
NATIONAL BANK (FORMER)



23231 National Bank former
87 Bell St Penshurst 0798

Location

85-87 Bell Street, PENSHURST VIC 3289 - Property No 011

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 1, 2003

What is significant?

The former National Australia Bank is located on the east side of Bell Street in the centre of the township of Penshurst. The former bank is single storey brick building in the Renaissance Revival style, based on the palazzo form typical of banks. There is no known architect. The National Bank of Australasia (later the National Australia Bank) was the second bank to open in Penshurst, operating out of Madigan's (then known as Drummond & Dickson's) Store from 1872 until the bank purchased land and constructed the building to be opened in 1875. The National Bank of Australasia and later the National Australia Bank remained the owners of the building until the branch closed in 1998.

How is it significant?

The former National Australia Bank is of architectural and historical significance to the township of Penshurst and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former National Australia Bank is of architectural significance as an excellent example of Victorian Renaissance Revival style. It is of further architectural significance in comparison with the other surviving banks in the town. The former bank is of historical significance for its long association with the township, for over 120 years as the same corporate identity, notwithstanding name changes and bank amalgamations. The bank is of further historical significance as an important element of the townscape since the 1870s, and along with other buildings in the 'municipal' part of Coleraine it reinforces a visual centre of the township. The bank is also of historical significance as its building represents the formalisation of Peshurst as a service centre for the early local people.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1872,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23231
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The building is in excellent condition and apparently is substantially intact. The interiors have not been inspected.

Physical Description 1

The former National Bank is a single storey, symmetrical building of rendered brick (or bluestone?). The facade is subdivided by a composite trabeated and arcuated system of simulated structure. The Order is Tuscan. The parapet is balustraded behind which there is low pitched hipped corrugated iron roof. There is a sympathetic extension on the west side, which dates to pre 1976 (Trethowan).

The urns decorating the parapet have been removed and there is a new front door. The lettering along the frieze naming the bank has been painted over.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3 Developing local, regional and national economies

3.18 Financing Australia

3.18.2 Banking and lending

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural communities

Usage/Former Usage

residential

Integrity

Very high degree of integrity

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/>