

Statement of Recommendation from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria

Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club VHR PROV H2469
7 Cameron Road, Anglesea, Surf Coast Shire
Wadawurrung Country



Executive Director recommendation

Under section 37 of the *Heritage Act 2017* (**the Act**) I recommend to the Heritage Council of Victoria (**Heritage Council**) that the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, located at 7 Cameron Road, Anglesea, Surf Coast Shire is of State-level cultural heritage significance and should be included in the Victorian Heritage Register (**VHR**) in the categories of registered place and registered object integral to a registered place.

In accordance with section 38 of the Act, I include in this recommendation categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club without the need for a permit under Part 5 of the Act.

I suggest that the Heritage Council determine that:

- the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is of State-level cultural heritage significance and is to be included in the VHR in accordance with section 49(1)(a) of the Act
- the proposed categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club for which a permit under the Act is not required will not harm the cultural heritage significance of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club under section 49(3)(a) of the Act.



STEVEN AVERY
Executive Director, Heritage Victoria

Date of recommendation: 16 March 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

The following is a description of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club at the time of the site inspection by Heritage Victoria on 1 December 2025.

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is located on the eastern side of Kuaka-dorla, now known as Anglesea. It is located on the eastern bank of the Anglesea River, approximately 1 kilometre inland from the mouth of the river. The place is managed under Crown land lease by the Great Ocean Road Coast and Parks Authority, a division of the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action.

Place

Boatshed building

The boatshed building is set back ~ 5 metres from a narrow timber landing stage which sits in the Anglesea River. It is a simple gable-roof clear-span structure ~13 x 7 metres in size. A skillion storage space with its own entry has been added on the southern side. The shed posts are made from tree trunks, the ceiling trusses are timber, and the whole exterior, including the roof, is clad in corrugated aluminium. There is a tall flagpole sitting atop the front gable and there are shelves attached to the western side of the building to accommodate trophies on regatta day.

The main entrance (southern side) has large timber double doors which open onto the riverbank to allow for the transportation of boats. There is also a rear door which, when open, allows through ventilation. There are no windows. The interior walls have been clad in thick black plastic, over which metal mesh has been fixed. The floor is earth covered with reconstituted asphalt (similar to gravel) and a layer of artificial grass.

Race organiser's box

The race organiser's box is a small, simple timber structure ~ 3 metres to the west of the boatshed. It comprises a raised viewing box with corrugated aluminium roof, which overlooks the river, and is accessed by two steps. A flagpole and commemorative plaque are attached.

Timber landing stage

The narrow timber landing stage in front of the club comprises two joined sections of timber planking which together form a ~175° wing shape along a curve in the riverbank.

Objects integral

Four clinker rowing boats are housed at the club.

Anglesea and Gladstone

- 'Fours', each measuring 7.350 x 1.400 metres
- Commissioned by the Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club
- Built during 1913 by James (Jas.) Edwards Boatbuilders, southern bank of the Yarra River near Princes Bridge, Melbourne.

Torquay and Aireys

- 'Pairs' each measuring 4.900 x 1.120 metres
- Commissioned by the Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club
- Built during 1914 by James (Jas.) Edwards Boatbuilders, southern bank of the Yarra River near Princes Bridge, Melbourne.

These boats are included in the Australian Register of Historic Vessels (ARHV) which is an inventory for extant vessels with significance to Australia's maritime history. Their numbers in this register are: *Anglesea*, ARHV number: HV000670; *Gladstone*, ARHV number: HV000671; *Torquay*, ARHV Number: HV000668; *Aireys*, ARHV Number: HV000669.

Diagram of main elements

This diagram indicates the location of the main elements at the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club.



Notes:

The proposed VHR extent is the same as HO93 in the Surf Coast Planning Scheme.

Description images



2025, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, view from the western side of the Anglesea River Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, view north up the river looking inland. Note the small landing stage in the river, and race organiser's box (image centre) Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, front elevation. Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, view through front entrance into the interior. Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, race organiser's box with Anglesea River in background Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, race organiser's box showing plaque Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, rear/northern elevation, Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, eastern elevation, Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, view of interior from front entrance, Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, Landing stage on the Anglesea River in front of the boatshed, Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, The Aireys and the Gladstone inside the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, Source: Heritage Victoria



2025, Underside of the Anglesea showing the clinker boat building construction technique, Source: Heritage Victoria



2018, Clinker boats Gladstone, Anglesea, Torquay and Aireys (left to right) on display at the Geelong Wooden Boat Festival. Source: Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club

History

Wadawurrung Country

The Wadawurrung have an unbroken connection to the land and waters around Anglesea from time immemorial.

Wadawurrung Country covers over 10,000 square kilometres to the west of Melbourne. It includes Geelong, Ballarat, Queenscliff, the Surf Coast, part of the Great Ocean Road (VHR H2261), and Anglesea, known as [Kuarka-dorla](#). Kuarka-dorla means 'place of fishing mullet' in the Wadawurrung language where people fished, and collected shellfish, limpets, mussels, abalone and pippies.¹

In the 1830s, European pastoralists and squatters dispossessed First Nations Peoples of their Country, including the Wadawurrung. The Yoorrook Justice Commission (2025) has recorded how colonisation caused irreparable damage to First Peoples in Victoria through massacres, the introduction of diseases, confinement on missions and reserves, forced labour, the separation of families, and ongoing policies and practices that have resulted in systemic injustice.²

The Wadawurrung continue to live, work, practice culture and manage land and waters around Anglesea.

Recreational rowing

For European settlers, Victoria's rivers and waterways were used for the purposes of agriculture and industry. During the nineteenth century, river-based recreation grew in popularity, reflecting British traditions of swimming, picnics and boating (mainly rowing). Melburnians regularly flocked to the Yarra River to enjoy leisure activities, riverside picnics being common on Sundays. Grand boathouses were constructed, including the Studley Park Boathouse (1863) (Boroondara HO126), Fairfield Boathouse (Yarra HO146), and Proudfoots Boathouse at Warrnambool (VHR H0620), as well as more modest boathouses like Pompeis at Mordialloc.³ The 'glory days' of the boathouse reached their peak from around the 1880s to 1914.

Rowing regattas

Rowing regattas were popular events that formed a mainstay of community life in Victoria from the mid-nineteenth century.⁴ They were often held on days of community celebration – New Year's Day, Easter, Boxing Day, and had a carnival atmosphere.⁵ Drawing large crowds of spectators, the events featured marquees, picnics, music, fireworks, and guests were encouraged to wear formal attire. Victoria's first regatta was held on the Lower Yarra in 1841, and Geelong's first in 1847.⁶ By 1876 a statewide association of competitive amateur rowing clubs the Victorian Rowing Association (VRA) had been established.

By the 1880s, competitive rowing arguably ranked alongside football and cricket in terms of its popularity and the crowds that attended regattas.⁷ By 1910, VRA regattas were held at Nagambie, Colac, Paynesville, Ballarat, Barwon, Bairnsdale, Sale, Murray River, Seymour, Footscray and Upper Yarra.⁸ The largest recreational rowing event in Victoria was the Henley-on-Yarra founded in Melbourne in 1904. The name and inspiration were both English and rowers competed for trophies including the 'Grand Challenge Cup' that were exact facsimiles of the English ones.⁹ In 1912 Australia sent its first rowers (male) to the Olympics in Stockholm, which received much press attention.¹⁰

The Anglesea Regatta

From the mid-nineteenth century, landholders regularly met for picnics along the Anglesea River, which included various social and sporting activities. The first informal regatta at Anglesea is known to have been held in 1887.¹¹ Settlers in the Anglesea district initially looked to the river, rather than the ocean, for aquatic recreation. Swimming was not a skill that

¹ See Uncle Byron Powell speak about the relationship of Kuarka Dorla to Wadawurrung people. [This Place: Special places in Waddawurrung country - ABC Education](#)

² Yoorrook Justice Commission. *Truth be Told*. 2025.

³ See Kylie Best, '[Riverside delights on the Yarra](#)' website, SLV.

⁴ See Geoffrey T Vincent, 'The Great Aquatic Events', p.149.

⁵ Martin Crotty, *Rowing in Victoria, 1875-1914: A Social History*, PhD Thesis, Department of History, Monash University, 1995.

⁶ Martin Crotty, *Rowing in Victoria*, p. 31.

⁷ See Robin Poke, *A Narrative History of Australian Rowing, 1770-2016*, PhD Thesis, English Department, University of Canberra, 2019, p. 76 & 58; Martin Crotty, *Rowing in Victoria*, p. 39, 129 & 131; [Australian Rowing History](#) website [Mercantile Rowing Club](#), [accessed January to March 2026].

⁸ Martin Crotty, *Rowing in Victoria*, p.35 & 38.

⁹ Martin Crotty, *Rowing in Victoria*, p.48; Robin Poke, *A Narrative History of Australian Rowing*, p.56.

¹⁰ Martin Crotty, *Rowing in Victoria*, p.38.

¹¹ David Rowe and Wendy Jacobs, Citation for 'Regatta Boat Shed & Adjacent Race Organiser's Stand', Surf Coast Shire Heritage Study Stage 2B, July 2009.

Britons necessarily learnt, and many were unable to swim, or swim sufficiently strongly in the open sea. River swimming and rowing were safer options for families, especially those with children.

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club (the organisation) was established in 1910. The first formal regatta under the aegis of the club was held in January 1911, using existing local boats and prior to the construction of the club's boatshed. This regatta involved the staging of the 'Grand Challenge Cup', with rules issued and accepted in late 1910 by Anglesea and Airey's Inlet organisers respectively.¹² Further regattas were held in 1912 and 1913 on New Year's Day, which were a great success, and the club determined to build its own boatshed and purchase boats.

On 31 December 1913, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club (the building) officially opened on the eve of the 1914 New Year's Day Regatta. It was constructed by local labourers. The 1914 regatta saw the boats *Anglesea* and *Gladstone* used in competition. These 'fours' had been commissioned and built during 1913 by James (Jas.) Edwards Boatbuilders in Melbourne. During 1914, two 'pairs', the *Aireys* and *Torquay* were commissioned and built.

By 1922, the club had a membership of 350 and the regatta was well attended by visitors from Geelong and coastal towns.¹³ The Anglesea Regatta was not part of the VRA circuit. But some participants went on to represent Australia, including Garth Manton who won a bronze at the 1956 Olympics. The Anglesea Regatta has taken place every year since 1913 on New Year's Day, except for a few years during the world wars, and was able to be staged during the COVID pandemic.¹⁴

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club boatshed

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club boatshed was funded by the community. The building used posts from local trees and was clad in corrugated iron. In addition to rowing purposes, it was also used as a Scout Hall and for community events. After a timber floor was installed in 1925, it could be used for dances.¹⁵ A narrow skillion structure was added to the southern side of the building, likely during the 1950s. In 1967, a timber race organiser's stand was built to the west of the shed.

Around 1970, the wooden floorboards were removed because they were rotten and the floor was left as earthen, which also reduced the risk of arson. In 2005, the Surf Coast Shire provided a reconstituted asphalt floor, which the club subsequently covered with artificial grass which remains to this time. This relatively damp environment has contributed to the preservation of the clinker boats.

During the 1980s, the club building was re-sheeted with corrugated aluminium provided by Alcoa as a contribution to the Anglesea community through that company's Anglesea power station.¹⁶ More recently steel mesh has been attached to the interior of the building for security. Although the boatshed is located in an estuary, flooding has never caused damage to the building.

Fires, floods and the rarity of early boatsheds

Few nineteenth and early twentieth-century boatsheds survive in Victoria. They were typically constructed from timber, housed flammable timber boats, and were vulnerable to fires, break-ins and floods.¹⁷ The metal cladding of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club has potentially contributed to its survival. The following are some nineteenth-century rowing boatsheds that were destroyed by fire:

- Hawthorn Rowing Club (constructed 1887)
- Colac Rowing Club (constructed 1870s)
- Footscray Rowing Club (constructed 1870s)
- Ballarat Rowing Club (constructed 1896).

The Barwon Rowing Club (1870) and others in the Geelong area were swept away by floods in 1880. Destroyed boatsheds were typically replaced where there was a need. Others were extended to accommodate expanding

¹² David Rowe and Wendy Jacobs, Citation for 'Regatta Boat Shed & Adjacent Race Organiser's Stand'.

¹³ 'Regatta at Anglesea: All Records Broken', *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 January 1922, p.3.

¹⁴ The January 2020 regatta pre-dated the pandemic and Anglesea's regional lockdown restrictions in January 2021 were less onerous than metropolitan Melbourne.

¹⁵ Prue and Graeme Weber, *The grand challenge: a history of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club 1911-2010: including a brief history of Aireys Inlet and Anglesea*, Malvern, 2010, p.95.

¹⁶ Information supplied by Peter Doyle, AS&RC Secretary, 5 March 2026.

¹⁷ [Australian Rowing History](#) website [Mercantile Rowing Club](#), [accessed January to March 2026].

operational activities. The Warrnambool Rowing Club (1889), for example, was replaced in 1978 with larger premises. Similarly, the Bendigo Rowing Club (formerly Sandhurst Rowing Club) on Lake Weeroona (1880) was replaced in 1980.

All of the nineteenth and early twentieth-century boatsheds on the Yarra River near Princes Bridge were replaced from 1953, apart from the Melbourne University Boatshed (1908) (VHR H0682). This has been included in the VHR for its rarity.

Anglesea clinker boats

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club boatshed houses four clinker boats, the *Anglesea* and the *Gladstone* (1913) and the *Aireys* and *Torquay* (1914) built for the club by Jas Edwards and Sons at their boatbuilding business on the Yarra banks at Princes Bridge, Melbourne. This firm had a national reputation as one of the premier boat builders for competitive rowing. The boats are named after local coastal towns, Gladstone now being part of Anglesea.

The clinker boat construction method was prevalent in northern Europe in ancient and medieval times. It was the primary method of building rowing boats before the advent of plywood sheets and, more recently, fibreglass and carbon fibre. Clinker boats are constructed from timber planks using a method which places the lower edge of each plank over the upper edge of the plank below it.

From the late twentieth century, the knowledge required to build clinker boats and the number of new clinker boats being constructed has declined internationally. In 2021, Nordic clinker boat traditions were inscribed in the Representative List of the UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity'.¹⁸

Today's Anglesea Regatta

Today's Anglesea New Year's Day Regatta is held at the same location as it was in 1911. The course begins approximately 300 metres south of the boatshed and ends near it. The Regatta involves 40-50 races in various classes (teams, singles, adults, children) and attracts entrants from the local area and holiday-makers whose families have participated in the regatta for several generations. It also draws rowers from Melbourne and Geelong rowing clubs and schools as well as wooden boat enthusiasts from all over the world.

Selected bibliography

[Australian Rowing History](#) website [accessed January to March 2026].

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Prue and Graeme Weber, *The grand challenge: a history of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club 1911-2010: including a brief history of Aireys Inlet and Anglesea*, Malvern, 2010.

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Geoffrey Vincent, 'The Great Aquatic Events of the Plains: Regattas and Rowing in Canterbury, 1850-1890', *Journal of New Zealand Studies*, 1 Jun 2004.

'Regatta at Anglesea: All Records Broken', *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 January 1922, p.3.

[Nordic clinker boat traditions - UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage](#) [accessed January to March 2026].

Surf Coast Shire Council, *Reflect: Reconciliation Action Plan*, December 2023 - December 2024.

¹⁸ See: [Nordic clinker boat traditions - UNESCO Intangible Cultural Heritage](#)

Acknowledgements

The Executive Director thanks the following people for sharing their knowledge of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club.

- Ian McMillan, Member, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club
- Elly Stewart, President, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club
- Peter Doyle, Secretary and Treasurer, Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club
- James Murchie, Member Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club.

Historical images



1880, A boating party on the Yarra, at Abbotsford, SLV IAN31/12/80/241



c.1900-1929, two women and two men in a boat on an unidentified river, SLV H92.370/13



c. 1890-1900, Boat building business premises on the south bank of the Yarra River. Princes Bridge to the right of the photo. The James (Jas.) Edwards & Sons premises includes four interconnected gable-roofed sheds and the business name is painted on the roof. Source SLV, ID 9916572913607636.



Opening of the Anglesea Recreation and Sport Club boat shed 31 December 1913, on the eve of the 1914 New Year's Day Regatta. Source: Anglesea and District Historical Society, reproduced in Prue and Graeme Weber, 2010.



Spectators at the 1914 New Year's Day Regatta. Source: Anglesea and District Historical Society, reproduced in Prue and Graeme Weber, 2010.



1936, Anglesea, Source: SLV, ID 9916536833607636. Photo shows the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club on the eastern side of the river (foreground) and boating sheds on the western side of the river.



*New Year's Day 2020, Anglesea Regatta, note the four clinker boats on the water.
Source: Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, photographer Andy Berry.*

Further information

Registered Aboriginal Party information

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is located on Wadawurrung Country. Under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*, the Registered Aboriginal Party for this land is the Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation.

Native Title

There is currently no Native Title determination for this location or arrangements under the *Traditional Owner Settlement Act 2010 (Vic)*.

Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is in an area of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity associated with the Anglesea River. (1 December 2025)

Integrity

The integrity of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is excellent. The cultural heritage values of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club can be easily read in the extant fabric. (1 December 2025)

Intactness

The intactness of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is very good.

Although some parts of the boatshed have been upgraded or replaced to ensure its ongoing use and security, it retains its original form as a shed. (1 December 2025)

Condition

The condition of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is excellent.

The Anglesea boats have survived remarkably well over 120 years. It is likely that on the low ground of the riverbank, the damp environment of the shed and has been a key factor in their longevity and the excellent condition of all four boats today. Conservation works around 2013 have also helped to maintain the boats' condition. (1 December 2025)

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.

Heritage Overlay

Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is included in the Heritage Overlay of the Surf Coast Planning Scheme HO93.

Other relevant planning scheme overlays

The place is subject to the following environmental and landscape overlays.

- Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO)
- Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO)
- Floodway Overlay (FO)
- Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO)
- Salinity Management Overlay (SMO)

Aboriginal place name(s) if known

The name for Anglesea is Kuarka-dorla (place of fishing mullet).¹⁹

Other Listings

There are no other listings for the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club.

Other Names

There are no other widely known names for the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club.

Date of construction

1913

Builder

Unknown, local builder with local labour.

Architectural style

Federation/Edwardian Period

¹⁹ See [Looking for food at Kuarka-dorla - This Place | Indigenous](#); Surf Coast Shire Council, *Reflect: Reconciliation Action Plan*, December 2023 – December 2024. This Plan provides a guidance for all stakeholders to embed into their responsibilities, Governance, and strategic planning to strengthen their relationships with Wadawurrung Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation.

Statutory requirements under section 40

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

The Executive Director recommends that the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is included in the VHR.

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

Number: PROV H2469

Category: Registered place and registered object Integral to a registered place

Name: Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club

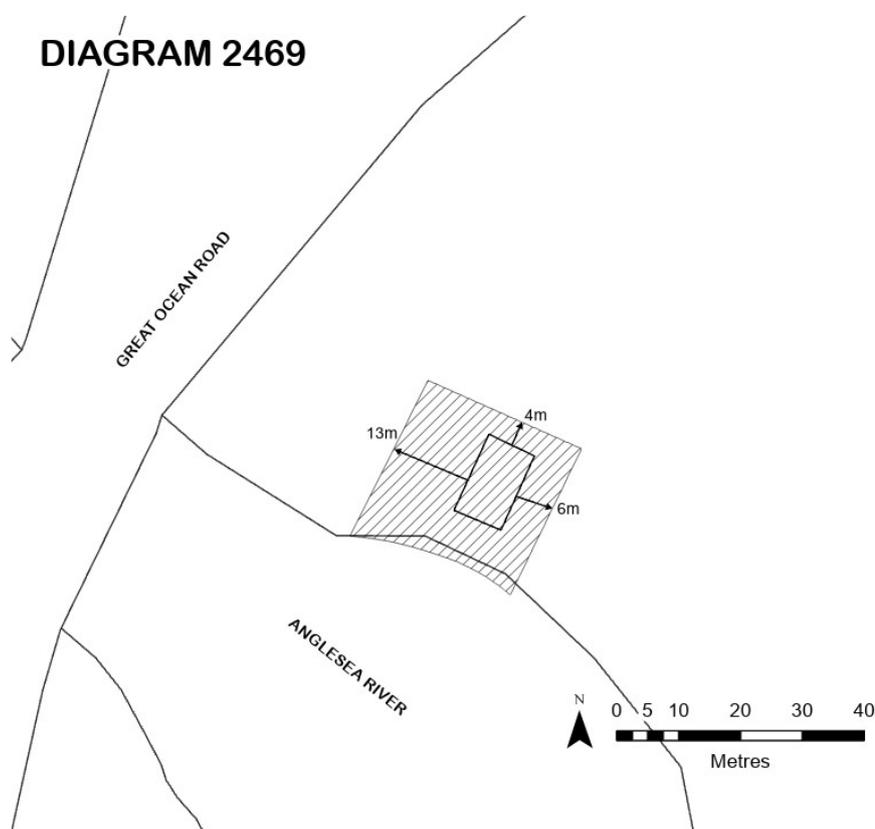
Location: 7 Cameron Road, Anglesea

Municipality: Surf Coast Shire

Proposed extent of registration

The Executive Director recommends that the extent of registration for the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club be gazetted as:

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 2469 encompassing parts of Crown Allotment 36 Section 2 Township of Anglesea and Crown Allotment 2056 Parish of Jan Juc to the extent of 13 metres from the western wall, 4 metres from the northern wall and 6 metres from the eastern wall of the boatshed building and 2 metres from the bank of Anglesea River, and the objects integral to the place being four clinker boats built by James Edward and Sons being *Anglesea*, *Gladstone*, *Aireys* and *Torquay*.



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.

Legend:

Blue outline – Proposed VHR extent (same as HO)

Yellow dotted outline – A modern play structure for children in the shape of a boat

Pink dotted outline – The Great Ocean Road (VHR H2261)

Rationale for the proposed extent of registration

The recommended extent of registration comprises the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club boatshed, the race organiser's box, the four clinker boats *Anglesea*, *Gladstone*, *Torquay* and *Aireys*, and sufficient land to allow for the understanding, protection and conservation of the place. It does not include the modern play structure for children in the shape of a boat.

The recommended extent of the registration is the same as the nominated extent of registration, and the same as HO93 in the Surf Coast Planning Scheme.

It should be noted that everything included in the proposed extent of registration including all of the land, all soft and hard landscape features, plantings, all buildings (exteriors, interiors and fixtures), and all objects integral to the understanding of the cultural heritage significance of the place, 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.

Reasons for the recommendation, including an assessment of the State-level cultural heritage significance of the Choose an item. (section 40(3)(c))

Following is the Executive Director's assessment of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club against the tests set out in [The Victorian Heritage Register Criteria and Thresholds Guidelines \(2022\)](#). A place or object must be found by the Heritage Council to meet Step 2 of at least one criterion to meet the State level threshold for inclusion in the VHR.

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

Step 1 Test for Criterion A

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
A1)	Does the place/object have a clear association with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life in Victoria's cultural history?	Yes	The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club has a clear association with the history of rowing in Victoria's cultural history.
A2)	Is the event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life of historical importance, having made a strong or influential contribution to Victoria?	Yes	Rowing is a sporting and recreational pursuit of historical importance having shaped the social fabric and built environment of Victorian communities, particularly those located near rivers, lakes and other waterways.
A3)	Is there evidence of the association to the event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life in Victoria's cultural history?	Yes	There is evidence of the association between the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club and rowing. There is documentary and photographic evidence, as well as evidence in the fabric of the boatshed, other structures and clinker boats , for this association.

If A1, A2 and A3 are all satisfied, then Criterion A is likely to be relevant (not necessarily at the State level)

Executive Director's Response:	Yes	Criterion A is likely to be relevant.
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Step 2 State-level test for Criterion A

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
SA1)	Does the place/object allow the clear association with the event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life of historical importance to be understood better than most other places or objects in Victoria with substantially the same association?	Yes	<p>The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club allows the clear association with the rowing to be understood better than most places and objects in Victoria with the same association:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The place and objects integral dates from an era in which competitive amateur rowing in Victoria was reaching its height of popularity and remains largely intact. 2. The vast majority of rowing club buildings in Victoria were demolished and redeveloped during the mid to late-twentieth century. 3. The survival of an assemblage of clinker rowing boats constructed for the club contemporaneously with the building demonstrates the history of rowing particularly well when compared with other places in Victoria. 4. The current New Year's Day Anglesea Regatta is held at the same boathouse, on the same course and using the same boats as in 1913. The association of the place and objects integral with the history of rowing is long, enduring and continuing.

If SA1 is satisfied, then Criterion A is likely to be relevant at the State level

Executive Director's Response:	Yes	Criterion A is likely to be relevant at the State level.
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CRITERION B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural history.

Step 1 Test for Criterion B

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
B1)	Does the place/object have a clear association with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life of importance in Victoria's cultural history?	Yes	See A1 and A2.
B2)	Is there evidence of the association to the historical phases etc identified at B1)?	Yes	See A3.
B3)	Is there evidence that place/object is: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) rare or uncommon, <u>or</u> ii) has rare or uncommon features? 	Yes	<p>B3(i) There is evidence that the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is rare. The survival of a rowing shed with its original boats, from the nineteenth or early twentieth centuries, is rare.</p> <p>B3(ii) NA.</p>

If B1, B2 AND B3 are satisfied, then Criterion B is likely to be relevant (but not necessarily at the State level)

Executive Director's Response:	Yes	Criterion B is likely to be relevant.
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Step 2 State-level test for Criterion B

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
SB1)	Is the place/object rare or uncommon, being one of a small number of places/objects remaining that demonstrates the event, phase, etc identified at B1)?	NA	NA
SB2)	Is the place/object rare or uncommon, containing unusual features, and these features are of note and these features were not widely replicated in Victoria?	NA	NA
SB3)	Is the existence of the class place/object that demonstrates the historical phases at B1) endangered to the point of rarity due to threats and pressures on such places/objects in Victoria?	Yes	<p>The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is of the class of boathouse/rowing shed. The class demonstrates the historical phases set out at B1.</p> <p><i>Boathouse/rowing shed</i></p> <p>This class is endangered to the point of rarity due to threats and pressures on boathouses/rowing sheds in Victoria. Since the late 1800s, the vast majority of boathouses/rowing sheds (particularly smaller examples) have been demolished and/or redeveloped to accommodate the needs of clubs. The need to develop rowing facilities and to provide greater community amenity remains a pressure on this class of place today.</p> <p><i>Boathouse/rowing shed inclusive of original set of boats</i></p> <p>Such an intact assemblage of a boathouse and original boats is rare, and there is thought to be no other example in Victoria dating from the 1880s to 1914 (the heyday of competitive rowing). This is because it has been common for boatsheds to be redeveloped (see above) and boats to be upgraded to modern and more competitive vessels.</p> <p><i>Clinker boats</i></p> <p>From the late twentieth century, the knowledge required to build clinker boats and the number of new clinker boats being constructed has declined internationally, largely due to the advent of plywood sheet and, more recently, by fibreglass and carbon fibre. The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club clinker boats are rare intact set of clinker boats from the early twentieth century in Victoria.</p>

If any one of SB1, SB2 OR SB3 is satisfied, then Criterion B is likely to be relevant at the State level

Executive Director's Response:	Yes	Criterion B is likely to be relevant at the State level.
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CRITERION C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria’s cultural history.

Step 1 Test for Criterion C

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
C1)	Does physical fabric and/or documentary evidence and/or associated oral history or cultural narratives relating to the place/object indicate a likelihood that the place/object contains evidence of cultural heritage significance that is not currently visible and/or well understood or available from other sources?	No	The: 1) physical fabric and 2) documentary evidence and 3) associated oral history or cultural narratives relating to the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club do not indicate a likelihood that the place contains evidence of cultural heritage significance that is not currently visible and/or well understood or available from other sources.
C2)	And, from what we know of the place/object, is the physical evidence likely to be of an integrity and/or condition that it could yield information through detailed investigation?	No	The integrity and condition of the place may be good, but it is unlikely to yield information through investigation that is not currently visible and/or well understood or available from other sources (see C1).

If both C1 AND C2 are satisfied, then Criterion C is likely to be relevant (but not necessarily at the State level)

Executive Director’s Response:	No	Criterion C is not likely to be relevant.
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CRITERION D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects

Step 1 Test for Criterion D

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
D1)	Is the place/object one of a class of places/objects that has a clear association with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life in Victoria’s history?	Yes	Yes. See A1.
D2)	Is the event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life of historical importance, having made a strong or influential contribution to Victoria?	Yes	Yes. See A2.
D3)	Are the principal characteristics of the class evident in the physical fabric of the place/object?	Yes	The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club belongs to the class ‘boathouse/rowing shed’. The principal characteristics of the class are evident in the physical fabric of the place.

If D1, D2 AND D3 are satisfied, then Criterion D is likely to be relevant (but not necessarily at the State level)

Executive Director's Response:	Yes	Criterion D is likely to be relevant.
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Step 2 State-level test for Criterion D

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
SD1)	Is the place/object a notable (fine, influential or pivotal) example of the class in Victoria?	NA	Given that few boathouse/rowing sheds from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries survive in Victoria, it is the view of the Executive Director that this place is more appropriately assessed for its rarity under Criterion B rather than Criterion D (notable example).

If SD1 is satisfied, then Criterion D is likely to be relevant at the State level

Executive Director's Response:	NA	NA
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CRITERION E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Step 1 Test for Criterion E

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
E1)	Does the physical fabric of the place/object clearly exhibit particular aesthetic characteristics?	Yes	The physical fabric of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club clearly exhibits aesthetic characteristics particular to the class boathouse/rowing shed.

If E1 is satisfied, then Criterion E is likely to be relevant (but not necessarily at the State level)

Executive Director's Response:	Yes	Criterion E is likely to be relevant.
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Step 2 State-level test for Criterion E

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
SE1)	<p>Are the aesthetic characteristics 'beyond the ordinary' or are outstanding as demonstrated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence from within the relevant discipline (architecture, art, design or equivalent); and/or Critical recognition of the aesthetic characteristics of the place/object within a relevant art, design, architectural or related discipline within Victoria; and/or Wide public acknowledgement of exceptional aesthetic qualities of the place/object in Victoria expressed in publications, print or digital media, painting, sculpture, songs, poetry, literature, or other media? 	No	<p>There is no evidence that the aesthetic characteristics at the place are 'beyond the ordinary' or are outstanding.</p> <p>The aesthetic qualities of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club are typical of a modest boathouse/rowing shed. They have not been widely acknowledged by the public, nor critically acknowledged by experts within the disciplines of architecture or design.</p>

If SE1 is satisfied, then Criterion E is likely to be relevant at the State level

Executive Director's Response: No Criterion E is not likely to be relevant at the State level.

CRITERION F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Step 1 Test for Criterion F

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
F1)	Does the place/object contain physical evidence that clearly demonstrates creative or technical achievement for the time in which it was created?	No	<p>The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club does not contain physical evidence that clearly demonstrates creative or technical achievement for the time in which it was created.</p> <p><i>The rowing shed</i></p> <p>The shed is of a modest design and utilises conventional construction materials and techniques for 1912-13.</p> <p><i>The clinker boats</i></p> <p>The boats are excellent surviving examples of a type of boat building technique. However, clinker boat construction was neither new or innovative, nor represented a technical achievement for its time.</p>
F2)	Does the physical evidence demonstrate a high degree of integrity?	NA	The physical evidence at the place demonstrates a high degree of integrity. As the boatshed and boats do not represent technical achievements this test is not applicable.

If both F1 and F2 are satisfied, then Criterion F is likely to be relevant (but not necessarily at the State level)

Executive Director's Response: No Criterion F is not likely to be relevant.

CRITERION G: Strong or special association with a particular present-day community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons

Step 1 Test for Criterion G

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
G1)	Does the place/object demonstrate social value to a community or cultural group in the present day in the context of its cultural heritage significance? Evidence must be provided for all three facets of social value listed here:		
i)	Existence of a community or cultural group; <u>and</u>	Yes	The Anglesea community values the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club.
ii)	Existence of a strong attachment of a community or cultural group to the place or object; <u>and</u>	Yes	<p>There is evidence of a strong attachment of the Anglesea community to the place in the present day.</p> <p>The Anglesea community values the place, as evidenced online and by attendance at the annual New Year's Day Regatta.</p>

iii)	Existence of a time depth to that attachment.	Yes	There is photographic and documentary evidence of the attachment dating to its time of construction. The relationship between the Anglesea community and the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, has been well documented by the club itself and the local historical society.
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If all facets of G1 are satisfied, then Criterion G is likely to be relevant (but not necessarily at the State level)

Executive Director's Response:	Yes	Criterion G is likely to be relevant.
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Step 2 State-level test for Criterion G

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
SG1)	Is there evidence that the social value resonates across the broader Victorian community as part of a story that contributes to Victoria's identity?	No	The social value of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is part of a story in Victoria that contributes to Victoria's identity. The rowing shed is fondly remembered by locals as a beloved feature of their childhood. However, there is no evidence that the social value of the place resonates across the broader Victorian community.

If all facets of SG1 are satisfied, then Criterion G is likely to be relevant at the State level

Executive Director's Response:	No	Criterion G is not likely to be relevant at the State level.
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CRITERION H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

Step 1 Test for Criterion H

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
H1)	Does the place/object have a direct association with a person, or group of persons who has made a strong or influential contribution in their field of endeavour?	Yes	H1(i) There is a direct association between the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club and the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club (the organisation). The club built the boatshed. H1(ii) The club (the organisation) has made a strong or influential contribution in their field within the Anglesea region.
H2)	Is there evidence of the association between the place/object and the person(s)?	Yes	There is photographic and documentary evidence of the association dating to its time of the boatshed's construction.
H3)	Does the association relate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • directly to achievements of the person(s); <u>and</u> • to an enduring and/or close interaction between the person(s) and the place/object? 	Yes	H3(i) The association between the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club and the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club (the organisation) relates directly to the achievements of the club. H3(ii) The association relates to a close and enduring interaction between the Anglesea Recreation and Sports

Club (the organisation) and the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club boathouse.

If all facets of H1, H2 AND H3 are satisfied, then Criterion H is likely to be relevant (but not necessarily at the State level)

Executive Director's Response:	Yes	Criterion H is likely to be relevant.
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Step 2 State-level test for Criterion H

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
SH1)	Are the life or works of the person/persons important to Victoria's history?	No	The life and works of the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club (the organisation) are not important to the course of Victoria's history. While important and valued in the Anglesea region, the club has not had an impact on the history of the state more broadly.
SH2)	Does this place/object allow the association between the person or group of persons and their importance in Victoria's history to be readily appreciated better than most other places or objects in Victoria?	Yes	The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club does allow the association between the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club (the organisation) and their importance in Victoria's history to be readily appreciated more than most other places or objects in Victoria.

If SH1 and SH2 are satisfied, then Criterion H is likely to be relevant at the State level

Executive Director's Response:	No	Criterion H is not likely to be relevant at the State level.
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Objects integral

Definition

In the context of a registered place, an 'object integral' is:

- a key part of the place; and
- contributes to our understanding of the place's State-level cultural heritage significance.

An object integral does not have to be of State-level significance in its own right. A more detailed definition can be found in the Heritage Council's [Policy: objects integral to a registered place](#). It should be noted that fixtures (such as window frames or decorative masonry) automatically form part of the registered place and are therefore protected under the Act.

Background

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club commissioned and purchased four clinker boats from James Edwards Boatbuilders in 1913 and 1914 which have been stored in the boatshed since that time.

Proposed objects integral

The objects integral to this place are four clinker row boats: *Anglesea*, *Gladstone*, *Torquay* and *Aireys*. These are described in **Details of the objects integral** at the end of this report.

Assessment of whether the objects are integral to understanding the cultural heritage significance of a registered place (40(3A)(b))

The Heritage Council's [Policy: objects integral to a registered place](#) notes that for the purposes of the Act, an object will be considered integral to a place if it satisfied the following tests:

No.	Test	Yes/No	Reason
1.	Do the objects form a key part of that place, being a component in its design, operation or use that contributes importantly to a richer and more complete understanding of its historical, cultural, technical, aesthetic and/or social meaning at a State level?	Yes	The four clinker boats demonstrate the long and enduring use of the place as a boathouse. They have been used at the Anglesea New Year's Day Regatta for over one hundred years. They contribute to the rarity of the assemblage and allow a richer and more complete understanding of the place.
2.	Can the contribution be substantiated through physical, documentary or oral evidence?	Yes	There is ample documentary, photographic and oral history evidence of the contribution of the objects to the significance of the place.
Executive Director's Response		The objects can be considered integral to the place	

Objects integral (continued)

Summary of how the objects are integral to understanding the cultural heritage significance of the place (40(4)(b))

The four clinker boats are integral to understanding the cultural significance of the place because together they comprise a rare assemblage that demonstrates the history of rowing in Victoria. It is uncommon for a complete set of original boats to survive intact in nineteenth and early twentieth century boathouses. The boats were constructed contemporaneously with the boathouse and allow the once highly popular recreational event of the riverside regatta in Victoria to be particularly well understood. From the late twentieth century, the knowledge required to build clinker boats and the number of new clinker boats being constructed has declined internationally, largely due to the advent of plywood sheet and, more recently, by fibre glass and carbon fibre today.

Comparisons

The following were selected as comparators to the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club because they are waterside buildings which have supported rowing.

Public boathouses for recreational rowing

In the VHR

PROUDFOOT'S BOATHOUSE

2 SIMPSON STREET, WARRNAMBOOL,
WARRNAMBOOL CITY

VHR H0682

Proudfoot's Boathouse (c.1890s) is of architectural significance as perhaps the finest example of a 19th century boathouse in Victoria. It is of historical significance as an example of late-Victorian recreational and tourist facilities. Boathouses were popular 19th century tourist and recreational attractions, providing refined and healthy activity.



In Heritage Overlays

FAIRFIELD BOATHOUSE

FAIRFIELD PARK DRIVE, FAIRFIELD, YARRA CITY

HO146

Fairfield Boathouse was established in 1908 as a boatshed and refreshment room. It was a popular centre for boating, canoeing, swimming, picnics and carnivals until the 1950s.



STUDLEY PARK BOATSHEDS AND BOATHOUSE

1 BOATHOUSE ROAD, KEW, BOROONDARA CITY

HO126

Established in 1863 as Burns Boatshed, the Studley Park Boathouse it is the oldest continually operating public boathouse on the Yarra River. It was built on what was then popular picnic grounds on the outskirts of a rapidly growing Melbourne.



Rowing club boatsheds

In the VHR – Individual listing

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BOAT CLUB SHED BOATHOUSE DRIVE, MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY VHR H0682

The Melbourne University Boatshed (1908) is historically significant to the State of Victoria for its associations with the University Boat Club, established in 1859, the oldest rowing club in Australia. It is also a rare example of a substantial early twentieth century rowing club building. The Melbourne University Boatshed is associated with many of Victoria's and Australia's best rowers.



In the VHR – Part of a registered place (not individually listed)

LAKE WENDOUREE, WENDOUREE PARADE, LAKE WENDOUREE, BALLARAT CITY (VHR H2419)

Within the registered extent of Lake Wendouree there are a number of extant late nineteenth/early twentieth century rowing club boatsheds.

- Ballarat & Clarendon College (1896). The exterior has been restored/rebuilt several times in recent decades including in the 1990s.²⁰
- Wendouree Ballarat Rowing Club (1907)
- Ballarat Grammar Boatshed (c.1912)
- Ballarat City Rowing Club (Rebuilt c.1956 after a fire).



March 2026 Ballarat & Clarendon College (1896). The exterior has been restored/rebuilt several times in recent decades. Note the plumb edges and sharp detailing. Source: Ballarat City

²⁰ Correspondence from Ballarat City, 16 March 2026.

In Heritage Overlays

Yarra Boathouses Precinct (HO1418)

1–7 Boathouse Drive, Melbourne, Melbourne City

This well-known group of seven boathouses is located on the south side of the Yarra River east of Princes Bridge. All were constructed postwar, except the Melbourne University Boat Club Shed (1908) see above VHR H0682.

- 1908 Melbourne University Boathouse
- 1953 Melbourne Grammar School Boathouse
- 1973 Mercantile Rowing Club
- 1973 Richmond Rowing Club
- 1981 Banks Rowing Club
- 1993 Melbourne Rowing Club
- 2005 Yarra Yarra Rowing Club.

Hawthorn Rowing Club

Banks of Yarra River, Burwood Road

HO220 West Hawthorn Precinct

The original Hawthorn Rowing Club (1887) burnt down. It was replaced in 1924. There was a major rebuild in 1937 and again in 2011.

The inclusion of this boatshed in the West Hawthorn Precinct potentially relates to the historical significance of rowing and other recreational activities on the Yarra River, rather than for its representativeness as an intact early twentieth-century boatshed. There appears to be little fabric remaining from 1924.

The Hawthorn Rowing Club is understood to be the only rowing shed included in the heritage overlay of a local planning scheme in Victoria. The Executive Director welcomes further information about other rowing clubs in heritage overlays.



Comparisons for rarity in Victoria

The following is a list of **rowing club boatsheds** in Victoria. It demonstrates the rarity of rowing club sheds. This list is not exhaustive. The Executive Director welcomes the provision of additional information.

Surviving nineteenth-century rowing club boatsheds

Club Name	Location	Date of extant boatshed	In VHR or HO
Ballarat & Clarendon College (since the 1970s)	Lake Wendouree	1896 The exterior has been restored/rebuilt several times in recent decades including in the 1990s.	Part of Lake Wendouree (VHR H2419)

Surviving pre-WWI rowing club boatsheds

Club Name	Location	Club est.	Date of extant boatshed	In VHR or HO
Wendouree Ballarat Rowing Club	Lake Wendouree	1861	1905	Part of Lake Wendouree (VHR H2419)
Melbourne University Rowing Club	Yarra River	1859	1908	VHR H0682
Ballarat Grammar Shed	Lake Wendouree	c.1912	1912	Part of Lake Wendouree (VHR H2419)
Ballarat College	Lake Wendouree	1910s	1914	Part of Lake Wendouree (VHR H2419)

Surviving pre-WWI rowing club boatsheds with contemporaneous set of boats

Club Name	Location	Club est.	Date of extant boatshed	In VHR or HO
Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club	Anglesea River	1911	1913	HO Individual (objects not included)

Rowing club boatsheds rebuilt or substantially developed in place of a nineteenth/early twentieth-century boatshed

Club Name	Location	Club est.	Date of extant boatshed	In VHR or HO
Ballarat City Rowing Club	Lake Wendouree	1870	1956	Part of Lake Wendouree (VHR H2419)
Lake Colac Rowing Club (1950s) is on registered land as part of the Colac Botanical Gardens (VHR H2259). But the boatshed does not have the status of a registered building.				
Corio Bay Rowing Club	Corio Bay	1873	1965	NA
Mercantile Rowing Club	Yarra River	1880	1973	HO Precinct
Richmond Rowing Club	Yarra River	1863	1973	HO Precinct
Essendon Rowing Club	Marib'nong River	1880	1978	NA
Bendigo Rowing Club	Lake Weeroona	1872	1980s	HO Precinct
Warrnambool Rowing Club	Hopkins River	1870s	1980s	NA
Footscray Rowing Club	Marib'nong River	1870s	1980	NA
Banks Rowing Club	Yarra River	1866	1981	HO Precinct
Melbourne Rowing Club	Yarra River	1862	1993	HO Precinct
Yarra Yarra Rowing Club	Yarra River	1871	2005	HO Precinct
Barwon Rowing Club	Barwon River	1870	2012	NA
Williamstown Rowing Club	Marib'nong River	1880s	Demolished	NA
Bairnsdale Rowing Club	Mitchell River	1872	Demolished	NA
Preston Rowing Club	Lake Edwardes	1919	Demolished	NA
The Hawthorn Rowing Club dates from 1924, with major rebuilds in 1937 and 2011. There appears to be little fabric remaining from 1924. It is included in the West Hawthorn Precinct HO220.				

Summary of comparisons

Despite the popularity of competitive rowing in Victoria from around the 1870s to 1914, there are few rowing club boatsheds from this era in the VHR. This class is vulnerable to fire, and flood, as well as the demolition and rebuilding of new facilities.

The only rowing club boatshed dating prior to 1905 in Victoria appears to be the Ballarat & Clarendon College Boatshed which is included in the larger Lake Wendouree registration (VHR H2419). Its exterior has been restored/rebuilt several times in recent decades including in the 1990s. Some grand public boathouses from the nineteenth century are extant (Proudfoots VHR H0682, Studley Park HO126 and Fairfield HO146).

The Wendouree Ballarat Rowing Club (1905) is included in the larger Lake Wendouree registration (VHR H2419). This is followed chronologically by the Melbourne University Boat Club Shed (1908) (VHR H0682). It is registered as 'a rare example of a substantial early twentieth-century Rowing Club building'. It now has a large two-storey addition (2012) to its east. Three further boatsheds (1912, 1914 and 1956) are included in the registered extent of Lake Wendouree (VHR H2419). This lake was the location of the 1956 Olympic Games rowing events.

In this context, the Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club (1913) is a rare pre-WWI rowing club boatshed. Its intactness and integrity are excellent, and it remains relatively unaltered. Moreover, it is rare as the only early twentieth century boatshed in Victoria to retain its original boats commissioned contemporaneously. This assemblage has the capacity to demonstrate the history of rowing in Victoria better than other places with the same association.

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

Statement of significance

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is located on Wadawurrung Country.

What is significant?

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, built in 1913 on the eastern side of Kuaka-dorla (now known as Anglesea) by local labourers comprising a simple gable-roof clear-span structure clad in corrugated aluminium, with a skillion addition, a narrow timber landing stage fronting the Anglesea River, and a small timber race organiser's box to the north. The club houses four clinker rowing boats commissioned by the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club and built by notable Melbourne boat builder James Edwards and Sons: *Anglesea* and *Gladstone* (1913) *Torquay* and *Aireys* (1914).

How is it significant?

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is of historical significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criterion for inclusion in the VHR:

Criterion A

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

Criterion B

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

Why is it significant?

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is historically significant for its capacity to demonstrate the history of rowing in Victoria. The building and original clinker rowing boats date from an era in which rowing as a sport was reaching the height of popularity. The vast majority of rowing club boatsheds in Victoria were demolished and redeveloped during the mid to late-twentieth century. The current Anglesea New Year's Day Regatta has been held at the same boatshed, on the same course and using the same boats for over 100 years. The association between the place, the objects integral and the history of rowing in Victoria is close and enduring. [Criterion A]

The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club is a rare surviving pre-World War I rowing club boatshed. Although once a common sight on Victoria's inland waterways from the 1870s, the majority of early rowing sheds have been demolished or rebuilt. The four boats housed in the Anglesea boatshed are rare intact set of clinker boats from the early twentieth century. Moreover, no other early twentieth-century assemblage of a boatshed with its original boats is thought to survive in Victoria. The Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club and its boats also demonstrate the practice of clinker boat building, as a form of intangible heritage that is waning as fewer people have the skills and knowledge required to build and maintain these vessels, in Australia and globally. [Criterion B]

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

It is recommended that a Conservation Management Plan is utilised to manage the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club in a manner which respects its cultural heritage significance.

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.

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 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 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 Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club. 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

Boatshed building

- Minor repairs and maintenance which replaces like with like, including the replacement of roof and wall cladding.
- Removal and like for like replacement of floor coverings.
- Painting of previously painted surfaces in the same colour, finish and product type.
- Maintenance, removal, repair and replacement of light fittings, light switches and related elements in existing locations.
- Removal and/or replacement of power outlets, and installation of new ones.
- Removal and/or replacement of hooks, brackets and the like for hanging wall mounted artworks and signs, and installation of new ones.
- Installation, removal or replacement of existing electrical wiring. If wiring is currently exposed, it should remain exposed. If it is fully concealed it should remain fully concealed.
- Removal or replacement of smoke and fire detectors, alarms and the like, of a similar size and in existing locations.
- Graffiti removal by a suitably qualified professional authorised by the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club.

Race organisers box

- Painting of previously painted surfaces in the same colour, finish and product type.
- Minor repairs and maintenance which replaces like with like.

Timber landing stage

- Repairs and maintenance which replaces like with like.

Clinker boats

- Cleaning and conservation by a suitably qualified professional authorised by the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, on site in the boatshed, or at a secure location.
- Temporary movement for club purposes (such as display at a wooden boat festival or other maritime event) authorised by the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club between locations, provided all locations are secure and do not cause or contribute to deterioration.

Activities

- All activities conducted by or authorised by the Anglesea Recreation and Sports Club, including the annual Anglesea New Year's Day Regatta, in a manner that minimises damage to the place and objects integral.

Details of Objects integral VHR H2469

Name	<i>Anglesea</i>	
Description including maker and date	<p>Clinker boat, James Edwards & Sons, Princes Bridge, Melbourne, 1913.</p> <p>A four-oared skiff with a plumb stem and rounded forefoot, a transom stern supporting a rudder with a coxswain sitting on the aft thwart and steering with a yoke and lines. There are four rowing thwarts, each opposed to gunwale-mounted brass rowlocks and stretchers in the bilge. The planking is New Zealand kauri which is copper riveted throughout, the frames are blue gum frames and gunwale strike rails are West Australian Jarrah.</p>	
Current location	Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club	
Relationship of object to place	One of the four boats built for the Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club at the same time the building was constructed.	
Size	7.350 x 1.400 metres	
Inscriptions	Name of 'Anglesea'. There is an oval-shaped, brass 'Jas Edwards & Sons' builder's plate on the transom.	
Condition	Excellent	
Australian Register of Historic Vessels number HV000670		

2022, Anglesea (with Gladstone behind), AS&RC Facebook page

Name	<i>Gladstone</i>	
Description including maker and date	<p>Clinker boat, James Edwards & Sons, Princes Bridge, Melbourne, 1913.</p> <p>A four-oared skiff with a plumb stem and rounded forefoot, a transom stern supporting a rudder with a coxswain sitting on the aft thwart and steering with a yoke and lines. There are four rowing thwarts, each opposed to gunwale-mounted brass rowlocks and stretchers in the bilge. The planking is New Zealand kauri which is copper riveted throughout, the frames are blue gum frames and gunwale strike rails are West Australian Jarrah.</p>	
Current location	Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club	
Relationship of object to place	One of the four boats built for the Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club at the same time the building was constructed.	
Size	7.350 x 1.400 metres	
Inscriptions	Name of 'Gladstone'. There is an oval-shaped, brass 'Jas Edwards & Sons' builder's plate on the transom.	
Condition	Excellent	
Australian Register of Historic Vessels number HV000671		

2022, Gladstone (with Anglesea in front), AS&RC Facebook page

Number Name	<i>Torquay</i>	
Description including maker and date	<p>Clinker boat, James Edwards & Sons, Princes Bridge, Melbourne, 1914.</p> <p>A two-oared skiff with a plumb stem and rounded forefoot, a transom stern supporting a rudder with a coxswain sitting on the aft thwart and steering with a yoke and lines. There are four rowing thwarts, each opposed to gunwale-mounted brass rowlocks and stretchers in the bilge. The planking is New Zealand kauri which is copper riveted throughout, the frames are blue gum frames and gunwale strike rails are West Australian Jarrah.</p>	
Current location	Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club	
Relationship of object to place	One of the four boats built for the Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club at the same time the building was constructed.	
Size	4.900 x 1.120 metres	
Inscriptions	Name of 'Torquay'. There is an oval-shaped, brass 'Jas Edwards & Sons' builder's plate on the transom.	
Condition	Excellent	
Australian Register of Historic Vessels number HV000668		

2015, Torquay, AS&RC Facebook page

Number Name	<i>Aireys</i>	
Description including maker and date	<p>Clinker boat, James Edwards & Sons, Princes Bridge, Melbourne, 1914.</p> <p>A two-oared skiff with a plumb stem and rounded forefoot, a transom stern supporting a rudder with a coxswain sitting on the aft thwart and steering with a yoke and lines. There are four rowing thwarts, each opposed to gunwale-mounted brass rowlocks and stretchers in the bilge. The planking is New Zealand kauri which is copper riveted throughout, the frames are blue gum frames and gunwale strike rails are West Australian Jarrah.</p>	
Current location	Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club	
Relationship of object to place	One of the four boats built for the Anglesea Sports and Recreation Club at the same time the building was constructed.	
Size	4.900 x 1.120 metres	
Inscriptions	Name of 'Aireys'. There is an oval-shaped, brass 'Jas Edwards & Sons' builder's plate on the transom.	
Condition	Excellent	
Australian Register of Historic Vessels number HV000669		

2015, Aireys, AS&RC Facebook page

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.