

# ANNE CAUDLE CENTRE, BENDIGO BENEVOLENT ASYLUM AND LYING-IN HOSPITAL



ANNE CAUDLE CENTRE  
SOHE 2008



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1 anne caudle centre front  
view of building b1 jul1992



1 anne caudle centre front  
view superintendents building



anne caudle centre building  
b15



anne caudle centre entrance  
gatehouse



anne caudle centre nurses  
home apr1985



anne caudle centre wardens  
residence apr1984



## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 11, 2000

The former Bendigo Benevolent Asylum was established in 1857 and moved to its permanent home in 1860. The present complex was named the Anne Caudle Centre after a local doctor's wife who launched a public subscription fund to establish the original asylum. Originally intended as a home for the aged, infirm and destitute, the asylum has also housed an industrial school for neglected children and a lying-in (maternity) hospital for destitute women (building B3).

The original 1860 building (building B4) was designed by architect Robert Love. Much of the subsequent nineteenth century design was undertaken by architects Vahland and Getzschmann. New wings were added to the original building in 1863, 1864 and 1870 and the portico was built in 1872. The gatehouse (building B1), designed by Getzschmann, was erected in 1862. In 1870-71 a kitchen and laundry (building B5) were built at the rear of the main building. The Superintendent's residence (building B2) was commenced in 1879.

The 1880s and 1890s saw further building developments. By 1883, the mortuary (building B8), the separate dining hall (building B6) and the brick fence had been built and the front iron picket fence on stone foundations was planned.

The lying-in hospital (building B3) was built in 1884. Vahland designed a separate two storey building (building B7) for female patients in 1890.

The former Bendigo Benevolent Asylum has a strong association with the history of welfare in Victoria.

The complex of buildings, housing at various times, a home for the aged, infirm and destitute, an industrial school and a lying-in hospital, are important evidence of the social conditions in nineteenth century Victoria and demonstrate the extent of poverty in a large regional centre.

The asylum, part of which was designated as an industrial school from 1868 to 1885, has a strong association with the history of child welfare and education in Victoria and illustrates the attempts by government to deal with the problem of destitute and neglected children.

The complex is a particularly large and rare surviving example of a number of benevolent asylums constructed throughout Victoria in the nineteenth century.

WC Vahland's concept for the early buildings of the complex exhibit a deliberate consistency of design and a hierarchy of style from the front to the back of the site - from the Classical facades of the main building and former Superintendent's Residence behind the decorative palisade fence fronting Barnard Street, to the bi-chrome brick compositions of the former Lying-In Hospital, Kitchen/Laundry block and Dining Hall, to the austere red brick structures of the Women's' Ward, mortuary and the fences fronting Mercy and Hope Streets.

The main building, a Renaissance essay in the Ionic Order, is one of the best works of the local architect, WC Vahland (in partnership with R Getzschmann). During the last half of the nineteenth century Vahland produced almost every building of note in Bendigo except those designed by the Public Works Department.

With the exception of the gatehouse (building B1) and the former dining hall (now the concert hall, building B6), the interior of the buildings have been extensively altered.

### Permit Exemptions

#### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### **Specific Exemptions:**

#### EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:

(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995)

#### Policy

Permit exemptions are given on the basis that the works will not affect the cultural significance of the registered site. Where buildings or structures are relatively intact, permit exempted works will be limited to interior finishing schemes, and altering non original kitchens and bathrooms providing any surviving original features are maintained.

#### 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.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations 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 alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

#### Buildings B-2,B-3, B-4, B-5

All interior non structural works are exempted from permits provided those works do not affect the external appearance of the building.

#### Buildings B-1, B-6

All interior finishing schemes, and alterations to non original kitchens and

bathrooms are exempted from permits.

#### Fences F-1 & F-2

Maintenance and repair is exempted from permits provided that stonework and brickwork is not overpainted nor sandblasted. Removal of paint via chemical means from masonry is permit exempt.

Construction dates 1860,

Architect/Designer Love, Robert Alexander, Vahland & Getzschmann,

Heritage Act Categories Registered place,

Other Names FORMER BENDIGO BENEVOLENT ASYLUM, FORMER BENDIGO HOSPITAL, BENDIGO BENEVOLENT ASYLUM AND LYING-IN HOSPITAL, BENDIGO BENEVOLENT HOME, BENDIGO HOME AND HOSPITAL FOR THE AGED, BENDIGO HOSPITAL, BENEVOLENT HOME (BENDIGO HOME AND HOSPITAL FOR THE AGED),

Hermes Number 123

Property Number

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## History

Associated People: Vahland & Getzschmann;

## Extent of Registration

1. All of the buildings marked B-1 (Gatehouse), B-2 (Superintendent's residence), B-3 (Lying-in hospital), B-4 (Main building), B-5 (Kitchen/laundry), B-6 (Dining hall), B-7 (Female Ward), B-8 (Mortuary), B-9 (Amenities), F-1 (Cast iron fence), & F-2 (Brick fence, Hope St) and shown on diagram number 605329 and held by the Executive Director.

2. All of the land marked L-1 shown on diagram number 605329 held by the Executive Director and being part of the land in Certificate of Title Volume 10090 Folio 329.

*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/>*