
Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge



B6924 Wodonga Creek Stockbridge



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B6924 Wodonga Creek Bridge Plaque

Location

Over Wodonga Creek,, WODONGA VIC 3690 - Property No B6924

Municipality

WODONGA CITY

Level of significance

State

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 6, 2006

What is significant? The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is a timber stock bridge on the former main stock route across the Murray River floodplain linking Wodonga and Albury. It is a moderately tall timber-beam on timber-trestle road bridge consisting of nine spans, with a deck length of 76 metres and deck width of 4.5 metres, and a maximum span length of 8.5 metres. The substantial timber deck is built to an earlier twentieth-century horse-era pattern, with transverse decking fixed to spiking planks to protect round timber stringers, and longitudinal running planks above. It has substantial timber side safety rails to discourage livestock from straying over the side. Unusual features are the 'corbel chocks' or timber spacers between corbels and stringers, and the relatively primitive style of piled-log (bed-log) abutment at the Wodonga end.

It was built in 1940 and is currently in occasional use for stock, as well as for pedestrians and cyclists.

How is it significant? The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is significant for technical, historic, social and aesthetic reasons at the State level.

Why is it significant? The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is of technical significance as a nine span bridge with tall timber trestles, log stringers, and a transverse timber deck with longitudinal running planks. It has substantial timber side rails to keep livestock on the bridge. Large bridges of this type are now very rare in Victoria. Unusual features include the corbel chocks or timber spacers between corbels and stringers, and the relatively primitive style piled-log (bed-log) abutment at the Wodonga end.

The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is of historic significance as a surviving structurally authentic bridge designed specifically for livestock and drover use, on a historic stock route.

The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is of social significance for its location at a riverside leisure spot of considerable importance to and popularity with residents of Albury-Wodonga.

The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is of aesthetic significance with its long and tall timber frame and old-fashioned transverse-timber deck with running planks. This bridge makes a significant contribution to its floodplain environment. It is on a largely rural stretch of the Murray River floodplain on the north side of Wodonga, in a recreational area and is partly shaded by river red gums.

Classified: 03/08/1998

Hermes Number 70047

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Description

The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is a moderately tall timber-beam on timber-trestle road bridge consisting of nine spans, with a deck length of 76 metres and deck width of 4.5 metres, and a maximum span length of 8.5 metres. The substantial timber deck is built to an earlier twentieth-century horse-era pattern, with transverse decking fixed to spiking planks to protect round timber stringers, and longitudinal running planks above. It has substantial timber side rails to discourage livestock from straying over the side. Unusual features are the 'corbel chocks' or timber spacers between corbels and stringers, and the relatively primitive style of piled-log (bed-log) abutment at the Wodonga end.[1]

Context

This substantial all-timber bridge is situated on a major subsidiary channel of the Murray River, among big spreading river red gums characteristic of the Victorian border area. Although immediately adjacent to Wodonga City and within sight of the Hume Highway, the site remains pleasantly rural. Adjacent are open paddocks and broad road reserves in a popular leisure spot.

Assessment against Criteria

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

The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is a surviving structurally authentic timber bridge from the 1930's, designed specifically for livestock and drover use, on a historic stock route.

Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural history
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

The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is a nine span bridge with tall timber trestles, log stringers, and a transverse timber deck with longitudinal running planks. It has substantial timber side rails to keep livestock on the bridge. Large bridges of this type are now very rare in Victoria. Unusual features include the corbel chocks or timber spacers between corbels and stringers, and the relatively primitive style piled-log (bed-log) abutment at the Wodonga end.

Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics

The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is aesthetically pleasing with its long and tall timber frame and old-fashioned transverse-timber deck with running planks. This bridge makes a significant contribution to its floodplain environment. It is on a largely rural stretch of the Murray River floodplain on the north side of Wodonga, in a popular recreational area and is partly shaded by river red gums

Usage/Former Usage

road/ stock bridge - in use for pedestrians, cyclists, stock

Physical Conditions

maintained by City of Wodonga; proposed strengthening and upgrade.

Intactness

The Wodonga Creek Stock Bridge is largely unmodified, but in need of a structural upgrade.

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/>