
STRZELECKI RAILWAY STATION TURNTABLE



Strzelecki Railway Turntable remains



image224



2004

Location

2 WILD DOG ROAD, STRZELECKI, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO153

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 20, 2022

What is significant?

The former Strzelecki Railway turntable site, on private land at 2 Wild Dog Road, Strzelecki, constructed in 1922, is significant. The turntable itself is no longer extant but the site consists of a flat circular feature approximately 53 feet in diameter (16 metres) that is partially defined by low concrete mass walls. There are remnants of the shallow cutting that indicate the railway line that connected to the turntable. Any remnant plantings of wild dog rose, ivy and other exotic shrubs and plants in the vicinity of this feature should be retained as indications of the original formal plantings.

Non-original alterations to the site are not significant.

How is it significant?

The site of the Strzelecki Railway Station turntable is of local historic and scientific significance to the South Gippsland Shire. The site is also a rare surviving feature of the Koo Wee Rup-Strzelecki railway.

Why is it significant?

Historically, the Strzelecki railway turntable site and the associated surviving embankments, cuttings and timber bridges represent the former Koo Wee Rup to Strzelecki railway line within the South Gippsland Shire. The other tangible elements of this railway line, the last to be constructed in the Shire, were progressively removed between 1930 and 1959. This turntable site demonstrates the efforts of united resident groups to improve the transport links in this area of the Shire in the early 20th Century in response to the difficulty of movement and transportation in this region before and during the growth of automobiles (Criterion H).

The turntable site is rare as one of the few remaining physical features associated with the Koo Wee Rup to Strzelecki railway line within the South Gippsland Shire. The rest of the features of the railway, including the Triholm and Strzelecki railway stations (Poowong East and Strzelecki respectively), has been removed since the railway closure in 1959 (Criterion B).

Scientifically, the Strzelecki turntable site has the potential to yield information through archaeological investigations regarding the historic establishment, development, use and disuse of this railway station and the associated railway line. This may also yield information about the community and movement in the area before and after the establishment of the railway (Criterion C).

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - Amendment C92 Heritage Review, David Helms Heritage Planning, 2014; South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1922, 1922, 1922,
Other Names	Strzelecki Turntable Site,
Hermes Number	73376
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The route of the former Koo Wee Rup to Strzelecki Railway can be interpreted primarily by the surviving cuttings and embankments and other infrastructure such as timber bridges. Much of the railway route is within the adjoining shires of Cardinia and Baw Baw.

Key sites associated with the railway within South Gippsland Shire include the former Triholm Railway Station site near Poowong East, and the former Strzelecki Railway Station site, which is marked by the remains of the 53 foot engine turntable situated within private property on the east side of the Wild Dog Road a few hundred metres to the south of the intersection with Warragul-Korumburra Road. The turntable is a flat circular feature, partially defined by low walls constructed of mass concrete. A shallow cutting on the north side indicates the route of the railway leading to the turntable. Other remnants of the station occupation in the vicinity include remnant plantings of the wild dog rose, ivy and other exotic shrubs and plants along the roadside verge.

As noted in the History, Strzelecki was the terminus of the line. From this point the railway headed due north approximately parallel with Wild Dog Road and then the Warragul-Korumburra Road for about 2 km before crossing to the west side and heading in an westerly direction toward Triholm/Poowong East. Along this section it skirts the border of South Gippsland and Baw Baw Shires passing through farm country before running alongside Waterfall Road, which it crosses just before the intersection with Main South Road to head north, crossing that road to the west side where it arrives at the site of Triholm Railway Station, which is almost opposite the hall and tennis courts.

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/>