

Statement of recommendation from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria, to the Heritage Council of Victoria



Name: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement
Address: 125 Monash Drive, Swan Hill
Local Government Authority: Swan Hill Rural City Council
Provisional VHR No. PROV VHR H2409



Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement (February 2021)

Executive Director recommendation

Under Part 3, Division 3 of the *Heritage Act 2017* ('the Act') I recommend to the Heritage Council of Victoria that the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement, 125 Monash Drive, Swan Hill, and specified objects associated with the Settlement, should be included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) in the categories of Registered Place with Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place.

STEVEN AVERY

Executive Director, Heritage Victoria

DATE OF RECOMMENDATION: 21 April 2021

This report may contain images and/or names of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who are now deceased.



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Executive Director recommendation to the Heritage Council of Victoria

The Executive Director, Heritage Victoria ('Executive Director'), recommends that the Heritage Council include the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement at 125 Monash Drive, Swan Hill in the VHR in accordance with section 49 of the Act by determining:

- That Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is of State-level cultural heritage significance and should be included in the VHR in the category of registered place in accordance with section 49(1)(a) of the Act.
- That the proposed extent of registration is appropriate under section 49(1)(d) of the Act.
- That the specified objects currently located at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement are integral to understanding the cultural heritage significance of the place under section 49(1)(e) of the Act
- That the proposed categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement for which a permit under the Act is not required will not harm the cultural heritage significance of the place under section 49(3) of the Act.



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The process from here

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

The Heritage Council will publish the Executive Director's recommendation on its website for a period of 60 days. Submissions must be received by Heritage Council on or before **21 June 2021**

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

Within the 60 day publication period, any person or body with a real and substantial interest in the place or object can make a submission to the Heritage Council. This submission can support the recommendation, or object to the recommendation and a hearing can be requested in relation to the submission. Information about making a submission and submission forms are available on the Heritage Council of Victoria's website:

<https://heritagecouncil.vic.gov.au/registrations-reviews/executive-director-recommendations/>

3. Heritage Council determination (sections 46 and 49)

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

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

If submissions are received, the Heritage Council may decide to hold a hearing in relation to the submission. If a hearing does take place, the Heritage Council must make a determination within 90 days after the completion of the hearing.

4. Obligations of owners of places and objects (sections 42 and 43)

The owner of a place or object which is the subject of a recommendation to the Heritage Council has certain obligations under the *Heritage Act 2017*. These relate to advising the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria in writing of any works or activities that are being carried out, proposed or planned for the place or object.

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

5. Further information

The relevant sections of the Act are provided at Appendix 1.



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Description

The following is a description of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement at the time of the site inspection by Heritage Victoria in February 2021.

Site

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is located on approximately 3.8 hectares on an anabranch of the Murray River known as the Little Murray or Maraboor River, opposite Pental Island. The Settlement has a park like layout with a bush setting, peaceful riverside location, and many small relocated and replica buildings made from traditional materials. Some areas have residential buildings in a bush setting while in other areas there are historic commercial buildings and sheds housing traditional equipment and industries. There is historic equipment displayed in the open and there is an Aboriginal area including scarred trees. It is easy to move around the Settlement, and a café and General Store provide refreshments. Activated exhibits include a horse and cart and historic car taking visitors around the site, and traditional trades such as blacksmithing and wood turning. All these features together with the historic vessels, a dam, farm machinery and windmills combine to create an attractive, human scaled environment with an historic atmosphere.

Landscape

Most of the plantings at Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement are Australian native trees and shrubs.

There is a Lone Pine (*Pinus brutia* or Turkish pine) outside the Mechanics Institute on the street of shops, planted in 1965. The bronze plaque states that it is an Aleppo pine from the original Lone Pine on Gallipoli and was planted to honour fallen comrades.

There are more exotic plantings in the gardens and areas near the church, historic residences and dam. Many are plants used in historical rural gardens and include Pepper trees (*Schinus molle*), geraniums and roses. The gardens in these areas are well maintained with carefully raked paths. The gardens of Towaninnie Homestead have low walls made from mallee roots from the now demolished mallee root stable.

Buildings, areas, features and objects

There are currently around 70 buildings, areas, features and objects currently on the site as listed below. The item names and numbers (bracketed) are from the 2021 tourist map below (where these are listed). There are three main different types which are more fully documented in Appendix 4. Many historic small movable objects and furnishings (e.g. counters) are present in all the buildings but are not documented here.

Original, modified and/or repurposed historic buildings and large objects including:

- Gaol (2) – portable lock-up
- Court House behind Gaol (-)
- Thatched Pole Stable, near Coach House (-)
- Kaneira West School (3)
- Post Office (5)
- (Former) Photographic Parlour, next to Post Office (-)
- Paddle-steamer Gem (8) VHR H1742
- Quambatook Windmill between locomotive and church (-)
- D3 Steam Locomotive (9)
- PS Pyap (11)
- Portable Iron House (13)
- Echo Print Shop (14)

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- Masonic Lodge (18)
- Saddlery (19)
- Mechanics Institute (20)
- Lone Pine (-)
- Bank (21)
- Mud brick kitchen (27)
- Towaninnie Homestead and well (28)
- Tyntynder Windmill near Towaninnie Homestead (-)
- Riversdale Cottage (31)
- Keats Cottage (32)
- Shearing Shed (34)
- Blacksmith's Shop (35)
- Black Bess (36)
- Horse stables (42)
- Dumosa and Towaninnie Public Hall - The Paragon Café (43)
- National Powerhouse Engine next to Café (-)
- Fire Station (44)
- Wool Barge Vega behind Tractor Display (-)

Newly created buildings, structures or areas in an historic style (some using historic materials or items) and mostly designed by Roy Grounds or his office or Robert Ingpen including:

- Rose Garden, aviary, historic gates (6)
- Coach House (4)
- Horseshoe Bend Wharf (10)
- Church (12) with historic headstones
- Rees Building including Emporium/Music Shop (15) and Photographic Parlour (16)
- Jimmy Longs Bakery (22)
- Aerated Water (-)
- Chemist/Dentist/Barber (23)
- Stock and Station Agent (-)
- General Store (24)
- Grain store next to General Store (-)
- Half cellar (25)
- Buckrubunyal Windmill near Towaninnie Homestead (-)
- Pine Point School (replica) and Travelling School and tank stand (historic) (26)
- Indigenous Area (29)
- Lower Murray Inn (32)
- Golden Harvest Trail exhibition (37)
- Steam Workshop (38)
- Tractor Display (39)
- Restoration workshops (40)
- Wood Turners workshop (41)

New buildings, areas and structures for example:

- Rotunda (Roy Grounds office designed) (7)
- Town Square (17) and Boyd Sundial on reclaimed brick
- Dam near Towaninnie Homestead (-)
- Small sheds in front of Mud Brick Kitchen (-)

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- Grassed area in front of Lower Murray Inn (-)
- Entrance/Exit (1)
- Heartbeat of the Murray theatre (30)
- Lower Murray Inn toilets (-)

Objects integral to the place

These are fully documented at Appendix 3.

- Log buggy
- Small "John Fowler", Steam Traction Engine
- Red Gum log
- Road Steam Roller
- Large Marshall Portable Engine 20HP
- Large "John Fowler", Steam Ploughing Engine, "Black Bess" (35)
- Cobb & Co Coach, Concord Coach Replica
- Dennis Fire Engine
- Wool Barge Vega (-)
- D3 Steam Locomotive No. 640 Type 4-6-0 (9)
- National Powerhouse Engine
- Stereoscopic Theatre / Kaiserpanorama and its glass slides



2021, Mechanics Institute, Saddler and Masonic Temple all made from repurposed historic buildings



2021, Rose Garden gates formerly at Swan Hill Hospital

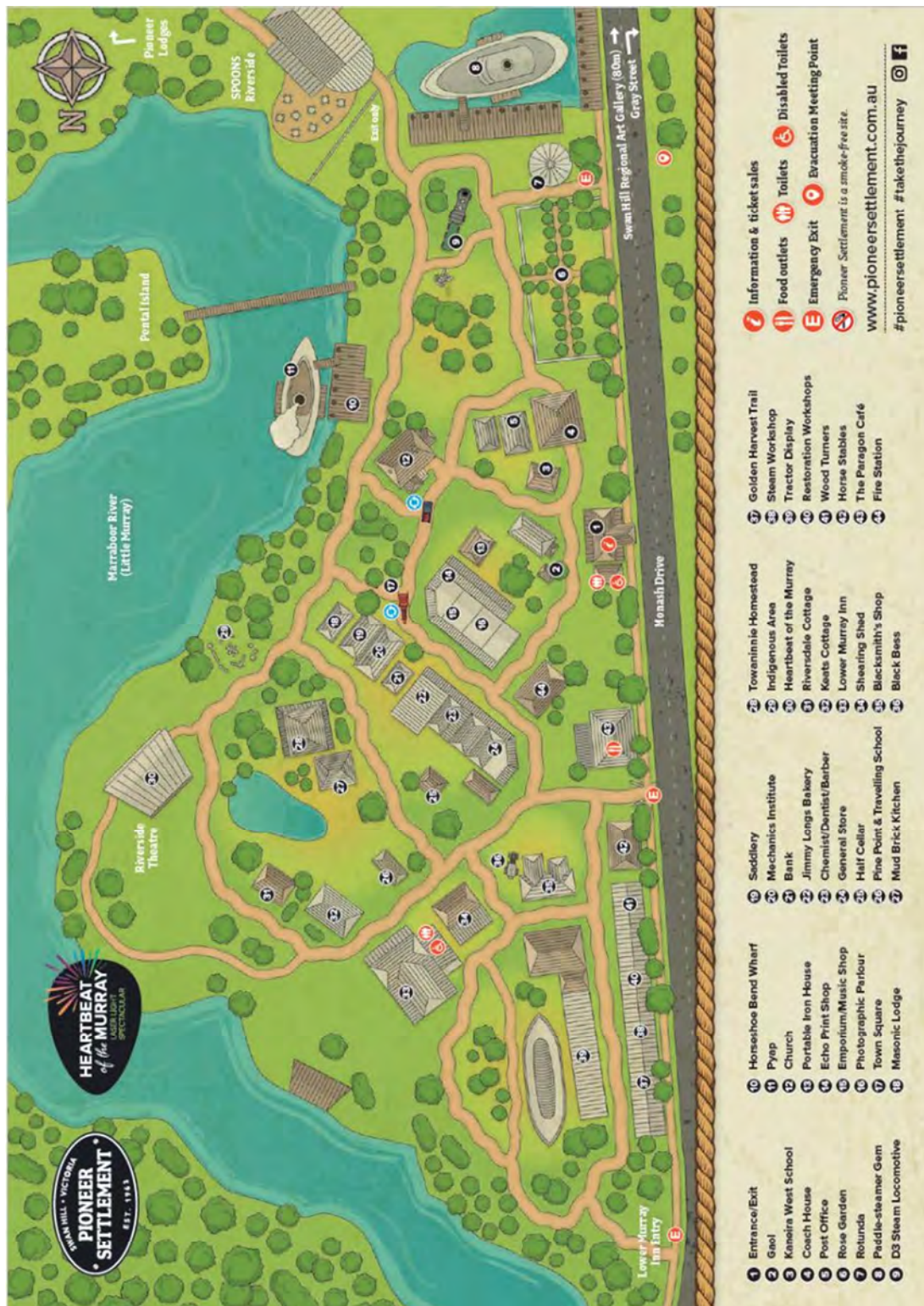


2021, Towaninnie Homestead, a relocated historic building



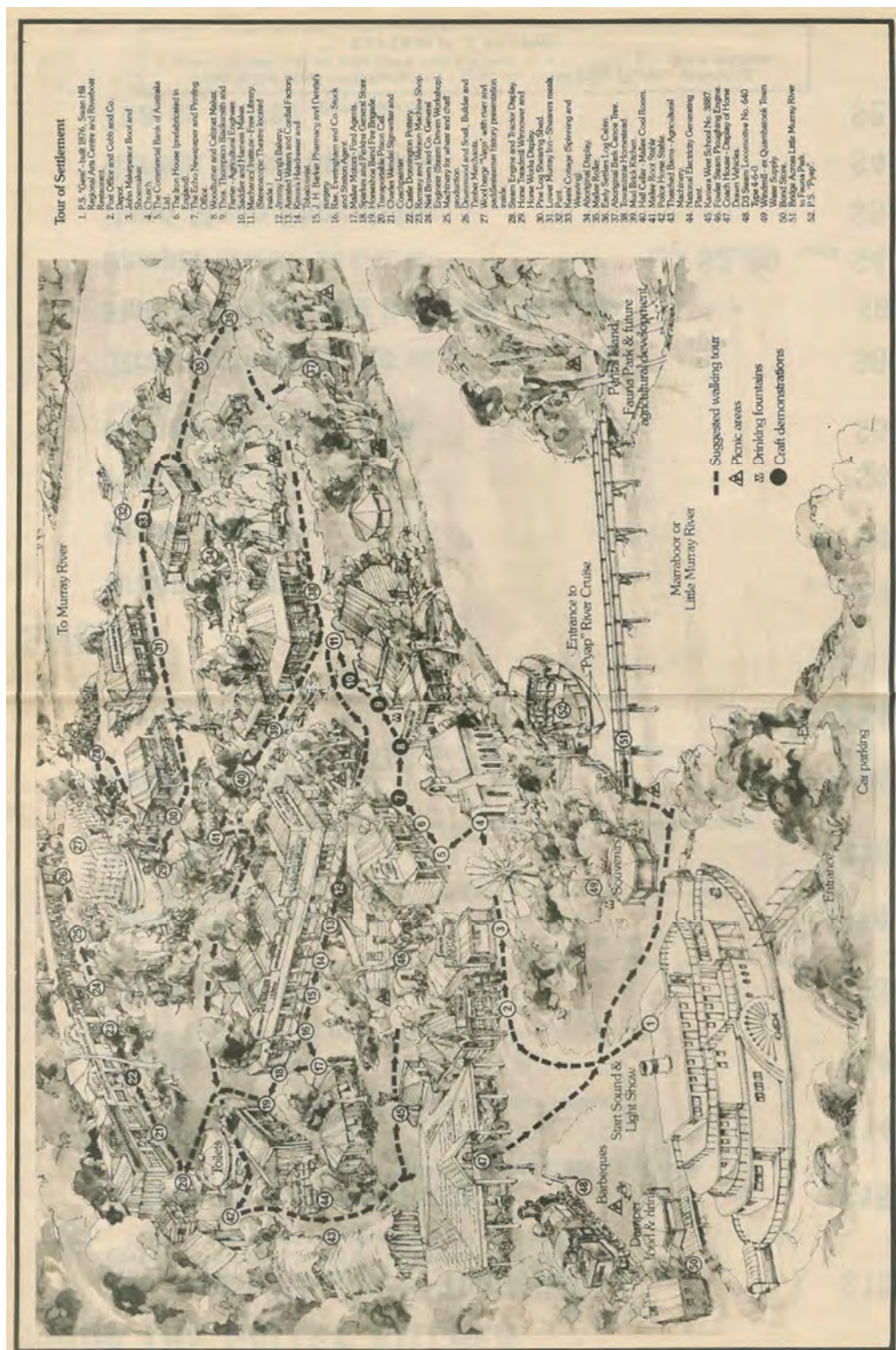
2021, Church, designed by Robert Ingpen with all materials from demolished buildings in Swan Hill, Chillingollah, St Arnaud and Collingwood

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2021 Tourist Map. Source: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement

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Ca.1971 Tourist Map. Source: Swan Hill Local History Collection

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2021, Start of commercial area showing the relocated Iron House and Printing Office and the corner of the Rees Building



2021, Replica sheds and workshops and workshops with original Police Stable in the foreground on left



2021, Street of Shops

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2021, Heartbeat of the Murray Amphitheatre



2021, Aboriginal Area



2021, Recreated Pine Point School



2021, Interior Iron House



2021, Tyntynder windmill

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History

Site

The site where the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is now located was originally a river flat on the Little Murray River, an anabranch of the Murray River. Bends in rivers and the intersection of rivers such as those located at or near the Settlement traditionally have high importance to Aboriginal people as meeting places. Rivers were also important for their resources and for travel. The area now occupied by the Settlement was between the river and two Honorary Correspondent Depots (now demolished) that were located in the area on the immediate western side of Campbell Street adjacent to Monash Drive.

The site was said to have been a recreation space, a *snake infested swamp*¹ or a Chinese market garden immediately before the establishment of the Settlement and to have flooded frequently. The Paddle Steamer Gem (VHR H1742) was brought to the site in 1963 and was enclosed in a small artificial pond at the south western end of the Settlement. Some River Red Gums remained next to the river, but the remainder of the site was bare. Gradually, approximately one metre depth of fill and a levee² were added to the site to prevent flooding. Land was also reclaimed. The railway line was present to the west of the Settlement, but Monash Drive appears to have been constructed later.

Advisors and supporters

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement primarily reflects the history and aspirations of the community of Swan Hill and surrounds. For 60 years, many dedicated and hardworking volunteers, Councillors and paid staff have undertaken the immense task of creating and running the Settlement. The committee minutes also document many donations of money and historical material from individuals and business. It is not possible to identify all these people and only naming the leaders risks minimising the extraordinary achievements of so many others. This recommendation does not name Swan Hill community members for this reason.

From the beginning, the Swan Hill Folk Museum Committee and its successors have always sought to obtain the best external expert advice available. Much of this was sourced via the social connections between many of the people involved. The Committee also sought connections with and donations from large Australian companies such as BHP. Colonial Mutual funded the restoration of the Wool Barge Vega for example.

In the early 1960s Mr (later Sir) Ronald East, the engineer and Chairman of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission offered advice as well as items of historic pumping equipment and a portable steam-engine. While the chairman of the Victorian Railways Commissioners, Mr Edgar Brownbill offered steam locomotive D3-688 which had had a long association with rail services to Swan Hill.

Professor Lindsay Pryor, a forester and botanist from the Australian National University, provided guidance to the committee on native plantings at the Settlement several times in the 1960s. Roy Grounds had worked with Pryor to designing the garden at the Australian Academy of Science, Canberra and the west garden at the National Gallery of Victoria. Pryor also designed the landscapes at Latrobe University and Federation University at Ballarat.

Sir Roy Grounds (1905-1981) and his firm, Roy Grounds and Company Pty Ltd, as well as its successor Suendermann Douglas McFall Pty Ltd provided architectural services to the Settlement for over thirty years at subsidised rates. Besides Roy Grounds, Alan Nelson and Ian Douglas, a number of other architects and drafts people from these firms worked on the site, with Ian Douglas having primary responsibility after Grounds death³.

¹ (Swan Hill Folk Museum, 1964)

² (Douglas, Personal communication, 2021)

³ (Douglas, Personal communication, 2021)



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Roy Grounds and his firm were and are best known for their innovative modernist architecture. Grounds was a traditionalist as well as a modernist with a well-known attraction to historic buildings⁴ and *had a lifelong interest in vernacular architecture, ancient and modern*⁵. Roy Grounds and Company Pty Ltd were once known for designing folk museums, with commissions during the 1960s and 70s at Swan Hill, Moe and Wonthaggi (never built). Grounds used the same high-level staff and contractors at Swan Hill as he used for his major commissions in Melbourne. Melbourne Theatre Company worked on the original 1971 Sound and Light Show with Grounds as did Bolt, Beranek & Newman Inc. acoustic engineers of Boston who were also working with Grounds' firm on the Concert Hall in Melbourne.

From the start, the Settlement was advised by Eric Westbrook (1915-2005) artist and curator who was the director of the National Gallery of Victoria from 1956-1973. He was the first director of Victoria's new Ministry for the Arts from 1973-1980 and was involved in many aspects of the arts in Victoria including the Victorian Public Galleries Group of which the Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery was a member. The later involvement in the Settlement of Martin Hallett (1945-2019), Curator of Agriculture, Museum Victoria is likely to have been connected to Westbrook's influence, and at one stage, the State Librarian assisted with the records.

While Premiers Henry Bolte and Rupert Hamer were involved in the Settlement, the politician who perhaps supported it the most was Lindsay Thomson (1923-2008). He was the Minister for Education from 1967-1979, before becoming Premier in 1981. He saw the Settlement as an important way to educate school children⁶ and ensured that the Department of Education funded the positions of director, and Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal education officers.

Robert Ingpen (1936-) the noted Victorian artist, graphic designer, illustrator, and writer was an advisor to the Settlement between c.1969 and 1980. Ingpen worked with others to transform and activate the Swan Hill Folk Museum into the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement. He was also involved in the restoration of buildings relocated from other places, the design of new replica buildings and the creation of the 1971 Sound and Light show. Many of the buildings and arrangements he created or designed are still present at the Settlement. His drawings and tourist maps document building locations and visitor travel routes.

While Ingpen is best known as a children's book illustrator he is also known for stamps, books and artworks documenting historic buildings. His 1972 book *Pioneer Settlement in Australia* published for the Swan Hill Pioneer Press is illustrated with buildings and objects from the Settlement. A number of tourist maps of the Settlement were based on his drawings and a logo designed by him was in use for ca. ten years. To commemorate the 1970 visit of Queen Elizabeth II, he designed a Willow Pattern style plate which depicted Settlement buildings, a tractor, windmill and the Paddle Steamer Gem.

Ingpen knew the Director-General of the Commonwealth Postmaster General's Department (now Australia Post) Sir John Knott, because of his work designing the 1970 Captain Cook stamps. Knott facilitated the implementation of the official Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Post Office (now Swan Hill Pioneer LPO) and the *Pioneer Series* set of stamps also designed by Ingpen which depicted buildings and objects at the Settlement.

Management

In 1963 the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement was originally run by a management and fundraising committee consisting of three councillors, one member each from the Historical Society and the Swan Hill National Theatre and seven members nominated by the subscribers. In 1974 The *Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Act* was passed which gave management of the Settlement from the Swan Hill City Council to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Authority, a state government organisation. The *Coal Creek Historical Park Act* was passed in 1975 and the *Gippsland Folk Museum Act* in 1976. The mayor of Swan Hill was keen for the Settlement to return to Council management. All three Acts were repealed in 1994 by the *Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Authority (Repeal) Act* which returned the management of the Settlement back to the Swan Hill City Council and abolished the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Authority. Since 1997, the Rural City of Swan Hill has had a 50-year lease on the Crown Land parcels occupied by the Settlement.

⁴ (Hamann, 2021)

⁵ (Grounds, 2021)

⁶ (Ingpen, 2021)

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Establishment of Swan Hill Folk Museum 1961-1970

Citizens of Swan Hill had run a popular and nationally successful Shakespeare festival since 1947⁷. By the 1960s attendances were falling although the festival continued until 1976. In November 1961 the Swan Hill Cultural Centre Appeal Committee was formed and invited Eric Westbrook the director of the National Gallery to speak to them about the desirability of creating a Cultural Centre in Swan Hill. Westbrook had recently returned from a European tour where he and Roy Grounds had visited many arts centres and folk museums, especially in Scandinavia, to undertake research for the creation of the proposed new National Gallery and Arts Centre. He suggested that a folk museum be created instead. He also suggested that its first acquisition should be the Paddle Steamer Gem (then in Mildura) and approached Premier Henry Bolte for initial funding⁸.

In September 1962 a deputation from Swan Hill including local members, councillors and committee members accompanied by Westbrook visited Bolte to ask for further funds to establish Paddle Steamer Gem on the proposed Folk Museum site. Bolte was said to be very supportive of the project and supplied most of the required funds as well as promising further funding following submission of approved architectural plans. In 1963 the Folk Museum Committee told Bolte that their *primary aim is to construct, manage and continually develop a Folk Museum that will be a credit to Swan Hill and the State of Victoria as well as being a memorial to our pioneers*⁹.

The committee again asked Westbrook for advice on finding architectural services *at the highest level*¹⁰ and he offered to approach Roy Grounds whose experience in the design of museums, art galleries and other cultural institutions was very relevant. After several meetings and site inspections, Grounds agreed and prepared a master plan for the Folk Museum showing a pool for the Paddle Steamer Gem with a gallery and museum within. The site was also to feature a new bell-shaped theatre with a revolving stage made with traditional thatched roof and drop log construction. Grounds was interested in geometrical shapes in building design especially after seeing the Kresge Auditorium at MIT in Boston¹¹. This theatre was never built but four rotundas were.

Early buildings from the local area started to arrive on the site soon after the Paddle Steamer Gem in 1962 and the Swan Hill Folk Museum formally opened in 1966. Most of the buildings were donated or purchased during the 1960s and 70s. Local builders and volunteers worked with external experts to assess, deconstruct, move, reconstruct and adapt them as necessary at the Settlement. The acquisition of each building is documented in the Committee minutes. The progress of the plantings was also documented, as was the work being done by the various expert advisors. Visitors entered the site via a gangplank from Paddle Steamer Gem. The art gallery on the Paddle Steamer Gem had an active exhibition program and the restaurant, also on the Paddle Steamer Gem, served regional fare including bushfoods supplied by local Aboriginal people and Roy Grounds' favourite meal – yabbies wrapped in bacon. Many committee and building meetings were held in the restaurant. The Souvenir Shop and the Damper (a café), both in Grounds' designed rotundas at the entrance, made good profits.

After the success of the Swan Hill Folk Museum, many other communities across Victoria requested funding to open their own folk museums. To deflect these requests, in 1970, Bolte asked Westbrook to change the site to make it less museum-like. Westbrook bought Ingpen to the project and they worked to change of focus from a static Folk Museum to an activated Pioneer Settlement¹².

Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement 1970 to present

The Folk Museum continued to grow and prosper in the 1970s, and changed its name to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement in 1970. The Sound and Light Show began in 1971 and was revamped later in the 1970s. Activation in the form of demonstrations was introduced to more buildings. New replica historic buildings were constructed to complete the village such as the church and street of shops which were collaborations between Ingpen, architects

⁷ (Darian-Smith, Nichols, & Grant, Cultural progress in a rural community. The Swan Hill Shakespeare Festival, 2017)

⁸ (Westbrook, 1972)

⁹ (Cohn, Undated)

¹⁰ (Swan Hill Folk Museum, 1963)

¹¹ (Frankel, 1995)

¹² (Ingpen, 2021)

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and local builders. The Victorian style brick Rees Building was designed by Grounds office. At other times historic buildings were repurposed such as the former Pyramid Hill Methodist Church which was made into a Masonic Temple. Fewer buildings and objects were acquired as time went by and there is now a moratorium on new acquisitions. Interiors were often fitted out by community members such as the recent Country Women's Association fit-out of the interior of Towaninnie Homestead and the Masonic Temple by the local Masonic lodge.

As the art collection expanded, a new Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery with an elegant stepped roof was designed by Ian Douglas using the lessons about light management Grounds' firm had learnt from the design of the National Gallery of Victoria. It was constructed of handmade mud brick by community members and is now operated separately to the Settlement.

It was not possible to continue to have visitors enter the Settlement via the gangplank of *PS Gem* and a low-key, modern, curved corrugated iron Entry/Exit building was designed by Ian Douglas in the early 1990s. This building is located at the edge of the river and is now Spoons Restaurant which is also operated separately to the Settlement. Visitor entry and exit is now via a demountable building on Monash Drive.

A list of most of the current and former buildings on the site and the history of their movements and current status is at Appendix 4.

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is a successful heritage tourism operation, while other Museum Villages — with the exception of the very successful Sovereign Hill — now struggle to attract visitors. Even at the Settlement, tourist numbers have declined. In 1973, 208,000 people visited the Settlement. In 2018/19 (the most recent records that are unaffected by the COVID pandemic), ca.82,000 people visited the Settlement, the same number as in 1963. Reasons for the decline in tourism numbers include changing patterns of travel such as the reduction in domestic tourism, and increased air and overseas travel.

Site Plan

The original arrangement of buildings, probably laid out by Roy Grounds in the early 1960s, reflected six main themes, with many (but not all) of the buildings and structures in an area related to that theme. After the mid-1970s some buildings have been moved and the themes are not as apparent. The original design intent may not have been communicated to later managers. Below is a list of each theme with the relevant buildings using their 1975 names (D = demolished).

Southern end of the Site – Transport theme and directing visitors into the site

- Entrance forecourt (car parking)
- *PS Gem* and wharf
- Bond Store (D)
- *PS Pyap* and wharf
- Path into Settlement between *PS Pyap* and Locomotive
- D3 Steam Locomotive and Horseshoe Bend Siding
- Coach House
- Cobb & Co Depot
- Saddlery

Small administrative area

- Pioneer School
- Church
- Bank
- Iron House (residence of Commandant of a Corps of Marines)
- Printer
- Portable lockup

Commercial / Shopping area

- Wheelwright and wood turner (D)
- Blacksmith Shop
- Kimms Barber Shop
- Fire Station

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- Mechanics Institute
- Rees Building Shops

Farming area

- Towaninnie Homestead
- Mud Brick Kitchen
- Half Cellar
- Early Settlers Log Cabin (D)
- Mallee Root Stables (D)

- Street of Shops

- Wool Shed
- Buggy Shed
- Windmills
- Horse treadmill

Aboriginal Area

- Collection Aboriginal Trees
- Outdoor Aboriginal Display
- Aboriginal Handicrafts Modern

- Agricultural machinery
- Builder and Timber merchants
- Garage (D)

Plantings

Ian Douglas¹³ remembers Lindsay Pryor saying that it was important to get the plants in the ground early at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement so that those that did not survive could be replaced. In 1963, the design intention documented for the plantings was *for the other exhibits to be placed mainly in the open, expertly and strategically placed amongst native trees and shrubs ... The whole reservation should present a most attractive picture and be of intense interest to all*¹⁴. Lindsay Pryor visited in 1963 and advised on the creation of *a very pleasing parkland*.¹⁵ In October 1965 1,000 young Australian trees and shrubs were planted out under the supervision of Pryor who again worked in an honorary capacity¹⁶.

The earliest drawing of the plantings at the Settlement dates from ca.1971 and can be dated because the Settlement logo on the document was designed by Robert Ingpen. A list of the plantings present at that time is at Appendix 3. This list was probably copied from a document produced by Pryor because the garden volunteers at that time would not have known the Latin names of all the Australian native plants¹⁷. The document also provides the addresses of Forestry Commission nurseries and it is likely that the plants came from there. Almost all the plants are Australian natives but come from all over Australia.

An image of the entrance to the settlement is captioned *Native trees were planted to provide shade and define the 'roads.'* This image must date from ca.1967/8. The Coach House was installed in 1969¹⁸ and it is not present in this image, but the plants appear to be several years old so it must be later than 1965.

The species used in the Settlement landscaping would have been based on Pryor's extensive knowledge of eucalypts and his assessment of which species would grow successfully in the environment at Swan Hill. It appears that the heavy planting of trees and shrubs on the western boundary of the Settlement was probably to provide shelter from the wind and dust. Pryor promoted 'the right plant for the particular job' and rather than ornamental concerns¹⁹. The boundary plantings may also have been a design decision by Grounds and were intended to visually enclose the recreated village in the bush. In the main part of the Settlement the plantings are more spread out and were intended to provide a park-like setting for the historic buildings. In this area there are a few exotic species documented, but all are the type that would have been planted around pioneer homesteads.

¹³ (Douglas, Personal communication, 2021)

¹⁴ (Swan Hill Folk Museum, 1963)

¹⁵ (Swan Hill Folk Museum, 1964)

¹⁶ (Swan Hill Folk Museum, 1966)

¹⁷ (Mellor, 2021)

¹⁸ (Swan Hill Folk Museum, 1969)

¹⁹ (Saniga, 2021)

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Pryor's policy was to plant extensively and work on the planting later (a forester's approach rather than a horticulturalist's approach)...(he) later abandoned the practice of interplanting with shrubs and small trees due to the cost of the planting, maintenance, and later removal.²⁰

Collection

Objects have been donated to and purchased by the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement since its inception, in quantities that have always been difficult for the organisation to manage. These consisted of domestic, agricultural, pharmacy, technical, natural history and commercial objects as well as furniture, costumes, photographs and archives.

Some of these items are locally significant in their own right or as historical records. Typically, objects were placed on open display in sunlit shop windows and building interiors to create an educational display in the village environment. Exposure to sun and the environment quickly destroyed organic objects. Others were used and lost or damaged during activation activities or stolen. Provenance information was often not collected at the same time as the objects which led to loss of significance. Some objects with no provenance or in poor condition have been sold or discarded.

Attempts to catalogue the collection started early but the number of objects has made this task impossible to complete except in recent times. The current database lists ca. 24,000 objects with some listed as deaccessioned, destroyed, missing, stolen and unknown. These losses have occurred over the life of the Settlement. There is also a large number of uncatalogued archives (e.g. ca.12,000 photographic negatives). Some of the objects and archives appear to be significant. Given the scale of the collection of smaller movable objects and archives, and the documentation issues, it was not possible to assess these for this recommendation, but some are likely to be integral to the place.

Aboriginal cultural heritage

It appears that Aboriginal cultural heritage was included in the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement from the start. A 1967 sketch²¹ by Alan Nelson shows an *Aboriginal Outdoor Exhibition* and another area labelled *Canoe Tree*. A 1975 Site Master Plan²² by Ian Douglas shows these areas as well as an area for *Aboriginal Relics* and another for *Aboriginal Handicrafts – Modern*. Later tourist site maps show an *Aboriginal Display* and *Aboriginal Bark Canoe Tree*. In 2021 only the area where the canoe tree was intended to be located in 1967 survives as the *Indigenous Area* and still displays relocated scarred trees. One or more sections of bark has been removed from these trees to make shields, canoes and perhaps other artefacts. A boundary tree has been moved to this area *under special permission to show visitors what the local borders of a tribe's territory look like in this region*.²³ There is also a replica traditional shelter in this area and the Aboriginal education officers used the area to demonstrate cultural practices.

Aboriginal education officers were always employed at the Settlement. Some were employed by the Authority or the council and some by the Department of Education. These included Hilton Walsh, Sam Kirby and Bruce Baxter. As well as teaching visitors and students about their culture, they and other local Aboriginal artists created artworks for sale to tourists or wrote books²⁴. When Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh visited the Settlement in 1970, Hilton Walsh demonstrated boomerang throwing and Sam Kirby presented a specially carved emu egg.²⁵ It is reported that the Aboriginal education officers were passionate about their work and very involved in generating awareness about their culture²⁶ and reminding the community that Swan Hill's Pioneer's Week did not tell the story of the effects of pioneers on Aboriginal people or the environment²⁷.

²⁰ (Pryor & Banks, 2001)

²¹ (Anon., 1967)

²² (Douglas, Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Master Site Plan, Drawing 1, 1975)

²³ (Baxter, A clash of cultures: before the pioneers, 2008)

²⁴ (Baxter & et al, Matakupat : the Aboriginal history of the Swan Hill area, 1990)

²⁵ (Kleinert, 1994)

²⁶ (Smith, Diana; Aboriginal Victoria, 2021)

²⁷ (Baxter, A clash of cultures: before the pioneers, 2008)

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Historical approach and social values

Many authors have suggested that the Australian pioneer story overlooks the often-violent dispossession of Aboriginal people^{28,29} from their land, and this is also the case at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement. However, the Settlement was also unusually progressive for the early 1960s in its display of and education about Aboriginal cultural heritage by Aboriginal people. Displays on Aboriginal cultural heritage were considered during the early development of the Settlement with a committee president later saying that Aboriginal people *built a bridge of nuance and understanding into history*.³⁰ The original³¹ and current Sound and Light Shows include Aboriginal stories.

Darian-Smith et al have noted that *while Westbrook and Grounds were internationalist in outlook, they were also committed to national expressions of culture and design and how these were shaped by a distinctive Australian environment. This was reflected in their enthusiasm for the development of a small vernacular historical space at Swan Hill to showcase the creativity of colonial pioneers*³². This thinking reflected the increasing interest and pride in Australia's history that began in the 1950s and was also reflected in the formation of the National Trust (Victoria) in 1956 fed by *community outrage at increasing heritage loss*³³. Roy Grounds' former business partner Robin Boyd was one of the leaders of this movement and suggested that the Trust encourage society to embrace *a sort of Australian dignity (that) even after 180 years we have not yet learned to appreciate*³⁴.

The approach to heritage conservation and collection management at the Settlement differs from academic practices today³⁵. A building such as the Pioneer Church designed by Robert Ingpen using bricks from the Swan Hill Court House and Chillingollah Hotel, stained glass windows from St Philip's Anglican Church in Collingwood, memorial plaques from several churches in the Swan Hill area, and pews and other furnishings from the Presbyterian Church in St Arnaud would be considered to be inauthentic by many professional heritage practitioners, but the maker and visitors viewed it positively and considered that it represents rescued heritage, and it is clearly cherished by the Swan Hill community. In 2011, Bruce Baxter's funeral, including a smoking ceremony, was held at the Pioneer Church³⁶ and was attended by a large number of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people³⁷.

During the formation of the Settlement it was common practice for historic buildings to be repurposed from one identity or use to another, or for several damaged buildings or pieces of machinery to be amalgamated into one. Genuine objects are used until they fall apart and are then replaced. While this approach is not sustainable in the long term, this practice and the others employed at the Settlement are perhaps an example of *people-centred conservation (which) proposes that the deep relationship between communities and their historic places has the potential to reshape heritage processes*.³⁸

²⁸ (Young, 2006)

²⁹ (Darian-Smith & Nichols, 2018)

³⁰ (Kleinert, 1994) quoting Ross Mellor

³¹ (Brown, Eaton, Rangott, & Farwell, 1970)

³² (Darian-Smith & Nichols, How our forebears lived: the modern nation, its folklore and 'living' heritage in twentieth-century Australia, 2018)

³³ (National Trust of Australia (Victoria) , 2016)

³⁴ (National Trust of Australia (Victoria) , 2016)

³⁵ (Young, 2006)

³⁶ (Herald Sun, 2011)

³⁷ (Mellor, 2021)

³⁸ (Lesh, 2021)

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ca. 1963, Roy Grounds on right examining a Mallee Roller



2021, Rotunda designed by office of Roy Grounds located next to *PS Gem* pool. There were four throughout the Village, only one remains and it has had replica historic timber detailing added. On right, the same rotunda in ca. 1970 showing its original appearance when it operated as the 'Damper' (a café).



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Undated, Carved emu egg by Sam Kirby, showing an Aboriginal man seated in the centre of Australia. Source: National Museum of Australia. 2007.0053.0101



1970, Willow pattern style plate designed by Robert Ingpen depicting the Pioneer Settlement including PS Gem, tractor shed and log cabins



2021, Headstones



2021, Printing office



1970, Cover of the recording of the original Sound and Light Show. Source: SLV



1971, Cover of the Australian Tourism Commission Annual Report. Artwork by Robert Ingpen

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Post 1970, Cobb & Co building (no rear extension) with recreated Post Office inside and Saddler



2021, Cobb & Co building (with rear extension) with recreated Post Office inside and Photo Parlour

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Further information

Relevant Authority	Swan Hill Rural City Council
Heritage Overlay	There is no Heritage Overlay for this place.
Other Overlays	Crown Allotment 2062 has the following Overlays: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESO1 – Environmental Significance Overlay• SCO1 – Specific Controls Overlay - Goulburn-Murray Water Connections Project Incorporated Document, (June 2020)
Other Listings	There are no other listings for the whole place. The Iron House is listed by the National Trust, Property No. B5252.
Other Names	Swan Hill Folk Museum.
Date of construction/creation	1962-3
Architect//Builder/Designer/Maker	The community of Swan Hill and district, Roy Grounds, Robert Ingpen, Lindsay Pryor, Alan Nelson, Ian Douglas, staff of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement Authority and Swan Hill Rural City Council and councillors.
Architectural style	Pre-separation Colonial Vernacular 1836-1850 Victorian (1851-1901) Period Vernacular Federation/Edwardian Period (1902-c.1918) Interwar Period (c.1911-c.1940)

Traditional Owner Information

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is located on the traditional land of the Wemba Wemba and Wadi Wadi Peoples. A Registered Aboriginal Party under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* has not been appointed.

Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register

There are Aboriginal cultural heritage places located at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement.

The Settlement is located in an area of Aboriginal cultural heritage sensitivity associated with the Little Murray River.

Integrity

The integrity of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement as a whole is good (February 2021). The cultural heritage values of the place can be easily read in the extant fabric. It still has a largely historic appearance as intended by the designers and community; however, a number of the original buildings have been removed and the site layout has been changed somewhat. The site was designed to be entered and moved through from the south, with historic transport items - *PS Gem*, *PS Pyap* and its wharf, D3 locomotive; Coach House, bridge, the “path/road in” and car park present at this end of the Settlement. The current temporary entry is now from the west.

Several recent buildings (e.g. the covered shelter and toilets near the Lower Murray Inn; and the new concrete Heartbeat Theatre) are clearly new buildings that do not pretend to be historic. Their modern form, materials and appearance contrasts with the approach taken to the design of new buildings within the settlement from the 1960s to the 1990s where new buildings were designed to be unobtrusive in scale and fabric. Some will consider the



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approach taken to the design of the new buildings to be discordant to the existing vernacular buildings. These new buildings are mostly confined to the perimeter of the Settlement and the cultural heritage values of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement can still be read in the extant fabric and core of the village. Surviving and replacement plantings maintain the park like appearance in many areas.

The integrity of the buildings, structures and large objects at the Settlement is very good. The cultural heritage values of the place can be easily read in the extant fabric. Since its inception the designers, builders, donors and community at the Settlement have always considered that the history associated with a rebuilt building, structure or large object remains with it, despite sometimes extensive modifications, some unrecorded.

Intactness

The concept of intactness at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement differs from that practiced in some other areas of heritage conservation with rebuilding, combining and major modifications being common practice. The use and re-use of historic fabric and traditional building techniques and materials has almost always been preferred. An historic appearance was always the overriding intention, and this has been achieved. Most buildings and large objects have a variety of different origins and the extent of changes can be difficult to clarify. In addition, some have been moved around the settlement over the 60 years of its existence. Historic business names are commonly used. The following general types of buildings, structures and large objects are common:

- original items with their original names
- modified or repurposed items, frequently constructed of fabric from several different items or sources
- newly constructed items in an historic style (using some or all historic materials)
- new buildings and structures.

The intactness of the Settlement as a whole is good. Due to lack of maintenance or site redesign, some buildings and larger objects have been moved or demolished and discarded. While a number of buildings and large objects have been lost and moved, the parklike bush setting, small scale historic buildings and original master plan developed by Roy Grounds and associates which was followed (with modifications) from 1962 to 1994 is still apparent.

The intactness of the buildings at Settlement is good with many having a mostly historically accurate appearance. Although many interiors have been reworked in a somewhat idealised 'Heritage' style rather than the original appearance and fabric. However, many of the interiors have been assembled by the community and reflect a popular view of historic interiors.

Very few of the original plantings at the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement now remain. The original planting on the western boundary was crowded, and the plantings were not thinned. As a result, some of the trees have not survived or have grown in an abnormal way. It appears that this process has occurred earlier in other areas on the western boundary with few original plantings remaining. Many of the shrubs from the 1960s are also no longer present, either because they became too large or because they reached the end of their lives. (February 2021).

In April 2021 a group of around 20 original trees are planned for removal from the area between the Paddle Steamer Gem and the coach house because they have become dangerous.

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1963, Aerial view of the site with only a few exhibits installed.
Source: A. Mellor



ca.1967/8, Early plantings and road into site prior to the installation of the Coach House in 1969. Source: Interpretation panel at the Settlement



2021, Aerial view of the site showing changed position of D3 locomotive. Source: A. Mellor



2021, Road into site with Rose Garden on left



2021, Pioneer church with fabric from several different buildings



2021, Pole Stable still intact and in original condition

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Condition

The condition of the buildings and large objects Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement varies from excellent to fair with some in stable condition and others showing evidence of damage (February 2021). More detail is in Appendix 4.

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



2021, Deteriorated timber on Log Buggy with modern insert



2021, Holes in thatched roof of Pole Stable



2021, Wall in Rose Garden built of eroded reclaimed brick holding sundial from Ben Boyd's NSW homestead



2021, Direct sunlight falling on light sensitive collection objects in the Masonic Hall



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Statutory requirements under section 40.

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

The Executive Director, Heritage Victoria recommends that the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is included in the VHR in the category of registered place and registered object integral to a registered place.

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

Name: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement

Address: 125 Monash Drive, Swan Hill VIC 3585

Proposed extent of registration

The Executive Director recommends that the extent of registration for the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement be gazetted as:

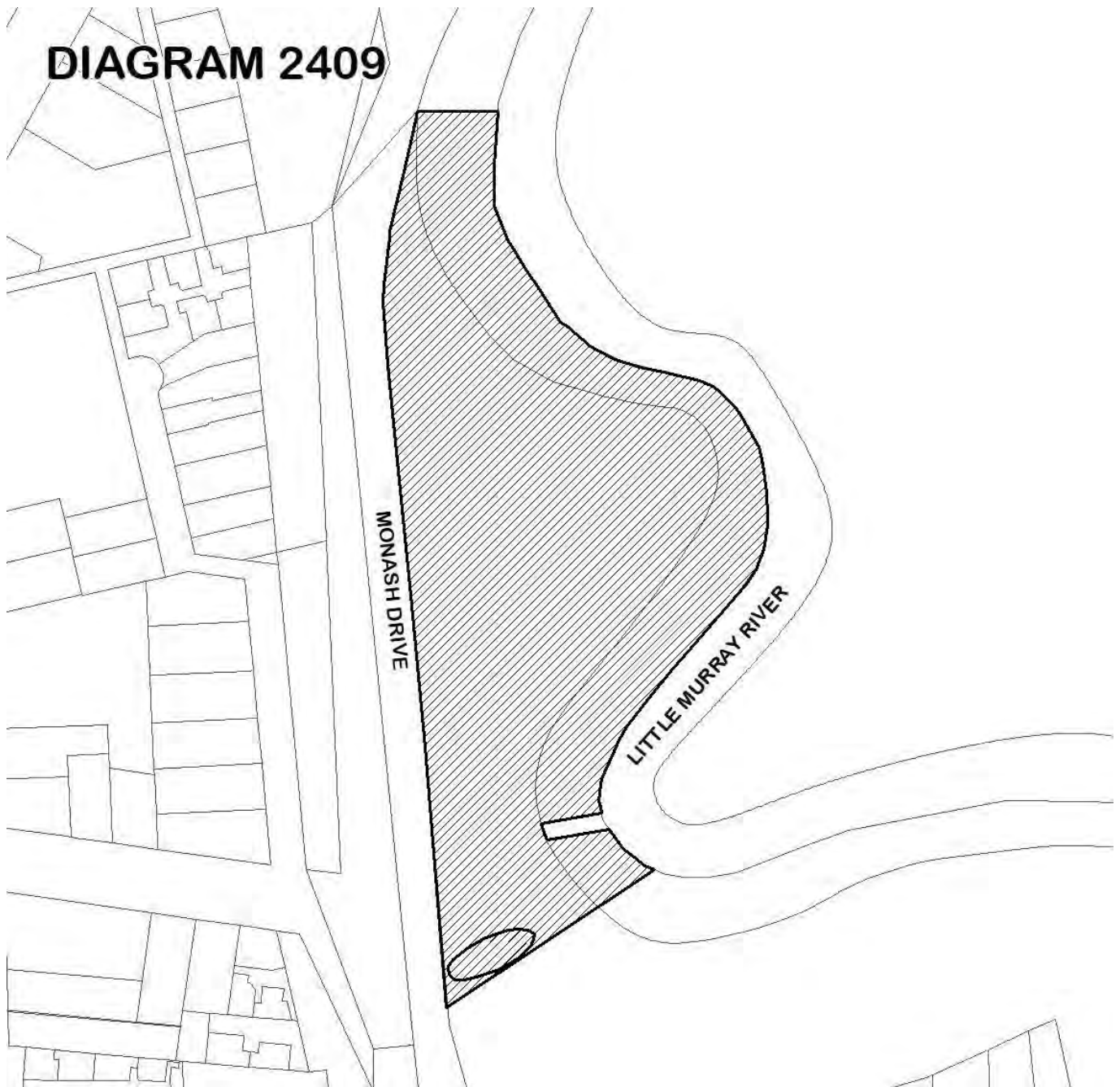
All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 2409 encompassing part of Crown Allotment A6 Township of Swan Hill and part of Crown Allotment 2062 Parish of Castle Donnington and all the objects integral to the place being:

1. Log buggy
2. Small John Fowler Steam Traction Engine
3. Red Gum log
4. Road Steam Roller
5. Large Marshall Portable Engine 20HP
6. Large John Fowler Steam Ploughing Engine, "Black Bess"
7. Cobb & Co Coach, Concord Coach Replica
8. Dennis Fire Engine
9. Wool Barge Vega
10. D3 Steam Locomotive No. 640 Type 4-6-0
11. National Powerhouse Diesel Engine
12. "Kaiser" Panorama Stereoscopic Theatre / Kaiserpanorama and glass slides

It should be noted that everything included in the proposed extent of registration including all the land, all soft and hard landscape features, plantings, all buildings (interiors and exteriors), and the specified objects considered integral to the understanding of the cultural heritage significance of the place is proposed for inclusion in the VHR. A permit or permit exemption from Heritage Victoria is required for any works within the proposed extent of registration, apart from those identified in the categories of works or activities in this recommendation.

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DIAGRAM 2409



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Aerial Photo of the Place Showing Proposed extent of registration.



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



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Rationale for the extent of registration

The recommended extent of registration includes the area currently occupied by the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement on Monash Drive and eleven specified objects.

Land

The recommended extent of the registration for the land is considered to be the closest match to the nominated extent of registration which specified: *All the land the existing Pioneer Settlement development presently occupies - 7 acres on the Little Murray River.*

The area covered by part of Crown Allotment A6 in the proposed extent of registration is ca. 2.6 hectares. Part of Crown Allotment 2062 has also been included because not all of the land comprising the current Settlement is contained within Crown Allotment A6. This is possibly due to the fact that the river has changed its course over many decades, but could also be due to the reclamation of land, the importation of fill and the construction of levees etc. The total proposed extent of registration is therefore ca. 3.845 hectares.

The bridge to Pental Island and some land on Pental Island are part of the Settlement, and collection objects, archives and repair materials are stored there. It does not appear that the nominator intended to include Pental Island in the nomination, and neither the Island nor the connecting bridge are included in the proposed extent of registration.

The Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery, the school accommodation known as the Pioneer Lodges and Spoons Restaurant (former Entry/Exit building) are on the same parcels of Crown Land leased to the City of Swan Hill as the Settlement. They were all intended to be part of the same complex in the original design but are no longer considered to be part of the Settlement. These are not included in the proposed extent of registration.

The Paddle Steamer *Gem* is included in the VHR as a separate Registered Place (VHR H1742). The *PS Gem* is important to the cultural heritage significance of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement but is also of significance in its own right and was included in the VHR in 1998. The extent of registration for the *PS Gem* (indicated on the diagram and aerial photograph on the preceding page) overlaps the proposed extent of registration for the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement. This approach is consistent with a number of other registrations where overlapping registrations apply. Examples include the registration of the sculpture Forward Surge (VHR H2378) which overlaps the registration of the Victorian Arts Centre (VHR H1500) or the registration of the Former Grand Rank Cabman's Shelter (VHR H0849) which overlaps the registration of Yarra Park (VHR H2251).

Objects

The recommended extent of the registration for the objects varies from the nominated extent of registration which specified: *All the objects currently housed in Pioneer Settlement.* Although no inventory was provided, the nominator stated that an inventory was in existence.

It is likely that the inventory that the nominator was referring to is held in the Settlement's collection management database with around 24,000 objects listed. It is not known if all these objects are still extant and the Settlement does not currently employ any collection management staff. Other items are stored in a building on Pental Island which is too hazardous to enter. In addition, the database does not include the potentially significant Settlement archives, some of which may also be on Pental Island. Given these issues and the size of the collection, it was not possible to properly assess the whole collection of movable objects held at the Settlement.

However, the 1975 Site Master Plan drawing lists eighteen larger movable objects, eleven of which are still present at the Settlement. These were assessed and are considered integral to the place and have been included in the proposed extent of registration. One further object, a Kaiserpanorama is the only example in Australia and one of only twelve surviving in the world. It and its glass slides has been at the Settlement since 1971 and is also included in the proposed extent of registration.



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It did not appear that the nominator intended to include the Paddle Steamer Pyap in the nomination which has been extensively rebuilt in recent decades.

The registration could be potentially amended in the future through the process of a separate application and assessment to add any further significant objects that are considered integral to the place.

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Reasons for the recommendation, including an assessment of the State-level cultural heritage significance of place/object (section 40(3)(c))

Following is the Executive Director's assessment of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement against the tests set out in *The Victorian Heritage Register Criteria and Thresholds Guidelines*. A place or object must be found by the Heritage Council to meet Step 2 of at least one criterion to meet the State level threshold for inclusion in the VHR.

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

Step 1: Test for satisfying Criterion A

<p>The place/object has a <i>CLEAR ASSOCIATION</i> with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life in Victoria's cultural history.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>plus</i></p> <p>The association of the place/object to the event, phase, etc <i>IS EVIDENT</i> in the physical fabric of the place/object and/or in documentary resources or oral history.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>plus</i></p> <p>The <i>EVENT, PHASE, etc</i> is of <i>HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE</i>, having made a strong or influential contribution to Victoria.</p>

Executive Director's Response

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has a clear association with early community efforts to save the rapidly vanishing physical evidence of rural settlements, buildings, industries, farms and their practices. Before the proclamation of the *Historic Buildings Act* in 1974, there were limited means to protect buildings that were under threat other than by moving them to a new location. The statutory protection of buildings and places in planning schemes was very much in its infancy in the 1960s and 1970s.

The association of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement with community efforts to save threatened vernacular buildings is evident in the physical fabric of the place, with many of the relocated buildings and large objects still present. These rescue efforts were not limited to the Swan Hill area with buildings and objects from Melbourne and other parts of Victoria also relocated. Relocation was easiest with vernacular timber buildings and these predominate in the collection of relocated and repurposed buildings at the Settlement.

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has a clear association with efforts of rural and regional communities to tell later generations the stories of their forebears. Relocated, repurposed and reconstructed buildings filled with objects were used to tell these stories as well as to provide historic tourism experiences and demonstrate traditional practices. A painting of the Settlement by Robert Ingpen was used as the cover of the 1971 Australian Tourism Commission Annual Report. The creation of the Settlement led to the opening of motels and other visitor amenities in Swan Hill.

The creation of Pioneer or Museum Villages, beginning with Swan Hill, and their use to attract tourists to the region and to teach adults and children about post-contact rural history is of historical importance and has made an influential contribution to the teaching of history in Victoria from the 1960s to the present.

Step 1 of Criterion A is likely to be satisfied.

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Step 2: Test for satisfying Criterion A at the State Level

The place/object allows the clear association with the event, phase etc. of historical importance to be *UNDERSTOOD BETTER THAN MOST OTHER PLACES OR OBJECTS IN VICTORIA WITH SUBSTANTIALLY THE SAME ASSOCIATION.*

Executive Director's Response

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement was the first Museum Village in Victoria and Australia and still contains many rescued vernacular buildings and large objects. It is still used to attract tourists to the region and to teach children and adults about rural life in the past by visual and experiential methods. Other Museum Villages in Victoria have visual displays, but experiential teaching of history and live demonstrations of traditional crafts is becoming less common.

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement appears to be the most popular Museum Village in Victoria after Sovereign Hill. However Sovereign Hill is almost completely recreated while the Settlement contains a high proportion of historic buildings and large objects which would not have survived if they had not been relocated to the Settlement. This allows the Victorian community to experience these buildings and objects. Other Museum Villages in Victoria also contain relocated buildings and large objects but are less visited than the Settlement.

Criterion A is likely to be satisfied at the State level.

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

Step 1: Test for Satisfying Criterion B

The place/object has a *clear ASSOCIATION* with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, custom or way of life of importance in Victoria's cultural history.

plus

The association of the place/object to the event, phase, etc *IS EVIDENT* in the physical fabric of the place/object and/or in documentary resources or oral history.

plus

The place/object is *RARE OR UNCOMMON*, being one of a small number of places/objects remaining that demonstrates the important event, phase etc.

or

The place/object is *RARE OR UNCOMMON*, containing unusual features of note that were not widely replicated

or

The existence of the *class* of place/object that demonstrates the important event, phase etc is *ENDANGERED* to the point of rarity due to threats and pressures on such places/objects.

Executive Director's Response

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is an example of a place being a Museum Village.

Museum Villages are not uncommon in Victoria with other examples including Old Gipps town, Moe; Coal Creek, Korumburra; Sovereign Hill, Ballarat and Flagstaff Hill at Warrnambool.

Other small collections of buildings have been assembled at times including the Wheatlands Agricultural Museum at Warracknabeal, the Wimmera Mallee Pioneer Museum at Jeparit, and the Community Pioneer Park at Meringur. A collection of early vernacular and 19th century buildings was assembled at Deakin University's Waurin Ponds Campus by Frank Campbell from 1979 to 1992 but has now been dispersed with buildings being repatriated to other locations. The efforts to reconstruct missing buildings in other historic towns, such as Walhalla and the port of Echuca, might be regarded as an extension to the idea that was initiated at Swan Hill.

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While falling visitor numbers, changing tourism preferences and high upkeep costs mean that some Museum Villages are struggling and may become endangered, Museum Villages are currently not rare or uncommon.

Step 1 of Criterion B is not likely to be satisfied.

CRITERION C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria's cultural history.

Step 1: Test for Satisfying Criterion C

The:

- visible physical fabric; &/or
- documentary evidence; &/or
 - oral history,

relating to the place/object indicates a likelihood that the place/object contains *PHYSICAL EVIDENCE* of *historical interest* that is *NOT CURRENTLY VISIBLE OR UNDERSTOOD*.

plus

From what we know of the place/object, the physical evidence is likely to be of an *INTEGRITY* and/or *CONDITION* that it *COULD YIELD INFORMATION* through detailed investigation.

Executive Director's Response

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement contains historic vernacular buildings which have the potential to contain physical evidence of historic construction techniques and materials. However, the process of relocation and later undocumented repairs, modifications and maintenance mean that it can be difficult to identify the original historic construction techniques and materials on these buildings, even with detailed investigation.

Step 1 of Criterion C is not likely to be satisfied.

CRITERION D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects.

Step 1: Test for Satisfying Criterion D

The place/object is one of a *CLASS* of places/objects that has a *clear ASSOCIATION* with an event, phase, period, process, function, movement, important person(s), custom or way of life in Victoria's history.

plus

The *EVENT, PHASE, etc* is of *HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE*, having made a strong or influential contribution to Victoria.

plus

The principal characteristics of the class are *EVIDENT* in the physical fabric of the place/object.

Executive Director's Response

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has a clear association with the Museum Village movement which began in Victoria and Australia in the early 1960s. This popular movement aimed to celebrate and memorialise post-contact rural life. The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement was the first Museum Village in Victoria and made a strong contribution to the growth of the Museum Village movement in Victoria by inspiring and advising on the creation of other Museum Villages in the state.

The association of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement with the Museum Village movement is evident in the physical fabric of the place, with its layout as an imagined ideal pioneer village, as well as its continued operation as a heritage tourism destination.

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The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement was established as the Swan Hill Folk Museum and is considered to be one of a class of Museum Villages because it collected or musealised buildings and large objects for display and education purposes in the same way that a museum forms its collections.

Step 1 of Criterion D is likely to be satisfied.

Step 2: State Level Significance Test Criterion D

The place/object is a *NOTABLE EXAMPLE* of the class in Victoria (refer to Reference Tool D).

Executive Director's Response

Under the definitions provided in Reference Tool D, the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement can be considered as a notable example of its class because it is an influential and pivotal example of a Museum Village. The physical characteristics of its design and collecting practices as well as methods of attracting visitors and developing tourist attractions were copied in subsequent Museum Villages created in Victoria.

The design and initial success of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement influenced all other Museum Villages in Victoria. Other surviving Museum Villages in Victoria learnt from the experiences of Swan Hill and have taken a similar approach to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement but have more specialised themes or cover smaller geographical areas.

Criterion D is likely to be satisfied at the State level.

CRITERION E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Step 1: Test for Satisfying Criterion E

The *PHYSICAL FABRIC* of the place/object clearly exhibits particular aesthetic characteristics.

Executive Director's Response

At the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement, the park like layout, recreated bush setting, riverside location, spaciousness and small vernacular buildings made from traditional materials combine to create an attractive, human scaled environment and 19th and early 20th century aesthetic. This was the intent of the design work done by Roy Grounds and other architects, by Lindsay Pryor and by Robert Ingpen. Current building maintenance programs maintain this atmosphere by sourcing and reusing traditional building materials; by ensuring that modern fastenings and materials are generally not used in visible areas, and by discouraging modern power tools at the Settlement while visitors are present. Australian native plants were chosen to block wind, provide shade and for their attractive appearance. New buildings were carefully designed and located to compliment and not dominate the historic park environment.

Step 1 of Criterion E is likely to be satisfied.

Step 2: State Level Significance Test for Criterion E

The aesthetic characteristics are *APPRECIATED OR VALUED* by the wider community or an appropriately related discipline as evidenced, for example, by:

- *critical recognition* of the aesthetic characteristics of the place/object within a relevant art, design, architectural or related discipline as an outstanding example within Victoria; or
- wide public *acknowledgement of exceptional merit* in Victoria in medium such as songs, poetry, literature, painting, sculpture, publications, print media etc.

Executive Director's Response

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement possesses a pleasing aesthetic that is mostly appreciated by the local Swan Hill community.

Statement of recommendation from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria, to the Heritage Council of Victoria

Some critical recognition of the aesthetic characteristics of the place is demonstrated by the use of drawings and paintings created by Robert Ingpen of objects and buildings from the park in an aesthetic way on widely circulated Australian postage stamps, books, in tourist publications and on a Wedgewood style ceramic plate. Articles in the media in the 1960s and 1970s also discussed the peaceful location and attractive environment.

However, there is currently no wide public acknowledgement of the aesthetic characteristics of the place as being of exceptional merit in Victoria.

Criterion E is not likely to be satisfied at the State level.

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

Step 1: A Test for Satisfying Criterion F

The place/object contains *PHYSICAL EVIDENCE* that clearly demonstrates creative or technical *ACHIEVEMENT* for the time in which it was created.

plus

The physical evidence demonstrates a *HIGH DEGREE OF INTEGRITY*.

Executive Director's Response

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement contains physical evidence that clearly demonstrates creative or technical achievement in the areas of vernacular buildings and structures. Many of these buildings were innovative responses to environmental conditions using local materials. Some of these buildings and structures display only a moderate degree of integrity because they have been substantially altered since they were first constructed. Other buildings and structures such as the thatched pole stable, mud brick kitchen, drop log buildings, windmills and larger movable objects are unaltered or have been altered in more sympathetic ways and it is possible to see the technical achievement for the time in which they were created.

Step 1 of Criterion F is likely to be satisfied.

Step 2: State Level Significance Test for Criterion F

The nature &/or scale of the achievement is *OF A HIGH DEGREE* or 'beyond the ordinary' for *the period in which it was undertaken* as evidenced by:

- *critical acclaim* of the place/object within the relevant creative or technological discipline as an outstanding example in Victoria; or
- wide *acknowledgement of exceptional merit* in Victoria in medium such as publications and print media; or
- recognition of the place/object as a *breakthrough* in terms of design, fabrication or construction techniques; or
- recognition of the place/object as a successful solution to a technical problem that *extended the limits* of existing technology; or
- recognition of the place/object as an outstanding example of the *creative adaptation* of available materials and technology of the period.

Executive Director's Response

The nature and scale of the technical achievement of the more intact buildings and structures at the Settlement is not of a high degree or 'beyond the ordinary' for the period in which they were constructed. The same techniques can also be seen in other extant buildings across Victoria some of which have statutory protection.

Criterion F is not likely to be satisfied at the State level.

Statement of recommendation from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria, to the Heritage Council of Victoria

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

Step 1: Test for Satisfying Criterion G

Evidence exists of a community or cultural group. <i>(A community or cultural group is a group of people who share a common interest, including an experience, purpose, belief system, culture, ethnicity or values.)</i>
<i>plus</i>
Evidence exists of a strong attachment between the COMMUNITY OR CULTURAL GROUP and the place/object in the present-day context.
<i>plus</i>
Evidence exists of a time depth to that attachment.

Executive Director's Response

A proportion of the community of Swan Hill and region remains very attached to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement and the work done by their families to create the place to commemorate their history. This attachment began 60 years ago and continues today. Some of the other Victorians who visit the Settlement today or in the past are also attached to the Settlement but generally to a lesser degree than the Swan Hill community.

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has a clear association with the community movement to reclaim and re-use all or parts of demolished historic buildings. This is expressed in Museum Villages and in the use of historic building components in new buildings. Since its creation, the Settlement has often combined parts of buildings and objects into single buildings and objects and continues to use reclaimed historic building materials to repair its existing buildings. New buildings made with historic materials from many sources such as the Pioneer Church would not be considered to be historic buildings by the heritage industry but the makers, community and audience at the Settlement are satisfied with this type of creation. This is a different and more people-centred approach to heritage preservation than that practiced in the heritage industry.

Step 1 of Criterion G is likely to be satisfied.

Step 2: State Level Significance Test for Criterion G

Evidence exists that the social value resonates at a State Level, that is across the 'broader Victorian community'. <i>('Resonance' means the extent to which the social value of a place/object can be demonstrated to exert an influence. The social value must resonate beyond a particular local, social or cultural community into the 'broader Victorian community').</i>
Plus
Evidence exists that the social value is part of an event or story that contributes to 'Victoria's identity'.

Executive Director's Response

While the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement used to be the third most visited tourist attraction in Victoria this is no longer the case and the value of the Settlement is not appreciated across the broader Victorian community.

The community movement to reclaim and re-use all or parts of demolished historic buildings does resonate at a State level with many people continuing this practice when constructing their residences. However, the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement does not resonate with these people as an example of this movement.

People-centred heritage is a social value that contributes to Victoria's identity and is beginning to resonate at a State Level. But the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement does not resonate across the broader Victorian community as an example of this social value.

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Criterion G is not likely to be satisfied at the State level.

CRITERION H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

Step 1: Test for Satisfying Criterion H

The place/object has a *DIRECT ASSOCIATION* with a person or group of persons who have made a strong or influential *CONTRIBUTION* to the course of Victoria's history.

plus

The *ASSOCIATION* of the place/object to the person(s) *IS EVIDENT* in the physical fabric of the place/object and/or in documentary resources and/or oral history.

plus

The *ASSOCIATION*:

- directly relates to *ACHIEVEMENTS* of the person(s) at, or relating to, the place/object; or
- relates to an *enduring* and/or *close INTERACTION* between the person(s) and the place/object.

Executive Director's Response

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has a direct association with Roy Grounds (1905 – 1981) and his firm - Roy Grounds and Company Pty Ltd as well as its successor Suendermann Douglas McFall Pty Ltd. These firms made an influential contribution to the course of Victoria's architectural history. Sir Roy Grounds is recognised as one of Australia's leading architects of the modern movement and his firm and its successor implemented his designs.

Roy Grounds and Company and Suendermann Douglas McFall provided architectural services to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement for over thirty years at subsidised rates. This association is evident in sketches, drawings and renders as well as letters and minutes, all of which demonstrate the continuing relationship between Roy Grounds and these firms and the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement.

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has a direct association with Robert Ingpen (born 1936) the noted Australian artist, graphic designer, illustrator, and writer who was born and worked in Victoria. Ingpen has written or illustrated more than 100 fiction and non-fiction books for children and adults. He has also designed postage stamps and created artworks in many media as well as murals and the Dromkeen Medal. He was the scientific artist for the Victorian Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Werribee Fauna Park and the Melbourne Zoo among others. He has made an influential contribution to Victoria in the field of art, conservation and history.

Between c.1970 and 1980 Ingpen worked with others to transform the Swan Hill Folk Museum into the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement and was also involved in the restoration of buildings relocated from other places and the design of new replica buildings. Many of the buildings and arrangements he created or designed are still present at the settlement as are drawings documenting his arrangements of buildings and visitor travel routes. His 1972 book *Pioneer Settlement in Australia* published for the Swan Hill Pioneer Press is illustrated with buildings and objects from the Settlement as is the *Pioneer Series* set of stamps that he designed for Australia Post. This association is recorded in a large collection of documents held at the National Library of Australia.

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has a direct association with Eric Westbrook (1915-2005) artist and curator who was the director of the National Gallery of Victoria from 1956-1973. During this time, he restructured the gallery, established a volunteer scheme and worked for more ten years on the new National Gallery of Victoria and Arts Centre buildings. He was the first director in Victoria's new Ministry for the Arts from 1973-1980 and was involved in many aspects of the arts in Victoria including the Victorian Public Galleries Group and the creation of the Victorian College of the Arts. He was an influential figure in the arts in Victoria.

In 1961 the community of Swan Hill approached Westbrook for advice on creating a Cultural Centre. He encouraged them to create a Folk Museum and advised them on historical matters for a number of years as well as bringing in

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experts such as Roy Grounds and Robert Ingpen to the project. The later ten-year involvement of a Museum Victoria agriculture curator in the project is likely have been connected to his influence. This association is documented in letters, stories in the press and minutes.

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement has a direct association with botanist and forester Professor Lindsay Pryor who in 1962-3 and 1969 worked with Roy Grounds to design the layout of the Settlement and plantings. While Pryor also designed the west garden at the National Gallery of Victoria as well as the landscapes at Latrobe University and Federation University at Ballarat, his working life and strong or influential contribution relates to the Canberra through his involvement with the National Capital Development Commission; to the profession of Landscape Architecture; to the Australian National Botanic Gardens and in botanical science generally.

Step 1 of Criterion H is likely to be satisfied for Roy Grounds and his firm, Robert Ingpen and Eric Westbrook.

Step 2: State Level Significance Test for Criterion H

The place/object allows the clear association with the person or group of persons to be *READILY APPRECIATED BETTER THAN MOST OTHER PLACES OR OBJECTS IN VICTORIA*.

Executive Director's Response

Eric Westbrook was best known as the director of the National Gallery of Victoria and for his contribution to regional galleries and the arts in Victoria generally. His association with the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement was influential but is not well known. His immense contribution to the National Gallery of Victoria and the Victorian Arts Centre is far better known. These institutions demonstrate an association with Eric Westbrook that can be more readily appreciated than the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement.

Roy Grounds and his firm were best known for their innovative modernist architecture. The National Gallery of Victoria, Victorian Arts Centre and Hamer Hall are fine examples of modernist architecture and are well known to have been designed by Roy Grounds and completed by Suendermann Douglas McFall. These buildings demonstrate an association with Grounds and his firm and its successor that can be more readily appreciated than the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement. However, Roy Grounds had a lifelong interest in history and vernacular architecture, and this informed much of his work in a subtle way. The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement allows the association between Roy Grounds and his firm and vernacular architecture to be appreciated better than most other places in Victoria because it is very obviously historic in nature unlike his historically inspired modernist buildings.

While Robert Ingpen is best known as a children's book illustrator, at Swan Hill he designed site plans and recreated historic buildings. A number of tourist maps of the Settlement were based on his designs and a logo designed by him was in use at the Settlement for ca. ten years. His contribution to the layout of the Settlement and its buildings allow the association of this artist with the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement to be demonstrated better than other places in Victoria.

Criterion H is likely to be satisfied at the State level for Roy Grounds and his firm and Robert Ingpen.

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Comparisons

These places/objects were selected as comparators to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement because they are representative examples of the class of Museum Villages of a similar size and age.

Museum Villages

Sovereign Hill, Ballarat

Sovereign Hill, Golden Point is a replica of Ballarat when it was a goldrush boomtown from 1850-1860. It covers 15 hectares of a former gold mining site and includes diggings, underground mines, costumed characters, coach rides and 1850s shops, trades, schools and dwellings. Sir Henry Bolte was an important supporter in the establishment of Sovereign Hill and the Gold Museum



Old Gippsstown, Moe (HO44)

Old Gippsstown, Moe is of local significance. Historically and socially, Old Gippsstown (formerly Gippsland Folk Museum) is significant as one of two collections of early Gippsland buildings in the region that are associated with a growing awareness and appreciation of the heritage of the area in the mid to late twentieth century. It contains a number of representative examples of early and vernacular buildings, including some that are very rare or no longer found on the sites where they were originally constructed and together with the associated collections provides important insights into the historic settlement of Gippsland. 41 buildings are listed. Loren (VHR H1283) is located at Old Gippsstown.



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Coal Creek Heritage Park, Korumburra (HO54)

The Heritage Overlay citation says that Coal Creek Heritage Park, Korumburra is of local significance as an illustration of a well-intentioned, if no longer appropriate approach to heritage conservation during the early 1970s. It is probable that many of the buildings relocated to Coal Creek would not have survived on their original site, and although their significance has been diminished by removal it has at least ensured that they can still illustrate aspects of the history of the Shire that may have otherwise been lost.



Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village, Warrnambool

Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village interprets Warrnambool's early history and the history of the shipwrecks and the Shipwreck Coast in the 19th Century. It replicates an 1870s seaside village. Many of the buildings are copies of local buildings and are built from historic building materials salvaged from demolitions and shipwrecks. The Williamstown Mission to Seafarer's church was relocated to the site. It also has a museum with ca.10,000 shipwreck objects. The Lady Bay Lighthouse Complex VHR H1520 and Loch Ard Peacock VHR H2132 are on the site.



Image source: Wikipedia (Láscar)

Summary of Comparisons

All the Museum Villages have a specific focus. Sovereign Hill focuses on the Victorian Gold Rush and, rarely for the class, includes a recreated Chinese village; Old Gippstown focuses on the European history of Gippsland; Coal Creek Community Museum focuses on early coal mining and the European history of South Gippsland, while Flagstaff Hill Maritime Village demonstrates the life of the Shipwreck Coast's first European settlers and the shipwreck history of the area. All four are more specialised in their coverage as opposed to Swan Hill which aims to cover both local Mallee and Murray River history as well as more general pioneer history.

All five aimed to both commemorate their district's pioneering families, educate the community and bring visitors to their towns. The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement opened in 1966, Old Gippstown in 1968 and Flagstaff Hill and Coal Creek in the early 1970s. All were inspired by the enormous success of Swan Hill and copied many of its buildings and attractions so much so that all five villages have a similar appearance and scale. The council in Moe even employed the town clerk from Swan Hill to assist with their Folk Museum development. A former councillor from Swan Hill worked on Flagstaff Hill as a consultant. Sovereign Hill and Flagstaff Hill have recognised the significance of their collections better than Swan Hill and created museums for them.



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The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement appears to be the only Museum Village to be laid out through the combined efforts of an artist (Robert Ingpen), landscaper (Lindsay Pryor) and architects (Roy Grounds and architects from his office). Old Gipps town in Moe was laid out by Fritz Suendermann an architect who also worked for Roy Grounds, and who worked at Moe for many years in a similar way to Ian Douglas at Swan Hill. Sovereign Hill was laid out by a local Ballarat architect copying the documented appearance of Ballarat in the 1850s, while other villages were laid out by their local communities. The local communities always did a lot of voluntary work to establish their Museum Villages as well as donating historic collection items. Artists do not seem to have been involved in the design of other Museum Villages in Victoria.

While there are many similarities between all five museum villages, Swan Hill was the inspiration for the others and covers Victorian pioneer history more comprehensively. Unlike Sovereign Hill and Flagstaff Hill it holds many original historic buildings that would otherwise have been lost.



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

The Executive Director recommends that the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement, 125 Monash Drive, Swan Hill, and specified objects associated with the Settlement, should be included in the VHR in the categories of Registered Place with Registered Objects Integral to a Registered Place.

Statement of significance

What is significant?

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement designed by the community and Roy Gounds and associates, Lindsay Pryor and Robert Ingpen between 1962 and 1994. The Settlement contains both original and recreated vernacular buildings and large objects arranged in a parklike setting.

How is it significant?

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is of historical significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criterion for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register:

Criterion A

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

Criterion D

Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects

Criterion H

Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

Why is it significant?

Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is historically significant for its association with early community efforts to save the rapidly vanishing physical evidence of rural settlements, buildings, industries, farms and their practices as well as vernacular buildings. [Criterion A]

Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is historically significant for its association with efforts of rural and regional communities to tell later generations the stories of their forebears. Relocated, repurposed and reconstructed buildings filled with objects were used to tell these stories; to demonstrate traditional pioneering and rural practices as well as to provide historic tourism experiences. [Criterion A]

Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is historically significant as the first and most influential and pivotal example of the Museum Village movement in Victoria. This popular movement aimed to celebrate and memorialise post-contact rural life. The physical characteristics of its design and vernacular building collecting practices as well as methods of



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attracting visitors and developing attractions were copied in subsequent Museum Villages created in Victoria. [Criterion D]

The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is historically significant because it made an influential contribution to the common, pre-1990s approach to the telling of Australian. [Criterion D]

Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement is historically significant because modernist architect Roy Grounds (1905 – 1981) and his associates and artist Robert Ingpen designed site layouts and recreated historic buildings at the Settlement. Grounds and Ingpen had a lifelong interest in history and vernacular architecture. The Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement allows the association between them and vernacular architecture to be appreciated better than most other places in Victoria. [Criterion H]



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Categories of works or activities (permit exemptions) recommended under section 38 (section 40(4)(b))

Introduction

The purpose of this information is to assist owners and other interested parties 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.

It is acknowledged that alterations and other works may be required to keep places and objects in good repair and adapt them for use into the future. However, under the *Heritage Act 2017* a person must not knowingly, recklessly or negligently remove, relocate or demolish, damage or despoil, develop or alter or excavate all or any part of any part of a registered place without approval. It should be noted that the definition of 'develop' in the Act includes any works on, over or under the place.

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 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 or works to the elements of the place or object that are not significant. They may include appropriate works that are specified in a conservation management plan. Permit exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under section 38 of the Act) or after registration (under section 92 of the 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.

Disrepair of registered place or registered object

Under section 152 of the Act, the owner of a registered place or registered object must not allow that place or object to fall into disrepair.

Failure to maintain registered place or registered object

Under section 153 of the Act, the owner of a registered place or registered object must not fail to maintain that place or object to the extent that its conservation is threatened.

Conservation management plans

Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement still displays much of the parklike bush setting and original master plan developed by Roy Grounds and associates which was followed (with modifications) from 1962 to 1994. It is recommended that a Conservation Management Plan is developed to manage the place and landscape in a manner which respects its cultural heritage significance.

Archaeology

There is no identified archaeology of State level significance at the place. However, any works that may affect historical archaeological features, deposits or artefacts at the place is likely to require a permit, permit exemption or consent. Advice should be sought from the Archaeology Team at Heritage Victoria.



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Aboriginal cultural heritage

To establish whether this place is registered under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* please contact Aboriginal Victoria. The *Heritage Act 2017* and the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* are separate pieces of legislation. Please be aware that both Acts are required to be satisfied and satisfying the requirements of one Act may not satisfy the requirements of the other.

There is potential for Aboriginal archaeological sites to be present under the deep fill that covers much of the site.

- If any Aboriginal cultural heritage is discovered or exposed at any time it is necessary to immediately contact Aboriginal Victoria to ascertain requirements under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.
- If works are proposed which have the potential to disturb or have an impact on Aboriginal cultural heritage it is necessary to contact Aboriginal Victoria to ascertain any requirements under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

Other approvals

Please be aware that approval from other authorities (such as local government) may be required to undertake works.

Human remains

If any suspected human remains are found during any works or activities, the works or activities must cease. The remains must be left in place and protected from harm or damage. Victoria Police and the State Coroner's Office must be notified immediately. If there are reasonable grounds to believe that the remains are Aboriginal, the Coronial Admissions and Enquiries hotline must be contacted immediately. As required under s.17(3)(b) of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* all details about the location and nature of the human remains must be provided to the Secretary (as defined in the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*).

Site

The period of significance for the site arrangement and plantings is primarily considered to be 1962-1994 when the Grounds/Pryor/Ingpen site layouts and buildings were created and installed.

Design approach for new buildings

At the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement, the park like layout, recreated bush setting, riverside location, spaciousness and small vernacular buildings made from traditional materials combine to create an attractive, human scaled environment. This was the intent of the site and landscape design work done by Roy Grounds and other architects, Lindsay Pryor and Robert Ingpen. New buildings were carefully designed, scaled and located to compliment and not dominate or detract from the vernacular buildings and historic park environment. This philosophy should be considered when designing new buildings to add to the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement.

Maintenance of existing buildings

The 2021 building maintenance approach maintains the historic atmosphere of the Settlement by ensuring that modern fastenings and materials are not used in visible areas wherever possible and modern power tools are not used at the Settlement while visitors are present. The use of reclaimed historic building materials to repair existing buildings which replaces like with like has a long tradition at the Settlement and should continue. Modern materials may be appropriate in non-visible areas for structural reasons providing significant evidence of original technologies are not removed.

Plantings

Australian native plants were chosen to block wind, provide shade and for their attractive appearance. As the original plantings reach the end of their lives or become dangerous, like with like replacement should be undertaken. Where



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the identity of an original planting cannot be determined, the 1971 list should be used to select new and replacement plantings.

The plantings on the Western Boundary were selected by Lindsay Pryor and were intended to be thinned although this did not happen. It was expected that the species which were not suited to the area would not survive. The heavy western boundary plantings were designed to shield the Settlement from dust and wind. This approach should be maintained. Of the 1965 boundary plantings between PS Gem and the Coach House, the following tree species survived to 2021 indicating their suitability for the site:

- Lemon Scented Gum (*Corymbia citriodora*)
- Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus sideroxylon*)
- River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*)
- Spotted Gum (*Corymbia maculata*)
- Yellow Box (*Eucalyptus melliodora*)
- Yellow Gum (*Eucalyptus leucoxylon*).

As the boundary plantings reach the end of their lives or become dangerous, it is recommended that they be replaced with one of the above species in similar positions in order to maintain some connection to Pryor's original planting.

Australian native plants and Peppercorn trees were chosen by Grounds and Pryor to provide shade and for their attractive appearance. As they reach the end of their lives or become dangerous or too large, they should be replaced using the 1971 plant list.

Notes

- All works should ideally be informed by a Conservation Management Plan prepared for the place. The Executive Director is not bound by any Conservation Management Plan and permits still must be obtained for works suggested in any Conservation Management Plan.
- Nothing in this determination prevents the Heritage Council from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
- Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits where applicable.

General Conditions

- All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place.
- 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 must cease and Heritage Victoria must be notified as soon as possible.

Permit Exemptions

The following permit exemptions are not considered to cause harm to the cultural heritage significance of the Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement

General

- Minor repairs and maintenance which replaces like with like including the use of reclaimed historic building materials to repair existing buildings. Repairs and maintenance must maximise protection and retention of significant fabric and include the conservation of existing details or elements. Any repairs and maintenance must not exacerbate the decay of fabric due to chemical incompatibility of new materials, obscure fabric or limit access to such fabric for future maintenance. Replacement of modern fastenings and materials with traditional fastenings and materials.

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- Maintenance, repair and replacement of existing external services such as plumbing, electrical cabling, surveillance systems, pipes or fire services which does not involve changes in location or scale, or additional trenching.
- Repair to, or removal of existing items such as antennae; aerials; and air conditioners and associated pipe work, ducting and wiring.
- Works or activities, including emergency stabilisation, necessary to secure safety in an emergency where a structure or part of a structure has been irreparably damaged or destabilised and poses a safety risk to its users or the public. The Executive Director must be notified within seven days of the commencement of these works or activities.
- Painting of previously painted external surfaces in the same colour, finish and product type provided that preparation or painting does not remove all evidence of earlier paint finishes or schemes.
- Cleaning including the removal of surface deposits by the use of low-pressure water (to maximum of 300 psi at the surface being cleaned) and neutral detergents and mild brushing and scrubbing with plastic (not wire) brushes.

Venues / public places / events

- The installation and/or erection of temporary elements associated with short term events at the Lower Murray Inn and on land to the north and east of the Lower Murray Inn.
- The installation and/or erection of temporary elements associated with short term events in other areas for a maximum period of three weeks at a time and no more than six times per year and not attached to a building. This includes:
 - Temporary (lightweight) structures such as shelters, marquees and tents which are weighted down with sandbags or water tanks and minimise the requirement for driven metal stakes which could impact on tree roots. Where pegging is not able to be avoided this is to be located to avoid tree roots (i.e. not driven into if encountered).
 - Marquees, tents, stages, and the like which are located no closer than three metres from the base of a tree.
 - Temporary security fencing, scaffolding, hoardings or surveillance systems to prevent unauthorised access or to secure public safety.
 - Temporary built or mobile structures, vendor and toilet vans which are located on existing hardstand and paved/asphalted areas and pathways or on turf areas with a protective surface (board or track mats).
 - Temporary infrastructure, including wayfinding/directional signage, lighting, public address systems, furniture and the like in support of events and performances which do not require fixing into the ground.
- Non-structural alterations to all existing promotional elements including billboards and flagpoles.
- Repainting and replacement of replica historic signage in the same colour, finish and product type provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of earlier historic paint.
- Repainting and replacement of non-historic information, directional and advertising signage.

Interiors

- Works to maintain or upgrade existing modern bathrooms, kitchens, laundries, including installing new appliances, re-tiling and the like.
- Painting of previously painted surfaces in the same colour, finish and product type which replaces like with like provided that preparation or painting does not remove all evidence of earlier wallpapers, paint finishes or schemes. This exemption does not apply to areas where there are specialist paint techniques such as stencilling, hand painting, graining or marbling, murals or signage, or to original wallpapered surfaces or to unpainted, oiled or varnished surfaces.
- Installation, removal or replacement of replica historic carpets, wallpapers and/or flexible floor coverings, window furnishings, and devices for mounting wall hung artworks which replaces like with like provided that preparation



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does not remove evidence of earlier wallpapers, paint finishes or schemes. This exemption does not apply to areas where there are original historic wallpapers or other wall coverings present.

- Maintenance, repair and replacement of electric light fixtures, tracks and the like in existing locations.
- Installation, removal or replacement of existing electrical wiring. If wiring is currently exposed, it should remain exposed. If it is fully concealed it should remain fully concealed.
- Removal or replacement of light switches or power outlets.
- Removal or replacement of smoke and fire detectors, alarms and the like, of the same size and in existing locations.
- Repair, removal or replacement of existing ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the central plant is concealed, and that the work is done in a manner which does not alter building fabric.
- Installation of plant within the roof space, providing that it does not impact on the external appearance of the building or involve structural changes.
- Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.

Landscape/ outdoor areas

Hard landscaping and services

- Subsurface works to existing watering and drainage systems provided these are outside the canopy edge of trees and do not involve trenching in new locations. Existing lawns, gardens and hard landscaping, including paving, paths and roadways are to be returned to the original configuration and appearance on completion of works.
- Like for like repair and maintenance of existing hard landscaping including carparks, paving, footpaths and driveways where the materials, scale, form and design is unchanged.
- Removal or replacement of external directional signage provided the size, location and material remains the same.
- Installation of physical barriers or traps to enable vegetation protection and management of vermin such as rats, mice and possums.

Gardening, trees and plants

- The processes of gardening including mowing, pruning, mulching, fertilising, removal of dead or diseased plants (excluding trees), replanting of existing garden beds, disease and weed control and maintenance to care for existing plants.
- Removal of tree seedlings and suckers without the use of herbicides.
- Management and maintenance of trees including formative and remedial pruning, removal of deadwood and pest and disease control.
- Emergency tree works to maintain public safety provided the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria is notified within seven days of the removal or works occurring.
- Removal of environmental and noxious weeds.

Paddle Steamer Gem

- Paddle Steamer Gem (VHR H1742) is included in the VHR as a Registered Place. Refer to Paddle Steamer Gem (VHR H1742) for full permit exemptions. Permit applications or exemptions approved under the registration for Paddle Steamer Gem (VHR H1742) are permit exempt under this registration.



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Appendix 1

Heritage Council of Victoria determination (section 41)

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

Making a submission to the Heritage Council (section 44)

Within the period of 60 days, any person or body with a real and substantial interest in the place or object may make a submission to the Heritage Council regarding the recommendation and request a hearing in relation to that submission. Information about making a submission and submission forms are available on the Heritage Council's website.

Consideration of submissions to the Heritage Council (section 46)

- (1) The Heritage Council must consider—
 - (a) any written submission made to it under section 44; and
 - (b) any further information provided to the Heritage Council in response to a request under section 45.
- (2) The Heritage Council must conduct a hearing in relation to a submission if—
 - (a) the submission includes a request for a hearing before the Heritage Council; and
 - (b) the submission is made by a person or body with a real or substantial interest in the place or object that is the subject of the submission.
- (3) Despite subsection (2), the Heritage Council may conduct a hearing in relation to a submission in any other circumstances the Heritage Council considers appropriate.

Determinations of the Heritage Council (section 49)

- (1) After considering a recommendation that a place or object should or should not be included in the Heritage Register and any submissions in respect of the recommendation and conducting any hearing into the submissions, the Heritage Council may—
 - (a) determine that the place or part of the place, or object, is of State-level cultural heritage significance and is to be included in the Heritage Register; or
 - (b) determine that the place or part of the place, or object, is not of State-level cultural heritage significance and is not to be included in the Heritage Register; or
 - (c) in the case of a recommendation in respect of a place, determine that the place is not to be included in the Heritage Register but—
 - (i) refer the recommendation and any submissions to the relevant planning authority for consideration for an amendment to a planning scheme; or
 - (ii) determine that it is more appropriate for steps to be taken under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* or by any other means to protect or conserve the place; or

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- (d) in the case of a recommendation in respect of additional land which has been nominated to be included in the Heritage Register as part of a registered place in accordance with section 32, determine that the land be included in the Heritage Register if—
 - (i) the State-level cultural heritage significance of the place would be substantially less if the land or any part of the land which is or has been used in conjunction with the place were developed; or
 - (ii) the land surrounding the place is important to the protection or conservation of the place or contributes to the understanding of the place; or
 - (e) determine that the object is integral to understanding the cultural heritage significance of a registered place or a place the Heritage Council has determined to be included in the Heritage Register.
- (2) The Heritage Council must make a determination under subsection (1)—
- (a) within 40 days after the date on which written submissions may be made under section 44; or
 - (b) if any hearing is conducted into the written submissions, within 90 days after the completion of the hearing.
- (3) A determination that a place or part of a place, or object, should be included in the Heritage Register may include categories of works or activities which may be carried out in relation to the place or object for which a permit under this Act is not required, if the Heritage Council considers that the works or activities would not harm the cultural heritage significance of the place or object.
- (4) If the Heritage Council determines to include a place in the Heritage Register, with the consent of the owner of the place, the Heritage Council may determine to include in the Heritage Register additional land of the owner that is ancillary to the place.
- (5) If a member of the Heritage Council makes a submission under section 44 in respect of a recommendation, the member must not take part in the consideration or determination of the Heritage Council.
- (6) The Heritage Council must notify the Executive Director of any determination under this section as soon as practicable after the determination.

Obligations of owners of places and objects (section 42)

- (1) The owner of a place or object to whom a statement of recommendation has been given must advise the Executive Director in writing of—
- (a) any works or activities that are being carried out in relation to the place or object at the time the statement is given; and
 - (b) any application for a planning permit or a building permit, or for an amendment to that permit, that has been made in relation to the place but not determined at the time the statement is given; and
 - (c) any works or activities that are proposed to be carried out in relation to the place or object at the time the statement is given.
- (2) An advice under subsection (1) must be given within 10 days after the statement of recommendation is given under section 40.
- (3) The owner of a place to whom a statement of recommendation has been given must advise the Executive Director in writing of an application, permit or amendment if, before a determination under section 49 or 52 in respect of a place—



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- (a) an application for a planning permit or a building permit or for an amendment to that permit in relation to the place is made; or
 - (b) a planning permit or building permit or an amendment to that permit in relation to the place is granted.
- (4) An advice under subsection (3) must be given within 10 days after the making of the application or the grant of the permit or amendment.
- (5) The owner of a place or object to whom a statement of recommendation has been given must advise the Executive Director in writing of the following activities or proposals if, before a determination is made under section 49 or 52 in respect of a place or object—
 - (a) any activities are carried out in relation to the place or object that could harm the place or object;
 - (b) any activities are proposed to be carried out in relation to the place or object that could harm the place or object.
- (6) An advice under subsection (5) must be given within 10 days after the owner becomes aware of the activity or the proposal, as the case requires.
- (7) If, before a determination is made under section 49 or 52 in respect of a place or object, a proposal is made to dispose of the whole or any part of the place or object, the owner of the place or object must advise the Executive Director in writing of that proposal.
- (8) An advice under subsection (7) must be given at least 10 days before entering into the contract for the disposal of the place or object.
- (9) The owner of a place or object who proposes to dispose of the whole or any part of the place or object before a determination is made under section 49 or 52 in respect of the place or object must, before entering into a contract for that disposal, give a copy of the statement of proposed contract, is to acquire the place or object or part of the place or object.

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

An owner of a place or object to whom section 42 applies must comply with that section.

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

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Appendix 2 – Pioneer Settlement Plantings ca.1971

1971 drawing plant No.	1971 Botanical Name	Corrected Botanical Name / Name change	Common Name
0	<i>Acacia calamifolia</i>		Wallowa
1	<i>Acacia iteaphylla</i>		Gawler Range Wattle
2	<i>Acacia longifolia</i>		Sallow Wattle
3	<i>Acacia montana</i>		Mallee Wattle
4	<i>Acacia podalyriaefolia</i>	<i>Acacia podalyriifolia</i>	Queensland Silver Wattle
5	<i>Acacia saligna</i>		Weeping Wattle
6	<i>Acacia wattiana</i>		Gladstone Wattle
7	<i>Agonis flexuosa</i>		Willow Myrtle
8	<i>Callistemon citrinus</i>		Crimson Bottlebrush
9	<i>Callistemon linearis</i>		Narrow-leaf Bottlebrush
10	<i>Callitris columellaris</i>	<i>Callitris glaucophylla</i>	Murray Pine
11	<i>Callitris preissii</i>		Slender Cypress Pine
12	<i>Cassia nemophylla</i>	<i>Senna nemophila</i>	Desert Cassia
13	<i>Casuarina cristata</i>		Belah
*14	<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>		Camphor Laurel
15	<i>Dodonaea attenuata</i>		Slender Hopbush
16	<i>Dodonaea cuneata</i>		Wedge-leaf Hopbush
17	<i>Eucalyptus calycogona</i>		Red Mallee
18	<i>Eucalyptus camaldulensis</i>		River Red Gum
19	<i>Eucalyptus citriodora</i>	<i>Corymbia citriodora</i>	Lemon-scented Gum
20	<i>Eucalyptus crenulata</i>		Silver Gum
21	<i>Eucalyptus dumosa</i>		Dumosa Mallee
22	<i>Eucalyptus eremophila</i>		Tall Sand Mallee
23	<i>Eucalyptus foecunda</i>		Slender-leaf Mallee
24	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i>	<i>Eucalyptus globulus</i> subsp. <i>globulus</i>	Tasmanian Blue Gum
25	<i>Eucalyptus griffithsii</i>		Griffiths Grey Gum
26	<i>Eucalyptus incrassata</i>		Yellow Mallee
27	<i>Eucalyptus largiflorens</i>		Black Box
28	<i>Eucalyptus leucoxylon</i>		Yellow Gum
29	<i>Eucalyptus loxophleba</i>		York Gum

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1971 Plant No.	1971 Botanical Name	Corrected Botanical Name / Name change	Common Name
30	<i>Eucalyptus macrandra</i>		Long Flower Marlock
31	<i>Eucalyptus maculata</i>	<i>Corymbia maculata</i>	Spotted Gum
32	<i>Eucalyptus melliodora</i>		Yellow Box
33	<i>Eucalyptus microcarpa</i>		Grey Box
34	<i>Eucalyptus polyanthemus</i>		Red Box
35	<i>Eucalyptus sideroxylon</i>		Red Ironbark
36	<i>Eucalyptus steedmanii</i>		Steedman Gum
37	<i>Eucalyptus viridis</i>		Green Mallee
38	<i>Geijera parviflora</i>		Wilga
39	<i>Grevillea robusta</i>		Silky Oak
40	<i>Hakea laurina</i>		Pincushion Hakea
*41	<i>Jacaranda mimosaeifolia</i>	<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>	Jacaranda
42	<i>Melaleuca armillaris</i>		Bracelet Honey Myrtle
43	<i>Melaleuca decussata</i>		Cross Honey Myrtle
44	<i>Melaleuca lanceolata</i>		Moonah
45	<i>Melaleuca linariifolia</i>		Flax-leaf Paperbark
46	<i>Melaleuca nesophylla</i>		Showy Honey Myrtle
47	<i>Melaleuca styphelioides</i>		Prickly Paperbark
48	<i>Melaleuca wilsonii</i>		Crimson Honey Myrtle
49	<i>Pittosporum phillyraeoides</i>	<i>Pittosporum angustifolium</i>	Weeping Pittosporum
*50	<i>Salix babylonica</i>		Weeping Willow
*51	<i>Schinus molle</i>	<i>Schinus areira</i>	Peppercorn Tree
52	<i>Solanum aviculare</i>		Kangaroo Apple
53	<i>Tristanea conferta</i>	<i>Lophostemon confertus</i>	Queensland Box
# -	<i>Pinus brutia</i>		Turkish pine (Lone Pine)

* Exotic

The Lone Pine is not included in the 1971 list of plantings although it was planted in 1965

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2021, Lone Pine. Source: John Hawker



2021 Lone Pine plaque. Source: John Hawker





2021, Mallee Root fence





2021 Towaninnie Garden

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Appendix 3 – Objects Integral to the Place

Object number, name, maker & date:	2012x00059, Log buggy Item C – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Open storage. Current location: Next to river near Towaninnie Homestead. Former location: Horse Yard Gates 2009
Photograph	 <p>2013. Image: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement</p>
Item Description	Log buggy and large tray for 5-6 pairs of bullocks. Wooden Wheels made from tree logs. Axle has "crossed axes" logo, inscription: "W Gilpin. Wedges Mills, 1925"
Condition	Fair. Some termite damage and new timber inserted. Restored in 2003 and 2009.
Provenance/ Historical Context	Donated 1962. Made and used at Stony Crossing sawmill, found on Coobool Creek at Wiena.
Object number, name, maker & date:	2012x00121, Small "John Fowler", Steam Traction Engine Item F – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Vega Pond; Southern End
Photograph	 <p>2012. Image: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement</p>
Item Description	John Fowler & Co. traction engine, green & black, original fittings
Condition	Fair
Provenance/ Historical Context	Unknown



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Object number, name, maker & date:	Not accessioned. Red Gum log Item G – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Open storage. Current location: Next to river near Towaninnie Homestead.
Photograph	 2021
Item Description	Red Gum log. <i>Tag says: Butt end 21'6" circumference. Crown end 16' circumference. Contains 4210 Super feet. Grown in Cohuna forest</i>
Condition	Poor. Cracked and checked with heart wood decayed
Provenance/ Historical Context	Acquired in the 1960s as <i>the largest red gum in the world</i>
Object number, name, maker & date:	2012x00119, Fowler Road Steam Roller Item H – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	General Store, Road Equipment Display to north
Photograph	 2013. Image: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement
Item Description	Fowler, compound. Early 1900s, 4 steel wheels.
Condition	Fair. Light external corrosion
Provenance/ Historical Context	Purchased 1965 / 66 from North Melbourne or Ballarat.



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Object number, name, maker & date:	2011x00109, Large Marshall Portable Engine 20HP Item M – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Vega Pond; Southern End
Photograph	 <p>2012, Image: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement</p>
Item Description	Marshall 20 HP portable twin steam engine. circa 1913.
Condition	Requires restoration
Provenance/ Historical Context	Letter dated 26th January 1965 from State Rivers & Water Supply Commission acknowledging arrival at Folk Museum. Originally used to drive a 15-inch pump at Coreena
Object number, name, maker & date:	2011x00077, Large "John Fowler", Steam Ploughing Engine, <i>Black Bess</i> Item O – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Between General Store and Blacksmiths
Photograph	 <p>2021</p>
Item Description	Ploughing engine, Fowler Z7 built in 1921 in Leeds England by John Fowler. No.14661. Known as "Black Bess". One of a pair, other not held at Swan Hill
Condition	Good. Operational.
Provenance/ Historical Context	Scotty's Point, Tyntynder


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Object number, name, maker & date:	83x15101, Cobb & Co Coach, Concord Coach Replica Item P – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Coach House Display
Photograph	 <p>Undated. Image: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement</p>
Item Description	A replica "Cobb & Co. Coach" - closed vehicle with fixed doors and window blinds , 3 seats facing, 2-seater bench on top of coach facing rear - luggage compartment under seat - lever brake system; four wooden wheels with metal tyres.
Condition	Fair
Provenance/ Historical Context	Reconstruction by Col Ferguson of Toowoomba. Purchased in 1969 for cost of repairs
Object number, name, maker & date:	99x01360, Dennis Fire Engine Item Q – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Fire Station
Photograph	 <p>2013. Image: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement</p>
Item Description	1922 Dennis Bros., Guilford, England. A 4 cylinder [Dennis] fire engine repainted Horseshoe Bend Fire Brigade. "The Dennis Patent Turbine Fire Engine". Maroon red vehicle with hand bell close to front seat. Hose on left hand side. Pressure dial at rear. Side step both sides, 4 speed gear box.
Condition	Fair. Operational in 2008
Provenance/ Historical Context	Donated 1965 from Renmark


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Object number, name, maker & date:	2013x00099, Wool Barge Vega Item 64 – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Vega Pond
Photograph	 <p>2017. Image: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement</p>
Item Description	The Barge "Vega" circa. 1911 - 96 gross tons; hull is metal for upper section on a timber keel.
Condition	Poor. Tree branch fell onto it in 2017. Pond now drained
Provenance/ Historical Context	Originally launched at Echuca 31st August 1911. Used until 1958 - abandoned (water logged) and salvaged. Arrived at Settlement 1970. During middle 1970s Barge Vega underwent major restoration funded by grant from Colonial Mutual, for refit with new superstructure, deck, and "shell" to replicate a full load of wool-bales (for which original stencils from local district properties were used on the bales); interior of the shell included two floor levels joined by staircase, displaying photographs and memorabilia plus an audio soundtrack.
Object number, name, maker & date:	2011x00064, D3 Steam Locomotive No. 640 Type 4-6-0 Item 29 – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Open area at southern end of the Settlement
Photograph	 <p>2013. Image: Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement</p>
Item Description	Steam locomotive
Condition	Fair
Provenance/ Historical Context	Railway locomotive engine. D3 688 Built in Castlemaine 1914 by Thompson & Co. for Victorian Railways. Serviced Swan Hill – Melbourne. Purchased in 1964 from VR when it was painted red. It arrived under its own steam, using a temporary spur line to reach its destination. In 2001 Locomotive was moved from the site now occupied by the Rose Garden site to the former location of the demolished Souvenir Shop Rotunda (D) on the south east corner of the site.

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Object number, name, maker & date:	2013x00122, National Powerhouse Engine Item 11 – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Next to former Dumosa-Towaninnie Hall (Café)
Photograph	 <p>2021</p>
Item Description	National diesel alternator
Condition	Light external corrosion
Provenance/ Historical Context	From Swan Hill power station, Monash Avenue, built by Electric Construction, Wolverhampton, UK 1930s, sent to W.A. Goldfields, purchased from Swan Hill City Council after fire destroyed Powerhouse

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Object number, name, maker & date:	2013x00121, Stereoscopic Theatre / Kaiserpanorama including glass slides, original clockwork motor and painted silk reversals Not listed – 1975 Site Master Site Plan drawing, Roy Grounds and Co.
Location:	Inside Mechanics Institute
Photograph	 <p>2021</p>
Item Description	<p>This is the only example in Australia and one of only twelve surviving in the world. People look through the viewing holes at rotating stereoscopic slides. 25 people could view the performance which lasted 20 minutes. The mechanism is controlled by a series of weights.</p> <p>It was last used as a complete unit in Gawler SA in 1910 and Mr Forester Junior used the lens to make boxed penny machines which travelled the country until 1940 - the last show being in Tasmania. The round theatre was used when the showman intended to stay in one place for a season, with the season varying from a week to a number of months. Originally, lighting was supplied by a central acetylene gas light, then a kerosene flare light, and finally an electric bulb. The motor was hand wound clockwork and has been replaced with an electric engine. The clockwork engine has been retained. The reversals were designed to be placed behind the slides to add colour to the image.</p>
Condition	Good
Provenance/ Historical Context	Made 1895. Acquired 1971 from Cowes.

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Appendix 4 – Buildings, structures, and large objects on site

Dates are approximate and some information is not available, or sources are unclear. D = Demolished

Building number 1975 Douglas drawing	Early name(s)	Date made	Date first installed / opened	Current item number 2021	Current name 2021	Moved?	Status
-	-	2012	2012	1	Entry/Exit	No	Demountable building
22	Transportable Prison Cell			2	Gaol	ca.1994	The Police Station and lock up was planned to be next to the Coach House. The portable gaol moved from western boundary to behind the Court House
54	Courthouse	1859	1983	-	Not named but illustrated and still present (used as office)	ca. 1999/2003	Swan Hill's original Courthouse. It became a private residence ca. 1912 before going to the Settlement. It was planned to be to the east of the Street of Shops. It was first located next to the river in the 1970s, to the east of the Street of Shops then moved to behind the Iron House.
15	Kaniera West School No. 3887	1913	1968	3	Kaniera West School	No	This building was an old hall which was purchased in 1913 and converted to the Kaneira West State School No 3887 (in 1922?) by one of the parents. It is a small weatherboard building with corrugated iron roof; single room plus entry porch, glazed windows.
56	Coach House Display of Horse Drawn Vehicles	1969	1969	4	Coach House	No	New construction. Built with a hardwood shingle roof over a round, natural timber frame and the floor made of 6" round timber stubs to house 12-14 vehicles. It was constructed directly opposite <i>PS Gem</i> and has remained in this location
-	Pole stable			-	Pole stable	No	Small, thatched pole Stable from the Ward farm, Bolga Rd., Woorinen. Appears intact. Not discussed in documentation or illustrated in tourist maps. It may have always been included with the Thatched Machinery Sheds (D).
24	Cobb and Co Coach terminal	1860s	1964	5	Cobb & Co Coach terminal and Post Office	No	Drop log, Murray Pine. Originally part of Cobb & Co change-station at Tooleybuc Landing, where wool was loaded onto barges for transport on the river and where riverboat passengers departed overland by coach. Swan Hill Jaycees installed. Opened as an official Post Office in the late 1960s by the Queen in 1970. Post Office inside. Rear section of its roof plus an underground cellar came from a separate building demolished in Swan Hill; letter boxes and entry door were relocated from yet another building; and its main counter came from Richmond Post Office.

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VHR No: PROV VHR H2409
Hermes No: 206922

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Building number 1975 Douglas drawing	Early name(s)	Date made	Date first installed / opened	Current item number 2021	Current name 2021	Moved?	Status
61	Saddlers Shop		1960s	-	Photographic Parlour	No	This building was formerly Parfrey's Corner Canteen in Swan Hill. The Saddlers Shop was in this location building then moved to the river location ca. early 1970s. From ca. early 1970s the building first housed 'John Makepeace Boot and Shoemaker', then 'Professor Mortimer's Photograph Parlour', then the 'Photo Parlour'. Currently it is a store room and the Photo Parlour business has moved to the Rees Building.
-	Federation Rosaire	2001	2001	6	Pioneer Women Rose Garden	No	Former location of Locomotive and its Siding and the Pioneer Memorial Pool (D). The Sundial used to be here until it was moved in April 2021 to the Town Square. The sundial may have been in the pool (brickwork is very damaged). Modern aviary
45	Rotunda, the Damper café	1969?	1969?	7	Rotunda	No	Designed by Grounds office. Formerly used as a café. It was somewhat open originally and again now and is used for school groups to assemble. At one stage it was filled in with rooms and used as an Aboriginal Keeping Place and by the Education Officers
-	PS Gem & Riverboat Restaurant	1876	1962	8	Paddle Steamer Gem	No	The Gem sits in a concrete lined pool which was funded after a direct appeal to Henry Bolte. The shape of the pool has changed over time. The pool is surrounded by timber decking.
-	Paddle-steamer Gem Wharf	1962?	1962?	-	PS Gem Pool and Wharf	No	Rebuilt with some modern and some historic components.
29	D3 Steam Locomotive No. 640 Type 4-6-0	1914	1963	9	D3 Steam Locomotive	2001	See object list
35	Windmill - ex Quambatook Town Water Supply		1966	-	Quambatook windmill	No	Quambatook. Historic. Very large windmill used to supply water to the town of Quambatook. Transported and installed by the Jaycees of Swan Hill and used to pump water for the display pool (this may be the now demolished Pioneer Memorial Pool).
65	Wharf illustrated but not named		1968 1980 2013	10	Horseshoe bend wharf	No	The new Wharf was constructed using traditional methods to prepare the red gum timber. The bridge was designed to allow access by horse-drawn vehicle and motor cars between the Museum and Heritage Island. It gets flood damaged from time to time and has had to be replaced. A new version was opened by Victorian Premier Hamer 1980. Wharf was re-built in 2013 with flood recovery funding money, following 2011 floods.

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Building number 1975 Douglas drawing	Early name(s)	Date made	Date first installed / opened	Current item number 2021	Current name 2021	Moved?	Status
20	Pioneer Church		1967? 1969?	12	Church	No	The bricks and slate come from the old Swan Hill Courthouse, other bricks from Chillingollah Hotel, the pews from the Presbyterian Church in St Arnaud and the stained-glass windows from St Phillip's Church, Collingwood. Designed by Robert Ingpen so may be later than 1967 as he did not start working at the Settlement until 1969.
34	The Iron House	1854		13	Portable Iron House	No	This building was occupied by the Commandant of a Corps of Marines, in Montague Street, South Melbourne. It was one of the first prefabricated housed to be erected in Australia; the iron was packed in wooden crates made of Baltic timber (which was later used as flooring, lining, and ceilings in the house) and was brought from England to Australia by sailing ship in 1854
9	The Echo Newspaper and Printing Office		1968	14	Echo Print Shop	No	Originally Echo print shop in Newstead near Castlemaine. Purchased with its printing equipment
-	Rees Building		1987	15, 16	Emporium Photo Parlour Hardware Shop Miss Simpson's Drapery Music Shop (Riedel's) Administration	No	Designed by Grounds office. Copy of an historic brick building made using reclaimed bricks. Historic style shops on the ground floor. Imitation Victorian era boardroom and modern offices upstairs
-	-		2010	17	Town Square and sundial	Yes	Former location of Woodturners' building (D)
-	-	1880s	1988	18	Masonic Lodge	ca. 1999/2003	The Lodge was originally built as the Pyramid Hill Methodist Church in 1880. Recreated as Castle Donnington Masonic Temple. Officially dedicated as a Masonic Temple at Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement in 1988; following its relocation to and restoration at the Settlement as an initiative of the Centenary Committee.
61	Saddler and Harness maker		1976?	19	Saddlery	ca. 1999/2003	The Saddlers Shop was first located next to the Cobb & Co Coach Terminal in a corner; then located on the river in the former Kimm's Hairdresser building from the early 1970s; and then it moved, still in the Kimm's building to the Street of Shops c.1990s.

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Building number 1975 Douglas drawing	Early name(s)	Date made	Date first installed / opened	Current item number 2021	Current name 2021	Moved?	Status
25	Mechanics Institute - Free Library (holds Stereoscopic Theatre)	1872	1977	20	Mechanics Institute	ca. 1999/2003	The Mechanics Institute building was the first Presbyterian Church at Swan Hill. It served as a Church until 1912 when it was replaced by a new brick Presbyterian church and this timber building continued to serve as a Church Hall until the building was relocated to the Settlement. In 1975 the Mechanics Institute was planned to be in the area eventually occupied by the Rees Building, but was first located on the river and moved to the Street of Shops between 1999 and 2003.
57	War Memorial	1965	1965	-	Lone Pine and plaque	No	An Australian Soldier collected a pine cone from the famous Lone Pine at Gallipoli and four trees were grown in Victoria. In 1965 to commemorate the 150th Anniversary 150 seedlings were raised from these four trees. This tree appears to be one of those. The standard plaque sent out with these seedlings is present and reads "Aleppo Pine. (Pinus Brutia). From the original Lone Pine on Gallipoli. Grown in the Jubilee Year 1965. Planted in memory of departed comrades. 'Lest We Forget'" [Pinus Brutia is Turkish Pine]
21	The Commercial Bank of Australia			20	Bank	ca.1994	The bank is from Waitchie. Moved from next to the iron house to the street of shops c.1994
51	Jimmy Long's Bakery (Main St Shops)		1972	21	Jimmy Long's Bakery (Street of Shops)	No	Part of 6 replica shops designed by Robert Ingpen. Operated as a bakery and café until ca.2015
23	Aerated Waters and Cordial Factory (Main St Shops)		1972	-	Aerated Waters and Cordial Factory (Street of Shops)	Yes	Part of 6 replica shops designed by Robert Ingpen.
26	Kimm's Hairdresser and Tobacconist (Main St Shops)		1964	-	Kimm's Hairdresser and Tobacconist (Street of Shops)	No	Part of 6 replica shops designed by Robert Ingpen. Kimm's Barber Shop building arrived at the Settlement from Campbell Street Swan Hill c1920s. When offered to Pioneer Settlement, its dimensions would not permit its inclusion to the "Street of Shops" so in 1976 it was refurbished to serve as a Saddler's Shop exhibit on the river and the Kimm's name was used for one of the recreated shops in the Street of Shops.
52	J.H.Barker Pharmacy and Dentist's surgery (Main St Shops)		1972	22	Chemist/Dentist/Barber (Street of Shops)	No	Part of 6 replica shops designed by Robert Ingpen.

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46	Rae, Everingham and Co Stock and Station Agent (Main St Shops)		1972	-	Stock and Station Agent (Street of Shops)	Yes	Part of 6 replica shops designed by Robert Ingpen. Opened by Elders /Goldsborough Mort with a public auction to celebrate its opening.
60	Sparkes and Perkins General Store (Main St Shops)		1971	23	General Store (Street of Shops)	No	Part of 6 replica shops designed by Robert Ingpen. Sells historic style lollies. These used to be made to an original recipe sourced from MacPherson Robertson archives.
-	Half Cellar - Mallee Cool Room		1968	24	Half cellar	No	Replica. May be copied from one in Chinkapook
-	-		Unknown	25	Pine Point and Travelling School		The Pine Point School is from the Mallan district in NSW. Donated. The Traveling school replica built onsite replicating a travelling school in Wagga
8	Mud Brick Kitchen		1964	26	Mud Brick Kitchen	No	From Towaninnie Homestead. Also said to be a replica. Unclear
7	Log type tank stand		Pre-1975	-	-		Currently at Pine Point school
43	Buggy Shed	post 1975	post 1975	-	-		Located west of the homestead/mud brick kitchen.
5	Towaninnie Homestead	1888	1964	27	Towaninnie Homestead	No	1888. Relocated from near Lambert. Large rectangular building with four rooms plus verandah, made of Murray pine logs using drop-log construction, with glazed windows and corrugated iron roof. Fully furnished in the style of its period; interior of rooms is open to public view from a hallway that runs across the centre of the building. Towaninnie is an Aboriginal word for "a blow to the back of the head". In 1968 the State President of Country Women's Association of Victoria write to Swan Hill Folk Museum to advise that three State Presidents were gathering objects to furnish two rooms in Towaninnie.
-	Towaninnie Homestead well	1969	1969	-	Well	No	Well and hand pump installed 1969. Dome of the well is made from reclaimed bricks
-	Wildlife Pool			-	Dam	No	Still present
13	Aboriginal Bark Canoe Tree			28	Aboriginal Area	No	Still present
-	-	2015	2015	29	Heartbeat of the Murray		New
-	-			30	Riversdale Cottage	No?	The drop-log building from Riversdale Station, Mallan, NSW.

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	Keats' Cottage (Spinning and Weaving)	1850s/60s	1969	32	Keats Cottage	No?	Log homestead constructed in drop-log style, with glazed windows and corrugated iron roof and verandah. Overall rectangular shape exhibited as a single-roomed dwelling. Originally it was an Overseer's cottage on the Little Murray River on Gonn Station at Murrabit, c1870 when it had two rooms separated by a hallway running across the middle of the building. Donor advises it was originally built for her Great Uncle and Aunt who were not named Keats.
64	Wool barge "Vega" with river and paddle steamer history presentation	1911	1971	-	Vega	No	Barge Vega towed by PS Pyap, arrived at Pioneer Settlement. In 1971 it opened as River & Wool Trade Exhibit. Major reconstruction provided new superstructure enclosed two levels within, where special lighting, highlighted wool fleeces, shearing equipment, enlarged historic photographs and recorded information, scenes in early woolsheds, paddle steamers on the river, and shearing. Damaged in 2017 when a large tree branch fell onto it
31	Lower Murray Inn - Shearers meals	1976	1976	33	Lower Murray Inn	No	Modern. Designed by Grounds office and built by Local Lions Club with reclaimed timber. Copy of Swan Hill's first Inn built in 1847 near the banks of the Murray. Initially named "Steamer's Rest," and gradually became a popular venue for Friends of Pioneer Settlement Volunteers to sell cups of tea and light snacks to tourist visitors. Successful growth of this activity led to upgraded kitchen facility and expanded public Tea Room service in Lower Murray Inn. It is now used for functions. Extended in 2015
-	-	2015?	2015?	-	Lower Murray Inn - Covered Enclosure	-	New
10	Wool Shed		Pre-1975	34	Shearing Shed	Yes	From Fox's - Lalbert. Also called Pine Log Shearing Shed. It constructed from an original material of a shearing shed which was much larger and scaled down to fit site. It was located in the area where the Pine Point School is now then moved to location of demolished toilet rotunda next to the Blacksmiths Shop.
18	Thos. Thompson Blacksmith and Farrier - Agricultural Engineer	1896	1964	35	Blacksmiths shop	ca. 1999/2003	Recreated with some parts of an original Blacksmith Shop. This building was first located next to the river then moved to location of demolished toilet rotunda. New materials introduced ca.2003. Activated
				36	Black Bess		See object list

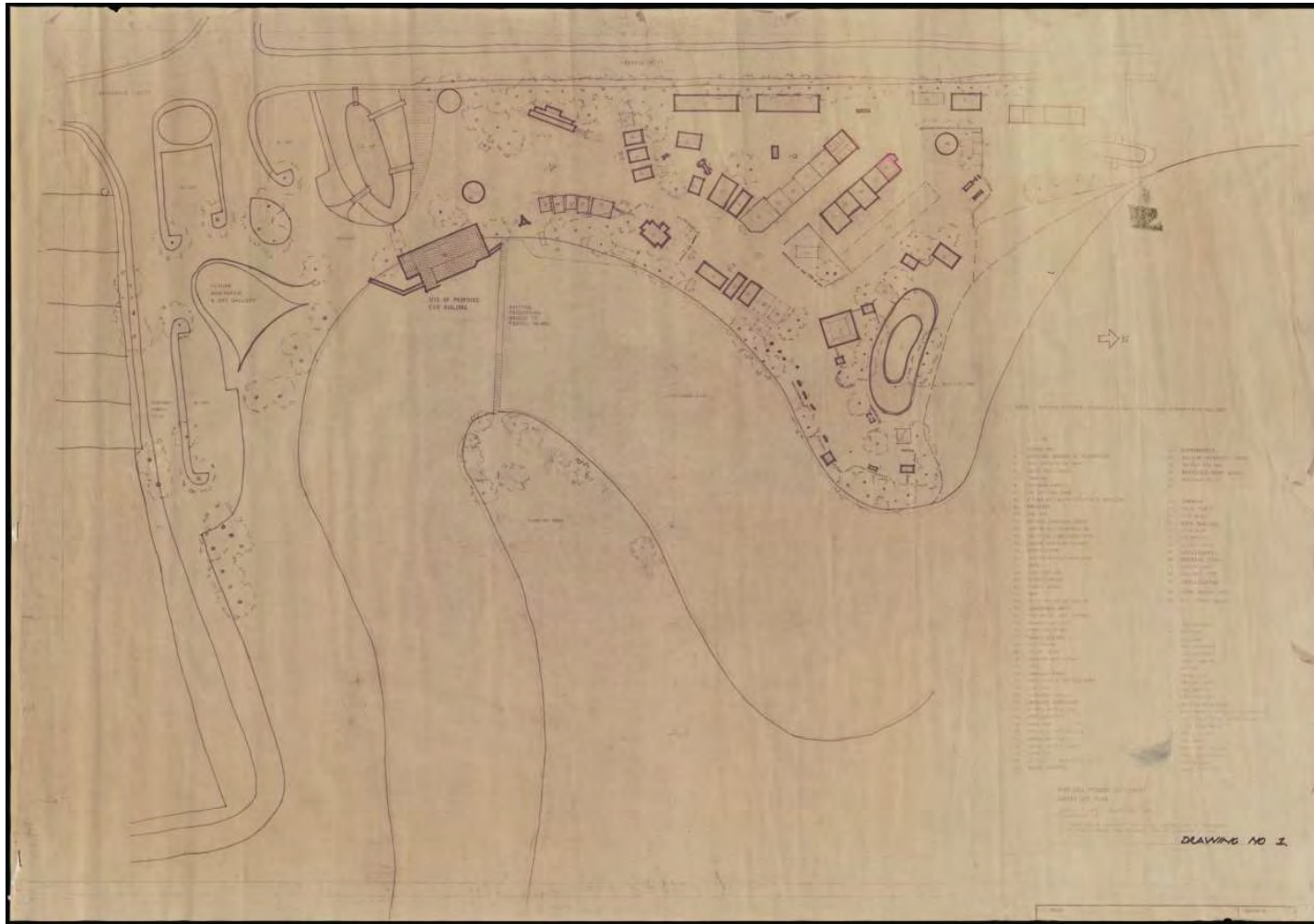
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	Machinery for wheat and chaff production		Unknown	37	Golden Harvest Trail		Recreated shed holding historic machinery.
	Neil Brown and Co. General Engineer (Steam Driven Workshop)		1978	38	Steam Workshop		Recreated shed holding historic machinery. Some activation
12	Steam Engine and Tractor Display			39	Tractor Display	Yes	Recreated shed holding historic machinery. Post 1994 building/location. Previous location was on the river behind the Vega. Steam engines restored and activated. In 1966 Grounds a designed Tractor Pavilion to house the Aubrey Harris Tractor Collection. It was partially constructed in 1966 and was located between the street of shops and Towaninnie Homestead - likely demolished.
36	Drummond and Snell, Builder and Timber Merchants?		1979	40	Restoration Workshops		Recreated shed holding historic machinery.
2	Charles Wendel Signwriter and Coachpainter			41	Woodturners		Originally a hay shed. Recreated shed. The woodturners have been in this location since 2010 when the Woodturner and Cabinet Maker building was demolished. the Settlement used to employ its own signwriters. Activated.
53	Police Horse Stable		1966	42	Horse Stables	No	Weatherboard building with corrugated iron roof; relocated in December 1966 from behind Swan Hill Police Station in Curlewis Street, to be reconstructed at Swan Hill Folk Museum.
-	Dumosa and Towannie Hall	1921	1982	43	Paragon Café	No	Dumosa/Towaninnie Hall. Originally built in 1921 on an acre site at the corner of Calder Highway, Dumosa; dismantled for relocation to Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement where it was restored by Settlement staff. A celebratory Pioneer Ball was held in Dumosa Hall and it was officially reopened by Mr Don Dunstan at this special ceremony in November 1982. Converted to a café 2015
28	Horseshoe Bend Fire brigade			44	Fire station	No	This was a machinery shed bought onsite and reconstructed

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6	Tyntynder Windmill			-	Tyntynder Windmill	No	Tyntynder Homestead Windmill. Very early Dutch style supplied water for the Tyntynder Homestead in the early days. It was installed by the Lions Club of Swan Hill. Located at the western end of the dam. Made from round timbers with corrugated iron blades.
-	Windmill			-	Windmill		Windmill with metal stand located at the eastern end of the dam. Replica.
11	National Electricity Generating Plant		1966	-	National Powerhouse Engine	No	See object list

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1975, Swan Hill Pioneer Settlement, Master Site Plan Drawing, Roy Grounds and Company (Ian Douglas) showing buildings already present (dark outline) and proposed (light outline).
Numbers in this drawing also used above.

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