

Victorian Heritage Database Report

OVoid SEWER AQUEDUCT OVER BARWON RIVER



Location:

140 TANNER STREET BREAKWATER AND 91-97 TANNERY ROAD CHARLEMONT, GREATER GEELONG CITY

Heritage Status / Level of Significance:

Registered

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number:
Listing Authority: HI

Heritage Overlay Number: HO56

Statement of Significance:

What is significant? The Ovoid Sewer Aqueduct, designed and constructed by the Tasmanian engineers Edward Giles Stone and Ernest J. Siddeley, and constructed in 1913-15 for the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust. Objects integral to the manufacture of the concrete sewer pipes, including various moulds and gantries, are still in place at the former factory site nearby, adjacent to Marshall Station.

How is it significant? The Ovoid Sewer Aqueduct is of historical, architectural, aesthetic, and scientific (technical) significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criteria for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register:

Criterion A Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history Criterion D Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects Criterion E Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics Criterion F Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period

Why is it significant? The Ovoid Sewer Aqueduct is of historical significance for its association with the inaugural work of the Geelong sewerage scheme in 1912-15. Geelong was one of the first regional Victorian cities to implement plans for the construction of a sewerage system. [Criterion A]

The Ovoid Sewer Aqueduct is of architectural significance for its association with the engineers Edward Giles Stone and Ernest J Siddeley, who undertook a number of marine projects in southern and eastern Australia, including reinforced concrete ships and pontoons. Stone was a highly innovative and creative engineer whose daring structural systems challenged the limits of construction technology in the early twentieth century. His advanced work in reinforced concrete, the Considere system in particular, is of great importance and his design derivation from the steel Firth of Forth Bridge in Scotland is of particular note. [Criterion D]

The Ovoid Sewer Aqueduct is of aesthetic significance as a major landscape feature. Its dramatic setting in the Barwon River floodplain near Breakwater, Geelong is of great importance. [Criterion E]

The Ovoid Sewer Aqueduct is of scientific (technical) significance as an example of pioneering concrete work of structural ingenuity and monumental scale. The early and innovative use of reinforced concrete in the Considere system, which was the most innovative form of reinforcement used in Victoria, is of great significance. The aqueduct remains as a rare example of this type of concrete construction. Its method of construction is demonstrated by the associated objects located at the former factory site. It is also of scientific (technical) significance for its overall length and the maximum span length, both of which appear to be in excess of that of any other Victorian reinforced concrete structure at the time of construction. [Criterion F]

Heritage Study / Consultant	
Construction Date Range	1913 - 1915
Architect / Designer	Stone, Edward
Municipality	GREATER GEELONG CITY
Other names	
Hermes number	518

Property number	
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This place/object may also be State heritage listed. Check the Victorian Heritage Database. For further details, contact the local Council or go to Planning Schemes Online