

# RAIL BRIDGE AND EMBANKMENT



RAIL BRIDGE AND EMBANKMENT SOHE 2008



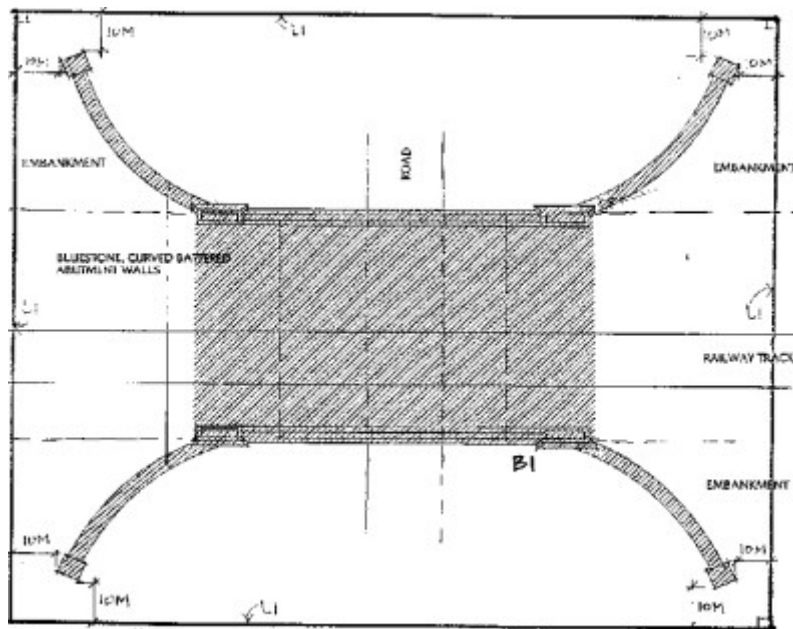
1 rail bridge & embankment geelong ballarat line elaine side view aug 84



rail bridge & embankment geelong ballarat line elaine arch detail aug 84



rail bridge & embankment geelong ballarat line elaine rail detail



rail bridge at elaine plan

## Location

BLUE BRIDGE ROAD MOUNT DORAN, MOORABOOL SHIRE

## **Municipality**

MOORABOOL SHIRE

## **Level of significance**

Registered

## **Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H1693

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO34

## **VHR Registration**

August 20, 1982

## **Amendment to Registration**

July 20, 2000

## **Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

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## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - April 27, 2000

What is significant?

The rail bridge and embankment at Elaine was built in 1859 on the Geelong-Ballarat Line for the Victorian Railways. It is a basalt structure and consists of a single, depressed arch, with end repairs and curved, battered abutment walls. The masonry features impost course, voussoirs, string course in two steps and a heavy parapet capping. It currently carries a single railway line over the Midland Highway.

How is it significant?

The rail bridge and embankment at Elaine is historically and architecturally significant to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The rail bridge and embankment at Elaine is architecturally significant as a representative and intact example of a basalt bridge, carrying the railway line over the roadway. It was based on classical planning principles, the bridge design was directly derived from the English designs of the 1840s and 1850s in England, employing contemporary stone masonry and building techniques.

The rail bridge and embankment at Elaine is historically significant for its historical associations with the Geelong-Ballarat line, one of the earliest railway lines in Victoria. This was the period of the 'main trunk lines' c.1857 - c.1869, the formative years of railway development in Victoria.

## **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 alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner that prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations 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 alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts the owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

No permit is required for works on the deck of the bridge, the incorporated superstructure that supports the tracks, for the maintenance of operational and safety standards or for any emergency works relating to the substructure and the superstructure of the bridge.

Construction dates	1859,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	BLUE BRIDGE,
Hermes Number	422
Property Number	

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## History

The rail bridge and embankment at Elaine is historically significant, based on classical planning principles, the bridge design was a direct derivation of the English designs of the 1840s and 1850s in England, employing stone masonry and building techniques no longer in use today. Constructed in 1859, the bridge is also of significance for its historical associations with the Geelong-Ballarat line, one of the earliest railway lines in Victoria. This was the period of the 'main trunk lines' c.1857 - c.1869, the formative years of railway development in Victoria. This period of railway construction was characterised by lavish expenditure on railway structures, designed in accordance with the British standards of the time. (Harrigan, 1962) (Beeston, 1995)

## Extent of Registration

1. All of the railway structure known as the Rail Bridge and Embankment, Geelong-Ballarat line, Elaine, including abutments, deck and parapet (B1), as marked on Plan 602111.
2. All of the land surrounding the bridge marked L1 on Plan 602111, being part of Crown Land vested in the Victorian Rail Track.

*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/>*