

147 BARNARD STREET, BENDIGO

Images



147 Barnard Street, Bendigo

Description

147 Barnard Street Bendigo is an early Victorian brick cottage located with a small setback from the street. A picket fence of contemporary design separates the front verandah from the street, and the small size of the allotment has the house occupying the width of the site. Of typical Victorian house form the building has brick parapets to each side and a gable roof form with a pre-painted corrugated steel roof. A central panelled door has sash windows either side with a single vertical glazing bar to each sash and rendered sills. A brick chimney is visible towards the rear of the house. The verandah is designed with a slightly convex profile supported by four timber verandah posts. There is a large extension at the rear of the house but this is not apparent from the street frontage. The wall height is higher than is often encountered in early Miner's Cottages that tend to be quite low. This may indicate that the house dates from the later 1860s or 1870s as is indicated through the history to this property. Brickwork to the frontage has been painted

History

City of Greater Bendigo framework of historic themes

This place is associated with the following historic themes taken from the *Greater Bendigo Thematic Environmental History (2013)*:

- 2.0 Peopling Greater Bendigo's places and landscapes
- 4.0 Transforming and managing Greater Bendigo's land and natural resources
- 5.0 Building Greater Bendigo's industries and workforce
- 6.0 Building towns, cities and the Greater Bendigo area

Place history

The miner's cottage at 147 Barnard Street, North Bendigo, is located on the south side of Barnard Street on Crown allotment 231 (CA231/E), Section E in the Parish of Sandhurst. The house is of an early mid-Victorian style set close to the street frontage, as is typical of miner's cottages that often did not take road alignments and setbacks from them into account.

Henry Wittern of Pall Mall purchased CA231/E in 1872 (Certificate of Title). The property first appeared in municipal rate books in 1875 comprising a 'house' with a value of £16 (RB5317). At this time Wittern leased the property to John Carroll, a local Constable, and later to other individuals including miner Edward Parker in 1876 (RB5217).

Inhabitants of the address prior to 1872 are unknown; however, during the 1850s-60s Barnard Street was primarily occupied by basic houses of comparable value to that at CA231/E. Rate books show that residences in the area were often located on Crown land, which may be indicative of ownership acquired by Miner's Right. It is possible that CA231 was constructed by a former mining resident based on Miner's Right claim, and then purchased by Henry Wittern in 1872. This is supported by the property's location in close proximity to the mine operated by Reserve Quartz Mining Co. at nearby Bridge Street ('Mining Surveyors' map of the District of Sandhurst' 1871).

CA231 was acquired by William Robert Jones in 1882, a substantial property holder in Bendigo. By 1888 Barnard Street was occupied almost exclusively by commercial businesses, including butchers, grocers, bootmakers and several hotels, making the property a lucrative investment that continued to be leased out by the owner.

References

City of Bendigo Municipal rate books (RB).

'Mining Surveyors' map of the District of Sandhurst' (1871), Victoria Department of Mines 1871.

'Plan of Portion A, Township of Sandhurst' (1856), surveyed by R Larritt; lithographed at the Surveyor General's Office, Melbourne, 23 May 1856 by J Jones, State Library of Victoria cartographic material.

Wise & Co. directories.

Comparative assessment

147 Barnard Street was thought to be a miner's cottage but the mining connection could not be established sufficiently to show that this place belonged in the Miner's Cottage Serial Listing and has therefore been considered on its own merits as a place of individual significance.

147 Barnard Street Bendigo is one of a large number of small houses built in the urban area of Bendigo in the period following the decline of mining in the 1860s. As a result of the City's diversification in employment and growth of secondary industries, there was much activity in residential growth. Its significance is that it is one of relatively few houses of this type remaining in the City fringe. Both 55 Forest Street Bendigo, 1864 (HO122) and Coath Cottage 9 Happy Valley Road (HO666) 1870s provide comparative examples of this building typology, although there are many others that are either contributory to precincts (8 Lyons Street White Hills – also assessed as of part of this Study). Many examples exist in both timber and brick construction, however 147 Barnard Street is a fairly intact representative example, and is located in an area of Bendigo where there are relatively few early buildings remaining.

Statement of significance

What is significant?

The brick cottage built in 1875 built as a speculative property by Henry Wittern at 147 Barnard Street Bendigo is significant.

How is it significant?

147 Barnard Street is of local historic and aesthetic (architectural) significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

Why is it significant?

147 Barnard Street, first rated in 1875 for owner Henry Wittern, whose address is given in Pall Mall, appears to have been built as a speculative property and occupied by tenants, including miner Edward Parker in 1876. (Criterion A)

The house at 147 Barnard Street is a good representative mid Victorian style house displaying a characteristic gable roof form with side parapet walls to the gable end. Significant features include its siting close to the street frontage, brick construction (unpainted to the side) and convex profile verandah of timber construction. A large extension to the rear does not impact on the house's street presentation. (Criterion D)

It is located in an urban area of Bendigo where this type of house is relatively uncommon. (Criterion B)