
THE FORMER SUPREME COURT BUILDING

Location

196 MYERS STREET GEELONG, GREATER GEELONG CITY

Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7721-0088

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 5, 2002

Potential for sub-surface remains - foundations as site has not had intrusive subsequent use and is currently surfaced as a carpark.

Interpretation of Site Prior to the construction of the Supreme Court, the land was used (even before 1854) as a military barracks. The barracks, consisting of a number of buildings, were scattered across the western half of the gaol reserve. Possibly also quarters for married men in the police force and barracks for British soldiers. From 1898, the western section of the reserve had orderly rooms for the drilling of volunteers and regular soldiers. By 1901 the land became a Defence department property.

Hermes Number 12703

Property
Number

History

The Supreme Court was erected on a strip of land between the gaol and military barracks, Myers Street Geelong in c1860 to a design by JJ Clark at a cost of ?8663. It was a two-storey Barrabool freestone building fronting Myers Street. Alterations were undertaken in 1877 to the design of J Clark. The Barrabool freestone has severely deteriorated and the building was in a poor state. A house was constructed at the rear of the Supreme Court for the commissioner or clerk of courts. All court business was transferred to the Myers Street Supreme Court by 1924. During the late 1930s the Gheringhap Street court complex had been substantially altered and the Supreme Court was demolished in 1940.

The residence and outbuildings appear to have been demolished some time after. The former Supreme Court site was used as a prison garden for inmates and car-parking for gaol wardens. Having been sub-divided from the original crown allotment (Lot 22a Section 14) it was transferred to the Commonwealth in 1994 for defence training and a number of small sheds were erected. These were demolished and the site was partly gravel and partly rough ground in the mid 1990s but was completely sealed in asphalt in about 1997-8.

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/>