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# RAILWAY WATER TOWER



WATER TOWER SOHE 2008



1 water tower sunbury railway station sunbury front detail sep1984



H1673 WATER TOWER LHA 2015 1.JPG



H1673 WATER TOWER LHA 2015 2.JPG



H1673 WATER TOWER LHA 2015 3.JPG

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## Location

SUNBURY RAILWAY STATION, 1 BROOK STREET SUNBURY, HUME CITY

## Municipality

HUME CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1673

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO41

## VHR Registration

August 20, 1982

## Amendment to Registration

July 20, 2000

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 22, 2023

### What is significant?

The water tower at Sunbury was constructed in 1861 on the Melbourne-Bendigo line by J Bett for the Victorian Railways. It is a standard 20,000-gallon, riveted iron rectangular tank, surmounting an arcaded brick base. The base features a basalt plinth, sills, impost moulding and stringcourse. The arched window openings have been bricked up. The Water Tower is located adjacent to the Sunbury Railway Station (an Edwardian building constructed in 1910), and is no longer in use.

### How is it significant?

The water tower at Sunbury Railway Station, Brook Street, Sunbury is historically and architecturally significant to the State of Victoria.

### Why is it significant?

The water tower at Sunbury is architecturally significant as a representative and substantially intact example of a water supply installation.

The water tower at Sunbury is historically significant for its association with the steam era, being an example of a water tower constructed during the late 19th century to facilitate the operation of steam engines. The water tower is also significant, being constructed as part of the 'main trunk lines', Victoria's first railway lines. This period of construction, c1857- c1869, were the formative years of railway development in Victoria.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act*

1987 and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### **Specific Exemptions:**

#### General Conditions

1. All alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner that prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

No permit is required for works on the roof of the tank, provided that any modifications are not in any way visually intrusive.

No permit is required for emergency works relating to the substructure and superstructure of the water tower.

Construction dates	1861,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	WATER TOWER 1861 - SUNBURY,
Hermes Number	1132
Property Number	

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## **History**

### Contextual History:

### History of Place:

The water tower at Sunbury is historically significant for its association with the steam era, being an example of a water tower constructed during the late 19th century to facilitate the operation of steam engines. The water tower was built as part of the 'main trunk lines', Victoria's first railway lines. This period of construction, c.1857 – c.1869, was characterised by lavish expenditure on railway structures, designed in accordance with the British standards of the time. These were the formative years of railway development in Victoria. (Harrigan, 1962) (Beeston, 1995)

## **Extent of Registration**

1. All of the structure known as the Water Tower at Sunbury (B1), as marked on plan H1673 held by the Executive Director.

2. All of the land surrounding the Water Tower, marked L1 on plan H1673 held by the Executive Director, being part of Crown Land vested in Victorian Rail Track.

*[Note: The Plan appears to show a curtilage of 10m; the true offset is 1.0m. All figures, including the scale, should be read with a decimal point. Registrar]*

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*