
Bridge Hotel



View of the north elevation,
extending along Water Street



49 Bridge Road, Bendigo



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Location

49 BRIDGE STREET, BENDIGO - PROPERTY NUMBER 171942, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO867

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 9, 2023

What is significant?

The Bridge Hotel at the corner of Bridge and Water streets is a two-storey face brick building with a chamfered corner. It features a painted rendered parapet that extends along the Bridge Street elevation and returns to Water Street. There has been a hotel on this site since 1858. The facade design and Edwardian form and detailing of the parapet suggest an early twentieth century (c. 1913) redevelopment or a facade remodelling incorporating the earlier Victorian building. The rear addition, albeit incorporating early fabric, has been significantly remodelled and extended, and is not of heritage significance.

How is it significant?

The Bridge Hotel is of local historical, social and aesthetic (architectural) significance.

Why is it significant?

The Bridge Hotel at the corner of Bridge and Water streets is of local historical significance as a hotel of long standing in Bendigo; there has been a hotel on the site since 1858, providing a place to socialise and a venue for public and political meetings.¹⁸ The existing building appears to be a redevelopment or remodelling of the earlier building, with the change possible coinciding with the acquisition of the site by the adjacent Cohn Brothers Victoria Brewery in 1913.

The building is also of local aesthetic/architectural significance as a representative example of a two-storey corner hotel of a type found throughout Victoria's metropolitan areas from the 1850s, with its corner siting, massing and chamfered corner entry bay. Its Edwardian-era detailing, including the parapet form and detailing, are typical of hotels remodelled or developed in that period. The prominent and flamboyant parapet and more restrained render detailing to the facade are distinctive and add interest to the design.

While not investigated as part of this assessment, as for any hotel of long-standing the Bridge Hotel is likely to be of social value and a focus of some attachment in the local community.

Theme

5. Building Victoria's industries and workforce

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Eaglehawk & Bendigo Heritage Study, Graeme Butler & Associates, 1993; Greater Bendigo - White Hills & East Bendigo Heritage Study 2014, Lovell Chen, 2015;
Construction dates	1913,
Other Names	Waterloo Hotel (former),
Hermes Number	199278
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Description and integrity

The Bridge Hotel at the corner of Bridge and Water streets is a two-storey face brick building with a decorative painted rendered parapet that extends along the Bridge Street elevation and returns to Water Street. There is a single-storey addition to the east, extending along Water Street. The form of the parapet and the render details to

the two-storey section appear to be of Edwardian origins.

The hotel has a chamfered corner entry bay, with a non-original door. There is an additional doorway to each of the Bridge Street and Water Street elevations; the latter is a modified window opening. Works to accommodate the present glazed double doors include the widening of both the window opening, and the rendered lintel. The Bridge Street entry, which also has a rendered lintel, may be original.

Window openings are regularly spaced on both levels. The ground level windows have rendered sills and lintels; while those to the upper level have rendered sills only. There is a small rendered cartouche-like panel over the chamfered corner entry bay. There are also two rendered panels to the parapet.

Some areas of the brickwork are over-painted in a brick colour, possibly concealing earlier painted signage. The parapet is painted white, with details and cappings in grey. The hipped roof areas are clad with corrugated sheet metal.

The single-storey rear addition has been extended since 1934. The Water Street-facing elevation of the original rear wing has been extensively modified, including the partial infilling of the two window openings.

Intactness

Good

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/>