
Former Oriental Bank, 171-173 Main Street, STAWELL



SL 231a - Two-storey building
- former Oriental Bank, 171-
173 Main Street, STAWELL



SL 231b - Stawell Historical
Society Collection.

Location

171-173 Main Street STAWELL, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 15, 2004

The former Oriental Bank building, 171-173 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 as a result of the prosperity of the gold rush. In particular, this building was constructed in 1869 for the Union Bank of Australia to a design by the eminent Melbourne-based architect, Leonard Terry. The building is in good condition and is largely intact from the exterior.

The former Oriental Bank building, 171-173 Main Street, is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a Victorian Conservative Classical style. These qualities include the simple rectangular form having a three-bayed composition. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetry, two storey height, segmentally arched ground floor openings accentuated by narrow moulded architraves, ground floor doorway with three panelled double timber doors and dentillated transom, segmentally arched timber framed double hung ground floor windows, coursed granite panels below the ground floor windows, smoothly finished granite base, simple stringcourse with a plain projecting central section, first floor timber framed double hung windows adorned with moulded rendered frames and projecting flat-headed drip moulds, elaborate cast iron first floor window grills, and the moulded and widely projecting cornice.

The former Oriental Bank building, 171-173 Main Street, is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the development of the Oriental Bank from 1869, and later with the development of the Bank of Australasia and the ANZ Bank. The building also has associations with the eminent Melbourne-based architect, Leonard Terry.

The former Oriental Bank building, 171-173 Main Street, is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. Although no longer serving as a bank, it is recognised and valued by the Stawell community for its former purpose.

Overall, the former Oriental Bank building 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;
Hermes Number	112519
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The former Oriental Bank building, 171-173 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 asymmetrical, two storey, smoothly rendered brick, Victorian Conservative Classical styled former Oriental Bank building is characterised by a simple rectangular form having a three-bayed composition. The ground floor facade has three segmentally arched openings accentuated by narrow moulded frames. The end opening consists of a doorway with three panelled double timber doors and dentillated transom above. The remaining two openings have early timber framed double hung windows, with coursed granite panels below. The whole of the ground floor facade rests on a smoothly finished granite base.

Separating the ground and first floors is a simple stringcourse with a plain projecting central section. The first floor facade has three early timber framed windows adorned with moulded rendered architraves and projecting flat-headed drip moulds. There is also early elaborate cast iron grills to the lower reaches of the windows.

The moulded and widely projecting cornice crowns the building.

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/>