Location

34-40 VIEW STREET BENDIGO, Greater Bendigo City
The Bendigo Trades Hall was constructed in several stages from 1896, to the design of various architects, including JH Hurley. The building was constructed as a meeting place for local labour organisations affiliated as the Bendigo Trades and Labour Council of Bendigo, on land granted to them in View Street. Labour organisations received strong support in Bendigo from the earliest days of the township, when the poor working conditions of the miners led to the creation of, firstly the Miners' Eight Hours Association in the 1860s and then the Bendigo Miners' Association in the 1870s. With the development of the town and the influx of variously skilled workers, other labour organisations were formed and, in 1885, the Bendigo Trades and Labour Council was established as an umbrella body. The Council were granted the use of an early mining warden's court in View Street, to which additions were made in 1896 enabling the use of the building as a trades hall. In 1913 a large two storeyed section fronting View Street was added to the Bendigo Trades Hall, designed by architect, JH Hurley. The early hall is thought to have been demolished and a replacement hall constructed. The concrete and brick two storeyed building features a polychrome brick facade, with classically arranged features and terracotta detailing.

The Bendigo Trades Hall is of historical and architectural importance to the State of Victoria.

The Bendigo Trades Hall is of historical importance as one of the only surviving purpose built trades halls in Victoria, the others being in Melbourne and at Ballarat. The place is a manifestation of the development of the trades union movement in Victoria and reflects the strong support labour organisations received in industrial areas of regional Victoria.

The Trades Hall has architectural significance as a building with a well composed and interesting facade which is an important element of the View Street, Bendigo streetscape.
Permit Exemptions

EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:
(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995)

INTERIOR DECORATIVE SCHEMES
Interior painting to walls and ceilings in all areas, provided the preparation work does not remove evidence of the building's original paint or other decorative scheme.
Removal or installation of flexible floor coverings such as carpets and linoleum.
Installation of curtain tracks, rods, blinds and other window dressings.

REFURBISHMENT OF TOILETS AND KITCHENS
Refurbishment of toilet and kitchens including removal of existing sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors and wall and floor coverings, and installation of new fixtures and wall and floor coverings.
Removal of existing kitchen benches and fixtures and floor coverings and installation of new kitchen benches and fixtures including associated plumbing and wiring.

RE-WIRING
Re-wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed and any original light switches, pull cords or GPOs are retained in situ.

HANGING OF PAINTINGS, MIRRORS AND OTHER WALL MOUNTED ART WORK
Installation of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of paintings, mirrors and other wall mounted works of art.

INSTALLATION OF INSULATION
Installation of bulk insulation in the ceiling space.

INSTALLATION OF SMOKE DETECTORS
Installation of smoke detectors.

INSTALLATION OF DAMP PROOF COURSES
Installation of damp-proofing by a method approved by Heritage Victoria

Construction dates 1890,
Heritage Act Categories Registered place,
Hermes Number 5227
Property Number

History

Contextual History: History of Place:
One of the results of the large number of building projects in Melbourne during the 1850s was the development of associations forming to protect the rights of workers on the projects. These groups amalgamated in 1855-6 to more effectively push for the eight hour day. In 1856 a National Trades Hall and Literary Institute was formed, providing a social and educational focal point for the members of the trade unions. In 1859 the Trades Hall Committee successfully lobbied for a grant of land in Victoria Street, Carlton on which to build a Trades Hall.

History of Place:
The Trades Hall in Bendigo was constructed in various stages, with the principal two storeyed section facing View Street completed in 1913 and the rear hall in the 1920s. The building was constructed as the first permanent purpose built home for the local Trades and Labour Council which formed in 1885.

In Sandhurst an industrial movement was long considered firstly in response to working conditions at the mines
and then to the industries which grew around the mining industry. In 1856 an association known as the Amalgamated Builders’ Association was formed comprising masons, bricklayers, carpenters, plasterers and glaziers. First formalised in July 1865 with a meeting at the Shamrock Hotel supporting the eight hours movement and forming the Miners’ Eight House Association. A second stage of this organisation was formed in February 1872 with the establishment of the Bendigo Miners’ Association.

Groups affiliated with the workers’ movement were strong in Bendigo from the nineteenth century. Councillor Simeon Ryan, of the local council, was a prominent member of the committee of the People’s Party which encouraged the aspiration of the members and workers in the colonies. In 1896 the Trades and Labour Council which emerged from the Eight Hours Committee was granted use of the old Warden’s Court in View Street to convert to permanent quarters as a Trades Hall. This warden’s court was apparently built in about 1864 for the Warden and Mining Register.

The Trades and Labour Council remained in this old warden’s court until about 1913 when a two storeyed brick section was added facing View Street to the design of JH Hurley. The old hall to the rear remained in use until the 1940s when it was replaced by the current hall.

Associated People: J H Hurley

**Extent of Registration**

1. All the building known as the Bendigo Trades Hall and marked B1 on Diagram 607804 held by the Executive Director.

2. All the land marked L1 on Diagram 607804 held by the Executive Director, being all the land described in Certificate of Title Vol. 2845 Folio 568981.

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/](http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/).