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# STATE SCHOOL NO. 1724 MEMORIAL

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## Location

Glenelg Highway BOCHARA, Southern Grampians Shire

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 16, 2004

What is significant?

The former State School No 1724 at Bochara was located at a prominent site on the highway beside the bridge over McKinnons Creek, and was one of the few buildings which marked the presence of a community at Bochara. Two school buildings occupied the site since its inception in the 1870s. The first school, built in 1876, was associated with the development of the pastoral industry in the district. The later school opened in 1932 as a result of the increase in local population triggered by the subdivision of Bochara Station for Closer Settlement. Although no school buildings survive, the existence of the school, with its history, has been commemorated by the erection in 1996 of a concrete and bronze monument. A number of trees, including a row of Golden Cypress, mark the boundaries of the site.

How is it significant?

The State School No 1724 site and concrete and bronze memorial are of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The State School No 1724 site and its memorial are of historical significance as physical reminders of the history of school education in the Bochara district. The construction of the two schools were associated with particular periods of closer settlement at Bochara. The erection of the memorial in 1996 is an important signifier of the community's desire to record its history for future generations.

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|---------------------------|--|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002; |
| Construction dates        | 1996,  |
| Heritage Act Categories   | Registered place,  |
| Other Names               | BOCHARA STATE SCHOOL,  |
| Hermes Number             | 23503  |
| Property Number           |  |

## Physical Conditions

The memorial is in excellent condition. The archaeological potential of the school site is fair.

## Physical Description 1

The site of the Bochara State School is located on the north side of the Glenelg Highway, adjacent to McKinnon's Creek. A row of Golden Cypress, *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'aurea', marks the boundary of the school site and the highway. No school buildings survive on the site.

A memorial to the school, erected in 1996, is located at the east end of the row of cypresses. This memorial consists of three upright concrete pillars, the middle one standing approximately 1.5 metres tall, while the flanking pillars are about 1.2 metres. A cast bronze plaque fixed to the middle pillar reads "This plaque commemorates Bochara State School No. 1724. Erected on this site and paid for by the parents of Students who attended on 5th June 1932. Final classes were conducted 7th November 1950. Unveiled 24th March 1996 at the Bochara School Reunion. With support from the Commissioners of the Shire of Southern Grampians. This is also the site of the original School No. 1724 1876 to 1920."

## Historical Australian Themes

Theme 4: Building Settlements, Towns and Cities

4.6 Remembering significant phases in the development of settlements, towns and cities

Theme 6: Educating

6.2 Establishing schools

6.5 Educating people in remote places

## Usage/Former Usage

Memorial

## Integrity

The memorial is highly intact. The second school survives with a high degree of integrity at the Zion Lutheran Church complex, Byaduk.

*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/>*