

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 21/02/19

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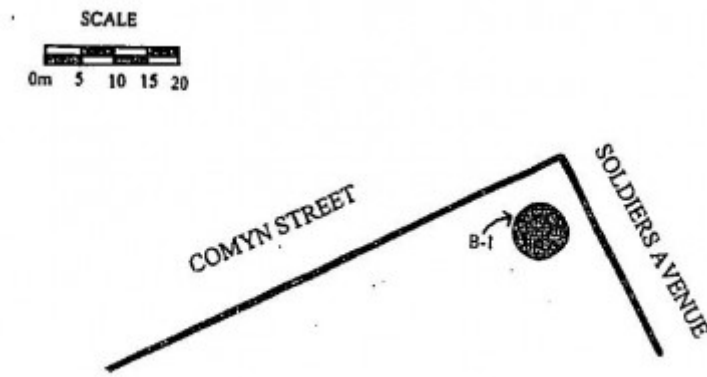
FORMER RAILWAY WATER TOWER



FORMER RAILWAY WATER TOWER
SOHE 2008



1 former railway water tower comyn
avenue murtoa front view



h01193 plan h1193

Location

COMYN STREET and SOLDIERS AVENUE MURTOA, YARRIAMBIACK SHIRE

Municipality

YARRIAMBIACK SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1193

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO41

VHR Registration

July 25, 1996

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 11, 1999

What is significant?

The former Railway Water Tower was constructed in 1885 for the Victorian Railways; it was constructed by the Geelong firm of Humble and Nicholson. The face-brick tower is 13 metres high with a riveted wrought-iron tank at the top. Each level of the tower is marked with a string mould and the tank itself has a cornice-like rim and a basalt coping base. Each level of the tower has arched windows and, aligned with the entry door, segmented-arched openings for loading. The tower is now used as a museum by the Murtoa and District Historical Society.

How is it significant?

The former Railway Water Tower is of architectural and historical importance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The cylindrical tower is of architectural significance as an important example of a building type. The building, one of only six remaining brick water towers in Victoria, is a rare surviving example of an industrial building type and is important for its ability to demonstrate early building technology. The tower is a fine example of the skills of 19th century bricklayers.

The former Railway Water Tower is historically significant for its association with the Victorian Railways and 19th century steam engines. The building was constructed in 1885 to provide a watering service for steam locomotives, travelling on the Serviceton/Adelaide line, and it remains as a testimony to the age of steam power. The building demonstrates the importance of railway networks and infrastructure, which existed to service the steam engines, and it is also of significance for its later use as a storage tank for the town's reticulated water supply.

Construction dates	1885,
Heritage Act Categories	Heritage place,
Other Names	MURTOA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM,
Hermes Number	1294

Property Number

History

Associated People: Owner MURTOA WATERWORKS TRUST; Tenant MURTOA & DISTRICT HISTORICAL SOCIETY;

Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER

Under Section 18 of the **Heritage Act 1995** the Executive Director amends the Heritage Register by including Heritage Register Number 1193:

Former Railway Water Tower (now Museum)

Corner of Comyn Street and Soldiers Avenue

Murtoa

Shire of Yarriambiack

Heritage Place Category.

To the extent of:

1. To the extent of all of the building known as the former Railway Water Tower, Murtoa marked B-1 on Plan 600077 endorsed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council. [Victoria Government Gazette No. G29 25 July 1996 p.1923]

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 data owner.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>