

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: BANK OF VICTORIA (FORMER)

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: 40 Martin Street PENS HurST

STUDY NUMBER: 154

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: Penshurst

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 9 **SECTION:** 17 **PARISH:** PARISH OF YALIMBA

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 475J C11; Vicroads 233 P10; located on the south-east corner of Martin and Cox Streets, in the centre of the township of Penshurst

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Former Bank of Victoria, 40 Martin Street, Penshurst.

Image Date: 29/04/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the building and all of the title.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The former Bank of Victoria is a single storey building, effectively symmetrical about the corner entrance, built of rendered brick (or bluestone?). The façade uses an arcuated system of simulated structure. The parapet is very plain behind which there is low pitched hipped corrugated iron roof.

HISTORY:

The land on which the former Bank of Victoria stands was taken up as allotment 9 of section 14 on 4 September, 1852, by M. McIntyre. It is thought that the land remained vacant until 1869, when the Bank of Victoria opened in its current building, and the timber residence was built at the rear. This was the first bank to open in Peshurst. The bank continued to operate until the Second World War, when it closed. The bank had been taken over by the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney some years earlier. The bank ceased operation in the late twentieth century.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

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

CONDITION:

The former Bank of Victoria survives reasonably intact, and is in good condition.

INTEGRITY:

Very high degree of integrity

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The former Bank of Victoria is a single storey rendered brick building located at on the corner of Martin and Cox Streets, some 100 metres west of the centre of Peshurst. The former bank of Victoria was the first bank opened in Peshurst, in 1869, the architect and contractor are unknown. The bank is a typical example of highly restrained Victorian classicism, using the Italian palazzo form because of its association with the origin of modern banking in Florence. The building has suffered few alterations, and is in good condition. There is a timber manager's residence at the rear of the property which dates from the 1860s. This appears to be in good condition also.

How is it significant?

The former Bank of Victoria is of architectural and historical significance to the township of Peshurst and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The bank is of architectural significance as an example of the application of the restrained classical style in banks. The architecture, being conservative and classical, presented an image of security and stability to its customers. The former Bank of Victoria is of historical significance as one of the major financial institutions which serviced the township for over 130 years.

COMPARISON:

010 Bank of Victoria (Former), 61 Whyte Street, Coleraine

029 National Australia Bank, 76 Whyte Street, Coleraine

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153 National Bank (Former), 87 Bell Street, Penshurst

ASSESSED BY: AEN

ASSESSMENT DATE:

01-Dec-03

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
Trethowan, Bruce	Banks in Victoria 1851-1939	1976	