

Victorian Heritage Database Report

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FORMER ANZ BANK



FORMER ANZ BANK SOHE 2008 1 former anz bank wangaratta front view dec99

Location

49-51 REID STREET WANGARATTA, WANGARATTA RURAL CITY

Municipality

WANGARATTA RURAL CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0226

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO141

VHR Registration

October 9, 1974

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 2, 2004

What is significant?

The first banks in this part of Victoria were in the gold rich town of Beechworth, and the first bank in Wangaratta opened in 1859 in a slab hut. The London Chartered bank opened in the town in about 1871, and built these premises in Reid Street in 1875. The bank was absorbed by the English Scottish and Australian Bank (ES&A) in 1921 and in 1970 became part of the Australian and New Zealand Bank group. The building was designed by the architects Terry and Oakden. Leonard Terry was the most prolific bank architect in Victoria from the mid 1850s until his death in 1884. The London Chartered Bank, and later the ES&A Bank, consistently commissioned him, and later his firms Terry & Oakden, then Oakden, Addison & Kemp, to design their buildings, but he also designed banks for almost every banking company operating in Victoria.

The bank remained open during the years when Ned Kelly and his gang were considered a threat to banks in northern Victoria, and when Australia's banking journal even suggested that branch banks in country towns where police protection was not strong should be closed. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries accommodation was often provided for employees at their workplace, and was an essential part of the design of such buildings as schools, police stations and banks. Banks therefore often had a form similar to that of private houses; the banking was carried on in the ground floor and the managers' residence occupied the rest of the building.

The former ANZ Bank at Wangaratta is a two storey symmetrical free-standing rendered brick building in the Academic Classical style, which was common for banks at the time. It has a three bay facade and a Doric porch over the centrally located entrance. The facade is ornamented with prominent mouldings on string courses, ground floor window arches, upper floor window heads and eaves dentils. A low fence with iron pickets marks the street boundary. Two chimneys rendered and with simple mouldings, are placed symmetrically on the side walls, behind a low roof parapet.

How is it significant?

The former ANZ Bank at Wangaratta is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The former ANZ Bank is architecturally significant as a fine example of bank architecture in the restrained Academic Classical style, and as a notable work of the architects Terry and Oakden. The facade is typically composed, and the Doric porch and the fine Classical detailing are significant features. The bank is an example of nineteenth century banks which were also the home of the manager, and so resembled domestic forms. The bank is among the oldest surviving buildings in Wangaratta and is an essential element of the neighbouring streetscape.

The former ANZ Bank at Wangaratta is historically significant as a reminder of the wealth of this part of northern Victoria during the nineteenth century, when bank buildings were often the most important building in the town. It is an indicator of the high status afforded bank managers in Victorian country towns. It is also significant as the office of a number of prominent banking businesses in Wangaratta, and as one of the oldest surviving commercial buildings in the town.

[Online Data Upgrade Project 2004]

Permit Exemptions

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component.

General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Construction dates 1875,
Architect/Designer Terry & Oakden,
Heritage Act Categories Heritage place,
Hermes Number 1183
Property Number

History

The first banks in this part of Victoria were in the gold rich town of Beechworth, and the first bank in Wangaratta opened in 1859 in a slab hut. The London Chartered bank opened in the town in about 1871, and built these premises in Reid Street in 1875. The bank was absorbed by the English Scottish and Australian Bank (ES&A) in 1921, and in 1970 became part of the Australian and New Zealand Bank group. The building was designed by the architects Terry and Oakden. Leonard Terry was the most prolific bank architect in Victoria from the mid 1850s until his death in 1884. The London Chartered Bank, and later the ES&A Bank, consistently commissioned him, and later his firms Terry & Oakden, then Oakden, Addison & Kemp, to design their buildings, but he also designed banks for almost every banking company operating in Victoria. The bank remained open during the years when Ned Kelly and his gang were considered a threat to banks in northern Victoria, and when Australia's banking journal even suggested that branch banks in country towns where police protection was not strong should be closed. In the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries accommodation was often provided for employees at their workplace, and was an essential part of the design of such buildings as schools, police stations and banks. Banks therefore often had a form similar to that of private houses; the banking was carried on in the ground floor and the managers' residence occupied the rest of the building.

The draft statement of significance and the above history were produced as part of an Online Data Upgrade Project 2004. Sources used were:

C & M J Doring Pty Ltd and Michele Summerton, "Rural City of Wangaratta Heritage Study", 2 vols, July 2000.

Extent of Registration

City of Wangaratta. No. 226. A.N.Z. Bank (Former E.S. & A. Bank), 49-51 Reid Street, Wangaratta.
[*Victoria Government Gazette* No 100 Wednesday, October 9 1974 p.3649]

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place data owner.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>