

PHOTO REQUIRED

William Salway (courtesy x)

William Salway (1844-1902) was born in London, and arrived in Victoria in 1854. He was educated at Scotch College, and subsequently served articles with architects Reed and Barnes, with whom he remained until 1867, then embarking on a tour through China, Ceylon, Singapore and the Philippines. Salway opened his own office in Hong Kong on 1 October 1868, establishing a business that became Palmer and Turner, now claimed as the 'oldest architectural practice in the Far East'. Three years later, Salway persuaded Wilberforce Wilson, the Surveyor General, to join him in partnership, and the new partners designed both the German Club and St Peter's Church in 1872. Salway practised at Hong Kong until 1875, before returning to Melbourne and resuming business there in 1876, first with J.T. Conlon, and then for the majority of the 1880s on his own account.

It was noted in the 1888 publication *Victoria & Its Metropolis* that Salway had 'won in open competition the two first premiums of £200 each for the railway stations at Spencer and Flinders Streets, and that for the Union Club, Sydney. Also the following in competitions, the same being carried out: The Women's Lodging House, cost £10,000; Benalla town hall; Wagga Wagga town hall; Australian Widows' Fund buildings, cost £14,850; the residence of the Hon Dr Beaney MLC, cost £7,500; and the Australian Church, Melbourne, cost £13,500. The following have been designed and carried out by him, but not in competition: Grandstand, Melbourne cricket ground, cost £11,500, and the pavilion of the same; official grandstand, Caulfield racecourse; meat market and shops for the City Corporation, Elizabeth Street north, and the horse and cattle market connected therewith; the warehouses of Messrs Wertheim; Michaelis, Hallenstein and Co; Robertson and Moffat, Post Office Place; Ball and Welch Limited, Carlton; the residence of Mr E. Latham, Kew, &c.'

Salway became a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1885, and a Fellow of the Royal Victorian Institute of Architects in 1888. Some of his prominent Victorian Free Classical style domestic works of 1884-1885 surviving in Melbourne include the Larcher's Dairy Residence at 45 Moor Street Fitzroy and *Knowsley* (later known as *Raheen*) at 92 Studley Park Road, Kew. In 1890 Salway was architect of the Athenaeum Club in east Collins Street, Melbourne.

Veteran architect Salway was one example of the newly-arrived and highly-credentialed practitioners who would compete for clientele at Western Australia in the 1890s. Salway and many of his fellow Victorians changed States and sides of the country in the 1890s, fleeing miserable economic conditions for the gold-boom economy of Western Australia, most staying into the twentieth century. Initially securing a government position, Salway was appointed chief assistant architect with a salary of £500 in the Public Works Department during April 1896, yet resigned the following November. His intention may have been to resume in private practice, as in a brief return to Victoria he drew preliminary sketches for a Colonial Mutual Building in St George's Terrace, Perth and this was his first private project in WA. Salway was successful in securing commercial and private commissions in WA during 1897-1898, particularly for the Bank of NSW, all designed in Federation Free Classical style.

A newspaper article of 1898, outlining Salway's design for the new Bank of New South Wales building in St George's Terrace, Perth, stated that he had 'acted as the Bank's architect for the last fifteen years', and had already erected three substantial bank branches at Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, and Fremantle for the same institution. In late 1899, perhaps as his work in Western Australia for the Bank of New South Wales declined, and prospects slowly improved in Victoria, Salway returned to Melbourne.

As noted previously, Salway was an example of the many highly-skilled architects forced by an east-coast economic malaise to travel to gold-boom WA to secure ongoing work. He was slightly unusual in that he returned to Victoria rather than staying in the west, but being a slightly older practitioner than the majority of those who arrived in the 1890s, he had left family behind in Victoria. Salway died at a relatively young age on 18 June 1902 at his residence, 99 Lennox Street Richmond.

References:

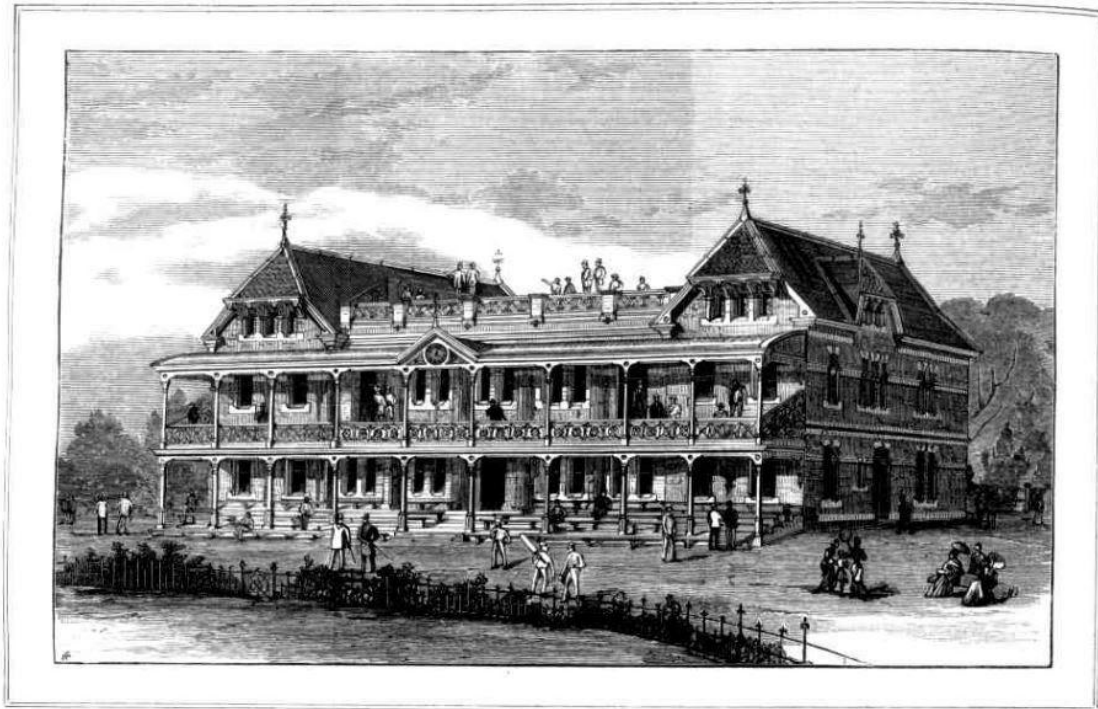
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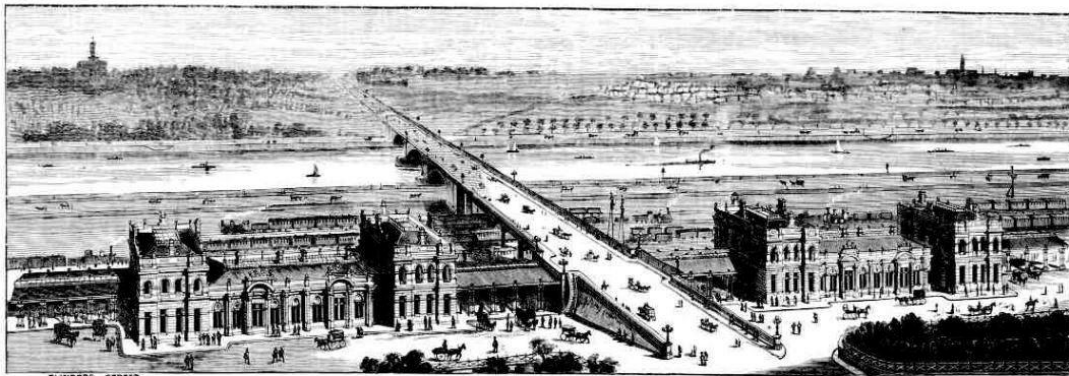
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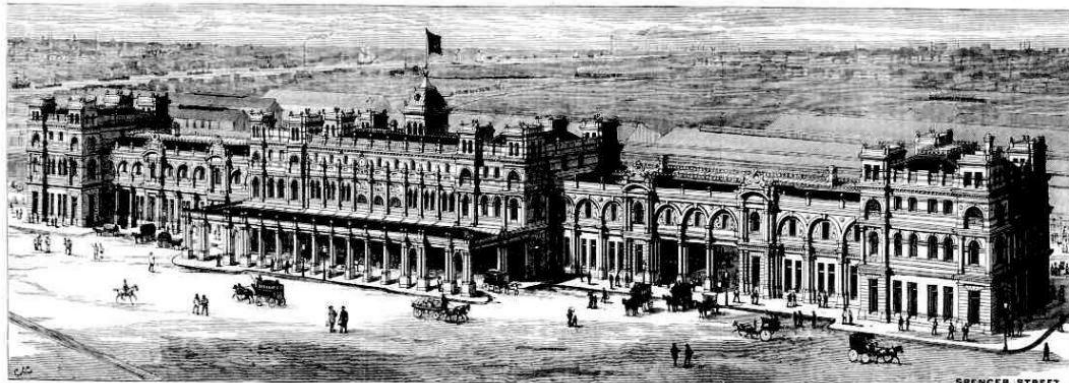


NEW PAVILION, MELBOURNE CRICKET GROUND.

Pavilion at MCG (*Australasian Sketcher with Pen and Pencil*, 30 July 1881, p.252).



FLINDERS STREET



ACCEPTED DESIGNS FOR THE NEW RAILWAY STATIONS, MELBOURNE.

SPENCER STREET

THE ILLUSTRATED AUSTRALIAN NEWS, MAY 16, 1883, P. 72.

Railway Stations at Melbourne (*Illustrated Australian News*, 16 May 1883, p.72).



The grand *Knowsley* (later known as *Raheen*) at 92 Studley Park Road, Kew of 1884-1885 (Cannon, Michael, *Victoria's Representative Men at Home*, 1977, p.11).



The Australian Church in Flinders Street Melbourne was demolished in the 1980s for the Harry Seidler designed Shell building opened in 1988 (*Australasian Sketcher*, 27 January 1887, p.4)



Pictured in a substantially altered form as a medical centre at 254 St George's Terrace in 1959, Salway designed *Martalup* in 1897 for lawyer-politician George Leake. It has been demolished. (SLWA 113086PD).



Colonial Mutual Life Building at St George's Terrace, Perth of 1897, demolished c.1935 for a new CML Building of 1936 by Hennessy & Hennessy with Reg Summerhayes (SLWA 001698D)



Bank of NSW corner Maritana and Brookman Streets, Kalgoorlie of 1898 (Westpac archives, Google 2014)



Bank of NSW branches: Bayley Street, Coolgardie of 1898, has been demolished; corner of High and Cliff Streets, Fremantle of 1898 is extant; St George's Terrace of 1899 was demolished in 1974 (Westpac archives; John Taylor 2008; Muhling Collection).