

Statement of recommendation from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria, to the Heritage Council of Victoria

Name: Traralgon Court House
Address: 161-165 Franklin Street,
Traralgon
Local Government Authority: Latrobe City



Traralgon Court House (November 2021)

The Court House is to the left and centre of the photo with the adjoining double-storied Post Office to the right.

Executive Director Recommendation

I recommend to the Heritage Council of Victoria that the existing registration of VHR H1488, the Traralgon Court House, 161-165 Franklin Street, Morwell, in the Victorian Heritage Register ('VHR') be amended under section 62 of the *Heritage Act 2017* ('the Act').

STEVEN AVERY
Executive Director, Heritage Victoria
DATE OF RECOMMENDATION: 18 May 2022



Statement of recommendation from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria, to the Heritage Council of Victoria

Executive Director Recommendation to the Heritage Council of Victoria

The Executive Director, Heritage Victoria ('Executive Director') recommends that the Heritage Council amends the existing registration of VHR H1488, the Traralgon Court House, 161-165 Franklin Street, Morwell, in the VHR by:

- Amending the category of registration
- Adding objects integral to a Registered Place
- Including additional land
- Determining categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to the place/object/object integral for which a permit is not required (permit exemptions)
- Changing the name of the place.



Statement of recommendation from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria, to the Heritage Council of Victoria

The process from here

1. The Heritage Council publishes the Executive Director's recommendation (section 41).

The Heritage Council will publish the Executive Director's recommendation on its website for a period of 60 days.

2. Making a submission to the Heritage Council (sections 44 and 45)

Within the 60-day publication period, any person or body with a real and substantial interest in the place or object can make a submission to the Heritage Council. This submission can support the recommendation, or object to the recommendation and a hearing can be requested in relation to the submission. Information about making a submission and submission forms are available on the Heritage Council's website:

<https://heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/registrations-reviews/executive-director-recommendations/>

3. Heritage Council determination (sections 46 and 49)

The Heritage Council is an independent statutory body. It is responsible for making the final determination to include or not include the place or object in the VHR, or amend a place or object already in the VHR.

If no submissions are received the Heritage Council must make a determination within 40 days of the publication closing date.

If submissions are received, the Heritage Council may decide to hold a hearing in relation to the submission. If a hearing does take place, the Heritage Council must make a determination within 90 days after the completion of the hearing.

4. Obligations of owners of places and objects (sections 42 and 43)

The owner of a place or object which is the subject of a recommendation to the Heritage Council has certain obligations under the Act. These relate to advising the Executive Director in writing of any works or activities that are being carried out, proposed or planned for the place.

The owner also has an obligation to provide a copy of this statement of recommendation to any potential purchasers of the place or object before entering into a contract.

5. Further information

The relevant sections of the Act are provided at Appendix 1.

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Recommendation

State-level cultural heritage significance of the place

The architectural cultural heritage significance of the Traralgon Court House was recognised in 1988 by its inclusion in the Register of Government Buildings (VHR H1488). Its State-level heritage values were recognised when it was transferred to the VHR in 1998. It is a notable example of a nineteenth century regional courthouse, with design elements inspired by Grecian architecture. Internally, the court room retains objects integral including the judge and clerk benches, jury box, prisoner dock, witness stand and porch.

The cultural heritage significance of its adjoining building, the Traralgon Post Office, was recognised in 2011 by its inclusion in the Commonwealth Heritage List (106141). As its cultural heritage values are protected under Commonwealth legislation - the *Environment Protection and Environment Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) - it is not recommended for addition to the amended registration of the Traralgon Court House.



Aerial showing the Traralgon Court House (solid line) and adjoining Post Office (dotted line).



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Proposed heritage category

The existing category of registration is Registered Place. It is proposed that the heritage category of the Traralgon Court House is amended to Registered Place and Registered object integral to a registered place.

Amendment application made on 18 February 2022

On 18 February 2022 the Executive Director made and accepted an application to amend the registration of the Traralgon Court House (VHR H1488) by including land, permit exemptions and objects integral, updating the Statement of Significance, amending the category of registration and changing the name of the place.

Amendment recommendation reasons

The Executive Director recommends that the Heritage Council amend this registration under its powers at s.49 of the Act because in accordance with s.49(1)(d)(i) and (ii) that:

- i) the State-level cultural heritage significance of the place would be substantially less if the land or any part of the land which is or has been used in conjunction with the place were developed; and
- ii) land surrounding the place is important to the protection or conservation of the place or contributes to the understanding of the place.

Reasons under section 49(1)(d)(i)

Under s.49(1)(d)(i) of the Act, the Heritage Council may determine to include additional land to a registered place if the State-level cultural heritage significance of the place would be substantially less if the land or any part of the land which is or has been used in conjunction with the place were developed.

The grounds of the Traralgon Court House are comparatively small. Any future development would necessarily take place within the grassed area (measuring approximately 10 x 20 metres) immediately to the south of the Court House building, or within the paved area facing Franklin Street (approximately 3 metres to the east of the façade of the courthouse building), or involve the demolition of ancillary structures to the south and west. If large-scale or modern development were constructed within these areas, it would have the potential to diminish the setting of the 1880s courthouse building and therefore reduce its State-level architectural values.

Reasons under section 49(1)(d)(ii)

Under s.49(1)(d)(ii) of the Act, the Heritage Council may determine to include additional land to a registered place if the land surrounding the place is important to the protection or conservation of the place or contributes to an understanding of the place.



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The proposed extent will enable adequate access to the east and south of the courthouse building for the purposes of future maintenance and conservation (e.g., for the erection of scaffolding, or access by machinery). The inclusion of these areas will also enable features that could potentially impact on the conservation of the building, such as drainage and paving, to be managed under an approvals process.

The proposed extent also includes extensions and ancillary structures to the south and west of the courthouse building – the 1951 Crown Lands Department offices, 1960s toilet block and 1960s garage. These areas are recommended for inclusion as any works to these structures would necessarily take place within 0 to 5 metres of the courthouse building and therefore have the potential to impact upon the State-level architectural values of the courthouse building. These areas also facilitate an understanding of the evolution of the place. Works to these buildings can largely be managed through standing permit exemptions.

Reasons for including Objects Integral

The definition of an ‘object’ can be found in the Heritage Council’s *Policy: objects integral to a registered place*. It should be noted that fixtures (such as window frames and decorative plasterwork) automatically form part of the registered place and are therefore protected under the Act.

Background

The Traralgon Court House and affixed Public Offices were constructed in 1886 by the Public Works Department. Various items of court furniture for the Court House were designed and made by a local timber merchant and carpenter, Mr. Ben Wallis of Princes Street. The judge’s bench, clerk’s desk, jury box, witness stand, prisoner’s dock and porch were all constructed of Kauri pine, ‘fronted with segmental panelling and ornamented’. The public seating, running the length of the room between the Franklin Street entrance and the barrister’s table (no longer extant) were made from cedar.¹ An 1886 architectural plan of the Public Offices shows the locations of these items pencilled around the court room (see Appendix 3).² These items have remained in the court room and in their current locations since the 1880s. Other non-fixed furniture was donated by members of the community and dates to the early twentieth century.³

Significance of the place

The Traralgon Court House is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria. Its significance lies in its association with the development of regional courthouses and public offices in Victoria, as well as the Grecian-inspired composition of the building.

Significance of the objects

While the cultural heritage values of the place are evident in the courthouse building, they are also evident in surviving objects at the place. These objects support an understanding of the place’s significance and its role as a court of law from the 1880s until the 1990s. They have remained largely in situ since the courthouse building was constructed in 1886.

The proposed inclusion of objects integral with the registration of the Traralgon Court House is informed by the Heritage Council’s *Policy: objects integral to a registered place*.

Objects integral

The following fixed and movable objects are integral to the Traralgon Court House:

1. Judge’s bench and platform
2. Clerk’s desk
3. Jury box

¹ *Gippsland Farmers’ Journal and Traralgon, Heyfield and Rosedale News*, 8 July 1887, p.4.

² ‘Public Offices Traralgon’, National Archives of Australia, NAA B3712.

³ Friends of the Court House, pers. comm., February 2022.

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4. Prisoner's dock
5. Witness stand
6. Public seats
7. Porch.

More details about these objects are listed in the Inventory at the back of this report.

Tests for the Inclusion of Objects Integral

The Heritage Council of Victoria's *Policy: objects integral to a registered place* notes that for the purposes of the Act, an object will be considered integral to a place if it satisfied the following tests.

Test 1 Contribution to meaning of the place		Test 2 Evidence of that contribution
The object (objects or collection) forms a key part of that place, being a component in its design, operation or use that contributes importantly to a richer and more complete understanding of its historical, cultural, technical, aesthetic and/or social meaning at a State level.	and	That contribution can be substantiated through physical, documentary or oral evidence.
Do the objects at the Traralgon Court House satisfy Test 1?		Do the objects at the Traralgon Court House satisfy Test 2?
The objects identified in the attached inventory are key components of the former use of the place. They assist in illustrating the function of the courthouse and in particular the activities of the court room. The objects contribute to a richer understanding of the place's significance.	and	The contribution can be substantiated through evidence in the form of newspaper articles, architectural drawings and oral history. Documentary evidence, such as the 1887 <i>Gippsland Farmers' Journal</i> article, provides a comprehensive written description of the court room's interiors. An architectural plan, dated 1886, shows the indicative placement of the objects throughout the courtroom. Each of these objects are largely still in situ and their purpose can easily be discerned.
The objects satisfy Test 1		The objects satisfy Test 2

Change of name

The place is currently named 'Court House' in the VHR. It is recommended that the place name be changed to Traralgon Court House to make the place more readily discernible from other court houses in the VHR.

Traditional Owner Information

The Traralgon Court House is located on the traditional land of the Gunaikurnai people. Under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, the Registered Aboriginal Party for this place is the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation.



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Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register

The Traralgon Court House is not included in the Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register.

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Statutory requirements under section 40.

Terms of the recommendation (section 40 (3)(a))

The Executive Director recommends that the registration of the Traralgon Court House in the VHR is amended.

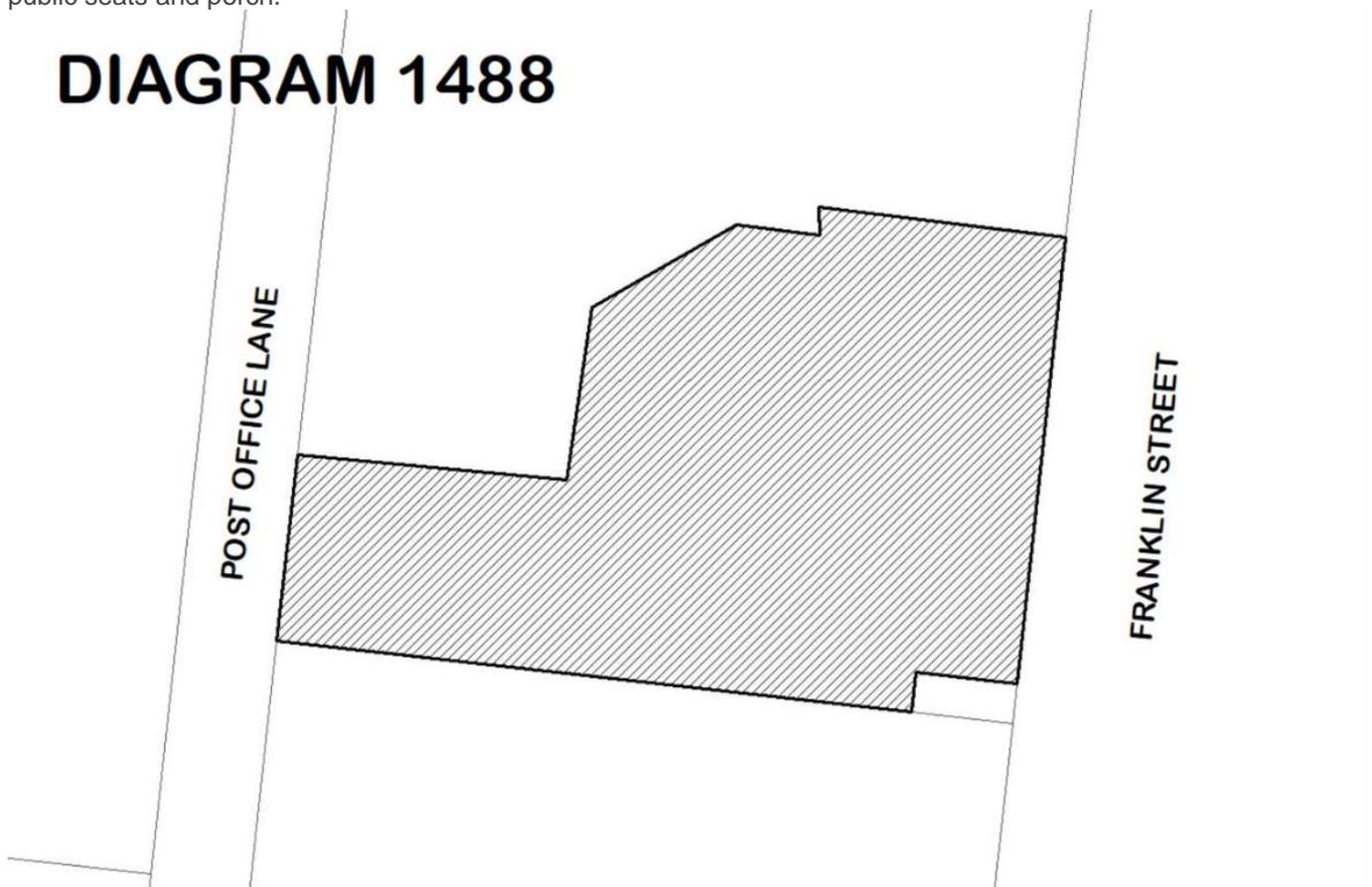
Information to identify the place or object (section 40(3)(b))

Name: Traralgon Court House

Address: 161-165 Franklin Street, Traralgon

Proposed extent of registration

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 1488 encompassing all of Crown Allotment 1D Section 2 Parish of Traralgon including the registered objects integral to the place which are listed in the inventory held by the Executive Director, being the judge's bench and platform, clerk's desk, jury box, witness stand, prisoner's dock, public seats and porch.



The extent of registration of the Traralgon Court House in the VHR affects the whole place shown on Diagram 1488 including the land, all buildings (including the exteriors and interiors), and registered objects integral to the place which are listed in the inventory held by the Executive Director, being the judge's bench and platform, clerk's desk, jury box, witness stand, prisoner's dock, public seats and porch.

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Aerial photo showing recommended extent



Note: This aerial view provides a visual representation of the place. It is not a precise representation of the recommended extent of registration. Due to distortions associated with aerial photography some elements of the place may appear as though they are outside the extent of registration.

Rationale for extent

The recommended extent of registration comprises the Traralgon Court House, its interiors and exteriors, objects integral, outbuildings and the land upon which they are located (Crown Allotment 1D Section 2 Township of Traralgon). The recommended extent is deemed suitable for the protection and conservation of the 1886 courthouse building, its objects integral and interiors. The Traralgon Post Office is not recommended for inclusion in the registered extent as it is currently located on land owned by the Commonwealth and cannot be included in the VHR.



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Statement of significance

What is significant?

The Traralgon Court House is a single-storey red brick courthouse adjoining the Traralgon Port Office, designed and constructed in 1886 by the Public Works Department. It includes loggia over the main entrances on Kay Street, objects integral to the court room and interiors.

How is it significant?

The Traralgon Court House is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criterion for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register:

Criterion A

Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history.

Criterion D

Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects

Why is it significant?

The Traralgon Court House is historically significant for its association with the establishment of substantial courthouses and public offices in regional towns during the late nineteenth century. It is a particularly impressive example which demonstrates the growth of civic administration and legal institutions in Victoria during this period. [Criterion A]

The Traralgon Court House is architecturally significant as a key part of this Public Office Complex designed by the Public Works Department and a notable example of its class. Externally, the court room takes a Grecian temple form with a gabled roof, ornamental iron ridge cresting and cartouche. The main entrances are accentuated by loggias and porticos which are supported by cast iron and brick columns and surmounted by balustrades with ornamental urns. The Court House retains a collection of fine and original court room furniture. [Criterion D]



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Categories of works or activities (permit exemptions) recommended under section 38 (section 40(4)(b))

Introduction

The purpose of this information is to assist owners and other interested parties when considering or making decisions regarding works to a registered place. It is recommended that any proposed works be discussed with an officer of Heritage Victoria prior to making a permit application. Discussing proposed works will assist in answering questions the owner may have and aid any decisions regarding works to the place.

It is acknowledged that alterations and other works may be required to keep places and objects in good repair and adapt them for use into the future. However, under the *Heritage Act 2017* a person must not knowingly, recklessly or negligently remove, relocate or demolish, damage or despoil, develop or alter or excavate all or any part of any part of a registered place without approval. It should be noted that the definition of 'develop' in the Act includes any works on, over or under the place.

If a person wishes to undertake works or activities in relation to a registered place or registered object, they must apply to the Executive Director for a permit. The purpose of a permit is to enable appropriate change to a place and to effectively manage adverse impacts on the cultural heritage significance of a place as a consequence of change. If an owner is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that Heritage Victoria be contacted.

Permits are required for anything which alters the place or object, unless a permit exemption is granted. Permit exemptions usually cover routine maintenance and upkeep issues faced by owners as well as minor works or works to the elements of the place or object that are not significant. They may include appropriate works that are specified in a conservation management plan. Permit exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under section 38 of the Act) or after registration (under section 92 of the Act). It should be noted that the addition of new buildings to the registered place, as well as alterations to the interior and exterior of existing buildings requires a permit, unless a specific permit exemption is granted.

Disrepair of registered place or registered object

Under section 152 of the Act, the owner of a registered place or registered object must not allow that place or object to fall into disrepair.

Failure to maintain registered place or registered object

Under section 153 of the Act, the owner of a registered place or registered object must not fail to maintain that place or object to the extent that its conservation is threatened.

Conservation management plans

The Traralgon Court House should be managed under the guidance of the *Traralgon Court House Conservation Management Plan Annexure: Policy Review and Permit Exemptions* (Conservation Studio, February 2021) and *Court House (and Post Office) Traralgon, Victoria: Conservation Management Plan* (Ivar Nelsen, September 2009).

Archaeology

There is no identified archaeology of State level significance at the place. However, any works that may affect historical archaeological features, deposits or artefacts at the place is likely to require a permit, permit exemption or consent. Advice should be sought from the Archaeology Team at Heritage Victoria.



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Aboriginal cultural heritage

To establish whether this place is registered under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* please contact First Peoples – State Relations in the Department of Premier and Cabinet. The *Heritage Act 2017* and the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* are separate pieces of legislation. Please be aware that both Acts are required to be satisfied and satisfying the requirements of one Act may not satisfy the requirements of the other.

If any Aboriginal cultural heritage is discovered or exposed at any time it is necessary to immediately contact First Peoples – State Relations in the Department of Premier and Cabinet to ascertain requirements under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*. If works are proposed which have the potential to disturb or have an impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage it is necessary to contact First Peoples – State Relations in the Department of Premier and Cabinet to ascertain any requirements under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

Other approvals

Please be aware that approval from other authorities (such as local government) may be required to undertake works.

Notes

- All works should ideally be informed by a Conservation Management Plan 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.
- Nothing in this determination prevents the Heritage Council from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
- Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits where applicable.

General Conditions

- All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place.
- Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place are revealed which relate to the significance of the place, then the exemption covering such works must cease and Heritage Victoria must be notified as soon as possible.

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Permit Exemptions

The following permit exemptions are not considered to cause harm to the cultural heritage significance of the Traralgon Court House.

General

- Minor repairs and maintenance which replaces like with like. Repairs and maintenance must maximise protection and retention of significant fabric and include the conservation of existing details or elements. Any repairs and maintenance must not exacerbate the decay of fabric due to chemical incompatibility of new materials, obscure fabric or limit access to such fabric for future maintenance.
- Maintenance, repair and replacement of existing external services such as plumbing, electrical cabling, surveillance systems, pipes or fire services which does not involve changes in location or scale.
- Repair to, or removal of items such as antennae; aerials; and air conditioners and associated pipe work, ducting and wiring.
- Works or activities, including emergency stabilisation, necessary to secure safety in an emergency where a structure or part of a structure has been irreparably damaged or destabilised and poses a safety risk to its users or the public. The Executive Director must be notified within seven days of the commencement of these works or activities.
- Painting of previously painted external and internal surfaces in the same colour and product type provided that preparation or painting does not remove all evidence of earlier paint finishes or schemes. This exemption does not apply to areas where there are specialist paint techniques such as graining, marbling, stencilling, hand-painting, murals or signwriting, or to wallpapered surfaces, or to unpainted, oiled or varnished surfaces.
- Cleaning including the removal of surface deposits by the use of low-pressure water (to maximum of 300 psi at the surface being cleaned) and neutral detergents and mild brushing and scrubbing with plastic (not wire) brushes.

Temporary installations

- The installation and/or erection of temporary elements associated with short term events. This includes:
 - Temporary (lightweight) structures such as shelters, marquees, tents and screens, provided they are not directly fixed into the fabric of the Court House building.
 - Temporary infrastructure including wayfinding/directional signage, lighting, public address systems, furniture and the like in support of events and performances which do not require fixing to the ground.

Interiors (1886 Court House)

- Works to maintain or upgrade existing bathrooms and kitchens, including installing new appliances, re-tiling and the like.
- Installation, removal or replacement of window furnishings and devices for mounting wall hung artworks, utilising existing penetrations where possible. All holes and fixings should be repaired following removal.
- Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings.
- Installation, removal or replacement of existing electrical wiring. If wiring is currently exposed, it should remain exposed. If it is fully concealed it should remain fully concealed.
- Removal or replacement of smoke and fire detectors, alarms and the like, of the same size and in existing locations.
- Repair, removal or replacement of existing ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the central plant is concealed, and that the work is done in a manner which does not alter building fabric.
- Installation of plant within the roof space, providing that it does not impact on the external appearance of the building or involve structural changes.
- Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.



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Landscape/outdoor areas

Hard landscaping and services

- Subsurface works to existing watering and drainage systems.
- Like for like repair and maintenance of existing hard landscaping including paving and footpaths, where the materials and form are unchanged.
- Maintenance, repair or replacement of all existing boundary fences, provided the scale of the replacement fences remains the same.

Gardening

- The processes of gardening including mowing, fertilising, removal of dead or diseased plants, disease and weed control and maintenance to care for existing plants.

Services

- Replacement of electrical, communications, gas, hydraulic, stormwater, fire and essential services where they utilise existing conduits, penetrations and do not result in damage or removal of significant fabric, and do not alter the external appearance of the place.
- Replacement or upgrade of below ground services, provided works do not result in damage or removal of significant fabric, and do not alter the external appearance of the place.

1960s toilet block and garage

- All works within the footprint of the 1960s toilet block and garage, provided they do not alter the external appearance of the buildings.



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Appendix 1

Heritage Council of Victoria determination (section 41)

The Heritage Council of Victoria is an independent statutory body that will make a determination on this recommendation under section 49 of the Act. It will consider the recommendation after a period of 60 days from the date the notice of recommendation is published on its website under section 41.

Making a submission to the Heritage Council (section 44)

Within the period of 60 days, any person or body with a real and substantial interest in the place or object may make a submission to the Heritage Council regarding the recommendation and request a hearing in relation to that submission. Information about making a submission and submission forms are available on the Heritage Council's website.

Consideration of submissions to the Heritage Council (section 46)

- (1) The Heritage Council must consider—
 - (a) any written submission made to it under section 44; and
 - (b) any further information provided to the Heritage Council in response to a request under section 45.
- (2) The Heritage Council must conduct a hearing in relation to a submission if—
 - (a) the submission includes a request for a hearing before the Heritage Council; and
 - (b) the submission is made by a person or body with a real or substantial interest in the place or object that is the subject of the submission.
- (3) Despite subsection (2), the Heritage Council may conduct a hearing in relation to a submission in any other circumstances the Heritage Council considers appropriate.

Determinations of the Heritage Council (section 49)

- (1) After considering a recommendation that a place or object should or should not be included in the Heritage Register and any submissions in respect of the recommendation and conducting any hearing into the submissions, the Heritage Council may—
 - (a) determine that the place or part of the place, or object, is of State-level cultural heritage significance and is to be included in the Heritage Register; or
 - (b) determine that the place or part of the place, or object, is not of State-level cultural heritage significance and is not to be included in the Heritage Register; or
 - (c) in the case of a recommendation in respect of a place, determine that the place is not to be included in the Heritage Register but—
 - (i) refer the recommendation and any submissions to the relevant planning authority for consideration for an amendment to a planning scheme; or
 - (ii) determine that it is more appropriate for steps to be taken under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 or by any other means to protect or conserve the place; or
 - (d) in the case of a recommendation in respect of additional land which has been nominated to be included in the Heritage Register as part of a registered place in accordance with section 32, determine that the land be included in the Heritage Register if—



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- (i) the State-level cultural heritage significance of the place would be substantially less if the land or any part of the land which is or has been used in conjunction with the place were developed; or
 - (ii) the land surrounding the place is important to the protection or conservation of the place or contributes to the understanding of the place; or
 - (e) determine that the object is integral to understanding the cultural heritage significance of a registered place or a place the Heritage Council has determined to be included in the Heritage Register.
- (2) The Heritage Council must make a determination under subsection (1)—
- (a) within 40 days after the date on which written submissions may be made under section 44; or
 - (b) if any hearing is conducted into the written submissions, within 90 days after the completion of the hearing.
- (3) A determination that a place or part of a place, or object, should be included in the Heritage Register may include categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to the place or object for which a permit under this Act is not required, if the Heritage Council considers that the works or activities would not harm the cultural heritage significance of the place or object.
- (4) If the Heritage Council determines to include a place in the Heritage Register, with the consent of the owner of the place, the Heritage Council may determine to include in the Heritage Register additional land of the owner that is ancillary to the place.
- (5) If a member of the Heritage Council makes a submission under section 44 in respect of a recommendation, the member must not take part in the consideration or determination of the Heritage Council.
- (6) The Heritage Council must notify the Executive Director of any determination under this section as soon as practicable after the determination.

Obligations of owners of places and objects (section 42)

- (1) The owner of a place or object to whom a statement of recommendation has been given must advise the Executive Director in writing of—
- (a) any works or activities that are being carried out in relation to the place or object at the time the statement is given; and
 - (b) any application for a planning permit or a building permit, or for an amendment to that permit, that has been made in relation to the place but not determined at the time the statement is given; and
 - (c) any works or activities that are proposed to be carried out in relation to the place or object at the time the statement is given.
- (2) An advice under subsection (1) must be given within 10 days after the statement of recommendation is given under section 40.
- (3) The owner of a place to whom a statement of recommendation has been given must advise the Executive Director in writing of an application, permit or amendment if, before a determination under section 49 or 52 in respect of a place—
- (a) an application for a planning permit or a building permit or for an amendment to that permit in relation to the place is made; or
 - (b) a planning permit or building permit or an amendment to that permit in relation to the place is granted.



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- (4) An advice under subsection (3) must be given within 10 days after the making of the application or the grant of the permit or amendment.
- (5) The owner of a place or object to whom a statement of recommendation has been given must advise the Executive Director in writing of the following activities or proposals if, before a determination is made under section 49 or 52 in respect of a place or object—
 - (a) any activities are carried out in relation to the place or object that could harm the place or object;
 - (b) any activities are proposed to be carried out in relation to the place or object that could harm the place or object.
- (6) An advice under subsection (5) must be given within 10 days after the owner becomes aware of the activity or the proposal, as the case requires.
- (7) If, before a determination is made under section 49 or 52 in respect of a place or object, a proposal is made to dispose of the whole or any part of the place or object, the owner of the place or object must advise the Executive Director in writing of that proposal.
- (8) An advice under subsection (7) must be given at least 10 days before entering into the contract for the disposal of the place or object.
- (9) The owner of a place or object who proposes to dispose of the whole or any part of the place or object before a determination is made under section 49 or 52 in respect of the place or object must, before entering into a contract for that disposal, give a copy of the statement of proposed contract, is to acquire the place or object or part of the place or object.

Owners of places and objects must comply with obligations (section 43)

An owner of a place or object to whom section 42 applies must comply with that section.

Penalty: In the case of a natural person, 120 penalty units;
In the case of a body corporate, 240 penalty units.



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Appendix 2: Existing registration detail

Existing Category of Registration

Registered place.

Existing Extent of Registration

Amendment of Register of Government Buildings, Traralgon City, Court House, Franklin Street, Traralgon. [Victoria Government Gazette No. G39 12 October 1988 p.3094]

No extent diagram accompanies this registration.

Existing Statement of Significance

The [Post Office and] Court House is a major 19th century building in Traralgon located on a key site and retaining most of its original architectural details. It is of regional historic significance as a symbol of Traralgon's development and importance as a regional centre for communications and civic administration. Architecturally it is of national significance as an example of a building complex with substantially intact features which demonstrate a variety of Victorian medieval and classical ideas combined in the one building.

Existing Permit Exemptions

There are no existing permit exemptions for this place.

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Appendix 3: Inventory of objects

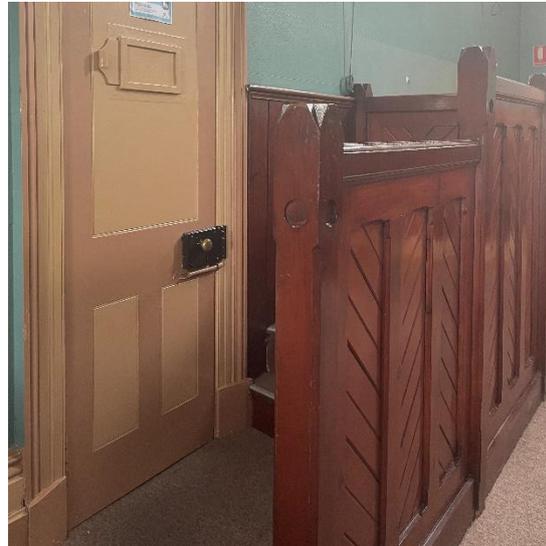
HV object #	Object name	Location (as of November 2021)	Image
1	Judge's bench and platform	Court room	
2	Clerk's desk	Court room	
3	Jury box	Court room	

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4 Witness stand Court room



5 Prisoner's dock Court room



6 Public seats Court room



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7

Porch

Court room



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Appendix 4: Historical information – objects integral

TRARALGON PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

On the spot where a few months ago the old worn and unsightly police quarters stood, with their gaping sides, and moss-grown shingle roofs, is now erected a pile of what competent architectural judges have pronounced to be the handsomest public building in Gippsland, consisting of Court-house, Post-office, and Sub-treasury, with their necessary offices. The architecture is of a composite order, in which the Elizabethan style predominates, and the arched windows, with their centre supporting columns and highly ornamental settings, the solid granite approaches and handsome friezes, at once fix the attention of the visitor. Perhaps the only incongruity discoverable is the position and size of the clock tower, which appears to have been an afterthought, and which had to be placed on a portion of the building where no provision had been made for its erection. The tower itself might with advantage have been of a greater altitude, but as it is, it is a handsome erection and produces a good effect. The contractor for the buildings which have now been handed over to the Government is Mr. W. N. Frogley, who is at present engaged in the erection of a bank at Warragul. To the energy of Mr. Peterkin the town is indebted for its tower.

The interior is equally handsome with its exterior, and the furniture and fittings of the buildings are in harmony with the whole. By the courtesy of the contractor, Mr Ben Wallis, of Princes-street, we were enabled to inspect these latter, and have to congratulate the town on its possessing tradesmen competent to turn out such excellent and artistic work. The court-house, with the adjoining judges and magistrates' chambers and clerk's and witnesses' rooms were first visited. The bench is a handsome dais of Kauri pine, fronted with segmental panneling and supported by square pillars of the same wood, handsomely ornamented and chamfered. The desk to the bench, which runs along the whole

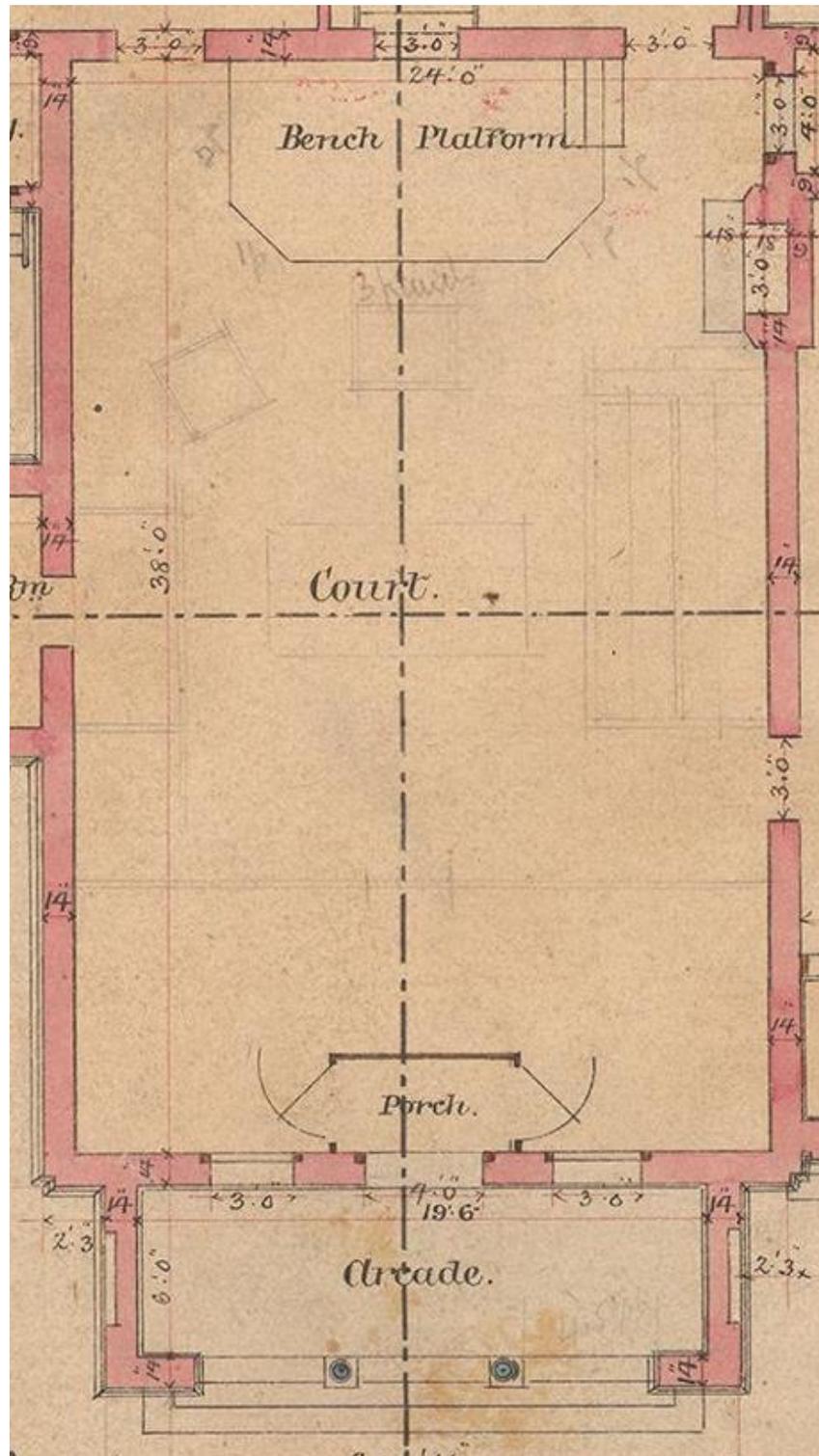
to the bench, which runs along the whole length of the dais, is of polished Kauri, inlaid with morocco leather. The floor of the dais is covered with linoleum, as is also that of the clerk's desk beneath the dais. This latter as well as the jury box, witness box, and prisoner's dock are all of Kauri, fronted with segmental panneling and ornamented. The barristers' table in front of the clerk's desk occupies the centre of the court, having the dock and witness box on one hand and the jury box on the other. The seat for witnesses runs across the entire width of the court, behind the barristers table, and immediately in front of the railing at rear of entrance porch. The barristers' table is of polished cedar, the top inlaid with morocco leather, same as the bench and clerk's desks. We may mention here that the roof of the court is of segmental pine, painted white, chamfered brackets, with ornamental cast ventilators of diamond shape, the uniform white of the roof being relieved by the dark brown of the brackets. The magistrates and clerks room are furnished with polished cedar writing tables fitted with drawers, and each has a handsome washstand with closing top, backed by square mirrors and fitted with pannelled and moulded polished cedar doors.

The post-office was next visited, and the contrast between the accommodation in the old building which had to serve the purpose for so many years, and that of the present one, is too marked to be overlooked. The stamping table is a massive one of Kauri pine with a fifteen-hole stamp rack, the top being a slab of Castlemaine slate bedded with half-inch India-rubber inlaid. The sorting table is of polished Kauri, the top being covered with Kamptulicon and shelves with green cloth. The store press, which is of clear pine, has its top fitted with twenty-four pigeon holes and its underneath cupboard with shelves and divisions. The pigeon holes for mails are of polished cedar, as is also the post-masters table, which has shelving and pigeon-holes for books and papers, and closed by desk front, which when opened rests on polished cedar slab fitted underneath with drawers. The office is sur-

Gippsland Farmers' Journal and Traralgon, Heyfield and Rosedale News, 8 July 1887, p.4.

Source: National Library of Australia

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Detail of 1886 architectural plan with the location of fixtures labelled and pencilled.

Source: National Archives of Australia, NAA B3712.