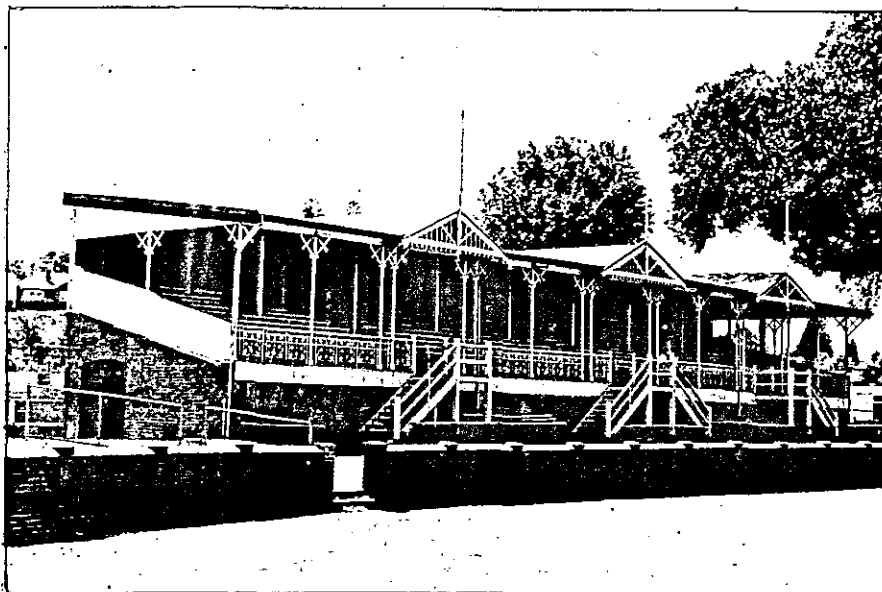


EASTERN OVAL GRANDSTAND

Havelock Street, Ballarat



RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this grandstand be added to the Register of the National Estate and be specified under the provisions of Clause 8 of the *Town and Country Planning Act* (Third Schedule).

BUILDING HISTORY AND ANALYSIS

The Ballarat Cricket Club was established in 1856, and the Eastern Oval was its home ground.¹ Situated between the railway embankment (of the early 1860's) and the natural escarpment, the oval stood in the valley formed by the Yarrowee River. Early illustrations show the oval with two handsome grandstands: one of two stories with elegant arcading between slender columns.² The present grandstand dates from a later period however.

Seating is organised in four sections, with the three aisles being echoed in the roof form by gablets projecting from the otherwise simple skillion roof. The roof structure is supported by slender cast iron columns, which are paired at the three sets of steps, coinciding with the aisles. The brackets at the head of the columns are most unusual, being composed of triangulated timber members while between the bottom of the columns, cast iron balustrading, (of quite late design) is employed.

The grandstand, whilst not in the same class as the City Oval grandstand, has some interesting detailing which makes the building notable.

1. Bate, *Lucky City*, MUP, 1978, p.240.

2. *ibid.* p.241.