

Leaded Lights at St. Hilda's - 1 Clarendon Street, East Melbourne.

St.Hilda's - 1 Clarendon Street, East Melbourne was built in 1907 in an Art & Crafts/Edwardian style. The leaded lights which are to be found on both the ground floor and first floor are excellent examples of the period.

WG.01 - Is a fixed sash approximately 1670mm x 1670mm with an arch top. The leadlight is currently sandwiched in between two pieces of clear acrylic sheet. These sheets are not sealed and dirt, cobwebs along with dust from loosening of old putty from the leadlight have accumulated in the interspaces.



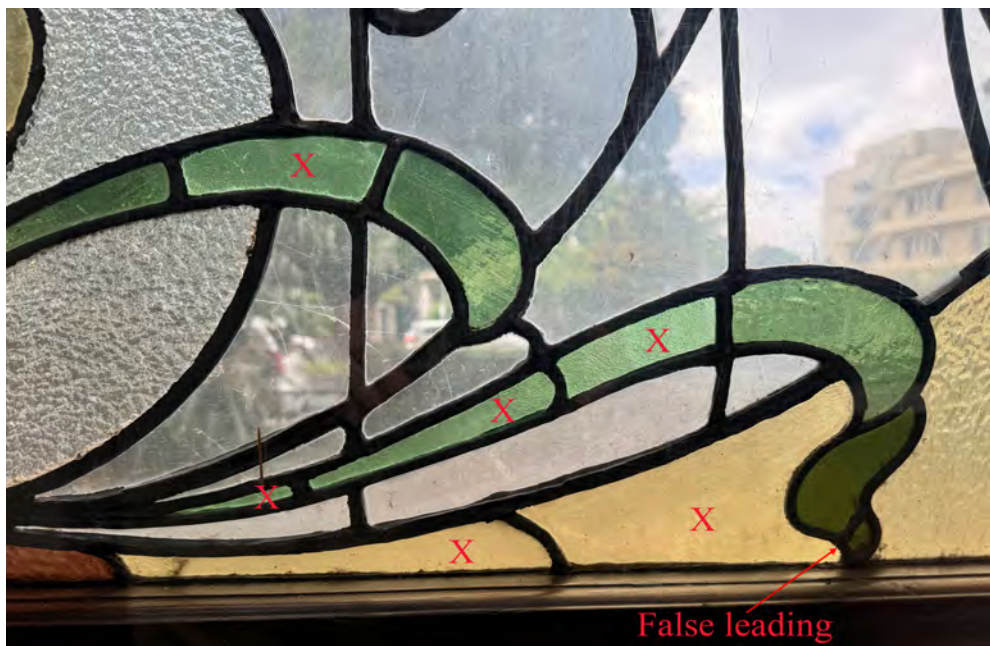
The panel exhibits severe bowing in the lower section. Several pieces of glass are broken, the lead in the bottom section is in poor condition and there is evidence of previous repairs.

The ferramenta (reinforcing bars) have been soldered to the panel. Overall condition is difficult to assess due to the placement of the acrylic sheets.

The panel in its current condition is in danger of further collapse and hence at risk of more original material (glass) being broken.

It is recommended that the panel be removed and lower section be rebuilt, replacing the lead matrix and any broken pieces of glass be replaced with either salvaged glass of the period or the closest possible match using modern glasses. Also recommended is that the current ferramenta to be removed and replaced with 10mm diameter steel bars attached in the more conventional method using copper wire ties. This would assist if further restoration was necessary.

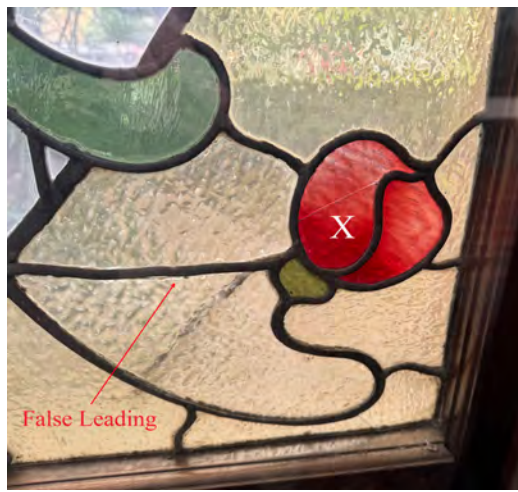
It cannot be guaranteed, however, once removed from its frame that other defects in the lead matrix may cause the panel to break apart. All due care would be taken with the panel with a minimalist interventional approach - 'do as much as necessary but as little as possible'.



Lower Section - Detail



Flower - Detail



WG.01 - Flower Bud - Detail

WG.02 - No intervention needed

WG.03 - Two sashes and toplight. Sashes - previous repairs evident. Glass replacement and false leading over cracked pieces of glass. Bars soldered onto the panel. Toplight is in good condition.



WG.03



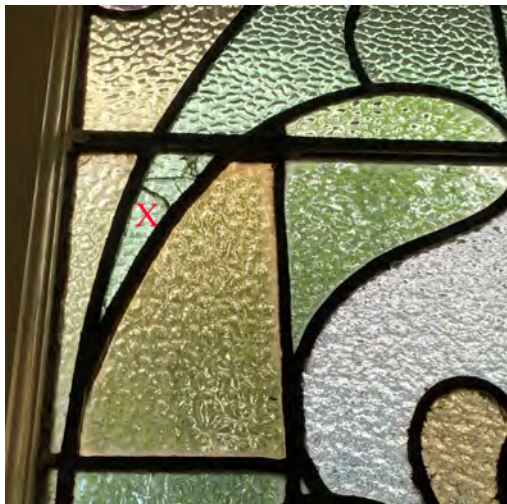
WG.03 - LHS Multiple glass replacements and addition of false leads over cracked pieces of glass.



WG.03 - False lead over a crack in a piece of Venetian glass.

Bay Windows WG.04, WG.05, WG.06, WG.07, WG.08

Five panels of identical design and glass types. In overall good condition. Some cracked glass and missing putty. Bars soldered onto the panels.



Cracked Glass



Cracked Glass

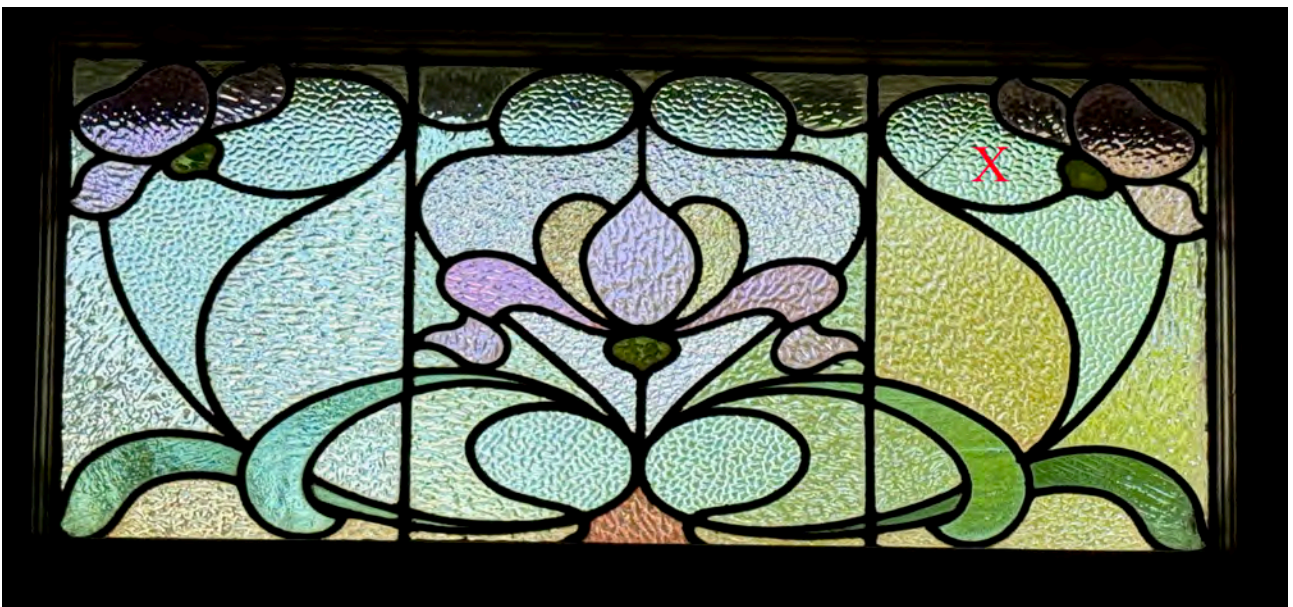


Missing Putty



WG.04 - WG.08 Typical Panel

WG.09 - In good condition. One cracked piece of pale green Venetian Ripple. Bars soldered onto the panel.



WG.11 - Door with accompanying sidelights and highlight windows.

Door panel - Covered with acrylic sheet. Damaged by impact. Glass has come away from the lead matrix. Currently taped over. There are some broken pieces of glass. Panel has reinforcing bars held with copper ties. These in places have come away from the lead.

It is recommended that the panel be removed and rebuilt replacing the entire lead matrix and any broken pieces of glass be replaced with either salvaged glass of the period or the closest possible match using modern glasses.

The sidelights each have a few cracked pieces of glass. These could be repaired using the appropriate glass in situ. Bars soldered to panels.

The highlight windows appear to be in good condition. Bars soldered to panels.



WG.11



LHS Sidelight- Detail

WG.16 - Leadlight window at the end of veranda. This window has been placed in between two acrylic sheets. The leadlight is not an original part of the fabric of the building. It is made largely from European Cathedral glass with some mouth blown antique glass. Probably circa late 1970's.



WG.40 & WG.41 - Two sashes with arched tops. Leadlights in good condition.



WG.40



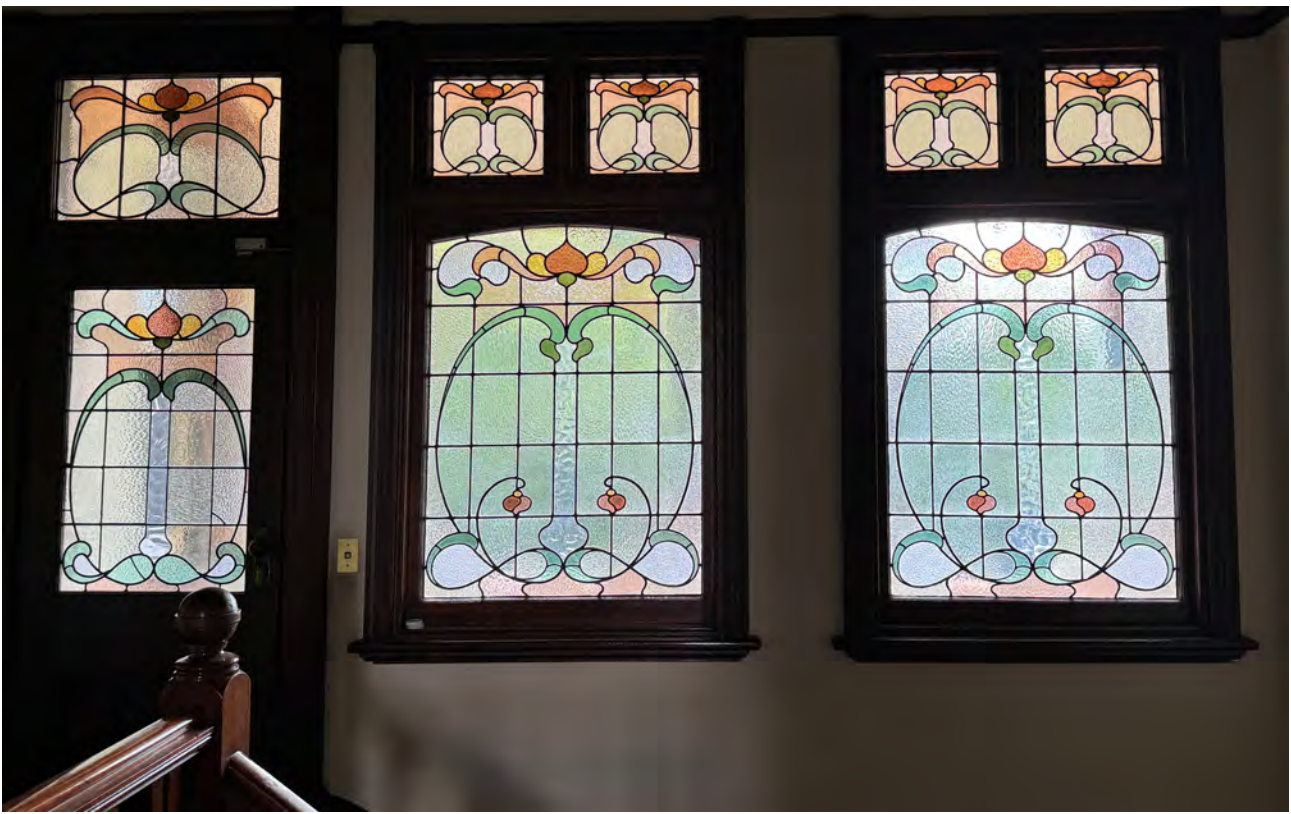
WG.41

W1.01 - Door & Transom

Door panel - The panel has been rebuilt. Glass has been replaced and false lead applied over cracked pieces of glass.

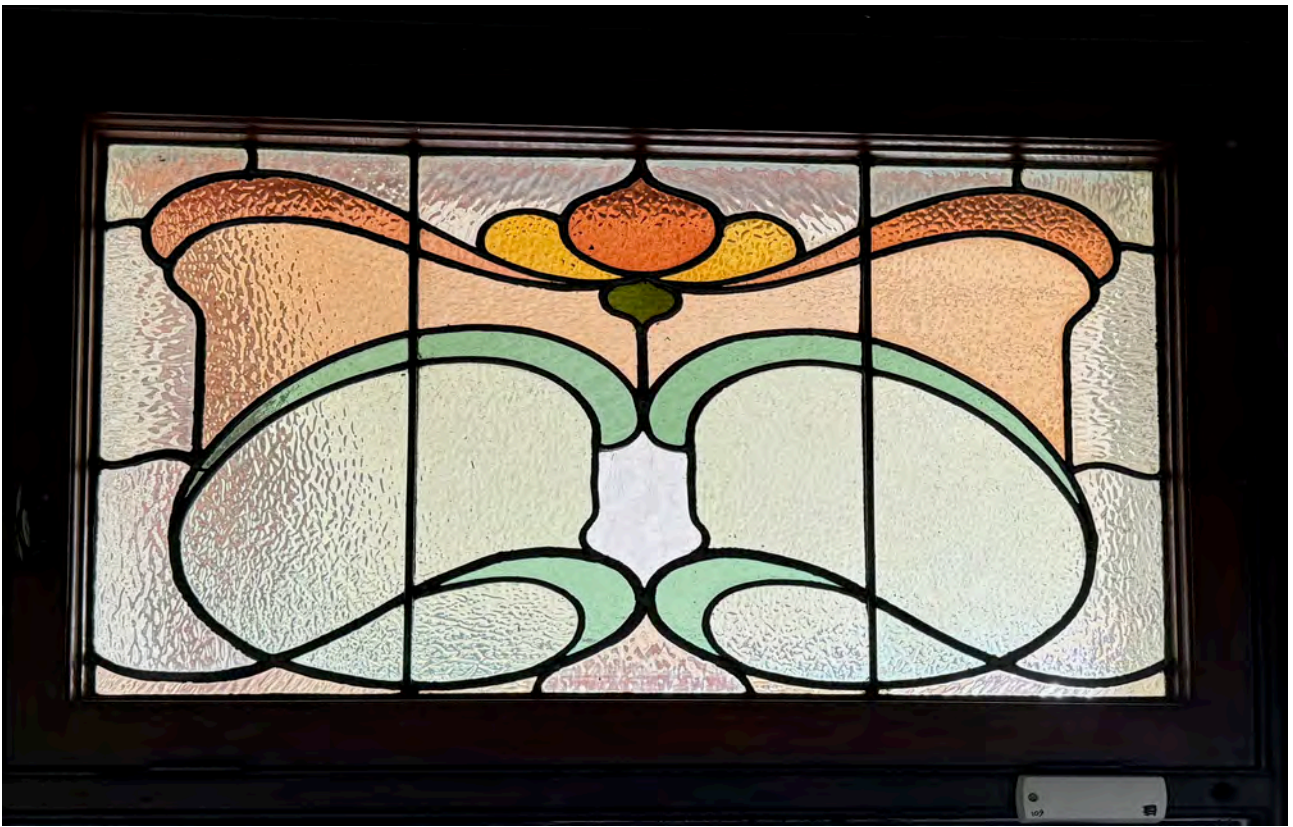
It is recommended that the panel be removed and rebuilt by replacing the entire lead matrix and any broken pieces of glass or previous replacement pieces of glasses be replaced with either salvaged glass of the period or the closest possible match using modern glasses. Bars are secured by copper ties.

Transom panel is in good condition. Bars soldered to the panel.



W1.01 - Door Panel

X denotes replacement glass, arrows show application of false lead.



W1.01 - Transom Panel

W1.02 & W1.03 - Stairwell Windows

The two larger arched top panels are in good condition. Bars soldered to the panel.

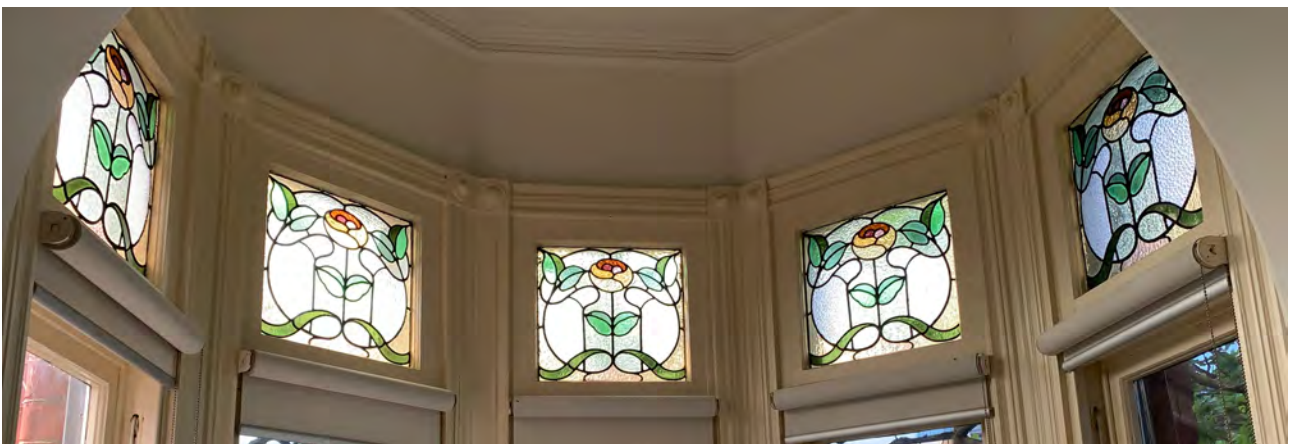
The four highlight windows all exhibit a degree of bowing but are stable e.g. no movement in the lead matrix. Condition check should be carried out every 3 - 5 years.



W1.02 & W1.03 - Stairwell Windows

W1.04, W1.05, W1.06, W1.07 & W1.08

Highlight windows in a curved bay. Five panels of identical design and glass types. Panels are quite bowed but are stable. Condition check should be carried out every 3 - 5 years.



Report prepared by John Thompson of Adadaz Leadlights

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Rebuilding a Leadlight

What do we mean when we say your leadlight will need to be rebuilt?

There may be several reasons that a leadlight will need to be rebuilt.

1. Failure of the lead matrix and solder joints due to age.
2. Severe damage caused by impact that involves many broken pieces of glass and damage to the lead matrix.
3. The leadlight is to be encapsulated (triple glazed).

What is involved in the rebuilding of a leadlight?

1. The panel is removed from site and a security board put in its place.
2. The panel is taken back to the studio where a rubbing is taken.
3. The rubbing is annotated showing broken glass, lead profiles, placement of reinforcing and any previous repairs.
4. The panel is then carefully disassembled and the pieces of glass cleaned.
5. Broken pieces of glass are recut using either period glass if available or the closest modern equivalent.
6. The panel is then reassembled using the rubbing as guide. Once fully leaded the joints are soldered. The panel is turned over and the second side joints are soldered.
7. The next stage is puttying. A black leadlight putty is brushed in-between the lead and the glass. The excess putty is cleaned off and the panel polished. Any external reinforcing bars are cleaned and resprayed. New copper ties are applied if required. One or more days later the panel is given a final pick, clean and polish and is ready to be re-installed.

N.B. Once the glass has been cleaned, scratches and other marks on the surface of the glass become much more apparent, especially on clear glass. Where the marks on the clear glass are severe we will replace the glass with a similarly aged piece of glass (without the scratches).

Unless coloured pieces of glass or clear textured pieces of glass are scratched to a degree where they effect the visual aesthetics of the window they will not be replaced.



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Encapsulation of a Leadlight

What do we mean by encapsulation?

Encapsulation or triple glazing is a process where the leadlight is placed in between two pieces of glass and hermetically sealed. The glass that is normally used is 4mm toughened clear float glass although other glasses may be used. On the external face glasses such as 6.38mm clear laminate, ComfortPlus 6.38mm laminate, ComfortHush 6.5mm laminate or vLamHush 6.5mm laminate may be used. The internal face is generally 4mm toughened clear float glass.

The leadlight is protected from both sides with safety glass.

This process is carried out by a third party and not Adadaz Leadlights.

Costing varies on the combination of glasses used.

Encapsulation greatly increasing the overall thickness of the panel to be glazed. Routing of the door/window frame may be required. Encapsulated units may not fit within older joinery.

All glass used in the encapsulation process is either toughened or laminated and therefore complies to AS1288.



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Laminating Old Leadlights

The main cause of failure in the protective glazing of an old leadlight is the intrusion of particulate matter into the interspace. The main culprit is the loosening of old putty from the leadlight. This 'dusting' can be particularly prevalent in windows subject to vibration e.g. those next to doors, windows that are not fixed and those subject to vibration from nearby vehicular traffic (cars, trucks, trams, trains).

Due to the protective glazing being sealed to the leadlight any particulate matter becomes trapped in the interspace with no easy method for its removal.

We therefore recommend that the panels in question be fully rebuilt i.e. the panels are dismantled, all glass is thoroughly cleaned, any broken pieces of glass are replaced with the best possible match and then the panels are re-assembled with a new lead matrix, puttied and polished.

Freshly puttied, rebuilt panels eliminate the potential for dusting to occur.