
Strathfieldsaye Shire Hall (former)



190623 Strathfieldsaye
Strathfieldsaye Road 838
img01

Location

838 Strathfieldsaye Road, STRATHFIELDSAYE VIC 3551 - Property No 190623

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO665

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Strathfieldsaye Shire Hall site, including all the fabric of the 1869 red brick building, is significant.

How is it significant?

The Strathfieldsaye Shire Hall is of local historic, architectural, and social significance to the City of Greater Bendigo. The modern buildings at the rear are not of interest.

Why is it significant?

The site of the Strathfieldsaye Shire Hall is historically significant for its early association with the establishment of the Strathfieldsaye District Road Board (later the Roads Board), and the declaration of the Strathfieldsaye Shire in 1866. The Hall is also historically significant for continuous occupation by the Shire of Strathfieldsaye for over one hundred years. Built in 1869, this is one of City of Greater Bendigo's earliest surviving public buildings.

Criterion A

Designed by George Steane and built by George Pallett in 1869 the Strathfieldsaye Shire Hall has aesthetic significance as a purpose built Shire Hall designed in the Free Classical manner. It is also of importance as an early example of the novel system of cavity wall construction. The building is largely intact and unaltered. Other important elements include the arched portico of the main entrance with brick arched features on either side; the brick quoining and dressings to the round arch windows; the three gabled roof; and the matching chimneys that reinforce the symmetrical design. Retention of the picket fence is also important. *Criterion E*

The Hall has social significance as a temporary schooling facility in the 1870s and as a flood refuge in 1889.

Criterion G

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Former Shires of Mclvor and Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2008;
Construction dates	1869,
Architect/Designer	Steane, George,
Hermes Number	33150
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Strathfieldsaye Shire Hall is a brick building designed in the Free Classical manner. This style was favoured by the Public Works Department for a number of public buildings including Shire Halls and courthouses. The form includes a central taller volume flanked by matching smaller gables. In the case of the Shire Hall these would be occupied by the Shire Secretary and Shire Engineer whilst the larger volume was the council chamber. The portico at the front is designed with a flat arch in the centre and matching smaller arches each side. The face red brick is unadorned apart from a plain string course at the roof springing point, brick quoining and dressings to the round arch windows. There are matching chimneys that are located to reinforce the symmetrical design. Painting of the detailed brickwork to window openings and quoining has been done, however this is the extent of the external alterations. The roof is now corrugated iron but may have been slate.

The picket fence is complementary to the building. The interior has not been investigated, however it is reported that the building utilises the cavity wall construction method. [1] The building at the rear is not significant.

Information supplied by National Trust, 2009.

Physical Conditions

Good

Integrity

High

Historical Australian Themes

7 Governing Victorians

7.1 Developing institutions of self government and democracy

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/>