

## RAIL BRIDGE



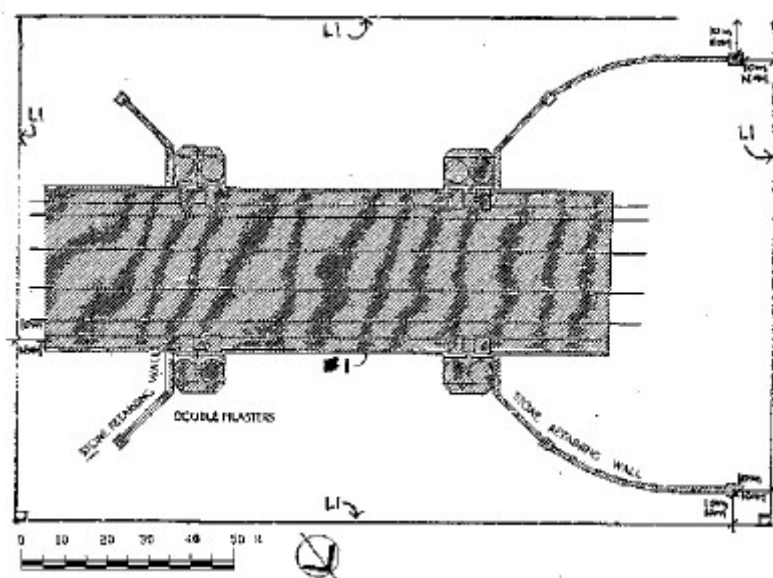
RAIL BRIDGE SOHE 2008



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1 rail bridge over riddells creek side view dec1984



rail bridge at riddells creek plan

### Location

OVER RIDDELLS CREEK, RAILWAY RESERVE RIDDELLS CREEK, MACEDON RANGES SHIRE

### Municipality

MACEDON RANGES SHIRE

### Level of significance

Registered

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1437

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO214

## **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 - May 2, 2000

What is significant?

The Rail Bridge over Riddells Creek on the Melbourne-Bendigo line was designed by W. E. Bryson, and constructed in 1859 by the contractors Cornish & Bruce for the Victorian Railways. It is a single span, semi-circular arched stone structure, carrying a double track over Riddells Creek. It has battered piers to both sides of the arch and additional piers to close the abutments. It is faced with rusticated masonry with drafted edges, and features a parapet and a pair of engaged pilasters to either side of the opening.

How is it significant?

The Rail Bridge over Riddells Creek is historically and architecturally significant to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Rail Bridge over Riddells Creek is historically significant, being constructed as part of the Melbourne-Bendigo-Echuca line, one of the 'main trunk' lines, c.1857 - c.1869. These were the formative years of railway development in Victoria. Consequently, it is also significant as one of the earliest bridges of its type constructed in Victoria.

It is architecturally significant as a representative example of nineteenth century bridge design, being picturesquely located in a park setting, featuring a well proportioned singular, semi-circular arch with dressed stone voussoirs and flanked by Doric pilasters. (Beeston, 1995)

## **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 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 which supports the track, for the maintenance of operational and safety standards, or for any emergency works relating to the substructure and superstructure of the bridge.

Construction dates	1859,
Architect/Designer	Bryson, WE,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	RIDDELLS CREEK RAIL BRIDGE,
Hermes Number	984
Property Number	

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## History

The Rail Bridge over Riddells Creek is historically significant, being constructed as part of the Melbourne-Bendigo-Echuca line, one of the 'main trunk' lines, c.1857 - c.1869. These were 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. Consequently, it is significant as one of

the earliest of its type constructed in Victoria. (Beeston, 1995) (Harrigan, 1962)

## **Extent of Registration**

1. All of the bridge structure known as the Railway Bridge over Riddells Creek, Melbourne-Bendigo line, Riddells Creek, including the deck, superstructure, retaining walls and abutments (B1), as marked on plan 602477 held by the Executive Director.

2. All of the land surrounding the bridge marked L1 on plan 602477 held by the Executive Director, being part of Crown Land vested in 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/>*