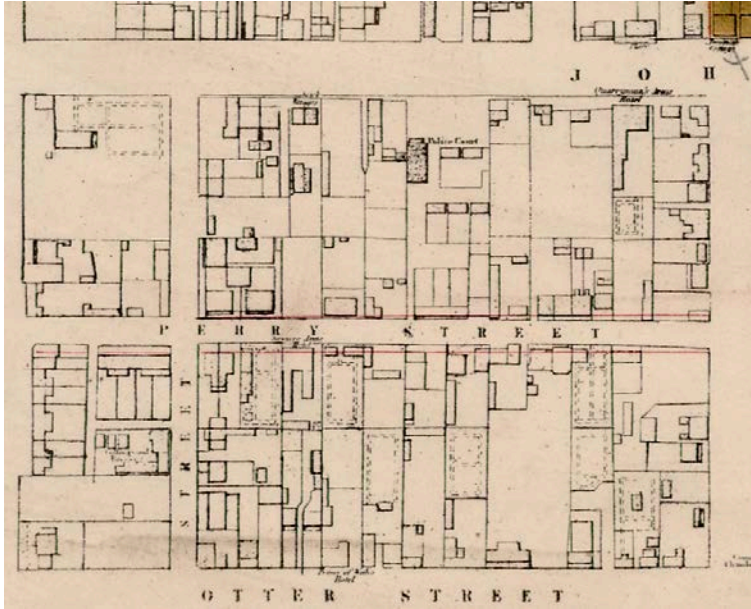


## Layers of History

### Johnston, Smith, Otter, Bedford, and Perry Streets 11 November 2017

An expanded version of these notes will be put on the website: [www.collingwoodhs.org.au](http://www.collingwoodhs.org.au)

East Collingwood became a municipality in 1855, at which time the area closest to Smith Street was the most densely populated. Smith Street was an early thoroughfare and residence of John Pascoe Fawkner. In 1860 municipal



chambers were built in Johnston Street next to the courthouse, and served this purpose until the new town hall was built in the 1880s. Smith Street had taken over the role of premier shopping street, and in the 1880s and 1890s many boom period double storey shops replaced earlier structures.

Surrounding blocks were occupied by houses, factories, shops, and an extensive supply of pubs.

**Johnston St and Smith St are both significant heritage precincts (HO324 and HO333)**

**1858  
Hodgkinson  
map**

Note: Places with heritage overlay listing are identified by their **HO** number in bold.  
Further information is available from the City of Yarra website.

#### *Starting at 35 Johnston Street, carpark next to former Collingwood Technical School*

This site has played a prominent role in Collingwood since the 1850s, when the local courthouse was built. Council chambers were added in 1860 (council had previously operated from rented premises in Wellington St.) The Collingwood School of Design and the Free Public Library were also allocated space here. A large new town hall was built in Hoddle Street in the 1880s, so from 1891 these buildings were tenanted by the Collingwood Working Men's Club, which was required to vacate when Council sold the buildings to the Education Department. Collingwood Technical School commenced classes in the renovated old buildings in 1912 and they continued to be used until 1923, while other buildings were added around them.

The Art Deco or Moderne main buildings fronting Johnston Street which were designed by Public Works architect Percy Everett in 1938 have become a striking feature of the streetscape, especially the arched entry bay.

**Haring mural:** Keith Haring (1958-1990) was a widely popular American artist and social activist who is often credited with bringing street art into the mainstream. In 1984, he visited Australia where he undertook art projects including this large scale outdoor mural. (The mural is on the Victorian Heritage Register **HO354**)

#### *Tour of interior of former Collingwood Technical School buildings.*

#### *Walk down Johnston Street to Wellington Street*

**Cnr Johnston and Wellington St.** Former Healy's Hotel 1870, called the Ivanhoe Hotel from 1873, now The Tote, a popular music venue. It is located in the Johnston St heritage precinct **HO 324**.

**241 Wellington St.** Collingwood Technical School boot apprentice building, built 1945. Now houses the Neighbourhood Justice Centre. **HO 324** Collingwood-Fitzroy was home to some of the largest boot and shoe manufacturers in Victoria, and in 1924 the Tech began training young factory workers in a disused factory in Perry St. The boot and shoe trade was declared an apprentice trade in 1932 so numbers expanded.

#### *Walk up Perry Street to the 1913 Technical School building.*

This was the first purpose-built building for the Collingwood Technical School. Note the foundation stone. The area was once occupied by the police station and houses, and eventually boot factories. The building to the west dates from 1923.

*Walk down Perry Street to Wellington Street to Otter Street*

**St Joseph's complex.** Hall **HO120** 1885-6, Church **HO118**, 1860-62, 1891, Presbytery **HO117** 1903, School **HO119**, 1904.

**Former St George's Presbyterian Church.** Built 1861-62 **HO144**. Now St Martin's Community Church.

*Walk along Wellington Street to Napoleon, turn right.*

**12 Napoleon St.** A pair of early bluestone houses, built before 1858. **HO115**.

*Follow curve of Napoleon Street to Otter Street*

**Northeast corner of Otter and Bedford St.** The building appears on the 1858 map making it among the oldest surviving buildings in Collingwood. It was occupied by a dairyman in 1864. The original bluestone shop appears to have been incorporated into a larger furniture factory in the 1920s where EH Reidy was still operating in the 1990s. Note the tooled stone work around the door and windows.

*(Optional detour to 33-47 Bedford St, Purfleet Cottages constructed 1873 HO96)*

**284 Smith St.** Among the more flamboyant Victorian era shops is this three storey red brick and render shop, with unusual large horseshoe motifs on the rendered parapet. (Heritage rating individually significant in the Smith Street Heritage precinct **HO333**)

*Walk north along Bedford Street*

**15-17 Bedford St.** a two storey brick factory built in 1886 for lease, a rare example of speculative industrial development in Victorian Collingwood. It was McGann's boot factory for many years. (Heritage rating individually significant **HO95**)

**5 Bedford St.** built c 1885. Underclothing factory, later clothing, saddlery, heel and hosiery manufacturers to 1930.

**3 Bedford St.** Built for Henry Bradley and Sons manufacturers and importers of fancy goods. Used to manufacture clay pipes for smoking. It was later a boot factory. (Heritage rating contributory in Johnston St precinct **HO324**). The factory was almost immediately behind Bradley's shop at 324 Smith St.

*Walk south along lane behind these factories, back to Perry Street.*

Note the view of the often less-altered rear sections of Smith St shops.

**312 Smith St** Now Friends of the Earth. Eight identical ornate Italianate shops nos 298-312 Smith Street were built in 1897. The upper level façade is stuccoed and laid out in the trabeated form with Corinthian Order pilasters enclosing pairs of segmented windows. (**HO333** Smith St Precinct.)

*Smith Street between Perry and Johnston Streets* (all part of Smith St precinct **HO333**)

**314 Smith St.** Albion Hotel built 1874-75. One of Collingwood's prettiest hotels, at least on the exterior.

**316-322 Smith St.** Shops/dwellings constructed for Patrick Coyle, owner of The Albion.

**324 Smith St** site of Bradley's second shop (demolished)

**332-338 Smith St** Stanford Buildings. Constructed for Thomas Stanford on land bought from Coyle.

**334 Smith St** John Pascoe Fawcner plaque in footpath. Fawcner owned an extensive landholding in this block. Not long after his death in 1869, his widow sold her properties to Patrick Coyle.

*Cross Johnston Street to north side* (part of Johnston St precinct **HO324**)

**8-10 Johnston St. Belmont** pre-1857/c. 1876. **HO107**, **VHR 311**

**40 Johnston St.,** Former Council Hotel 1858-84, Council Club Hotel 1885-1936.

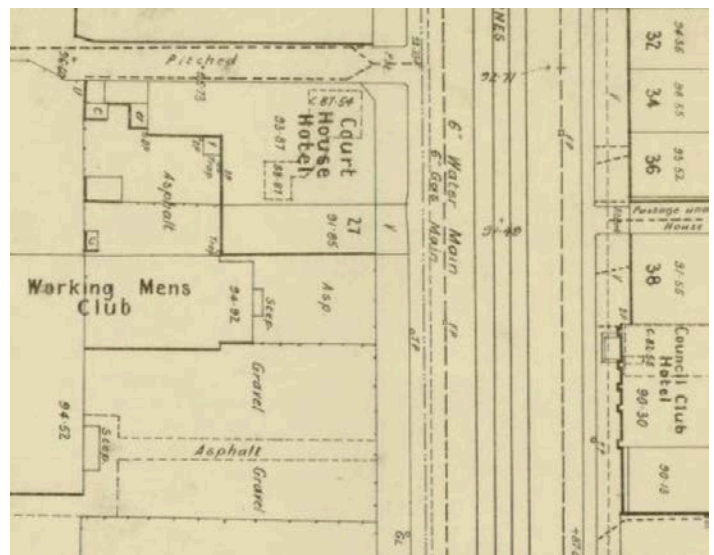
**3-13 Johnston St.** Shop fronts on the south side between Smith and Bedford Streets.

**31 Johnston St.** Courthouse Hotel 1865-95, Federation Hotel 1899-1906, George Hotel 1906-14. Remnants remain.

**23-33 Johnston St.** Former Gregory Steel Products, subject of a planning proposal at VCAT

*Now for a drink at the Robert Burns Hotel*

**376 Smith St,** built 1860, individually significant within **HO333**.



**MMBW Detail Plan 1899**