

PLACE NAME: RAILWAY TUNNEL ON GEELONG TO COLAC LINE.
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF GEELONG.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY (References)

STYLE OR PERIOD: Engineering/Industrial.

ARCHITECT(S)/DESIGN ORIGIN: Victorian Railways Department
Reference:

BUILDER: Overend and Robb.

Reference: Brownhill, W.R. The History of Geelong and Corio Bay,
 p. 444.

PRINCIPAL ARTISANS/ARTISTS/TRADES
Reference:

TENDER NOTICE: Victorian Government Gazettes September
Reference: 1874.

DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION Contract let October 1874.
Reference:

Brownhill, W.R. The History of Geelong and Corio Bay,
ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE p.444.
 £ 49,612/5/8 - for the tunnel and 12 miles of railway
 line.

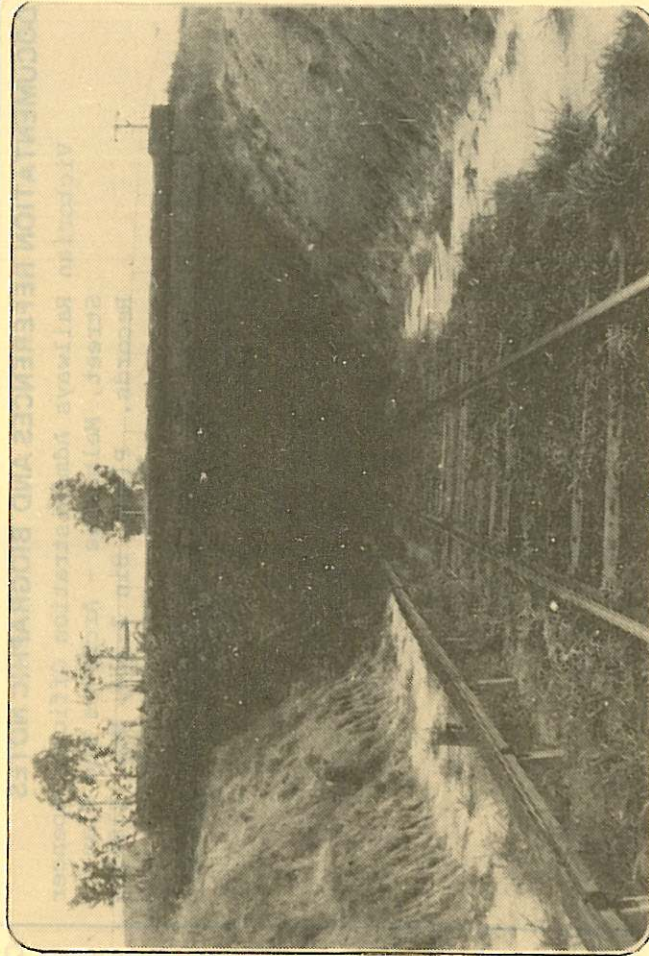
Brownhill, W.R. p.444.

SUBSEQUENT WORKS/ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

ORIGINAL OWNER(S)/OCCUPANT(S) Victorian Railways.

SUBSEQUENT SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/OCCUPANTS

OTHER NOTES

**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.144.....

IDENTIFICATION DATA

PLACE NAME Railway Tunnel
ADDRESS Between Ryrie and Little Myers Streets,
 On Geelong to Colac Line.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA City of Geelong.
TITLE INFORMATION

MAP REFERENCE

PRESENT USE Railway Tunnel.
PRESENT OWNER/LESSEE Victorian Railway Admin. Offices
ADDRESS 67 Spencer Street,
 Melbourne
TELEPHONE (03) 61001.

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DOCUMENTATION REFERENCES AND BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

Victorian Railways Administration Offices, Spencer Street, Melbourne - Archives and Plan Records. Plans, Bin 2-714, Nos. 218-225.
Brownhill, W.R. The History of Geelong and Corio Bay, Wilke and Co., Melbourne, 1955.
p. 444.

CITATION

The Geelong Railway Tunnel, one of very few tunnels constructed in Victoria by the Victorian Railways in the nineteenth century, was built by Overend and Robb as part of a contract to construct the first 12 miles of the Geelong to Colac railway work commencing in October 1874. The tunnel was adopted only after considerable debate over the location of a surface route could not be resolved, and economic factors prevailed. This single line tunnel with characteristic Victorian railway design bridge abutments is built of basalt and brick. The tunnel has long been an item of interest on the Melbourne-Warrnambool railway route and a notable engineering achievement of the nineteenth century in Victoria.

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.
Australian Heritage Commission Register of the National Estate.
Historic Buildings Council Register

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

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