some time, arriving in Mackay in 1882. He worked firstly as 'chief clerk' for Marsh and Webster before trading in town from approximately 1895 from a store in Sydney Street.

Mr Bourne was a keen horticulturist and secretary of the Mackay and District Horticultural Society and also

worked as a seed agent from Peel Street.

An active community member, he was on numerous committees including the Mackay Harbour Board from 1909 and a founding member of the Mackay Bowls Club. He continued to audit books or act as treasurer for not-for profit organisations throughout his lifetime.

In July 1923 the land was subdivided into the three shops. By that time he was known as a bookseller, opening a new bookstore and news agent in 1923. The business carried on as Bourne's News agency even after his retirement in 1926 up to the 1940s when it changed to the Mackay Newsagency and

remains a newsagent today. Fred Bourne passed away on 20 June, 1945, aged 91.

The Building

The buildings were constructed in 1923 by local contractor, William Guthrie, who also built the two remaining heritage buildings to the west and other notable structures in the city.

The buildings feature classical detailing as seen in the decorative accents on the skyline, dentils and pilasters. The western building has undergone some modifications to hide facade detailing. Above the awning, the buildings remain relatively intact and overall, they are an important component of the streetscape of Victoria Street,

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The buildings have historical significance for the city centre, especially in streetscape contribution, and are indicative of the building boom that occurred in the region during the interwar period.

In 1927 a pharmacy opened in the building run by W. W. Holyoake, who was already running the pharmacy in the Dalrymple Buildings. Another later high-profile tenant was Mr Ian Wood who ran a travel agency and became a Senator for the region.



91-95 Victoria Street, 2017, Mackay Regional Council collection

Statement of Historical Significance

Criteria	Significance
A: Historical significance	The buildings at 91-95 Victoria Street were constructed in 1923 by local builder, William Guthrie, and has historical importance as one of a number of buildings constructed in the booming Interwar period in Mackay.
B: All aspects of heritage significance	Does not meet this criterion.
C: Scientific significance	Does not meet this criterion.
D: Architectural significance	Does not meet this criterion.
E: Aesthetic / architectural significance	The buildings at 91-95 Victoria Street make an important contribution to the streetscape. Above the awning original classical detailing is retained in the three bays including decorative accents on the skyline, dentils and pilasters.
F: Aesthetic or other significance	Does not meet this criterion.
G: Social significance	Does not meet this criterion.
H: Historical significance	Does not meet this criterion.

References:

- Mackay Mercury, advertising, 22 January, 1895, p.3
- Daily Mercury, 'To the Editor', 25 March 1910, p.5
- Daily Mercury, 'The 1923 Building Trade.' Saturday 15 December, 1923
- Daily Mercury, 'Obituary', 21 June, 1945, p.2
- Land records

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