

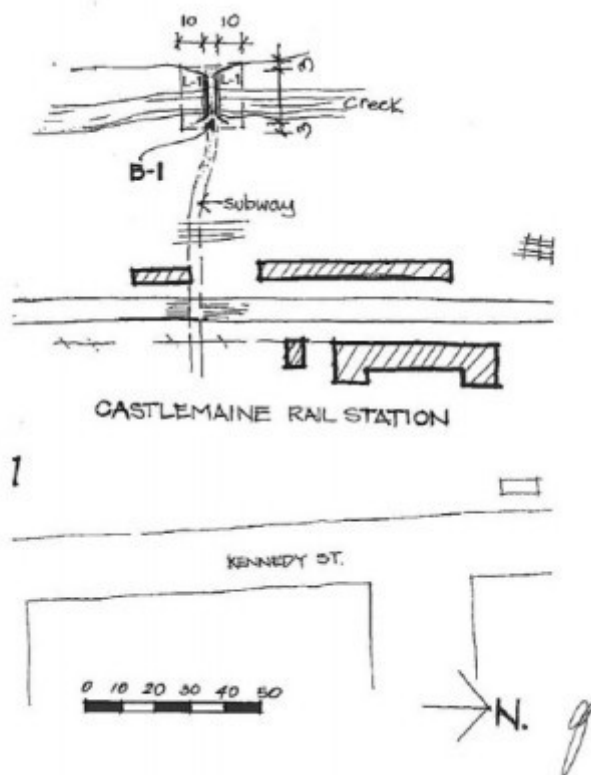
## CONCRETE TRUSS FOOTBRIDGE



CONCRETE TRUSS  
FOOTBRIDGE SOHE 2008



1 concrete truss footbridge  
over barkers creek  
castlemaine side view  
sep1997



H1400 H1400 plan

### Location

BARKERS CREEK, OFF GINGELL STREET CASTLEMAINE, MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

### Municipality

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1400

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO984

## VHR Registration

February 12, 1998

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 14, 1999

The Castlemaine Concrete Truss Foot Bridge was designed by Shire Engineer WT Sunderland and built in 1914. Sunderland was later to design a number of both public and private reinforced concrete buildings while he was Shire Engineer for Sandringham in the 1920s, displaying his versatility in architectural as well as engineering skills. Sunderland also patented a well regarded 'cement penetration' method of road construction. The bridge leads from Gingell Street over Barkers Creek to a pedestrian underpass under the Castlemaine Railway Station. The in-situ cast reinforced concrete bridge spans 15.2m and is 3.7m wide. The deck is supported by cross beams which in turn are supported by 1m deep side trusses of two crosses which are of a convenient height to act as balustrades. The trusses are braced by side brackets supported on extensions of the crossbeams.

The elegant design mimics some aspects of picturesque small timber or iron footbridges. The truss crosses are in a pattern commonly adopted in bridge balustrades, and the slight hump in the deck adds to the picturesque effect. The side brackets are more evocative of wrought iron designs, with the curlicue detail at the base, and a drooping curve along their length.

The only other concrete truss bridge in Australia is the much larger Barwon Sewer Aqueduct of 1913-15.

The Castlemaine concrete truss footbridge is of, technological, aesthetic and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

The Castlemaine concrete truss foot bridge is of technological importance as a rare example of the engineering use of reinforced concrete in the form of a truss over a considerable span, and as one of the earliest examples of reinforced concrete technology. The only other example of such a use still extant is the Barwon Sewer Aqueduct, and both the technology and aesthetics of the Castlemaine Bridge are quite different. The footbridge demonstrates early and innovative use of reinforced concrete in a truss, which was still largely experimental in this period, both in Australia and internationally. The Castlemaine concrete truss foot bridge is of technological and aesthetic importance as a successful design in the then new material of reinforced concrete. Despite the use of that heavy and bulky material, the bridge displays a surprising visual lightness. The references to timber construction and wrought iron detailing, as well as the gently hogged curve of the deck, combine to create a picturesque effect.

The Castlemaine concrete truss footbridge is of historical importance as an example of the work of Engineer WT Sunderland. Sunderland displayed capability as engineer, surveyor and architect, designing innovative bridges, residences and public structures in then new material of reinforced concrete. He worked for Castlemaine Council for a number of years, but was better known for his work in the 1920s while he was Engineer for Sandringham Council.

## 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](#).

### Specific Exemptions:

Nil

Construction dates	1914,
Architect/Designer	Sunderland, WT,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	5400
Property Number	

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## Extent of Registration

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under Section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 1400 in the category described as a Heritage Place:

Castlemaine Concrete Truss Footbridge over Barkers Creek between Gingell Street and Castlemaine Railway Station, Castlemaine, Mount Alexander Shire Council.

#### EXTENT

1. All of the concrete truss footbridge crossing Barkers Creek marked as B-1 on diagram 607864 and land 3 m east and west of the bridge and 10 m north and south of the bridge marked L-1 on diagram 607864.

Dated 5 February 1998

RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G6 12 February 1998 p.346]

*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/>*