

**TRAM DEPOT & MUSEUM
TRANSPORT BUILDINGS
TRAMWAYS AVENUE**

SURVEY DATE: 1991-2

NATIONAL TRUST OF AUSTRALIA (CLASS/REC.): C

NTA FILE NUMBER:

STUDY GRADING: B

CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1901-3

FIRST OWNER : BRITISH INSULATED WIRE CO.



CITATION:

History

The British Insulated Wire Company bought out the Bendigo Tramway Co. in 1899, becoming the Electric Supply Company of Victoria. The company proposed overhead electrical reticulation and tracks reaching Golden Square, Kangaroo Flat, Quarry Hill, White Hills and Eaglehawk¹. They deserted the former Mollison Street depot of the

1 Mackinnon, Sue 'Bendigo and its Vintage Talking Trams' p.27f

bendigo company and in 1901, started a new complex in Arnold Street. The complex included generating plant, sub-station, work shop, stores, a tram depot and offices and was built using red brick walls and steel framing (bolted) including the reputed first use of steel trusses outside Melbourne¹.

The first tram to Eaglehawk went in April 1903 on a single set of tracks for most of the journey except for seven passing loops and double tracks in View and High Streets. A further line went up Mitchell Street to the railway station and continued on to Quarry Hill; another went from Golden Square to Lake Weeroona. It was claimed to be the first electric tramway service in the State and was to function continuously for another 69 years².

¹

ibid.
ibid. cites 'Bendigo Advertiser'21.4.03