

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: BLUESTONE MILL BRIDGE

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Penshurst-Byaduk Road BYADUK

STUDY NUMBER: 194

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: Byaduk

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 473K; VicRoads 72H9; located off the Byaduk-Penshurst Road on the north side and over Scott's Creek about 400m east of the intersection with the Hamilton-Port Fairy Road.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Bluestone Mill Bridge, Penshurst - Byaduk Road, Byaduk.

Image Date: 20/01/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the bridge and its abutments.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The single span bridge consists of dressed bluestone approaches, with a timber deck. The stonework displays a high level of skill, with the rockfaced blocks being finely finished. The walls of the approaches are capped with stone lintels. The timbers of the deck are laid (identical to a timber jetty).

Scott's Creek is a narrow stream, and the span of the bridge is less than 6 metres.

HISTORY:

The bridge is mentioned in Danaher's 1922 account of Byaduk as 'the old mill bridge'. The mill was located on rising land about 100 metres north of the creek. An early (check date) parish plan shows a road reserve adjacent to Learmonth's land, going across the creek and following the northern bank for several hundred metres.

From 1930 the bridge served as the access point for the Byaduk Swimming Pool which is located immediately across the stream.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 3 Developing local, regional and national economies

3.8 Moving goods and people

3.8.7 Building and maintaining roads

CONDITION:

The physical condition of the bridge is only fair. There are large cracks in the stonework, with mortar missing. The timber deck over the creek is decaying, rendering the bridge unsafe for public use.

INTEGRITY:

high degree of integrity

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The bluestone mill bridge is located over the Scott's Creek, off the Peshurst- Byaduk Road, a short distance from the township of Byaduk. The bridge is finely constructed and finished, with dressed bluestone approaches and a timber deck. The construction date of the bridge is unknown, but likely to be the late nineteenth century. The bridge was originally used as the main entrance over Scott's Creek to Holmes Flour Mill, in later years it became the entrance to the Byaduk Swimming Pool.

How is it significant?

The bluestone mill bridge over Scott's Creek at Byaduk is of architectural and historical importance to the township of Byaduk and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The bluestone mill bridge is of historical significance for its associations with major industrial and recreational sites associated with the township of Byaduk, the Holmes Flour Mill and the Byaduk Swimming Pool. The bridge spans the Scott's Creek, and defines the entrance to two separate sites which although were previously important places, have now been abandoned and fallen into disrepair. The bridge can be viewed a link to these places, and the changing needs and social structure of the township of Byaduk over the past 150 years. The bridge is of architectural significance for its fine construction techniques and finishes.

COMPARISON:

188 Scott's Creek Bridge, Hamilton-Port Fairy Road, Byaduk

099 Monier Bridge, Old Glenelg Highway, Wannon

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434 Road Bridge (Former), Victoria Valley Road, Dunkeld
435 Lyne Creek Bridge, Byaduk-Branxholme Road, North Byaduk
436 Honeysuckle Creek Road Bridge, Glendinning Road, Glendinning

ASSESSED BY: mgt

ASSESSMENT DATE:

30-Jan-02

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
Colin O'Connor	Spanning Two Centuries; Historic Bridges of Australia	1985	
Donald, Budge and Lloyd, Jenkins	Dundas Shire Centenary, 1863-1963	1963	76
Peter Fraser, Ian Black ed.	Early Byaduk Settlers or Peter Fraser's Diaries	1931, and 1994	