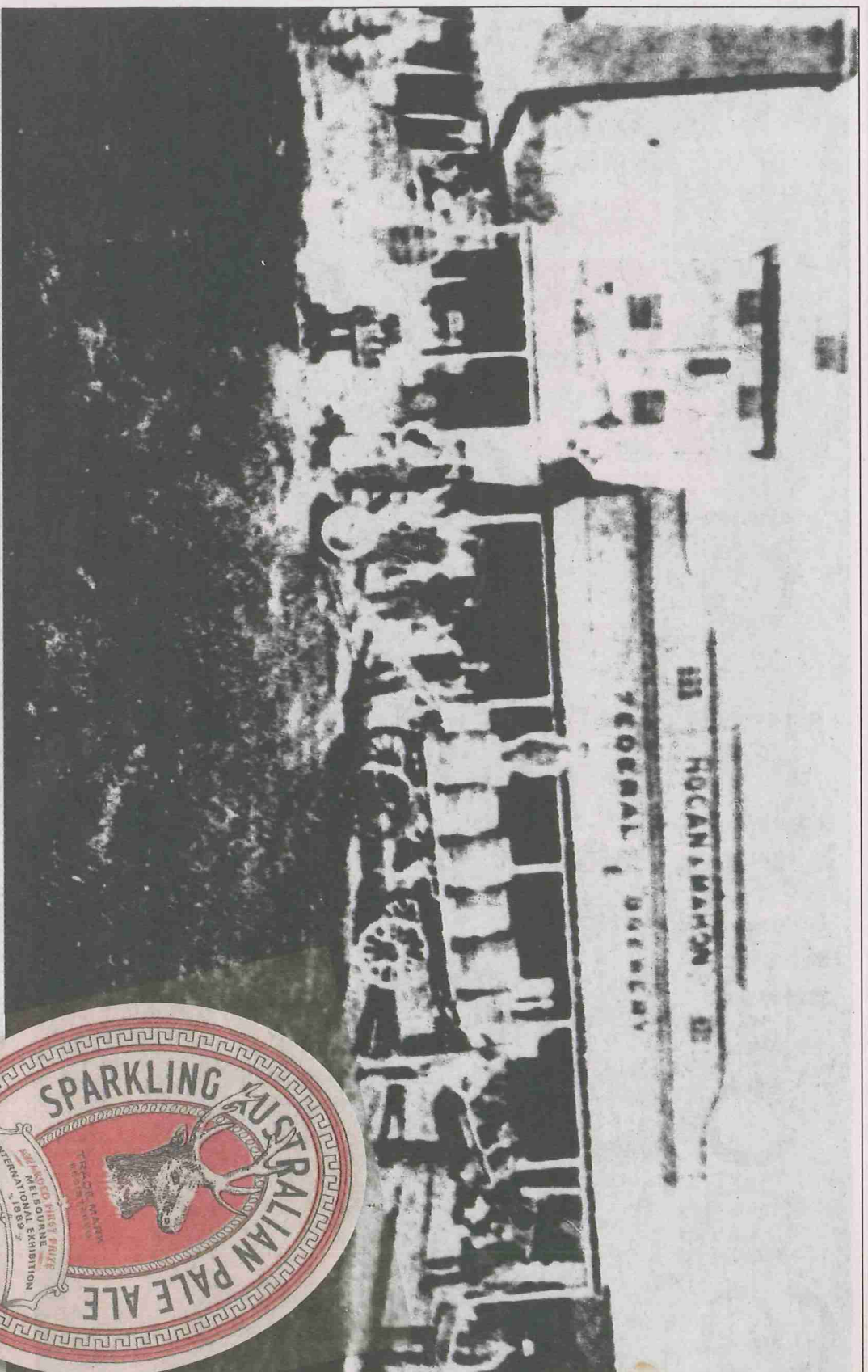


What you should know

- The CSU Regional Archives are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. Located in the Blakemore Building at the South Campus of the university, access can be gained via College Avenue or Hely Avenue.
- Members of the public are welcome to visit the search room, where professional archival staff can assist with inquiries. For those people unable to visit the archives in person, staff can provide a research service for straightforward inquiries for a fee of \$55 per hour, including copying and postage.

- For further information, phone 6925 3666, email archive@csu.edu.au or visit the website at www.csu.edu.au/research/archives for a full listing of holdings and more detailed information.



Hogan and Mahon's brewery was officially opened in 1899 and manufactured fine quality beer, aerated water and cordials, and had an output of 150 hogsheds of ale per week.

Drink to this

Wagga's brewery on the Esplanade

at the archives
Wayne Doubleday



The site of the old brewery on the Esplanade by the Wollundry Lagoon began its association with brewing in 1881 and today reminds us of a time when fine ales and cordials were commercially produced locally in the centre of town.

Before the current structure that was once the "Federal Brewery", there was another brewery known as the "Murrumbidgee Brewery" established in 1881 by Martin Treacy and his two sons. Treacy was an Irish immigrant who had been a successful builder in Melbourne and Geelong during the 1840s and 50s.

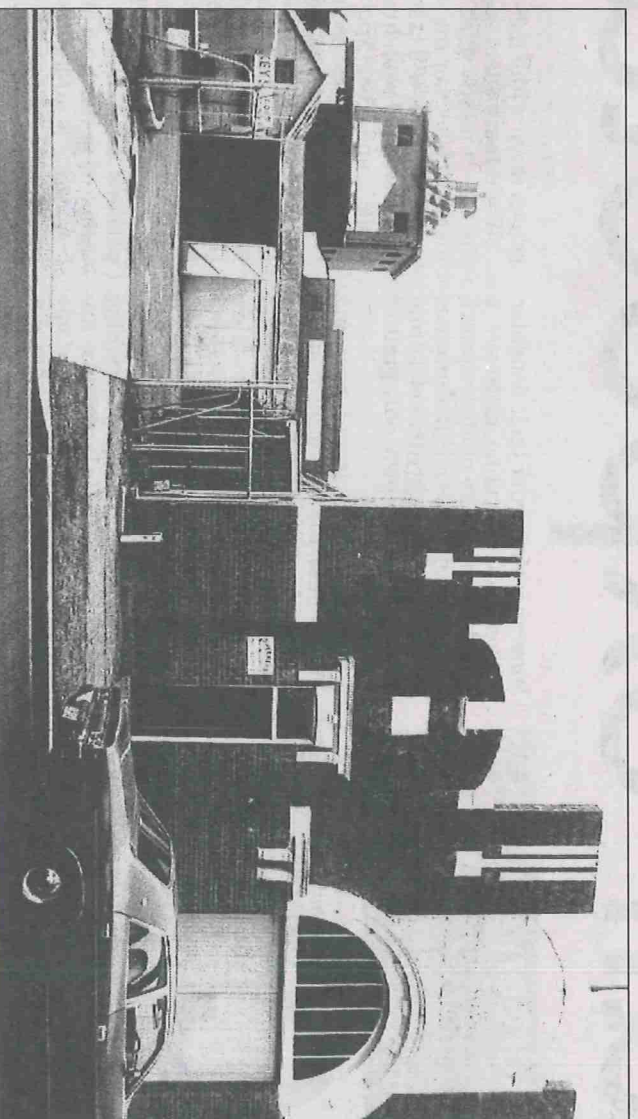
He had spent most of his career constructing hotels, and in 1865 he built and operated his own brewery in Geelong until 1881 when he moved to Wagga and started the brewery on the Esplanade.

On January 28, 1896, the Brewery's premises were burnt down. Martin Treacy had died two weeks prior to the fire, and the brewery was left in the hands of his son Martin Jnr.

From the report of the inquest, certain circumstances leading up to the fire meant the jury could not arrive at a unanimous verdict and so the case was closed without ever resolving the cause of the fire.

The site of Treacy's brewery was purchased by John Joseph Hogan in 1889, with plans of moving his cordial manufacturing business to the Esplanade.

Hogan had a new cordial works erected and then took on a partnership with Patrick Joseph Malton and had a brewery added to the site in connection with the cordial factory.



The construction of the brewery was under the care of Monks and Hardy.

The new brewery and cordial works was officially opened on November 13, 1899, and avowed as the "Federal Brewery" under the business name Hogan and Mahon Pty Ltd.

The brewery manufactured fine quality beer, aerated water and cordials, and had an output of 150 hogsheds of ale per week.

The Brewery used high-quality ingredients including English and Australian malt, and Californian, Kent and Saz (Czech Republic) hops.

On November 2, 1909, John Hogan died, leaving Mahon as the sole proprietor of the brewery.

A few years later, Mahon amalgamated with Henry Samuel Headley and from then on the business was known as Mahon and Headley Pty Ltd.

In the early 1920s Mahon and Headley sold out to Tooth & Co, who were the major brewery in NSW most commonly known for their Kent

Lager. By 1928, the Esplanade brewery was taken over by Sheekey's Cordial manufacturers.

Having begun in Goulburn during the 1870s under the guidance of Cornelius Sheekey and later sites in Yass and Canberra, Sheekey's Cordials opened the Wagga branch under the management of Terrence Sheekey.

On May 5, 1978, Sheekey's closed the doors of the brewery, which not only marked the end of Wagga's cordial and soft drink production in Wagga, but also the end of brewing from that site on the Esplanade.

The site was purchased by developers, and in the November of 1978 the premises of the old brewery had been acquired by accountants Mark Puma and Tony Easdown who transformed the interior of the building into modern offices.

References: **Compiled by** Lauren Carroll *The Daily Advertiser*, *The Progress of Wagga Wagga and District 1914*, Sherry Morris *Wagga Wagga A History*, Gormly Index.