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# FORMER WINCHELSEA RAILWAY STATION

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## Location

2 - 18 RAILWAY TERRACE WINCHELSEA, SURF COAST SHIRE

## Municipality

SURF COAST SHIRE

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7621-0033

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 26, 2019

Winchelsea railway station is of archaeological significance as the potential remains at this site could provide information about the layout and use of the goods area, and its importance within the railway station complex.

The Winchelsea railway station site is assessed as having archaeological value in a local context under the 'linking Victorians by rail' and 'building Victoria's industries and workforce' framework in Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes (Heritage Council of Victoria 2010). As such, the Winchelsea railway station site meets the Threshold B (place history).

Archaeological Significance

The railway station opened on 25 November 1876, located between the Barwon Park and Cressy Roads railway crossings. The site comprises an operational passenger platform and railway station building to the south of the railway track. The goods area and associated structures have been dismantled slowly since at least 1980, and the goods area is now no longer in use. The railway station and passenger platform are still in use today. The key areas of archaeological potential identified include van goods shed and card dock, lamp room/toilet block, removed sections of the station building, toilet, lamp room, concreted area, goods shed/brick scatter and goods platform. Winchelsea railway station is of archaeological significance as the potential remains at this site could provide information about the layout and use of the goods area, and its importance within the railway station complex. This site is likely to contain historical archaeological features, deposits and artefacts.

Historical Significance

The station is of historical significance as this site is associated with the infrastructure development of railway construction as part of the Geelong to Colac 'black' line in the early 1870s. It is of social significance as it is recognised and valued by the Winchelsea community. The Winchelsea railway station site is assessed as having archaeological value in a local context under the 'linking Victorians by rail' and 'building Victoria's industries and workforce' framework in Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes.

The Winchelsea railway station site meets the definition of archaeological site under the Heritage Act as a site that is likely to contain artefacts or deposits 75 or more years old, that would provide information relating to the former structures in both the goods platform and the passenger platform areas, and requires archaeological methods to reveal information about the original layout of the site. Within the goods area, the remains comprise the potential footings of the former goods shed near a small brick scatter, and a concreted area on top of the former goods platform. Within the passenger platform area, the remains comprise former station buildings. These areas do not appear to be highly disturbed, given the *in situ* concrete slabs, and are likely to contain archaeological features relating to the former structures noted in documentary evidence. This is likely to contribute to a further understanding of the site beyond that documented in the Victorian railway stations architectural survey by Ward and Donnelly (1982). As such, this suggests that the Winchelsea railway station site meets Threshold A (archaeology).

Interpretation of Site

The railway station opened on 25 November 1876, located between the Barwon Park and Cressy Roads railway crossings. The site comprises an operational passenger platform and railway station building to the south of the railway track. The goods area and associated structures have been dismantled slowly since at least 1980, and the goods area is now no longer in use. The railway station and passenger platform are still in use today.

The key areas of archaeological potential identified as being part of the VHI site are as follows (see Site Plan):

- . Van goods shed and card dock
- . Lamp room/toilet block
- . Removed sections of the station building
- . Toilet
- . Lamp room
- . Concreted area
- . Goods shed/brick scatter

Hermes Number 204385

Property Number

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## History

Winchelsea railway station (Surf Coast HO155) was opened on 25 November 1876 (Victorian Places 2015; Wong 2018). The Winchelsea railway station building was built in 1877, and is constructed of polychrome brickwork in the mid-Victorian boom style. The stationmaster's office and residence building was extended with timber additions after its original completion. The station comprised a passenger platform, van goods shed and cart dock, and a lamp room and toilet block. The platform was located on the southern side of the railway line, situated opposite a four-road yard and goods platform with a weatherboard goods shed. By 1980 the yard had been rationalised to three roads, the goods platform had been shortened, part of the loading platform removed, and the original ticket clerk's office had been reused as a bedroom. The wooden extension to the stationmaster's building was demolished in the 1990s. The goods shed was relocated to the Waurin Ponds campus of Deakin University at an unknown date, as part of a heritage buildings display which was closed in 2002, and the goods shed subsequently ended up at the Victorian Goldfields Railway (Ward and Donnelly 1982, pp. 90-92; Wong 2018). The original railway station building and passenger platform are extant.

*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/>*