

Local Heritage Register: Tilse's Building

Building Name:	Tilse's Building
Street Address:	97 Victoria Street
Property Description:	Lot 1 on RP700798
Land Area:	233m ²



Tilse's Building (left), ca 1940 State Library of Queensland image

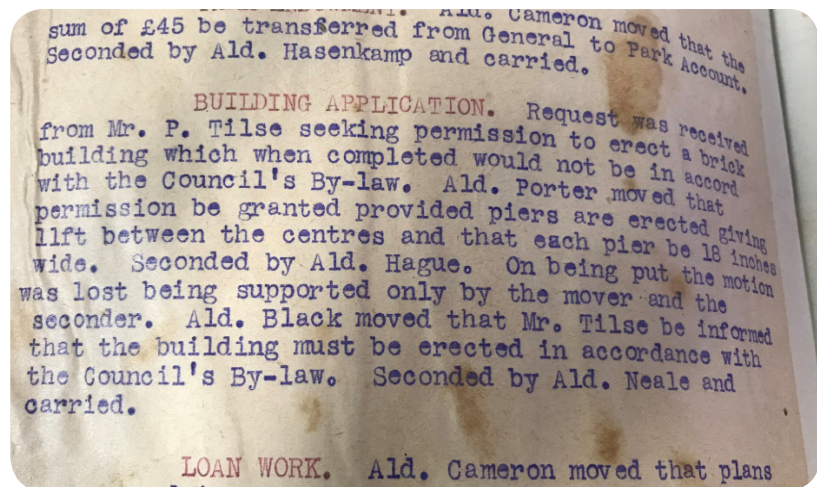
Description

Originally constructed for stationer, Percy Tilse, this building has been altered over time but remains an important part of the Victoria Street streetscape.

History

Percy Tilse was a prominent businessman in Mackay during the interwar period, and owned both the Strand Theatre on Nebo Road, as well as the Princess Theatre on Victoria Street.

The site was previously used as a produce merchant in the early 1880s by Mr W. Appelt. In 1923 Mr Tilse sought permission from Council to erect a brick structure that was inconsistent with Council's By-law, and was initially refused.



Below: Mackay City Council Minutes 14 June, 1923.

However, the building went ahead, presumably in accordance with the by-law, and was constructed by local contractor William Guthrie. Mr Guthrie also constructed the neighbouring buildings to the west around the same time (see Fact Sheets for more details).

The Building

The building has been altered from the original form, however it still retains the classical parapet and roof form, which contributes to the heritage streetscape values of Victoria Street. The original building featured an upper level verandah which may have been part of living quarters.

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It was removed, possibly in association with awning replacement and removal of supporting pillars. The building has had numerous tenants over time including a car sound store in the 1980s and currently the Cancer Council offices. Mr Tilse obtained permission for a further three shops in 1927, designed by Shardlow & Harriss Architects, but the location is unknown.



Victoria Street, ca1960

Statement of Historical Significance

Criteria	Significance
A: Historical significance	Plans for the construction of a new brick building at 97 Victoria Street were made in 1923 when local businessman, Percy Tilse submitted a building application for a new commercial structure. Constructed by local builder, William Guthrie, Tilse's building is important in demonstrating building boom of the 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 building has been subject to a degree of alteration including removal of the original timber verandah including doors and new windows to first floor, however the classical parapet and original form of the building remains and is important in contributing to the streetscape values of Victoria Street.
F: Aesthetic or other significance	Does not meet this criterion.
G: Social significance	Does not meet this criterion.
H: Historical significance	Percy Tilse was responsible for the construction of a number of buildings in Mackay during the Interwar period including the establishment of a number of theatres in the region including the Strand Theatre on Nebo Road and the Princess Theatre opposite his business premises on Victoria Street.

References:

- Daily Mercury "The Early Eighties." Saturday 5 September, 1931, p10.
- Daily Mercury, 'The 1923 Building Trade', 15 December, 1923

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