

# ECHUCA RAILWAY STATION COMPLEX



ECHUCA RAILWAY  
STATION COMPLEX SOHE  
2008



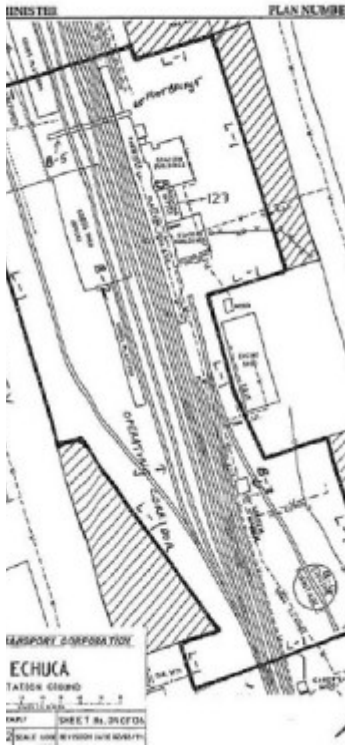
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1 echuca railway station  
complex front entrance  
jul1984



h01059 plan h1059



Echuca RWS Complex from North February 2002.

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### Location

116 STURT STREET ECHUCA, CAMPASPE SHIRE

### Municipality

CAMPASPE SHIRE

## **Level of significance**

Registered

## **Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H1059

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO4

## **VHR Registration**

August 20, 1982

## **Amendment to Registration**

October 12, 1988

## **Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

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## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - May 5, 1999

The railway reached Sandhurst in 1862 and in the following years tenders were awarded to Collier and Barry for the extension of the line to Echuca. The brick station building at Echuca was constructed for the Railways in 1864 by contractors R Abraham & Co. Alterations to this building were carried out in 1877 by contractors Walker and Halliday with the addition of the purveyor's residence above the refreshment room and an extension to the ground level toilets.

The double gable roofed brick goods shed was also built in 1864 by J Irons. The locomotive depot buildings comprise the engine shed (VHR No.H1060), water tower and 70 foot turntable. The shed was built in 1864 by J Walker and the water tower in 1877 by Roberts and Son. The iron footbridge with timber approach steps was added to the complex in 1880 by Johnson & Co.

The Echuca railway complex has historic and architectural importance to the state of Victoria.

The railway complex at Echuca has an association with the economic development of Victoria. Once the busiest non-metropolitan station for a period during the nineteenth century, its pre-eminence only being surpassed at different times by Geelong and Ballarat, the line to Echuca was built to tap the rich Murray trade as well as the gold trade of the Bendigo area. The size and details of the complex, particularly the substantial two-storeyed station building, the double gable roofed brick goods shed and the rectangular Italianate engine shed with oculus and round arched arcading, demonstrate the importance of not only Echuca within the state but also the importance of the railway line to the economic growth of Victoria.

The complex has an association with the railway line known during its construction as the Melbourne and River Murray railway, the largest of the Colony's first two main trunk lines, the other being Geelong to Ballarat line. This railway line is significant for its close adoption of British engineering and architectural standards and survives as a monument to the work of engineers-in-chief George Christian Darbyshire (1856-60) and Thomas Higginbotham

(1860-78).

The complex includes buildings which are rare and essentially intact examples of a building type. The locomotive depot buildings have a high level of integrity. The engine shed retains its slate roof with lantern and smoke vents and inside, iron trusses hold the roof and remains of rooms survive at the north end. The water tank and tank house compares with Bendigo (tank removed) and is the most intact of its type.

The goods shed retains its massive timber, cast and wrought iron trusses. The footbridge is a unique surviving design incorporating cast iron components.

[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	1864,
Architect/Designer	Knight Kemp & Kerr,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	4721
Property Number	

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## History

Associated People: Owner PUBLIC TRANSPORT CORPORATION;  
Owner W T CHIDZEY;  
Owner W T CHIDZEY;

## Extent of Registration

### AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 1059:

Railway Complex, Sturt Street, Echuca.

(To the extent of:

1. All of the buildings known as the Echuca railway complex including the station (B-1), goods shed (B-2), water tower (B-3), turntable (B-4) and footbridge (B-5) marked B-1 to B-5 on Plan 605828 endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
2. All of the land surrounding the above buildings to a distance of 5 metres from the base of the passenger platform to the north, to a distance of 15 metres from the external wall of the turntable to the south and to the title boundaries to the east and west (excluding surplus land shown hatched) being part of Crown Reserve 23 in the Parish of Echuca North, but excluding an operating corridor, marked L-1 on Plan 605828 endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.)  
[Victoria Government Gazette No. G4 2 February 1995 pp.244-245]

*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/>*