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# Jubilee Bridge



B6842 Jubilee Bridge



B6842 Jubilee Bridge side



B6842 Jubilee Bridge Omeo piers



B6842 Jubilee Bridge



B6842 Jubilee Bridge deck



B6842 Jubilee Bridge substructure



B6842 Jubilee Bridge

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## Location

Omeo Highway,, OMEO VIC 3898 - Property No B6842

## Municipality

EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

State

## Heritage Listing

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 12, 2005

What is significant? Jubilee Bridge, built in 1917-1918 north of Omeo, is a four-span squared-timber-beam road bridge, with timber piers and abutments, and longitudinal timber deck. It is no longer in use.

How is it significant? Jubilee Bridge is significant for historic and technical reasons at the State level.

Why is it significant? Jubilee Bridge is of historic significance as the only surviving timber bridge known to have been built during World War 1. It is on the Omeo Highway which links East Gippsland with the Upper Murray Valley, and is Victoria's first officially-declared state highway (1925). Until Jubilee Bridge was bypassed in 2001 it was the oldest timber bridge in use on a Victorian state highway.

Jubilee Bridge is of technical significance because the timber frame has technical characteristics unknown in any other Victorian bridge. The hand-hewn old stringers and corbels of rugged Gippsland Grey Box still bearing broad-axe marks are in themselves extremely rare today but the manner in which they are locked together by squared-timber 'keys' or 'dowels' is unique in this State.

Jubilee Bridge has unusually long (9.5 metre) spans for a timber-beam road bridge.

Classified: 30/10/1998

Hermes Number 67938

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

### DESCRIPTION:

Jubilee Bridge is a four-spanned squared-timber-beam road bridge on timber piers and abutments. Its original transverse-timber deck over spiking planks was long ago modified by the use of timber cross-beams and longitudinal planking. It has a total deck length of thirty-five metres, and unusually long (9.5 metre) spans for a standard timber-beam road bridge. Towards the end of the 20th century the deck was modified by the addition of steel guard rails, and by the narrowing-down of the deck area open to traffic. Since the bridge was bypassed in the 2001 the deck planks and rails have been renewed.

### CONTEXT:

Jubilee Bridge is situated in an attractive rural creek-valley setting amidst rolling pastoral hills in the Victorian high country just north of Omeo.

### INTACTNESS:

Jubilee Bridge has been well maintained by VicRoads as a heritage bridge. It is no longer in use, having been bypassed in the early 2001.

### Assessment against Criteria:

Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history. Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural history

Jubilee Bridge is the only surviving timber bridge known to have been built during World War 1. Until it was bypassed in 2001 it was the oldest timber bridge in use on a Victorian state highway.

Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria's cultural history  
Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or objects  
Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics  
Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period

Jubilee Bridge's timber frame has technical characteristics unknown in any other Victorian bridge. The hand-hewn old stringers and corbels of rugged Gippsland Grey Box still bearing broad-axe marks are in themselves extremely rare today but the manner in which they are locked together by squared-timber 'keys' or 'dowels' is unique in this State.

Jubilee Bridge has unusually long (9.5 metre) spans for a timber-beam road bridge.

## **Usage/Former Usage**

road bridge - not in use

## **Physical Conditions**

Jubilee Bridge has been well maintained by VicRoads as a heritage bridge.

*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/>*