
ROCHESTER COURT HOUSE



ROCHESTER COURT
HOUSE SOHE 2008



1 rochester court house
rochester front elevation
jul1984

Location

25 MOORE STREET ROCHESTER, CAMPASPE SHIRE

Municipality

CAMPASPE SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1482

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO209

VHR Registration

August 20, 1982

Amendment to Registration

May 23, 1998

Heritage Listing

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Former Court House, erected in 1889, was the second court house to be erected in Rochester, an important town along the Melbourne-Bendigo-Echuca railway line, opened in 1864. The three-roomed courthouse designed by the Public Works Department and built by T. Walsh, is constructed of red brick with polychromatic decorative detailing as well as cement rendered details such as parapets, chimney tops, orbs and emblems. Cast iron decoration adorns the ridge of the hipped and gabled slate roofs. The asymmetrical design has an entry at the side protected by a small timber verandah with decorative detailing.

The court house closed in 1989.

How is it significant?

The Former Court House, Rochester, is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Former Court House, Rochester, is historically significant for demonstrating the spread of law and order across the state, which is indicative of the progress of Victoria's development.

The Former Court House, Rochester, is architecturally significant as a substantially intact example of a late nineteenth century rural court house.

[Online Data Upgrade Project 2004]

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](#).

Specific Exemptions:

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component.

General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: A Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan.

General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable. Minor Works : Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works must submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Construction dates 1888,
Heritage Act Categories Registered place,
Hermes Number 990
Property Number

History

The Former Court House, erected in 1889, was the second court house to be erected in Rochester, an important town along the Melbourne-Bendigo-Echuca railway line, opened in 1864. The three-roomed courthouse designed by the Public Works Department and built by T. Walsh, is constructed of red brick with polychromatic decorative detailing as well as cement rendered details such as parapets, chimney tops, orbs and emblems. Cast iron decoration adorns the ridge of the hipped and gabled slate roofs. The asymmetrical design has an entry at the side protected by a small timber verandah with decorative detailing.

The court house closed in 1989.

The draft statement of significance and the above history were produced as part of an Online Data Upgrade Project 2003. Sources were as follows:

Frances O'Neill, Court House Survey

Extent of Registration

Amendment of Register of Government Buildings
Rochester Shire
Court House, Rochester.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G39 12 October 1988 p.3093]

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/>