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## Water Channel



33107 No property number  
Sedgwick North Harcourt  
Road Water Race img06

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### Location

North Harcourt Road, SEDGWICK VIC 3551

### Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO309

### Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

*What is significant*

The Coliban system contains a vast collection of structures of varying standards of sophistication which collectively reflect how the system has been modified over time. The abutments and foundations of the flumes which still exist along the aqueduct are important artefacts of the earlier methods used for transporting water through difficult terrain.

Most of the works are outside the City of Greater Bendigo and are included in Mount Alexander Shire and Hepburn Shire.

#### *How is it Significant?*

The Coliban system and the aqueduct which is part is of State historical, aesthetic, and technical significance to Victoria.

#### *Why is it significant?*

As part of the Coliban system the aqueduct that crosses North Harcourt Road, Sedgwick is part of an historically important engineering system designed to bring water to the city of Bendigo which commenced operation in 1877. The coliban water supply system is still essentially operating in the manner that was first proposed by Joseph Brady in 1862. The coliban system is one of the earliest water supply system in the state. The system is important for the role that it has played firstly in maintaining Bendigo as a major mining centre, and then in ensuring its future as a major regional centre. The Coliban water supply system has, through a secure supply of water has a strong association with the Bendigo - Castlemaine region for nearly 120 years. Its development demonstrates an association with the following significant people: Joseph Brady, the engineer, James Forrestre Sullivan (MCA Mandurang, minister for mines, C.1862-1866) and Angus Mackay (MCA Sandhurst, minister for mines, 1869).

It demonstrates significant technical accomplishment though the engineers who, over a period of eleven years between 1866 and 1877, overcame some major technical difficulties in bringing the Coliban system into operation. This water system is particularly interesting as the construction was commenced without adequate investigation and planning yet is still functional in the 1990s.

It demonstrates some fine examples of craftsmanship and skill expanding evident in those structures that are still operating effectively today.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Former Shires of Mclvor and Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2008;
Hermes Number	33107
Property Number	

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## **Physical Description 1**

The water channel that crosses the North Harcourt Road at Sedgwick is part of the open channel, gravity fed Coliban water system that provides domestic and irrigation water to Bendigo. At this crossing of the North Harcourt Road the open channel concrete aqueduct is visible. There are the remains of brick and stone abutments with some fine quality craftsmanship in the masonry detailing.

## **Physical Conditions**

Good

## **Integrity**

High

*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/>*