
JACKS MAGAZINE CANAL, LOADING DOCK AND WHARVES



Jack's Magazine Canal And Wharf Maribyrnong July 2003 001



Jack's Magazine Canal And Wharf Maribyrnong July 2003 002



Jack's Magazine Canal And Wharf Maribyrnong July 2003 003



Jack's Magazine Canal And Wharf Maribyrnong July 2003 004

Location

EDGEWATER BOULEVARD MARIBYRNONG, MARIBYRNONG CITY

Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-0449

Heritage Listing

Jill Barnard Review of Jack's magazine HI listing

The loading dock (B7) is described and included in the registration of H 1154 (Jack's Magazine). The canal is included in the extent of registration (all of the land marked L1) and is described as significant.

There is no evidence that wharves on the Saltwater River were included in the original design of Jack's Magazine. Several contracts were let for the construction of the powder magazine between 1876 and 1878, but none of them mentions the construction of a wharf.

Interpretation
of Site

The *Argus*, 13 January 1875 described how the magazine was designed. Lighters would ferry gunpowder up the Saltwater River to the 300 foot long canal and along the canal to the loading dock. It was planned that a small crane would be located on the dock. Tramways were planned to ferry the gunpowder from the dock to the magazines (*Argus*, 13 January 1875, p.6).

It is possible that remnant piles and sheet piling close to the canal entrance on the Maribyrnong River (identified in MIAP Stage One) date from the establishment of the adjacent Colonial Ammunition Company's works in 1890. The company, which built an extensive factory complex (later acquired by the Commonwealth Government and becoming the Commonwealth Ammunition Factory) built a wharf (with crane) on the Saltwater River (*Argus*, 5 April 1890, p.6).

Other Names

JACKS MAGAZINE WHARVES, JACKS MAGAZINE CANAL, JACKS MAGAZINE LOADING DOCK, JACK'S MAGAZINE CANAL, JACK'S MAGAZINE CANAL, LOADING DOCK AND WHARVES, JACK'S MAGAZINE LOADING DOCK, JACK'S MAGAZINE WHARVES,

Hermes
Number

13731

Property
Number

History

Jacks Powder Magazine was built in 1875-76 and opened in 1878. By 1891, it was the largest and most important public magazine in the colony. Explosives from vessels in Hobsons Bay were transported upriver to Jack's Magazine, where they were unloaded onto barges at the entrance to the canal and/or proceeded 400 yards up the canal to offload at the canal loading dock. From here the explosives were offloaded onto a tramway that proceeded through a tunnel into the main explosives depot.

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/>