

# FORMER GREIFFENHAGENS WINERY AND HOMESTEAD



former grieffenhagens winery  
& homestead emu creek  
winery front view



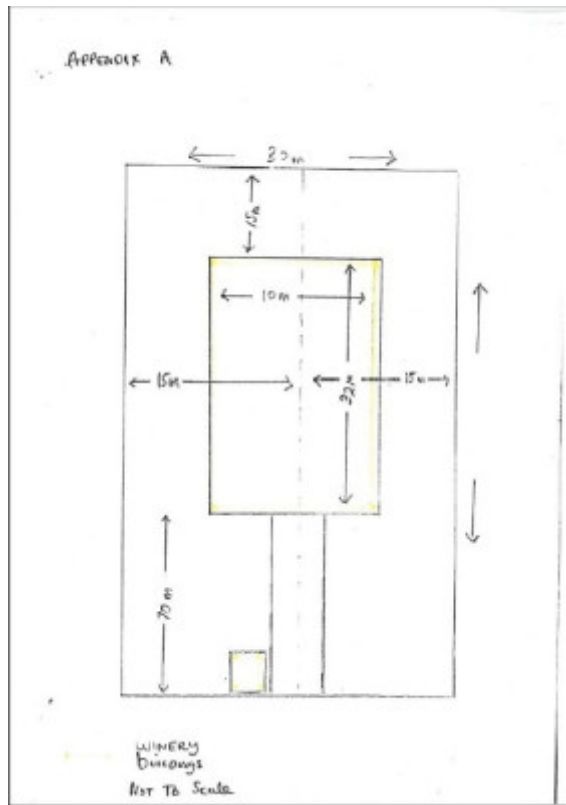
former grieffenhagens winery  
& homestead emu creek  
winery entrance



former grieffenhagens winery  
& homestead emu creek  
homestead front view  
may1987



former grieffenhagens winery  
& homestead emu creek  
smokehouse may1987



H0681 H0681 plan

## Location

70 PATONS ROAD AXE CREEK, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0681

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO52

## VHR Registration

December 23, 1987

## Heritage Listing

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 28, 1999

Carl and Frederick Heine were successful goldminers of German origin who bought land on the Axe Creek, near Bendigo. In 1860 they planted grapes on two acres and four years later had twelve acres under vine. They were then joined by their cousin, William Greiffenhagan.

During 1870 a two storey residence to the design of the Bendigo firm of architects Vahland and Getzschmann was constructed, and a start was made on a three storey winery. This was excavated into the hillside with a view to permitting vehicle access to all floors. Carl Heine later returned to Germany, and Frederick bought the "adventure" vineyard on the Sheepwash Creek.

Greiffenhagen's vineyard was known as the "Hercynia Vineyard" after the old name for a forest region in Germany, including the Harz Mountains, where Greiffenhagen was born. It was destroyed following the discovery of the vine louse *Phylloxera* in the district in 1884, after this Greiffenhagen's extensive orchards became his mainstay.

The winery building is one of the largest of its type and period in the state, and is highly expressive of the industry of German immigrant agriculturists in the Bendigo area in the nineteenth century. Built of local stone on a natural slope, the building was intended to employ the force of gravity in the winemaking process with separate levels given over to grape crushing, fermentation and storage. The winery was so constructed as to minimise the need for laborious pumping of must and wine by hand, and to permit eventual dispatch of the finished product from the cellar door.

It is likely that the winery acted as a central facility for the many small grape growers of the district. It is the most tangible reminder of the wine industry in an area that was among the more important of Victoria's grape growing and winemaking districts last century. Although most of the technology associated with the winery crushers, pumps, barrels, etc has been removed, a large beam of the frame of the press remains intact.

The building itself is highly expressive of traditional winemaking processes. The elegant homestead on the property is reminiscent of similar buildings in the Castlemaine area. Both buildings exhibit craftsmanship, stonework and design characteristics of a high order, and bear testament to the skills of Bendigo agriculturists, architects and builders of German origin.

[Source: Historic Buildings Council]

## 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](#).

Construction dates	1870,
Architect/Designer	Vahland & Getzschmann,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	436
Property Number	

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## Extent of Registration

### AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 681

Former Greffenhagen's Winery and Homestead Patons Road, Emu Creek, to the extent of the homestead, the winery and its associated outbuilding (known as the smokehouse), and the land contained (a) within the homestead garden block and (b) around the winery bounded by a rectangle of dimensions 30 metres wide (being 15 m to the east and west of the centreline of the winery) and 117 m long (being 70 m to the south of the southern wall and 15 m to the north of the northern wall, all being in crown allotment eight section six of Strathfieldsaye, County of Bendigo on Certificate of Title Volume 4243 Folio 848550.

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G50 23 December 1987 p. 3494]

*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/>*