BENI BURNETT BUILDING TO BE DEMOLISHED WITHOUT PROPER HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

Gerry Wood, the Independent Member for Nelson, says the Government appears to have given approval for a very important part of our heritage to be destroyed without proper Heritage assessment.

The Old Bagot Hospital, which was built in the late 1930’s and designed by the famous Beni Burnett has been given the okay by the Government to be demolished under Tender TO8-1261.

Gerry says that he has been reliably informed that the building was first used as an Aboriginal Health Clinic, then as a casualty hospital for those injured in the air raids, survived Cyclone Tracey and was used as a Health Clinic until the mid 1990’s.

The excuse given for its destruction seems that it is not up to current codes but that is a little strange considering it stood the test of time and cyclones.

The building is on the Register of the National Estate – that should mean something.

Gerry says enough of our heritage has gone already so we should be doing our best to retain what’s left.

Cessi foro gallinarum sed surgo