

# RUTHERGLEN RESEARCH INSTITUTE



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INSTITUTE SOHE 2008



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h01650 rutherglen research  
institute chiltern valley  
rutherglen external view she  
project 2003



H1650 H1650 plan

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## Location

124 CHILTERN VALLEY ROAD RUTHERGLEN, INDIGO SHIRE

## Municipality

INDIGO SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1650

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO111

## VHR Registration

October 12, 1988

## Amendment to Registration

May 23, 1998

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 25, 1999

The Rutherglen Research Institute, formerly the Rutherglen Viticultural College and Viticultural Station, had its origins in 1888. The Rutherglen district was then the rapidly growing centre of the wine industry.

The Government appointed two viticultural experts, Signors Federli and Bragato, the latter a graduate of the college at Conegliano, Italy. Bragato proposed a model winery, and to this end in July 1891 collaborated with the Public Works Department architect George Watson. The cost of the winery was then estimated at £2,000 with £1,400 for equipment. Initially, the cellars were intended to store 10,000 gallons of wine with provisions to extension to 100,000 gallons storage. During 1893 and 1894 the Board of Viticulture and Victorian winegrowers pressed the Minister of Agriculture to build the college and winery. The economic collapse of the 1890s held up plans and it was not until 1895 that Government officials were instructed to proceed.

Land had been set aside for the college as far back as 1889 when it was recommended that 200 acres at Chiltern West be set aside for a school of viticulture. The land was an old expired Crown Lease that for the past ten years had been a mining lease. It was well-located just outside the town of Rutherglen. The first vines were planted in that same year.

The Viticultural College was modelled on the School of Viticulture at Montpellier in France, being designed to accommodate 50 students and staff. The buildings and cellars supervised by the Public Works Department. A memorial stone was laid on 12 June 1896 when a silver trowel was presented to the Minister for Agriculture JW Taverner at which Professor Bragato and his pupils were present. The Viticultural College main building was opened by the Governor of Victoria, Lord Brassey KCB on 31 March 1897 during a two day visit to the district.

On the south side and down the slope were the brick wine cellars 90' x 60', partly dug into the hill side for coolness. They were concrete floored, one of the few in the district, with cement fermenting vats in a separate cellar from the storage cellar, being separated by double sliding doors. The roof was arched galvanized iron inside, supported by large H iron beams. Above this was a concrete roof.

[Source: Report to the Minister]

### 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](#).

Construction dates	1896,
Architect/Designer	Watson, George W.,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	WINERY BUILDING,
Hermes Number	1006
Property Number	

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## History

Associated People: Assoc.People BRAGATO & FEDERLI, RAYMOND DUBOIS

## Extent of Registration

Amendment of Register of Government Buildings

Rutherglen Research Institute, Chiltern Valley Road, Rutherglen to the extent of the buildings shown hatched on the plan marked "A" held by the Ministry for Planning and Environment.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G39 12 October 1988 p.3085]

Transferred to the Victorian Heritage Register 23 May 1998 (2 years after the proclamation of the Heritage Act 1995 pursuant to the transitional provisions of the Act)

*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/>*