
HOUSE AND FORMER BAKERY



4 & 4A Weeroona Avenue, residence on left & former bakery on right



4 & 4A Weeroona Avenue, former bakery



4 & 4A Weeroona Avenue, residence at rear of site



4 & 4A Weeroona Avenue, residence at front of site

Location

4 WEERONA AVENUE, BENDIGO, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO904

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 11, 2023

What is significant?

The property at 4 Weeroona Avenue, Bendigo, comprising a Victorian residence and former bakery operated by German migrant Wilhelm Frederick Beischer dating to 1858 is significant. The contemporary addition at 4 Weeroona Avenue is not significant.

How is it significant?

The house and former bakery at 4 Weeroona Avenue is of local historical, aesthetic and associative significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

Why is it significant?

The house and former bakery established by German migrant Wilhelm Frederick Beischer in 1858 is a rare early example of a bakery industry at Bendigo. From 1878 the property combined a residence with the bakery business and shows the integration of work and home in small industry in the nineteenth century. A small timber house (circa 1930s) and garage at the rear of the site are of interest mainly for their association with the bakery. (Criterion A)

The bakery is aesthetically significant as a substantial random rubble sandstone structure, and for its large cast iron fronted 'Acme' baker's oven. The bakery has been altered through its integration with the house, with the addition of a side verandah, changes to windows and doors, and internal alterations, but the stone walls still demonstrate the structure and extent of the bakery. The house, dating from 1878 and featuring sash windows with sidelights, a panelled front door with top light, verandah and a pair of face brick chimneys, is significant as for its association with the bakery and as a contributory element in the streetscape. (Criterion E)

The site also has long associations with the Beischer family, who passed down the business in a consistent chain of ownership to 1957, lasting almost 100 years. The Beischers were well known in the Bendigo community and their bakery was an important industry in Irishtown. (Criterion H)

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | Greater Bendigo - White Hills & East Bendigo Heritage Study 2016, Context P/L, 2015; |
| Hermes Number | 198328 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

The property comprising a residence and former bakery operated by German migrant Wilhelm Frederick Beischer in 1858 at 4 Weeroona Avenue (formerly White Hills Road) North Bendigo is located between the Bendigo Gasworks site and the Tyson's Reef Hotel (formerly the Bakery Arms Hotel). The property comprises a rendered brick residence at the front of the site, together with the stone bakery sited behind. Two additional timber outbuildings are also located at the rear of the property.

The Victorian house fronts Weeroona Avenue and has a hip roof and return verandah. A modern steel palisade and brick fence has been built fronting Weeroona Street. The Victorian house at 4 Weeroona has a central front door and a pair of sash windows with sidelights. A pair of brick and render chimneys balances the composition. The front door is four panelled and has a top and sidelights.

The bakery is built of sandstone in a random rubble pattern and has been altered internally with the space subdivided, however the roof structure shows that it was designed to be spanned across one space. The sandstone section has undergone a number of changes through the addition of windows and a verandah that returns down the side. It has a large baker's oven branded 'The Acme'. The bakery has been integrated with the house by the addition of a glass roofed structure linking the two parts.

The outbuildings include a brick and timber garage with timber doors and windows into the roof space. Another small timber outbuilding looks as if it was a second house on the site and appears to date from the 1930s.

A contemporary two storey house occupies the site of 4A Weeroona Avenue. Although this is on the same site as 4 Weeroona it is located toward the rear, and set behind a high brick fence and is visually separated.

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/>