

KOONDROOK HERITAGE

This policy applies to all buildings, sites, places and landscapes of heritage significance in Koondrook including those listed in this policy.

Policy Basis

The Koondrook town centre and river bank is historically important in the history of Victoria's economic development for its capacity to demonstrate the growth of a Murray River township, drawing income from the Riverina and its local timber resources. It compares in this respect with other river towns and ports, which collectively tapped the Riverina from the mid-Victorian period onwards. The Koondrook township is unique for the manner in which its early activities and associated infrastructure have survived.

The places or components of Koondrook's heritage that remain include:

- The Shire tramway (including sidings, station building, platform and weighbridge).
- The wharf site (including associated shipping shed and platform).
- The sawmill.
- The shops and non-residential buildings (identified on the attached list).
- The red gum trees along the river and creek frontages.
- The lift span bridge (over the Murray River to Barham).

More specifically, those buildings, areas or places that are of significance include:

Reference	Description	Address
1	Pumping Station ruins and house	
2	Residence	34 Murray Parade
3	Lift Span Bridge 1904	
4	Pumping Station	
5	Koondrook School	7 Punt Road
6	Paddle Steamer Punt and Barge Wrecks	
7	Derrick Crane (Parts)	
8	Mill Machinery and Buildings	
9	Abandoned log slipway	
10	Site of Wharf (including timber retaining walls)	
11	Turntable Pit	
12	"Asco" Cart Weighbridge	
13	Arbuthnot Sawmills	
14	Butcher's Residence	18 Punt Road
15	Butcher's Shop	18 Punt Road
16	Grocery Shop	12 Punt Road
17	Arbuthnot Sawmills Office	16 Punt Road
18	Baptist Church	6 Punt Road
19	Site of Tramways Goods Shed	
20	Old Hospital House	72 Forest Street

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Reference	Description	Address
21	Koondrook Memorial Hall	98 Main Street
22	Shop	96 Main Street
23	Bakery	92 Main Street
24	St Paul's Anglican Church	90 Main Street
25	Shire Tramway Station (including Tram with rolling stock)	
26	Residence	72 Main Street
27	Residence	74 Main Street
28	Residence	78 Main Street
29	St Paul's Shop	81 Main Street
30	Mates Royal Hotel	85 Main Street
31	Café	87 Main Street
32	Log Buggy	
33	Goods Shed and Crane	
34	Site of Tramway and Workshop	
35	Sleeper (to remain as evidence of siding)	
36	Buffer Stops	
37	Old Hotel Site	
38	Residence	50 Gunbower Parade
39	Residence	46 Gunbower Parade
40	Residence	2 Gunbower Parade
41	Condidorio's Bridge	

Collectively, these elements demonstrate aspects of Koondrook's role, including a crossing point for stock travelling from the Riverina to Melbourne markets and its status as the terminus of a highly unusual Shire-built tramway conveying passengers and freight to and from the Riverina with river boat connections. Its role also includes a long established and continuing centre of the red gum sawmilling industry.

Objectives

To preserve and enhance the remaining elements of Koondrook's history, particularly the buildings, sites and objects listed in the table to this policy.

To undertake or facilitate improvements as listed below in order to preserve and enhance Koondrook's heritage values and re-instate known heritage elements which have been removed or destroyed.

Policy

It is policy to:

- Undertake or facilitate the following works, investigations and improvements as time and resources permit:
 - Council will retain and extend the trees located in the shoulder of Main Street to conform to the documentary evidence.
 - Council will improve signage within the area.

GANNAWARRA PLANNING SCHEME

- Council will prepare a heritage walk brochure outlining the important features of the area.
 - Council will link the Heritage walk with a natural walk across Condidorio's Bridge onto Gunbower Island. This could include an investigation into providing a pedestrian bridge at the mouth of the Gunbower Creek, creating a circuit for the nature walk.
 - Council will undertake further investigation into the possibility of returning the working rail stock to the site.
 - Council will investigate the possibility of reconstructing the wharf.
 - Council will stabilise the buffer stops at the end of the east siding.
 - Council will reinstate the post and rail fence to the tramway platform.
 - Council will conserve the mill machinery and derrick crane parts stored at the back of the mill.
 - Council will further investigate the site of Arbuthnot's Mill to establish the age of the fabric.
 - Council will prepare a Conservation Management Plan for the shipping shed and wharf site as a precursor to carrying out urgently needed maintenance for these structures.
 - Council will reinstate the timber weighbridge office to protect the existing weighbridge.
 - Council will expose the extant rail sidings to general view so as to facilitate contemporary interpretation of the site.
 - Council will reinstate the removed verandah to Mates Royal Hotel Shop.
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