

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 30/01/20



J WARD (ARARAT ASYLUM)

Location

1-7 GIRDLESTONE STREET ARARAT, ARARAT RURAL CITY

Municipality

ARARAT RURAL CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7423-0084

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO62

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

SEE H1067

1860-1886: Ararat Gaol

Interpretation of Site

1887-1989: Used as a special ward of the Ararat Asylum for the criminal insane (J Ward)

1989: Decommissioned

Archaeological Significance

Site is of archaeological significance for its potential to contain the burials of three executed prisoners buried within the walls of the prison in 1870, 1883 and 1884 respectively.

Hermes Number 192278

Property Number

History

J Ward was built between 1860 and 63 as the Ararat Gaol, to a design based on the Pentonville concept by the Public Works Department. It was run as a Gaol until 1886. In 1887, after alterations, the building was transferred the Lunacy Department and used as a special ward of the Ararat Asylum for the criminal insane. J Ward, as it became known, was decommissioned in 1989.

Three executions occurred at the site:

15 August 1870: Andrew Vere

25 September 1883: Robert Francis Burns

6 June 1884: Henry Morgan

All three executed prisoners were buried within the walls of the prison in accordance to the Criminal Law and Practice Statute 1864

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/>