

## FORMER RECHABITE HALL

182-184 Tynte Street

The hall was erected in 1858 for the South Australian Total Abstinence Society founded in 1840. These organisations provided an alternative to the traditional hotel, the coffee palace, popular as a city resort for the country visitor. The Federal Coffee Palace (on the site of the present Grosvenor Hotel) and Grant's Coffee Palace are representative examples of the efforts of local temperance societies. In 1889 the publication *Temperance in Australia* commented that the organisations of the temperance party in South Australia were numerous and influential. It named the Total Abstinence League and Band of Hope Union with headquarters in 'suitable buildings' at North Adelaide as the most important. The conference maintained association between the various temperance bodies and attacked the liquor trade by means of campaigns and other methods:

*Its chief object is moral suasion and the amount of good that has been done by this means cannot be tabulated. As the result of the advocacy of temperance principles . . . it is computed that there are at least 50,000 pledged abstainers in the colony, forming about one-sixth of the entire population.*



(CD Ref 3971/38)

The foundation stone of the Tynte Street hall was laid on 24 May 1855 by Thomas Reynolds, MLC, president of the Total Abstinence Society. The building was designed by James William Cole. Tenders were not called for the building until 1856 and the building was not completed until 1858. In 1883 additions and alterations were carried out to the design of the architect Philip Arthur Howells. The building has remained substantially unchanged since then. James and George William Cole who were both trustees of the hall were prominent in their own right serving as members of the House of

Assembly in the period 1860 to 1866 (G.W Cole) and 1857 to 1860 (J.W. Cole), and as representatives of the Temperance Movement and the Wesleyan Church. G.W. Cole also acted as valuer for the Adelaide City Council. From 1858 to 1879 the building held a prominent place in the Temperance movement and some of the most important meetings in connection with this cause in South Australia were held here. The Rechabites built new premises in 1879 in Grote Street.

Cole was responsible for several non-conformist chapels in South Australia. The design of the facade is strongly derived from the classical tradition as practised in England in the early nineteenth century. The facade as originally built without the extended porch between the columns is dominated by the extensive use of stuccoed detail with projecting pilasters, relatively elaborate entablature, a 'Soanian' (after the eminent English architect Sir John

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Soane) parapet and terminations. The design of the building evokes that period before the use of stuccoed walling becoming unfashionable and before the 'Italianisation' of structures. Preference for the classical idiom was common to non-conformist denominations.



(CD Ref 1345/51)

The hall is substantially original and a significant element in the Tynte Street streetscape. Its comparatively early date of 1858 is about the same as that of 'Belmont' erected for the North Adelaide Masonic and Public Hall Association. Both buildings represent the early provision of buildings for

recreation and other social purposes in North Adelaide in particular, and the growing social maturity of the city in general.

ACA, Assessments, *Digest of Proceedings* 27 November 1882; International Temperance Convention, Melbourne, 1888, *Temperance in Australia*, 1889; MLSA, Historical photographs (Town Acre 861); Nagel, P., *North Adelaide 1837-1901*, 1971, p. 41; *Observer*, 9 September 1893; *South Australian Register*, 26 May 1855, 29 November 1882.

The text in this Information Sheet was copied from the **Heritage of the City of Adelaide: An Illustrated Guide**, (1996). The photographs contained in this Information Sheet are a selection of those held by Heritage Services, in digital format.

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*The heritage related Principles of Development Control as well as the Precinct specific objectives and Principles of Development Control are contained in the Adelaide (City) Development Plan. These should be referred to in whole when contemplating any development.*

*Further information on the Heritage Incentives Scheme, an initiative of Council to sponsor timely and appropriate conservation action is available upon request of the Customer Service Centre.*

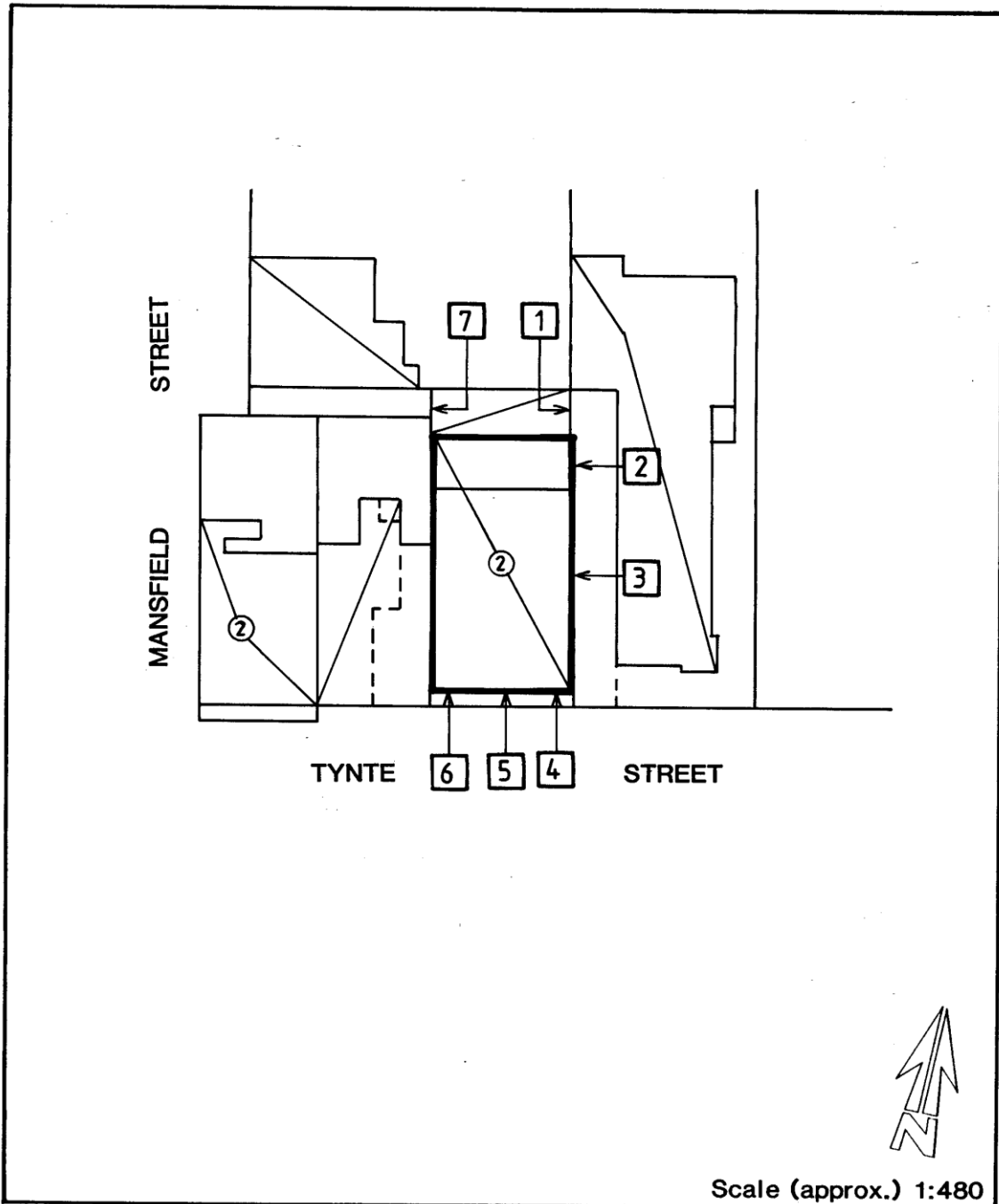


# CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY

## The City Heritage Register-Definition of Items

Prepared by the Dept. of Planning and Development

Item	RECHABITE HALL	Building No	30/0235
Address	182-184 Tynte Street, North Adelaide (Known as 180 Tynte Street)	CT	3952/143



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Item	RECHABITE HALL	Building No 30/0235
Address	182-184 Tynte Street, North Adelaide (Known as 180 Tynte Street)	CT 3952/143

#### NOTES:

1. Concrete block.
2. Brick (English bond) at first floor level.
3. Limestone rubble.
4. Rendered facade with stucco enrichment.
5. Note pilasters and columns.
6. All glass replaced.
7. Brick.