

# FORMER BALLARAT EAST FREE LIBRARY



FORMER BALLARAT EAST  
FREE LIBRARY SOHE 2008



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1 former ballarat east free  
library front elevation jul1982



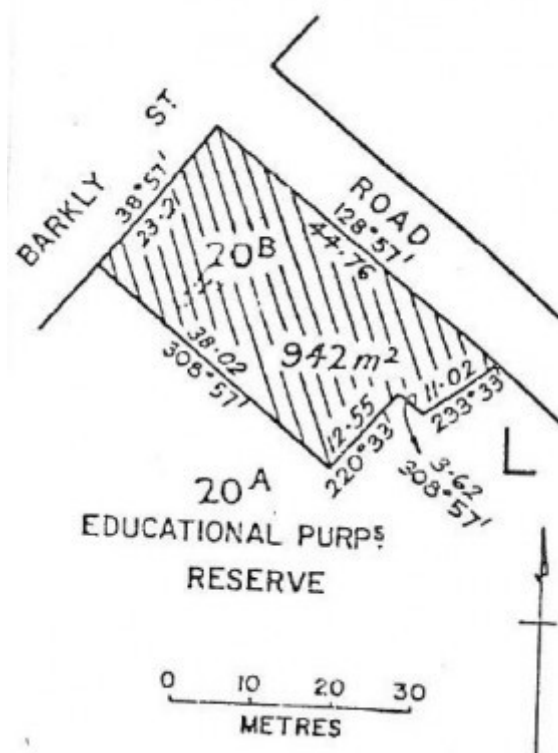
former ballarat east free  
library chimney detail jul1982



former ballarat east free  
library entrance detail jul1982



former ballarat east free  
library side elevation jun1989



H1493 H1493 plan

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## Location

25-29 BARKLY STREET BALLARAT EAST, BALLARAT CITY

## Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1493

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO9

## VHR Registration

April 1, 1987

## Amendment to Registration

May 23, 1998

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 19, 1999

The Former Ballarat East Free Library is of significance for architectural, historical and social reasons. Established in 1862 it was amongst the earliest of Ballarat's social and educational institutions and when housed in its own building in Barkly Street built up an outstanding collection. It served as a focal point for educational purposes; the school of design founded there in 1870 advancing to become the Ballarat East branch of the school of mines in the 1900s. The library was officially closed in 1973. The building is of architectural importance as an early example of the polychromatic gothic revival style which survives substantially intact with a number of fine interiors including the spiral staircase, the original library, the hall and the pine-lined rear rooms. The construction of the front section of the Barkly Street was done in 1867 to 1869. The exterior design was by the engineer of the Borough of Ballarat East, CC Ohlfsen-Bagge, who acted as honorary architect and the interior design and supervision was carried out by JJ Lorenz. The builders were Boulton and Fyfe and the interiors were completed by Fly Brothers; all at a cost of £3 14s.

Ohlfsen-Bagge's original design included a hall at the rear which was built some time before 1887. Historically the building is the last remaining structure of the earlier public buildings associated with the Borough of East Ballarat. The structure is a landmark due to its prominent siting and is of streetscape importance in conjunction with Ballarat East Fire Station opposite.

## 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	1867,
Architect/Designer	Ohlfen-Bagge, CH,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	59
Property Number	

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## History

Associated People: Owner CITY OF BALLARAT;J.J.Lorenz

## Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS

Former Ballarat East Free Library, Barkly Street, Ballarat.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G39 12 October 1988 p.3086]

Transferred to the Victorian Heritage Register 23 May 1998 (2 years after the proclamation of the Heritage Act 1995 pursuant to the transitional provisions of the Act)

*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/>*