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# FORMER PORT FAIRY SEA BATHS

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## Location

OCEAN DRIVE PORT FAIRY, MOYNE SHIRE

## Municipality

MOYNE SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7321-0073

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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Interpretation of Site	No identifiable evidence of the baths were observed. The brick and concrete found in the area most likely relate to what appears to be a 20th century toilet block. It is unclear as to how the baths were constructed. It is possible that they were built into the ground and if so it would be filled in. It is possible that the toilet block may have been built over the baths.
Archaeological Significance	Knowledge of the size and construction of the baths would be of interest, particularly in learning how the baths were filled by a hydraulic system of pipes and pumps. Pipe trenches where water may have been drawn up from the sea may be present, as well as the base of a windmill. This would provide some insights into the attention paid by the community towards this type of amenity with its resultant health and recreational benefits. Artefacts deposited by bathers around the baths would give some indication as to the activities that took place around it.
Historical Significance	The baths represent efforts by the civic authorities to create facilities for communal benefit in the form of recreation and health. The baths also reflect a time where the sea was still seen as a dangerous place for recreational pursuits and that engagement with sea water and its healthy properties needed to be conducted in places rendered contained and safe.

Hermes Number 154842

Property  
Number

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## History

A structure marked as "baths" appears on an 1870s plan of Port Fairy. It is possibly associated with the Corporation Baths of which the tanks and windmills were reportedly near the present parking area overlooking the western entrance to The Passage.

*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/>*