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# FORMER MURCHISON EAST RAILWAY STATION

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## Location

GOULBURN VALLEY HIGHWAY MURCHISON, GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY

## Municipality

GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7924-0095

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 16, 2022

### What is significant?

The site has the potential to contain further historical archaeological features, deposits and/or artefacts associated to the historic station complex. Murchison East Station is of archaeological significance at the local level for its potential to provide information on the character of railway facilities, signalling, safe-working systems and passenger services of a moderately important country railway in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The station site retains the main platform, a waiting shed, fences and planted trees, with two of the former six departmental residences remaining to the north west. The timber station building burnt down some years ago, but a toilet block and modern waiting shed remain. Other visible features include various railway track, signalling and communications infrastructure, fencing and drainage systems.

The Murchison East Railway Station is of local historical significance. As one of the few remaining structures associated with the Murchison East railway complex, it provides evidence of the expansion of the railway into the Goulburn Valley region in the late nineteenth century.

### How is it significant?

### Why is it significant?

Interpretation  
of Site

The main development that occurred at this site was the transition of steam trains to diesel fueled trains. An ash pit made from brick, covered by a siding located south of the level crossing, would have been rendered useless and therefor buried during this change over. This ash comprises of a rectangular brick structure approx. 12.5 metres long by 2.4 metres wide and an average depth of 800 millimetre and maximum depth of 1.8 metres within a drainage sump. The ash pit is orientated south to north with a slight incline to the brick work to allow drainage from south to north into a drainage sump that was covered by a metal grate. Internal fill of the ash pit comprised of course silty sand with frequent charcoal and fine ash inclusions. Brick work comprised of mass produced brick stamped with Glen Iris that are likely to indicate a mid twentieth century date for construction. Attached photos show the orientation and extent of the ash pit. The 1920 plan of the station yard also indicates a turntable, gate house, engine shed and a pit located south of the station building and platform and just north of the Murchison-Violet Town Road. These facilities along with methods of signaling would have undergone upgrades with the development of the site. Currently extensive works are being carried out with rail alignment to upgrade the ballast, sleepers and rail line and create lopping passing lane for rail traffic. Extensive upgrades to the Murchison Violet Town road are also included in these works. No damage outside of the rail alignment is expected during these works.

Hermes  
Number

208512

Property  
Number

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*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/>*