
CHESHIRE ARMS HOTEL (FORMER)

Location

150 LYTTLETON TERRACE, BENDIGO - PROPERTY NUMBER 212342, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO699

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 24, 2023

What is significant?

How is it significant?

Why is it significant?

The former Cheshire Arms Hotel is of local historical and architectural significance.

Historically, it is an essentially intact example of a modest city fringe hotel of the early period of development of Bendigo. It is a reminder of the former nature of that part of the town, which in the late 19th century, was known for its brothels and numerous hotels.

Architecturally, in the Bendigo context, the fact that it lacks any adornment, makes it an unusual example of a building type normally given to architectural pretensions. It has value for its context as a key building at an important entry to the Bendigo city centre and is of additional interest as a possible example of the more routine work of the prominent architect, Robert Alexander Love.

VHC: D - representative of a class of places.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Heritage Advisor report, City of Greater Bendigo, 2016;
Construction dates	1867, 1873,
Architect/Designer	Love, Robert Alexander,
Hermes Number	163610
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The existing fabric has three elements, all built to the street boundaries, the corner hotel and a residential section on Lyttleton Street; with a small shop between the two. Although built at different stages (the shop may have been the original 1865-6 building), their design and detailing is consistent. They are basic vernacular brick buildings with no pretensions. The roofs are simple parallel gable and skillion forms behind a low brick parapet. The combination of gables and skillions over a corner building is unusual (normally a hipped form would have been used). The present roofs over the corner structure may not be original although the skillion over the residential section almost certainly is. The parapet and cornice, continuous across all sections, are of face brickwork, the cornice being a simple three course corbel. The windows are single double hung of identical size with flat segmental arched brick openings and rendered sills, the doors are without sidelights.

The hotel follows the standard typology of a corner hotel with a door in the splayed corner leading to the bar-room and residential areas behind accessed by a side door. In this case, contrary to the typology, the bar-room windows are no more elaborate than those of the balance.

The internal layout is complex and on a variety of levels, reflecting an interaction between the staged construction and the considerable cross fall between Lyttleton Terrace and Chapel Street.¹ The location of an external window between the hotel/shop and the dwelling confirms the prior construction of the former.

¹ This report is based on a brief survey only. The complexity of the layout would require a detailed and measured survey to fully understand the sequence of construction.

Integrity

Integrity generally;
Moderate

Physical Conditions

Major deficiencies

Painted brick facades.

Built in shopfront on Lyttleton Street.

Built in windows to Chapel Street.

New shopfront window to former bar room on Lyttleton St.

Closure of barrel drop.

Reversibility of changes.

No major works required.

Condition general:

Fair.

Structurally:

Sound.

Issues: Deferred maintenance.

Rising damp

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/>