

industrial site within Greater Geelong and the concentrated development of industrial activity along the Barwon River in the late 19th Century. (Criterion A)

The Australian Tannery Ruins possess one of the most extensive archaeological structural formations, and potential archaeological deposits within the footprint of the tannery, of 19th century tannery within Victoria. These have the potential to make a substantial contribution to our understanding of 19th century tannery construction, operation, and workforces associated with a previous 1852 tannery on the site and the main 1860s-1900s tannery development that is evident today. Additional research potential is evidenced in the extensive contemporaneous newspaper accounts, illustrations, and photography. (Criterion C).

The Australian Tannery Ruins are significant for their association with Joseph and Sharp Brearley who industrialised their business by introducing the latest technology to the tannery operations improving working conditions and productivity. Joseph and Sharp Brearley were actively involved in Geelong Town Council and South Barwon Council as elected officials. The place is significant due its association with Alexander Gray, proprietor of Albion Woollen Mills who owned the Tannery. The Australian Tannery is significant due to its association with architect and Surveyor and Supervisor of Public Works, South Barwon Shire Council, Robert Smith Tuffs. Tuffs designed notable buildings and structures in Geelong including the drying shed and western and eastern wings of the Australian Tannery for the Brearley Brothers. (Criterion H)

Primary source

The Australian Tannery Heritage Assessment, Janine Barrand 29 February 2024, peer reviewed by David Scott 6 August 2024.

Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study. Stage 2. Volume 13, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd, 1998-2000.

This document is an incorporated document in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*