

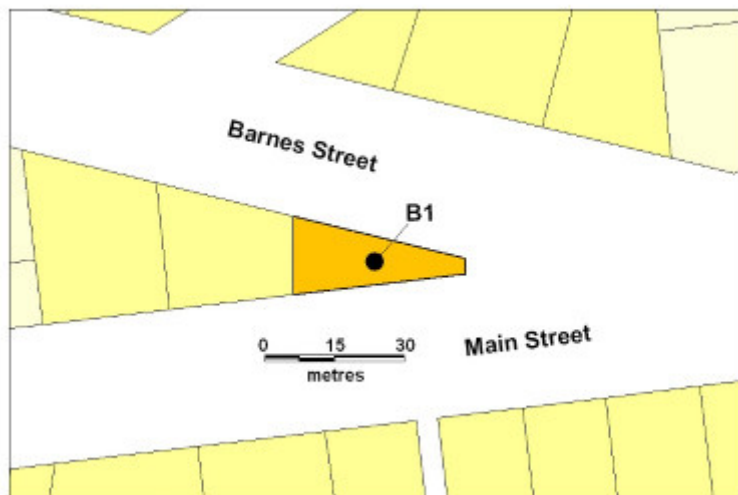
# COMMONWEALTH MEMORIAL



COMMONWEALTH  
MEMORIAL, STAWELL  
SOHE 2008



1 commonwealth memorial  
stawell



commonwealth memorial stawell plan

## Location

CNR MAIN STREET AND BARNES STREET STAWELL, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1943

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO28

## VHR Registration

June 14, 2001

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Commonwealth Memorial at Stawell was erected to commemorate the inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth on 1st January 1901. It was declared open by Mr T Skene, the Federal Member of the House of Representatives for the district, in a ceremony on 24 August 1903. The first call for a memorial was made by the local branch of the Australian Natives Association in late 1900. After a public meeting on the matter, a committee was formed and a sporting carnival organised to raise money for the memorial. The event was delayed because of fears of low attendance during the Federation celebrations in Melbourne, and finally took the form of a moonlight concert and dance near the Town Hall on 27 February 1901. Thirty pounds was raised and another thirty pounds had been given by the Borough Council. The memorial was built by Stawell monumental masons George Robson & George Gray.

The memorial is placed in a prominent position on a small block at a major street intersection in the town, and can be readily viewed from all sides. The form of the memorial is derived from the domed circular temple, a common device in the Victorian era for combined drinking fountains and lamps. The base and dome are in Stawell stone, the four columns in rose granite and black marble. The fountain no longer functions, and the iron gaslight structure has recently been reconstructed.

How is it significant?

The Commonwealth Memorial at Stawell is of historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Commonwealth Memorial at Stawell is of historical significance as possibly the only memorial in Victoria to be specifically dedicated to the inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth. A number of other monuments in the State can be connected with Federation but relate either to events further removed from the inauguration, or to specific persons involved in the lead-up to Federation. There were few buildings of any kind in the State specifically constructed for purposes related to Federation.

The Stawell memorial is of historical significance as an expression of the enthusiasm for Federation of the residents of Stawell.

## 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](#).

### **Specific Exemptions:**

#### General Conditions:

1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

#### Exemptions:

##### Landscaping:

1. Repairs, conservation and maintenance to hard landscape elements other than the memorial, including asphalt and gravel paths and roadways, edging and fences.
2. Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering and drainage systems.
3. Regular garden maintenance and re-planting

Construction dates            1901,

Heritage Act Categories    Registered place,

Hermes Number                5662

Property Number

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## Assessment Against Criteria

### Criterion A

The historical importance, association with or relationship to Victoria's history of the place or object.

The Commonwealth Memorial at Stawell is of historical significance as possibly the only memorial in Victoria to be specifically dedicated to the inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth. A number of other monuments in the State can be connected with Federation but relate either to events further removed from the inauguration, or to specific persons involved in the lead-up to Federation. There were few buildings of any kind in the State specifically constructed for purposes related to Federation.

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### Criterion B

The importance of a place or object in demonstrating rarity or uniqueness.

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### Criterion C

The place or object's potential to educate, illustrate or provide further scientific investigation in relation to Victoria's cultural heritage.

### Criterion D

The importance of a place or object in exhibiting the principal characteristics or the representative nature of a place or object as part of a class or type of places or objects.

### Criterion E

The importance of the place or object in exhibiting good design or aesthetic characteristics and/or in exhibiting a richness, diversity or unusual integration of features.

### Criterion F

The importance of the place or object in demonstrating or being associated with scientific or technical innovations or achievements.

### Criterion G

The importance of the place or object in demonstrating social or cultural associations.

### Criterion H

Any other matter which the Council considers relevant to the determination of cultural heritage significance

## Extent of Registration

1. All of the building known as the Commonwealth Memorial Stawell marked B1 on diagram 1943 held by the Executive Director

2. All of the land marked L1 on diagram 1943 held by the Executive Director [*being all of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 2936 Folio 015*]

*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/>*