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Hobart Tasmania 7001
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Name: Former Commercial Bank
Status: Permanently Registered
Tier: State

THR ID Number: 10935
Municipality: Central Coast Council
Date Listed: 18/04/2007

Location Addresses

82 MAIN RD, PENGUIN 7316 TAS

Title References

227491/1

Property Id

6759405



Untitled

Untitled

No copyright on file

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Setting: 82 Main Road Penguin is a substantial two storey early C20th brick building that was formerly a bank and has been adapted into two separate ground floor shops and first floor apartment. The combination of occupying the intersection of Main Road and Crescent Street and being one of the tallest buildings within the commercial business district result in 82 Main Road being a prominent landmark within the township. The building is one of a cluster of five 2-storey commercial buildings from the early C20th that form the greatest concentration of built development within the township (82, 84, 86, 88, 93 Main Road).

The primary facade is that facing Main Road, with the building being built at the front property boundary/footpath. A filtered outlook toward the ocean is visible from the front of the property across the access road to the surf club.

Description: The main building is a fine example of a 2-storey Federation style bank with residence over. General stylistic features demonstrated include the parapet mouldings, the overall building form and layout of doors and windows, and use of face brickwork with painted soldier courses and window head mouldings. A second shop occurs in the single storey wing on the western side. The building exterior appears to be predominantly intact. Notable changes include the creation of the Main Road shopfront and introduction of glazed tiling in the mid C20th, and the recent addition of a canvas awning over the shopfront.

History: The land at this site was originally granted to Edwin Cummings and Anderson Cummings as part of Lot 2215 in 1871 and sold to the VDL Bank in 1895. The building known as the Commercial Bank was built in 1903 and by 1904 was listed as a Bank owned and occupied by the Commercial Bank of Tasmania. The Commercial Bank of Tasmania had branches in all large centres. In 1928 The Bank was owned and occupied by E.S. & A. Bank. The Manager of the Bank was provided with living space above the Bank on the second storey. However by 1929 the building description had changed to a house and shop owned by A Davis (a former manager) and occupied by AK Dargaville who purchased it in 1940 and changed the use to A Chemist Shop. (HTG & PHG). Photographs in 1956 reveal that during its occupation as a chemists shop a timber awning was constructed that has since been demolished. He resided in the adjacent adjoining residence. Subsequent uses included a florist shop, Ladies' Fashion Shop, a real estate office, coffee and health food shop and in 2007 is currently an Antique shop. The small shop on the western side is occupied by solicitors, a real estate agent and an optometrist.

Statement of Significance:
(non-statutory summary)
No Statement is provided for places listed prior to 2007

Significance:

The Heritage Council may enter a place in the Heritage Register if it meets one or more of the following criteria from the Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995:

a) The place is important to the course or pattern of Tasmania's history.

The building at 82 Main Street, Penguin is of historic cultural heritage significance as it is important in demonstrating the evolutionary pattern of the Central Coast Council district. Constructed as a bank and manager's residence in response to the commercial demand of the early C20th, the style and construction quality reflect the ambience that was required from a financial institution of the period. It's demise as a bank after 30 years of operation pre-empts the late C20th centralisation of banking facilities following improvements in transport.

b) The place possesses uncommon or rare aspects of Tasmania's history.**c) The place has the potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Tasmania's history.****d) The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of place in Tasmania's history.**

82 Main Road, Penguin is of historic cultural heritage significance because it is important as a representative in demonstrating the characteristics of a broader class of cultural places. Through its form, materials and detailing it has the ability to demonstrate the principal characteristics of a moderately-sized Federation bank with manager's residence on the upper floor. The combination of its height, Federation style and location on a major intersection make it one of the more notable built landmarks within the Penguin township.

e) The place is important in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement.**f) The place has a strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social or spiritual reasons.**

82 Main Road, Penguin is of local community value as a place of commerce and social interaction for 100 years. This building is identified in Buildings Past & Present, Exhibition and Book published by Penguin Historical Group and has featured in historical Walks within the community

g) The place has a special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Tasmania's history.**h) The place is important in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.**

PLEASE NOTE This data sheet is intended to provide sufficient information and justification for listing the place on the Heritage Register. Under the legislation, only one of the criteria needs to be met. The data sheet is not intended to be a comprehensive inventory of the heritage values of the place, there may be other heritage values of interest to the Heritage Council not currently acknowledged.