

Development Guidelines

STRATHROY BRIDGE, KERRY LODGE PROBATION STATION, CONVICT QUARRIES AND ROAD

The Strathroy Bridge (formerly known as Kerry Lodge Bridge) is amongst a small number of the oldest surviving bridges in Australia still in use.

Built by convicts in 1834-35 from the nearby Kerry Lodge Probation Station, the bridge and probation station site demonstrate the use of convict labour in the development of civil infrastructure across Tasmania during the first half of the 19th century.

Through its archaeological remains, the Kerry Lodge Probation Station Site demonstrates several important aspects of convict administration in Van Diemen's Land between 1834 and 1849, having served as a Road Station, Probation Station and Hiring Depot.

The heritage listing applies only to the shaded areas shown on Attachment A of the Tasmanian Heritage Register datasheet, including:

- the Strathroy Bridge (formerly Kerry Lodge Bridge);
- archaeological remains relating to the Kerry

Lodge Probation Station and remnant cottage to the south of the bridge, including those which are visible on the ground and those which survive below ground and may not be visible;

- the dolerite quarry, because of the evidence of unusual quarrying technique adopted reflecting the unusual nature of the dolerite rock with its closely spaced jointing and cleavage; and
- the gravel quarry, from which gravel was taken to construct the road; and
- a portion of the original Hobart to Launceston road, including roadside plantings.

These guidelines aim to help property owners understand and conserve the heritage values of their property.

This document should be read in conjunction with the Tasmanian Heritage Register datasheet for the Strathroy Bridge, Kerry Lodge Probation Station, Convict Quarries and Road.



UNDERSTANDING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

The combination of bridge, convict quarries, archaeological remains (both surface and subsurface deposits), road and plantings represent one of the finest convict sites in Tasmania, and can be investigated and analysed to provide new knowledge about the probation station system and the use of convicts to develop civil infrastructure for Tasmania.

The ability of archaeologists to observe and record these remains in an undisturbed state is vital to enabling them to work out what happened and how people worked and lived.

Some elements have been recorded, and archaeological excavations have been undertaken. More archaeological work could be done, with the potential to uncover further archaeological remains.

Heritage listing of the site protects all archaeological remains, including those we know of and those not yet identified.

As property owners of the land on which these features and archaeological remains are located, you are the custodians of these historic heritage values.



DEVELOPMENT GUIDELINES

These guidelines cover the most common queries owners have for archaeological sites of this nature.

Owners are encouraged to discuss proposed works with Heritage Tasmania to determine whether a certificate of exemption may be issued or a development application will need to be lodged.

These discussions can also assist you in understanding whether additional information is required to assess any impacts of the works on heritage values.

Depending on the outcomes of discussions, a certificate of exemption may be issued if it is clear the works will have no impact on archaeological values.

Unless a certificate of exemption has been issued, a development application will be required for all works within the registered area – within the shaded areas or within the immediate vicinity of any of the point features - shown on Attachment A of the Tasmanian Heritage Register datasheet.

Agricultural activities

This includes tree planting, ploughing and cultivation, running heavy machinery including irrigation machinery, slashing, clearing, tree felling, fencing and dam construction.

Approval is not required for agricultural activities in areas and to depths already in cultivation. A certificate of exemption or permit is required where excavation or disturbance of the ground surface below the depth already in cultivation is required or where the works or subsequent root action from plantings may disturb any structures or archaeological remains.

Large scale plantings which affect the landscape characteristics of the site or which may impact archaeological remains should be discussed with Heritage Tasmania as to whether a certificate of exemption may be issued or a development application will need to be lodged.

Repair of existing or new services

The installation of in-ground services such as electricity, water, cables (power, phone, broadband, etc), gas, plumbing, sewerage etc, may be done through a certificate of exemption if existing service trenches are re-used or not extended beyond their original form.

For new trenches, or where existing trenches are to be extended beyond their original form discuss the options with a heritage advisor to see whether a certificate of exemption may be issued or a development application will need to be lodged.

Demolition

Demolition or removal of the remains associated with the cottages and convict probation sites (points E, F and G at Attachment A) or plantings associated with the old colonial road (as defined by A-D in Attachment A) will require works approval in the form of a permit (see box).

New construction

Approval in the form of a certificate of exemption or permit is required where a new building or structure is to be erected within the registered area– within the shaded areas or within the immediate vicinity of any of the point features - shown on Attachment A. This includes new buildings, garages, outbuildings or engineered structures.

New construction needs to be designed and located so as to avoid impact on the significant landscape characteristics of the settlement site.

Every effort should be made to avoid development in areas of archaeological potential. Where it can be demonstrated that there is no alternative to development in those areas, construction should minimise ground disturbance, such as using light weight construction, suspended floors or shallow, raft type footings in construction.

Subdivision

Subdivisions may be eligible for a certificate of exemption. Contact Heritage Tasmania for advice.

Works and archaeology

If it is clear that the works may affect the archaeological values of the site, the works may be approved with conditions, such as redesign, relocation, monitoring building works, undertaking a test excavation or a controlled archaeological investigation. Heritage Tasmania can provide advice and support on such matters. The works must be managed in accordance with Practice Note No 2, version 4: November 2014 *Managing Historical Archaeological Significance in the Works Application Process*, which is available from our website.

Please advise Heritage Tasmania any structural remains or artefacts uncovered during work.

WORKS APPROVAL PROCESS

Under Part 6 of the *Historic Cultural Heritage Act 1995*, approval from the Tasmanian Heritage Council is required for any works to a place entered on the Tasmanian Heritage Register. Approval may be in the form of a certificate of exemption or a permit.

Where your proposed works are minor and won't affect the significance of the place, the Heritage Council may provide you with a certificate of exemption so you do not need to submit a development application. Contact Heritage Tasmania to check whether your works are exempt.

If you do not have a certificate of exemption from the Heritage Council, you will need to lodge a development application with your local council. Your local council will forward your application to the Heritage Council to assess any impacts on the historic heritage values of the place.

How long before I receive a decision? The development application process may take up to 42 days from the date it is lodged with the local council. If you do not provide enough information with your application, it may take longer. Please contact Heritage Tasmania to check what information you need to lodge with your application.

Are there any penalties for not abiding by the Act? Yes. However the Heritage Council tries to work proactively with owners to resolve issues through discussion and mediation, rather than by conflict, objection and using penalties.