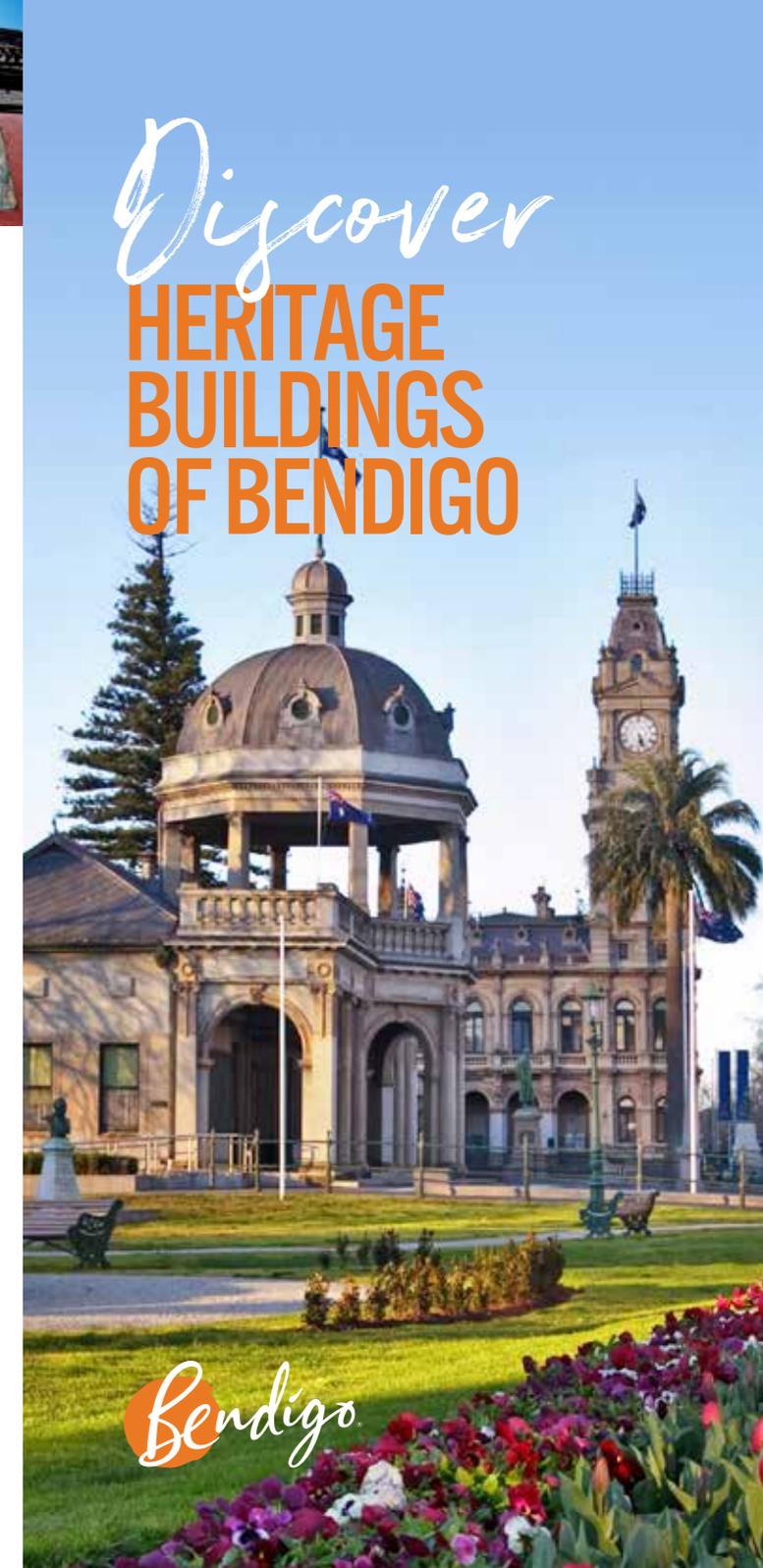


Photograph courtesy of Ewen Bell

Discover HERITAGE BUILDINGS OF BENDIGO



Bendigo

1 BENDIGO VISITOR CENTRE (FORMER POST OFFICE)

↑ 51-67 Pall Mall ☉ 9am-5pm 7 days

There are gargoyles at one of Australia's grandest public buildings. Lions too – can you spot them? Designed by Public Works architect, George W Watson, the French Renaissance-style building (1883-87) was designed to be admired from every angle, Pall Mall to Rosalind Park, up close and from afar. The clock in its tower chimes a sequence unique to Bendigo. It's only been silenced once, believed to be at the request of Dame Nellie Melba trying to sleep in the Hotel Shamrock. Guided tours available.

2 LAW COURTS

↑ 71 Pall Mall

The law court's bluestone podiums hide a basement where goldfields prisoners awaited their fate. Basalt and cast iron fences allowed light, air and a whiff of freedom to tease them. Designed by Public Works architect, George W Watson, the courts (1892-96) are still in use and making history today.

3 BENDIGO TOWN HALL

↑ 76 Hargreaves Street

If it was good enough for Denmark's royal palace, it was good enough for Bendigo. German artist Otto Waschatz decorated both, adorning Bendigo's Town Hall interior with mythical figures and rich gold leaf. Outside, muscular "Atlas" sculptures support the clock's weight. These are fitting fixtures for architect William Vahland's greatest work (1878-86). Guided tours available, contact the Bendigo Visitor Centre.

4 FORMER MECHANICS INSTITUTE & SCHOOL OF MINES AND INDUSTRIES

↑ 137 McCrae Street

This 19th century complex has brought wisdom to the masses since 1863. Behind the main entrance (1879) lies one of Bendigo's most charming treasures; an octagonal library with a domed glass ceiling and ornate gas lamp and it still houses its original library collection. It's one of German architect Vahland's most surprising interiors.

5 GOLDEN DRAGON MUSEUM & DAI GUM SAN PRECINCT

↑ 1 - 11 Bridge Street

Remnants of the original Bridge Street Chinatown existed until 1964. In 1991 the Golden Dragon Museum opened in its place to honour the significance of Chinese people on the goldfields. Visit the museum to discover what life was like for them, and to meet the world's longest imperial dragon, Sun Loong.

6 ULUMBARRA THEATRE (FORMER SANDHURST GAOL)

↑ 10 Gaol Road

While converting the HM Prison Bendigo (1861-64) into the Ulumbarra (meaning gather together or meeting place in the language of the local Dja Dja Wurrung people) Theatre, workers uncovered a secret underground tunnel believed to transport prisoners. Three people were hanged for murder here between 1885 and 1897 and later, the prison housed notorious criminal Chopper Read. In 2016, Ulumbarra welcomed two ancient Aboriginal scar trees which stand at the forefront of the building. Guided tours available, contact the Bendigo Visitor Centre.

7 CAMP HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL (FORMER CAMP HILL CENTRAL SCHOOL)

↑ Gaol Road

The first school bell rang here in 1877 and since then, generations of locals have been educated at Camp Hill. Its tower was used as a fire lookout before the age of the telephone. At any hint of smoke, a message would be sent to the nearby fire station in View Street.

8 DUDLEY HOUSE

↑ 60 View Street

The former District Lands and Survey Office is Bendigo's oldest surviving public building (1858-59). Here, Bendigo's first surveyor, Richard Larritt, imagined the city we see today. Larritt's foresight gave Bendigo its wide malls, gracious parks, private and public spaces. Today, Dudley House is used as an exhibition space for the city's artists.

9 FORMER BENDIGO FIRE STATION

↑ 58 View Street

Now home to The Capital's Engine Room theatre, drama has characterised the life of this Queen Anne revival building (1898-99). The William Beebe design is a rare example of a station built following the constitution of the Country Fire Authority. Take a close look and you'll understand how it was used.

10 THE CAPITAL

↑ 50 View Street

The former Masonic Hall (1873-74) was saved from threatened demolition in 1990 to become Bendigo's performing arts centre. The main theatre is housed in the former ballroom. Vahland and Getzschmann's Corinthian portico is the most imposing of its kind in Victoria and a fine example of the cultural influences drawn upon to build Bendigo.

11 BENDIGO ART GALLERY

↑ 42 View Street

This building shows the importance Bendigo's founders placed on art and culture. In 1890, Vahland restyled the Volunteer Orderly Room (1867) for a gallery. Its façade has changed with each new chapter in the city. The largest regional gallery in Australia, it's one of Australia's oldest and most highly regarded public galleries, warranting stunning modern extensions completed in 2014.

12 BENDIGO TRADES HALL

↑ 34 View Street

Unionism was strong on the goldfields and the Trades Hall (1896) reflects its important role in agitating for fairer working conditions. It's one of the only surviving purpose-built trades halls in Victoria, the others being in Melbourne and Ballarat.

13 TEMPERANCE HALL

↑ 22 View Street

Here stands a hotbed of social ideals. The Bendigo Total Abstinence Society lobbied the government for funds to build the Temperance Hall (1860-96). It became a meeting place for those keen to curb miners' hard drinking habits. Father of Federation, Sir John Quick, and his fellow Australian Native's Association members gathered here when the national constitution was drafted.

14 SANDHURST TRUSTEES

↑ 18 View Street

As the first permanent Post and Telegraph Office (1867) this building was integral in linking the goldfields to the world beyond. It's been the stately home of Sandhurst Trustees since 1891. The building established the high standard of design on View Street. Its 19th century interior of ornate joinery and plasterwork is still intact today.

15 SACRED HEART CATHEDRAL

↑ Corner Wattle & High Streets

This majestic cathedral is one of Australia's largest churches and the second tallest after Melbourne's St Patrick's Cathedral, standing at 86.6 metres tall. Designed by William Tappin in 1887 and completed in 1977, it is a focal point dominating Bendigo's skyline. Take a look inside, it is beautifully lit as the light shines through the stained and coloured glass, not to mention the impressive grand pipe organ. Did you know the cathedral's bells were only installed and officially rung for the first time in September 2001?

16 CITY FAMILY HOTEL

↑ 41 High Street

Vahland and Getzschmann wowed the masses when their City Family Hotel design was complete in 1872. The wedge-shaped corner building was given the same architectural reverence as the Beehive. Can you imagine the ornate double-storey veranda it once boasted? This was removed in the 1960s – a time of cultural cringe when many of Bendigo's old gems were demolished.

17 SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HALL

↑ 37-39 Pall Mall

Imagine the emotions when the memorial hall (1921) honour roll was unveiled on ANZAC Day 1926. The ceremonies here are still poignant. This nationally-significant hall, largely publicly funded, is the work of GD Garvin, one of a handful of early architects. The roof-top band rotunda makes it extra special. The hall is built over the capped Hustlers Royal Reserve Mine - water and gasses still escape into the Bendigo Creek today as a constant reminder of the site's mining past.

18 BEEHIVE STORE & MINING EXCHANGE

↑ 18 Pall Mall

The Beehive façade (1871-72) belies its ornate interior. Inside, it's reminiscent of Melbourne's Royal Arcade. That's because they share the same architect, Charles Webb. The store operated from street level, while the two storeys above once housed the busiest stock exchange in the country, with billions of goldmining stocks changing hands here. Today the exchange awaits its next purpose.

19 HOTEL SHAMROCK

↑ Corner Pall Mall & Williamson Street

This opulent hotel has played host to Bendigo's social scene since 1897. Local lad and Vahland student Philip Kennedy was the designer, leaving his mark on the city before heading to Melbourne. Famous faces to lay their hats here include Prince George (later George V), Princess Diana and Prince Charles, Donald Bradman and Dame Nellie Melba.

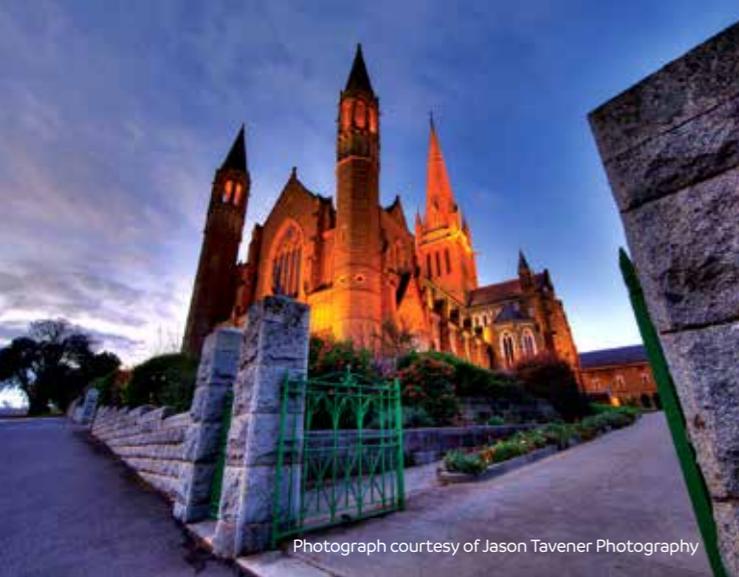
A number of heritage walking and building guided tours are held each week in Bendigo. For more information on these plus other tours, attractions and events, please visit the Bendigo Visitor Centre or www.bendigotourism.com



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#ExploreBendigo



Photograph courtesy of Jason Tavener Photography

Heritage buildings

From 1851 a swarming, toiling mass of cultures and nationalities arrived in droves on the Bendigo diggings, praying to find their fortune.

Within 20 years, this melting pot had left a permanent mark beyond the shafts and mullock. They turned a tent town into a grand gold city of architectural bling to rival any other in the colony. Governments, banks and miners sunk their money back into the town that had made them. The race to cement this place as one of substance and grandeur gave architects free rein to flaunt their skill.

Not to be forgotten, nearby Rosalind Park, which is named after Rosalind in Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, houses statues, a cascade, iron bridges and the Conservatory Gardens.

The buildings and parks impressed the masses, as they still do today. This guide will lead you to some of Bendigo's most loved and admired heritage buildings.



Explore our heritage

- Visitor Information
- Public Toilet
- Disabled Toilet
- Historic Bank
- Parking
- Picnic Facilities
- Monument/Statue
- Church



* Information correct at time of printing – August 2017.

DID YOU KNOW...
 The burgeoning goldfields saw high competition between banks. Employing prominent architects, they commissioned elaborate buildings to signify prominence and wealth. Look out for these examples:
 Former Union Bank (1876-77) now Wine Bank on View, 45 View Street
 Former Bank of New South Wales (1866-67) 27 View Street
 Commercial Banking Company of Sydney (1863-64) now Rocks on Rosalind, 10-12 View Street
 Former Commercial Bank of Australia (1875) 11 View Point
 Former Royal Bank (1908) now Mr. Beebe's, 17 View Point
 Former Colonial Australia Bank (1887) now Bunja Thai, 32 Pall Mall