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# Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge



b6951 Darbyshire Creek No 2  
Bridge

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## Location

Wodonga-Cudgewa Railway, 2.2 Km west of Koetong,, KOETONG VIC 3704 - Property No B6951

## Municipality

TOWONG SHIRE

## Level of significance

State

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 3, 2006

What is significant? Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge, built in 1916 for the Wodonga-Cudgewa Railway, is a thirteen span single-track timber-beam bridge, with timber piers and a curving transverse-timber deck seventy seven metres in length. The nine main spans are of standard twenty feet design, and there are four spans of standard fifteen feet design. This two-storey timber-trestle rail bridge stands 13 metres high, and is the third tallest on the line.

The line was closed in 1981.

How is it significant? Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge is technically, historically and aesthetically significant at State level.

Why is it significant? Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge is of technical significance as a two storey all-timber rail bridge with longitudinal walings between piers 5 to 10. It is the third tallest bridge on the Wodonga-Cudgewa line,

13 metres tall.

Darbyshire Creek No.2 Bridge is of historic significance as part of the Wodonga-Cudgewa line, built in 1916 largely to transport mountain cattle to metropolitan markets. Post World War II this line became the main supply line for infrastructure for the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric project.

Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge is of aesthetic significance. It is set in bush, and is readily visible from the Murray Valley Highway. It is in proximity to several other structurally-different timber bridges, is on the route of the High Country Rail Trail (currently being developed, 2011), and has a car park and picnic ground adjacent.

Classified: 10/11/1998

Other Names      Boggy Creek bridge,

Hermes Number   69836

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

### DESCRIPTION:

Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge is a thirteen-span single-track all-timber-beam bridge, with tall timber piers and a curving transverse-timber deck seventy seven metres in length. The nine main spans are of standard twenty feet design, and there are four spans of standard fifteen feet design. This two-storey timber-trestle rail bridge stands 13 metres high (third tallest on the line), and the tall timber piles at piers 5 to 10 were originally butted onto driven piles at the lower of two sets of longitudinal walings. The lower walings were removed sometime before 1992, leaving the upper longitudinal walings.

### Context

This bridge is situated in an attractive setting of eucalypt forest, several kilometers from the nearest small town. It is immediately adjacent to the Murray Valley Highway, has its own road entrance, and is easily accessible by walking track from an adjacent Shire car park and picnic site.

### INTACTNESS:

Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge retains its all timber structure. Intact, other than the lower walings, which have been removed.

### ASSESSMENT AGAINST CRITERIA:

Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history.

Darbyshire Creek No.2 Bridge is of historic significance as part of the Wodonga-Cudgewa line, built in 1916 largely to transport mountain cattle to metropolitan markets. Post World War II this line became the main supply line for infrastructure for the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric project.

Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural historyPotential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria's cultural historyImportance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or objects

Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge is significant as the third tallest of the 19 surviving bridges on the Wodonga-Cudgewa line, at 13 metres tall.

Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics

Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge is set in attractive bush, presents a tall and striking profile, and is readily visible from the Murray Valley Highway near Koetong. There is an adjacent car park and picnic ground. It is in proximity to several other structurally-different timber bridges and is on the route of the High Country Rail Trail, currently being developed (2011).

Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period

Darbyshire Creek No. 2 Bridge is of technical significance as a two storey all-timber rail bridge with longitudinal walings between piers 5 to 10. Originally it had two sets of longitudinal walings; the lower set was removed sometime prior to 1992.

### **Usage/Former Usage**

rail bridge, no longer in use; on route of proposed rail trail

### **Integrity**

retains its all-timber integrity

### **Intactness**

intact except for lower walings

*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/>*