
Market Place Precinct



View 1891 showing the reserve still undeveloped but fenced



Former Railway Reserve Station

Location

Railway Place QUARRY HILL, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO8

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Railway Reserve, Bendigo Station, dating from the 1870s and continuously maintained as an institutional garden is of regional significance:

* as a reserve for significant exotic species in particular the row of *Ficlis macrophylla*, *Phoenix canariensis* and other various palm species;

- *for its association with the railway station and the establishment of the railway line to Bendigo;
- * for its demonstration of features as a representative part of a group of railway gardens with individual variation;
- * for its aesthetic value to the railway travellers and local individuals and the garden's appropriateness as the setting to the building;
- * for its major importance as a place highly valued by the community for reasons of cultural and social associations. The garden has been enjoyed by the community over a long period of time and provides a passive green space within an institutional/industrial precinct; the garden is an integral part and associated with a local landmark valued by the community; the place has social sentiment and is well used for social interaction.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk & Bendigo Heritage Study, Graeme Butler & Associates, 1993;
Other Names	Former Railway Reserve, Bendigo Station Precinct,
Hermes Number	161923
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The garden is established in the triangular shaped reserve between Railway Place and fronting Mitchell Street. The mature planting is predominantly of exotic trees, in particular a fine row of *Ficus macrophylla* along Railway Place which were probably planted between c1880 and 1900. A number of palm trees, including *Phoenix canariensis*, *Washingtonia robusta* and *Jubaea chilensis*, border Mitchell Street - this planting is more typical of the turn of the century and 1920s and may therefore be associated with the development of the VRI garden (assumed to be post 1924 when the building was erected).

The rockery beds and formal path layout are largely intact with the exception of the path running north east towards Mitchell Street. Much of this has been altered with the construction of the VRI Bowling Clubhouse and greens in the 1930s. The rockery on the corner of Railway Place and Mitchell Street has been replaced by an unsympathetic native rock garden. In some sections of the rockery beds, bluestone has been used to replace the local stone which is a different scale, colour and texture.

Current planting includes many shrubs such as *Viburnum tinus*, *Euonymus sp.*, *Photinia spp*, Escallonia, Ceanothus, *Nerium oleander*, Abelia, *Raphiolepis delacourii* and *R indica* much of which would seem to date from the 1930s.

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/>