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# Former Union Bank of Australia, 153-155 Main Street, corner Victoria Place, STAWELL



SL 224a - Two-storey building  
- former Union Bank of  
Australia



SL 224b - Stawell Historical  
Society Collection.

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## Location

153-155 Main Street, corner Victoria Place STAWELL, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 15, 2004

The Bendigo Bank building, 153 Main Street, Stawell, makes a significant contribution to the architectural and visual amenity of the predominantly 19th century building forms of the streetscape. The building has significance as an important legacy of the financial institutions established in the town in the 19th century prior to the world-wide financial collapse of the early 1890s. In particular, this building was constructed in 1887 for the Union Bank of Australia to a design by the Melbourne and Stawell architect, George Inskip. The building is in fair-good condition and is largely intact from the exterior.

The Bendigo Bank building, 153 Main Street, is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a restrained Late Victorian Boom Classical style. These qualities include the simple rectangular form having a three-bayed composition. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the symmetrical composition, two storey height, plain banded rusticated (and rendered brick) ground floor facades, arched ground floor windows and doorway with elaborate drip moulds punctuated by keystones, timber framed, panelled and glazed double doors within a recessed porch, timber framed fanlight, timber framed double hung arched ground floor windows, projecting stringcourse with a finely detailed frieze, smoothly finished first floor facades (rendered brick), first floor window openings with segmentally arched drip moulds punctuated by keystones, timber framed double hung first floor windows, incised window panels below minor stringcoursing, projecting moulded cornice and squat plain parapet, hipped roof forms clad in galvanised corrugated iron overpainted red, and three rendered brick chimneys with projecting cornices. The rear form of the rear skillion addition and the rear gabled wing with galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding, rendered brick wall construction, painted brick chimney and window openings also contribute to the significance of the place.

The Bendigo Bank building, 153 Main Street, is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the development of the Union Bank of Australia from 1887, and with the 19th century Melbourne and Stawell architect, George Inskip.

The Bendigo Bank building, 153 Main Street, is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised and valued by the community as an historical bank building in Stawell.

Overall, the Bendigo Bank 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	Union Bank of Australia,
Hermes Number	112512
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The former Union Bank, 153 Main Street, Stawell, makes an important architectural and visual contribution to the streetscape of predominantly 19th century building forms. The building remains today as an important legacy of the financial institutions established in town in the 19th century.

The symmetrical, two storey, rendered brick, restrained Late Victorian Boom Classical styled building is characterised by a simple rectangular form having a three-bayed composition. The ground floor facades have plain banded rusticated walls and arched openings, the central opening comprising the doorway. The arches are defined by the elaborate drip moulds punctuated by keystones. The central doorway has early timber framed, panelled and glazed double doors within a recessed porch, and a timber framed fanlight. The flanking arched window openings have early timber framed double hung windows.

A projecting stringcourse with a finely detailed frieze separates the ground and first floors. The smoothly finished first floor facades have windows with segmentally arched drip moulds that are also punctuated by keystones. The early windows are timber framed and double hung, while incised panels below a minor stringcourse that envelopes the main facades at window sill height.

A projecting moulded cornice and squat plain parapet crown the building which has hipped roof forms clad in galvanised corrugated iron overpainted red. Three rendered brick chimneys with projecting cornices adorn the roofline.

At the rear is an altered horizontal weatherboard skillion addition with a galvanised corrugated iron roof. Later, larger windows have been introduced, with shingling below. Below the first floor skillion is a porch with louvered walls.

Beyond the main building is a single storey gabled rear wing, with galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding (overpainted red) and rendered brick parapet walls. An early painted brick chimney adorns the roofline and there are early window openings. Attached to the single storey wing is an introduced painted brick, parapeted and flat roofed garage. These rear buildings front a small rear yard bound by an introduced aluminium fence approximately 2 m high.

#### Comparative

George Inskip was also responsible for the design of the restrained Late Victorian Boom Classical styled former State Savings Bank building, 56 Main Street, Stawell, in 1887.

*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/>*