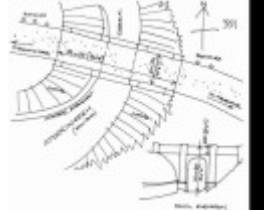

Bridge over Djerriwarrh Creek



Djerriwarrh Bridge



Djerriwarrh Bridge



Djerriwarrh Bridge

Location

Western Highway HOPETOUN PARK, MOORABOOL SHIRE

Municipality

MOORABOOL SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO12

Heritage Listing

Moorabool Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 1, 1995

An early high sandstone road bridge, built for the Colonial government in 1858-59, on the Ballarat Road. It is a rare, possibly unique early local sandstone bridge.

It is of state historical significance in demonstrating the affect of early government action, which was then influential in facilitating the Melbourne-Ballarat link and stimulating development along this route. In particular it demonstrates the work of the then recently established Roads and Bridges Department of the Board of Land and Works, in improving the road network. in response to the vastly increased demand, due to the gold rush of the

1850s. Further, it demonstrates the pioneering early history of civil engineering in the Colony.

The bridge has aesthetic significance as a powerful technological experience, as it spans the deep ravine of the Djerriwarrh Creek. Conservation of the bridge over the past 30 years is of historical significance in demonstrating the early effect of government action in recognising the heritage significance of an engineering structure. Finally, this is expressed in social significance demonstrated by action to conserve a monument known and valued by the community, as part of the sense of identity of the place. It has further social significance as a landmark, illustrated in representative views, such as postcards. The embankments and cuttings form an important and integral contributory part of the significant fabric of the structure, in placing it in a meaningful physical context.

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Moorabool - Bacchus Marsh Heritage Study 1995, Richard Peterson and Daniel Catrice, 1995; |
| Construction dates | 1858, |
| Hermes Number | 119450 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Conditions

Very good, generally, considering its vulnerable location. There is incised graffiti on the balustrade tops and erosion of stone, especially on the north side. This has been (incorrectly) repaired using Portland cement. The south-east balustrade is cracking, and there is spalling of stone due to corrosion of the metal pin fixings, also powdering of stone. There is no interpretation of the historic value of the site and this should be provided, at least with signage.

Intactness

Excellent, excepting that various stones have been replaced with similar in a good colour match. The plaque has been removed from the south balustrade. This should be replaced.

SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:

MATERIALS. FORM. USE.

PARAPET DECORATION.

UNPAINTED FINISH.

ENGINEERING STRUCTURE.

SCENIC VALUE. VIEWS. CONTEXT.

Physical Description 1

A very high, single vault (of 6.1m), sandstone vehicular bridge in rock-face ashlar with wing walls containing the earth approach embankments. There are three bays divided by piers. The sides extend up as solid balustrades, with a flat top, bullnosed capping and the piers have hipped tops. At road level, there is one broad and one narrow bevelled roughly dressed stone bands.

The stone generally varies in colour from golden yellow, to pink to cream. The base is bluestone. There are two round old timber posts at the north-east and three at the southeast corners. The deep concrete (over sandstone) embankments and cuttings curve away from the north-west and south-west corners. On the north side in the creek valley is remnant vegetation.

Historical Australian Themes

Governing/Transport/Conserving.

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/>