
Downside Platform Building (Platform 1) & Lamp Room and Parcels Office



c1891 view of railway station yard (Arnold)



View of the 1960s Downside Platform Building from the Platform



View of former Lamp Room & Parcel Office from the platform



View of the modern 1960s Downside Platform Building with commemorative interpretive entry



View of former Lamp Room & Parcel Office from Upside Platform



View of former Lamp Room & Parcel Office from the Signal Box

Location

2 Railway Place, BENDIGO VIC 3550 - Property No 183559

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO623

Heritage Listing

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 13, 2018

WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT

The Bendigo Railway Complex, constructed between 1862 -1924 by the Victorian Railways Department. Elements of primary significance within the Complex are:

- Railway Reserve
- VRI Bowling Clubroom (former Railway residence), including remnant interior features.
- Upside Platform Building (Platform No. 2)
- Railway Goods Shed (former)
- Weighbridge Hut (former,) including remnant interiors and equipment.
- Railway Water Tower (pump house)
- Locomotive Roundhouse (Locomotive Depot), including remnant interiors and equipment.
- Signal Box, including remnant interiors and equipment.
- Railway Engine Shed
- Footbridge
- Railway Carriage Shed, including remnant interiors and equipment.
- Victorian Railways Institute Building
- Mature trees throughout the Complex

Elements that contribute to the significance of the Complex include:

- Mitchell Street Bridge
- Lamp Room & Parcels Office (1878)
- Railway infrastructure including track alignment, signalling etc.

The following elements do not contribute to the significance of the Bendigo Railway Complex:

- Downside Platform Building (1960s)
- Bowling Green (1960s)
- Ticketing, etc.
- Bus interchange
- Car park layout and associated hard landscaping
- Modern sheds (adjacent to water tower)
- Modern gas tanks

HOW IS IT SIGNIFICANT

The Bendigo Railway Complex is of historical, architectural and aesthetic significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

WHY IS IT SIGNIFICANT

The Bendigo Railway Complex is historically significant as a key component in the development of the railway line between Melbourne and Echuca from 1856 to 1864. Rapidly progressed by the Victorian Railways Department following the striking of gold in the Sandhurst area, the line illustrates the decision of the Victorian Colonial Government to undertake major infrastructure projects within the colony to facilitate the 'Gold Rush'. The Bendigo Railway Complex is historically significant as one of the earliest railways built in Victoria to serve and develop regional areas of the state. Through its construction, the township of Sandhurst (later Bendigo) developed and thrived from the 1860s. The Bendigo Railway Complex is of historical significance for the number of extant railway structures dating from 1862-1924. It is significant for its ability to illustrate the changes that were occurring in the railway industry over the differing periods, and demonstrates the different processes undertaken within the station from its initial construction. (Criterion A).

The Bendigo Railway Complex is significant as one of the most highly intact early railway complexes in Victoria. Retaining the majority of railway buildings and structures constructed to support the functioning of the railway line from 1862 to 1924, the still operational complex is one of a small number of station complexes able to illustrate the changing nature of railway operations in Victoria from the Gold Rush to the present day. The Bendigo Railway Complex is significant as the location of one of the oldest and largest remaining Railway Carriage Sheds in Victoria. (Criterion B)

The highly intact collection of buildings and structures within the Bendigo Railway Complex are of significance for their ability to demonstrate the principal architectural and functional characteristics of a Victorian and early twentieth century Railway Complex. (Criterion D)

The Bendigo Railway Complex is of aesthetic and architectural significance for its collection of high quality and highly intact railway buildings designed by Engineer in Chief T Higginbotham (1860s) and Robert Watson (1880s) . A number of the buildings within the complex - including the Locomotive Roundhouse and Upside Platform Building - are of particular aesthetic significance for their scale and architectural expression and are local landmarks within Bendigo. (Criterion D and E)

Railway Reserve is of aesthetic significance as an intact example of a railway landscape with plantings and hard landscape elements dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. (Criterion E)

The Bendigo Railway Complex is of historical significance for its association with the Victorian Railways Institute. The Complex contains the VRI Institute Building and former Railway Residence (now Bowling Clubroom) which have been - and continue to be - used to support the wellbeing of railway staff. (Criterion H)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk & Bendigo Heritage Study, Graeme Butler & Associates, 1993; Greater Bendigo - Bendigo Railway Complex Precinct Significance Review, Purcell, 2018;
Construction dates	1878, 1966, 1862,
Architect/Designer	Higinbotham, Thomas,
Other Names	Railway Station, Yard & Complex,
Hermes Number	42273
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Important buildings and features along the railway line include: 'Jacksons Creek Viaduct', 'The Sunbury Bank,' commencement point Jacksons Creek 'Clarkefield Goods Shed' 'Bndge over creek on upside of Riddells Creek' 'Riddells Creek Station' 'Riddells Creek Bridge' 'Gisborne Station' 'Macedon Station' 'Macedon Bank and Water Tower' 'Calder Highway Bridge' 'Woodend Station' 'Bridge over Creek,' north of Woodend 'Carlsruhe Station'

'Kyneton Station' 'Bridge over Creek,' near Kyneton 'Coliban River Viaduct' 'Malmsbury Station' 'Daylesford Road Bridge' 'Back Creek Viaduct' 'Taradale Station' 'Elphinstone Station' 'Elphinstone Tunnel' 'Castlemaine Station' 'Various Brick and Girder Bridges with Local Granite Trim' 'Harcourt Station' 'Bridge over Barker's Creek' 'Local Stone Embankment Abutments and Dwarf Walls' 'Big Hill Tunnel' 'Kangaroo Flat Station' 'Golden Square Station' 'Elmore Station' 'Rochester Station' 'Echuca Station:'

Bendigo Sites

The Bendigo Station complex includes: notable brick station buildings, goods and carriage sheds, platforms, signal boxes, public garden reserve, Railways Association building and former station master's residence.(1) The Golden Square station was developed from 1885.(2)

The bridges include:

Railway Bridge Hunter Street brick and stone railway bridge.

Laurel Street Railway Bridge, 1862C? granite quoining keystones and cement-rendered lining on soffit.

Mcivor Road Railway Bridge, extensive brick abutments

Road Bridge over railway, Thistle Street, 1862C part of original works?

(1) see Site Schedule Vol.5

(2) MUA1

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/>