
Bacchus Marsh Boer War Memorial



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Location

Main Street BACCHUS MARSH, MOORABOOL SHIRE

Municipality

MOORABOOL SHIRE

Level of significance

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Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 127023

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Stone column and drinking fountain

Historical Australian Themes

Remembering the fallen

Usage/Former Usage

Commemoration

Veterans Description for Public

The Bacchus Marsh Boer War Memorial is located in Main Street (outside the Post Office). It is an abstracted and eclectic Gothic commemorative monument, with three colours of granite. There is a light grey square plinth of three levels. The uppermost level has chamfered corners. This is surmounted by a polished Indian red cylindrical granite base. Projecting from this is a drinking fountain basin moulded in the same material. The cylindrical shaft is dark grey polished granite. This is capped with red granite in the moulded and gabled form of a rook chess piece. Two reducing moulds follow, in dark grey, then red granite. The finial is reducing octagonal crystalline-shaped, terminating in a four-sided poppyhead. There are various inscriptions, inscribed with gold leaf.

The South African War Memorial Drinking Fountain was unveiled in November 1901, commemorating the local volunteers who fought in the Boer War, 1899-1902 (rather than casualties). Designed and erected by Messrs Chambers and Cutten, the War Memorial Fountain, 'in imperishable granite', testified, in the words of S.T. Staughton, 'to the unity of the Empire and the determination and ability of the British race to uphold it.'

It is of state historical significance as a rare example of a Boer War memorial and as the embodiment of an early expression by the community to unprecedentedly embrace an international engagement. It is also of historical significance in the town for its association with an important and influential local figure. Finally, it has architectural significance as a striking design, which has endured as a presence in the streetscape for almost a century.

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/>