



## REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES

### Permanent Entry

1. **DATA BASE No.** 16727
2. **NAME** *Site of Ballarat Bridge (1871, ca.1896), Vasse Floodgates (c.1907, 1929, 1942, 1991) & Wonnerup Floodgates (c.1907,1929,1942, 1991)*
3. **LOCATION** Vasse and Wonnerup Estuaries, Busselton
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**

*For Vasse Floodgates and Ballarat Bridge:*

Portion of the Layman Road (Road No 12826) and Floodgate Road road reserves, portion of Reserve 5217 being part of Wonnerup Sub Lot 57 together with unallocated crown land and portion of the Wonnerup Inlet seafloor as defined in Heritage Council of Western Australia survey drawing no 16727 A prepared by Steffanoni Ewing & Cruickshank Pty Ltd, and

*For Wonnerup Floodgates:*

Portion of Wonnerup Lot 94 being part of Reserve 385 and part of the land contained in Crown land Title Volume: 3000 Folio: 125; portion of Sussex Location 4805 being part of Reserve 39193 together with portion of Forrest Beach Road (Road No 1291) road reserve and portion of the Wonnerup Inlet seafloor, as defined in Heritage Council of Western Australia survey drawing No 16727 B as prepared by Steffanoni Ewing & Cruickshank Pty Ltd.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** Busselton
6. **OWNER**

As to the Floodgates: Water Corporation

As to the land:

State of Western Australia (vested in Shire of Busselton) (Reserve 385, 39193 & 5217)

Main Roads WA and Shire of Busselton (as to Forrest Beach Road, Layman Road and Floodgate Road reserves.)

State of Western Australia (as to seafloor & unallocated Crown land)

## 7. HERITAGE LISTINGS

• Register of Heritage Places:	Interim Entry	30/07/2004
	Permanent Entry	03/06/2005
• National Trust Classification:		-----
• Town Planning Scheme:		-----
• Municipal Inventory:	Adopted (Ballarat Railway Bridge & Vasse Floodgates	12/06/1996
• Register of the National Estate:		-----
• Ramsar Wetland of International Importance		07/06/1990

## 8. CONSERVATION ORDER

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## 9. HERITAGE AGREEMENT

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## 10. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

*Site of Ballarat Bridge* (1871, ca.1896), *Vasse Floodgates* (c.1907, 1929, 1942, 1991) & *Wonnerup Floodgates* (c.1907,1929, 1942, 1991), which previously comprised timber and metal structures erected in the Vasse and Wonnerup Estuaries, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

*Ballarat Bridge* was the first railway bridge constructed to carry a steam locomotive in Western Australia;

*Vasse Floodgates & Wonnerup Floodgates* were rare as floodgates that were in continuous operation from their installation in 1907/8 to their removal in 2004;

the construction of *Vasse Floodgates & Wonnerup Floodgates* inadvertently created a freshwater wetland system which received international recognition in 1990 when it was listed under the Ramsar Convention;

*Vasse Floodgates & Wonnerup Floodgates* were good examples of the type of floodgates built by the Public Works Department during the twentieth century, and *Ballarat Bridge* was a representative example of the type of road bridge built by the Public Works Department around the turn of the twentieth century, having been adapted for use as a road bridge using the original rail bridge structure;

*Vasse Floodgates & Wonnerup Floodgates* were important to the local community for the role they played in developing and maintaining viable farmland in the Busselton area, and the modern floodgates that replaced them continue to perform this function; and,

*Vasse Floodgates & Wonnerup Floodgates* were examples of the technical evolution of floodgate design in Western Australia and the management of coastal wetland environments.

The fabric of the modern floodgates constructed in 2004 is of little cultural heritage significance.