
BUNINYONG POST OFFICE (FORMER)



Former Buninyong Post Office



Buninyong Post Office, 406-8 Learmonth Street -1983 Buninyong Conservation Study



Buninyong Post Office with scalloped picket fence, posts are painted in constrasting colours - 1983 Buninyong Conservation Study

Location

406-408 LEARMONTH STREET, BUNINYONG, BALLARAT CITY

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO181

Heritage Listing

Ballarat City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 9, 2024

What is significant?

How is it significant?

Why is it significant?

This building is a highly intact example of a smaller post office erected in a Victorian country town in the 1870s. A number of post offices were erected to a similar design in towns both west and north-west of Melbourne, but

many do not remain as intact as that at Buninyong. Of particular note are the intact openwork timber verandah columns, the picket fence and the semi-circular polychromatic brick arches which emphasize the three windows of the front bay.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Ballarat - Buninyong Conservation Study, Colman Sutherland Conservation Consultants, 1983;
Construction dates	1873,
Architect/Designer	Public Works Department, Marsden, John Hudson,
Hermes Number	123903
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The red brick post office is dominated by a projecting front gable bay which contains three arched windows. Two small sections of verandah and hip roofs behind, flank this asymmetrically placed gable bay. Decoration is confined to polychrome brick work which outlines the front and side window heads, openwork timber columns which support the verandahs and simple red and cream brick chimneys which rise above the slate roof. A timber picket fence lines the front boundary of the property.

Post Offices of similar form and design were erected from 1869 and through the 1870s at such locations RS Heathcote, Maldon, Avoca, Beaufort, Peshurst and Coleraine. These all feature a projecting gable with three windows and flanking sections, although Buninyong appears to be the most compact of these designs. It is of interest that similar openwork timber columns were employed at all these post offices, however variations resulted in the occurrence of polychromatic brickwork and in the proportion of particular elements. Alterations have occurred at some of these Post Offices mentioned, while Buninyong remains largely intact externally.

Integrity

As the Buninyong Post Office has been retained in a highly intact condition it is of great importance that a conservation analysis of the building be undertaken before any future work is carried out.

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/>