

KENTISH ARMS HOTEL

23-27 Stanley Street



(CD Ref 1725/95)

The Kentish Arms Hotel in common with many other hotels in Adelaide was rebuilt in the boom period of the early 1880s. The site is part of John Barton Hack's subdivision of 1839 which is still characterised by small cottages on the original narrow allotments. The scale and style of this second hotel on the site demonstrates the increased desirability

of this area and the continuous importance of corner hotels and shops to residential communities of the nineteenth century.

The site was purchased by John Collard Cocker in 1848 who opened a hotel soon afterwards. For over seventy years the hotel was inextricably tied to the Cocker family until it was sold in 1920.

Cocker, born in Hollingborn, Kent, in 1815, played cricket from a young age, appearing in English matches at prominent grounds such as Lords and gaining a considerable reputation as a bowler. When he arrived in South Australia he was fully prepared to form a cricket team which he achieved with the formation of the Kent and Sussex Cricket Club. Cocker's enthusiasm for the game was not unduly confined by his duties as a publican. Indeed the nearby flat expanse of Mann Terrace proved ideal as a cricket pitch. His reputation for sponsoring and inspiring interest in the game was so great that he was entrusted with the preparation of the first wicket at the Adelaide Oval, subsequent to a lease being granted in 1872 to the newly formed South Australian Cricket Association. Cocker remained a prominent figure in South Australian cricket until his death in 1885.



(CD Ref 1725/94)

The hotel was rebuilt in 1881 to the design of the architects Hamilton and Campbell. Constructed of squared sandstone with stuccoed dressings, the hotel presents a distinctive appearance to Stanley Street. It is a departure from the more typical bluestone and stucco constructional idiom. The arcading is

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well handled and unusual in Adelaide. The combination of delicate cast-iron and robust stuccoed detail, although quite typical, is used here in more structural form. The masonry arcade imparts special significance and substance to this building where otherwise a cast-iron column-supported balcony could have been used. The hotel remains in a good condition, its high quality evident because of the architect's attention to detail and the durability of its external finishes.

ACA, Assessments; MLSA, Historical photographs (Town Acre 1012); McLellan, J., *Adelaide's early inns and taverns*, 1941, p. 24; *South Australian Register*, 5 August 1879.

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.

The property described in this Information Sheet is included in the Register of State Heritage places. A heritage listing does not mean or imply right of access by the public to such properties.

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	KENTISH ARMS HOTEL	Building No	39/0319-1
Address	23-27 Stanley Street, North Adelaide; 33-39 East Pallant Street	CT	4221/837

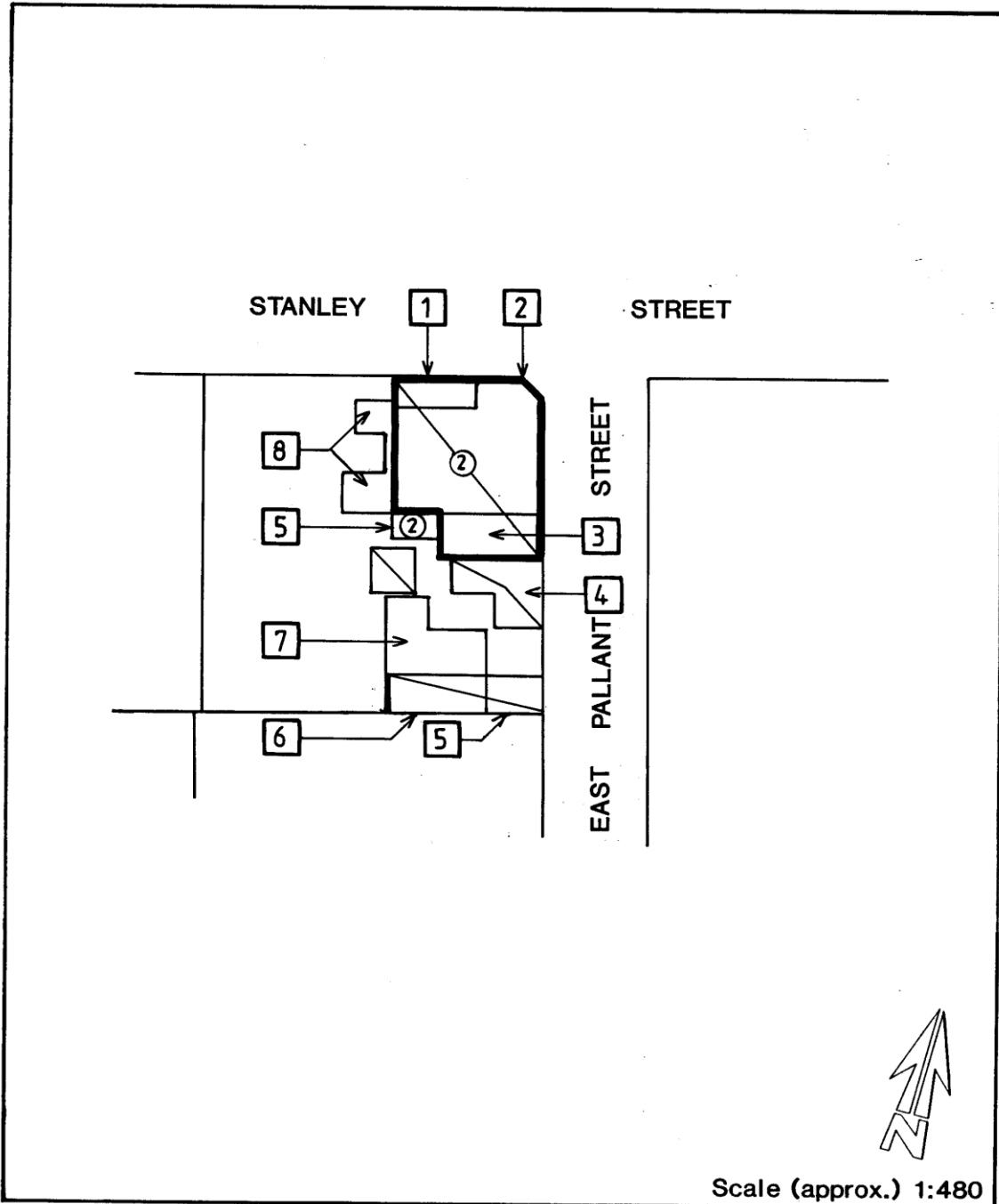


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NOTES:

1. Note: Stuccoed arches, balusters, balustraded parapet and pilasters.
2. Hammered ashlar sandstone with stucco enrichment and rusticated quoins.
3. Lean-to.
4. Rendered addition.
5. Brick.
6. Limestone rubble.
7. Carport.
8. Brick additions.