
Fleece Inn



The Fleece Inn, Charleston Rd, East Bendigo



143 Charleston Road, Fleece Inn



143 Charleston Road, Fleece Inn, detail of front verandah

Location

143 CHARLESTON ROAD, EAST BENDIGO - PROPERTY NUMBER 172181, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO914

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 11, 2023

What is significant?

The Fleece Inn, 143 Charleston Road, East Bendigo, formerly known as the Golden Fleece Hotel, and built in stages from 1862 is significant.

How is it significant?

The Fleece Inn is of local historical, representativeness and aesthetic significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

Why is it significant?

The Fleece Inn is historically significant to the City of Greater Bendigo. It was built on land owned by prominent Bendigo physician, philanthropist and Mayor of Sandhurst's first City Council, Dr James Boyd, between 1862 and 1904. Boyd was actively engaged in improvements to the hotel in 1872 with the addition of a garden to the property. The hotel's history follows a similar one to many other hotels that by the 1930s were bought by Carlton and United Breweries. The example of the Fleece Inn shows that Carlton and United Breweries took over from Bendigo's Victoria Brewery owned by the Cohn brothers, who had purchased the property in the 1920s. (Criterion A)

The Fleece Inn is aesthetically significant as a demonstration of the evolution of an early hotel building. Architecturally, the Fleece Inn reflects its 1860s origins through its two story form, verandah, and Victorian sash windows. The major additions undertaken in the 1920s reflect a more representative hotel form, being built to the street line and comprising a parapet with central arched pediment. (Criterion D and E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk & Bendigo Heritage Study, Graeme Butler & Associates, 1993; Greater Bendigo - White Hills & East Bendigo Heritage Study 2016, Context P/L, 2015;
Construction dates	1864,
Other Names	139 Charleston Road,
Hermes Number	34182
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Fleece Inn, formerly known as the Golden Fleece Hotel is located at the edge of the city in an area noted for its industrial activities and close to the railway line. The early origins of the Fleece Inn can be recognised in the part of the building with the verandah.

The long frontage addressing Charleston Street comprises two distinct parts that have been constructed at different times from 1862. A two storeyed verandah section of the building set back from the street frontage comprises a rendered masonry ground floor and a painted brick work upper floor. The window size and placement is consistent with a building from the 1860s. A two storey cast iron verandah of recent construction but complementary design completes this part of the facade.

It appears likely that the large extension to the hotel was undertaken in the 1920s under the ownership of the Cohn brothers of the Victoria Brewery. This two storey section doubled the size of the hotel and is constructed to the street frontage. This part of the building is consistent with an early twentieth century addition and has a plain rendered facade with string course, and pedimented parapet bearing the name of the hotel in moulded lettering. The ground floor is painted brick. The windows have tripartite panes and there is a central doorway.

Further extensions to each side of the building have also been undertaken whilst the whole building has been converted to provide student accommodation and no longer operates as a hotel.

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/>