
California Gully National School (former)



California Gully National School

Location

8-12 School Street, CALIFORNIA GULLY VIC 3556 - Property No 186174

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO327

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The building's two development stages are both apparent today, both of them representing important phases in the locality's history, a history which is tied to important gold mining sites in a State context. As a long-term public building it holds the memories of many past and present residents in the area and, because of its high integrity to the two construction stages, is easily identifiable with these memories.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk & Bendigo Heritage Study, Graeme Butler & Associates, 1993;
Construction dates	1862,
Hermes Number	34397
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Reflecting its various uses with its varied form, this building appears to have been once a parapeted brick verandahless structure with a simple triangular pediment to its main facade. The door was central to window pairs on either side and a cemented panel placed above it bore the building's name. Today this elevation is partly Colonial bonded red brick and partly stuccoed (under the verandah). At the rear was a steeply gabled schoolroom, also in Colonial bond brick with a rubble stone base.

With, or after the advent of the Mechanics Institute (1883), came the addition of a wing at the south-east corner and side, using part Flemish, part cavity bonding and cream and red-rubbed bricks at openings and wall corners.

Black and cream bricks were also used for diamond motifs on the upper wall and a cast-iron verandah, with a hipped convex roof form, extended from the new projecting bay across the front.

Today a simple picket front fence is probably near the original fence form. Pepper trees and elms support the building's period expression. Old signs, some offering rewards (£2) and commemorative plaques survive on the front elevation.

Integrity

External - Shown in an early photograph much as it is now (given the above development stages), since openings have been bricked-in and part-rendered over; signs have faded ('Free Library' sign above diamond motifs); windows have been replaced with louvres (front wings); the door replaced; glazing has gone from rear wing windows and an unrelated toilet block has been erected on the north.

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/>