

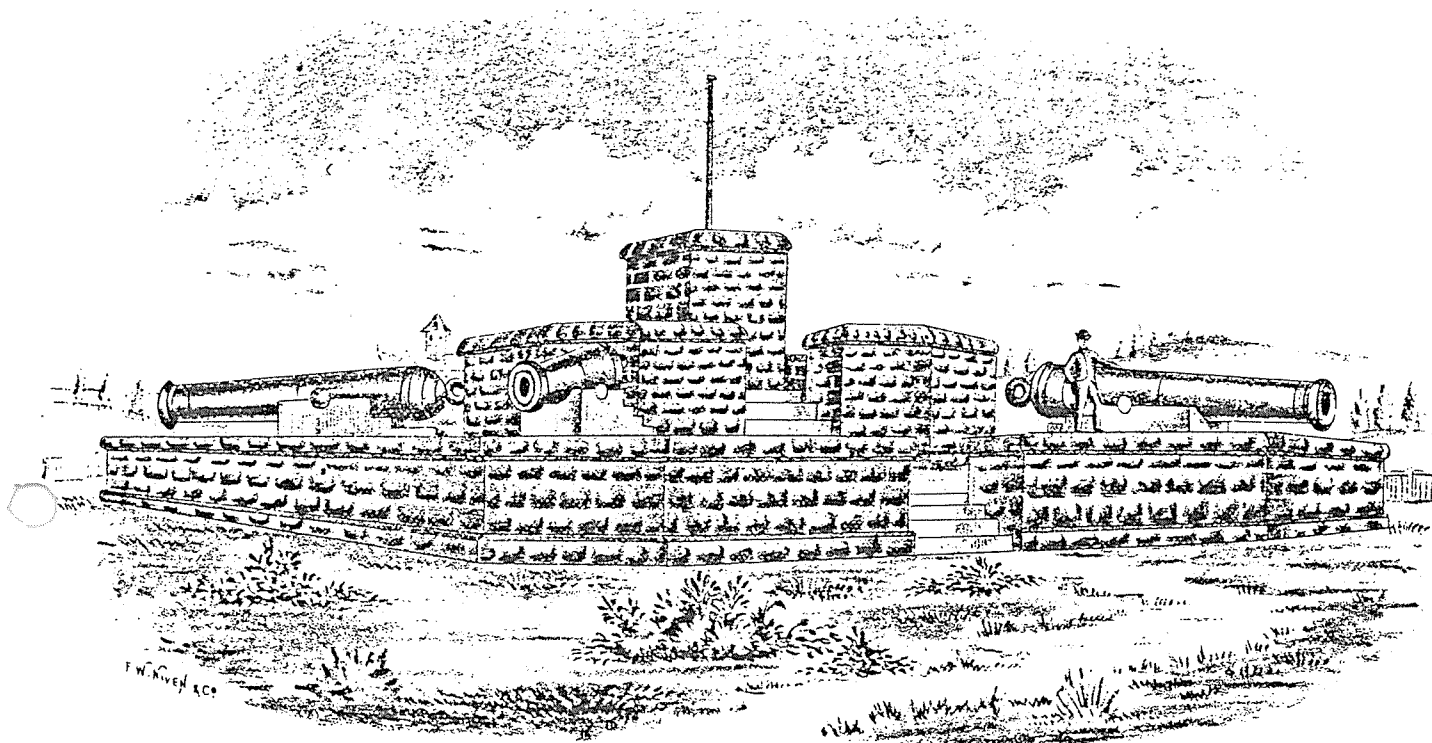
## EUREKA STOCKADE MONUMENT

corner Stawell Street and Eureka Street

erected 1884-86

designer: H.A.King

contractor: Rowsell and Son



THE EUREKA STOCKADE MONUMENT EUREKA ST BALLARAT EAST.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this monument be added to the Register of the National Estate and be specified using the provisions of Clause 8 of the *Town and Country Planning Act 1961* (Third Schedule).

### HISTORY AND ANALYSIS

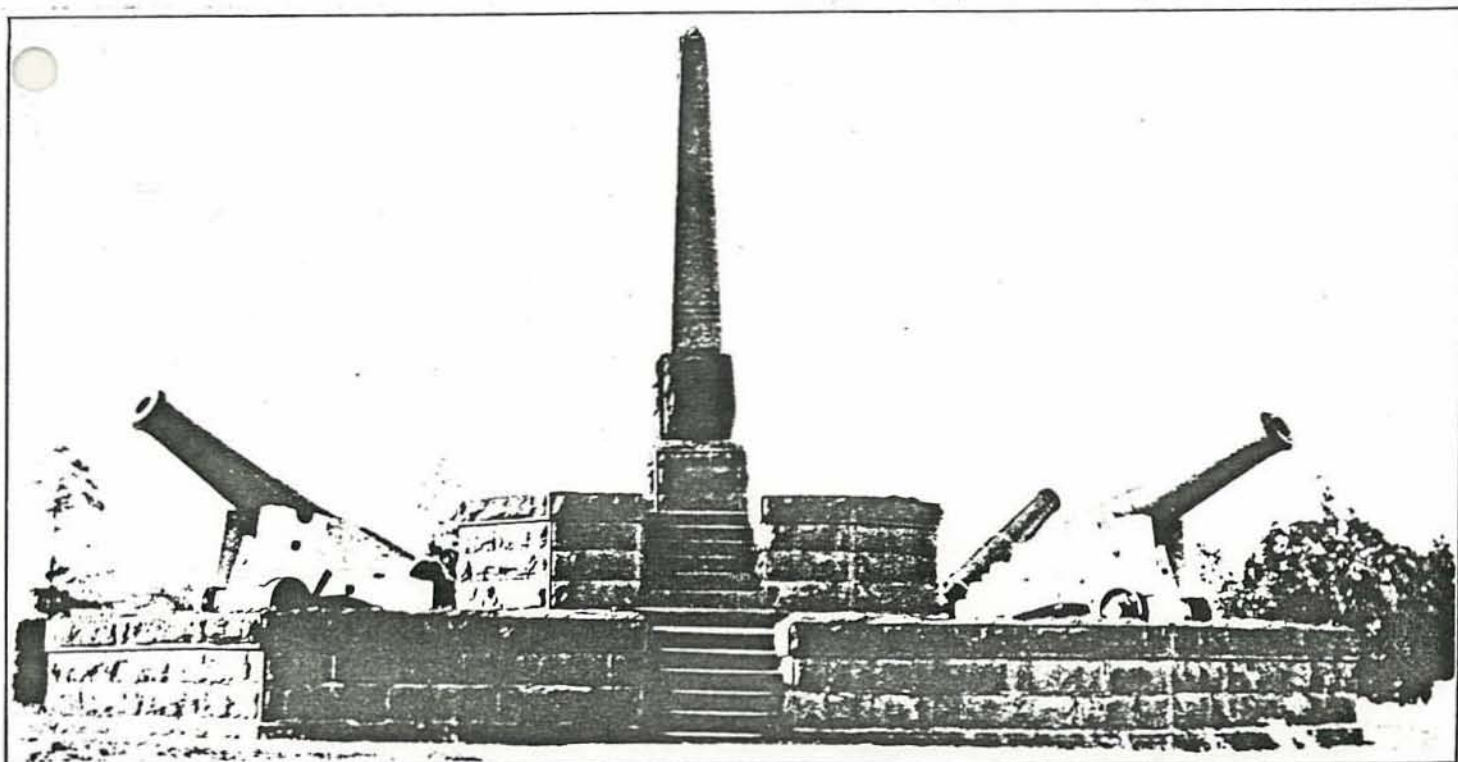
On the 16th April, 1884, a meeting was held at Craig's hotel to consider how best to erect a permanent monument to mark the site of the Eureka Stockade. A committee was appointed, with Mr. A. T. Morrison honorary secretary and treasurer. The Eastern Council concurring, a design by Mr. H. A. King, C.E., was chosen. The monument is an octagonal body of bluestone ashlar work in two tiers, with a flight of stone steps leading to the top, where, upon a massive bed of ashlar bluestone, is a cube of the same material, surmounted by a bluestone monolith twelve feet high. At the angles of the lower platform are to be placed four 64-pounder guns, contributed to the memorial by the Victorian Defence Department. The bluestone cube bears the inscription:—"Eureka Stockade, Sunday morning, December 3rd, 1854." On the 3rd December, 1884, the committee visited the then partially erected memorial as a mark of respect to the dead, and on Friday, 27th August, 1886, the still unfinished monument was formally handed over to the Town Council of Ballarat East, that body recording its acceptance in the following resolution:—"That the council recognise the efforts of these gentlemen in a public manner, and accept the work so well begun as a gift to the corporation, and that this corporation will finish and maintain it for all time." The council has not yet performed its contract, but a fence has been erected round the

monument, and the enclosure is to be further ornamented by the planting of trees and shrubs. After the lapse of thirty years, some difficulty was at first met with in identifying the exact site of the Stockade, and the spot on which the monument is placed was chosen by the general agreement of many of the diggers and others who were either present at the encounter between the troops and the insurgents, or were at that time familiar with the Stockade and its surroundings. The builders of the monument were Rowsell and Son, the cost of stone and earthworks being £286 4s., raised by public subscriptions, organised and in part contributed by the honorary secretary and treasurer, and the committee—Messrs. Hickman, Ferguson, Salter, Lewis, Roff, Williams, Béchervaise, Spain, Josephs, Wilson, Dyte, and Hall.

Thus wrote Ballarat historian William Bramwell Withers shortly after the erection of the monument.<sup>1</sup> A lithographic view accompanied the letterpress and it depicts the monument minus the large centrally placed obelisk, shown in a 1917 illustration (see below)<sup>2</sup> and still existing as part of the structure.

The Eureka Stockade Monument has great historical significance not only to Ballarat but to the history of Victoria. Leaving aside the historical associations, the structure itself also has significance as a very early commemorative structure. Comparison can be made to the Welcome Stranger Memorial at Moliagul (erected in 1 ). However, the early 1884-86 construction date of the Eureka Stockade Monument ranks it as one of the earliest substantial commemorative structures in Victoria and therefore one of the most important.

1. Withers, *History of Ballarat*, F.W.Niven, Ballarat, 2nd ed., 1887, pp. 157-58. The lithographic view at the head of this section faces p.160.
2. *Souvenir Catalogue 1892-1917*, D.W.Custer & Co. Ltd., Sydney, 1917. (D.W.Custer & Co. were a Sydney firm of sculptors and monumental masons.)



6091. The Old Stockade, Ballarat, Victoria.  
Notable in the History of Australia