
Former Bank of N.S.W., 74 Napier Street, ST ARNAUD



SD 162 - Bank of Melbourne
(former Bank of New South
Wales), 74 Napier Street, ST
ARNAUD

Location

74 Napier Street ST ARNAUD, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 18, 2004

The Bank of Melbourne building, 74 Napier Street, St. Arnaud, makes a significant contribution to the commercial streetscape of predominantly Victorian and Federation styled buildings. Designed by Seabrook and Fildes, architects, in 1936, this largely intact interwar Georgian Revival styled building was originally the Bank of New South Wales whose first branch was established in St. Arnaud in 1873. The bank occupied its Victorian Free Classical styled premises in Napier Street, at the corner of Inkerman Street, until this building was completed in 1937.

The Bank of Melbourne building, 74 Napier Street, St. Arnaud, is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of an interwar Georgian Revival style. These qualities include the distinctive rectangular front facade, crowned by a recessed brick parapet and a projecting rendered cornice. Other intact qualities include the unpainted brick chimney with a rendered capping, regularly arranged window and door openings, timber framed double hung ground floor windows with 9 paned upper sashes and simple moulded rendered architraves, central ground floor rendered vestigial portico characterised by simple moulded architraves, entablature with the title panel "ESTD 1817" and a projecting drip mould, and the rendered ground floor base wall.

The Bank of Melbourne building, 74 Napier Street, St. Arnaud, is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the development of the Bank of New South Wales in St. Arnaud from its establishment in the town in 1873. It is further associated with the notable Melbourne based architectural firm, Seabrook and Fildes.

The Bank of Melbourne building, 74 Napier Street, St. Arnaud, is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised by the St. Arnaud community as having public value as a financial institution in the town.

Overall, the Bank of Melbourne building, 74 Napier Street, St. Arnaud, is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Other Names	Bank of New South Wales,
Hermes Number	111567
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The site at 74 Napier Street, St. Arnaud, is dominated by the two storey Bank of Melbourne building, which contributes to the predominantly Victorian and Federation streetscape along the northern end of Napier Street.

The symmetrical, two storey, unpainted brick, interwar Georgian Revival styled Bank of Melbourne building is characterised by its distinctive rectangular front facade, crowned by a recessed brick parapet and a projecting rendered cornice. An early unpainted brick chimney with a rendered capping adorns the roofline. The symmetry of the design is highlighted by the regularly arranged window and door openings. The first floor is identified by three double window openings, although the aluminium framed windows have been introduced. On the ground floor, the central doorway is distinguished by the rendered vestigial portico characterised by simple moulded architraves, entablature with the title panel "ESTD 1817" and a projecting drip mould. The aluminium framed and glazed double doors and transom have been introduced. The flanking pairs of windows are early, having simple moulded rendered architraves and timber framed double hung windows with 9 paned upper sashes. The rendered base wall below the windows is also early.

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 source.

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