

# Statement of Recommendation from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria

Queens Bridge, VHR H1448

Queens Bridge Street, Melbourne and Southbank, Melbourne City  
Wurundjeri Country



## Executive Director recommendation

I recommend to the Heritage Council of Victoria (**Heritage Council**) that the Queens Bridge, located at Queens Bridge Street, Melbourne and Southbank in the Victorian Heritage Register (**VHR**) be amended. The category of registration is recommended to be Registered Place.

In accordance with section 62 of the *Heritage Act 2017* (**the Act**), I suggest that the Heritage Council determine:

- to include additional land in the VHR (section 49(1)(d)(i) and (ii) of the Act); and
- the proposed categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to the place for which a permit is under the Act not required, will not harm the cultural heritage significance of the place under section 49(3)(a) of the Act.



**STEVEN AVERY**

Executive Director, Heritage Victoria

Date of recommendation: 13 July 2026

## The process from here

### 1. The Heritage Council publishes the Executive Director's recommendation (section 41)

The Heritage Council will publish the Executive Director's recommendation on its [website](#) for a period of 60 days.

### 2. Making a submission to the Heritage Council (sections 44 and 45)

Within the 60-day publication period, any person or body may make a written submission to the Heritage Council. This submission can support the recommendation, or object to the recommendation and a hearing can be requested in relation to the submission. Information about making a submission and submission forms are available on the [Heritage Council's website](#).

### 3. Heritage Council determination (sections 46, 46A and 49)

The Heritage Council is an independent statutory body. It is responsible for making the final determination to include or not include the place, object or land in the VHR or amend a place, object or land already in the VHR.

If no submissions are received the Heritage Council must make a determination within 40 days of the publication closing date.

If submissions are received, the Heritage Council may decide to conduct a hearing in relation to the submission. The Heritage Council must conduct a hearing if a submission requests a hearing, and that submission is made by person or body with a real or substantial interest in the place, object or land.

If a hearing does take place, the Heritage Council must make a determination within 90 days after the completion of the hearing.

### 4. Obligations of owners of places, objects and land (sections 42, 42A, 42B, 42C, 42D and 43)

The owner of a place, object or land which is the subject of a recommendation to the Heritage Council has certain obligations under the Act. These relate to advising the Executive Director in writing of any works or activities that are being carried out, proposed or planned for the place, object or land.

The owner also has an obligation to provide a copy of this statement of recommendation to any potential purchasers of the place, object or land before entering into a contract.

### 5. Further information

The relevant sections of the Act are provided at the end of this report.

## Description

Queens Bridge is a road bridge that crosses the Birrarung (Yarra River) at Queens Bridge Street, south of the intersection of Flinders and Market streets, linking the Melbourne Central Business District with Southbank. It is situated between the King Street Bridge to the west and the Sandridge Railway Line Bridge to the east. It is currently used as a vehicle, pedestrian and bicycle bridge with a tramway to the centre.

Characterised by a distinctive flat arch construction, Queens Bridge is a five-span bridge constructed of continuous wrought iron plate girders supported on four piers with stone abutments to each end. Each pier contains eight columns with Doric capitals, formed from cast iron cylinders filled with concrete, which support the rivetted iron longitudinal plate girders. These rows of columns are set parallel to the riverbank and are linked by arched cast iron brackets with circular decoration and topped by continuous wrought iron double box girders. The parapet adopts a classical decorative scheme unified by a continuous cornice line supported on floriated brackets with anthemion motifs set above side columns. Above the cornice line, a continuous balustrade is broken up by inverted foliated consoles, with decorative cast iron handrails to each end. The carriageway has been redecked with asphalt surface, and there are bluestone kerbs to the intersecting streets. Later infrastructure has been installed to the carriageway, including light poles, tram lines and overhead electrical tram wires, traffic bollards and bicycle rails.

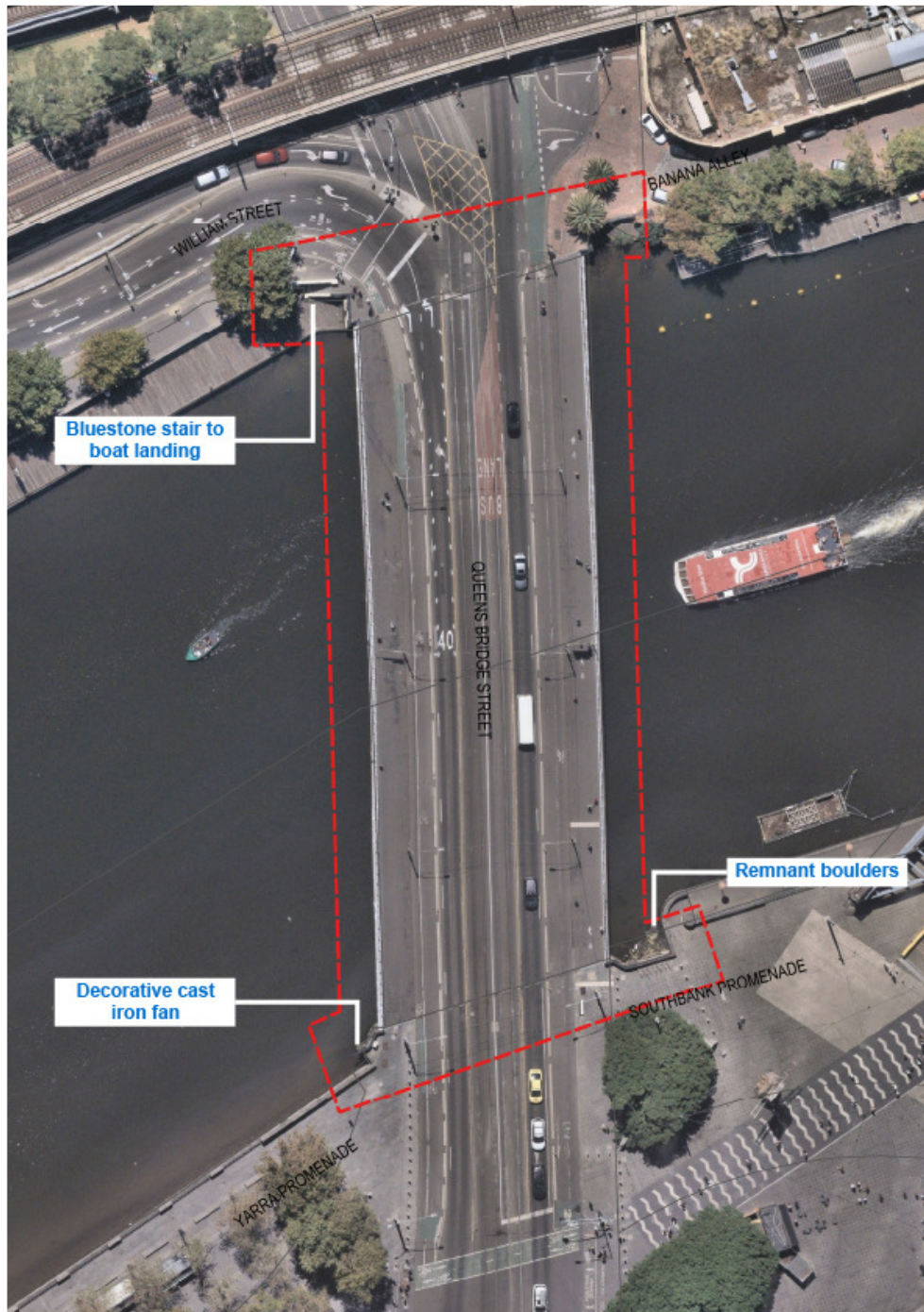
Abutments to the north and south banks are constructed of rough-hewn and dressed bluestone and Stawell freestone. A bluestone staircase extends west of the northern abutment, leading to a large timber decked landing. To the south abutment, a former river access point is blocked by a fixed metal fence panel (later) with a decorative cast iron fan to the bridge balustrade end. A curved bluestone wall (possibly c1930s) meets the northeastern abutment with bluestone embankment below. Later bluestone clad balustrades (c1980-90s) mark the river edges in other locations, meeting the bridge abutments.

There is later bluestone paving to the Southbank footpaths and northwestern end of the bridge, and later brick paving to the Banana Alley/northeastern end of the bridge. Later landscape features to the northeastern (Banana Alley) end include bluestone planter boxes and street furniture.

Basalt remnants remain partially submerged east of the south abutment and are understood to be remnant of the earlier Falls Bridge.

## Diagram of main elements

This diagram indicates the location of the main elements at Queens Bridge.



## Description images



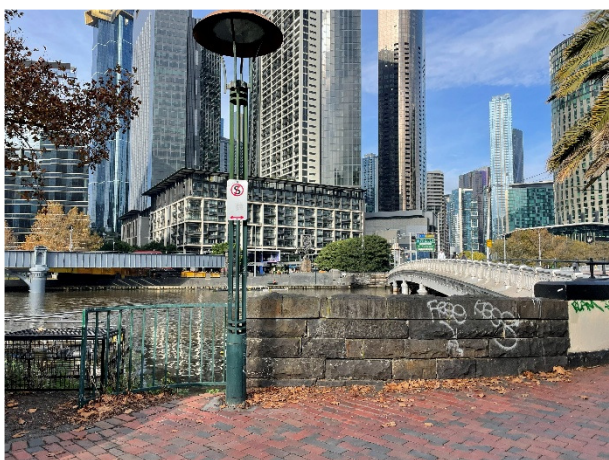
*2026, Queens Bridge east view from north of riverbank, Source: Heritage Victoria.*



*2026, West side of Queens Bridge and timber decked landing (foreground) looking south, Source: Heritage Victoria.*



*2026, East side of Queens Bridge and north abutment (right) looking south, Source: Heritage Victoria.*



*2026, Curved bluestone wall joining northeastern end of bridge abutment (right) and brick paving to Banana Alley (foreground), Source: Heritage Victoria.*



*2026, Bluestone embankment northeast of Queens Bridge, Source: Heritage Victoria.*



2026, Bluestone planter boxes and street furniture to southeast of bridge, Source: Heritage Victoria.



2026, Northwestern bluestone abutment and staircase leading to timber decked landing, Source: Heritage Victoria.



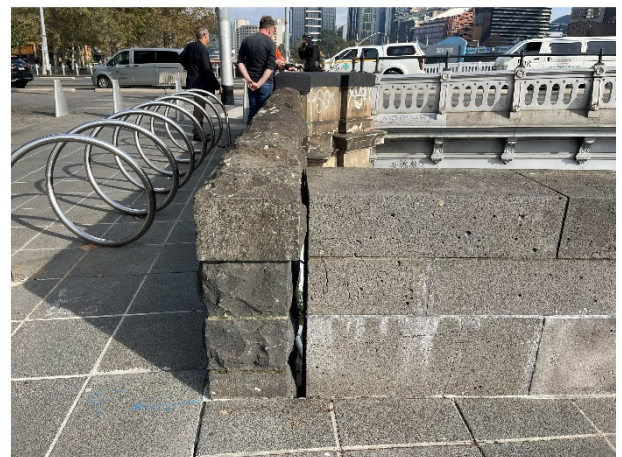
2026, Northern abutment to Queens Bridge and timber decked landing (foreground), Source: Heritage Victoria.



2026, Carriageway to Queens Bridge with asphalt surface and traffic infrastructure (looking east), Source: Heritage Victoria.



2026, Southeast abutment, Source: Heritage Victoria.



2026, Later bluestone clad wall (right) meeting eastern extension of south abutment wall (left), Source: Heritage Victoria.



2026, Southwestern end of Queens Bridge with cast-iron handrail, Source: Heritage Victoria.



2026, Later fixed metal fence and decorative cast iron fan to west balustrade end (right), Source: Heritage Victoria.



2026, Southeastern end of Queens Bridge with cast-iron handrail, Source: Heritage Victoria.



2026, Remnant basalt likely from earlier Falls Bridge, southeast of Queens Bridge, Source: Heritage Victoria..

## History

### Statement of Country

The Wurundjeri people have an unbroken connection to the land and waters around Melbourne from time immemorial. Wurundjeri Country includes the city of Melbourne (Narm) and an area extending north to the Great Dividing Range and beyond, west to the Werribee River, and east to Mount Baw Baw.

The Yoorrook Justice Commission recorded how colonisation brought irreparable damage to First Peoples in Victoria with the introduction of diseases, massacres, dispossession from Country, confinement on missions and reserves, forced labour, separation of families and ongoing policies and practices that perpetuate systemic injustice (Yoorrook Justice Commission 2025).

The Wurundjeri continue to live, work, practise culture and manage land and waters around Melbourne.

### Yarra Yarra (the Falls)

Queens Bridge is situated at the location of what was a shallow waterfall known as Yarra Yarra (the Falls), at a natural basalt ridge that once ran across the Birrarung, separating the salty tidal water of Hobson's Bay from the fresh water flowing down from the Yarra Valley. It was important to the Wurundjeri and the Bunurong people, who used it as a crossing point between their lands to negotiate trade and marriages, as well as a place to meet the other three members of the Kulin Nation to settle disputes, trade and hold ceremonies (City of Melbourne, *Mapping Aboriginal Melbourne*: online; *The Age* 11 January 2008: online article by Patricia Maunder).

Attempts to dam the Falls began in 1839 using convict labour. Early punts operated above the Falls, with ships docking and turning in the saltwater basin below. Once the Yan Yean water supply reached Melbourne in 1857, the damming attempts became redundant.

The Falls were removed in the 1880s as part of major engineering works to develop the river, instigated by the Melbourne Harbour Trust which had been established in 1877 (eMelbourne).

### Queens Bridge

In 1879 British engineer Sir John Coode prepared a report to the Melbourne Harbour Trust recommending a number of river works to develop shipping facilities. This would partly be achieved by deepening the river and creating a shipping canal, straightening the river's meandering lower course, which would allow larger vessels to pass through Fishermans Bend. One of Coode's recommendations included the removal of the Falls to mitigate against further floods, following flooding events in 1863 and 1878. Works commenced in 1883 when the waterfall was blasted away with explosives to make way for a new bridge (*The Age* 25 December 1883: 6; *The Argus*, 24 May 1883:7; Sebastian Gurciullo 2023-24).

A competition was held by the Victorian Public Works Department to design a new bridge at the Falls. Among other design requirements, the winning design was to be of iron construction of not more than five spans. Melbourne architect William Pitt and engineer Thomas H Merrett designed a bridge 369 feet (112.5 metres) in length that was chosen as the winner. Following the announcement, plans for the bridge were amended so that it would cross the river in its current alignment, not in line with Market Street as originally planned (*The Herald* 11 January 1882: 3). The amended plans were prepared by Frederick M. Hynes, the Chief Design Engineer for the Harbour Jetties and Coast Works Department of the Public Works Department (*The Argus* 1 July 1887: 6). It was not until 1887 that working drawings were prepared which included further amendments to widen the bridge from 70 feet (21.3 metres) to 99 feet (30.1 metres) to allow for a double line of cable tramway (*The Argus* 1 July 1887:6).

Tenders for the new 'Falls Bridge' were call on 13 October 1887 and David Munro was appointed in December 1887 (at a cost of £44,242, including the use of colonial-made angle iron). Munro was also the contractor responsible for the nearby Princes Bridge and Sandridge Railway Bridge and was a prominent contractor and speculator during the Melbourne boom period (*Australasian* 15 October 1887:16). The location of the new bridge allowed for continuing use of the existing bridge at the Falls while construction took place.

The bridge was officially opened to traffic by the Governor, Lord Hopetoun, on 18 April 1890 and was named Queens Bridge in honour of Queen Victoria (*Herald* 30 November 1889:1; *The Age* 19 April 1890:10). Like the newly completed Princes and Sandridge Railway bridges, the new structure was noted as belonging to the "modern type of bridges, in which iron is

almost exclusively used" (*The Age* 15 April 1890:6). The five-span structure, constructed on fifteen girders, with a length of 314 feet (95.7 metres) and a width of 99 feet (30.1 metres) included substantial paths on either side and a tramway reservation down its centre.

Queens Bridge differed from other Yarra River bridges in that it sits unusually low. This low height was dictated by its shallow approaches below railway lines from both the north and south. To achieve the required bridge strength, longitudinal girders were used instead of the originally proposed transverse system – described in the contemporary press as an “unusual form of construction – providing the greatest strength with the least depth”. The chosen design provided the most practical solution for the site and its traffic demands. The bridge follows a parabolic curve with a 5-feet (1.5 metres) rise, giving a central headroom of 11 feet (3.3 metres), tapering to 6 feet (1.8 metres) at each end, producing the bridge’s notably flat profile (*The Age* 15 April 1890:6; *The Argus* 17 April 1890:9).

The bridge carried cable trams from South Melbourne until 1937. Electric tram tracks constructed in 1944 went into service in 1946.

## Selected bibliography

*The Age*.

*The Argus*.

*Australasian*.

City of Melbourne, Mapping Aboriginal Melbourne at <https://aboriginal-map.melbourne.vic.gov.au/85>, accessed online 15 April 2026.

Conservation Studio, *Conservation Management Plan: Queens Bridge* (June 2026)

Encyclopedia of Melbourne at <https://www.emelbourne.net.au/>, accessed online 15 April 2026.

Gurciullo, Sebastian ‘*Reshaping the Yarra: Unrealised plans and visions for the Port of Melbourne*’, Provenance: the Journal of Public Record Office Victoria, issue no. 21, 2023-24.

*The Herald*.

Public Record Office Victoria, Melbourne Harbor Trust Commissioners, Photographic Collection, 1880-1976, VPRS 8357, accessed online 16 April 2026.

State Library of Victoria, Picture Collection, images and plans as cited, accessed online 16 April 2026.

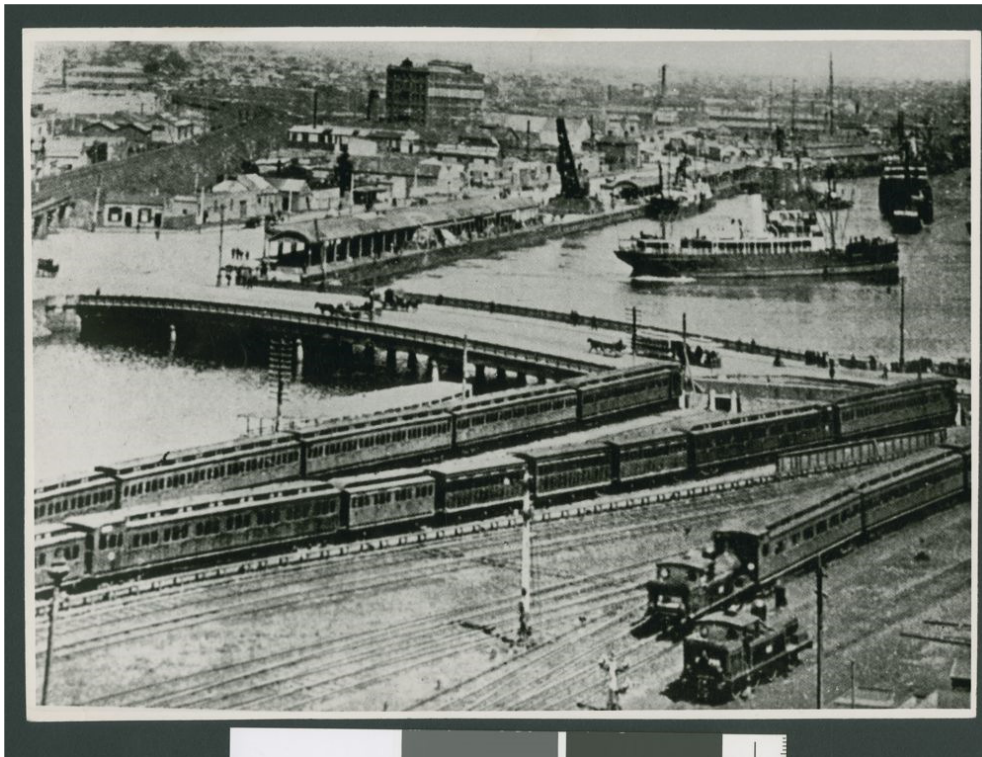
## Historical images



c1860, Old timber bridge at Yarra Falls, Source: John H Jones, SLV <https://handle.slv.vic.gov.au/10381/4193489>



c1908, Queens Bridge, Source: Charles Rudd, SLV <https://handle.slv.vic.gov.au/10381/300351>



*c1910, Queens Bridge, Source: PROV VPRS 8357/P0001/5, Photograph [001]*



*C1935, Queens Bridge and Sandridge Railway Bridge, Source: SLV <https://handle.slv.vic.gov.au/10381/20591>*

## Further information

### Registered Aboriginal Party information

The Queens Bridge is located on Wurundjeri Country.

Under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, the Registered Aboriginal Party for this land is the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Cultural Heritage Aboriginal Corporation.

### Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register

The place is in an area of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity associated with the Birrarung (Yarra River).

(26 May 2026)

### Integrity

The integrity of the place is very good. The cultural heritage values of the Queens Bridge can be easily read in the extant fabric.

(26 May 2026)

### Intactness

The intactness of the place is very good.

(26 May 2026)

### Condition

The overall condition of the Queens Bridge is good. The Conservation Management Plan by Conservation Studio (2026) provides additional information on specific elements.

(26 May 2026)

Note: The condition of a place or object does not influence the assessment of its cultural heritage significance. A place or object may be in very poor condition and still be of very high cultural heritage significance. Alternatively, a place or object may be in excellent condition but be of low cultural heritage significance.

## Amendment recommendation

### State-level cultural heritage significance of the place

The cultural heritage significance of the Queens Bridge was recognised when it was included in the Register of Government Buildings in 1982. Its State-level cultural heritage significance was confirmed in 1998 when it was transferred to the VHR.

Queens Bridge is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

### Assessment of additional land and summary of significance

The Executive Director proposes to nominate additional land to this registration because it is his view that:

- The State-level cultural heritage significance of the place would be substantially less if the additional land or any part of the additional land which is or has been used in conjunction with the place were developed.
- The additional land surrounds the place and is important to the protection or conservation of the place; or contributes to the understanding of the place.

#### The Executive Director notes that:

- The current extent does not align with the full extent of the bridge abutments where the bridge intersects with the north and south banks.
- The land proposed for inclusion both is currently and has been used in conjunction with the place since 1889 which is almost 140 years.

#### The Executive Director is of the view that:

- If any of the additional land proposed for inclusion in the registration were developed, depending upon the nature of the proposal, there is potential for the development to impact upon the place and substantially reduce its State-level cultural heritage significance.
- The proposed inclusion of land associated with the place will provide clarity on the approvals process for works within the place.

### Change of name

- Not applicable.

## Statutory requirements under section 40

### Terms of the recommendation (section 40(3)(a))

The Executive Director recommends that the registration of the Queens Bridge in the VHR is amended.

### Information to identify the place or object or land (section 40(3)(b))

**Number:** VHR H1448

**Category:** Registered Place.

**Name:** Queens Bridge

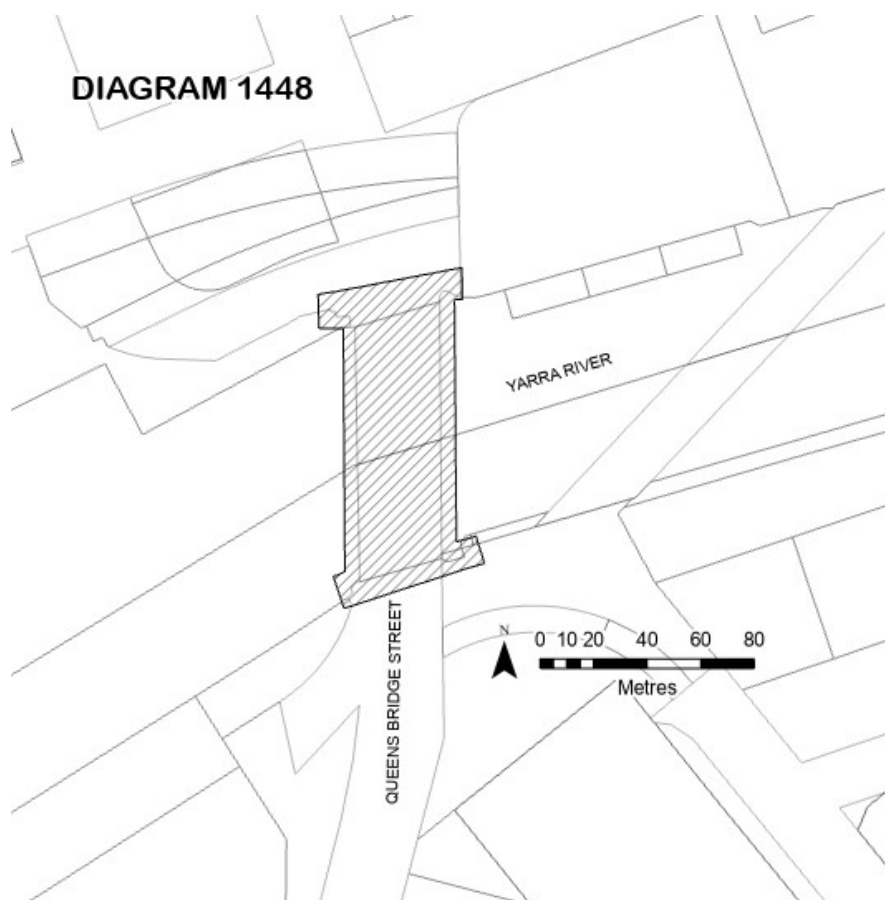
**Location:** Queens Bridge Street, Melbourne and Southbank VIC

**Municipality:** Melbourne

### Proposed extent of registration

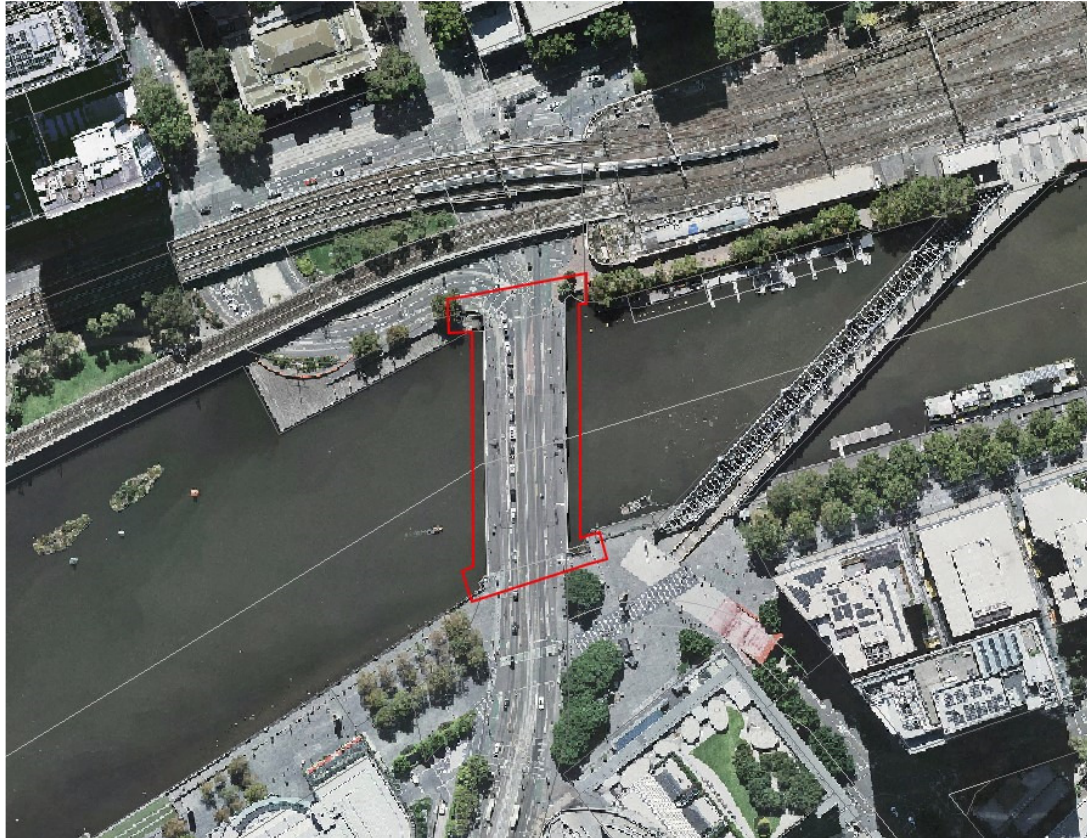
The Executive Director recommends that the extent of registration for the Queens Bridge be gazetted as:

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 1448 encompassing all of Crown Allotment 2020 Parish of Melbourne South, Crown Allotment 2015 Parish of Melbourne North, and parts of Crown Allotment 2168 City of South Melbourne, Parish of Melbourne South, Crown Allotment 2071 Parish of Melbourne South, Crown Allotment 2051 Parish of Melbourne North, Crown Allotment 31 Section 2 City of Melbourne Parish of Melbourne North and part of the road reserve for Queens Bridge Street to the extent of 5 metres from the edge of the bridge and abutments.



## Non-statutory information about the proposed extent of registration

### Aerial photo of the place showing proposed extent of registration



Note: This aerial view provides a visual representation of the place. It is not a precise representation of the recommended extent of registration. Due to distortions associated with aerial photography some elements of the place may appear as though they are outside the extent of registration.

### Rationale for the proposed extent of registration

The recommended extent of registration comprises all elements and features of State-level cultural heritage significance, including the bluestone abutments on the north and south banks, the bridge structure, and the bluestone remnants of the earlier bridge structure.

The recommended extent of the registration is the same as the nominated extent of registration.

It should be noted that everything included in the proposed extent of registration including all of the land and waterway, all soft and hard landscape features, all of the built structure and any features associated with earlier bridges at the site is proposed for inclusion in the VHR. A permit or permit exemption from Heritage Victoria is required for any works within the proposed extent of registration, apart from those identified in the categories of works or activities in this recommendation.

## Summary of cultural heritage significance (section 40(4))

### Statement of significance

Queens Bridge is located on Wurundjeri Country traversing the Birrarung (Yarra River). The bridge is situated on the site of what was the Yarra Yarra (the Falls). The falls were a traditional Aboriginal meeting place, used as a river crossing, and which marked the point where the Birrarung turned from salt water to freshwater.

#### What is significant?

Queens Bridge, opened in 1890, and spanning the Birrarung from Market Street in the north to Southbank in the south. The wrought iron, iron and concrete bridge with stone abutments was principally designed by Frederick M Hynes, Chief Design Engineer for the Harbour Jetties and Coast Works Department of the Public Works Department, and constructed by David Munro & Co.

#### How is it significant?

Queens Bridge is of historic and architectural significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criterion 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

#### Why is it significant?

Queens Bridge is historically significant for its associations with an important crossing on the Birrarung (Yarra River). Built on the site of the Falls (Yarra Yarra) and replacing the earlier timber 'Falls Bridge', it played an important role in the early establishment of main thoroughfares in Melbourne. The road and tram bridge linked port, recreational and industrial facilities in the south with the city, facilitating the economic, suburban and demographic development of Melbourne. Queens Bridge has associations with the Melbourne Harbour Trust which, from its establishment in 1877, played an important role in Victoria's trade and transport history, including major engineering works instigated in the 1880s following British engineer Sir John Coode's 1879 report on proposed river and port improvements. Queens Bridge is also associated with David Munro who was responsible for the bridge's construction, along with the construction of the nearby Princes and Sandridge Railway bridges. [Criterion A]

Queens Bridge is architecturally significant as a fine example of a nineteenth century road bridge, exemplifying the advancements in engineering during the nineteenth century. Constructed of wrought iron continuous plate girders, the bridge is supported on iron cylindrical piers filled with concrete. The piers are in groups of eight, with arched bracing between and terminated with Doric capitals on cast iron piers. The abutments are built of squared rubble-faced basalt with Stawell freestone dressings. The bridge has an ornamental cast iron balustrade and a series of foliated consoles beneath the balustrade. Queens Bridge is notable for its unusually low deck, flat curvature, and use of longitudinal girders. The design of the bridge responded to the flat approaches, below elevated rail bridges, on both the northern and southern banks of the Birrarung. [Criterion D]

## Recommended permit exemptions under section 38

### Introduction

A [heritage permit](#) is required for all works and activities undertaken in relation to VHR places and objects. Certain works and activities are [exempt from a heritage permit](#), if the proposed works will not harm the cultural heritage significance of the heritage place or object.

### Permit Policy

A Conservation Management Plan has been prepared to manage the place in a manner which respects its cultural heritage significance: Conservation Studio, *Conservation Management Plan: Queens Bridge*, June 2026. The Conservation Management Plan (or any subsequent revisions) should be used to guide the management of the place.

### Permit Exemptions

#### General Permit Exemptions

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the 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 Act.

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 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 Permit Exemptions

The works and activities listed below under the heading 'Exempt works and activities' are not considered to cause harm to the cultural heritage significance of the Queens Bridge. These are subject to the following guidelines and conditions:

## Guidelines for specific permit exemptions

1. Where there is an inconsistency between permit exemptions specific to the registered place or object ('specific exemptions') established in accordance with either section 49(3) or section 92(3) of the Act and general exemptions established in accordance with section 92(1) of the Act specific exemptions will prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.
2. In specific exemptions, words have the same meaning as in the Act, unless otherwise indicated. Where there is an inconsistency between specific exemptions and the Act, the Act will prevail to the extent of any inconsistency.
3. Nothing in specific exemptions obviates the responsibility of a proponent to obtain the consent of the owner of the registered place or object, or if the registered place or object is situated on Crown Land the land manager as defined in the *Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978*, prior to undertaking works or activities in accordance with specific exemptions.
4. If a Cultural Heritage Management Plan in accordance with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* is required for works covered by specific exemptions, specific exemptions will apply only if the Cultural Heritage Management Plan has been approved prior to works or activities commencing. Where there is an inconsistency between specific exemptions and a Cultural Heritage Management Plan for the relevant works and activities, Heritage Victoria must be contacted for advice on the appropriate approval pathway.
5. Specific exemptions do not constitute approvals, authorisations or exemptions under any other legislation, Local Government, State Government or Commonwealth Government requirements, including but not limited to the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, and the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth). Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to obtain relevant planning, building or environmental approvals from the responsible authority where applicable.
6. Care should be taken when working with heritage buildings and objects, as historic fabric may contain dangerous and poisonous materials (for example lead paint and asbestos). Appropriate personal protective equipment should be worn at all times. If you are unsure, seek advice from a qualified heritage architect, heritage consultant or local Council heritage advisor.
7. The presence of unsafe materials (for example asbestos, lead paint etc) at a registered place or object does not automatically exempt remedial works or

activities in accordance with this category. Approvals under Part 5 of the Act must be obtained to undertake works or activities that are not expressly exempted by the below specific exemptions.

8. All works should be informed by a Conservation Management Plan prepared for the place or object. The Executive Director is not bound by any Conservation Management Plan and permits still must be obtained for works suggested in any Conservation Management Plan.

## General conditions for specific permit exemptions

1. All works or activities permitted under specific exemptions must be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents harm to the registered place or object. Harm includes moving, removing or damaging any part of the registered place or object that contributes to its cultural heritage significance.
2. If during the carrying out of works or activities in accordance with specific exemptions original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the registered place are revealed relating to its cultural heritage significance, including but not limited to historical archaeological remains, such as features, deposits or artefacts, then works must cease and Heritage Victoria notified as soon as possible.
3. If during the carrying out of works or activities in accordance with specific exemptions any Aboriginal cultural heritage is discovered or exposed at any time, all works must cease and the Secretary (as defined in the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*) must be contacted immediately to ascertain requirements under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.
4. If during the carrying out of works or activities in accordance with specific exemptions any munitions or other potentially explosive artefacts are discovered, Victoria Police is to be immediately alerted and the site is to be immediately cleared of all personnel.
5. If during the carrying out of works or activities in accordance with specific exemptions any suspected human remains are found the works or activities must cease. The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage. Victoria Police and the State Coroner's Office must be notified immediately. If there are reasonable grounds to believe that the remains are Aboriginal, the State Emergency Control Centre must be immediately notified on 1300 888 544, and, as required under s.17(3)(b) of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, all details about the location and nature of the human remains must be provided to the Aboriginal Heritage Council (as defined in the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*).

## Exempt works and activities

### Public Realm

1. Alteration or modification of the later (c1980-90s) bluestone walls to the east and west of the southern and northern bridge abutments, providing works do not increase the height of the walls or introduce features which will conceal or reduce the visibility of the bridge from the public realm.
2. Removal or replacement of metal fencing to river edge adjacent to the southwestern and northeastern bridge abutments.
3. Removal of the electrical cabinet at the southwestern end of the bridge.
4. Removal or replacement of timber decking and substructure adjacent to the northwestern bridge abutment.
5. Resurfacing of the ground-plane around the southern and northern entrances to the bridge in new materials, providing bridge abutments are not damaged or concealed.
6. Removal or alterations to the bluestone planters to the north of the bridge.
7. Removal of existing plantings and planting of new vegetation within bluestone planters to the north of the bridge.

### Temporary Events

8. Installation of temporary events, decorations and structures associated with the City of Melbourne's municipal Christmas celebrations for up to 60 calendar days (within one calendar year) inclusive of bump in and bump out, with no further structures erected in the same location for a period of 7 calendar days for hard stand surfaces.
9. Installation of temporary events and structures for one annual arts festival event of up to up to 45 calendar days (within one calendar year) inclusive of bump in and bump out, with no further structures erected in the same location for a period of 7 calendar days for hard stand surfaces.
10. The following temporary event infrastructure can be installed for both temporary events listed above:
  - a) The installation of temporary structures, such as marquees, tents, market stalls, display cases and furniture, gazebos, and shipping containers.
  - b) The installation of temporary freestanding services associated with events, including generators and associated service cabling.
  - c) The installation of temporary freestanding audio-visual and broadcasting equipment, including temporary staging, flooring, rigging, screens, speakers, lighting and associated infrastructure.
  - d) The erection of temporary freestanding scaffolding towers, projectors and infrastructure associated with lightshows and projections onto, or into airspace within the extent of registration of registered places and objects.
  - e) The installation of temporary freestanding artworks.
  - f) The installation of freestanding temporary recreation and entertainment facilities, equipment and structures, such as jumping castles, amusement rides, and sporting equipment.
  - g) The installation of temporary decorations, such as decorative lights, bunting, tinsel, cut floral arrangements, freestanding garden beds and the like.
  - h) The installation of equipment and infrastructure associated with firework, laser and drone displays.
  - i) The parking, installation and operation of temporary micro-tenancies, such as food trucks and coffee carts.
  - j) The installation of temporary furniture, including tables, desks, chairs, umbrellas and the like.
  - k) Installation of temporary portable toilets.
  - l) Installation of temporary operational, promotional, directional and wayfinding signage. Installation of temporary surveillance systems.
  - m) The erection of freestanding fencing structures associated with temporary events.

The following exemption conditions apply to Temporary Events:

- n) Works and activities must be entirely reversible, and not involve damage to, or removal or disturbance of, early or original fabric.
- o) Temporary structures and associated elements exempted must be freestanding and not involve new penetrations into or fixings to early or original fabric.
- p) Cabling and associated service conduits must not be affixed to early or original fabric.
- q) Plant and equipment access must use existing paths and access routes where possible. Existing paths and access routes must not be damaged, widened or extended.

- r) Fragile surfaces such timber flooring and ground-surface masonry (excluding concrete or asphalt), must be protected from temporary structures and associated installation activities (for example the use of sleepers, boards, track matting or other ground protection). Vehicles must not use access routes through floorboarded, decked or tiled locations.
- s) All works and activities must comply with the engineering and loading requirements of the place.
- t) Any area(s) impacted by works and activities must be fully remediated to its previous condition within 28 calendar days of removal of temporary structures.

## Appendix 1: Important information for owners and interested parties

### Heritage Council determination (section 49)

The Heritage Council is an independent statutory body that will make a determination on this recommendation under section 49 of the Act. It will consider the recommendation after a period of 60 days from the date the notice of recommendation is published on its [website](#) under section 41.

### Making a submission to the Heritage Council (section 44)

Within the period of 60 days, any person or body may make a submission to the Heritage Council regarding the recommendation and request a hearing in relation to that submission. Information about making a submission and submission forms are available on the [Heritage Council's website](#). The owner can also make a submission about proposed permit exemptions (Section 40(4)(d)).

### Consideration of submissions to the Heritage Council (section 46)

(1) The Heritage Council must consider—

- (a) any written submission made to it under section 44; and
- (b) any further information provided to the Heritage Council in response to a request under section 45.

### Conduct of hearings by Heritage Council in relation to a recommendation (section 46A)

(1) The Heritage Council may conduct a hearing in relation to a recommendation under section 37, 38 or 39 in any circumstances that the Heritage Council considers appropriate.

(2) The Heritage Council must conduct a hearing if—

- (a) a submission made to it under section 44 includes a request for a hearing before the Heritage Council; and
- (b) the submission is made by a person or body with a real or substantial interest in the place, object or land that is the subject of the submission.

### Determinations of the Heritage Council (section 49)

(1) After considering a recommendation that a place, object or land should or should not be included in the Heritage Register and any submissions in respect of the recommendation and conducting any hearing, the Heritage Council may—

- (a) determine that the place or object is of State-level cultural heritage significance and is to be included in the Heritage Register; or
- (ab) in the case of a place, determine that—
  - (i) part of the place is of State-level cultural heritage significance and is to be included in the Heritage Register; and
  - (ii) part of the place is not of State-level cultural heritage significance and is not to be included in the Heritage Register; or
- (ac) in the case of an object, determine that—
  - (i) part of the object is of State-level cultural heritage significance and is to be included in the Heritage Register; and
  - (ii) part of the object is not of State-level cultural heritage significance and is not to be included in the Heritage Register; or
- (b) determine that the place or object is not of State-level cultural heritage significance and is not to be included in the Heritage Register; or

- (c) in the case of a recommendation in respect of a place, determine that the place or part of the place is not to be included in the Heritage Register but—
    - (i) refer the recommendation and any submissions to the relevant planning authority or the Minister administering the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to consider the inclusion of the place or part of the place in a planning scheme in accordance with the objectives set out in section 4(1)(d) of that Act; or
    - (ii) determine that it is more appropriate for steps to be taken under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 or by any other means to protect or conserve the place or part of the place; or
  - (ca) in the case of a recommendation in respect of an object nominated under section 27A, determine that the object, or part of the object, is to be included in the Heritage Register if it is integral to understanding the cultural heritage significance of a registered place or a place the Heritage Council has determined to be included in the Heritage Register; or
  - (d) in the case of a recommendation in respect of additional land nominated under section 27B, determine that the additional land, or any part of the additional land, is to be included in the Heritage Register if—
    - (i) the State-level cultural heritage significance of the place, or part of the place, would be substantially less if the additional land or any part of the additional land which is or has been used in conjunction with the place were developed; or
    - (ii) the additional land or any part of the additional land surrounding the place, or part of the place, is important to the protection or conservation of the place or contributes to the understanding of the place.
- (2) The Heritage Council must make a determination under subsection (1)—
- (a) within 40 days after the date on which written submissions may be made under section 44; or
  - (b) if any hearing is conducted, within 90 days after the completion of the hearing.
- (3) A determination made under subsection (1)(a), (ab), (ac), (ca) or (d)—
- (a) may include categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to a place, object or land, or part of a place, object or land, for which a permit under this Act is not required, if the Heritage Council considers that the works or activities would not harm the cultural heritage significance of the place, object or land; and
  - (b) must include a statement of the reasons for the making of the determination.
- (4) If the Heritage Council determines to include a place, or part of a place, in the Heritage Register, the Heritage Council may also determine to include land that is not the subject of a nomination under section 27B in the Heritage Register as part of the place if—
- (a) the land is ancillary to the place; and
  - (b) the person who owns the place, or part of the place—
    - (i) is the owner of the land; and
    - (ii) consents to its inclusion.
- (5) If a member of the Heritage Council makes a submission under section 44 in respect of a recommendation, the member must not take part in the consideration or determination of the Heritage Council.
- (6) The Heritage Council must notify the Executive Director of any determination under this section as soon as practicable after the determination.

## **Obligations of owners (section 42, 42A, 42B, 42C, 42D)**

### **42 Obligations of owners—to advise of works, permits etc. on foot when statement of recommendation given**

- (1) The owner of a place, object or land to whom a statement of recommendation has been given must advise the Executive Director in writing of—

- (a) any works or activities that are being carried out in relation to the place, object or land at the time the statement is given; and
- (b) if the place, object or land is a place or additional land, any application for a planning permit or a building permit, or any application for an amendment to a planning permit or a building permit, that has been made in relation to the place or additional land but not determined at the time the statement is given; and
- (c) any works or activities that are proposed to be carried out in relation to the place, object or land at the time the statement is given.

(2) An advice under subsection (1) must be given within 10 days after the statement of recommendation is given under section 40.

#### **42A Obligations of owners before determination or inclusion in the Heritage Register—to advise of permits**

(1) This section applies if—

- (a) an owner of any of the following is given a statement of recommendation—
  - (i) a place or object nominated under section 27;
  - (ii) an object nominated under section 27A;
  - (iii) land nominated under section 27B; and
- (b) any of the following occurs within the statement of recommendation period in relation to the place, object or land—
  - (i) the making of an application for a planning permit or a building permit;
  - (ii) the making of an application for an amendment to a planning permit or a building permit;
  - (iii) the grant of a planning permit or building permit;
  - (iv) the grant of an amendment to a planning permit or building permit.

(2) The owner must advise the Executive Director in writing of—

- (a) the making of an application referred to in subsection (1)(b)(i) or (ii), within 10 days of the making of the application; or
- (b) a grant referred to in subsection (1)(b)(iii) or (iv), within 10 days of the owner becoming aware of the grant.

#### **42B Obligations of owners before determination or inclusion in the Heritage Register—to advise of activities**

(1) This section applies if—

- (a) an owner of a place, object or land is given a statement of recommendation; and
- (b) within the statement of recommendation period it is proposed that activities that could harm the place, object or land be carried out.

(2) The owner, not less than 10 days before carrying out the activities, must advise the Executive Director in writing of the proposal to do so.

#### **42C Obligations of owners before determination or inclusion in the Heritage Register—to advise of proposal to dispose**

(1) This section applies if—

- (a) an owner of a place, object or land is given a statement of recommendation; and
- (b) within the statement of recommendation period a proposal is made to dispose of the whole or any part of the place, object or land.

(2) The owner, within 10 days after entering into an agreement, arrangement or understanding for the disposal of the whole or any part of the place, object or land, must advise the Executive Director in writing of the proposal to do so.

#### **42D Obligations of owners before determination or inclusion in the Heritage Register—requirement to give statement to purchaser**

(1) This section applies if—

- (a) an owner of a place, object or land is given a statement of recommendation; and
- (b) the owner proposes to dispose of the whole or any part of the place, object or land within the statement of recommendation period.

(2) Before entering into an agreement, arrangement or understanding to dispose of the whole or any part of the place, object or land during the statement of recommendation period, the owner must give a copy of the statement of recommendation to the person who, under the proposed agreement, arrangement or understanding, is to acquire the place, object or land or part of the place, object or land.

#### **Owners of places and objects must comply with obligations (section 43)**

An owner of a place, object or land who is subject to an obligation under section 42, 42A, 42B, 42C or 42D must comply with that obligation.

Penalty:            In the case of a natural person, 120 penalty units;  
                         In the case of a body corporate, 240 penalty units.

## Appendix 2: Existing registration details

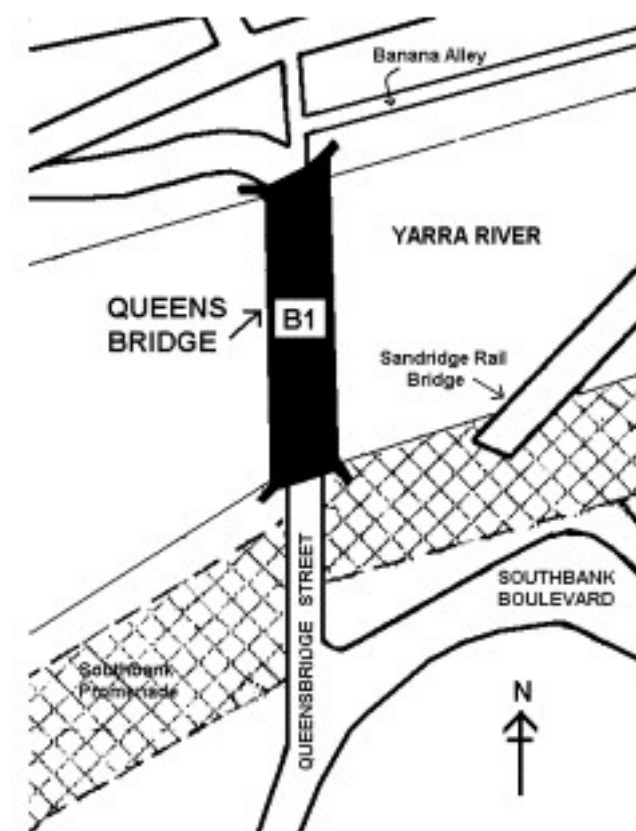
### Existing extent of registration

To the extent of: All the structure known as Queens Bridge including all of the structure, its approach spans and abutments as marked B1 in Diagram 600397 held by the Executive Director.

Dated: 3 December 1998.

[Victoria Government Gazette G 41 7 January 1999 p.37]

### Existing extent diagram



### Existing statement of significance

What is significant?

Queens Bridge which crosses the Yarra at the southern extension of Market Street, replaced an earlier timber footbridge erected in 1860, known as Falls Bridge. The present structure, named after Queen Victoria, was designed by Frederick M Hynes, the Chief Design Engineer for the "Harbour Jetties and Coast Works Department" of the Public Works Department. The chief contractor for its construction was David Munro, who also erected Princes Bridge, and the Sandridge Railway Bridge over the Yarra River. The bridge was officially opened by the Governor, Lord Hopetoun, on 18 April 1890. Queens Bridge is built in a very flat arch, reflecting the minimal rise and fall of the Yarra River. It is a five span structure constructed of wrought iron continuous plate girders. The bridge rests on iron cylinders filled with concrete, in groups of eight, with arched bracing between. The abutments are built in basalt and Stawell freestone. The bridge has an ornamental cast iron balustrade and a series of inverted foliated consoles beneath the balustrade.

How is it significant?

Queens Bridge is of architectural, aesthetic and historical importance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

Queens Bridge is of architectural and aesthetic importance for its unusual very flat arch which reflects the minimal rise and fall of the Yarra River. The iron cylinders filled with concrete which support the bridge are architecturally important as an unusual and innovative method of bridge construction. Queens Bridge is of aesthetic importance as an elegant feature on the Yarra River with its contrasting substantial structure and fine detailing. The bridge is an important landmark and is a contributory element in the distinct series of bridges which cross the Yarra within the city vicinity. The bridge represents a notable example of the work of David Munro who was also responsible for the construction of Princes Bridge and Sandridge Railway Bridge and who was a prominent contractor and speculator during Melbourne's boom period of the 1870s and 1880s.

Queens Bridge is of historical and social importance for its role in the early establishment of main thoroughfares in and around the city. A bridge was first built at this location in 1860. These early thoroughfares, and in particular river crossings contributed greatly in forming the shape of the city. The bridge played a significant role in linking port, recreational and industrial facilities with the city, facilitating the economic, suburban and demographic development of Melbourne.

## Existing permit policy and permit exemptions

- \* No permit required for routine maintenance of Queens Bridge
- \* No permit required to replace like with like on Queens Bridge

### Exterior

- \* Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- \* Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae, aerials etc, and making good.
- \* Installation or repair of damp-proofing by either injection method or grouted pocket method.
- \* Regular garden maintenance.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering systems.

### Interior

- \* Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of the original paint or other decorative scheme.
- \* Removal of paint from originally unpainted or oiled joinery, doors, architraves, skirtings and decorative strapping.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of curtain track, rods, blinds and other window dressings.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted artworks.
- \* Refurbishment of bathrooms, toilets and or en suites including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors, wall and floor coverings.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of kitchen benches and fixtures including sinks, stoves, ovens, refrigerators, dishwashers etc and associated plumbing and wiring.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves and provided that the location of the heating unit is concealed from view.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed and any original light switches, pull cords, push buttons or power outlets are retained in-situ. Note: if wiring original to the place was carried in timber conduits then the conduits should remain in-situ.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of smoke detectors.