120 Bridge Street, Nelson

C ranked item on operative NRMP

Part Section 171 City of Nelson

 [22 April 2024]

Date of construction in question – earlier land information might be useful. Authenticity of facade has been compromised. Group significance / contribution to streetscape. Part of Inner City Area historic character precinct. Assessment statement reports that 'very little is known' of the building's early history and use. Also states that exterior is 'rather unremarkable'. 'High' local significance and rarity in view of age is not supported by assessment statement.

The building is assumed, based on its overall form and façade composition to date from the 19th century. First title issued to Patrick Francis Thorpe, a Westport company manager, in July 1927. Previous owners included Charles Harley (1854-75), Thomas Harley (1875-80), GW Thorpe (1906-16) and then Thorpe's Cash Drapery Company (1916-19). Would appear to have been occupied by the Self Help Co-op Ltd in the mid-1950s. Four veranda posts appear to be the only authentic element on the facade; side (east) and rear (south) elevations may retain some original fabric.

Recommendation: do not schedule as individual heritage item; acknowledge contribution to historic character of Bridge Street.

26 May 2016 – updated 4 May 2023 [*Italicised text added 19 April 2024.*]

Assessment according to the heritage criteria:

Historic And Social Significance
This commercial building is not associated with a notable person or event but has some minor historic and social value as a demonstration of the commercial development of the city's central business district since the 19th century.

Cultural And Spiritual Significance
This commercial building has limited value in relation to this criterion.

Architectural And Aesthetic Significance
This commercial building has limited architectural value as a highly modified Victorian commercial building.

Technological And Craftsmanship Significance
This commercial building may have some minor value under this criterion assuming that any 19th century building fabric remains. The builder is unknown.

Archaeological Significance
The site of the building has potential archaeological significance given the colonial development that is believed to have occurred on the site.

Scientific Significance
This commercial building may have minor scientific value for its potential to provide further information about its original design and construction.

Group, Landmark And Contextual Significance
This commercial building has modest contextual value as a building that contributes to the established character of Bridge Street and the central city as a whole.

Summary Statement
This commercial building is a highly modified Victorian building of unknown vintage. While it remains in commercial use and contributes to the established character and amenity of Bridge Street, the building has limited historic and architectural qualities.

Recommendation
Delete this item from Appendix 1 as it does not meet the heritage assessment criteria.

References:
Nelson Evening Mail 26 July 1922, p. 4; 17 April 1935, p. 11.
Colonist 15 May 1914, p. 6.
Historic street directories, Certificate of Title and Deeds Indexes.

Review date: 19 April 2024