

PLACE NAME: FOSTER FYANS MEMORIAL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF NEWTOWN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY (References)

STYLE OR PERIOD: 20th Century Monument

ARCHITECT(S)/DESIGN ORIGIN: Not known.
Reference:BUILDER: Erected by the Geelong Historical Society
Reference: and the Country Roads Board.PRINCIPAL ARTISANS/ARTISTS/TRADES
Reference:TENDER NOTICE:
Reference:DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION 1964
Reference:

ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE Not recorded.

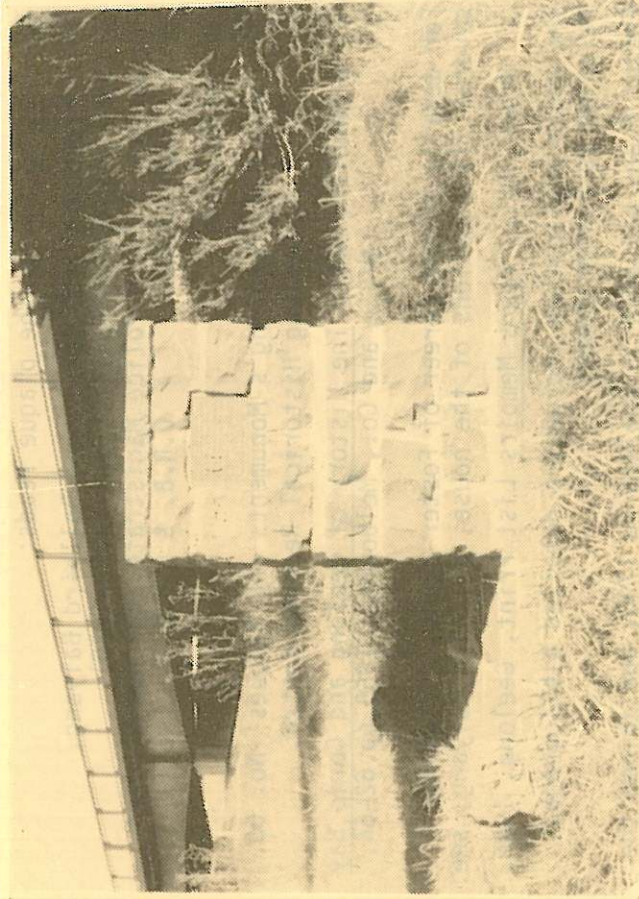
SUBSEQUENT WORKS/ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

This stone cairn stands on the site of Foster Fyans house, Bellbird Balyang, the land being purchased in 1845 and the house erected in 1846.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S)/OCCUPANT(S)

SUBSEQUENT SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/OCCUPANTS

The house, Bellbird Balyang, was demolished in 1896 by OTHER NOTES William Walker, and some of the stone was used for stable buildings (still extant) at Shannon Avenue, Newtown.



NEGATIVE FILE:

☐Australian Heritage Commission
Register of National Estate☐Historic Buildings Preservation Council
Register No.
File No.☐National Trust of Aust. (Vic)
Classified/Recorded
File No.☒Geelong Regional Commission
Register No. 138

IDENTIFICATION DATA

PLACE NAME Foster Fyans Memorial
ADDRESS Balyang Sanctuary
Shannon Ave., Newtown

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA City of Newtown
TITLE INFORMATION

MAP REFERENCE

PRESENT USE

PRESENT OWNER/LESSEE Newtown City Council
ADDRESS 263 Pakington St,
Newtown 3220 TELEPHONE

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF NEWTOWN

DOCUMENTATION REFERENCES AND BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

The inscription on the plaque reads:

'Hereabouts from 1846 stood Bellbird Balyang,
home of Captain Foster Fyans (1790-1870)
Geelong's first Police Magistrate and Commissioner
of Crown Lands.
C.R.B. & G.H.S.'

For details see

Lang, W.R. 'Geelong's Monuments and Plaques' No. 66.
Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Brownhill, W.R., The History of Geelong and Corio Bay
Wilke and Co., Melbourne, 1955, pp.62-64.

For details of the Career of Foster Fyans, including
several illustrations of the house, Bellbird Balyang, see:

Brown, P.L., Fyans Memoirs List Print, Geelong, 1986.

The above publication includes a detailed bibliography
relating to Foster Fyans.

Foster Fyans was born in England in 1790, and joined the
British Army at the age of 20 years. Fyans was appointed
Police Magistrate at Port Phillip in 1837. He purchased
land in Section 12 for \$5 an acre in an area of the Barwon
River known as Saw Pit Bends.

Fyans died at Balyang on 23 May, 1870.

CITATION The stone cairn and plaque in the Balyang

Sanctuary at the end of Shannon Avenue, Newtown, commemorate
the life and work of Captain Foster Fyans (1790-1870),
Geelong's first Police Magistrate and long-serving
Commissioner of Crown Lands for the Portland Bay District.
Fyans' House, Bellbird Balyang, one of the earliest stone
houses in Geelong, stood on this site from 1846 until 1896.
Foster Fyans was a most influential Colonial administrator
and pioneer Geelong settler, and the name of his Barwon
River property is commemorated in the name, Balyang
Sanctuary.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PLACE

- ☐ Its creative and/or technical accomplishment.
☐ Its demonstration of a way of life, custom, process or function no longer practised.
☐ In danger of being lost or of exceptional interest.
☒ Its strong association with an important figure or figures, development, or cultural phase.
☐ Its townscape and/or landscape value.
☐ Its scarcity value.

SIGNIFICANCE

- ☒ LOCAL ☐ REGIONAL ☐ STATE ☐ NATIONAL ☐ WORLD

CONDITION

- ☒ EXCELLENT ☐ GOOD ☐ FAIR ☐ DETERIORATED ☐ RUINS

INTEGRITY

- ☒ HIGH ☐ LOW ☐ ALTERED ☐ DAMAGED

RECOMMENDATIONS: PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Geelong Regional Commission Register.

DOCUMENTATION — Allan Willingham, Architect, 151 McKean St.,
North Fitzroy. 3068. Tel. 03 489 8492.

SIGNATURE.....DATE.....