

## RAIL BRIDGE



RAIL BRIDGE SOHE 2008



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1 rail bridge curdies river  
timboon side view jun1984



rail bridge curdies river  
timboon curdies siding  
jun1984



rail bridge curdies river  
timboon rail tracks jun1984



rail bridge curdies river  
timboon trestle detail jun1984



rail bridge at curdies siding timboon plan

### Location

OVER CURDIES RIVER, LIMeworks ROAD TIMBOON, CORANGAMITE SHIRE

### Municipality

CORANGAMITE SHIRE

### Level of significance

Registered

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1442

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO130

## VHR Registration

August 20, 1982

## Amendment to Registration

July 20, 2000

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 3, 2000

What is significant?

The Rail Bridge over Curdies River, Curdies Siding, Timboon, was constructed in 1892 on the Timboon-Camperdown Line by Buscombe, Chappell & Bell for the Victorian Railways. It is a single track, 31 span timber trestle bridge spanning the river and flood plain with a variety of two and four pile pier types, with and without stay piles. The trestles are constructed of large diameter timber bush poles bolted together, with sawn timber superstructure and footway, employing traditional and utilitarian bridge and wharf building techniques. The footway was removed c.1920 and the line has been discontinued.

How is it significant?

The Rail Bridge over Curdies River, Curdies Siding, Timboon is historically and architecturally significant to the state of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Rail Bridge is historically significant in that it was erected to facilitate development of the Heytesbury area, and providing a line of communication with the coastal town at Port Campbell. The railway gave access to markets for local industries, including the creamery and butter factory.

It is architecturally significant as a notable example of timber trestle bridge construction, which demonstrates a distinctive and presently rarely used construction method that utilised the best qualities of the native bush timbers. Constructed of local Heytesbury forest timber, the bridge illustrates vernacular bridge building traditions of the late nineteenth century, displaying a variety of two and four pile pier types. It is one of the few surviving railway structures of this type in Victoria.

## 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 alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner that 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.
5. 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.

No permit is required for works on the deck of the bridge, the incorporated superstructure which supports the track, for the maintenance of operational and safety standards, or for any emergency works relating to the substructure and superstructure of the bridge.

Construction dates	1892,
Architect/Designer	Buscombe, Chappell & Bell,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	CURDIES SIDING,
Hermes Number	1154
Property Number	

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### **History**

The Rail Bridge is historically significant in that it was erected to facilitate development of the Heytesbury Forest, and providing a line of communication with the coastal town at Port Campbell. Constructed of local Heytesbury forest timber, the bridge illustrates vernacular bridge building traditions of the late nineteenth century, and it is one of the few surviving railway structures of this type in Victoria. (Beeston, 1995)

## **Extent of Registration**

1. The entire bridge structure known as the Former Railway Bridge over Curdies River, Curdies Siding, Timboon (B1), including the timber superstructure, bracing and piles, as marked on plan 602377 held by the Executive Director.

2. All of the land surrounding the bridge structure marked L1 on plan 602377 held by the Executive Director, being part of Crown Land vested in Victorian Rail Track.

*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/>*