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# WARRNAMBOOL TRAMWAY RESERVE

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## Location

209 MERRI STREET AND 10 MACKAY CRESCENT WARRNAMBOOL, MOYNE SHIRE, WARRNAMBOOL CITY

## Municipality

MOYNE SHIRE

WARRNAMBOOL CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7321-0097

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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### Interpretation of Site

The original ground of Tramway reserve appears to have sloped down from Merri Street to the south and west. The tramline to the jetty commenced at around the intersection of Merri and Fairy Streets, close where the Station is at present. To the east along Merri Streets a number of allotments were established and by 1870 a number of buildings were on nine of these allotments.

Archaeological  
Significance

The archaeological significance of the potential remains on this site lie in their ability to provide information on the nature of and activities that took place within the buildings along Merri Street as well as indicating the layout of the Fairy Street tramway terminus with its associated stores. There is also a possibility that remains associated with the tram line terminus - foundation, sleepers, strip footings (post holes of stores and external hard surfaces - may be present under the car park around the Station). Remains associated with the eastern most buildings (footings, post holes, underfloor deposits and pits) however are likely to be present between the railway corridor and Merri Street. The slightly raised ground at this location suggests that a layer of demolition debris from the buildings may overlay the aforementioned archaeological remains. When the railway was constructed the ground to the east of the Tramway Reserve was bulk excavated to bring it level to that where the present Station building is located. This action and the development within the railway corridor in general would have removed all structures and deposits associated with activities that took place in the Reserve.

Historical  
Significance

The Tramway was an important piece of infrastructure for the growing port of Warrnambool and it served its purpose well until the construction of the Breakwater in the 1880s. The buildings along Merri Street, though presently unknown as whether they were residential and/or commercial in nature represent the development that takes place in around transport hubs

Other Names      WARRNAMBOOL RAILWAY STATION,

Hermes  
Number            162054

Property  
Number

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## History

In 1858 a tramway was constructed to move goods between Warrnambool township and jetty on Lady Bay. The tramway reserve, of 1 acre and 20 perches, was established on the southern side of Merri Street, where the terminus for the line was located. Large stores were also built near where the present rail lines to hold produce for shipment and goods received by ship. The tramway reserve included a number of blocks of land kept for "tramway purposes." In 1870, these allotments adjacent to the tramway contained buildings and these were resumed by Railway Department for construction of Warrnambool rail link - now form part of the Warrnambool Railway Station complex.

*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/>*