
St. Arnaud Railway Station, Queens Avenue, ST ARNAUD



SD 204 - St. Arnaud Railway
Station Complex, Queens
Avenue, ST ARNAUD

Location

Queens Avenue ST ARNAUD, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1594

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO5

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 18, 2004

The St. Arnaud Railway Station building, Lamp Room, platform, railway line, turntable and water tower are **architecturally** significant at a **STATE** level. These buildings represent the "St. Arnaud style" railway station complex, with similar "St. Arnaud style" railway complexes erected to cater for the demands of the larger inland towns. The main station demonstrates original design qualities of a mid Victorian Classical style having a standard U shaped plan. These qualities include the hipped roof form and the broad bellcast verandah at the front. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the unpainted brick wall construction, lapped galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding, rendered brick chimneys with dropped corbelling near the top, modest eaves, round cast iron verandah columns with elaborate curving brackets, timber framed, double hung single windows, and masonry window sills.

The lamp room building demonstrates original design qualities of a mid Victorian style. These qualities include the hipped roof form clad in galvanised corrugated iron, gable ridge ventilator clad in galvanised corrugated iron, unpainted brick wall construction, modest eaves, rendered brick chimney with dropped corbelling near the top, timber framed double hung windows and white painted masonry sills, doorway with transom, and the flat-arched voussoirs above the openings.

The timber and steel, and brick retaining walls supporting the platforms, together with the railway line, turntable and water tower also contribute to the architectural significance of the place.

The St. Arnaud Railway Station building, Lamp Room, platform, railway line, turntable and water tower are **historically** significant at a **STATE** level. They are associated with the infrastructure development of railway construction, which occurred throughout Victoria during the 1870s and 1880s. The St. Arnaud railway buildings also represent an important phase in the development of rural railway stations to meet the demands of larger inland towns, and in particular the needs of St. Arnaud from 1879 until the closure of the station in the early 1990s. The large size of the St. Arnaud complex reflects the town's former role as a major gold mining centre during the 1880s.

The St. Arnaud Railway Station water tower is **scientifically** significant at a **STATE** level. Its hemispherical 5,000 gallon water tank carried by a T iron frame onto a cement rendered brick column, together with the attached jib and hand wheel valve operation, illustrate an early 20th century technological advancement of the steam era no longer extant at other Victorian Railway Stations.

The St. Arnaud Railway Station building, Lamp Room, platform, railway line, turntable and water tower, are **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. They are still recognised and valued by the St. Arnaud community as an important 19th century and early 20th century infrastructure link with the rest of Victoria.

Overall, the St. Arnaud Railway Station building, Lamp Room, platform, railway line, turntable and water tower are of **STATE** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;

Hermes Number 111724

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The St. Arnaud Railway station site is comprised of a railway line, platforms, station building, lamp room, rail turntable and hemispherical water tower, and is a typical "St. Arnaud style" railway station complex. This "style" of railway station complex were developed to cater for the demands of the larger inland towns.

The single storey, unpainted brick, mid Victorian styled main station building is characterised by a hipped roof form clad in introduced (but appropriate) lapped, painted red galvanised corrugated iron and has a standard U shaped plan. Rendered brick chimneys with dropped corbelling near the top adorns the roofline. Modest overhangs are a feature of the eaves. The broad, bellcast verandah is another distinctive feature and is clad in unpainted and painted red galvanised corrugated iron respectively. The verandah is supported by early round cast iron columns, which have elaborate curving brackets. The timber framed, double hung single windows are early, as are the masonry window sills.

The unpainted brick, mid Victorian lamp room building is characterised by a simple hipped roof form with a gable ridge ventilator. These roof forms are clad in introduced galvanised corrugated iron painted red. A rendered brick chimney with dropped corbelling near the top adorns the roofline. Modest overhangs are a feature of the eaves. The timber framed double hung windows and white painted masonry sills are early, as is the doorway with transom. Early decorative features of the design include the flat-arched voussoirs above the openings.

Nearby the railway station building is a water tower, which is comprised of a standard design (type B2) hemispherical 5,000 gallon water tank carried by a T iron frame onto a cement rendered brick column. A jib is attached with hand wheel valve operation. The timber and steel, and brick retaining walls supporting the platforms, together with the railway line and turntable are other important and distinctive features of the design.

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/>