

# YOUL'S CREEK BRIDGE



BRIDGE SOHE 2008



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1 bridge over youls creek  
woolsthorpe side view  
jun1984

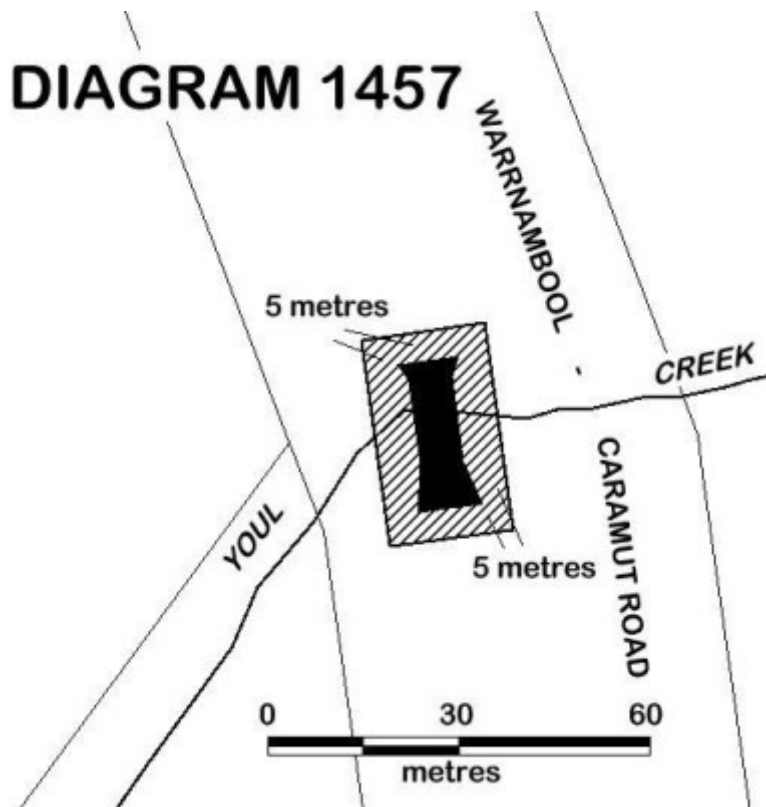


Diagram 1457.JPG

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## Location

OVER YOULS CREEK, CARAMUT-WARRNAMBOOL ROAD WOOLSTHORPE, MOYNE SHIRE

## Municipality

MOYNE SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1457

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO34

## VHR Registration

August 20, 1982

## Amendment to Registration

August 10, 2017

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

### What is significant?

The Youl's Creek Road Bridge is a small, single-span bluestone bridge built in 1856 to a design by Dilmond John Howes, who was engineer of the Belfast District Roads Board and later the Shire of Belfast. The bridge is built of regularly coursed bluestone, which was probably quarried in the district. It is composed of a single segmental arch, with a bluestone parapet and wingwalls. An inscribed stone set inside the parapet at mid-span reads 'Belfast District Roads Board 1856 / D.J. Howes Engineer'.

Civil engineer D.J. Howes emigrated from Ireland and arrived in Victoria in 1853; he was appointed secretary and engineer of the newly formed Belfast Roads Board the same year. On his death in 1901 he was recognised as the longest serving civil engineer in Victoria. Howes was also associated with the design of a number of bridges within the jurisdiction of the Belfast Roads Board and also (reputedly) with the building of own home, Talara, in Port Fairy [H255].

The bridge over Youl's Creek on the Warrnambool-Caramut Road, 9.5 km north-north-east of Woolsthorpe, was constructed to meet the demands of heavy traffic carrying fresh produce from the south-western agricultural districts around Port Fairy and Warrnambool to the goldfields in the 1850s. This traffic to the goldfields was

mainly in fresh vegetables (grain was severely affected by wheat rust in 1864). Woolsthorpe was a small town and coaching stop situated roughly midway between the south-west seaboard and the town of Caramut, the road north continued from Caramut to Ararat, Stawell and the western goldfields. The bridge would have also assisted the heavy and frequent movement of stock through what was a predominantly pastoral district in the 1850s.

### **How is it significant?**

The Youl?s Creek Road Bridge is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

### **Why is it significant?**

The Youl?s Creek Road Bridge is historically and architecturally significant as an example of one of the oldest stone bridges in Victoria (perhaps the oldest in Victoria). It is also a rare surviving example of an early single-span stone bridge.

The Youl?s Creek Road Bridge is also historically significant because it demonstrates the extent of south-north traffic in western Victoria in the early 1850s, due to the large population in the goldfields and the large agricultural production in south-western Victoria, and the demand this created for improved roads and road bridges

The Youl?s Creek Road Bridge is also historically important as one of the earliest surviving municipal engineering works in the State and for its association with Dilmond John Howes, an early and long-serving civil engineer in Victoria.

*[Online Data Upgrade Project 2004]*

## **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. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works 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 works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be

necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component.

General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Construction dates	1856,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	WOOLSTHORPE BRIDGE, YOULS CREEK BRIDGE, BRIDGE,
Hermes Number	1238
Property Number	

## History

This small bluestone bridge dates from 1856 and is believed to be Victoria's oldest existing bridge. The bridge carries a 6.4m roadway and has a single segmental bluestone arch of span 8.1m, with a bluestone parapet and wingwalls. The height from water level to the deck is 3.7m. There is an inscribed stone set inside the parapet at mid span. The inscription reads: 'Belfast District Road Board 1856, D J Howes, engineer'. Dilmond Howes was Shire Engineer. (Online data Upgrade Project October 2003)

**The draft statement of significance and the above history were produced as part of an Online Date Upgrade Project 2004. Sources were as follows:**

Australian Heritage Commission. *Register of the National Estate*.

Doyle, Helen, and Context P/L. 'Moyne Shire Heritage Study: Stage 1', Prepared for Moyne Shire, 2003. SLV 'Pictoria'.

Syme, Marten. *Seeds of a Settlement*, 1991, pp. 124-25.

## Extent of Registration

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the **Heritage Act 1995**, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by modifying the following places in the Heritage Register:

Number: H1457

Category: Heritage Place

Name: Youl's Creek Bridge

Location: Over Youl's Creek,

Caramut-Warrnambool Road, Woolsthorpe

Moyne Shire

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 1457 encompassing part of the road reserve for the Warrnambool-Caramut Road being a curtilage of 5 metres from the bridge.

Dated 10 August 2017

STEVEN AVERY  
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette G 32 10 August 2017 1711]

*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/>*