
FORMER ES&A BANK (CLUNES)



FORMER ES&A BANK
SOHE 2008



1 former es&a bank
clunes front entrance



former es&a bank clunes
back windows



former es&a bank clunes
front columns



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Location

30 FRASER STREET CLUNES, HEPBURN SHIRE

Municipality

HEPBURN SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0340

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO848

VHR Registration

October 9, 1974

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The ES&A Bank is a substantial two storey stuccoed building of solid masonry construction, with double height internal vault, set prominently in the middle section of Fraser Street on its 1858 allotment, part of the original township surveyed by John Templeton. The site was first purchased in 1860 by HA Thompson in 1860 and used by the Church of England for the site of the prefabricated timber church, St. Pauls Church of England, noted as one of the finest examples of an early timber church in Victoria. The building was relocated in 1869 to a more suitable, elevated site in Templeton Street. Tenders were called for the English, Scottish and Australian Bank in 1871 by architect, Leonard Terry, (1825-1884), made the diocesan architect for the Church of England in 1860 and responsible for the design of over 50 branches of all the major banks in Victoria, Tasmania Western Australia and New Zealand. The property was used as a private residence at the closure of the bank in the 1930s and purchased in 1954 by the Clunes sub-branch of the Returned Soldiers & Seamen's League. The building is used for social activities connected with the RSL Club, the Clunes RSL Women's Auxiliary, the Red Cross and Clunes Lions Club, which has led to the modification of the two front banking chambers in the 1960s for indoor bowls. The place is a focal point for Anzac and Remembrance Day commemoration and annual parade to the Fallen Soldier Memorial (1921), corner of Fraser and Service Streets. A Lone Pine tree has been planted in the rear garden of the property. Transplanted from the 24th Battalion tree at the Shrine of Remembrance, Melbourne, which was raised from the pine cone taken from the solitary pine on the Plateau 400 at Gallipoli, the scene of the fiercest hand to hand combat by Australians in World War 1.

How is it significant?

The ES&A Bank is of historical, architectural and social, significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The ES&A Bank is of architectural significance as an excellent surviving colonial bank designed by leading Melbourne architect, Leonard Terry (1825-1884). He was responsible for the design of a large number of banks throughout the colony and regarded as one of the most important bank architects in Victoria at the time. Completed in 1871, the building is typical of Terry's conservative Renaissance Revival style. The ES&A Bank is one of three banks in Fraser Street, the design of the former Union Bank is also attributed to Leonard Terry, together, they form a landmark precinct, built at the peak of Clunes prosperity, one of the first gold mining towns in Victoria.

The ES&A Bank is of historical and social importance for its association in the late 1860s and early 1870s, with the relocation of the earlier commercial development from lower Fraser Street. The rebuilding and consolidation of Clunes, with landmark buildings such as the banks, demonstrates the optimism and wealth expressed in the future of the local quartz reef gold mining ventures, which suddenly collapsed in 1890 leading to a major decline of the town.

Source: Online Data Upgrade Project 2001

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 exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works 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 works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component. General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan. General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Construction dates	1871,
Architect/Designer	Terry, Leonard,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	LONDON CHARTERED BANK, CLUNES BANK,
Hermes Number	300
Property Number	

Extent of Registration

*Shire of Talbot and Clunes. No.340. Former E.S.A. Bank, R.S.L. Building, Fraser Street, Clunes.
[Victoria Government Gazette No 100 Wednesday, October 9 1974 p.3650]*

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/>