

**Hanging Rock Reserve and Hanging Rock Eastern Paddock, South Rock Road,
Newham.**

Heritage Council Registrations Committee Hearing - 28 October 2014

Members – Anita Smith (Chair), Emma Russell, Ursula de Jong

DECISION OF THE HERITAGE COUNCIL

After considering the Executive Director's recommendation, submissions received, and conducting a hearing, pursuant to s42(1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1995*, the Heritage Council has determined that the Hanging Rock Reserve is of cultural heritage significance to the State of Victoria and warrants inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register. At the same time the Committee has determined, pursuant to s42(1)(c) that the Eastern Paddock is not of cultural heritage significance to the State of Victoria and does not warrant inclusion in the Heritage Register.



**Anita
Smith
(Chair)**



Emma Russell



Ursula de Jong

Decision Date – 5 March 2015

APPEARANCES/SUBMISSIONS

Executive Director, Heritage Victoria

Submissions were received from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria (“the Executive Director”). Dr Marina Larson appeared on behalf of the Executive Director, and Ms Renae Jarman was available to take questions.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

Submissions were received from Macedon Ranges Shire Council (“Macedon Ranges”), the owner of the places. Mr Terry Montebello of Maddocks Lawyers appeared on behalf of Macedon Ranges. Mr Michael Taylor, an expert heritage consultant for Macedon Ranges, was present and available to take questions. Ms Kate Andrews and Ms Sophie Segafredo were also present and available to take questions.

Kyneton and Hanging Rock Racing Club

A submission was received from Kyneton and Hanging Rock Racing Club (“the Racing Club”). The Racing Club was represented by Mr Jon Dight, the Racing Club’s General Manager.

Friends of Hanging Rock

A submission was received from Mr Nathan Alexander of Friends of Hanging Rock (“FOHR”). Mr Alexander represented himself.

Hanging Rock Action Group

A submission was received from Mr Matthew Nickson of the Hanging Rock Action Group Inc (“HRAG”). Mr Nickson represented himself.

Section 38 submissions

Section 38 submissions containing additional detailed material were also received from Mr Peter Hansford, Ms Janet Hawkins of Woodend and District Historical Society and Mr Richard Hughes. Mr Hansford and Ms Hawkins elected not to be heard, but their submissions and all other submissions have been considered by the Committee in making its determination.

**S38 WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED DURING ADVERTISING OF THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S RECOMMENDATION**

Sophie Segafredo	Oriole Paul
Georgia Garvey-Hawke	Janet Hawkins
Maxwell Winchester	Richard Hughes
Helen Radnedge	Karen Richards
Mark Horner	Peter Hansford
Matthew Nickson	Nathan Alexander
Lorri Buttner	Jon Dight

INTRODUCTION

The Places

1. A nomination to include both the Hanging Rock Reserve and the Eastern Paddock in the Victorian Heritage Register was accepted by the Executive Director on 12 March 2014. The Executive Director's recommendation responding to the nomination, made on 23 May 2014, separated the area covered by the nomination into two distinct sites:
 - Place 1, Hanging Rock Reserve; and
 - Place 2, the Eastern Paddock(“The Places”).

Hanging Rock Reserve

2. Hanging Rock Reserve (“Place 1”) is a public reserve of approximately 67.6 acres located 7 kilometres north-east of Woodend that contains the Hanging Rock geological formation and associated recreation grounds and infrastructure, a racecourse and dam and associated infrastructure. The Hanging Rock geological formation (“the formation”) at the centre of Place 1 is an unusual formation known as a mamelon, and is characterised by a complex of vertical and inclined pinnacles with large detached blocks and slabs. The formation is accessed through woodland covering the hillside below, via the main asphalted path and other minor paths. A recreation area of open lawns, light woodland, picnic and amenity facilities, buildings and car parks is located to the south of the formation. A racecourse and associated buildings and infrastructure, with the track encircling a cricket oval and dam, is located to the east of the formation.

The Eastern Paddock

3. The Eastern Paddock (“Place 2”) consists of open paddocks, rising toward the north east corner, featuring lines of planted trees along some boundaries and fence lines and along some of the vehicle tracks that now service Place 2. Place 2 is sometimes used for open air events such as music concerts. Temporary event infrastructure and public amenities are located in the paddocks from time to time. Views from Place 2 are of Place 1 to the west, including views of the Hanging Rock formation across the racecourse, and the Macedon Ranges to the south. The southern part of Place 2 also features some open woodland.

Nomination

4. A nomination for the Places to be included in the Victorian Heritage Register (“the Register”) was accepted by the Executive Director on 12 March 2014.

Recommendation of the Executive Director

5. On 23 May 2014, the Executive Director, under Section 32(1) of the Heritage Act recommended that Place 1 be included in the Victorian Heritage Register but that Place 2 not be included in the Victorian Heritage Register (“the recommendation”).
6. Four submissions objecting to either the extent of the recommendation for Place 1 or the permit policy and/or exemptions applying to Place 1 were received. 10 submissions

objecting to the recommendation in relation to Place 2 were received and pursuant to s.40(2) of the *Heritage Act 1995* (“the Act”) a hearing was scheduled for 28 October 2014.

Site Inspection

7. On 28 October 2014, the Committee made a site inspection accompanied by the Heritage Council Hearings Coordinator and Rod Clough, site manager for Macedon Ranges. No submissions were sought, made or received at this time.

Preliminary and Other Matters

Section 38 submissions

8. The purpose of s38 submissions is for parties to register with the Heritage Council their support or objection to a recommendation using a tick box and/or a short statement. Some s38 submissions include further detailed information. 18 conforming s38 submissions were received, including instances in which parties made submissions in relation to both Place 1 and 2. Ten of the submissions objected to the recommendation not to include Place 2 in the Register, including four submissions which objected and also provided some further detailed information as to the reasons for the objection. Four submissions objected to either the extent of registration for Place 1 or to the permit policy or exemptions in relation to Place 1. Three submissions supported the recommendation relating to Place 1. One submission supported the recommendation relating to Place 2.
9. Detailed information was provided with eleven of the eighteen s38 submissions. Mr Alexander and Mr Nickson requested to be heard by the Committee and chose to rely on their s38 submissions in verbal submissions to the hearing.
10. The majority of s38 submissions received objected to the Executive Director’s recommendation not to include Place 2 in the Register on the general basis that Place 2 is important to the aesthetics, cultural history and landscape of Hanging Rock Reserve/the Hanging Rock precinct, that Place 2 provides unique views to and from Place 1 and that registering Place 2 would protect it from inappropriate development (for references to future use of Place 2, please refer to paragraph 12 below).

New Material

11. During the hearing, new written material was introduced by the Executive Director consisting of a table summarising permit exemptions sought by Macedon Ranges in their submissions and the Executive Director’s position on the additional permit exemptions sought. All other parties were given the opportunity to comment on the tabling of the new material. As no objections were received the Committee determined to accept the table to assist with the hearing.

Future use of the Place

12. A number of submissions received referred to concerns in relation to the future use of Place 2. The Committee recognises and appreciates that there is a degree of community concern with regards to the future of Place 2. However, in accordance with s42 of the Act, the role of this Committee is to determine the cultural heritage significance of the

Places in their current state. It is therefore outside the Committee's purview to consider future use or development proposals as part of this determination. No further comment will be made on proposals for the future use of the site.

Legal Advice

13. The Committee sought legal advice relating to its ability to consider submissions and make a determination in a single hearing for both Place 1 and Place 2. The Committee's advice is that this is an appropriate approach in order to facilitate the prompt, efficient and thorough determination of all the issues pertaining to Place 1 and to Place 2.

Submissions as to Aboriginal cultural heritage values for the Places

14. Many submissions received made mention of the significance of Place 1 to Aboriginal Victorians. The significance of Place 2 to Aboriginal Victorians was also noted in some submissions. The Committee notes that, while it is conscious of the significance of the places to Traditional Owners from the area the relevant criterion only allows the Committee to consider the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions. The Committee also notes that s5 of the Act states that the Act does not apply to the cultural heritage significance of a place only on the ground of its association with Aboriginal tradition or Aboriginal traditional use.

ISSUES

15. This section is not intended to be a complete record of submissions that were made to the Committee. It is a summary of what the Committee considers to be the key issues, followed by an explanation of the position the Committee takes on each issue.
16. Any reference to Criteria or an individual Criterion refers to the 'Heritage Council Criteria for Assessment of Places of Cultural Heritage Significance' (see Attachment 1 to this report).
17. Any reference to Criteria and Threshold Guidelines refers to the 'The Victorian Heritage Register Criteria and Threshold Guidelines' (as adopted by the Heritage Council on 6 December 2012).

Summary of issues

PLACE 1

18. The Executive Director recommended that Place 1 be included in the Register on the basis that it satisfies Criteria A, E and G at a State level.
19. Mr Alexander on behalf of Friends of Hanging Rock ("FOHR") agreed with the Executive Director's recommendation to include Place 1 in the Register on the basis that it satisfied Criteria A, E and G. Mr Alexander further submitted that the landscape comprising and surrounding the formation, including the rocks and the forest cover, is part of the fabric that contributes to the aesthetic significance of the Reserve and its importance to Victoria's cultural history, and that the natural features of Place 1 should be specifically included in the Statement of Significance and the Permit Policy. Mr

Alexander also suggested that the climbing of the formation should be mentioned in the statement of significance as an activity that is historically associated with Place 1.

20. Mr Nickson agreed with the Executive Director's recommendation to include Place 1 in the Register on the basis that it satisfied Criteria A, E and G. Mr Nickson also submitted that under Criterion G more specific reference should be made to the significance of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage in relation to Place 1. Mr Nickson further submitted that the decision to split the area of the original nomination into two should be "disregarded" by the Heritage Council, that the Heritage Council determination should make a decision that recognises Place 1 and Place 2 as one place with the same considerations, and that Criteria E and G apply to Place 2 when taken together with Place 1.
21. Mr Dight supported, in general, the Executive Director's recommendation to include Place 1 in the Register, however, he argued that it is the history of Place 1 as a tourist destination and a venue for horse racing that are critical to its significance. Mr Dight submitted that as some structures on the site associated with horse racing were not a part of the Place's significance, that works to them should be exempt from requiring a permit.
22. Mr Montebello for Macedon Ranges agreed with the Executive Director that Place 1 meets the threshold for inclusion in the Register but also submitted that Place 1 should be registered subject to a list of additional permit exemptions. Macedon Ranges proposed that a range of specific permit exemptions should be added, pertaining to things such as landscaping and vegetation works, visitor facilities, roads, carparks, temporary and permanent racecourse and other buildings. Macedon Ranges further submitted that the majority of the built infrastructure within the reserve, including the "collection of racecourse related timber and corrugated iron buildings and structures" are of no cultural heritage significance and that this should be noted in the Statement of Significance. Macedon Ranges included a statement from an expert consultant, Mr Michael Taylor, supporting their submission on these counts.

PLACE 2

23. The Executive Director submitted that Place 2, the Eastern Paddock, does not satisfy any of the Criteria for inclusion in the Register; that Place 2 does not contain any fabric that contributes to the cultural heritage significance of the Hanging Rock Reserve; and that Place 2 has no historical association with the use of Place 1. The Executive Director noted that Place 2 is covered by Schedule 1 of the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO) and submitted that this is an appropriate instrument for the protection of the setting and context for Place 1.
24. Mr Alexander made no submissions in relation to Place 2.
25. Mr Nickson objected to the Executive Director's recommendation in relation to Place 2 and submitted that Place 2 meets the threshold for inclusion on the Register pursuant to Criterion E and G. Mr Nickson submitted that Place 2 should be included in the register because it is essential for retaining and interpreting the heritage significance of Place 1 and for its significance to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing

cultural traditions. Mr Nickson further argued that Place 2 should be considered under “terms of curtilage,” which he identifies as relevant to Place 2 as an area of land surrounding Place 1 which is essential for retaining, contributing to and interpreting the cultural heritage significance of Place 1.

26. Macedon Ranges agreed with the Executive Director’s recommendation and submitted that Place 2 does not satisfy any of the Criteria for inclusion in the Register.
27. Section 38 submissions were received from Janet Hawkins for Woodend and District Heritage Society, Peter Hansford, Matthew Nickson and Richard Hughes objecting to the Executive Directors recommendation not to include Place 2 in the Register on the basis that it is part of and possesses many of the same aesthetic characteristics as Place 1. Janet Hawkins, Matthew Nickson, Peter Hansford and Richard Hughes included more detailed information with their s38 submissions arguing that Place 2 is also of cultural heritage significance to Aboriginal people and therefore satisfies Criterion G at a State level, and that it had the potential to yield further information relating to the significance of Place 2 to Aboriginal people.

Submissions and evidence

Criterion A – Importance to the course, or pattern of Victoria’s cultural history

PLACE 1

28. The Executive Director stated in his recommendation that Place 1 satisfied Criterion A for its importance to Victoria’s cultural history as a recreational and gathering place and for its association with horse racing in Victoria from the 1860s to the present.
29. The parties agreed that Place 1 is of importance to Victoria’s cultural history but disagreed on the content of the Statement of Significance.

Submissions and evidence

30. The Executive Director is of the view that Place 1 is of significance to the State of Victoria as an early and popular gathering place for recreational purposes dating to the mid nineteenth century. The Executive Director noted in the recommendation the significance of Place 1 as a place where Victorians have gathered since the 1860s to be entertained and participate in sporting and leisure pursuits in a unique and picturesque setting. The Executive Director also noted that Place 1 is historically significant for its long association with horse racing in Victoria and as a demonstration of the importance of horse racing to rural Victorians. Referring to Mr Nickson’s submission, the Executive Director agreed in a written submission that it should also be noted that climbing the formation is a recreational activity that Victorians have pursued at Place 1 since the 1860s.
31. Mr Alexander agreed with the Executive Director’s recommendation in relation to Criterion A but further submitted on behalf of FOHR that the historical importance of Place 1 is associated with the formation being an attractive backdrop to activities historically conducted at Hanging Rock. FOHR also submitted that climbing the formation for recreation should be noted in the statement of significance as an activity

conducted at Place 1 since the 1860s. In relation to the Statement of Significance and comparisons made within it, FOHR submitted that it would be appropriate that a comparison be made with Organ Pipes National Park as public land close to Melbourne that contains a geological feature and is surrounded by an area of vegetation. Finally, FOHR submitted that the relevant information section of the Executive Director's recommendation overlooked the connection of Aboriginal people to Place 1 and also that the section contained some errors relating to the dates of ownership and gazettal of Place 1. FOHR claimed in its submission that Thomas Lloyd James owned Place 1 by 1856 and perhaps earlier and that the water reserve within Place 1 was created prior to 1867.

32. Mr Nickson for HRAG supported the views of Mr Alexander in his written and verbal submissions and further submitted that Place 1 was of significance to Victoria's cultural history as a meeting point of Aboriginal people from the region, who Mr Nickson identified as the Wurundjeri, Taungurung and Dja Dja Wurrung peoples.
33. In a s38 submission, Ms Hawkins for the Woodend and District Heritage Society submitted that Place 1 is of importance to people in Australia and overseas.
34. In a s38 submission, Mr Hansford supported the Executive Director's recommendation but further submitted that Place 1 was a sacred place and important landmark at the border of four Aboriginal territories.
35. Mr Dight submitted that Place 1 is historically significant for its association with tourism and horse racing activities that have taken place there. Mr Dight also submitted that some built infrastructure within the racecourse precinct is not of cultural heritage significance.
36. Mr Montebello for Macedon Ranges agreed with the Executive Director that Place 1 is of importance to the course of Victoria's cultural history, but submitted further that buildings located in Place 1, other than the Ladies Toilet building, are not of cultural heritage significance and should be exempted in large part from permit requirements as part of the registration.

Discussion and conclusion

37. The Committee finds that Criterion A is satisfied at a State level, for the reasons put forward by the Executive Director, and that Place 1 is of importance to the course of Victoria's cultural history.
38. The Committee is of the view that evidence supporting the factual corrections to the Statement of Significance proposed by FOHR in its submission is not conclusive and that as a result the Committee is not in a position to make a determination on this issue.
39. In addition, the Committee is of the view that Place 1 is of importance at a State level for its historical association since the 1860s with the recreational activity of climbing. The Statement of Significance has been amended by the Committee to reflect this (see **Attachment 2**).
40. The Committee recognises that there is a need for further research into the association of Place 1 with Aboriginal tradition and use.

PLACE 2

41. The parties disagreed as to whether or not Place 2 was of importance to the course of Victoria's history.

Submissions and evidence

42. The Executive Director submitted that Place 2 is not of historical importance to Victoria's cultural history and that the values of Place 2 are also present in innumerable other similar locations.
43. Macedon Ranges and the Racing Club supported the Executive Director's recommendation that Place 2 not be included in the Register.
44. Mr Nickson submitted that Place 2 was of historical importance to the State of Victoria as a meeting point of Aboriginal peoples from the area, that Place 2 should be subject to the same considerations as Place 1 and that the Places were one and the same.
45. In a s38 submission Ms Hawkins submitted that Place 2 "had always been seen by the community as an integral part of the [Hanging Rock] reserve," and that Place 2 was part of the land surrounding Place 1 that Aboriginal people considered part of the area of the formation itself, and that Aboriginal people had held ceremonies on Place 2 prior to European settlement of the area. No specific evidence was provided to support these assertions.
46. Mr Hughes submitted that Place 2 should not be considered as separate from Place 1 as the Places were historically considered to be one and the same place.

Discussion and conclusion

47. The Committee notes that under s5 of the Act, the Committee cannot determine that a place is of cultural heritage significance solely because of its association with Aboriginal tradition or with Aboriginal traditional use.
48. In the view of the Committee there was no evidence presented that Place 2 was, in its own right, of significance to the State under Criterion A. Nor is the Committee convinced by the argument that Place 2 is an integral part of Place 1 and should be registered accordingly. All places on the register have defined boundaries. The separation of Place 1 and Place 2 is not arbitrary, rather it reflects the historic separation of the two sites – in this regard the Committee notes that Place 2 was used as open paddocks for farming purposes prior to being purchased by the owner of Place 1 in 1990.
49. The Committee finds that Place 2 is not of historical importance to the State of Victoria.

Criterion C – Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria’s cultural history

PLACE 2

50. The Executive Director did not address Criterion C in his recommendation, however some of the s38 submissions referred to the potential of Place 2 to yield information that could contribute to an understanding of Victoria’s cultural history.

Submissions and evidence

51. Mr Hughes submitted that there are several sites of archaeological significance in Place 2 and that with further investigation it is likely that further sites would be revealed.
52. Mr Nickson submitted that Place 2 contains several sites of archaeological significance and that it has the potential to yield information relating to Aboriginal cultural heritage in Victoria.

Discussion and conclusion

53. The Committee appreciates that Place 2 may yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria’s cultural history as it relates to Aboriginal occupation of Place 2 and supports further investigation being undertaken into such values in Place 2.
54. Criterion C, however, relates to the potential for a place to yield information in relation to ‘historic archaeology’ as opposed to archaeology relating more particularly to Aboriginal traditional use. No significant arguments were made by the parties in relation to historical archaeology and on this basis the Committee has determined that Criterion C is not satisfied.
55. In making its decision, the Committee notes that Place 2 was added to the Aboriginal Heritage Register on 24 September 2014 and that this mechanism is an appropriate way of ensuring the management and protection of any Aboriginal cultural heritage values that are present in Place 2.

Criterion E - Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics

PLACE 1

56. The Executive Director recommended that Place 1 be included in the Victorian Heritage Register under Criterion E for its particular aesthetic characteristics as a “place of outstanding, distinctive and unusual natural beauty that has been appreciated, valued and visited by Victorians since the 1860s”.
57. The parties did not dispute that Place 1 satisfied Criterion E but some parties submitted that additional aesthetic characteristics should be noted in the Statement of Significance for Place 1.

Submissions and evidence

58. Mr Alexander submitted on behalf of FOHR, that the aesthetic characteristics of Place 1 include the rock formation itself, the spaces within it and the forested areas surrounding it. Mr Alexander submitted that reference to Place 1 as a “natural reserve

consisting of forest, rocks and open views” should be included in the Statement of Significance and that permit policy should be developed to ensure the preservation of the picnic grounds, the forest on the formation’s slopes, the area within the formation, and the view, from the formation, of the surrounding landscape.

59. Referring to Mr Alexander’s s38 submission, the Executive Director agreed that it is the unique qualities of the formation itself, as an attractive backdrop and a viewpoint, that contribute to the particular aesthetic characteristics and cultural heritage significance of Place 1. The Executive Director expressed no objection to including FOHR’s suggested additional points in the Statement of Significance.

Discussion and conclusion

60. The Committee agrees with FOHR and with the Executive Director and finds that the unique qualities of the formation itself, as an attractive backdrop, and as a viewpoint, contribute to the particular aesthetic characteristics and cultural heritage significance of Place 1.
61. The Committee amends the Statement of Significance to recognise the unique qualities of the Hanging Rock formation itself, as an attractive backdrop to recreational activities, as a unique formation and as a viewpoint, and to recognise that these unique qualities contribute to the particular aesthetic characteristics and cultural heritage significance of Place 1 (see **Attachment 2**). The Committee also amends the Statement of Significance to show that visitors to Hanging Rock have been climbing the Hanging Rock formation for recreation since the 1860s and have enjoyed being within the formation, exploring it and enjoying its unique spatial qualities since that time (see **Attachment 2**).

PLACE 2

62. The Executive Director, recommending that Place 2 not be included in the Register, submitted that it did not satisfy any of the Criteria.
63. Some parties disagreed and submitted that Place 2 was of significance for exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics, particularly in relation to the views that can be obtained from Place 2 and the relationship of Place 2 with Place 1.

Submissions and evidence

64. The Executive Director submitted that the significance of the Place is already recognised through its inclusion in the Significant Landscape Overlay.
65. Macedon Ranges and the Racing Club agreed with the Executive Director that Place 2 does not satisfy any of the Criteria for inclusion in the Register.
66. Mr Nickson for HRAG submitted that Place 2 satisfies Criterion E because of the range of views of Place 1 that it provides, and further submitted that the “distinct spatial relationship” of the Places to each other provides a “greater understanding and sensory experience” when the Places are taken together. Mr Nickson referenced the Australia International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (“the Burra Charter”) in submitting that the unique views

available from Place 2 toward Place 1, and vice versa, were part of the aesthetic characteristics of Place 2.

67. Ten s38 submissions objected to the Executive Director's recommendation in relation to Place 2, and a majority of these submissions made reference to the importance of Place 2 in enhancing and protecting the aesthetic significance of Place 1.
68. Mr Hughes, Ms Hawkins and Mr Hansford submitted that Place 2 is of importance for its aesthetic characteristics, because of the particular view that it provides and because of the manner in which Place 2 enhances the cultural heritage and environmental values of Place 1.

Discussion and conclusion

69. The Committee considered all submissions made in relation to whether or not Place 2 satisfied Criterion E.
70. The Committee is of the view that, while impressive views of the formation can be obtained from Place 2, similar views can be obtained from other locations nearby.
71. The Committee is of the view that Place 2 does not exhibit any particular aesthetic characteristics in its fabric and is similar in features and characteristics to much of the rural area and farmland in the vicinity of Place 1.
72. The Act does not provide for a place to be registered solely for its ability to provide a vantage point from which to appreciate the cultural heritage values of another place.
73. The Committee agrees with the Executive Director and determines that in relation to Place 2, Criterion E is not satisfied.

Criterion G – Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions

PLACE 1

74. The Executive Director recommended that Place 1 be included in the Register and stated that Place 1 satisfies Criterion G as a socially significant place for its continuous use by the wider Victorian community as a social and recreational gathering place since the mid-1860s.

Submissions and evidence

75. The Executive Director submitted that Place 1 was socially significant for its continuous use by Victorians as a recreational gathering place since the mid-1860s. The Executive Director further submitted that the association of Place 1 with tourists from Victoria, Australia and overseas was reinforced as a result of being the setting for the book and film *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, which increased the popularity of Place 1 as a destination for visitors from Victoria, Australia and overseas. The Executive Director also submitted, in relation to submissions made by other parties as to the significance of Place 1 to Aboriginal people, that he was supportive of an investigation into the association of Place 1 with the Aboriginal community. The Executive Director noted

that in order to satisfy Criterion G, the association must resonate beyond the local community.

76. Mr Nickson for HRAG submitted that, in addition to the association of Place 1 with the Victorian community in general, Place 1 has a special association with, in Mr Nickson's words, the three tribes and clans of the Kulin Nation, the Wurundjeri, the Dja Dja Wurrung and the Taungurung.

Discussion and conclusion

77. The Committee finds that Criterion G is satisfied at a State level. The Committee recognises the long connection of the Victorian community with Place 1 as a social and recreational gathering place.
78. In addition the Committee supports further research on the association of the place with, and its importance to, Aboriginal Victorians, particularly to the Traditional Owners of the area that includes Place 1. As explained earlier in this document, the Act does not allow the Committee to make a determination as to cultural heritage significance solely on this basis.

PLACE 2

79. The Executive Director did not note any special association of Place 2 with a particular community but is supportive of investigation into the association of Place 2 with the Aboriginal community.

Submissions and evidence

80. Mr Nickson for HRAG submitted that the three tribes and clans of the Kulin Nation had a special association with Place 2 as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Discussion and conclusion

81. The Committee notes that a place cannot be registered under the Act solely on the basis of its association with Aboriginal tradition or traditional use.
82. The Committee was not presented with specific evidence that demonstrated the cultural heritage significance of Place 2 at the State level, and therefore finds that Place 2 does not satisfy Criterion G.

Extent of Registration and the Statement of Significance

PLACE 1

83. The Executive Director recommended that Place 1 be registered as a public reserve containing the Hanging Rock geological formation and associated recreation grounds, a racecourse and dam and associated amenity buildings and structures which include the hexagonal ladies toilet building.
84. Macedon Ranges submitted that the Statement of Significance should more clearly identify the specific fabric which is of cultural heritage significance and exclude buildings of low cultural heritage significance.

85. Mr Dight for the Racing Club agreed with the submission of Macedon Ranges.
86. Mr Alexander submitted that the Statement of Significance should better reflect the natural features of Place 1 that in part constitute the fabric of Place 1 and that those natural features are part of its cultural heritage significance.

Discussion and conclusion

87. The Committee determines that natural features, including the formation itself, the rocks that comprise it and the surrounding woodland, should be mentioned specifically and amends the Statement of Significance in accordance with its decision (see **Attachment 2**).
88. The Committee finds that, while some buildings within Place 1 are of greater cultural heritage significance than others, the collection of buildings across the extent of Place 1 contribute to its cultural heritage significance and there is no reason to specifically exclude one structure or another from this consideration.

Permit Policy and Exemptions

PLACE 1

89. The Executive Director proposed a number of permit exemptions for Place 1 as part of the Recommendation. The specific permit exemptions were listed as follows (summarised):

Landscape

- General gardening and maintenance; replanting of like for like; management of trees in accordance with Australian standards.
- Subsurface works relating to water and drainage systems on certain conditions.
- Removal of noxious weeds and management of possums and vermin.
- Repairs and maintenance to all hard landscape elements, fences, gates and lighting.

Roads and Carparks

- Works associated with maintaining existing road infrastructure.

Ladies Toilet Building

- All internal works excluding internal structures and mechanisms required to support the building; external repairs that replace like with like.

Other Buildings

- Replacement of external fabric replacing like with like.
- Construction of new external openings.
- All internal alterations.
- The installation or replacement of services such as drainage, plumbing, electricity, computer cables, air-conditioning and fire safety.

90. Some of the parties disagreed with the proposed permit policy and permit exemptions for Place 1 and proposed some changes.

Submissions and evidence

91. Macedon Ranges submitted that the Executive Director's list of proposed exemptions do not go far enough and requested that additional exemptions be provided to allow it to properly and efficiently manage the operations of the site. Macedon Ranges submitted that the following additional specific permit exemptions should be provided for (summarised):
- The removal, installation and replacement of visitor facilities and furniture, such as BBQ facilities, tables, seats, shade structures, posts, lighting, paths and signage.
 - The provision and removal of temporary buildings and structures to attend to event management, public health and animal management considerations.
 - All internal and external alterations to existing buildings “that have not been identified as having any heritage significance,” including the replacement of existing buildings with buildings of similar dimensions and floor area and the removal or demolition of existing buildings.
 - All works associated with operating and maintaining the existing road infrastructure, including car parks, signs, speed humps, surfacing and the creation of new bicycle pathways and trails.
 - Internal structural works to the Ladies Toilet Building and the external repair and maintenance of that building that replaces like with like.
 - Works pertaining to the Horse Stalls and Main Racecourse building as described by Macedon Ranges, including: maintenance; all internal alterations; replacement of fabric with like for like; construction of new openings; installation of services; and the installation of water tanks.
92. Macedon Ranges further submitted that the Permit Exemptions should acknowledge the 1993 Management Plan (“the Plan”) for Place 1 as an appropriate management tool for Place 1 and submitted that the Permit Exemptions should “exempt any works or guidelines [contained in the Plan] from requiring a permit.”
93. Mr Dight submitted that although the Racing Club agrees that the racecourse precinct is an “important area with heritage value,” the state of the facilities is inadequate for the Racing Club's purposes. Mr Dight submitted that all current buildings and structures should have permit exemptions apply to them in order that the Racing Club be able to improve the site and to ensure that activities associated with the Racing Club “can continue to be enjoyed sustainably into the future.”
94. Mr Alexander for FOHR submitted that the proposed permit policy is “very focused on buildings” and that it should also include reference to “rocks” and to the “inherent spatial qualities” of the formation in Place 1. Mr Alexander submitted that a permit should be required for “any proposed alteration to the rocks, or construction of structures on them.”

95. In relation to the proposed permit exemptions, Mr Alexander further submitted that General Condition 1 be amended to explicitly mention that the significant fabric of Place 1 is not comprised of human structures but by the natural features of Place 1 – the rocks, creek, forest and grassland. Mr Alexander further submitted that the proposed specific permit exemptions would allow for mismanagement of Place 1’s “floristic and ecological values,” and that permit exemptions should only apply within “the recreation areas.” Finally, Mr Alexander submitted that dot point 3 of the proposed permit exemptions, relating to replacement of dead trees, should be deleted.
96. The Executive Director submitted that the current list of proposed permit exemptions for works to buildings of low cultural heritage significance is appropriate, as there is a need to have control over the built fabric in Place 1 in order to protect its cultural heritage values. The Executive Director submitted that he supports the inclusion of additional permit exemptions that do not negatively impact on the significance of Place 1 and that assist with the management of Place 1, and also noted that s66 of the Act allows for the issue of such permit exemptions post-registration. The Executive Director further submitted that while the Plan may be an appropriate day-to-day management tool, it does not form an appropriate basis for permit exemptions under the Act.
97. The Executive Director also submitted, in response to suggested additional specific permit exemptions, that he was in agreement with some of Macedon Ranges’ proposed permit exemptions, including those relating to the maintenance of and alterations to Horse Stalls and main racecourse buildings and the maintenance and resurfacing of existing car parks, paths and trails.
98. The Executive Director further submitted a proposal for a slight rewording of Permit Exemption number 2.

Discussion and conclusion

99. The Committee has considered all submissions made in relation to permit policy and exemptions for Place 1.
100. The Committee agrees with the Executive Director that the built infrastructure that exists in Place 1 does, as a whole and as distinct recreational precincts, contribute to the heritage values of Place 1. The Committee is of the view that there should be some control over the existing built infrastructure in Place 1, and that the collection of buildings of low cultural heritage significance can also be adequately managed under the Act, post-registration.
101. The Committee is of the view that certain specific permit exemptions sought by Macedon Ranges in relation to the installation of new visitor facilities and pathways, the removal and demolition of buildings and the planting of vegetation have the potential to negatively impact on the significance of Place 1.
102. The Committee amends the proposed Permit Policy and proposed Permit Exemptions in accordance with elements agreed to by the Executive Director and Macedon Ranges (see **Attachment 2**). The Committee makes the addition of the following Specific Permit Exemptions:

Specific Permit Exemptions

Landscape

...

- Repairs, resurfacing and maintenance of existing pedestrian and bicycle pathways and trails.

Roads and Carparks

...

- The resurfacing of existing car parking areas.

Other Buildings

...

- Maintenance normal to a building.
- The maintenance of, and alterations to, horse stalls and main racecourse buildings.

Other Infrastructure

- The maintenance, removal and replacement of existing visitor facilities, including park furniture, such as but not limited to: BBQ facilities, tables and seating, shade structures, posts, lighting, paths, footbridges and signage associated with the reserve.
- The installation of above or below ground domestic sized water tanks to service the horse stalls and main racecourse buildings. Where below ground there is to be no impact on trees or change to grade.

Events

- All events and associated infrastructure that have no permanent physical impact on buildings, structures and features, trees and beds, are permitted for a period of up to 14 days.
- Events of a longer period or having the potential to impact on trees, beds, lawns, the Hanging Rock formation itself, and other natural features will require the submission of an event management plan to be approved by the Executive Director. In this case the event would normally be considered under the Minor Works provisions of the permit exemptions and s66(3) of the *Heritage Act 1995*.

103. The Committee also amends the Proposed Permit Policy in order to explicitly include the rocks that comprise the formation as constituting part of the heritage values of the fabric of Place 1 (see **Attachment 2**). The Committee notes that the fabric of Place 1 does include the geological formation itself and, as such, the formation is subject to the permit policy.
104. The Committee suggests that, in light of its decision that Place 1 is of cultural heritage significance to the State of Victoria, now is an appropriate time for Macedon Ranges to develop a new Conservation Management Plan for Place 1.

PLACE 2 .

105. As the Executive Director recommended that Place 2 should not be included in the Register, no submissions were made as to permit policy and exemptions in relation to Place 2.

CONCLUSION

PLACE 1 – HANGING ROCK RESERVE

106. The Committee has considered all submissions made and finds that Place 1, the Hanging Rock Reserve, meets the significance threshold for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register in relation to Criteria A, E and G of the Heritage Council's Criteria. The Committee is of the view that the Place demonstrates cultural heritage values at a State level and determines that Place 1, the Hanging Rock Reserve, be included in the Victorian Heritage Register.
107. The Committee amends the Statement of Significance in relation to Place 1. Changes made to the Statement of Significance are detailed in the relevant sections above and in Attachment 2 as appended to this report.
108. The Committee recommends the preparation of a new Conservation Management Plan and Master Plan for Place 1, with a focus on managing the cultural landscape that includes the formation, the forested areas, other natural features and the built fabric of Place 1.
109. The Committee considers that further research into the Aboriginal cultural heritage values of Place 1 is warranted, and that such further research may in future lead to amendments to the Statement of Significance to reflect the knowledge of these values.

Permit Policy and Permit Exemptions

110. The Committee amends the Permit Policy and Exemptions for Place 1. These changes to Permit Policy and Permit Exemptions are detailed in Attachment 2 of this report. (see **Attachment 2**).

PLACE 2 - EASTERN Paddock

111. The Committee has considered all submissions made relating to Place 2, the Eastern Paddock.
112. The Committee finds that Place 2 does not satisfy any of the Heritage Council's Criteria for registration.
113. The Committee agrees with the Executive Director and determines that Place 2, the Eastern Paddock, is not of cultural heritage significance to the State of Victoria and does not warrant inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register.

ATTACHMENT 1

HERITAGE COUNCIL CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF PLACES OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

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.
CRITERION C	Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria's cultural history.
CRITERION D	Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or objects.
CRITERION E	Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.
CRITERION F	Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.
CRITERION G	Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.
CRITERION H	Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

These were adopted by the Heritage Council at its meeting on 7 August 2008, and replace the previous criteria adopted by the Heritage Council on 6 March 1997.

ATTACHMENT 2

ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE & HERITAGE COUNCIL DETERMINATION

HERITAGE
VICTORIA
HERITAGE
VICTORIA
HERITAGE
VICTORIA

PLACE 1 HANGING ROCK RESERVE
LOCATION SOUTH ROCK ROAD, NEWHAM
VHR NO. PROV H2339
FILE NO HER2002/000132; 12/001820



PLACE 2 EASTERN PADDOCK
LOCATION SOUTH ROCK ROAD, NEWHAM
FILE NO HER2002/000132; 12/001820



HERITAGE COUNCIL DETERMINATION

Determination: Place 1

- That Hanging Rock Reserve be included in the Victorian Heritage Register as a Heritage Place under section 42 (1)(a) of the *Heritage Act 1995*.

Determination: Place 2

- That Eastern Paddock NOT be included in the Victorian Heritage Register as a Heritage Place under section 42 (1)(c) of the *Heritage Act 1995*.

Determination Date: 5 March 2015

NOMINATION

Hanging Rock Reserve and the Adjacent Eastern Paddock



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RESPONSE TO NOMINATED EXTENT

The Executive Director considered the nominated extent and made the following recommendations:

Place 1: Hanging Rock

- That this place be included in the Victorian Heritage Register.

Place 2: Eastern Paddock

- That this place NOT be included in the Victorian Heritage Register.

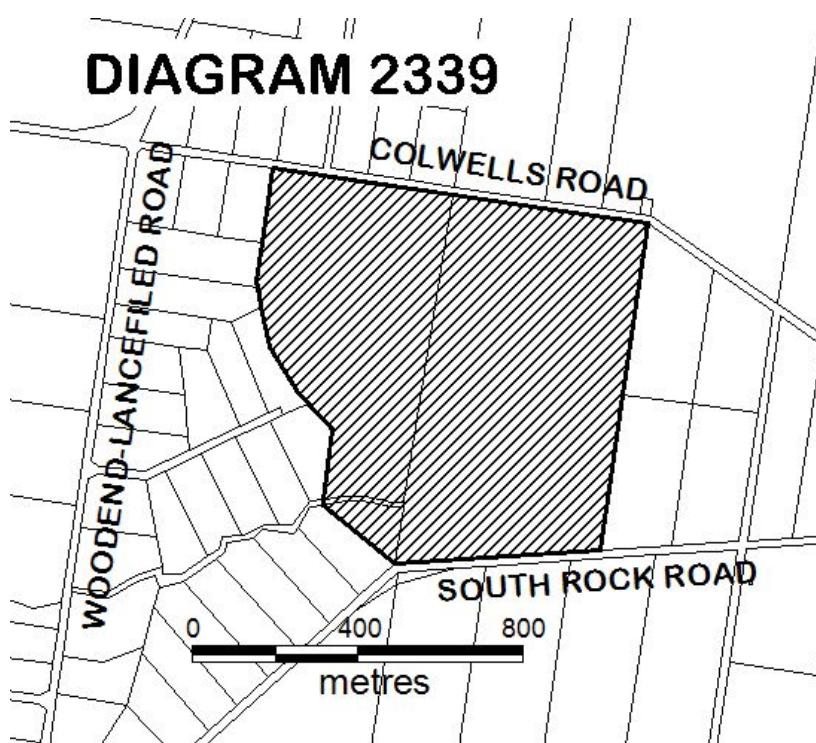
DETERMINATION: PLACE 1

NAME OF PLACE

Hanging Rock Reserve

EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 2339 encompassing all of Crown Allotments 6A, 7A and 12C1 Section 2 Parish of Newham.



The extent of registration of the Hanging Rock Reserve on the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown hatched on Diagram 2339 including the land, buildings, roads, trees, landscape elements and other features.

STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

What is significant?

Hanging Rock Reserve is a public reserve of approximately 67.6 hectares (167 acres) located near Woodend. It contains the Hanging Rock geological formation, **the woodland that surrounds it** and associated recreation grounds, a racecourse and dam and a number of small amenity buildings and structures, including a hexagonal ladies toilet building from the early twentieth century.

History Summary

The geological formation known as Hanging Rock was first recorded on a map by Robert Hoddle as Diogenes's Mount in 1844. Its remarkable geological character and beauty were recognised by William von Blandowski, Curator of Melbourne's Natural History Museum, who described it as 'one of the most remarkable spots in Victoria, if not in whole Australia' after an excursion in 1855. By the late 1850s the formation had also become known as both Dryden's Rock, after an early settler in the vicinity, and The Hanging Rock, after a suspended and wedged rock on the southern side of the formation. The allotment containing Hanging Rock was purchased from the Crown in 1857, and picnics and sports days were first held on land owned by William Adams immediately to the south-west of Hanging Rock from the mid-1860s. These events included horse racing. By the time Adams acquired the allotment containing Hanging Rock in 1869, organised picnic and sports days on Boxing Day and New Years Day were regularly attended by thousands of people from both the local district and Melbourne.

A 38.8 hectare (96 acre) allotment to the east of Hanging Rock was gazetted by the government as a recreation and water reserve in 1870. In 1884 the allotment containing Hanging Rock was also gazetted and the combined 67.6 hectare (167 acre) site was permanently reserved as a 'Site for Public Recreation and for affording Access to Water'. Horse racing continued as a sporting highlight and, despite some opposition, the racecourse was moved to the water reserve in 1878. The Hanging Rock Racing Club was formed in 1885. The racetrack was extended to its present form in 1911 and a crowd of some 20,000 spectators were reported to be in attendance on race day on New Year's Day in 1912. Races continue to be held at the racecourse twice a year.

The international success of the 1975 film of Joan Lindsay's book, *Picnic at Hanging Rock* (1967), resulted in a significant increase in tourist numbers to Hanging Rock. Grants from the Victorian Government in 1978 enabled upgrades to various facilities.

Description Summary

Hanging Rock Reserve is a 67.6 hectare public recreation reserve, 7 kilometres north-east of Woodend, and 77 km north-west of Melbourne. It is bordered by Colwell's Road to the north, South Rock Road to the south, private properties to the west and the Eastern Paddock to the east. Racecourse Road bisects the site and provides the main access to the reserve from the south. Located in the north-west of the reserve is Hanging Rock itself, an unusual body of volcanic rock known as a *mamelon*, characterised by a complex of vertical and inclined pinnacles with large detached blocks and slabs. Geologically, it is noted as the best example of its type in Victoria. Access to the rock formation is through woodland of the lower slopes, via an asphalted pathway or alternative stairway. The summit, individual viewpoints and rock formations can be accessed from minor paths between rocks. To the south a recreation area is formed in open woodland. Facilities include a kiosk (1968), discovery centre (1999), various picnic and amenity facilities and car parking areas. A small hexagonal building, constructed as a ladies toilet in the early twentieth century, is located in this area.

To the east of the site is a racecourse which encircles a dam (1975) and cricket oval. A collection of simple racecourse-related timber and corrugated iron buildings and structures, grassed viewing slope and stand of exotic trees are located to the west of the racetrack.

This place is part of the traditional land of the Kulin Nation and it is recognised that there are Aboriginal values associated with Hanging Rock.

How is it significant?

The Hanging Rock Reserve is of historical, aesthetic and social 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 E | Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics |
| Criterion G | Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to indigenous people as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions. |

Why is it significant?

Hanging Rock Reserve is significant at the State level for the following reasons:

Hanging Rock Reserve is historically significant as an early and popular recreational destination and meeting place for Victorians. The distinctive and rare geological formation of Hanging Rock attracted large numbers of visitors from as early as the 1860s to congregate, be entertained, **climb the Hanging Rock formation** and participate in outdoor sport and leisure activities, in a unique and highly picturesque setting. The Hanging Rock Reserve illustrates the great popularity of outdoor pursuits, particularly in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. [Criterion A]

Hanging Rock Reserve is historically significant for its long association with horse racing in Victoria from the 1860s to the present day. The site of the present racecourse, in use since 1878, demonstrates the importance of this form of sport as a recreation activity to the rural communities of Victoria. [Criterion A]

Hanging Rock Reserve is of aesthetic significance as an outstanding, distinctive and unusual place of natural beauty. **The Hanging Rock formation has been recognised and enjoyed since the 1860s for its natural beauty, for its provision of spectacular views of the surrounding countryside, and as a backdrop to the variety of recreational activities conducted at its base. Visitors have climbed the formation since the 1860s, enjoying its unique spatial and aesthetic qualities and the experience of being within it, and exploring the formation and the surrounding woodland.** The importance of its aesthetic qualities is demonstrated in the popularity of the reserve as a Victorian tourist destination over a long period. The picturesque qualities of the place, which unfold from a number of viewpoints, impart a sense of mystery and evoke a strong emotional response from the viewer. From the 1850s the unusual and distinctive physical features of the Hanging Rock formation have stimulated innumerable written and artistic responses, including sketches, paintings, photographs, writing, film and music. [Criterion E]

Hanging Rock Reserve is socially significant for its continuous use **and appreciation** by the wider **Victorian** community as a popular gathering place for recreational purposes since the mid-1860s. This enduring association with tourists was reinforced by the production of the book (1967) and the film (1975) of *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, which resulted in an increase in the popularity of the Hanging Rock Reserve as a destination for local, Australian and overseas visitors. [Criterion G]

PERMIT POLICY

Preamble

The purpose of the Permit Policy is to assist when considering or making decisions regarding works to a registered place. It is recommended that any proposed works be discussed with an officer of Heritage Victoria prior to making a permit application. Discussing proposed works will assist in answering questions the owner may have and aid any decisions regarding works to the place.

The extent of registration of Hanging Rock Reserve on the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole place shown on Diagram 2339 including the land, buildings, roads, trees, [rocks that form part of the Hanging Rock geological formation](#), landscape elements and other features. Under the *Heritage Act 1995* a person must not remove or demolish, damage or despoil, develop or alter or excavate, relocate or disturb the position of any part of a registered place or object without approval. It is acknowledged, however, that alterations and other works may be required to keep places and objects in good repair and adapt them for use into the future.

If a person wishes to undertake works or activities in relation to a registered place or registered object, they must apply to the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria for a **permit**. The purpose of a permit is to enable appropriate change to a place and to effectively manage adverse impacts on the cultural heritage significance of a place as a consequence of change. If an owner is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that Heritage Victoria be contacted.

Permits are required for anything which alters the place or object, unless a **permit exemption** is granted. Permit exemptions usually cover routine maintenance and upkeep issues faced by owners as well as minor works. They may include appropriate works that are specified in a conservation management plan. Permit exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.42 of the Heritage Act) or after registration (under s.66 of the Heritage Act).

It should be noted that the addition of new buildings to the registered place, as well as alterations to the interior and exterior of existing buildings requires a permit, unless a specific permit exemption is granted.

Cultural heritage management plan

The key management document for Hanging Rock Reserve is Loder & Bayley, *Hanging Rock Recreation Reserve Management Plan*, 1993.

Cultural heritage significance

Overview of significance

The cultural heritage significance of Hanging Rock Reserve lies in its outstanding aesthetic qualities and its early and popular use as a place for recreational activities, including horse racing, for large numbers of Victorians since the 1860s. Both the unusual rock formation and the racecourse have seen the ongoing use of the reserve as a tourist destination.

The reserve contains a number of buildings and structures which are of low cultural heritage significance. These include buildings located to the west of the racetrack and towers around the track. While of low

cultural heritage significance, these buildings form a picturesque group that contribute to the character of the place and assist in reading it visually as a regional race track. Retention of this character is encouraged.

The early twentieth-century ladies toilet building, located in the recreation reserve to the south of Hanging Rock, is of higher cultural heritage significance in the context of the place.

PERMIT EXEMPTIONS (under section 42 of the Heritage Act)

It should be noted that Permit Exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.42(4) of the Heritage Act). Permit Exemptions can also be applied for and granted after registration (under s.66 of the Heritage Act)

General Condition: 1.

All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place.

General Condition: 2.

Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place are revealed which relate to the significance of the place, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible.

General Condition: 3.

It is desirable that all works be informed by a Conservation Management Plan prepared for the place.

General Conditions: 4.

Nothing in this determination prevents the Heritage Council from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

General Condition: 5.

Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the relevant responsible authority, where applicable.

Specific Permit Exemptions

Landscape

- The process of gardening, including mowing, hedge clipping, bedding displays, removal of dead shrubs and replanting the same species or cultivar, disease and weed control, and maintenance to care for existing plants.
- The removal or pruning of dead and dangerous trees to maintain safety.
- Replanting removed or dead trees and vegetation with the same plant species to conserve the significant landscape character and values.
- Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard; Pruning of Amenity Trees AS 4373-1996.
- Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard; Protection of Trees on Development Sites AS 4970-2009.
- Subsurface works involving the installation, removal or replacement of watering and drainage systems or services outside the canopy edge of significant trees in accordance with AS4970 and on the condition that works do not impact on archaeological features or deposits.

- Removal of plants listed as noxious weeds in the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*.
- Vegetation protection and management of possums and vermin.
- Repairs and maintenance to all hard landscape elements, fences, gates and lighting.
- **Repairs, resurfacing and maintenance of existing pedestrian and bicycle pathways and trails.**

Roads and Carparks

- All works associated with operating and maintaining the existing road infrastructure, including car parks and signs.
- **The resurfacing of existing car parking areas.**

Ladies Toilet Building

- All internal works excluding internal structures and mechanisms required to support the building.
- External repairs and maintenance that replaces like with like.

Other Buildings

- Replacement of external fabric replacing 'like with like'.
- Construction of new external openings.
- All internal alterations.
- The installation or replacement of services such as drainage, plumbing, electricity, computer cables, air-conditioning and fire safety.
- **Maintenance normal to a building.**
- **The maintenance of, and alterations to, horse stalls and main racecourse buildings.**

Other Infrastructure

- **The maintenance, removal and replacement of existing visitor facilities, including park furniture, such as but not limited to: BBQ facilities, tables and seating, shade structures, posts, lighting, paths, footbridges and signage associated with the reserve.**
- **The installation of above or below ground domestic sized water tanks to service the horse stalls and main racecourse buildings. Where below ground there is to be no impact on trees or change to grade.**

Events

- **All events and associated infrastructure that have no permanent physical impact on buildings, structures and features, trees and beds, are permitted for a period of up to 14 days.**
- **Events of a longer period or having the potential to impact on trees, beds, lawns, the Hanging Rock formation itself, and other natural features will require the submission of an event management plan to be approved by the Executive Director. In this case the event would normally be considered under the Minor Works provisions of the permit exemptions and s66(3) of the *Heritage Act 1995*.**

RELEVANT INFORMATION

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY

MACEDON RANGES SHIRE

HERITAGE LISTING INFORMATION

Heritage Overlay: Yes (partial section to west only) **HO Number:** HO88

Heritage Overlay Controls:

External Paint	No
Internal Alteration	No
Tree	Yes

HISTORY

Early history

Early European settlers and explorers noted the presence of Aboriginal people in the vicinity of Hanging Rock. Oral tradition indicates that it was the location of large inter-group gatherings for trade and ceremonies, and was an important spiritual place.

The geological formation which became known as Hanging Rock was recorded on a map by surveyor Robert Hoddle in 1844. It was given the name Diogenes's Mount and other features in the vicinity, such as Alexander's Crown (later Camels Hump) and Alexander's Head (later Brock's Monument), were also recorded on this map. Major Thomas Mitchell had ascended and named Mt Macedon to the south in 1836, however no reference was made to outcrops further to the north at this time.

In 1855 the Curator of the Museum of Natural History in Melbourne, William von Blandowski, travelled to the central parts of Victoria, including Mt Macedon, to report on the physical character of the region. On this trip he noted 'a remarkable hill called Diogenes' Mount, commonly known to the colonists as "Dryden's Monument", a name singularly inappropriate, being the cognomen of a settler in the neighbouring district'. Blandowski also noted that 'The dividing range and Dryden's Monument, for the interest of their geological conformation and the extreme beauty of their scenery, are almost unequalled throughout Victoria'.

Blandowski described Dryden's Monument in more detail as 'one of the most remarkable spots in Victoria, if not in whole Australia' due to its geological character, describing its appearance as 'about a thousand pyramidal columns, from fifteen to thirty feet in diameter, and thirty to one hundred feet in height, rise in bold relief from the surface'. His observations included details of the geology of the rock, concluding that the formation resulted from a second volcanic eruption which produced the peculiar columns. He reported that the columns contained a number of calcite-filled cracks, some of which were fractured or burst to expose the internal structure.

After this excursion, two engravings of Diogenes Monument (Mount) were produced by J Redaway & Sons in 1855-56, based on sketches by Blandowski. These first known depictions of this geological formation included the name 'Anneyelong' in its description of the formation, and included representations of Aboriginal people in the foreground.

The formation became more commonly known as The Hanging Rock, or Hanging Rock, by the late 1850s. This name inspired by a large rock suspended and wedged between two other rocks on the south side of the formation. Many maps from the 1870s and into the twentieth century avoided confusion by labelling the feature with all three names – Diogenes Mount, Dryden's Monument and Hanging Rock.

Edward Dryden and Charles Peters were amongst the first settlers in the Mt Macedon region in 1839 and as squatters they grazed sheep and cattle on large areas of land which had been previously unoccupied. Dryden's Station was marked to the west of Diogenes Mount on Hoddle's map of 1844. In the 1840s Dryden

and Peters divided their property and Dryden named his newly formed station Newham, after which the settlement near Hanging Rock was named. The Drydens were a well known pioneering family in the area and Newham Station was located in close proximity to Hanging Rock, hence the rock becoming commonly known as Dryden's Rock in the 1850s.

Kyneton solicitor, Thomas Lloyd James, was the first to purchase the 69 hectare (170 acre) allotment containing Hanging Rock in 1857. Three years later he sold the northern 40.5 hectare (100 acre) portion, containing the Rock itself, to Alexander Archer, and the remaining 28.5 hectares (70 acres), to the south, to William Adams. In 1869 Adams purchased Archer's portion to the north and in doing so again brought the original 69 hectare (170 acre) property into single ownership. Adams had also purchased land to the north-west of the Rock and built the Hanging Rock Hotel in 1866.

Recreational use and tourism

William Adams organised picnic and sports days on his land south west of Hanging Rock from as early as 1864. These were typically held on public holidays and sports were organised, liquor licences issued and various refreshment stalls provided. Dancing and music, including bagpipes, were part of these special occasions. On purchasing the land to the north containing Hanging Rock, William Adams set about creating a recreation area placing a weir across the creek to form a lake. He reportedly provided rowing boats and imported swans and other birds. A carriage drive was built from the foot of the Hanging Rock on the south side, leading to the west and reaching a large flat open space. Various rock formations and lookouts were given common names during this early period.

The railway from Melbourne reached Woodend in 1861 and this enabled large numbers of visitors to travel to Hanging Rock from the city, particularly on special days when sports, races and entertainment were organised. On these occasions large drays were provided to transport passengers from the station to Hanging Rock. With large numbers from surrounding country towns such as Bendigo, Kyneton and Castlemaine also in attendance, it was commonly reported in the newspapers that thousands were present at any one time, particularly from the 1870s.

In 1871 Adams sold his land, with the exception of Hanging Rock itself, to William Anderson of Melbourne who then leased the grounds to successive owners of the Hanging Rock Hotel. In 1876 Anderson also acquired the allotment containing Hanging Rock. William Adams had previously attempted to sell his Hanging Rock property to the government in 1874 and on inspection the surveyor commented that 'improvements... in excellent taste... access to the summit of the Rock much easier and the place altogether more charming'. However the asking price was considered excessive at the time and Adams continued to hold sports and picnics on his land.

Garnet Walch described Hanging Rock in his book *Victoria in 1880* as 'one of the most frequented spots in the neighbourhood and on Boxing Day and New Years Day in particular, is the locale of one of those scenes characteristic of Australian life. Races and other sports are provided for excursionists who flock to the rendezvous from all quarters...' In this same year Hanging Rock was described as 'remarkable' in *Victoria and its Metropolis*.

The area around the Rock itself was fenced by Anderson, enabling him to charge an entrance fee on public holidays. This resulted in a deputation from the Shire of Newham to urge the government to purchase the Hanging Rock portion from Anderson. After much public discussion, 28.7 hectares (71 acres) were purchased and added to the adjoining Crown Land portion to the east. In November 1884 the entire acreage was permanently reserved and dedicated to the free use by the public as a 'Site for Public Recreation and for affording Access to Water'. In the *Age*, 11 October 1884, it was described as 'one of the most beautiful and

picturesque public reserves in the Colony'. Admission charges were re-introduced in 1891, on certain days of the year.

Towards the end of the nineteenth century Adam's ornamental lake was revived and his carriageway restored. In 1901 triumphal arches were placed over all five gates to Hanging Rock and flags were flown, to celebrate the inauguration of the Commonwealth of Australia.

Horse racing

The presence of a number of horse breeders in the region, including one of the first pioneers of the district Edward Dryden, provided the impetus to include horse racing at sports days held at Hanging Rock from the 1860s. These were originally run on a rough track to the west of the Rock, however a race track was formed on land east of the Rock in 1877 and this was ready for racing on New Year's Day 1878. The Hanging Rock Cup was added to the programme in 1880 and was won that year by a horse owned by Edward Dryden.

This race track was formed on land to the east of the Rock which had been acquired by the government and gazetted in 1870 as a reserve for recreation and water. This previously unsold 38.8 hectare (96 acre) allotment contained a good spring (which had been noted on Hoddle's map in 1844) and flowing creek which provided an important water source for surrounding farmers. The addition of the racecourse on this land therefore caused some agitation in the district.

The Hanging Rock Racing Club was formed in 1885 and horse racing continued to gain in popularity. The bush races at Hanging Rock were both advertised and described widely in local and Melbourne newspapers. On 2 January 1907 the racecourse was described in the *Argus* as 'without doubt the most picturesque course in the state'.

There was concern that the course was too short to continue being recognised by the Victorian Racing Club and after eight years of lobbying the racecourse was extended to form the present track in 1911. Plans prepared by Victorian race course surveyor, A. Tuxen in 1905 were used for this purpose. It was reported in the *Age* on 2 January 1912 that a crowd of approximately 20,000 were in attendance at the Hanging Rock Races on New Year's Day that year. Exotic trees in the public viewing area were presumably planted at this time to provide patrons with shade.

The popularity of the Hanging Rock Races was disrupted during World War One but afterwards attendance grew again with the increasing use of motor vehicles. Horse racing ceased at this racecourse during World War Two, after which time Australia Day became the favoured day for racing events at Hanging Rock rather than Easter. Races now take place on two days of the year, New Year's Day and Australia Day.

Twentieth century development

Throughout the twentieth century various facilities were added to the Hanging Rock Reserve. A ladies toilet facility was built in the early 1900s and remains on the site. This, and later amenity blocks, shelters and areas for car parking, have been added to the recreation area to the south of the Rock. A kiosk was built in 1968 on the site of an earlier caretaker's cottage and the adjoining discovery centre was built in 1999. A collection of buildings were constructed to the west of the race track in the twentieth century and a new tower added in 1971.

A large dam was excavated in the centre of the race track in 1975 on land that was reserved for water purposes in 1870. In 1989 adjoining farmland to the east became available for sale and was subsequently purchased by the local Shire Council. Known as the Eastern Paddock, it has recently become the venue for large outdoor concerts.

Australian author Joan Lindsay wrote the book, *Picnic at Hanging Rock*, in 1967. The making of the compelling film of this book by Peter Weir in 1975, resulted in the sudden interest of Hanging Rock, both nationally and internationally, and the number of visitors increased significantly. As a result, large grants were received from the Victorian Government in 1978, which enabled site improvements to be made.

VICTORIAN HISTORICAL THEMES

01 Shaping Victoria's environment

- 1.1 Tracing climate and topographical change
- 1.6 Appreciating and protecting Victoria's natural wonders

05 Building Victoria's industries and workforce

- 5.7 Catering for tourists

09 Shaping cultural and creative life

- 9.1 Participating in sport and recreation
- 9.3 Achieving design and artistic distinction

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

Hanging Rock Reserve is a public reserve of approximately 67.6 hectares (167 acres) located 77 kilometres north-west of Melbourne and approximately 7 kilometres north-east of Woodend. It contains the Hanging Rock geological formation and associated recreation grounds, a racecourse and dam, and a number of amenities buildings and structures, including a hexagonal ladies toilet building from the early twentieth century.

The reserve is bordered by Colwell's Road to the north, South Rock Road to the south, private properties to the west and open paddocks to the east. The latter have become known as Eastern Paddock and were acquired by the Shire of Newham and Woodend in 1990. Racecourse Road runs north-south and provides the main access to the reserve from South Rock Road. It bisects the Hanging Rock Reserve with the Hanging Rock formation and recreation area to the west and the racecourse to the east.

Hanging Rock geological formation

The Hanging Rock geological formation is located to the north-west of the site and covers approximately 9 hectares. It rises some 100 metres above the ground level. The formation consists of a number of steep-sided rocky outcrops and a well formed asphalt footpath, and alternative stair pathway, providing access to The Saddle. A further track leads to The Summit of the rock formation. A number of individual viewpoints, including McDonald's and Morgan's Lookout, and unusual rock formations including the Hanging Rock, can be accessed or seen from these tracks. Views from the Rock to the north and east are of open countryside. The lower slopes are covered by woodland, predominantly eucalypts and acacia. The boundary of this area is defined by a circuit walking track known as the 'Base Walking Track'.

Hanging Rock is a mamelon, or volcanic plug forming a conically shaped hill. N J Rosengren & E B Joyce, in their report 'Geoscience significance of Hanging Rock, Victoria' (2014) detail the geology of Hanging Rock and conclude that it is of high geoscience significance as a teaching and reference site as the 'best exposure of a volcanic type of limited composition and origin'. The following is a summary of their description of the formation.

Hanging Rock is an elongated, isolated continuous outcrop body of structured and consolidated volcanic rock, characterised by vertical and inclined pinnacles with large detached blocks and slabs.

The site is a complex of irregular rectangular four to six-sided columns separated by deep fissures with occasional overhangs. Shallow caves and indentations have been produced by weathering. There is no single defined summit and the uppermost surface is an irregular mosaic of intact spires and fallen blocks with vegetated areas of soil and debris in between. Hanging Rock is a volcanic eruption point which dates from the Late Miocene age (about 6.5 million years). It is unusually placed between more typically older and newer volcanic series found in Victoria; for example the much older volcanic Macedon Ranges from the Late Devonian period (c 370 million years ago). It is unusual in Victoria and restricted to two small areas – Gisborne/Woodend and Daylesford. Hanging Rock is the most conspicuous of several eruption points in the Macedon district and is the best example of its type in Victoria.

Recreation Area

The area to the south of the Hanging Rock formation is open woodland with the generally dry, tree-lined Five Mile Creek winding through the site. The area contains a number of visitor facilities including a discovery centre and kiosk, toilet and amenity blocks, picnic facilities and car parking. The majority of the structures date from the late twentieth century, however a timber, hexagonal toilet building remains from at least the early twentieth century when it was constructed as a ladies facility.

Racecourse and Dam Area

A racecourse is located on land directly to the east of the Hanging Rock formation. The racetrack itself encircles (from north to south) open grassy woodland, a dam which provides irrigation water and a cricket oval. To the west of the racetrack are associated buildings, including a ticket box, members' hall and kitchen, first aid room, toilets, bars, machinery shed, stalls, horse stalls and various amenity buildings. A simple timber clubhouse building is situated to the south of the cricket oval. Dating from the twentieth century, these simple structures are of timber or corrugated iron construction and together form a picturesque group of rural racing structures. Two simple steward's towers are placed around the track and a later substantial tower is located to the south of the track (1971).

On 3 January 1922 it was reported in the *Argus* that 'there is no grandstand, because the steeply sloping grassy bank in the enclosure serves the purpose admirably, and preserves the picnic character of the place'. This grassy bank, a timber edged terrace and a number of mature exotic tree species are located between the buildings and the track.

INTEGRITY/INTACTNESS (March-April 2014)

The original reservation of land within the nominated area was the section that now contains the racecourse. This was a 38.8 hectares (96 acre) portion that was temporarily reserved in 1870 for public recreation and to enable access to water. In 1884 the Government purchased 28.7 hectares (71 acres) of adjacent land containing Hanging Rock and permanently reserved the total 67.6 hectares (167 acres) as a 'Site for Public Recreation and for affording Access to Water'. The extent of this reservation remains intact.

Various facilities have been provided throughout the twentieth century, including picnic areas, shelters, amenity blocks, kiosk and a discovery centre. The majority of facilities appear to date from the later twentieth century and are largely confined to the southern part of the Reserve. Car parking and tourist facilities have been set within the wooded areas with minimal reduction of character. Various fences have been constructed between areas.

The racecourse, which was formed to the east of the Rock in 1877-78, was extended in 1911 to its present form. A dam (1975) and a sports oval have been formed within the boundaries of the racetrack.

CONDITION (March-April 2014)

The Hanging Rock Reserve has been well maintained. It is managed by Macedon Ranges Shire Council and an on-site ranger is responsible for day to day maintenance of the Reserve.

COMPARISONS

Tourist attractions based on natural features

From the latter half of the nineteenth century, various distinctive geological features and places of natural beauty in Victoria have attracted visitors. These included places in reasonable proximity to Melbourne, such as Marysville, the Dandenong Ranges and the You Yangs, and others further away such as the Grampians and Tower Hill, near Koroit.

Some places, such as Hanging Rock, were reserved by the government for recreational purposes after being recognised as popular destinations. By the time Hanging Rock was permanently reserved by the government in 1884, it had become well established as a popular place for picnics, gatherings and horse racing, despite the land being privately owned. Some were reserved much later, such as the Cumberland Scenic Reserve, Marysville, which was reserved in 1929; others were reserved for other purposes, such as the You Yangs as a timber reserve in the 1880s, Buchan Caves originally for camping in 1887, a small part of Hepburn Springs for its mineral springs in 1868 and Tower Hill as a national park in 1892.

Comparison can be made with similar natural features which became popular tourist destinations in Victoria due to their interesting and distinctive natural characteristics. These include Tower Hill Game Reserve, Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve and Buchan Caves Reserve which are all included in the Victorian Heritage Register.

Tower Hill State Game Reserve, Crossley VHR H2114

Tower Hill in Western Victoria consists of a volcanic caldera bounded by an encircling crater that forms a highly visible landmark in the surrounding plain in the Warrnambool region of western Victoria. The crater is filled with a lake and a series of islands. By the late 1850s substantial amounts of forest had been cleared in and around the crater and in 1866 the crater and inner rim were temporarily reserved for public recreation. The Acclimatisation Society of Victoria was briefly appointed the Committee of Management in 1866 and introduced goats, pheasants and rabbits to the reserve. Permanent reservation for public purposes occurred in 1873 in an attempt to halt the environmental damage to the crater and Tower Hill Reserve became the first National Park to be declared in Victoria in 1892. Clearing of native vegetation, grazing and the quarrying of scoria however continued and by the 1930s the landscape was bare and little wildlife remained. The continual environmental degradation at Tower Hill led to it being declared a State Game Reserve in 1961 and the reinstatement of plant species took place from this time. Robin Boyd designed a Natural History Centre which was completed in 1969.

Tower Hill State Game Reserve is significant as an inspirational and iconic landscape, noted for its unique geological form and the beauty of its original vegetation. Successful attempts to reinstate the native vegetation over a number of years are of historical importance.

The Tower Hill Reserve has not been identified as significant to Victoria as a place for public recreation. Its distance from Melbourne would have impacted on the number of visitors to the reserve, particularly in the nineteenth century.



Tower Hill State Game Reserve



Natural History Centre, 1962-1969, Tower Hill

Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve VHR H2098

Mineral springs located adjacent to the Hepburn Springs Township were originally protected from surrounding gold digging activity by the creation of a 0.5 hectare (1.2 acre) reserve in 1868. The extent of the reserve was increased to its present size of approximately 30 hectares (74 acres) in the early twentieth century. The series of mineral springs were in continuous public use for drinking and bathing by the local community from the mid-nineteenth century, in particular Swiss-Italian migrants. The construction of the railway line to Daylesford in 1880 markedly increased the accessibility of the springs and by the 1890s a bath house had been established. In the late 1920s the local Swiss community constructed a swimming pool on South Creek in the south of the reserve. The popularity of the springs continued through the first decades of the twentieth century and into the inter-war years, but declined rapidly after World War Two. In the 1980s resurgence in the popularity of the Hepburn Mineral Springs led to substantial renovation of the spa bath house and the Reserve continues to be a major Victorian tourist destination.

The landscape of the high land combines both native vegetation and exotic trees, while cultivated parklands of lawn, exotic deciduous trees and conifers and ornamental plantings and paving, line the creek. Buildings include the only extant nineteenth century mineral springs bathhouse in Victoria. This brick building, erected in 1895 and extended in the 1920s, continues to be used. A red brick hexagonal pavilion was constructed in 1908 and serve as a shelter for visitors. An adjoining kiosk, also in red brick was added on the north side of the pavilion in 1939.

Hepburn Mineral Springs Reserve is of historical significance as the most popular mineral springs in Victoria, in continuous use since at least the 1870s, and as an expression of the popularity of health and nature tourism in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The surviving nineteenth century bath house contributes to the intactness of the site. The natural and constructed picturesque landscape is of aesthetic significance and the continuing association with European migrant communities from the nineteenth century is of social importance.



Locarno Spring, Hepburn Springs



Bath house, Hepburn Springs

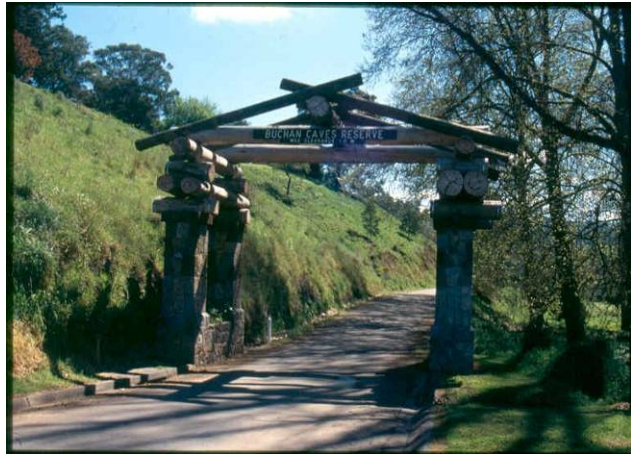
Buchan Caves Reserve VHR H1978

The 285 hectare Buchan Caves Reserve is located in south-eastern Victoria. The limestone caves were recorded in 1840 with the earliest known tourist reference to the caves made in 1886. The following year the first government reservation was for camping whilst the caves continued to be used unofficially for picnics and functions. Many of the caves were inspected and photographed by a government party in 1889 and in 1903-1910 the Shire of Tambo was appointed as Committee of Management. Further exploration discovered new caves and by 1914 the area was being promoted as a popular tourist attraction. Landscape consultant Hugh Linaker prepared a landscape plan in 1929 and various works were undertaken in accordance with this over a number of years. This included the extensive planting of exotic trees and the building of various rustic stone and log structures, particularly in the 1930s.

The Buchan Caves Reserve is historically significant as an early natural tourist attraction in Victoria and for its ongoing function as a tourist destination. The limestone caves are of aesthetic significance as spectacular, natural underground features and the designed landscape work of the pioneering Victorian landscaper Hugh Linaker contributes to the aesthetic importance of the site.



Cave entrance, Buchan Caves



Entrance arch, Buchan Caves

Racecourses

Horse racing began as a sporting activity at Hanging Rock in the mid-1860s and is an ongoing recreation activity at the Hanging Rock Reserve. The establishment of the Hanging Rock Racing Club in 1885 ensured the development of the racecourse which had been moved to the east of the Rock by 1878 and extended into the present track in 1911. The early development of horse breeding in the vicinity of Hanging Rock from the 1850s provided the impetus for horse racing there and in surrounding towns such as Woodend.

Horse racing was an important part of the social life of rural Victoria for many years and this was reflected in the development of racetracks across rural Victoria from the 1850s. A number of these remain in some form, including those at Werribee, Yarra Glen, Kyneton, Wangaratta and Balnarring, which have been included in local heritage overlays, and others such as Terang, Peshurst, Newstead and Murtoa. There are no rural racecourses included in the Victorian Heritage Register. Grandstands were often an architectural feature at rural racecourses, however one was never constructed at Hanging Rock because of the naturally sloping terrain. The grandstands at both Hamilton and Camperdown Racecourses have been identified as being of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria (VHR H0137 and H2093).

Conclusion

The large number of newspaper articles advertising, describing and illustrating events and excursions to Hanging Rock attest to its great popularity as a Victorian destination for recreation purposes. The close proximity of Hanging Rock Reserve to Melbourne ensured that it was an extremely popular tourist destination from as early as the 1860s. Unlike Tower Hill and Buchan Caves, it was easily accessible from Melbourne, firstly by train and then by motor car in the early twentieth century. This, together with organised and advertised sport and picnic days, has always encouraged large crowds of visitors.

In contrast to other popular tourist destinations, such as Hepburn Springs and Buchan Caves, Hanging Rock Reserve has no constructed elements to add to the aesthetic landscape. In contrast its unique appeal is based solely on an appreciation of its natural picturesque qualities.

The location of the Hanging Rock Racecourse, adjacent to the geological attraction of the Rock itself, is unique in Victoria. This picturesque location greatly influenced its popularity as a racing venue from the mid-1860s. Conversely the presence of the racecourse served to increase the popularity of the Rock as a popular tourist destination from the nineteenth century.

KEY REFERENCES USED TO PREPARE ASSESSMENT

Various newspaper articles and advertisements detailing the Hanging Rock Reserve from 1860s, including:

- *South Bourke Standard*, 30 December 1870, p 2
- *The Argus*, 22 December 1858, p 8; 28 December 1871, p 6; 2 January 1907, p 5; 3 January 1922, p 5
- *Illustrated Australian News*, 23 April 1872, p 4 (incl illustration); 30 December 1874, p 219
- *Australian Town and Country Journal*, 25 May 1889, p 26 & 33 (incl illustrations)
- *Williamstown Chronicle*, 25 January 1896, p 3
- *The Australasian*, 5 April 1879, p 17; 10 January 1880, p 6; 18 December 1897, p 36 (incl photo); 12 January 1907, p 30 (photos)
- *Age*, 2 January 1912
- *Weekly Times*, 7 April 1917, p 16
- *Kilmore Free Press*, 26 December 1935, p 2

Various maps including:

- Survey Map, Robert Hoddle, 1844
- Parish Plans, 1856, 1865, 1867
- Geological Survey Maps of Victoria, 1862
- Lands Victoria Plans c1866, 1874, c1878
- Sketch plan of racecourse, 1886 in DNRE File
- Tourist Map of Mt Macedon District, 1912

William von Blandoswki, 'Personal observations made in an excursion towards the central parts of Victoria', 1855 [SLV]

Victorian Government Gazette, 3 June 1870, p 820; 24 October 1884, pp 2988-2989; 28 Nov 1884, p 3210

M Hutton, *The Hanging Rock*. Melbourne 1991

J Williams, *Echoes of the Past: history of Newham and Cobaw*. 2004

Context, 'Hanging Rock VHR Assessment', final report for Hanging Rock Action Group, March 2014

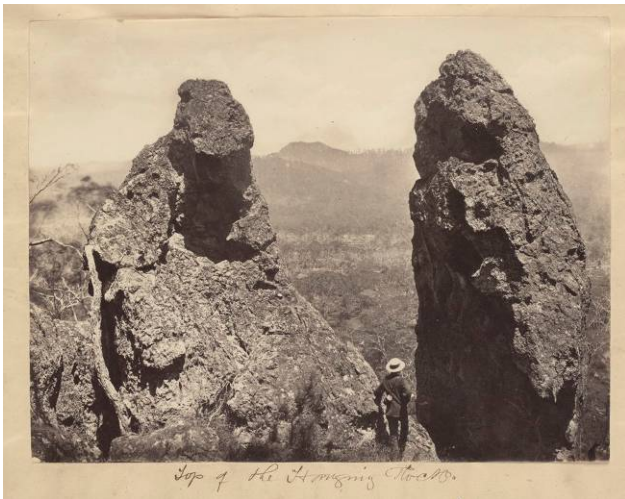
N J Rosengren & E B Joyce, 'Geoscience significance of Hanging Rock, Victoria', 2014

Aboriginal Affairs Victoria, 'Wurundjeri Aboriginal Cultural Statement of Significance Preliminary Report' 2013

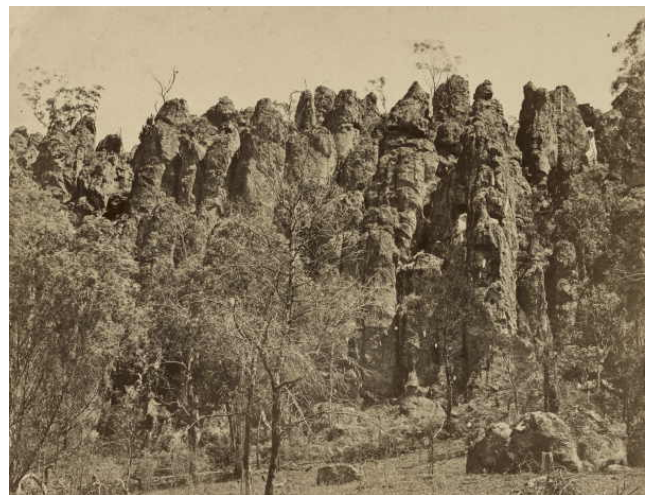
ADDITIONAL IMAGES



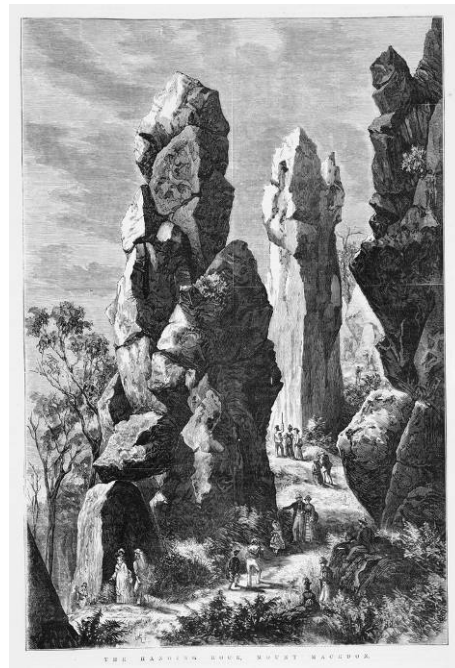
Engraving of Diogenes Mount based on sketches by William von Blandowski, 1855



Top of the Hanging Rock, c1854-62, SLV



Photograph by Richard Daintree, c1860, SLV



Depictions of Hanging Rock, 1872 & 1874



Hanging Rock and racecourse from the east



Lower southern slope of Hanging Rock



View to east from Hanging Rock saddle

Name: Hanging Rock Reserve
VHR Number: PROV H2339
Hermes Number: 12533



Views to east from Hanging Rock saddle, showing racecourse around dam and oval and Eastern Paddock beyond



Ladies toilet from early 20th century



Example of amenities block, recreation area



Discovery Centre from north, Racecourse Road



Spectator area to west of racetrack



Race club buildings to west of track



Various race club buildings, west of track



Various race club buildings, west of track



Horse stalls, west of track



Views of racetrack from west



DETERMINATION: PLACE 2

NAME OF PLACE

Eastern Paddock

DETERMINATION REASONS

REASONS FOR NOT INCLUDING IN THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER

The Eastern Paddock:

- does not satisfy any of the Heritage Council's assessment criteria for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register.
- has no historical association with the use of the Hanging Rock Reserve.
- does not contain any fabric that contributes to an appreciation of the cultural heritage significance of the Hanging Rock Reserve.
- affords views to the Hanging Rock Reserve however these views are available from numerous locations around the Hanging Rock Reserve.
- is covered by Schedule 1 of the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO). This is an appropriate instrument for protecting the setting and context for the Hanging Rock Reserve.

ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY MACEDON RANGES SHIRE

RELEVANT PLANNING INFORMATION

Heritage Overlay: **No**

Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO) **Yes**

HISTORY

The land now known as Eastern Paddock was originally the eastern part of Crown Allotment 7, Section 2 in the County of Dalhousie and Parish of Newham as surveyed in 1856-57. A good spring was contained towards the western boundary of this Crown Allotment and in 1870 the 38.8 hectare (96 acre) western part of the allotment, 7A, was acquired by the government and gazetted as a reserve for recreation and water, primarily for the use of the surrounding farmers. The remaining 22 hectare (c 55 acre) allotment to the east was divided into four allotments; 7B-7E and these were sold in 1867. W. Couling purchased three of these allotments and W. Adams purchased one.

In *The Australasian Sketcher with Pen and Pencil*, 17 February 1877 the land surrounding the base of Hanging Rock was described as 'farm clearings, cutting the forest into alternate squares, like the white and black squares of a chessboard'. As described, this land would have been used for farming purposes and the presence of the adjacent water reserve would have increased its appeal. There is no obvious evidence of buildings or structures on this land.

The Shire Council made submissions to the Victorian Government, from at least 1978, in an attempt to have the land adjacent to the Hanging Rock Reserve purchased and added to the existing reserve. It was finally purchased by Shire of Newham and Woodend in 1990.

VICTORIAN HISTORICAL THEMES

04 Transforming and managing land and natural resources

4.4 Farming

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The Eastern Paddock is situated to the east of the Hanging Rock Reserve. It is bordered by Colwell's Road to the north, South Rock Road to the south, Straws Lane to the east and the Hanging Rock Racecourse to the west.

The Eastern Paddock consists of large open grass paddocks with tree planting along the boundary of the racecourse to the west, along the roads to the north and east and across the centre of the site. A network of internal vehicle tracks have been provided to service the area, which is presently used for large open-air music events. The land gently rises to the north-eastern corner. Views from the Eastern Paddock are of Hanging Rock to the west, across the racecourse, and the Macedon Ranges to the south.

The low-lying area at the south end of the paddock consists of rough grassland and regenerating open woodland.

INTEGRITY/INTACTNESS (March-April 2014)

The Eastern Paddock generally remains as large open paddocks, bordered by trees. A network of vehicle tracks has been formed across the site which otherwise remains largely undisturbed. It is used for large outdoor music concerts and temporary facilities are provided for these events. These do not impact on the site at other times.

CONDITION (March-April 2014)

The Eastern Paddock is maintained in good condition. Woodland areas are undergoing regeneration.

COMPARISONS

There are innumerable sites throughout Victoria and in the vicinity of Hanging Rock Reserve that have been used for similar farming purposes to the Eastern Paddock and many paddocks that abut land reserved by the government for public purposes. Many of these would afford clear views of geological features in Victoria, including other sites in the vicinity of Hanging Rock itself.

ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Eastern Paddock does not satisfy any of the Heritage Council's assessment criteria for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register.

KEY REFERENCES USED TO PREPARE ASSESSMENT

Parish Plans, 1856, 1865, 1867

M Hutton, *The Hanging Rock*. Melbourne 1991

J Williams, *Echoes of the Past: history of Newham and Cobaw*. 2004

Context, 'Hanging Rock VHR Assessment', final report for Hanging Rock Action Group, March 2014

ADDITIONAL IMAGES



Farm land to the north-east of Hanging Rock Reserve