
POST AND RAIL FENCES



23142 Post and rail fence
Bochara 0082



23142 Post and rail fence
Bochara 0083



23142 Post and rail fence
Bochara 0084



23142 Post and rail fence
Bochara 0085

Location

Glenelg Highway BOCHARA, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 23, 2003

What is significant?

The Post and Rail Fences located along the Glenelg Highway at Bochara are the only physical fabric remaining of the Bochara Station, which was opened as part of the Hamilton - Coleraine line in the late 1880s after substantial pressure from landholders, townspeople and local government. There are two main sections of fence, one stretches for 300 metres parallel with the Glenelg Highway and the second runs at right angles to the first, forming a boundary between two paddocks. They are hand fashioned two rail timber fences, constructed of local red gum. The fences are in poor condition, but retain a high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The post and rail fences along the Glenelg Highway at Bochara are of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The Post and Rail fences are historically significant as the only physical fabric, which remains of the Bochara station and associated structures. Of further historical significance are the construction method and materials, which have been used in the fence. The use of local red gum timbers indicates a use of the local resources rather than pre-cut timbers, which are commonly associated with public structures. The post and rail fence is a rare reminder of a past way of life, when local railways dissected Victoria, providing economical transport for a wide variety of people prior to the advent of the affordable automobile.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1880,
Other Names	BOCHARA RAILWAY STATION, BOCHARA SIDING,
Hermes Number	23142
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The physical condition of both fences is poor, with neither fence being structurally intact. Many of the timbers are extensively weathered, and the joints have deteriorated, resulting in the full or partial collapse of several sections. A conventional wire fence has been constructed later along the same fence lines, which may be providing a degree of stability to the older timber structure. At one point along the Glenelg Highway, the fence disappears into a thicket of shrubs, and the condition of the timbers cannot be determined.

Physical Description 1

The post and rail fences at Bochara consist of two lengths of timber fencing, constructed by the post and rail method. One fence stretches for approximately 300 metres along the Glenelg Highway, while the second fence runs for a similar distance at right angles to the first, forming a boundary between two paddocks. There are additional smaller, isolated remnants of the fence at two points along the highway. These consist of a few uprights and rails in a state of partial collapse. The posts and rails appear to have been fashioned by hand, using the abundant local red gum timber. They are thought to be associated with the Bochara Station, on the defunct Hamilton - Coleraine Branch.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.7 Establishing communications

3.7.1 Establishing postal services

3.7.2 Developing electrical means of communication

Usage/Former Usage

Not used

Integrity

Poor

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/>