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# NAGAMBIE RAILWAY STATION ARCHAEOLOGICAL COMPLEX

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## Location

1-5 BALLANTYNES ROAD NAGAMBIE, STRATHBOGIE SHIRE

## Municipality

STRATHBOGIE SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7924-0096

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 8, 2024

### What is significant?

The Nagambie Railway Station has the potential to contain moderate archaeological significance and moderate archaeological potential to provide information on the character of the earlier elements of the Nagambie Railway Station. Nagambie Station is located at Nash and Prentice Streets, Nagambie. It is an intermediate railway station on the Avenel Shepparton line, and was constructed as part of the first stage in 1880. The station buildings were destroyed by fire in 1991. The stationmaster's house to the south of station can be discerned from a levelled area and scatters of domestic artefacts. Stumps, concrete footings and chimney bricks from the stationmaster's house and other structures are also evident. Evidence of the former configuration of the railway yards can be seen in the extensive area of ballast and remnants of rail and sleepers.

The Nagambie Railway Station site is of local historical significance as evidence of the development of an extensive heavy rail transport system in Victoria in the later nineteenth century. The location of the station and extent of the station yards demonstrates the former importance of rail transport in rural communities.

Updated 08/08/2024

### How is it significant?

It is of historical and archaeological (scientific) significance at the local level.

Updated 08/08/2024

### Why is it significant?

The Nagambie Station site is of historical significance for its association with the opening up of the Goulburn River district to closer settlement and changes to farming activities and local economies. It was also the social centre of the town from its construction until the 1950s, when private cars and road freight transport displaced railways as the main form of rural transport. It is of archaeological significance for its potential to provide information on the character of railway facilities, signalling, safe-working systems, goods handling facilities and passenger services of a moderately important country railway town in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Updated 08/08/2024

Interpretation of Site	Evidence of the former configuration of the railway yards can be seen in the extensive area of ballast and remnants of rail and sleepers. Part of the Goods Platform shows the separate arrangements for domestic freight east of the station compared with the sidings for the silos on the east side of the main tracks. The site of the former Stationmasters house to the south can be discerned from a levelled area and scatters of domestic artefacts immediately north west of the Ballantyne's Road level crossing. The position of the former station building can be discerned on the station platform, and is likely to retain archaeological features. The platform edge has been reconstructed in steel girder and precast concrete panels, but is likely to retain some of the original brick structure beneath earth fill.
Hermes Number	208814
Property Number	

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## History

In 1865 land was opened up for selection in Nagambie, for farming, vine and fruit growing (Wilson & Rush, 1951). By 1877, 76 buildings had been constructed within allotments proclaimed as the township of Nagambie. These included churches, banks, flour mills, trade stores, a post, police court, hotels, and newspaper printers. The railway was completed through Nagambie by 1880 (Victorian Places, 2018). The Nagambie district has predominantly remained agricultural and pastoral with wheat farming and sheep raising since then (du Cros & Watt, 1993). Nagambie Station was opened in January 1880 to serve the local farming community and workers on the Goulburn Weir. The Stationmaster was removed by September 1979 and a caretaker was put in charge. An attractive timber station building was provided in the original scheme but burnt down in 1991.

*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/>*