

CONDIDORIOS BRIDGE



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SOHE 2008



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1 condidorios bridge
koondrook

DIAGRAM NUMBER: 608412



condidorio plan

Location

OVER GUNBOWER CREEK, ISLAND ROAD KOONDROOK, GANNAWARRA SHIRE

Municipality

GANNAWARRA SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1799

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO24

VHR Registration

April 22, 1999

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 22, 2000

What is significant?

The timber bridge connecting the township of Koondrook to Gunbower Island across the ana branch of the Murray River known as Gunbower Creek was built in 1906. The bridge features an unusual hump-backed design and relatively narrow sawn (rather than hewn) stringers or beams. These bridge beams are spliced mid-span to produce the effect of continuous beams which are not corbelled where they are supported by the trestles. The bridge was probably designed by Kerang Shire engineer SG Nish and was built by contractor James Flight for £512. The bridge was used to connect the timber and farming areas of Gunbower Island to Koondrook and thence by the steam tramway to Kerang and the State rail network. For many years the bridge has been known as Condidorio's Bridge after a Koondrook family who owned market gardens nearby. The bridge had not been well maintained and most of its original timbers have rotted. In 2000 the bridge was dismantled and reconstructed, essentially to the original design, using new timbers wherever necessary. Some original components of beams (non-structural) and ironwork have been retained.

How is it significant?

Condidorio's Bridge is scientifically (technologically) and historically important to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

Condidorio's Bridge is of scientific (technological) and historical importance as a rare, possibly unique, Victorian example of a timber bridge which contains the unusual elements of a humped profile, continuous beam construction, squared sawn members and lack of corbels.

Condidorio's Bridge is historically significant for being both reflective of the importance of red gum saw milling to the Koondrook area and to Victoria through the materials of its construction, but also in being an aid to the continuance of that industry through its use in bringing logs to the sawmill and tramway.

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 which 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 owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

Exemptions:

- * Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- * reconstruction of the bridge to plans and specifications approved by the Executive Director
- * Emergency and safety related works.

Construction dates 1906,
Heritage Act Categories Registered place,
Hermes Number 5492
Property Number

Extent of Registration

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 1799 in the category described as a Heritage Place:

Condidorio's Bridge, Gunbower Creek, corner Island Road and Gunbower Parade, Koondrook,
Gannawarra Shire.

EXTENT:

1. All of the timber bridge marked B1, Diagram 608412 held by the Executive Director.

Dated 13 April 1999.

RAY TONKIN

Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* G 16 22 April 1999 p.936]

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/>