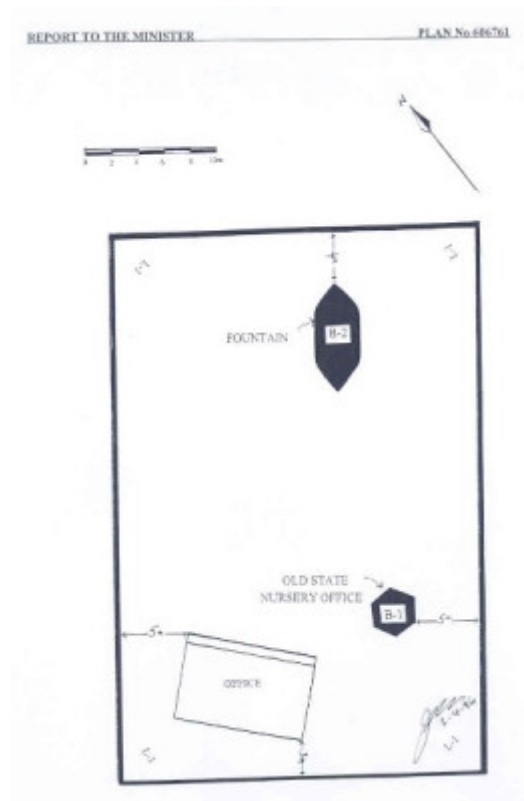


# OLD STATE NURSERY OFFICE



1 state nursery office creswick front view sep1989



h01192 state nursery office creswick plan

## Location

SAWPIT ROAD CRESWICK, HEPBURN SHIRE

## Municipality

HEPBURN SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1192

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO562

## VHR Registration

May 23, 1996

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 11, 1999

What is significant?

The Old State Nursery Office is a diminutive two storey timber building, hexagonal in plan with an encircling verandah at both levels. The building was designed by John Johnstone and constructed around 1911 by Adam Coulson, a carpenter employed by the Forests Commission.

How is it significant?

The Old State Nursery Office is architecturally, aesthetically and historically important to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Old State Nursery Office is architecturally significant as an extraordinary example of a purpose built State Nursery building. It utilises local, natural building materials and demonstrates influences from the Shingle and Stick designs popular in America at the time. The building is the oldest purpose built structure connected with forestry education in Victoria and it has a distinctive form which became an icon for the forestry profession. The building is aesthetically significant for the way in which it expresses a utilitarian function in a picturesque manner. The Old State Nursery Office is an important example of a building type, which is picturesque yet still manages to provide function and form. The fountain and landscape elements are of significance for their contextual relationship to the building and for their ability to express an aesthetic appreciation of forestry practices in Victoria.

The Old State Nursery Office is historically important for its associations with the development of the forestry industry in Victoria. The building is part of the Creswick Sawpit Gully site which was initially developed as part of a strategy to establish State Forests and Timber Reserves in Victoria. After the School of Forestry was established in 1910, (housed in a former hospital), Creswick became known as the 'Home of Forestry'; the Nursery produced stock for forest plantations and operated as the technical arm of the school. The Old State Nursery Office represents the emergence of a commitment to forestry education and practice in Victoria and is of significance for its pivotal role in the practical aspects of nursery management.

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| Construction dates      | 1910,  |
| Architect/Designer      | Coulson, Adam,                               |
| Heritage Act Categories | Registered place,                            |
| Other Names             | FORESTRY COMMISSION NURSERY OFFICE (FORMER), |
| Hermes Number           | 4663   |
| Property Number         |  |

---

## History

<span class="c1">Associated People: Owner FORESTRY COMMISSION;</span>

### Extent of Registration

#### AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 1192:

Old State Nursery Office, Castlemaine Road, Creswick, Shire of Hepburn.

Extent:

To the extent of:

1. All of the building and works known as the Old State Nursery Office and fountain, marked B-1 and B-2 on Plan 606761 endorsed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
2. All of the land marked L-1 on Plan 606761 endorsed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council, being part of the land described as part of Crown Allotment Y29, Parish of Creswick, Creswick State Forest.

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G20 23 May 1996 p.1337]

*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/>*