

# Bendigo Volunteer Rifles' Orderly Room (Bendigo Art Gallery)



BENDIGO ART GALLERY  
SOHE 2008



H1172 Image001



h01172 plan h1172

## Location

42 VIEW STREET BENDIGO, Greater Bendigo City

## Municipality

## Level of significance

-

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1172

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO268

## Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 7, 1999

The Bendigo Art Gallery is made up of buildings from four construction phases. The central building, now known as the Bolton Court, was constructed in 1867 by contractors Webb and Harlow to the design of the prominent Bendigo architectural firm Vahland and Getzschmann as a di-chromatic brick orderly room for the local volunteer militia. Although the building is encapsulated in later additions, parts of the original form and detailing are easily discernible from internal spaces within the gallery and from certain vantage points outside. In 1885 the militia vacated the building and it was restyled by WC Vahland himself in 1890 to house the Bendigo Art Gallery. The gallery was added to at the rear in 1897 and 1905, and the front was hidden behind a cream brick addition in 1962 designed by John FD Scarborough.

The Bendigo Art Gallery is of historical and architectural importance to the State of Victoria.

The 1867 former orderly room within the Bendigo Art Gallery is historically significant as an extraordinary example of a colonial volunteer militia building from an era when patriotism and military fervour motivated citizens toward a particular kind of public service. The 1867 former orderly room within the Bendigo Art Gallery is an extremely rare example of a brick Volunteer orderly room.

The building is historically important for its associations with the Bendigo Art Gallery which commenced in this building in 1890 and has been an important focus of artistic and cultural life of Bendigo ever since. The gallery is also of historical interest as a successful example of a new use for an older building.

The former Bendigo Volunteer Orderly Room within the Bendigo Art Gallery is architecturally important as a fine example of a classically inspired public building skilfully executed in dichromatic brickwork to the design of notable Bendigo architects W C Vahland and Robert Getzschmann. The 1897 and 1905 gallery additions to the rear of the building are of note for their sympathetic blending with the former orderly room.

Construction dates	1867,
Architect/Designer	Vahland & Getzschmann,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,

Other Names VOLUNTEER ORDERLY ROOM,  
Hermes Number 125281  
Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

Date Started c1867; Date Finished ; Storeys 1; Desc PRIVATE CLUB; Walls BRICK;  
Date Started 1962; Date Finished ; Storeys 1; Desc ART GALLERY; Walls BRICK;  
Arch/Design VAHLAND & GETZSCHMANN; Style 1960S MODERN;

## Usage/Former Usage

1890 ; ART GALLERY ; 1962 ; ART GALLERY ; C.1867 ; recreational ;

## Physical Conditions

State of the Historic Environment survey report - Condition: Good. See Events.

## Veterans Description for Public

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## Extent of Registration

1. All the buildings known as the Bendigo Art Gallery marked B1, B2 and B3 on Plan No. 605751 endorsed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council, but excluding the later additions so marked on the plan.

2. All the land marked L1 on Plan No. 605751 endorsed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council which comprises Crown Allotment 6A, Section 89C, Parish of Sandhurst more particularly described in Certificates of Title Vol. 2877 Folio 361 and Vol. 8967 Folio 641.

*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/>*