

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 22/10/19



BRIGHTON BEACH RAILWAY STATION



BRIGHTON BEACH RAILWAY STATION SOHE 2008



BRIGHTON BEACH RAILWAY STATION SOHE 2008



1 brighton beach railway station platform
jan1995



brighton beach railway station central
platform jan1995



brighton beach railway station front
entrance jan1995



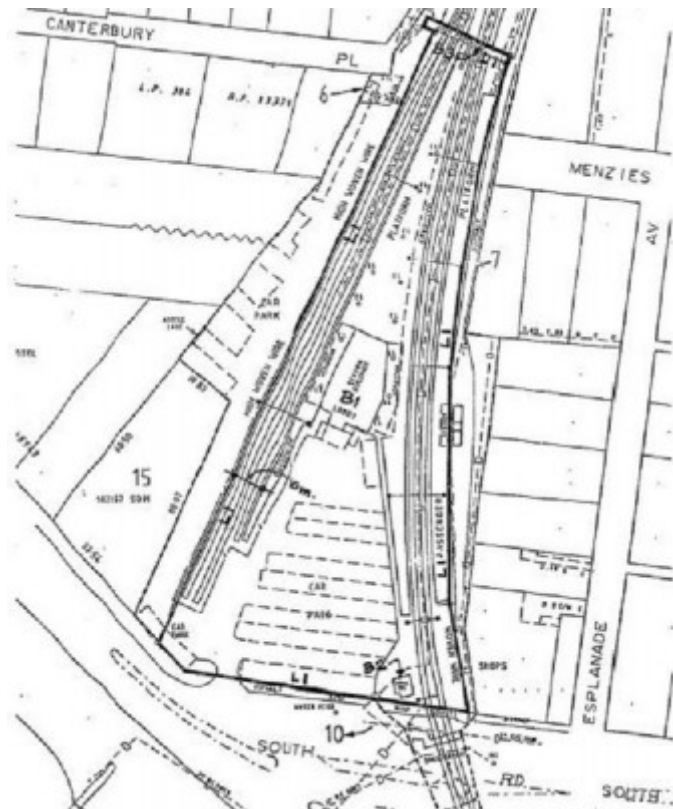
brighton beach railway station interior
tiled floor



brighton beach railway station side view



brighton beach railway station signal box



h01077 plan h1077

Location

1 ESPLANADE BRIGHTON, BAYSIDE CITY

Municipality

BAYSIDE CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1077

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO348

VHR Registration

August 20, 1982

Amendment to Registration

August 31, 1995

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 1, 1999

What is significant?

The Brighton Beach Railway Station was built in 1889 by contractor Donald Swanson to drawings prepared by George Sims, Senior Draughtsman, Engineer-in-Chief's Branch, Victorian Railways Department. This station replaced the original timber structure built when the railway was extended from Windsor to Brighton Beach in 1861 by the St Kilda & Brighton Railway Company. Various amalgamations of the private railway companies led to the formation of the Melbourne & Hobson's Bay United Railway Company by 1865. This company operated the Brighton railway until it was purchased by the Victorian government in 1878. A second curved platform was added for the extension of the Brighton line to Sandringham in 1887.

How is it significant?

The Brighton Beach Railway Station complex is of architectural, historic and social significance to the State of Victoria.

The station is an extraordinary example of a building type. The imposing, unusually shaped station was built in the wedge shaped area between the converging tracks of the original terminus and the curved extension to Sandringham. It is the key building on the line, setting the tone for other stations at North Brighton and Prahran. Many of the architectural details are unique in railway design. In particular, the pedimented entrance porch, the patterned brickwork, the tiled frieze below the eaves cornice, the bluestone columns at the barriers, the tessellated paving to the entrance lobby, the round brick arches and the additional red brick banding at the entry demonstrate outstanding craftsmanship and decoration.

The Station has cultural and social associations with the development of leisure in Victorian society. The close proximity of station and sea reflects the important role that the railway played in Brighton becoming one of Melbourne's favourite seaside resorts by the latter part of the nineteenth century. The adjacent Terminus Hotel helped foster Brighton Beach as a resort station. The opulent nature of the station demonstrates cultural and social associations with the emergence of Brighton as an affluent and fashionable suburb by the 1880s. The Brighton Beach railway served as a catalyst for both the residential and commercial development along its route.

The Station has an association with the early history of the railways in Victoria, especially the initial phase of private suburban railway building. The St Kilda and Brighton Railway Company was formed in 1857 and ran a line from the St Kilda terminus of the Melbourne & Hobson's Bay Railway Company to Windsor in 1859, extending it to Brighton Beach in 1861. The railway line was operated by the Melbourne & Hobson's Bay United Railway Company from 1865 until 1878 when it was purchased by the Victorian Government. This company, initially known as the Melbourne & Hobson's Bay Railway Company, was the most successful of the private companies and responsible for the first steam railway, from Melbourne to Sandridge in 1854. It emerged phoenix-like as the Melbourne & Hobson's Bay United Railway Company in 1865 after absorbing the Melbourne Railway Company, which had purchased the Melbourne & Suburban Railway Company in 1862, and the St Kilda & Brighton Railway Company.

Construction dates 1889,
Heritage Act Categories Registered place,
Hermes Number 163
Property Number

Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 1077:

Railway Station Complex, South Road, Brighton Beach, City of Bayside.

(To the extent of:

1. All of the station building marked B1, including the platform, the signal box marked B2 and the footbridge marked B3 on Plan No. 602125, signed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council, and
2. All of the land marked L1 on Plan No. 602125, signed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council, being part of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 2940 Folio 587849.)

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G34 31 August 1995 p.2313]

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 data owner.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>