

SORELL HERITAGE SURVEY

Address: 24 Cole Street Sorell 7172		UPI: 2907260/2907259		PID: 5932376
Name: GORDON HIGHLANDER HOTEL				
Feature Type:	Structure Type	Site Feature Type	Dating:	1830 - 1890 1844
	Hotel		Access Restrictions:	Restricted
			Inspection Date:	October 96 P Davies
			Style:	Colonial Georgian
		Grid ref:	5426 546050 5263050	
Indication of Significance: High probable significance			Theme: Pubs	
Material:	Brick	Corrugated iron	Listings: National Trust SMC Schedule 3	
Condition:	Good	Fair		
Integrity:	Altered, extended unsympathetically			
National Estate Criteria:	A4 B2 C2 D2 E1 F1 G1		Photograph Index:	2:21-24
Risk:	Excavation: ☐	Development: ☐	Maintenance: ☐	Vandalism: ☐

SITE DESCRIPTION:

A fine large hotel with a two storey verandah extending over the footpath. The building is of rendered brick with a stone struck finish. Openings to the street have been altered. The verandah has been partially infilled on the upper level with the two bays on the right side converted to a room. The top floor is supported on timber columns with decorative cast iron valences and railing and timber decoration on the posts. The roof form of the building survives intact with brick chimneys and the original windows appear to be in place. The building has a number of additions of unsympathetic nature to each side and to the rear near the carpark. The back elevation contains some early additions in brick and timber which are of significance.

HISTORY:

Licensed to Jonathan Watson in 1844 with the license allowing for accommodation for one officer, three soldiers and one horse. When advertised for lease in 1860, its owner, Samuel Isles, also owned the Pembroke Hotel but regarded the Gordon Highlander as the better and more saleable property,

. . . that old established and favourite Hotel . . . situate upon the main street in Sorell, and contains ten good sized and well-proportioned apartments, in addition to a large assembly room 40 feet long. The usual outbuildings, including six-stalled stable, and coach house. New weather-board stable and skittle alley are erected upon the premises.

Three years later it had been extended, making it,

. . . roomy and capacious, with an underground cellar; the bar is fitted up with spirit fountain, a four-pull beer engine, and other things useful in the trade . . .

Later the pub became a place for meetings and banquets with the inauguration of the Sorell water scheme utilising the Cherry Tree Opening reservoir being celebrated with an official banquet on July 8 1916 after Mrs Hean had turned on a tap outside Vic Braithwaite's store in Gordon St.

BOUNDARY:

The listing boundary is formed by the title boundary of the property.

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COMMENTS:

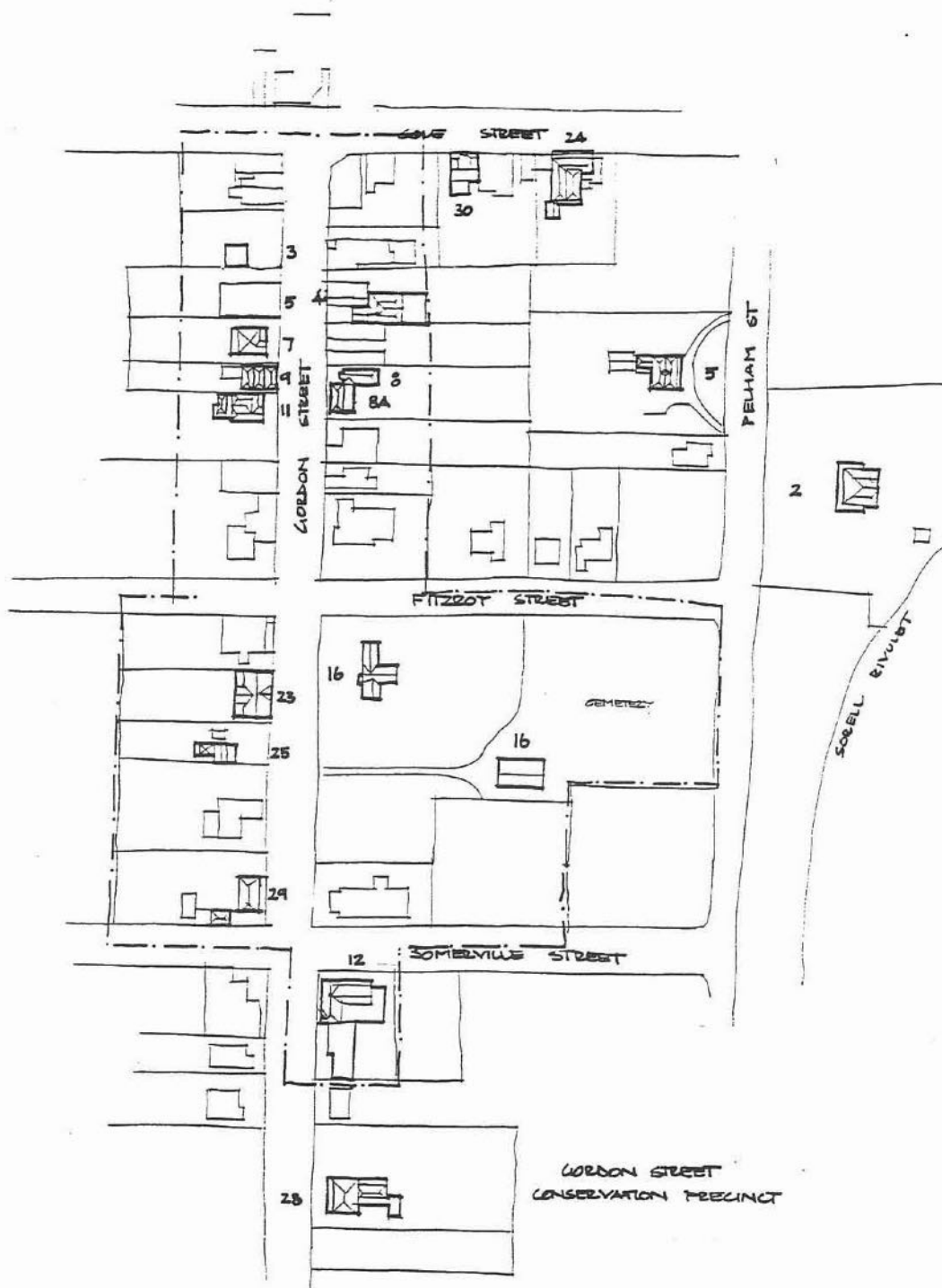
This is the finest and most intact hotel building to survive in the Municipality that is still in use. Its dominant form in the street with its very rare and fine street verandah makes it one of the most significant buildings visually in the town. It indicates the form of development that was once prevalent in the area with substantial and well detailed hotels forming the major buildings in the towns of the area.

It meets Criteria A4, B2, C2, D2, E1, F1 and G1 for inclusion in the Register of the National Estate. It should continue to be included in Schedule 3 of the Sorell Planning Scheme and should be nominated for inclusion in the Tasmanian Heritage Register and the Register of the National Estate.

BIBLIOGRAPHY + PREVIOUS STUDIES:

Mercury 11 January 1860, p4; 6 January 1863.

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