

NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

EMS/AM.

MEMORANDUM

Date..... 24th October, 1974.

From: Assistant Administrator (Buildings)
To: Hon. Secretary, Central Victorian Branch.
Subject: FIRE STATION, VIEW STREET, BENDIGO. (Our Ref. No. 3585)

Dear Miss Mathison,

I imagine you are familiar with the dispute over this fire station, which I understand has been dragging on for a long time.

The building has never been brought to the Trust's notice and therefore it is assumed the Branch does not consider it significant, but I hesitate to take that line without being certain that such is the case.

The matter is of some urgency and I would be grateful for your advice as soon as possible.

I enclose a data form in case you consider it should be assessed, and would remind you that recent photographs will be needed to support the data.

If it is decided to submit the station for classification, would you please let me know without waiting for the research to be finished because we can then let the Arbitration Commission know that the Trust is interested.



M.S.

Encl.

31st October, 1974.

Hon. Secretary, Central Victorian Branch

Miss Starke, Assistant Administrator (Buildings)

FIRE STATION? VIEW STREET, BENDIGO. (Ref. No. 3585)

1/58A Horace St.,
Bendigo, 3550.

Dear Miss Starke,

Re your letter of 24th October, Mr. Anderson of our Survey and Identification Committee has inspected the building and considers it interesting, but not worthy of classification. He has given me the following information:

a. The foundation stone reads:

THIS STONE WAS LAID BY THE HON. J. STERNBERG M.L.C.
23rd SEPT. 1898.

W. BLEBE , ARCHITECT

b. Mr. Anderson's discussion with the man on duty on 30th October, revealed that plans for renovation retain the facade of the building. However it is proposed that the two large upper windows facing View Street be replaced with aluminium framed windows which would be very much out of keeping with the present appearance of the building.

This is of course 'second hand' information, and you may be able to view the plans at first hand in Melbourne, and perhaps discourage the introduction of aluminium window frames!

With so many other more worthy buildings to be considered for classification here, we feel that the Fire Station has no great significance and need not be considered by the Trust.

Re the recently proclaimed Register of Historic Buildings, could we have, for our Branch records, a list of those Bendigo buildings included please? Some were mentioned in the Bendigo Advertiser but this information is not of any use.

NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

EMS/AM.

MEMORANDUM

Date 12th November, 1974.

From: Assistant Administrator (Buildings)

To: Miss E. M. Mathison,

Subject: FIRE STATION, VIEW ST., BENDIGO. (Our Ref. No. 3585)
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER.

Dear Miss Mathison,

Thank you for dealing with the Fire Station so promptly. In view of Mr. Anderson's inspection and the opinion expressed in your memo of 31st October the Trust will take no further action. It sounds as if the facade is to be retained more or less intact so that the appearance of View Street will be very little altered and this is all to the good. I'll mention the windows in the proper quarters.

A list of the Bendigo classifications included in the Initial Register of Historic Buildings is attached. You will probably find it small but the Trust proposed and the Government disposed.


M.S.

ENCL.

NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (VICTORIA)

MEMORANDUM

Date... 20th September 1976

From: Assistant Administrator (Buildings)

To: Miss Mathison - Hon. Secretary Central Victorian Branch

Subject: FIRE STATION - View Street, Bendigo

Dear Miss Mathison,

In the light of your letter of 31st October 1974 explaining that your Research Committee regarded this fire station of no great significance and saw no need for the Trust to consider it, we did no more about it.

However, we have now had a tip from Mr. Walder that there is more than a possibility of its being demolished, and I thought I should ask whether that might make a difference to your thinking.


M. STARKE

4th October, 1976.

GENERAL VICTORIAN BRANCH

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR (BUILDINGS)

FIRE STATION, BENDIGO; CLASSIFICATION REVISIONS.

Dear Miss Starke,

Fire Station, Bendigo (Your memo) 20 September)

Thank you for the information re this building. While the Fire Station, in itself, is not of great ~~significance~~ it does form an important part of the View Street scene in that particular area, and we would be reluctant to see it demolished. Mr. Anderson has been considering this aspect for some time; he has begun the necessary research and intends to submit the building for assessment as soon as possible.

Classification Revisions.

At a recent meeting the committee decided to seek re-assessment of the following buildings with a view to having their status amended as follows:

1. 'Fortuna', Chum St., Bendigo: upgraded from recorded to classified. ✱
2. WestEnd Hall (now part of Mt. Alvernia Hospital): ✱
downgraded from classified to recorded.

We would appreciate your advice on the procedure to be followed: do we submit data forms, photographs, etc., or just present the information supporting our reasons for considering the changes necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Miss E. Mathison,
Hon. Secretary.

EDM/EDM/3585

7th June, 1977

Assistant Chief Secretary,
Country Fire Authority,
11 Afton Street,
BENDIGO. Vic. 3550

Dear Sir,

Re: Fire Station, 38 View Street, Bendigo -

I am happy to tell you that the Fire Station in View Street has been Classified by the National Trust.

This means that in the Trust's view it is essential to the heritage of Australia and must be preserved.

The citation supporting the Classification describes it as -

A two-storey brick building of 1899 with elaborate neo-classic rendered ornament - architect William Beebe. The easterly extension in plain brickwork is excluded from the Classification".

Yours sincerely,


S. R. BIRCH

Administrator
National Trust of Australia
(Victoria)

c.c. Town Clerk, Bendigo
Central Victorian Branch ✓