

HERITAGE COUNCIL DETERMINATION

Determination Date	3 August 2017
Place/Object Name	Winchelsea Bridge
Location	Princes Highway, Winchelsea
VHR Number	H1456
Category	Heritage Place

At a meeting of the Heritage Council of Victoria on 3 August 2017 it was determined that the existing Heritage Register entry for the above place should be amended in accordance with s54 of the Heritage Act 1995, including the additional changes jointly agreed to by Surf Coast Council and the Executive Director, noted in the document at page 421 of the papers for HC223. This decision was reached having considered the assessment against the Heritage Council's criteria and other information, including the proposed amendments contained in the attached report and submissions received in response to the Executive Director's recommendation.

The Heritage Council endorses and adopts the attached report for the purposes of making its decision.



Professor Stuart Macintyre AO
Chair, Heritage Council of Victoria

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
RECOMMENDATION TO THE
HERITAGE COUNCIL TO
AMEND AN EXISTING REGISTRATION**

NAME WINCHELSEA BRIDGE
DATE REGISTERED: 20 AUGUST, 1982
VHR NUMBER: VHR H1456
LOCATION OVER BARWON RIVER, PRINCES HIGHWAY, WINCHELSEA,
SURF COAST SHIRE
CATEGORY: HERITAGE PLACE
FILE NUMBER: FOL/17/19498
HERMES NUMBER: 1232



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE HERITAGE COUNCIL:

- That the record of the above Heritage Place in the Victorian Heritage Register be amended under the *Heritage Act 1995* to include the addition of land [Section 27(1)].

Reasons for the proposed amendment:

The registration of Winchelsea Bridge, which was gazetted in 1982, requires updating. No land is currently included in the registration and it is proposed to add land. There are no other changes proposed to this registration.

TIM SMITH OAM
Executive Director

Recommendation Date: 19 May 2017

This recommendation report has been issued by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria under s.32 of the *Heritage Act 1995*.

PREVIOUS EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

Winchelsea Shire

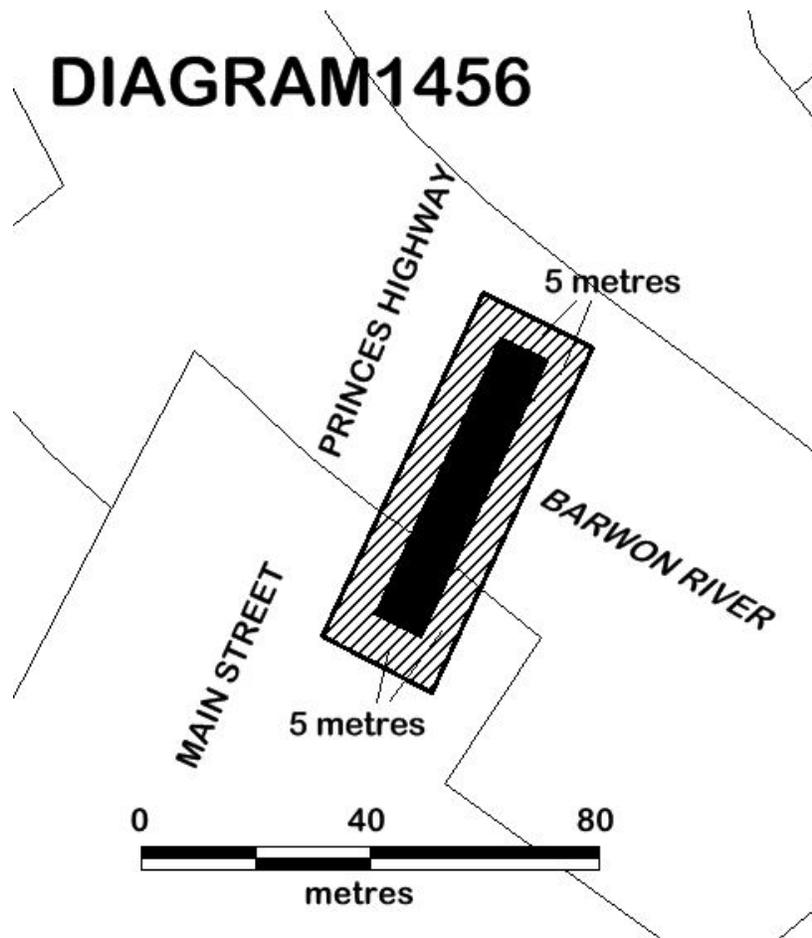
Bridge (stone arch) over Barwon River, Winchelsea.

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G39 12 October 1988 p.3095]

No diagram.

AMENDED EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 1456 encompassing part of Crown Allotment 2002 Township of Winchelsea and part of the road reserve for Main Street (Princes Highway) being a curtilage of 5 metres from the bridge.



AERIAL PHOTO OF AMENDED EXTENT OF REGISTRATION



The extent of registration of the Winchelsea Bridge in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown on Diagram 1456 including the land, bridge, road, landscape elements and other features.

RATIONALE FOR EXTENT AND RECOMMENDATION REASONS

Following is the Executive Director's assessment of the place in relation to adding land under s.27 of the *Heritage Act 1995*.

The cultural heritage significance of the registered place would be substantially less if the land or any part of it were developed [Section 27(1)(a)]

The land surrounding the registered place is important to the protection, conservation or understanding of that place [Section 27(1)(b)]

The significance of the Winchelsea Bridge has been recognised by its inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). This is an early listing (1982) and only the bridge and not the land on which it stands is included in the registration.

The bridge over the Barwon River at Winchelsea is the third structure erected at this historic crossing place and has since 1867 provided an important link between Geelong and the Western District. This finely-proportioned masonry arch bridge also has a notable association with Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, who three times visited the nearby 'Barwon Park' mansion.

The Winchelsea Bridge was erected in 1867 for the Council of the Shire of Winchelsea, replacing an earlier timber structure of 1849. The three span arch structure, built of bluestone by James Sinclair at a cost of £4,602, was officially opened on 3 December 1867 by Prince Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh.

Any development of the land on which the Winchelsea Bridge is located or which immediately surrounds the bridge would have the potential to negatively impact the cultural heritage significance of the registered place. It is therefore recommended that All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 1456 encompassing part of Crown Allotment 2002 Township of Winchelsea and part of the road reserve for Main Street (Princes Highway) being a curtilage of 5 metres from the bridge, be included as part of the registration of the place.

The land proposed for inclusion is sufficient to protect and conserve the place and contribute to its understanding. It is consistent with registrations of similar types of places in the VHR.

PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

It should be noted that Permit Exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.42(4) of the Heritage Act). Permit Exemptions can also be applied for and granted after registration (under s.66 of the Heritage Act)

General Condition 1

All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.

General Condition 2

Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works 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 works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible.

General Condition 3

All works should be informed by Conservation Management Plans prepared for the place. The Executive Director is not bound by any Conservation Management Plan, and permits still must be obtained for works suggested in any Conservation Management Plan.

General Condition 4

Nothing in this determination prevents the Heritage Council from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

General Condition 5

Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the relevant responsible authority, where applicable.

Specific Permit Exemptions

Landscape Exemptions:

- The process of gardening, including mowing, hedge clipping, disease and weed control, and maintenance to care for existing plants.
- Pruning, lopping or removal of trees and vegetation.
- Planting of trees and vegetation.
- Subsurface works involving the installation, removal or replacement of watering and drainage systems or services on the condition that works do not impact on archaeological features or deposits.
- Removal of plants listed as noxious weeds in the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.
- Vegetation protection and management of possums and vermin.

Specific Exemptions:

- Emergency and safety works to secure the site and prevent damage and injury to property and the public. Urgent or emergency site works are to be undertaken by an appropriately qualified specialist such as a structural engineer, or other heritage professional.
- Emergency stabilisation (including propping) necessary to secure safety where a site feature has been irreparably damaged or destabilised and represents a safety risk.
- The erection of temporary security fencing, scaffolding, hoardings or surveillance systems to prevent unauthorised access or secure public safety which will not adversely affect significant fabric of the place.
- Inspection, repair and maintenance of all structural elements, including bridge abutments and piers, by the Managing Authority in a manner that does not have a negative impact on the cultural heritage significance of the place.
- Inspection, repair, operation and maintenance of the road and public transport infrastructure, and pathways beneath the bridge, in a manner that does not have a negative impact on the cultural heritage significance of the place.
- Inspection, repair and maintenance of fixtures, including handrails, chairs, drainage, lighting and signage, in a manner that does not have a negative impact on the cultural heritage significance of the place.
- Inspection, repair, operation and maintenance of services, including electricity, lighting, telecommunications, drainage, sewerage and water in a manner that does not have a negative impact on the cultural heritage significance of the place.
- Temporary works that do not affect the cultural heritage significance of the place, such as the placement of traffic management signage, in a manner that does not have a negative impact on the cultural heritage significance of the place.