

NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

SURVEY AND IDENTIFICATION COMMITTEE



NOTE: If family papers, diaries, etc., are not available, useful sources of information are the Titles office, the Municipal rate books, and early Directories at the La Trobe Library. At least one photograph, 3½" x 4½", or larger, is required to support the historical data.

The Trust has limited facilities for research and would appreciate your exploring the above sources as thoroughly as possible before returning this form.

DATA FORM

1. Present name of building..... **THE BENDIGO FIRE STATION**
2. Address (precisely, please; if out-of-town describe location sufficiently to enable a visit)

..... **No. 58 View Street Bendigo**

..... **(next door to Dudley House - 60 View St.)**
3. Present owner **The Country Fire Authority ?**
4. Present occupant (if not owner)..... **C.F.A. Bendigo**
5. Date of original construction..... **1898-9 Foundation Stone laid 23/9/1898**
- 5a. Evidence for that date.. **Bendigo Advertiser / Annals of Bendigo Record that -**

"The new Station of the Bendigo Fire Brigade in View Street was opened by

Mr A. J. Peacock, Chief Secretary, on 26th April 1899.
6. Structural changes, with dates **Slight alteration to upper rooms to form a club room over whole top floor about 10 years ago otherwise unaltered.**
- 6a. Evidence for that information ... **Recent inspection**
7. Architect/Designer..... **Mr. Beebe Bendigo**
- 7a. Evidence..... **Co. Foundation Stone**
8. Builder/s..... **Not known**
- 8a. Evidence..... **----**
9. Person or organisation for whom building was originally built. **Fire Brigades Board**

now C. F. A. ?

Please advise if new photographs are required. You may already possess them.

10. Old illustrations, name and address of holder.....

Numerous photographs are kept on display in the upper floor Club Room.
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of the Fire Station.

11. Published references to the building **Annals of Bendigo and Bendigo Advertiser**
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12. Unpublished papers - name and address of holder.....
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13. Notes on architecture, history, owners, occupiers, etc.,

The red brick, white plaster relief trimmings and window frames with greenish lead-light decoration in upper panels which are curved and within heavy moulding all reflect the late Victorian style of building. An office and alarm-room jut out on the southern side, leaving two rather narrow exit-ways for the modern fire-engines now in use. The whole complex of buildings belong to the horse and buggy days - difficult to adapt to modern needs. The two storey facade, however, is important in that it is situated between Dudley House and the Masonic Hall. If demolished, a new modern facade with unadorned walls facing View Street between the two earlier buildings either side would be disastrous. To alter it would be equally unfortunate. The central authorities want to do this, but certain Unions have determined that a new Station in some other location, is the answer. Meanwhile the status quo remains and View Street remains intact, too. Classification may help to preserve the building INTACT for some other purpose.

Some little time ago, this was not recommended, but, as suggested by headquarters, the matter is now urgent and the View St street-scape must be kept intact.

R. A. Anderson

Informant's name and address
S & I sub-committee. Bendigo Branch
.....

SignatureDate.....

COMMITTEE USE ONLY

Architect:

Historian:

BENDIGO FIRE STATION — VIEW STREET

In 1889 the three central fire brigades of Bendigo were amalgamated and a new fire station was erected in View Street (the 3rd to be built on this site).

This two storeyed brick building designed by Wm. Beebe forms an integral part of the View Street streetscape. The red brick, white plaster relief trimmings and window frames with greenish lead-light decoration, all reflect the late Victorian style of building.

The ground floor contains an engine station and call room with stalls to accommodate three horses immediately behind. Upstairs in the main building is a handsome drill hall.