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# Bridge over Bullarook Creek



B1717 Single Span Bluestone  
Bridge

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## Location

Newstead-Creswick Road,, SMEATON VIC 3364 - Property No B1717

## Municipality

HEPBURN SHIRE

## Level of significance

State

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1425

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 26, 2005

What is significant? The Bridge over Bullarook Creek is a notable example of a small bluestone bridge. The single span, 50 foot bridge was constructed in 1892 for the Creswick Shire and it was designed by engineers H and W H Gore; William Barker was the successful contractor. The bridge has unusually wide spreading abutments in proportion to its span.

How is it significant? The Bridge is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

How is it significant? The Bridge is architecturally significant as an intact representative example of a small, late Victorian stone bridge. The bridge is an excellent example of stonemason's art and is aesthetically pleasing with

its ornately carved stone commemorative plaques, rusticated string courses, parapet cappings, voussoirs and a small gargoyle to the southwest face of the bridge. The structure is typical of a vernacular engineering tradition but is distinguished by the high quality of its craftsmanship.

The Bridge is historically significant for its association with the Anderson brothers and the Georgian inspired Anderson's Mill. There are two bridges in close proximity to the Mill (the bluestone bridge over Bullarook Creek and the current mill bridge); however the Bullarook Creek Bridge was at one stage referred to as the 'Smeaton Mill Bridge' by the Public Works Department. Whilst somewhat confusing, this reference assists in explaining the massive piers and abutments which form part of the Bullarook Creek bridge, most likely constructed specifically to support the heavily-laden drays and wagons transporting materials to Anderson's Mill. The solidity of both the Bullarook Creek Bridge and the mill bridge may also have been a reaction to the disastrous consequences of a succession of floods which swept through the area in the 1870s.

The Bullarook Creek Bridge is of historical significance for its ability to describe transport routes and requirements of the 1890s and in particular for its close relationship with the significant Anderson's Mill.

Adapted from Victorian Heritage Register: 18/12/2013

Classified: 'Regional' 11/03/1971

Revised: 03/08/1988

Other Names      Smeaton Mill Bridge,

Hermes Number   68561

Property Number

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*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/>*