

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0737

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO582

VHR Registration

May 31, 1989

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 28, 1999

No.5 Bowden Street was built in the 1860s for James Ah Coy, a Chinese interpreter. Ah Coy achieved a certain amount of notoriety in 1869 when, following a petition by members of the Chinese community, an enquiry was held into his activities in collecting mining licence fees.

The architect and builder of this small regency house are not known but it is typical of a number of late regency dwellings erected in Castlemaine in the 1860's - for example, 2 Burnett Road and 167 Mostyn Street.

Constructed of brick with corrugated iron roofing, the facade and sides are rendered and unpainted and there is a simple parapet on three sides. The facade is symmetrically composed about a central doorway with a concave verandah across the front on timber posts.

The valance boards are simply decorated. The picket fence appears to be original. The house occupies a prominent position on the hill to the east of the town and is a very fine example of a small but imposing cottage remarkable late in terms of its architectural style.

It has important connections with the Chinese mining community of Castlemaine. This building is important in illustrating the story of the limited assimilation of the Chinese into Victorian goldfield communities.

[Source: Report to the Minister]

Permit Exemptions

General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices

without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1860,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	AH COY COTTAGE,
Hermes Number	254
Property Number	

Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 737 -

Residence

5 Bowden Street, Castlemaine

to the extent of all of the buildings and the land hatched which is entered in the Register Book in Title Memorial Number 176 Book 717.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* G21 31 May 1989 p.1316]

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/>