

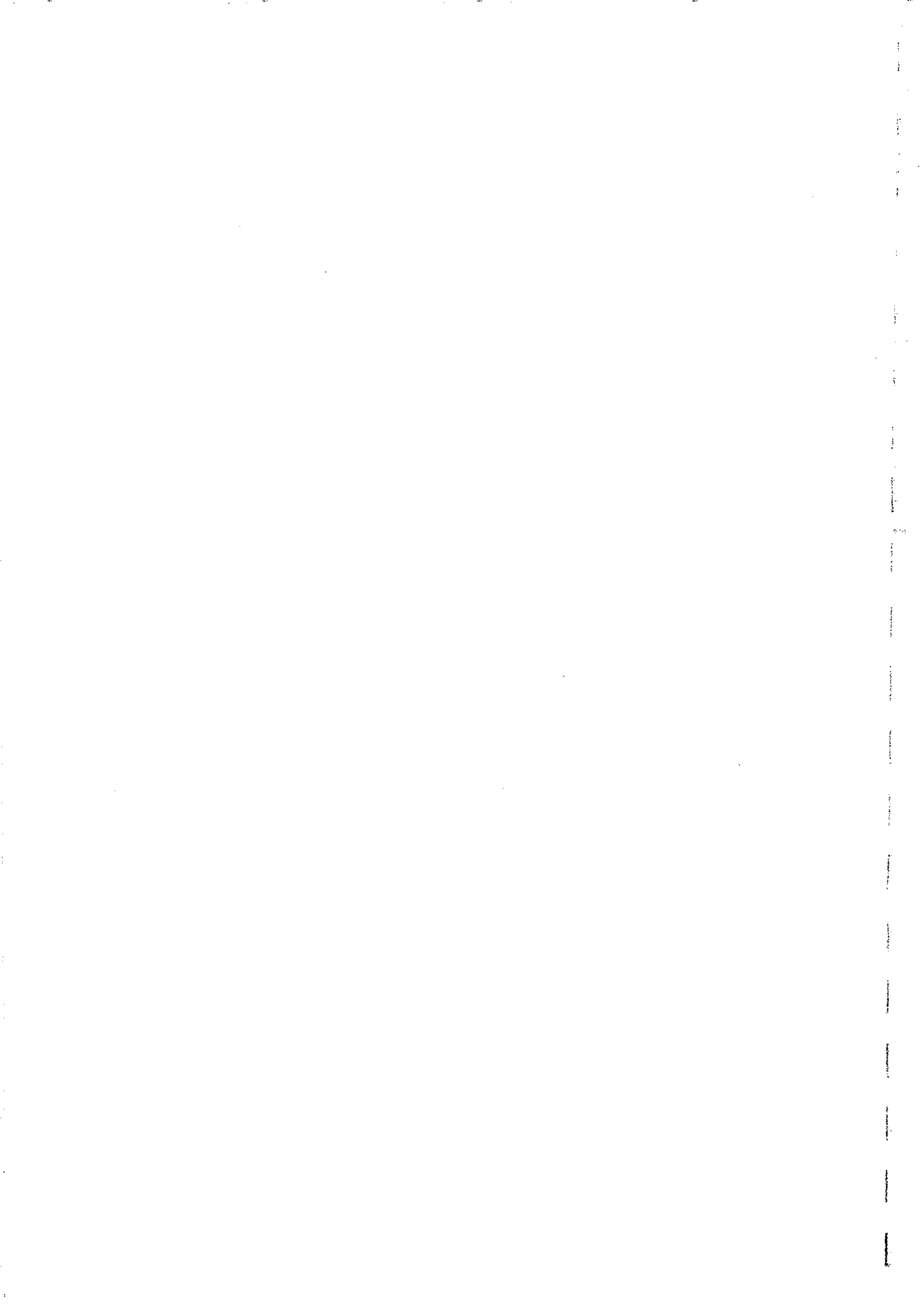
THE PYRENEES SHIRE
AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY
1864 - 1994

VOLUME 3



FEBRUARY 1995

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**THE PYRENEES SHIRE
AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY
1864 - 1994**

The Shire of Avoca Heritage Study was commissioned by the National Estate Committee (Victoria) and the Shire of Avoca in 1993. The study was carried out with the assistance of funds made available by the Commonwealth of Australia under the National Estate Grants Program. The consultants reported to a steering committee comprised of representatives of the Shire, National Estate and the local community.

STUDY TEAM

The Avoca Heritage Study has been researched and compiled by the following consultants:

Wendy Jacobs - Architect and Planner
Karen Twigg - Historian

sub consultants

Nigel Lewis/Richard Aitken Pty. Ltd.
Architects and Heritage Consultants

VOLUMES

The Avoca Heritage Study is divided into three volumes.

Volume One - contains the Environmental History of the former Shire of Avoca. This is structured around key themes that provide an historical explanation for the present appearance of the Study area.

Volume Two - contains planning and other heritage recommendations for individual sites and areas of special significance.

Volume Three - contains documentation on individual sites which reflect themes outlined in the Environmental History. These sites are recommended for protection under the Local Planning Scheme or the provisions of the Historic Buildings Act. The sites are arranged by geographical location alphabetically and within these locations, again, alphabetically by road name.

INTRODUCTION

The Shire of Avoca Heritage Study was commissioned by the National Estate Committee (Victoria) and the Shire of Avoca in 1993. The report was prepared by consultants Karen Twigg, Historian and Wendy Jacobs, Architect; sub consultants Nigel Lewis, Architect and Richard Aitken, Architect.

The study is in three volumes. The first volume contains an environmental history. The second volume contains planning and other heritage recommendations. The final volume contains information on individual sites. This volume is organised by geographical location alphabetically and within these locations, again, alphabetically by road name.

The former Shire of Avoca occupies an area of 1,127 square kilometres on the outskirts of the central Victorian goldfields, 180 kilometres north-west of Melbourne. The most dramatic landscape feature is the Pyrenees range which occupies the entire centre and northern section of the former Shire clearly dividing it into east and west and forms the backbone of the Shire. A major river, the Avoca, runs through the former Shire from south to north not only giving its name to the municipality but forming the boundary between the Loddon and Wimmera districts of the state.

Forests cover the centre of the Study area including the gullies and slopes of the Pyrenees ranges and extending to the boundaries of the townships of Landsborough and Moonambel. The remainder of the Study area has been extensively cleared for cultivation and paddocks divide the landscape into neat units. The flat stretches of land in the north east of the former Shire around Natte Yallock and Rathscar contrast with the hills of Moonambel, Barkly and Redbank in the north or the undulating plains of Crowlands and Landsborough in the south-west.

The buildings and street design of townships throughout the Study area give indications of a more prosperous past and the explanation can be quickly found in the piles of earth and collapsed shafts, the huge white shapes of mullock heaps and the banks of dredged earth that suggest the extent of mining activity in the Study area in the nineteenth century. At the same time old farm sheds, displaying a wide variety of early construction techniques, dot the landscape leaving the visitor in little doubt of the district's strong farming heritage.

These observations suggest the key role played by both miners and farmers in shaping the history and physical fabric of the Study area and many of the themes explored in the following pages will relate to the influence of these two activities. Ultimately farming superseded mining as the primary economic force in the Study area in the twentieth century; yet much of the present character of the former Shire continues to have its origin in the mining and farming activities which took place in the Study area in the nineteenth century.

Although wine making occurred in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century there has been a resurgence since the nineteen sixties with increasing acreage devoted to viticulture and winemaking is becoming a major industry and tourist attraction in the study area

The following study is confined to the boundaries of the former Shire of Avoca as they were in 1993. It was commenced prior to local government restructure. The entire study area is now part of The Pyrenees Shire. The boundaries which formed the limits of the Avoca Shire until 1994 were first determined on the 2 December 1861 when the Avoca Road District was proclaimed. This initially excluded Moonambel and Avoca which at this time were municipalities in their own right. However on 28 December 1863 all areas were united to form the new Shire of Avoca and with the exception of a small area in the south which became part of the Lexton Shire in the 1940s.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The consultants are extremely grateful for the assistance they have received throughout the course of the Study. First and foremost they would like to thank the members of the Steering Committee who have provided timely advice and direction and have facilitated the completion of the Study. The members of the Steering Committee were:- Debbie Ambler, Geoff Austin, Cr. Rupert Bibby (Chairman until July 1993), Mardi Elliott, David Graf (Shire Engineer), Gary Leitch (Conservation & Natural Resources), Graeme Mills, Cr. Pat Murrell, Cr. Ivan Redpath J.P., Ken Shearer (Shire Secretary), Cr. Rob Vance (Chairman from July 1993).

They would also like to record their special thanks to Council staff and in particular to Dawn Aquilina, Robert Rayner and Julie Peters. Their patience and good humour has been much appreciated.

Many people have participated in the Study and their contribution has been invaluable. In many cases they have provided insights into aspects of the Shire's heritage which might otherwise have been overlooked. The consultants would like to thank:- Noel Boatman, Bernie Brown, Maurice Cain, Eulalie Driscoll, Ted Ellis, Keith Farnsworth, Nancy Friend, Joan and Malcolm Ford, Fay Peck, Ivy Raggett, Dorothy and Herb Robinson, Tom Wright.

The information about mining sites has been compiled largely from reports prepared by David Bannear and Robyn Annear as part of their state-wide survey of mining sites for the Department of Conservation and natural resources. The consultants would like to thank them for permission to use this material. The Bannear/Annear citation number for each site can be found under "References" on the appropriate sheet.

The Avoca Historical Society have been very generous in allowing access to their holdings, especially the fine photographic collection. Special thanks to Colleen Allen, Jan Burnett, Helen Harris, Lorna Purser and Noel Tunks.

We would like to pay tribute to the help and support of Mardi Elliott both as a member of the steering committee and as a source of local information. She also kindly provided hospitality to the consultants during the field work. Mardi passed away in October 1994.

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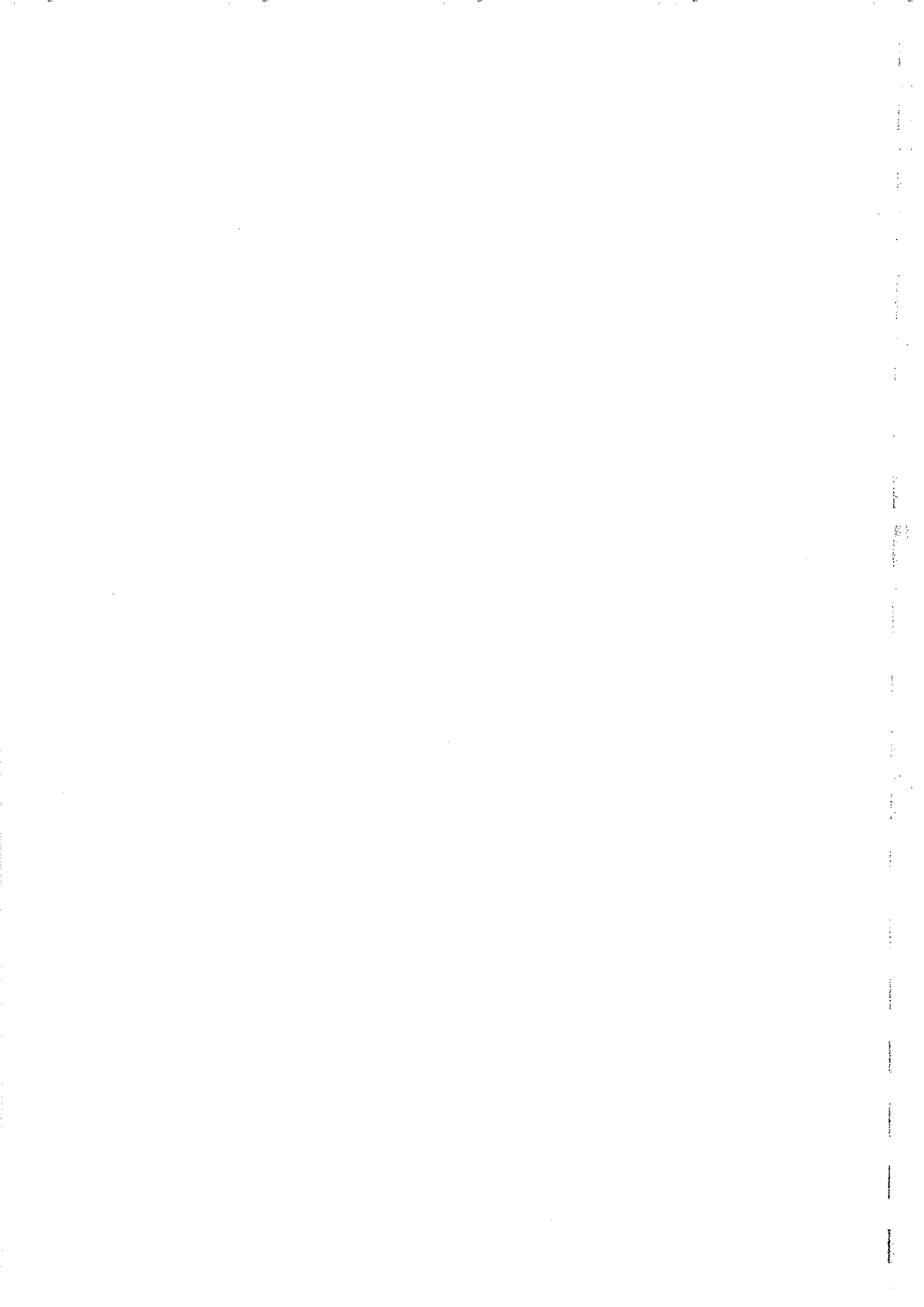
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FILE No: AD10

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No.
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Lamplough
 NAME: Lamplough State school No. 1239
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Lamplough Rd
 MAP NAME: Lamplough
 MAP REFERENCE: YD 223868

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lamplough state school No. 1239 is a timber structure built in 1875. It has significance for its characteristic qualities, its associations and importance as a landmark. The school is characteristic of the small timber schools built as a combined school and teacher's residence by the Education Department from 1873 until 1890. It is one of the only buildings to survive in Lamplough, and it is viewed as a local landmark to which the identity of Lamplough is now attached.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

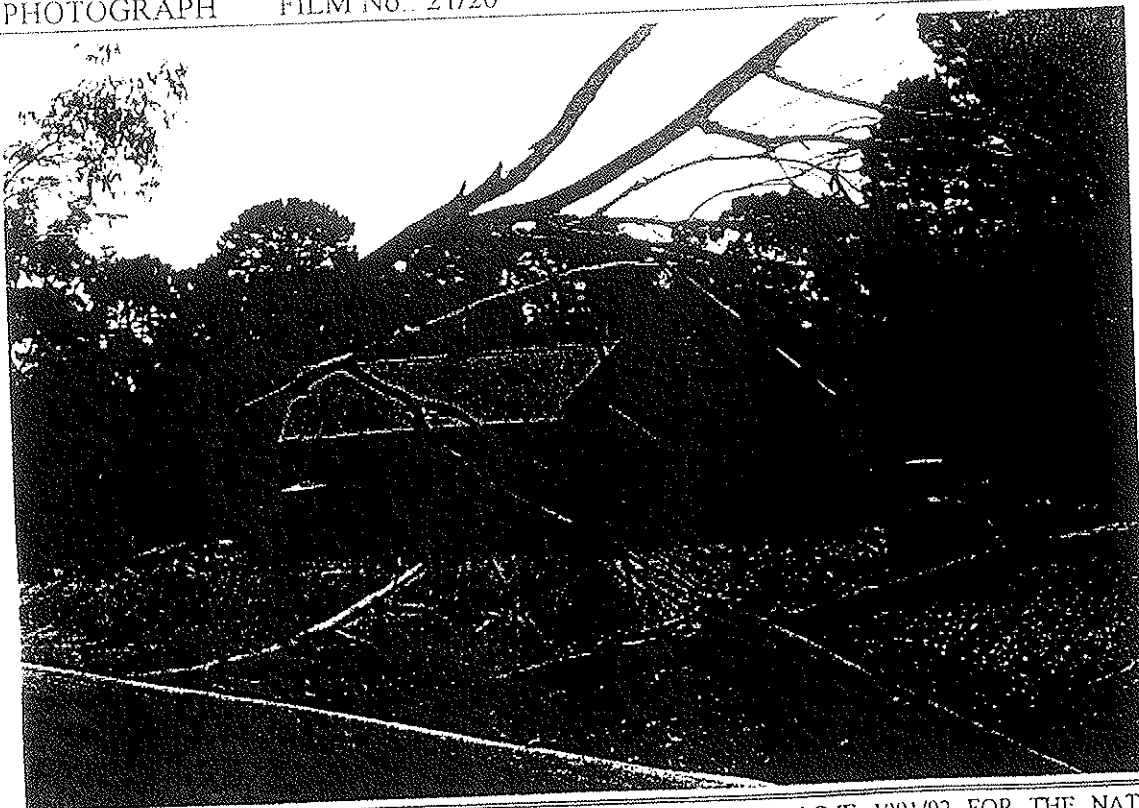
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (schools)

BUILDING DATE: 1875

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 21/20

DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

During the Lamplough goldrushes in late 1859, the population of the area was estimated at between 20,000 and 30,000. However by the 1870s Lamplough was a far smaller and more settled community of farmers and miners. The first school at Lamplough was established in response to an application from twelve Lamplough parents on behalf of thirty-five children early in 1873. The application was written by Patrick Fogarty who stated:

A school will be of the greatest benefit here, as there are many children receiving no instruction at all and are growing up in the greatest ignorance. The nearest schools to Lamplough are those at Avoca, Spring Flat and Lillicur, and these places are each four miles distant from us.

Classes were initially held in an old weatherboard store with an iron roof which stood on the corner of Ballarat and Amphitheatre Streets and which the Education Department leased from Mr Cartwright.

On 25 June 1873 the District Inspector, Mr Bolan, recommended that a site for a new school be obtained and the present site was gazetted on 12 December 1873. The new school was built by W Ashley for a cost of £374.18.0. It combined a residence and school room in a timber building, 30 feet x 18 feet, with three skillion rooms attached. The first classes in the new building were held on 1 July 1875.

As the population of the Lamplough area declined with the exhaustion of gold, the enrolment at the school also fell until by 1902 it stood at only fifteen. The school was closed in this year but opened part-time with the Homebush State school No. 1579 in January 1905. Lamplough resumed full-time on 8 October 1908, and in the following year boasted an enrolment of thirty-three.

In 1910 residents complained that the school roof was leaking and the windows and sashes were rotting and falling out. The repairs were done and reports in 1914 describe the school as being in very good condition. The attached residence was being used as a shelter shed and play-house until February 1916 when the head teacher, M B Isaac occupied the house. Painting and repairs were carried out to the school and residence in 1925 but by 1933 it was reported that the residence was again empty and was being used by passing tramps and left in a dirty condition. Miss Jess the last teacher at Lamplough, did not reside at the school but rode her bike to and from Avoca each day.

The Lamplough State school closed on 20 September 1949.

DESCRIPTION

The Lamplough school is a standard timber 60-type single room school with attached residence. From 1873 until 1890, 240 of this style in either the 40-type or 60-type with or without attached residents were built by the Education Department. In 1875 all were roofed in timber shingles.

The schoolroom is the standard gable roofed rectangular, weatherboard clad building with a small gable roofed porch facing the road and the gable roofed residence intersecting at right angles. The major items of decoration are the finials, barge boards and central timber wall vent. The two brick chimneys survive. The building appears to have been altered by the addition of an enlarged front window, probably replacing the original double hung window and the roofing of corrugated iron replacing or covering the original shingles. The existing paint scheme would appear to be that of the 1925 repainting.

The building is a substantially unaltered and the retention of the early colour scheme enhances its appearance. It is a good example of a characteristic building type.

REFERENCES

- W. Brereton to the Secretary for Education, 2 March 1910
- Patrick Fogarty to the Minister of Public Instruction, 5 February 1873
- Vision and Realisation*, p. 750
- Information from Ivan Redpath

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Rathscar West
NAME: Rathscar West Methodist church
FORMER NAME: Homebush Methodist church
ADDRESS: Avoca-Bealiba Rd
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 207990

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Rathscar West Methodist church is a brick structure built in Homebush in 1872 but transferred to Rathscar West in 1928. It is significant for its associations.

The Rathscar West church illustrates the common rural practice of recycling redundant buildings. Its transferral from a mining community to a farming community is indicative of the growing predominance of mining over farming in the twentieth century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (church)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 22/23

BUILDING DATE: 1872
DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

A site for the use of the Wesleyan Church was temporarily reserved at Upper Homebush in December 1862 and a Wesleyan chapel was in existence by 28 January 1864 when all the church's internal fittings were stolen. A new church was built in 1872 and in 1873 the Homebush Building Committee was given a loan of £40 to assist in paying for the construction of the new church.

During the early twentieth century the population of Homebush declined with the closure of most of the company mines and since the Homebush church was no longer in use, it was transferred in 1928 to Rathscar West and re-erected on this site. The keystone, with the original construction date carved in it, is mounted near the entry porch as a memorial of the earlier site.

The Rathscar West church was part of the Avoca circuit and a preacher visited regularly from Avoca.

DESCRIPTION

The church is of a rudimentary Gothic style. The change in brickwork near the top of the walls indicates that there was new materials introduced into the building during the reconstruction. The church, as rebuilt, is of red brick with rendered parapet, and buttress cappings and simple rendered sills and window surrounds. The building has a single storey nave with a centrally placed gable roofed porch at the front and a later addition of a cement sheet clad, skillion roofed vestry at the back. The nave is divided into three bays by stepped buttresses with the corners buttresses corbelling out to form the base of the parapet wall. The corbel is repeated on the porch which does not have buttresses. In the centre of each bay is a lancet window with small paned windows. The roof is of corrugated iron with the ridge punctuated by longitudinal roof vents.

An early photograph of the building before it was moved shows that the building was of three bays divided by brick buttresses, but these did not have a step in them. The windows and porch doorway were outlined in cream coloured bricks with the carved stone keystone in the centre of the arch over the porch window. The front walls did not rise into a parapet but the roof ended in eaves with a turned timber finial marking the apex. The gable wall was decorated with a narrow rectangular vent outlined in cream brickwork. The walls of the porch rose in a parapet supported on a row of dogs tooth cream bricks. The photograph shows a 1500 high triangular topped timber palisade fence and a free standing timber frame supporting the church bell. The windows are as shown in this photograph

The building is of similar height, length and width to its original construction but the change in material of the window surrounds, the change in detailing of the roof and porch eaves have altered the character of the building. The existing building is a fascinating example of recycling and reinterpretation of a building during its reconstruction.

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society, Photograph No. 591, E1/33
- Avoca Free Press*, 10 March 1937
- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, pp. 26-7
- Uniting Church Archives, Certificate of Trust, 1913
- Avoca and District Historic Society Photographic Collection, Photograph No. 591
- Information from Graeme Mills

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: AD17

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Rathscar West

NAME: Avonlea
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Avoca-Bealiba Rd

MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YE 219005

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Avonlea, farm house, parts of which date from the nineteenth century is significant for its characteristic qualities and contextual importance. It is a representative example of a typical farm house, beginning as a humble timber dwelling in the nineteenth century but then extended and altered as farming fortunes improved in the twentieth century

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

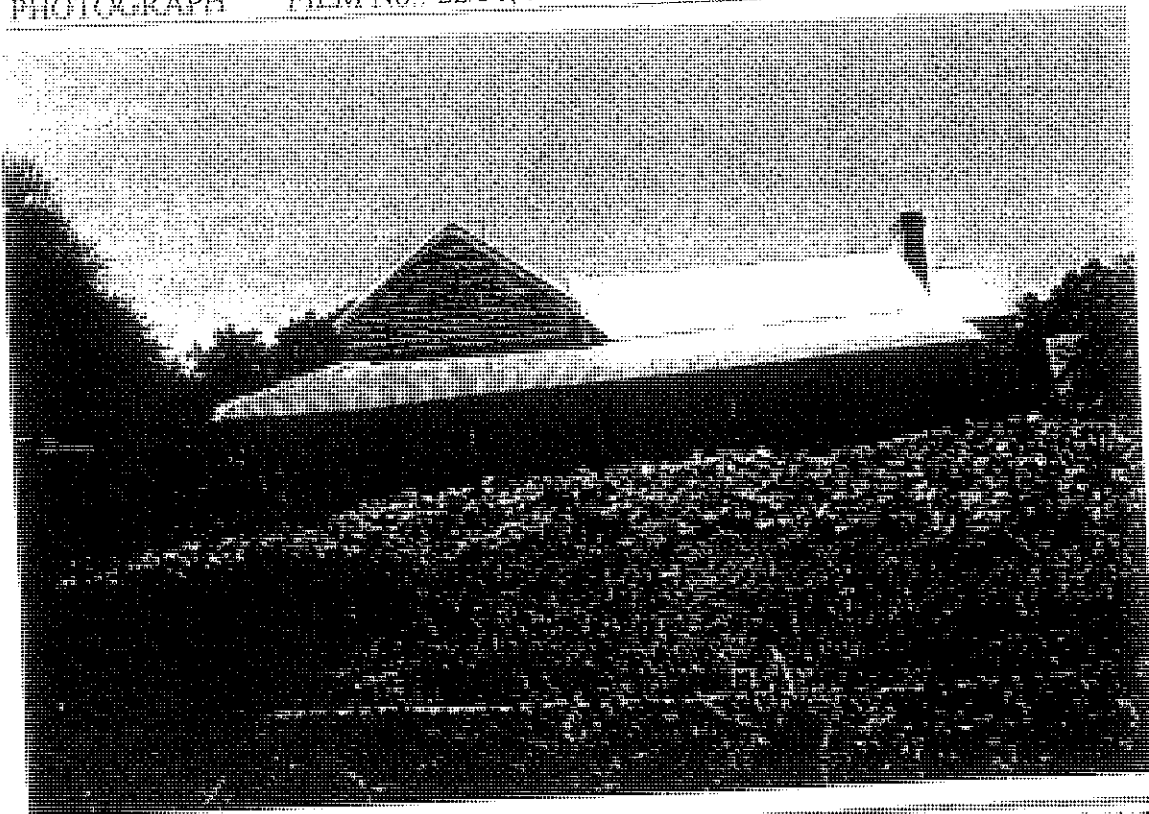
THEMES: Farming

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.: 22/31, 32

BUILDING DATE:

DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

Under the 1869 Land Act, Benjamin Elliott took up three blocks of land totalling 367 acres in Rathscar West which he purchased in 1899. On this land Benjamin and his wife Mary Ann raised nine children.

After Benjamin's death, in December 1921, the property was divided between two sons, Thomas and James, and the family home was physically split in two. One half stayed on the original farm while Thomas re-erected the other half on land the family owned in Elliott's Lane, Rathscar. [N19]. James continued to live on the original farm, adding to the house as occasion required.

The property is now owned by his son Charles Elliott, who still resides here.

DESCRIPTION

The existing farmhouse consists of the section of the original farmhouse grafted to a timber cottage with a lower ceiling height and a later twentieth century gable extension at the rear of the house.

The original section of house may have been relocated from another site on the farm or may be in its original position. The building is a rectangular timber frame, square edged weatherboard building with a gable roof now clad in corrugated iron. The brick chimney matches the brick chimney on the cottage section and would appear to date from the time that the building was split up. This section of the house has high ceilings and the front window is larger than on the abutting cottage. The two sections are linked by a return verandah with a slight bullnose curved roof. The verandah is supported on square timber posts with simple rectangular timber struts as brackets. The cottage section has gable roof and is clad in square edged weatherboards. This section consists of three rooms with a large living room at the rear and two bedrooms leading off a central passage at the front. The modern section at the rear is also clad in square edged weatherboards and has a gable roof.

The cottage section appears to date from the nineteenth century and it would appear that it and the section of the Elliott farmhouse were moved to this site and reconstructed or one section was grafted to the other on this site. The sequence of events is difficult to understand without further physical investigation.

The complex is interesting as a characteristic timber cottage with the various additions responding to changes in family numbers and prosperity. The inclusion of a section of the earlier house is an interesting addition to the growth of the family farmhouse.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 12 September 1922
Information from Ivan Redpath
Information from Graeme Mills

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Rathscar
NAME: Elliott farm complex
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Avoca-Bealiba Rd
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 205990

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elliott farm complex includes a house, underground dairy, poultry shed, horizontal slab dog kennel, and other outbuildings. It is significant for its characteristic qualities and contextual importance. The Elliott complex is an unusual surviving example characteristic of an early twentieth century farm where the local materials were extensively used in the farm buildings. The variety of elements which make up the complex lend themselves to interpretation and provide insights into the daily work routines of an early farm.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Farming

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No: 22/26-30B

BUILDING DATE:

DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

This land was originally selected by Hugh Glass in 1859. During the late nineteenth century Benjamin Elliott purchased land at Rathscar, and his son, George Elliott, settled on this block. It was probably at this time that the present broad array of farm structures was erected. In 1898 a G. Elliott was licensed to cut 300 sleepers at Warrenmang which may indicate that he was also involved with timber getting. Farmers frequently used poles, trunks and other bush timbers from their own property to construct buildings. The collection of sheds is similar to those on his brother Thomas' farm in Natte Yallock (N19)

In later years a local identity, Reg Hart lived in the house and raised poultry, although the Elliotts continued to farm the land. Ben Jolly also lived in the house for a period of time.

DESCRIPTION

The farm consists of a collection of buildings and sheds. The farmhouse consist of two, two-roomed, cottages and a single roomed building abutted together. These do not appear to be linked internally. The central two roomed section has been extended by a skillion roof addition to the rear. The three buildings are clad in square edged weatherboards and have gable roofs clad in corrugated iron. The central section has a very wide brick chimney of soft orange bricks and would appear to be older than the adjacent structures. The front cottage section has a narrower brick chimney. An early photograph held by the Elliott family shows a family group of four adults, eight children and a bicycle in front of the house. The photograph shows the cottage facing the road. A shed constructed of bush poles with a bark roof can be glimpsed behind the house. It would appear that at least the central section of the farmhouse dates from the nineteenth century. The other sections may have been on the farm when George Elliott took possession of the site. The collection of bush pole framed, bark and thatched roof sheds are similar in character to the sheds on the Elliott property in Natte Yallock (N19). As George worked as a timber getter, the sheds could date from the Elliott's occupation of both sites or the sheds on one of the sites could have been used as a model for all further shed construction on the Elliott farms due to the readily available materials.

The sheds on this property consist of :

a collapsed thatched roof buggy shed with the roof supported on round bush poles and a roof of saplings. The saplings are attached to each other by wire.

A semi-basement dairy/coolstore, partly dug under ground with a bush pole framed roof with some bark roofing under the corrugated iron. This held a timber butter churn and meat safe and the remains of other storage boxes.

A dog kennel, chain still attached, of paired vertical, round posts at each corner with roughly squared horizontal slabs held between them. This has a skillion roof. Which way it sloped is difficult to ascertain due to the lean of the building.

A machinery store or stables supported on large round timber posts with vertical slabs as wall cladding. The gable ends are filled with horizontal weatherboards. The roof is clad in corrugated iron.

A hen house with large, round, timber posts as the major supports with weatherboard wall cladding and a skillion roof now clad in corrugated iron.

It would appear that the outbuildings date from the Elliott occupation of the farm and therefore date from about the turn of the century. There may have been a family tradition for this type of structure and they were constructed of the readily available timbers as need arose. The sheds form a link with the earlier settlers who used the materials at hand to construct the first buildings on their land, which were replaced with more substantial construction as they were able to do so. The survival of a collection of farm buildings such as this is unusual.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 6 December 1921

Information from Ivan Redpath

Victorian Government Gazette, 5 August 1898, p. 2974

Two early photographs supplied by the Elliott family.

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Avoca racecourse grand-stand
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Racecourse Rd
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 171909

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Avoca racecourse grand-stand is a timber structure built in 1927. It has significance for its associations and contextual importance. The grand-stand is closely associated with Avoca race course where meetings have been held since 1860. Its size and the care taken in its design suggests both the large number who attended the races and the local importance attached to them. The grand-stand should be viewed in relationship to other elements on the site, including the refreshment shed and the racecourse.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (sport)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 22/12

BUILDING DATE: 1927
DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

One of the most popular forms of entertainment in the Shire's early gold mining days was horse racing. Two-day race meetings were held at Avoca by 1860 and in this year it attracted 1,500 people, many tramping overland from the Lamplough diggings to attend. The Racing Committee had spent almost £300 on improvements and felt able to assert that the course was now 'scarcely inferior to any in the colony, with the exception of Creswick'.

By 1869 a grandstand had been erected and publican's booths were erected at each race meeting. The *Avoca Mail* described a race meeting at Avoca in April 1870, 'all was orderly, comely and becoming...the attendance at this meeting was greatly enhanced by visitors from Talbot and Maryborough, who mustered in strong numbers'.

The opening of the railway swelled attendance at the Avoca race meetings, and special 'race' trains were scheduled to transport punters from Melbourne to Avoca via Castlemaine. On one occasion in the late nineteenth century it is said that the punters had suffered a bad day at the races and pushed some of the bookmakers off the train between Maryborough and Castlemaine.

The first grandstand was demolished and replaced with a second grandstand built by Bill Whitely and Sons in January 1927.

DESCRIPTION

The grandstand is a simple timber building with a gable roof supported on large squared timber posts at the front. The rear wall is clad in square edged weatherboards. The gable roof is of a relatively low pitch and has a flat pitched extension supported on square timber brackets braced off the main roof posts. The brackets also support the main roof beam and the three brackets branching off each post give a tree like appearance to the posts. The roof has wide eaves with a flagpole attached to the centre of the gable.

The grandstand seating is of timber steps with simple timber rails on each side.

Later skillion roofed additions clad in cement sheeting detract from the structure.

The grandstand is characteristic of the simple timber structures erected in sporting grounds during the early part of the twentieth century. Although the later additions detract from the building their location is such that the original structure can still be used and appreciated in near original form. Many similar structures are disappearing through neglect and replacement.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, April 1870, 7 January 1927
Information from Ivan Redpath

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FILE No: AD27

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Hedon Farm
FORMER NAME: Mackereth's winery
ADDRESS: Dawson's Rd
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 178922

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hedon Farm consists of the original brick homestead and several cellars. It has significance for its rarity, influence and associations.

Although the Pyrenees is now known as a winemaking region and there were at least nine vignerons at work in the Shire in the nineteenth century, Hedon Farm is of great importance as the only site in this area that still demonstrates substantial evidence of early winemaking. It is closely associated with Edwin Mackereth who established the winery and was one of the first to prove the quality of local wines. The success of his wine at agricultural shows and its distribution locally and in Melbourne, influenced the establishment of other vineyards in the area.

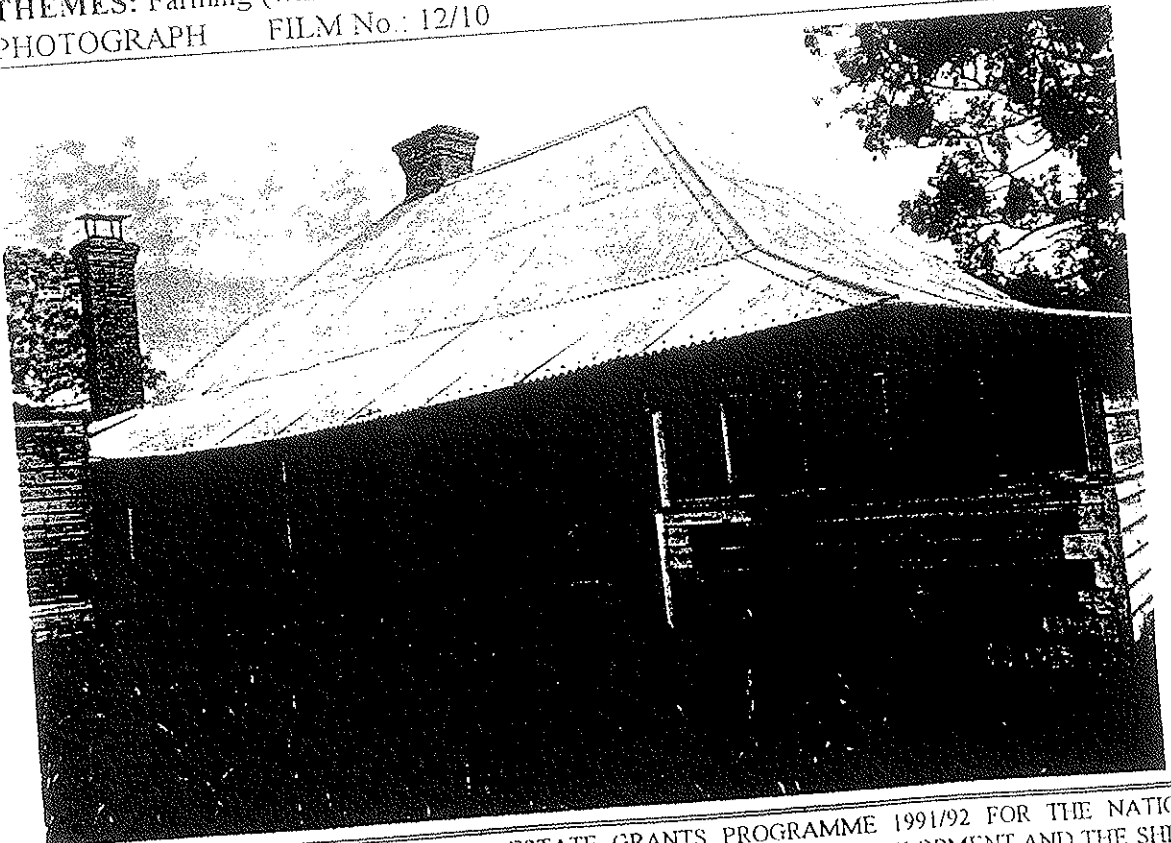
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Farming (wine making)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 12/10

BUILDING DATE: c1865
DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

Edwin Mackereth migrated to Victoria from England during the goldrushes and after marrying in 1860 was rated for a cottage and farm land west of Avoca in 1865. He named his farm Hedon farm after his Yorkshire home and established an orchard, mostly of cherries. In 1889 he was listed as one of nine wine makers in the *Journal of the Viticulture* and although at this time he had no more than half an acre in vines, in the next decades he was to become the Shire's best know vigneron.

The Government wished to encourage the development of the wine industry and in the early 1890s Edwin Mackereth planted fourteen acres of vines under a government bonus scheme. In 1889 he had invited the government viticultural expert, Romeo Bragato, to visit the Avoca area, and advise on the suitability of the soil and climate for viticulture. Bragato later reported that he had seen two large vines in full bearing at the Mackereth's property which he had been told had yielded a crop of grapes between 200-300 pounds the following year. He also tried experimental wines made by Edwin Mackereth and another local vigneron, J Magee, and described them as 'good and clear, with a nice delicate perfume, and harmonious in their components.

The Mackereth's wine making operations continued to expand. Shiraz, black prince, palomino, Doradillo and frontignac were planted, and grapes were also purchased from other vineyards in the area. Two cellars were built near the house - one dug into the ground probably for use as a vintage cellar while a storage cellar occupied two levels, one above ground and the other below ground. Later two more cellars were built. Edwin was assisted by his two sons, Edwin and Charles. Both died in 1907 at a relatively young age and Edwin's third son, John, returned home to help his father, taking over after Edwin's death in 1916.

By 1920 the Mackereth family vineyard covered forty acres and their wine was winning prizes at local shows. The wine was sold in bulk to a Melbourne merchant, but it was also retailed through a wine cafe owned by the Mackereth's in High Street, Avoca (A46, later replaced by A125) However, the market for wine fell during the 1920s, and in 1929 John Mackereth sold the property to a dairy farmer, Mr Dawson, who delivered milk to the Avoca township for many years. Cattle were subsequently turned onto the vineyard and the vines grubbed out. The large stone winery and cellar complex was not part of the original sale, but eventually they also passed out of the Mackereth's ownership.

DESCRIPTION

The house is a rectangular building of brick with a rough coat of render. The brick is in panels with round timber posts supporting the roof structure. The roof is a large hip encompassing the entire house and extends at a flatter pitch to form the verandah that encircles the house. The house has a wide brick chimney through the ridge and a tall brick chimney of identical design at the edge of the verandah which has been extended to form the kitchen. There is also a shorter chimney next to the kitchen chimney from a brick, barrel vaulted bakers oven. The verandah posts are also round tree trunks. The house has a wooden floor on round tree trunks stumps. Parts of the verandah have been enclosed with brick wall panels to form the kitchen, weatherboards and lattice to form additional rooms. There are sections of early wallpaper on the inside walls.

Close to the house is a cellar/store house. The cellar has been excavated to about 2.2 metres below ground with the upper section constructed of round slim saplings used as laths and rendered with mud on the outside. One external wall is of pise construction but has developed a large crack and is in danger of collapse. The skillion roof is supported on a structure of round straight sapling roof beams with roughly squared sections used as roofing battens. The roof is now clad in corrugated iron. Slightly further from the house is a shed with tree trunk posts and walls of vertical slabs held at the top and bottom between horizontal slabs. This has a gable roof with the structure of slim round saplings used as joists, rafters, battens and collar ties. The timber is very pale. The roof is now clad in corrugated iron.

The two large cellars are a some distance from the house and are now only rectangular holes in the ground and could be mistaken for dams. They are marked by some stone footings and stone rubble.

REFERENCES

- Dunstan, *Wines and Winemakers of the Pyrenees*, pp. 14-19
Avoca Mail, 19 May 1866, 17 March 1920
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1865

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
 NAME: Lamplough cemetery site, cairn
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Sunraysia Highway
 MAP NAME: Avoca North
 MAP REFERENCE: YD 217884

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lamplough cemetery site cairn was erected here in the 1960s to mark the site of a graveyard of early pioneers and miners who were buried at the site prior to 1857. It is one of the few markers of the Lamplough diggings.

The Lamplough cemetery site cairn has symbolic importance as a memorial to those who died on the Lamplough gold diggings in the early 1860s.

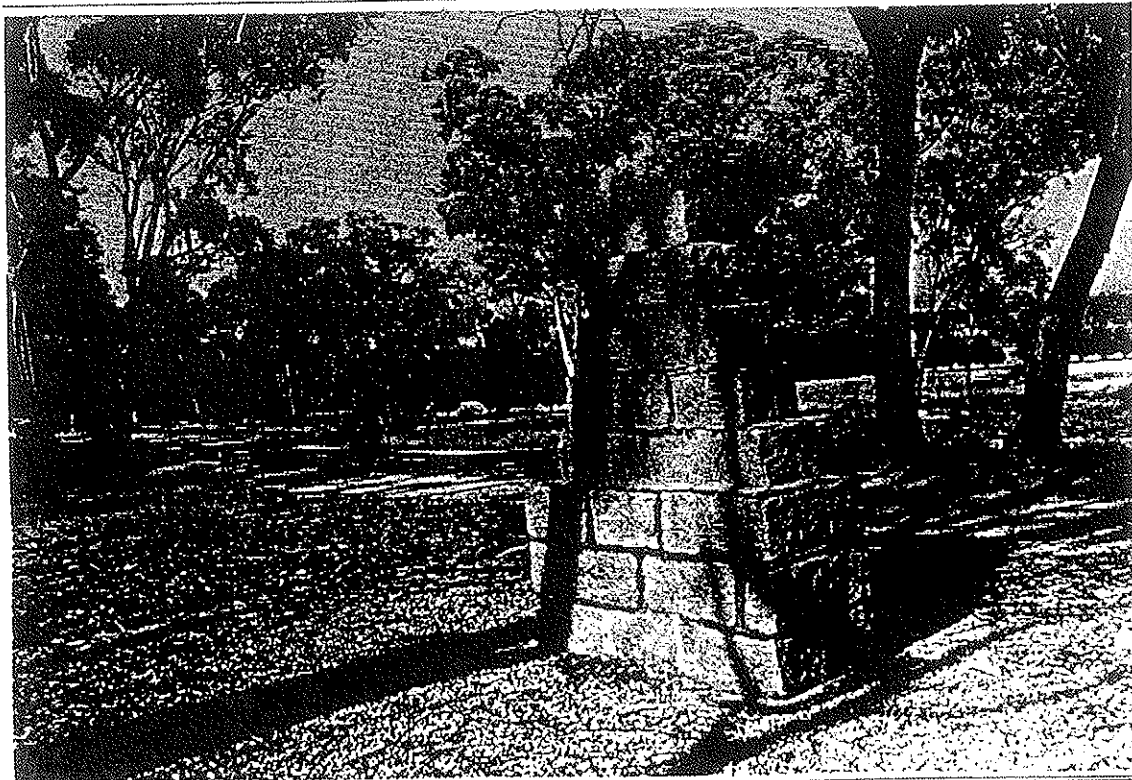
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 22/13

BUILDING DATE: c. 1860s
 DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

During the Lamplough goldrushes in late 1859, the population of the area was estimated at between 20,000 and 30,000. When deaths occurred burials were conducted in an unofficial cemetery north of the centre of the diggings.

As the population declined, less attention was given to maintaining this burial site and on 24 December 1870 an article in the *Avoca Mail* brought public attention to the fact that:
at the present time heavily laden drays pass over the old graves, and at any moment the bones of those who were buried from Lamplough may be scattered about in the light of day.

The article suggested that the Shire Council ensure the erection of fence around the old graveyard. It is not known whether this advice was followed immediately but by the middle of the twentieth century a fence of square corner posts and black wire marked the site of the cemetery. At this time there were twelve to fifteen graves evident, some marked by wooden head boards.

In 1960 the present stone cairn was erected with the inscription, 'This cairn marks the site of a graveyard of early pioneers and miners who were buried here prior to 1857'. It was sponsored by Mr Alf Lobb and the work was carried out by W. S. Gollop.

DESCRIPTION

The cairn is a of roughly squared granite blocks which step up from the base to a single block at the top. A plaque is fixed to the elevation facing the highway. It is sited on a rise overlooking the highway.

The cairn is important as a marker of the cemetery site and as one of the few sites now linked with the Lamplough diggings.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 24 December 1870
Information from Ivan Redpath

FILE No: AD 32

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS: 8/4

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Waterfall picnic area
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Waterfall Track
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 102 913

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Waterfalls are located on the No 2 Creek. They have significance for their aesthetic qualities and associations

The Waterfalls Picnic Area is considered one of the most picturesque sites in the Pyrenees and is highly valued for its aesthetic qualities. As a favourite picnic destination since the nineteenth century it is also important for its associations.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: 24/24

BUILDING DATE:

DATE 6.5.94



HISTORY

Almost directly west of the township of Avoca, a small stream known as the No. 2 Creek flows down the flanks of the Pyrenees Range and meanders to the north-east, eventually joining the Avoca River. An abrupt drop of rock near its head has formed a waterfall.

The Waterfalls have been a well known beauty spot since the nineteenth century and due to their proximity to Avoca they have also been a popular picnic destination. When the Governor of Victoria, Sir George Bowen, arrived in Avoca to open the new railway from Maryborough to Avoca on 20 October 1876, local residents were keen to show him one of their Shire's most picturesque sites. The day after the opening, sixty people turned up at the Avoca hotel to accompany Governor Bowen to the Waterfalls, but although they advanced some way into the mountains in coaches and buggies, continual heavy rain finally forced them to turn back and spend the day instead at Amphitheatre.

A more successful excursion is described in the *Avoca Free Press* on 30 December 1865:

On Monday last, Christmas Day, the children attending the Wesleyan Sunday School at Homebush, were treated to an excursion and Pic-nic at the delightful spot in the Pyrenees, known as the "Falls" Between 40 and 50 children were conveyed in the comfortable waggons on Messrs. Kenyon and Agnew, and in a spring cart kindly lent for the occasion. On arrival at the Falls a substantial collation was served out to the youngsters, washed down with Mr. J. B. Smith's ginger beer. After indulging in various pastimes and sports, a few of the older boys made an ascent of the mount, which was found sufficiently toilsome. An excellent tea was then got ready, and ample justice was done to the cakes and other good things provided. After spending a moist delightful day the party returned in good spirits, after having such a fine treat provided for them. The cortege past through Avoca with banners and flags flying and the traps tastefully decorated with flowers, etc. The whole affair past off well and all concerned appeared to have thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

The Waterfalls have continued to serve as a picnic destination in the twentieth century. In more recent years a properly constructed picnic site has been developed close to the Waterfalls.

DESCRIPTION

The Waterfalls are reached by foot along narrow paths that follow the creek. In areas the natural path worn by foot traffic has been built up with dry stone work. The Waterfalls are in a long gully with rocky faces lining each side. The area has natural beauty and there has been no attempt to introduce imported plants or trees so that it retains its untouched character. The sides of the gully support eucalypts and wattles and a selection of grasses.

An early photograph, possibly taken around the turn of the century, shows a large picnic group arranged around the cascade of water and shows how little the area has changed and how it is valued for its natural beauty.

The Waterfalls only run after rain so they are not the expected summer oasis although the gully is shaded by trees and steep banks affording some relief to the heat of summer.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, October 1876 in Beavis, *Avoca: the early years*, p. 100
 Avoca and District Historical Society, Photographic Collection, Photographic No. 501
Avoca Free Press 30 December 1865

FILE No: MIN ADI

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:
 Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
 NAME: Lamplough No 1
 ADDRESS: 2.3 km south of Avoca, 300 metres
 east of the junction of Fords and
 Greenhill Creek Road
 MAP NAME: Avoca North
 MAP REFERENCE: 196 900

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lamplough No. 1 Mine was operating in 1936 and the mullock heap and machinery foundations appear to date from this period.
 The site has significance for its associations and landmark qualities.
 The Lamplough No. 1 Mine is a relatively well preserved example of a 1930s mining site. It reflects the 1930s mining revival and the re-working of an area which has been subject to mining activity since 1859. The mullock heap, with its four dumping lines and machinery foundations, documents the working operations of a deep lead mine.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
 PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: c. 1936
 DATE:



HISTORY

The Lamplough gold rush, which attracted an estimated 30,000 miners in 1859, centred on the Lamplough Lead. It was worked for approximately three miles and shafts were sunk to a depth of seventy feet. Eventually rising water forced the abandonment of the lead by all but a few fossickers.

Experienced miners continued to insist that the Lamplough Lead would certainly pay if only it was properly drained, and as a result the Avoca Progress Committee made an attempt to re-open the Lead. They obtained £300 from the Government on the £1 for £1 principle and started to sink a shaft in the old workings. However the project was abandoned before the shaft even reached the depth achieved by earlier shafts.

In 1936 it was reported that the 'Lamplough Gold Mines' had been established. The new mines boasted electric winding, pumping, and ventilating engines of the modern type, the power being generated by a pair of 275-horse power crude oil engines.

The subsequent fortunes of these mines is not recorded.

DESCRIPTION

Lamplough No. 1 mine was operating in 1936.

There is a large intact mullock heap on the site with four main dumping lines. Near the north-west corner of the heap are two small concrete mounting beds. One of the beds appears to be T-shaped. Both the beds are obscured by high grass. There are no pebbles or sand dumps.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 121

Mines Department Annual Report, 1936

Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN AD2

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Amphitheatre

NAME: Mountain Hut Diggings
ADDRESS: 2.2 kms north-east of Amphitheatre.
Band of alluvial workings runs along
a ridge in an east-west direction and
crosses Mountain Hut-Amphitheatre R

TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land and Freehold

MAP NAME: Avoca South
MAP REFERENCE: 137 842

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main rush to Mountain Hut occurred in 1859. The alluvial workings consist of a narrow band of very intensive deep sinkings (filled shafts and pipe clay heaps) and open cutting along an old cemented lead.

The site has significance for its rarity, age and its associations.

The substantially intact cement workings at the Mountain Hut diggings, provide a relatively rare example of this type of mining. The diggings represents one of the few alluvial goldfields to survive in the Shire from the 1850s.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: c. 1859

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.:**

DATE:

HISTORY

The Mountain Hut diggings, located north of the Amphitheatre goldfield, were opened up in January 1859 and in September 1859 the Mining Surveyor estimated that there were 1,330 miners on the field. In June 1860 he wrote that the washdirt on the Mountain Hut diggings was of an inferior description but since the mining was nearly all surfacing and there was a plentiful supply of water, the diggers were able to make good wages.

Two months later a quartz vein situated on a spur of the Pyrenees at Mountain Hut was opened up and from one of its first crushings yielded 1 oz 17 dwts to a ton. Alluvial mining in the area during this period was confined principally to horse puddling.

In March 1864 there were 185 miners at work at Mountain Hut but by 1865 this had been reduced to just 95. It rose temporarily to 106 in 1866, but fell to 56 in 1867.

DESCRIPTION

The main rush to Mountain Hut occurred in 1859.

The alluvial workings consist of a narrow band of very intensive deep sinkings (filled shafts and pipe clay heaps) and open cutting along an old cemented lead. The alluvial workings run along a forested ridge that crosses Anderson's Road.

Some of the open cuts have mounds of washed pebbles, suggesting that sluicing was also carried out.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 127
James Flett, *The History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, Maryborough, 1970, p. 439
Mining Surveyor's Reports, September 1859, June 1860, July 1860, August 1860, September 1860, November 1860, March 1864, March 1865, June 1866, March 1867
R. Brough Smyth, *The Goldfields and Mineral Districts of Victoria*, Melbourne, 1869, p. 36

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FILE No: MIN AD3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Amphitheatre

NAME: Dredge Ponds, Amphitheatre
ADDRESS: 4.7 kms north-east of Amphitheatre.
Dredge ponds occur both side of the
Pyrenees Highway near the junction wi
Black's Lane and Mountain Hut Rd

TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

MAP NAME: Avoca South
MAP REFERENCE: 155 843

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Dredging was conducted at this site from 1951 to 1957. The site consists of three massive, filled dredge ponds with high embankments and associated drains and water dams.

The site has significance for its associations and landmark quality.

The dredge ponds are a good example of a large scale, twentieth century mining site. They are closely associated with one of Victoria's greatest dredging companies which in 1957 became the only operating dredging plant in the State. The high embankments of the dredge ponds and their prominent position on either side of the Pyrenees Highway, have made them well known local landmarks.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: 1951-57

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.:**

DATE:

HISTORY

In July 1948, a dredge which had been operating in the Newstead district for ten years by the Victoria Gold Dredging Company, was dismantled and after being remodelled to allow deeper dredging, was re-erected north-east of Amphitheatre. Administrative and staff buildings were erected and two boring plants engaged to discover fresh dredging areas.

Problems were caused by tardiness on the part of the State Electricity Commission in providing power and a delay in the delivery of water pipes which had been intended to convey water from the Avoca deep leads. However, the Amphitheatre dredge, under the control of the Central Victorian Dredging Company, finally commenced operations on 12 June 1951, concentrating at first on the shallow ground at the side of the main lead. By the end of the year it had dredged 485,196 cubic yards for a recovery of 1,522 oz of fine gold, the equivalent of 1.51 grains of gold per cubic yard.

During the following six months the yield improved dramatically and 3,485 oz of gold was obtained from 806,497 cubic yards - an average of 2.07 grains per cubic yard. Over the next four years, returns fluctuated - moving from an average grade of 1.4 grains in 1954 to 1.9 grains in the last six months of 1955.

In June 1957, the *Mining and Geological Journal* reported:

This has been the only dredging plant operating in Victoria in the period under review. Fair results were obtained from the continuous operations until, on 28 April 1957, the dredge sank owing to an unknown cause. It has since remained out of action.

The dredge never re-commenced operations.

DESCRIPTION

Dredging was conducted at this site from 1951 to 1957.

The site consists of three massive, filled dredge ponds with high embankments and associated drains and water dams.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 128
Mining and Geological Journal, July 1937, January 1938, July 1948, January 1949, July 1949, January 1952, January 1953, July 1953, December 1954, June 1955, December 1955, June 1957

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FILE No: MIN AD4

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Lamplough

NAME: Alluvial workings, Lamplough Lead
ADDRESS: 0.6 kms south of junction of Sunraysia
Highway and Greenhill Creek Rd.
Band of workings crosses Barry's Rd
MAP NAME: Lamplough
MAP REFERENCE: 226 863

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The alluvial workings, dating from c. 1859, consist of a wide band of intensive deep sinkings (filled shafts and mounds of white clay).

The site had significance for its age and associations.

The Lamplough alluvial workings provide a visible reminder of one of the largest rushes to take place in the Marybough and Avoca locality. They are closely associated with the Shire's early alluvial gold mining period, and the wide band of sinkings and mullock heaps is indicative of the large number of miners that once worked the field

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.: 1/23

DATE: c. 1859-60
DATE: 24.8.93

HISTORY

In 1859, mining activity throughout the Maryborough and Avoca divisions was subdued. Therefore when gold was found at Lamplough in August 1859, it galvanised the entire local mining community and sparked a rush of tremendous proportions. Sinking was easy and initial results pointed to a rich field. On 30 November, a newspaper correspondent wrote:

people are not entering, they are literally pouring in. Every conceivable avenue leading to the flat, swarms with people. Tents are going up as if by magic...along the roads leading to our El Dorado, streams of wagons, dray, equestrians and pedestrians, travel along in one continuous line.

In mid-December, the local Mining Surveyor, Mr English, estimated a total population of 12,000 but a month later the Lamplough correspondent put the figure at 25,000 and on the 17 January 1860 the Age estimated a population between 20,000 and 30,000.

Two main leads were defined, which for a time gave good returns, but they rapidly became narrow and difficult to trace. Miners' problems were compounded by the fact that the leads branched onto freehold land, forcing miners to try to negotiate mining rights with the land holder. The owner of the Lamplough pre-emptive right charged miners seven shillings a month for each claim worked, and an extra one pound if they chose to sink.

By March 1860, the population of the Lamplough gold field had consolidated and stood at an estimated 12,000 of which 7,000 were miners. In June 1860 the Mining Surveyor wrote:

At Lamplough the Deep Lead offers sufficient inducements yet to a large number of miners to remain...It has already been found payable more than two miles in length from the original prospectors' claim, and three claims in width, the average yield being an ounce to the load with one foot thickness of wash-dirt.

The situation changed little until January 1861 when a rush to the new Mountain Creek (Moonambel) diggings drained Lamplough of its mining inhabitants. By 1864 the population of Lamplough had been reduced to 120.

Prospecting continued at Lamplough throughout the nineteenth century but with little long-term success. There was a short lived rush of 200 miners to the area in September 1875, and in June 1887, joint funding from the Avoca Progress Committee and the Government's prospecting grant, allowed payable quantities of gold to be found in the shallow alluvial at both Lamplough and Percydale.

DESCRIPTION

The gold rush to Lamplough occurred in 1859.

The alluvial workings consist of a wide band of intensive deep sinkings (filled shafts and mounds of white clay). The workings cross Barry's Road. The workings on the west side of the road are relatively undisturbed, whereas those on the east have been flattened in some places.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 129
- R. Brough Smyth, *The Goldfields and Mineral Districts of Victoria*, Melbourne, 1869, p. 36
- Monthly Progress Report*, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, August 1859, January 1860, March 1860, June 1860, July 1860, August 1860, September 1860, November 1860, January 1861, September 1864, September 1865, September 1866, March 1869, March 1874, September 1875, September 1876, June 1887
- Denis Strangman, *The Rush to Lamplough*, (working draft), pp. 20, 22

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: Area 1

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca Township
NAME: Avoca Township
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS:
MAP NAME:
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Avoca Lead was rushed in October 1853 and the township grew up on the south-west end of the Lead on the banks of the Avoca River. The town was surveyed in 1854 and much of the area designated as having special significance had been developed by 1859 when Avoca became a municipality. The area has significance for its age, influence, associations and architecture.

The Avoca township possesses a range of buildings reflecting the post-alluvial gold rush period and the town's expectation of future growth and prosperity. The defined area includes smaller precincts of commercial, educational and religious buildings, which contribute to the significance of the larger precinct. These include:

The commercial strip of High Street, from Bridport to Duke Street, notable for its broad expanses and wide central plantation. This section of High Street retains a strong nineteenth century character largely created by the verandahs of shops, the larger hotels and the period features of shop fronts.

The religious and educational precinct centred on Barnett Street.

The court house and police buildings on the site of the old government camp, in the south.

Post-gold rush building erected as private dwelling and reflecting a variety of building styles from the nineteenth century

The inclusion of Dundas Street retains the relationship between the town centre and the Avoca River which has been influential from the town's formation.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS:Pyrences Planning Scheme

HISTORY

The Avoca Lead was opened up in October 1853 and traced south-west to the site of the present township. By June 1854 the population on the diggings was 16,000 and yet it was recorded that, with the exception of a few tents pitched near the Avoca River for the sake of water supply and the Police Camp buildings, the present site of Avoca was covered with timber and the only place of business was that of Mr Henry Knott, whose calico tent occupied the centre of what now forms the High Street. However in October 1854 town lots were laid out and Avoca's first land sales took place. By the end of 1854 a visitor to the town observed a number of substantial buildings including a Bank of Victoria, a Wesleyan chapel, a National school, the Avoca Hotel and two neat gold offices. At least two of these buildings - the National school [A178] and Bank of Victoria [A53] - still survive.

In 1858, 166 Avoca residents successfully petitioned the government to proclaim Avoca a municipal district and the Avoca municipality came into existence in March 1859. The Shire of Avoca was established in December 1863.

By 1868 the town boasted a bewildering variety of businesses ranging from a ginger beer brewer to a billiard maker with no less than sixty-five displaying a High Street address. Avoca even had its own paper, the Avoca Mail (established in 1863), which five years later was to face competition from the establishment of second newspaper, the Avoca Free Press.

Away from the commercial centre, the police camp was distinguished by a number of prominent buildings including a solid lock up [A152] and official police residence. [A151] Eight people gave the Camp as their address - five police officers, the clerk-of-courts, the sub-treasurer and the warden.

Religious and educational building focused on Barnett Street and by 1872 the Presbyterian church, the Church of England, [A6] the Roman Catholic church and the National school [A178] were located here. Most buildings in the town were still constructed of timber although a family of Green brothers were energetically engaged as brick makers.

DESCRIPTION

The area starts at Camp Street as the south boundary, then along Rutherford Street to Bridport Street, then east along Bridport Street to Boyce Street, then north along Boyce Street to North Street, then west along North Street to Dundas Street and south along Dundas Street to finish at Camp Street.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 6 October 1866

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A6

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS: 26A/5

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: St John's Anglican church
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Barnett St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St John's is a bichromatic brick Early English Gothic church built to the design of the Anglican Dioscene Architect, Leonard Terry, in 1869. It has significance for its architecture, influence and associations. The size and impressive design of St John's is indicative of the strength of the town's Church of England population, which included a large proportion of the local business community. The building is also expressive of Avoca's prosperity in the immediate post-goldrush period.

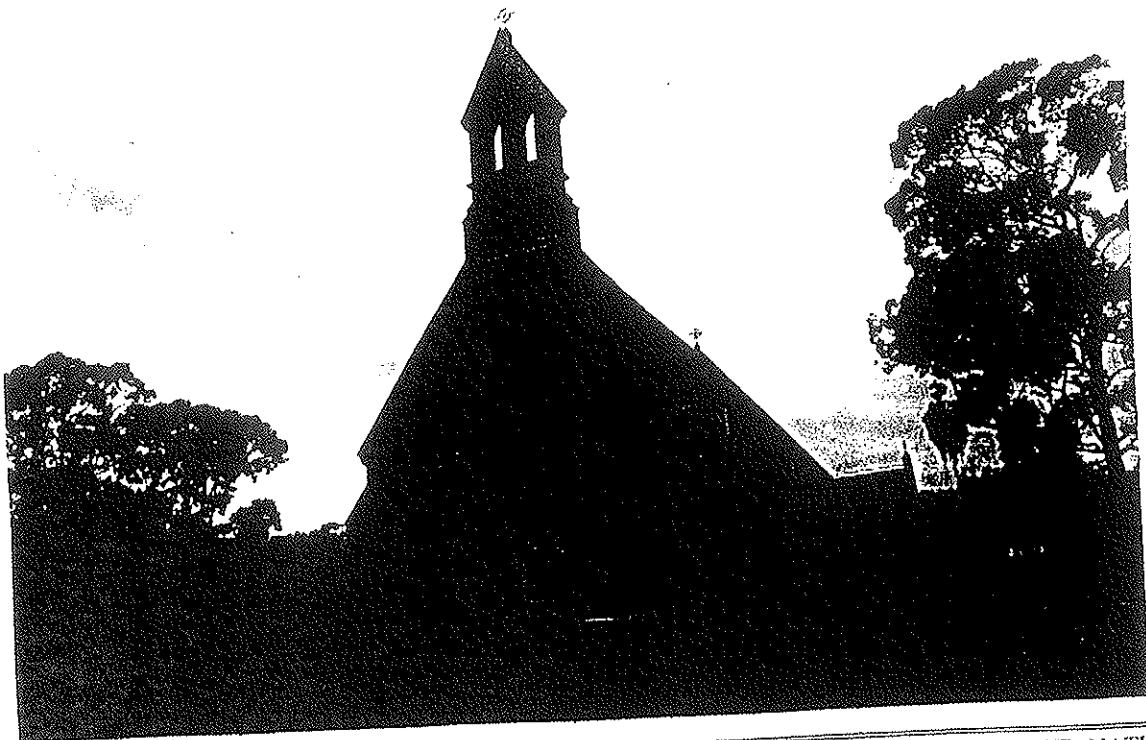
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 8/10

BUILDING DATE: 1869-71
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

During the 1850s Avoca was part of the Melbourne diocese and Bishop Charles Perry agreed to send a resident priest to the township as soon as a vicarage and church were erected. The first church was built in 1857 but it was abandoned some years later after it became structurally unsound. Instead services were temporarily held in the Shire hall. A new site for the Church of England was reserved in January 1869 and the construction of the present St John's began under the supervision of the Anglican Diocesan Architect, Leonard Terry. The local cabinet maker, Mr Classen, was responsible for all the internal timber fittings.

The opening of St John's was held on 3 December 1871 with three services in the morning, afternoon and evening, all attended by 'a full congregation, very many having to listen at the open windows'. The *Avoca Mail* reported:

Like the Gothic lines of the new building, all the motives have been of an upward tendency, but without that vanishing point which belongs only to perspective. There is no vanishing point to this new work; all is firm, well based, good and true and forms a tribute to the Great Architect of the Universe whose hand is seen in every corner stone and at 'the extremest point of every Temple dedicated to His praise'.

By the time of the opening £1,600 had been subscribed toward the church debt - a large proportion reputedly donated by denominations other than the Church of England. Nevertheless the church building debt was not finally cleared until 1881.

In 1890 a vestry was added to the church building. At this time the church was in the Diocese of Ballarat. It later became part of the Diocese of St Arnaud and then part of the Bendigo diocese.

DESCRIPTION

The church is of an Early English Gothic design in red brick with contrasting bands of cream brick, cream brick cappings to the buttresses and cream bricks outlining the tops of the lancet windows on the side of the nave. The building is in the form of a six bay nave with a steeply pitched gable roof. The entry is through a pointed arch doorway with render mouldings outlining the arch and terminating in bosses. Above the doorway is a pair of very narrow lancet windows which cut through the second band of cream bricks. The apex of the gable roof is dominated by a prominent bellcote which has two lancet openings.

The building is similar in form, with raking buttresses, paired lancet windows above the entry and a dominant bellcote, to Leonard Terry's earlier design for St James Anglican Church, Hexham. The use of the contrasting cream brick is unusual in a design by this architect.

The west wall has a large pointed arch recessed panel which indicates that the building was planned to include a chancel or an elaborate west window.

A small vestry forms a wing at right angles to the main building. This has a slate gable roof and the windows and door opening are similar to those of the church. Although of later construction it matches the original building. Its positioning to one side of the opening would indicate that in 1890 the congregation still hoped to complete the church with a chancel.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 1 May 1869, 9 December 1871

Back to Avoca, 1950

Centenary of the Consecration of the Church of St John the Divine, Avoca

Leonard Terry, Specifications for interior fittings, St John's church, Avoca, May 1871

Avoca Historical Society Photographic Collection, Photograph Nos. 210 & 55

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A9

CURRENT LISTINGS:

HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER

HBC No. Government Buildings Register

NATIONAL TRUST

NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER

OTHER

TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Avoca State school No. 4

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: Barnett St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Avoca State school No. 4 is a brick school erected in 1878 to the designs of the Public Works Department of Victoria. It has significance for its architecture, influence, landmark quality and contextual importance. The Avoca school is the first fully completed design to demonstrate the distinctive tent-like form of Henry Bastow's new school design (the 'Horsham type') and as a result was the key precedent for later schools of the same design. It also influenced the design of the important Melton court house. The incorporation of verandahs as an extension of the roof line reveals a new sensitivity to the Australian climate and to the comfort of pupils. The school has high integrity and its imposing design has made it a local landmark. Together with the nearby original Avoca National school, the two buildings form a small educational precinct which lends itself to interpretation.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Retention on the Government Buildings Register, and the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Community life (schools)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 8/14

BUILDING DATE: 1878

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

The first National school in Avoca was opened in June 1857. On 31 October 1857 there were only thirty-three children enrolled but ten years later this had increased to at least 125, and a letter asking for increased accommodation emphasised that on hot days 'the atmosphere in the school-room is in the highest degree pestiferous and unwholesome'.

By 1868 a new wing had been erected and the old building thoroughly repaired by Green Brothers for £230.6.0. However the number of students attending the school continued to grow, particularly after the 1872 Education Act made school attendance compulsory. In the year after the Act was passed student attendances at the Avoca school stood at over 300 and for a while the abandoned Church Of England building in High St was pressed into service to provide extra accommodation.

Finally in 1878 a new school building was constructed by John Jarvis, builder, to the design of Henry Bastow, architect and surveyor with the Public Works Department. Henry Bastow had recently designed a totally new style of school house and Avoca became only the second school in Victoria to be built to this design. The first was the Horsham state school in 1876 but since additions made in 1880 deviated from the original plan, the Avoca school became the first full expression of Bastow's intentions.

The Avoca school was planned to allow ten square feet per child to cater for an expected enrolment of 324 pupils. It was formally opened on 16 August 1878 by the Minister of Education, Mr Smith, with 400 children in attendance.

The long verandahs which were a distinctive feature of Bastow's design, proved successful in shading the walls of the school and keeping it cool and also provided shelter for the children during recess. However at the same time they also reduced light in the classrooms.

There have been few alterations to the school. In 1910 two large rooms were sub-divided and in 1914 there was some remodelling when new windows were installed. The school yards have been landscaped and during the 1960s additional land was purchased to extend the playing area. The roof was re-slatted in 1994. In 1970 enrolment at the school stood at 160 pupils.

DESCRIPTION

The school is an asymmetrical, building of red brickwork with a distinctive, tent like roof. Two rooms are contained within the roof space forming a part second storey.

The steeply pitched slate roof comprises a large hipped section with intersecting hip and gable roofs and a flatter straight pitched encircling verandah. Some of the hipped intersecting roof sections are unusual as they are divided by vertical timber screens with decorative cut outs. The hips and gables are supported on decorative timber brackets and the gable eaves are decorated with timbers in the form of trusses. The verandahs are supported on timber posts with flat, shaped timber brackets supporting the verandah beam. The roof has a centrally placed narrow fleche bellcote surmounted by an iron weather vane. Symmetrically placed on the ridge are two slender brick chimneys with shaped cream brick cornices and cream brick banding. The conically capped ventilators would appear to be later additions as these were only used after 1891.

The building is substantially intact externally, the major alterations being the addition of roof vents and the window changes made in 1914 and the addition of timber infill sections to the Verandah.

REFERENCES

Historic Buildings Council file, No. 6022413

National Trust file, No. 2849

Peterson, *Survey of Historic Schools in Victoria
Vision and Realisation*

Avoca Historical Society Photographic Collection, Photograph No.30

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A18

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 24A, Allotment 5

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Mud brick house
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: 17 Boyce St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The mud brick house appears to have been built during the Avoca goldrushes of the 1850s. It has significance for its rarity, age and building materials. Although dwellings made from canvas, mud brick or rough timber slabs were common during the Avoca goldrushes, most were later supplanted by more substantial structures. This house represents one of the few mud brick dwellings to survive from this era, and it is one of the oldest houses in the township. It also demonstrates early building techniques.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (residential) **BUILDING DATE:** c. 1850s
PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.:** 8/25 **DATE:** 14.9.93



HISTORY

Little is known about the original owners of this house. Section 24A, Allotment 4 was purchased by W. Smith on 16 June 1872 although the mud brick construction of the house suggests that the land had been occupied since Avoca's early goldrush days of the 1850s, probably on a miners right.

During the early twentieth century George Harrison (sen.), a blacksmith, lived here. By the 1930s the property had passed to his son Victor Harrison. During the 1950s it was owned by Mick Murnane and then by M. Stafford.

DESCRIPTION

This house is of a simple gable roofed form, with the gable section housing two rooms and the roof extending to a straight pitched verandah to the front and extending to a lower pitched skillion section, also in mud brick, to the rear which doubles the plan size of the house. The skillion section has been further extended and clad in cement sheets in the twentieth century. The house has two brick chimneys externally placed on the side wall.

The form and scale of the building is consistent with early miners cottages built during the first movement to more permanent housing after the excitement of the early transient rushes after gold settled down. The use of mud brick or pise (the construction technique has not been examined) also suggest an early date for the buildings construction. The building also faces away from Boyce Street and may once have had a frontage to Barnett Street or was situated on the rise overlooking the main street prior to the formalisation of streets and land.

The building is of an unusual material for houses in the town and is characteristic of the scale and form of modest houses during the second half of the nineteenth century.

REFERENCES

Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
Information from Ivan Redpath

FILE No: A21

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 7

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Stockyards
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Dundas St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The stockyards are built from bush timber and date from 1926. They have significance for their associations and characteristic qualities. The stockyards and their unusually close proximity to the main street, clearly illustrate the importance of farming in the local economy. Their construction of bush timber, is typical of a period before iron or aluminium was widely used in fencing structures.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Farming
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 19/19

BUILDING DATE: 1926/27
DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

After the municipal district of Avoca was officially proclaimed in March 1859, one of the first sites granted by the government was a cattle yard to the west of the township on the block now sited bordered by Palmerston, Templeton Streets, Pearson and Orme Streets. Along with the municipal baths, this was expected to bring in a 'handsome revenue'. The contract for the cattle yards was given to Grimes and Co and they were erected at a cost of £187.3.10. The cattle yards were first rented to W. W. Anslow of Ballarat but due to his failure to fulfil the conditions, his lease was cancelled and Council arranged for the yards to be leased out for three years at a rental rate of £150.

These yards were later demolished but they established a precedent of stock yards within the township area and in 1926/7 A. Astbury and Co., who also built an office in High Street at the same time, built the existing stock yards in Dundas St with little opposition. Mitchell Bros. and White soon took over the operation of the stockyards and then they were operated from about 1933 by Denny Lascelles.

Regular sales were held at the stock yards with farmers bringing their cattle and sheep in from the surrounding district to be sold. In about 1950 during the sheep boom, Denny Lascelles extended the stock yards to the south to abut Cambridge Street. The cattle yards around the Shire pound were built soon afterwards. There were also yards in existence on the south side of Cambridge Street owned by VPC.

DESCRIPTION

A photograph of the original stockyards is held by the Avoca Historical Society. The layout and construction of the stock pens is very similar to the existing stock yards. The size and capacity of the stockyards is also similar to the existing set up.

The stockyards consist of pens constructed of posts made of tree trunks and railings of round saplings and branches. These are held to the posts by wire. (The earlier stock pens had all the railings morticed and tenoned into the posts.) Flat boards for access by the auctioneer run along the top of posts at intervals.

The layout and construction of the pens is a link to the early stock sales in the country. Very few of this type now survive. The siting of the cattle yards adjacent to the river and the town is picturesque and indicates the importance of stock sales in country centres.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 32-5
- Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
- Information from Ivan Redpath and Graeme Mills
- Avoca Historical Society Photographic Collection, Photograph No. 238

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No.
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
 Section 7, Allotment 13

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Tunk's house
FORMER NAME: 'Watford'
ADDRESS: Dundas St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tunk's house is a prefabricated timber house erected in Avoca in the 1850s. It has significance for its rarity, architecture and landmark quality.

Tunk's house is a rare surviving example of a prefabricated two storey timber house imported into Victoria in the 1850s. It reflects the high aspirations and wealth of Avoca's goldrush era and the desire for a type of residence which was not available locally. The distinctive design of Tunk's house separates it from other buildings in the township and has made it into a local landmark.

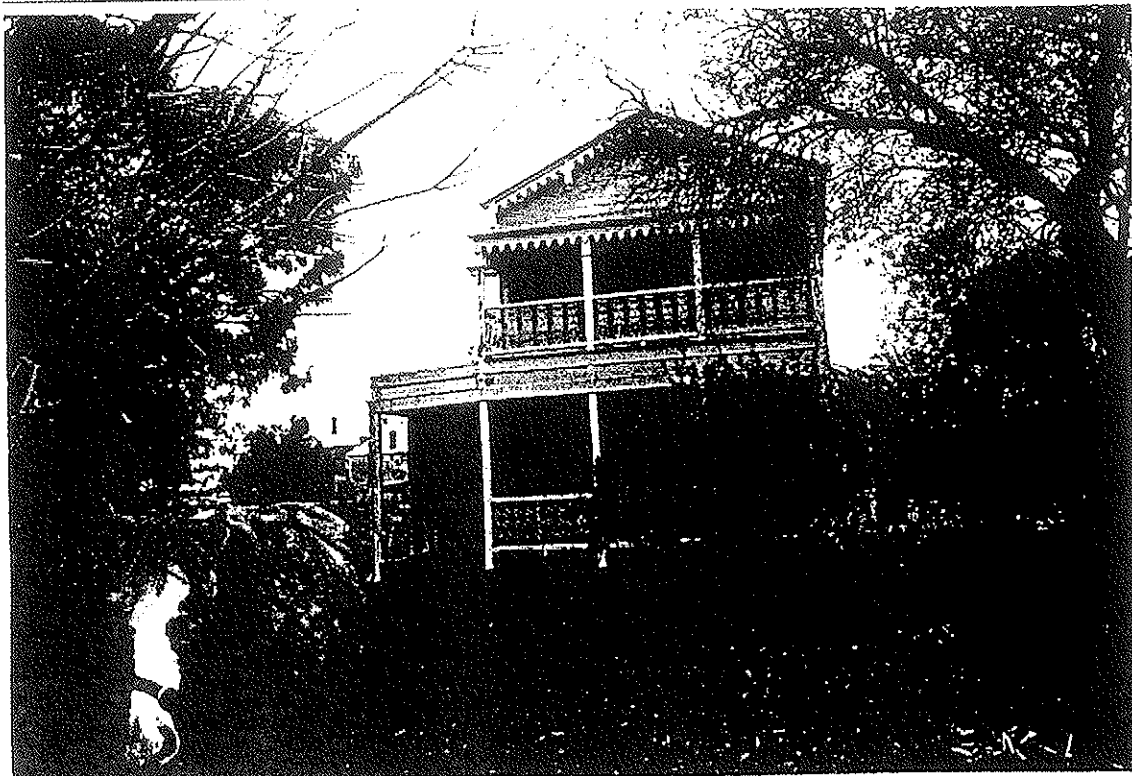
SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

Addition to the Register of Historic Buildings, addition to the Register of the National Estate, Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (residential)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 7/6

BUILDING DATE: 1850s
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

During the 1850s high quality building material was in short supply in Avoca and C.K. Pearson, the proprietor of the Avoca hotel, erected an imported prefabricated house. It arrived with each piece of timber individually numbered to its place so it could be re-erected with ease. Pearson had arrived in Geelong from Hull, England in 1852 and with his brother operated a soda water factory. His sister imported two lots of prefabricated houses in 1854 and later married Frederick Bauer, a German-born merchant who also imported houses from the Black Forest region of Germany. It is probable that the house was imported at this time. Pearson moved to Avoca and was operating the Avoca Hotel in 1855 and purchased the original site of this building in March 1856 at the first land sales. He operated the hotel until the 1860s and then operated as a watchmakers while leasing the hotel.

The building was erected in High Street adjoining the Avoca Hotel (A51) where it may have provided accommodation for hotel guests. On 30 April 1870 the *Avoca Mail* advertised that the 'substantial and commodious building adjoining the Avoca Hotel', which had recently been occupied by Mr. Pearson, watchmaker, was available for let and for a short period it was taken over by J Kitchen, a painter and decorator. However on 5 November 1870, James Smith, the publican, offered the entire building for sale. The advertisement read:

For sale by tender. That well known and Handsome Two storey Wooden Building adjoining the Avoca Hotel. To Squatters or Gentlemen requiring a country residence, such an opportunity as the above rarely occurs. The only reason the proprietor has for selling is that the ground is required for the erection of a concert hall. The Building has a frontage of 32 by a depth of 44 and is divided into suitable rooms, which are lofty and well ventilated, has an entrance hall and handsome Balcony in front.

After the sale of the building it was moved on rollers to its present site in Dundas Street near the Avoca River. The first owner is said to have been a Mr Buhlert but the building was subsequently purchased by John Paten, the proprietor of the *Avoca Mail*. The location of the house was convenient for the Patens since it backed onto the *Avoca Mail* premises. During this period the house became known as 'Watford'. Later it passed to John's son, Arthur Paten. From 1946 to 1970 Watford was owned by Mrs Margery Reid, Arthur Paten's sister-in-law. In 1971 it became the property of Noel Tunk and has remained in his ownership since.

DESCRIPTION

There is a photograph from a panorama dated 1865 which shows this building as part of the Avoca Hotel. The building is substantially as seen today. It is a two storey timber building with the main section under a gable roof with a short intersecting gable at one side and a skillion roofed section on the other. The gable end has a decorative timber scalloped barge board with a central turned timber finial and square timber droppers at each end and in the centre of each barge board. There are two windows on the lower front elevation and three across the upper storey of the front elevation. These are pairs of narrow casements divided horizontally into three panes with a rectangular transom light divided into four panes with a central diamond decoration. There are three similar windows on the upper storey of each side. The entry door is to one side of the facade and the half glazed door has a similar glazing pattern to the transom lights and has a timber doorcase with half round Doric columns supporting a triangular pediment with a frieze of timber dentils. The skillion section on the other side to the entry is built as a conservatory or summer room with moulded timber panels below a row of windows, those on the front elevation having a curved head and divided horizontally into three panes. The building today has a two storey verandah across the front elevation with a hipped roof supported on square timber posts. The upper storey has a timber valance which matches the barge boards and sway bellied cast iron balustrade panels. The lower balustrade is of cast iron in an hexagonal and diamond pattern echoing the pattern in the transom lights. The verandah is a later addition as the photographs of the building in High Street and after removal to Dundas street show that it originally had a cantilevered balcony supported on four brackets with a cast iron balustrade and no roof. The verandah only ran the width of the three upstairs windows. The pattern of the cast iron is obscured by ivy in the photograph. The building is a rare two storey surviving example of an imported house. The two sets of numbering may have been original as carpenters used a system of marking timber joints that appeared to be Roman Numerals or the numbers may relate to the building having been moved.

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society*, Photograph No. 493, 26/15 and uncatalogued photographs
Avoca Mail, 30 April 1870; 7 May 1870; 5-19 November 1870
Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
National Trust file No. 1588
Information from Ivan Redpath, Lorraine Huddle from Deakin University, and Ian Fletcher - Pearson descendant.

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A25

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 31A, Allotment 3

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Worthington's house
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Faraday St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Worthington's house is a brick structure dating from the 1920s. It has significance for its building type and associations. The substantial size and impressive design of the house is expressive of Horace Worthington's wealth and power as the local money lender. It is also indicative of a the widespread prosperity enjoyed by Avoca and its farming hinterland in the 1920s

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (residential)
PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.:** 20/15

BUILDING DATE: 1920s
DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

Horace Worthington purchased this allotment from the Crown on 16 June 1921 and the present house was built soon afterwards by a local builder, Alfred Kaye (sen.) and his son Arthur. Horace Worthington had been born in Percydale in 1885 where his father worked as a boundary rider. In his youth he was employed as a shearer and it is said that he walked from Warrenmang as far as Elmhurst and Amphitheatre chasing work.

However Horace was a natural entrepreneur and quickly proved himself skilled at managing money. After a relative in England left him a small inheritance he invested in the stock exchange and became well-known as a local money lender.

He had this house built by local builder Arthur Kaye in the 1920s.

Horace and his wife were committed supporters of both the Church of England and the local hospital. When Horace died the house was left to the hospital. Later it was sold and Keith Dunlop became the new owner.

DESCRIPTION

The house is a substantial brick house capped with a large hipped terra cotta tiled roof. The roof is relieved by a intersecting gable section and a half gable roofed area to one side. The roof extends to form the verandah roof.

The house is set in a large garden with some garden elements which appear to have been constructed at the same time as the house, such as the wisteria clad pergola.

The house is characteristic of a substantially constructed villa of the late 1920s. It is an unusual form of building in Avoca. The building is well sited in a large garden.

REFERENCES

Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
Avoca and District Historical Society, Percydale school register
Information from Ivan Redpath

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No. Government Buildings Register
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
 Section 32, Allotment 10

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Avoca court house
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Avoca court house is a brick structure erected in 1859 to the designs of the Public Works Department of Victoria. It has significance for its architecture, age, characteristic qualities and contextual importance.

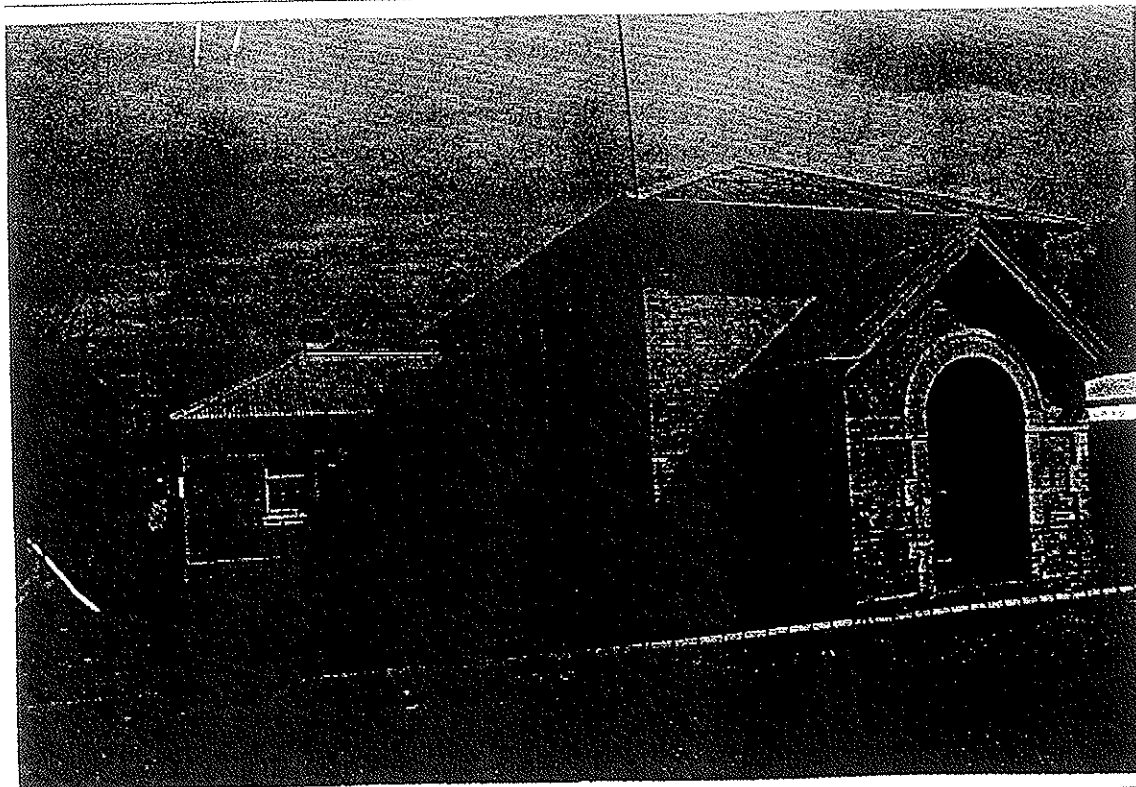
The Avoca court house is one of the earliest surviving court houses in the state and is characteristic of other buildings erected by the Public Works Department during this period. It is part of a complex of public buildings which includes the police quarters (1859), powder magazine (1859), and lock up (1867). As a complex these buildings are important material reminders of the part played by the courts and the police force in maintaining public safety and good order among the highly mobile gold diggings population.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS: Retention on the Register of Historic Buildings, retention on the Register of the National Estate, Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns, Community life (law and order)
PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.:** 21/1-2

BUILDING DATE: 1859
DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

On the goldfields minor crimes and disputes were heard at Courts of Petty Sessions conducted by justices of the peace. In September 1858 a £749 contract was awarded to Smith and Scott to erect a court house at Avoca where Courts of Petty Sessions could be heard. A month later the contractors were given an additional £130 to enlarge the court house. The new building was located in close proximity to the police reserve where permanent police quarters were built in the same year as the court house.

The court house was opened for hearings in 1859 although work continued on the building for the next decade. On 27 November 1863, Scott and Boyd were contracted to provide fittings at the court house, and in November 1869 Johnston and Steel secured a £204 contract for additions and repairs. The Avoca court house was upgraded to a Court of General Sessions in 1863. One of the well known magistrates who sat on the bench was C. W. Carr.

The court house was adjacent to the post and telegraph office, and behind it was the gold sub-treasury, demolished in the early 1980s to make way for the bowling green.

A wide variety of cases were heard in the court house although their number declined in the twentieth century. The court house closed in 1979. It was used briefly by the Scouts and Cubs, but is now used as the headquarters of the Avoca and District Historical Society.

DESCRIPTION

The court house is a simple design in a Classical Revival style. It is one of the earliest surviving courthouses in the state. It is characteristic of its type and era and is of note for its detailing.

The building is of brick and consists of a low pitched hipped roof section containing the court room with a steeply pitched gable roofed porch at the front and a section with a lower ceiling and a hipped roof at the rear and one side only of the court room. This section contained offices for the court personnel. The court room section is entered through the round arched centrally placed front entry door of the porch. A secondary side entry gives access to the offices. The building is on stone footings and the brickwork is relieved by a wide band of brickwork at the base of the wall, below the window level and below the eaves, brick window and door surrounds and quoin work on the court room section. The court room section has boxed eaves. The office section only has the wide band of brickwork at the base of the wall and none of the decoration of the other section. It has raking eaves with exposed rafter ends.

The original roofing was slate. This has since been replaced by corrugated iron. The soft orange bricks have been painted although much of the lower section of the paintwork has flaked off due to dampness in the bricks. The building also retains some cast iron stormwater plumbing. The offices would appear to have been constructed after the completion of the court room section as they differ in detail from the main section.

Most of the original furniture and fittings have been removed.

The court house is substantially externally intact. The major changes to its appearance have been the alteration of the roofing from slate to corrugated iron and the painting of the brickwork.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 51-2
Historic Buildings Council, file No. 602240A
O'Neill, *Survey of Court houses in Victoria, 1858-*
Trethowan, *The Public Works Department of Victoria, 1851-1900*, 1975

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A45

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Mackereth's shop

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: 103 High St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mackereth's shop is built of timber and probably dates from the nineteenth century. It has significance for its characteristic qualities and associations. The typical form and detailed timberwork of Mackereth's store contributes to the nineteenth century character of the main streetscape. The detailed timber shopfront is of significance. It is closely associated with Glen Mackereth, a well known local identity.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

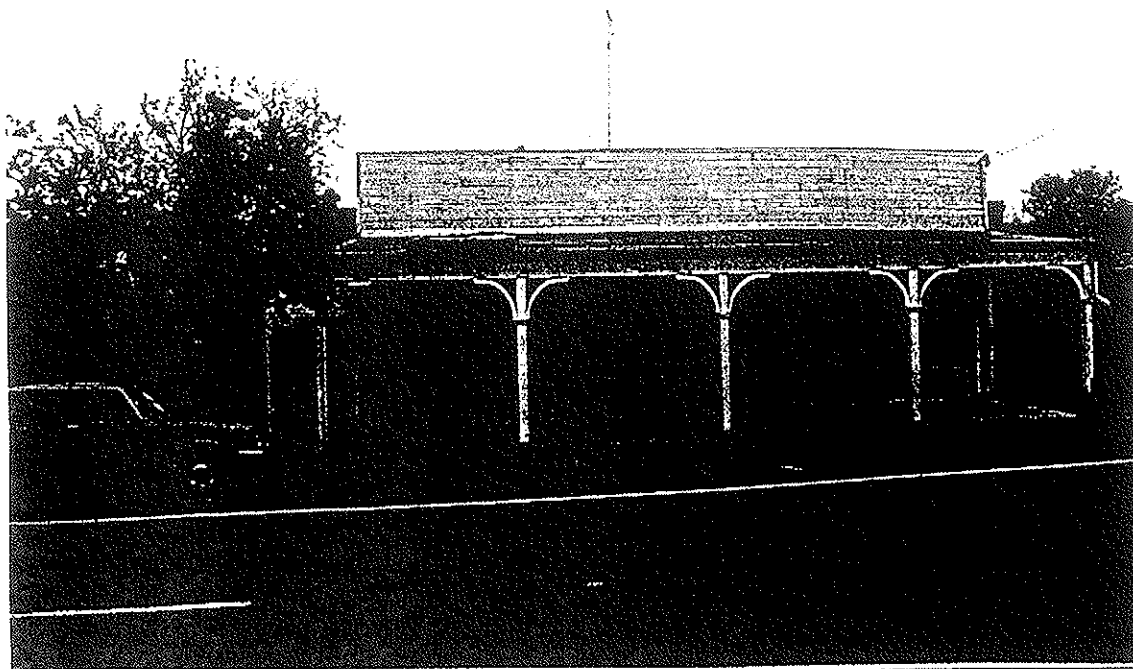
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 5/3

BUILDING DATE: c. 1890

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

During the last decade of the nineteenth century this building appears to have been owned by the Mackereth family. In the 1890s it was the property of Miss Victoria E. Mackereth who operated as a milliner and draper.

During the late 1920s Glen Mackereth, also operated a business on the premises. He was a wireless mechanic, installed lighting plants, repaired electrical goods, and mastered the art of welding aluminium before anyone else in the district, subsequently taking on welding projects. He was also a noted rifle shot and had a program on fox shooting and spot lighting on the ABC. Local farmers came to him to manufacture spotlights for them.

In December 1931 he advertised in the *Avoca Free Press* as the radiola dealer for AWA and in December 1932 he was advertising a stock of Exide batteries.

Victoria Mackereth was rated for the building until 1927, but by 1935 Glen Mackereth was the rate payer. The Mackereth shop was eventually sold to Don and Wendy Bachelor who owned and operated the *Avoca Mail* newspaper in the 1960s.

DESCRIPTION

The building consists of a pair of timber shops facing high street with timber house behind with an entry doorway onto High Street.

The pair of timber shops are similar with an entry to one side with a pair of half glazed panel doors and a large shop window. The corners of the shop front and each side of the doors and windows are marked by timber pilasters with modelled bases and capitals. Below the shop windows are moulded panels in the stallboards. The shop windows retain evidence of the shutter fixings. The walls between the doors and windows are clad in wide flat timber boards. The shop has a rectangular timber parapet which would have acted as a sign board and a straight pitched street verandah supported by timber posts. The deep verandah beam would have been an appropriate place for additional signage or advertisements. The only decoration on the verandah are curved timber brackets springing from moulded timber capitals on the posts. The form of the building, materials and details are essential parts of the character of the commercial buildings in Avoca.

The residential section of the building is a gabled roof, weatherboard clad house with a side bay window and ornate timber fretwork in the gable truss. This section of the building would appear to date from the turn of the century. A later addition has provided a covered way from the street frontage to the entry door.

The shop building would appear to date from the nineteenth century with the house as a later addition possibly added by the Mackereth family.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Free Press*, 2 December 1931, 7 December 1932, 1 September 1937
Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
Information from Ivan Redpath
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1910

FILE No: A46

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
CA7 Allotment 5-6

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Mackereth's wine depot
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: 105 High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The rear section of this building was Mackereth's wine depot which is a brick building dating from c. 1890s. It has significance for its influence and associations. Although obscured from High St by a new addition at the front of the building, the wine depot is a largely intact example of a nineteenth century commercial building and residence. It is closely associated with the development of wine making in the Shire and played an influential role in making Mackereth's wine available throughout the region.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 5/4

BUILDING DATE: c. 1890
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

Edwin Mackereth migrated to Victoria from England during the goldrushes but eventually settled on land west of Avoca. In 1889 he was listed as one of nine wine makers in the Avoca Shire in the *Journal of Viticulture* although he had less than an acre in vines. At this time the government viticultural expert, Romeo Bragato, described his wines as 'good and clear, with a nice delicate perfume, and harmonious in their components.

During the 1890s, Edwin Mackereth planted fourteen acres of vines under a government bonus scheme and began producing wines in commercial quantities. On 4 June 1898 a notice in the *Avoca Free Press* announced: 'E H Mackereth...having been granted a Colonial Wine Licence for his premises between Miss Mackereth and Mr Henderson's store, will open a wine depot on 1 January'. There was a large cellar under the building with an inside and outside entrance to facilitate deliveries. The wine depot provided a valuable local outlet for Mackereth's wine which was now winning prizes at shows throughout the region. Sales were also made in bulk to Melbourne merchants.

Between 1910 and 1915, Edwin Mackereth transferred his wine depot to a building on the other side of the street, and this building became a private residence. When Mrs. C E Mackereth died in 1919 the property was sold for £200 at public auction to Miss Alethea Mackereth; auction notices describe the building as brick with five rooms.

During the 1950s it was occupied by George and Mary Elliott. It was then used temporarily as a Scout hall before serving as a store again. The addition at the front of the building which obscures the original facade was constructed in the last three years.

DESCRIPTION

The rear section of the building is of English bond brickwork with the dark baked header ends forming an interesting texture in the brick work. The building has a gabled roof. The building has been extended to the rear in brickwork which differs in texture to that of the front section. The front facade has been obscured by the recent shops fronting High Street.

The remaining section of the wine store retains the form and materials of nineteenth century buildings in the area.

REFERENCES

Avoca Free Press, 4 June 1898

Avoca Mail, 25 March 1919

Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson

Information from Ivan Redpath

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A48

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Former *Avoca Mail* printing office
FORMER NAME: Site of Wesleyan church
ADDRESS: 109 High St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former *Avoca Mail* printing office is a brick building with a weatherboard facade. It has significance for its age, characteristic qualities, its influence, and its associations.

The printing office, originally built as a Wesleyan church in 1856, is one of the oldest buildings in the Avoca township. It also has a strong association with the *Avoca Mail*, which for over one hundred years was one of the most influential institutions in the Shire. The shape and form of the building make it an integral part of Avoca's main streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 5/6

BUILDING DATE:
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

Apart from a brief period in 1855 when two newspaper men from the Maryborough Advertiser established a printing press at Avoca, the township did not have its own newspaper during the 1850s and relied instead on newspapers from the surrounding region. However in 1863 John Paten arrived in Avoca after serving on the staff of the *Moonambel Pioneer* during the goldrushes of 1861 and finally purchasing the paper in 1862/3. He had arrived in Victoria in 1854 with his brother-in-law John P. Atkinson. They opened a printing office in Melbourne before Paten worked with Godfrey Morgan in Moonambel. He continued to print the *Moonambel Pioneer* in Avoca until the end of the year when the acquisition of a larger printing press enabled him to increase the size of the paper. He renamed it the *Avoca Mail and Pyrenees District Advertiser* and this appeared for the first time on 11 December 1863. In 1866 the name of the paper changed again to the *Avoca Mail and Landsborough, Moonambel, Redbank, Lexton and St Arnaud Advertiser*, although it was typically known as just the *Avoca Mail*. The paper was published every Saturday until 1873 when the *Avoca Free Press* opened in competition and the *Avoca Mail* became a bi-weekly issued every Tuesday and Friday. In 1865 John Paten married and subsequently opened a stationary business in connection with the newspaper.

The *Avoca Mail* was originally located in a building on the opposite side of High Street, now occupied by Muirs. However by 1865 it had moved to its present site in the old Wesleyan church. This was built in 1856, but was abandoned when a larger timber building, designed to accommodate a congregation of 150, was opened on 20 October 1861. The church was first occupied by James Brown who enlarged the building and put a full size stone cellar under the extension, so that it might be used as a cordial and soft drink factory. By 1865 he had left and John Paten had moved his printing presses into the building.

By the 1890s the circulation of the newspaper had increased and it was being distributed to places as far afield as Ararat, Ballarat, St Arnaud and Beaufort. The paper took pride in the quality of its articles. The leading article was usually written by John Cooke, a prominent lawyer, and J Willox, the local headmaster, 'made his scholars in the class of boys read them as test readings each Friday'. One staff member employed by the *Avoca Mail*, James Fenton, later became a cabinet minister in the Scullin government and filled the position of acting prime minister for a short period.

The building was also used as auction rooms with John F. Paten also conducted business as an auctioneer and valuer and sharebroker and commission agent from the building as can be seen from a photograph held by the historical society

After John Paten's death, his wife carried on the *Avoca Mail* for many years with the help of George Redpath, the head printer. However she eventually sold the business to George Redpath and his brother Alfred in c. 1923. After George and Alfred's deaths, Alfred Redpath junior continued to print the newspaper until the business was sold to the Bachelor family in the 1960s. The *Avoca Mail* printing plant is now closed although an Avoca news-sheet is still produced and there are plans for its expansion.

DESCRIPTION

The rear section of the building is a rectangular brick building with a gable roof now clad in corrugated iron. The building has a small extension to each side near the front which causes a change in roof pitch over the front section of the building. These may have formed side porches to the church.

The existing shopfront retains many of its original features. The doors, shop windows and moulded, panelled stall boards are all as shown in an early photograph. The building had a three tiered flat parapet rising above the verandah which concealed the gable roof end. This had a heavily moulded cornice above the first section and the top part was not as wide as the bottom sections. The existing verandah requires re-propping and the bases of the post require replacing. The verandah posts are as shown in the photograph with the exception of the timber capital moulds above the stop chamfering which require replacement. The timber shopfront and verandah are essential parts of the Avoca streetscape and should be retained.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, pp. 61-4
- Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
- Information from Ivan Redpath
- Thomas, *An Index of Victorian Wesleyan Methodist Churches, 1836-1902*
- Photograph, uncatalogued, held by Avoca and District Historical Society.

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No.
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
 NAME: Herlihy grocery and drapery store
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: 111 High St
 MAP NAME: Avoca Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Herlihy grocery and drapery store is a two storey brick building. It has significance for its characteristic qualities and contextual importance. The Herlihy grocery and drapery store is a substantially intact example of an early store and residence. It is one of Avoca's most prominent nineteenth century commercial buildings and a key element in the streetscape. Together with the Avoca hotel, the National bank and the Newsagency (all located in close proximity) it forms a small enclave of double storey buildings which contribute significantly to the visual interest of the main streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

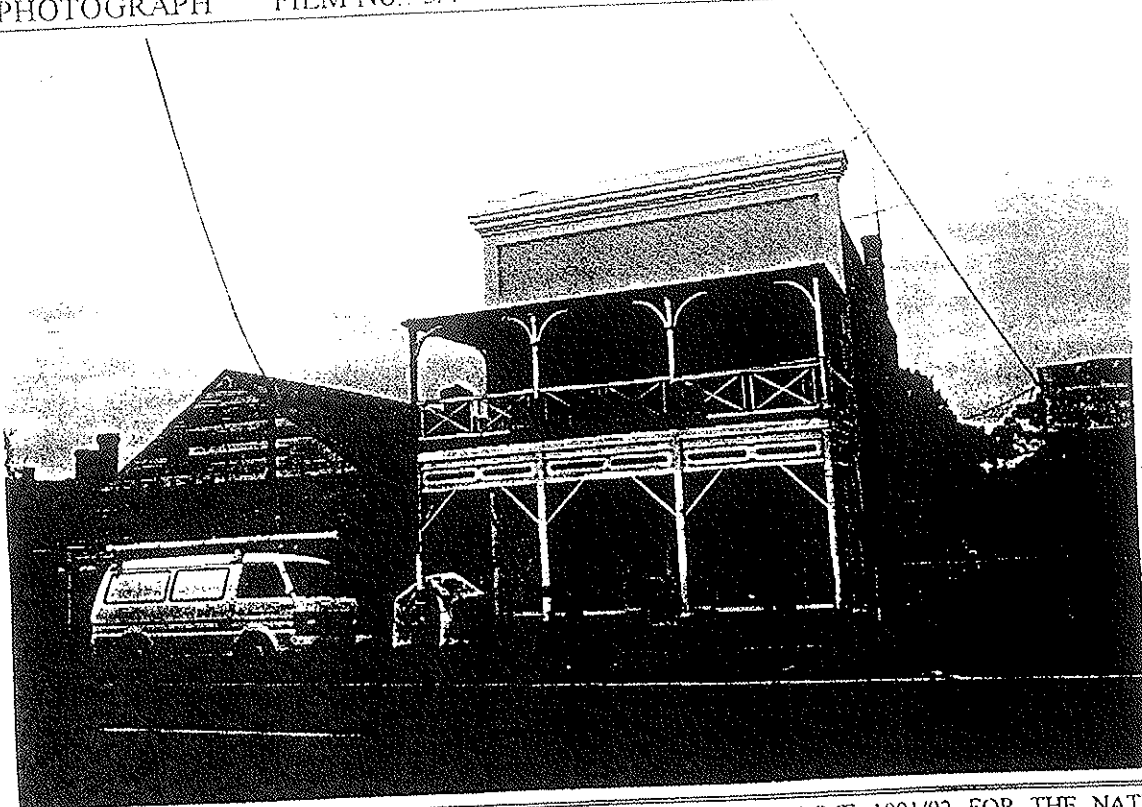
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

BUILDING DATE: c1870

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 5/7

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

Between 1870 and 1873, this building was operated by a tea merchant, H. Brooks. In 1873 he advertised in the *Illustrated Map of Victoria*, 'Wholesale and retail grocer, glass, china, crockery and brushware, drapery, millinery, etc'.

In 1886 Mrs Kate Herlihy operated a grocery and drapery store here and she was still the proprietor in 1915. By the 1920s the store had passed to Mr Henderson who sold a range of fruit and vegetables. In the 1930s Lou Summers ran a drapery store here.

Bill Burke was proprietor of the store in the 1960s and he ran a barbers shop at the front of the building while living at the back. Later the Hushwaite's bought the property and Ralph Rowe is the present owner.

DESCRIPTION

The shop is two storey brick with a rendered facade and two storey verandah. The facade is capped by a rendered rectangular parapet which has a recessed name panel and is capped by a moulded render cornice.

The upstairs verandah is accessed from the residential section of the building by three pairs of French windows. The shop has a central front entry with a pair of half glazed and panelled doors flanked by full length shop windows divided into three vertical sections by glazing bars. There are four plaster pilasters dividing the windows and doorway and marking the corners of the facade.

The verandah has curved timber brackets springing from timber moulded capitals around the verandah posts on the upper level. The upper level has a balustrade of diagonal timbers in panels. This is identical to that shown in an early photograph of High Street showing the building. The lower section has a fretwork frieze of oval timber panels. The brackets, which were identical to those of the upper floor have been replaced by plain timber struts. The bases of the verandah posts have been replaced by concrete bases.

The building retains many of its original features and the two storey verandah and intact shopfront are essential elements of the Avoca streetscape.

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society, photograph No. 205
- Information from Ian Redpath
- Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
- Illustrated Map of Victoria*, published by H. F. Hiscocks, 1873
- Shire of Avoca rate books*, 1886, 1890

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
 NAME: Avoca hotel
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: High St
 MAP NAME: Avoca Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Avoca hotel, a two storied brick building with a cantilevered verandah, dates from 1870. It has significance for its architecture, associations and contextual importance.

The Avoca hotel is one of the few commercial buildings in the township to have operated continuously since 1870. Its location on the site of the original 1854 Avoca hotel gives it a strong connection to the town's early goldrush days while its reconstruction in 1870 reflects a stabilisation of the town's population and a new willingness to invest in permanent structures. The hotel has provided the venue for a bewildering variety of events over the course of its history and it is an important focal point for community life. Together with the Herlihy's store, the National bank and the Newsagency (all located in close proximity) it forms a small enclave of double storey buildings which contribute significantly to the visual interest of the main streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business), Community life
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 5/9

BUILDING DATE: 1870
 DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

An 1866 article in the *Avoca Mail* states that the Avoca hotel was built by Mr Beazeley in 1855 and was the first public house in Avoca. It was certainly in existence by 1856 when a German Band was reported playing at the 1856 New Year celebrations at the Avoca hotel. Early in 1856 hotels appearing on the Electoral Roll included Pearson's. In March 1856 C.K. Pearson purchased the present site and operated the hotel in the 1860s. John Potton was the licensee in 1865 when a visitor to the township commented favourably on the town's appearance and made special mention of the Avoca hotel: 'The numerous gardens, particularly that of Potton's Avoca Hotel, are blooming with roses and fragrant flowers'. In 1866, James Smith was operating the Avoca hotel although the ratebooks still list C.K. Pearson as the owner. Pearson was operating a Jewellers shop in part of the hotel. In 1870 James Smith resolved to build a larger and more impressive building on the site. The prefabricated two storey section of the old hotel [A22] was sold and moved to Dundas Street, while the remaining timber section was demolished. The new Avoca hotel was double-storied and used a reputed 100,000 bricks in its construction. A 1923 reminiscence by T. Hellings states that the architect was William Atkinson; brickmaker John Hammil; brick and stone work, Thomas Hellings; stone cutter, Solomon Opie; carpenter and joiner, William Atkinson; plasterer, Bob Paling and painter, John Kitchen. During the nineteenth century the Avoca hotel provided the venue for a host of activities including several inquests. In 1865 the Melbourne Opera Company performed at the hotel and in the following year the Lancashire Bell Ringers provided a different brand of entertainment. The Avoca hotel was the site of the inaugural meeting of the Horticultural Society and during the 1880s both a doctor and a dentist rented consulting rooms at the hotel. When Edwin Glover took over as the new proprietor of the hotel in 1890 he advertised private sitting room on the second storey and commercial and sample rooms on the ground floor. The Avoca Hotel was the local depot for Cobb & Co. coaches. The Avoca hotel is now one of only two hotels left in the township. The unusual seats still on display at the front of the hotel were the work of Geoff Moore, who despite a crippled arm, produced useful and decorative articles from timber found in the local forests. The following list shows some of the proprietors of the Avoca hotel: 1863 - C. K. Pearson, 1865 - John Potton, 1905 - Mrs E Gregory, 1866 - James B Smith, 1906/9 - E S Watts, 1880 - J R Smith, 1910/14 - William Samers, 1890 - Edwin Glover, 1921 - J J McDonald, 1895/1904 - Thomas Gregory, 1927 - Annie McDonald.

DESCRIPTION

The Avoca Hotel is a substantially intact two storey hotel building with a two storey verandah. An early photograph shows the building substantially as existing but with no rendered quoins to the sides of the facade. Subsequent photographs show that the rendered quoins were added at an early date. The walls are of Flemish bond with the quoins marked out as larger blocks. The upstairs has four pairs of French doors irregularly paced in the facade. These give access to the verandah. The door glazing is divided by glazing bars into narrow panels with coloured glass in the corners. Each opening has a transom light with similar glazing. The ground floor has a two entry doors. The bar doorway has a pair of half glazed doors with a flat arched transom light above. The double hung windows and the transom light all had margin glazing bars and coloured glass in the corners. The transom light over the bar has been replaced by a fan insert. The main entry to the hotel has half sidelights. The door has been replaced and the original transom light of diamond shaped panes has been replaced. The doorway is flanked by two half height side-lights. The verandah cantilevers from the upper storey on cast iron brackets and has a balustrade of sway bellied cast iron panels. The square timber verandah posts have moulded timber capital with arched timber pieces springing from posts to posts with a circular medallion in the centre. These were embellished by sinuous curved timber infills which have since been removed. The ends of the cast iron cantilever brackets are protected by decorative iron covers which form a pattern on the underside of the verandah beam. The facade is topped with a rendered rectangular parapet with a recessed nameplate. The sign writing is similar to that shown in earlier photographs. The parapet is topped by a moulded render cornice. The rustic seats are an important part of the Avoca Hotel.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 6 October 1866
 Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 31-2, 38-9, 42-3
Coles Hotel Collection
 Helen Harris, Avoca and District Historical Society, High St notes
 Information from Ivan Redpath
 Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
 Avoca and District Historical Society photographic collection, Phots. No. 201, 204, 205, 206, 207

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: State Savings bank

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: High St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The State Savings bank is a small rendered brick building dating from c1913. It has significance for its building size and contextual importance.

The small size of the State Savings bank is unusual when compared to other banks in the township, and it is a notable element in the streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 5/10

BUILDING DATE: 1912

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

This small State Savings Bank was erected sometime between 1910 and 1915, possibly at the same time as the Bank of Victoria (1913).

The fact that it was located immediately adjacent to a liquor outlet appears to have prompted some discussion when plans for the building were first discussed, but construction ultimately went ahead.

DESCRIPTION

This small bank building was originally of a face brick base with a rendered upper section. Early photographs show that it originally had two windows on the left with the doorway on the right.

The building is of brick with a hipped roof concealed behind a stepped rectangular parapet. The roof retains its conical capped roof ventilator which can be seen in early photographs. The original brick chimney is also still intact.

The facade is divided into three vertical panels by a narrow brick pilaster with a flat arched opening in each panel. The former window on the left has been bricked in and may have been opened up as a doorway prior to the bricking in. The central window is a double hung timber window identical to that shown in an early photograph. Above the panels is a flat name plate with the central section being deeper than the flanking side sections. Above the central section is an ornate render decoration in the form of two Queen Ann scrolls with a stylised acroterian above the scrolls. The stepped parapet is outlined in a render mould.

The brick work has been painted. The doorway on the right has a six panelled door with a rectangular transom light above. This has been painted over.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 9 March 1924

Information from Ivan Redpath

Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson

Letter from K J McDonald to Miss Starke, National Trust of Australia (Victoria) 23 September 1976

Avoca and District Historical Society, photographic collection, photographs Nos. 206 & 207

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
 NAME: Avoca National Bank
 FORMER NAME: Bank of Victoria
 ADDRESS: High St
 MAP NAME: Avoca Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The National bank is a two-storied stuccoed structure built in 1912-13 for the Bank of Victoria. It has significance for its architecture and contextual importance.

The impressive architecture of the National bank and its prominent siting on the corner of High and Cambridge Sts make it an important element in the streetscape. The combination of bank and residence reflect the common practice of living and working in the same building. Together with the Herlihy's store, the Avoca hotel and the Newsagency (all located in close proximity), the bank forms a small enclave of double storey buildings which contribute significantly to the visual interest of the main streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

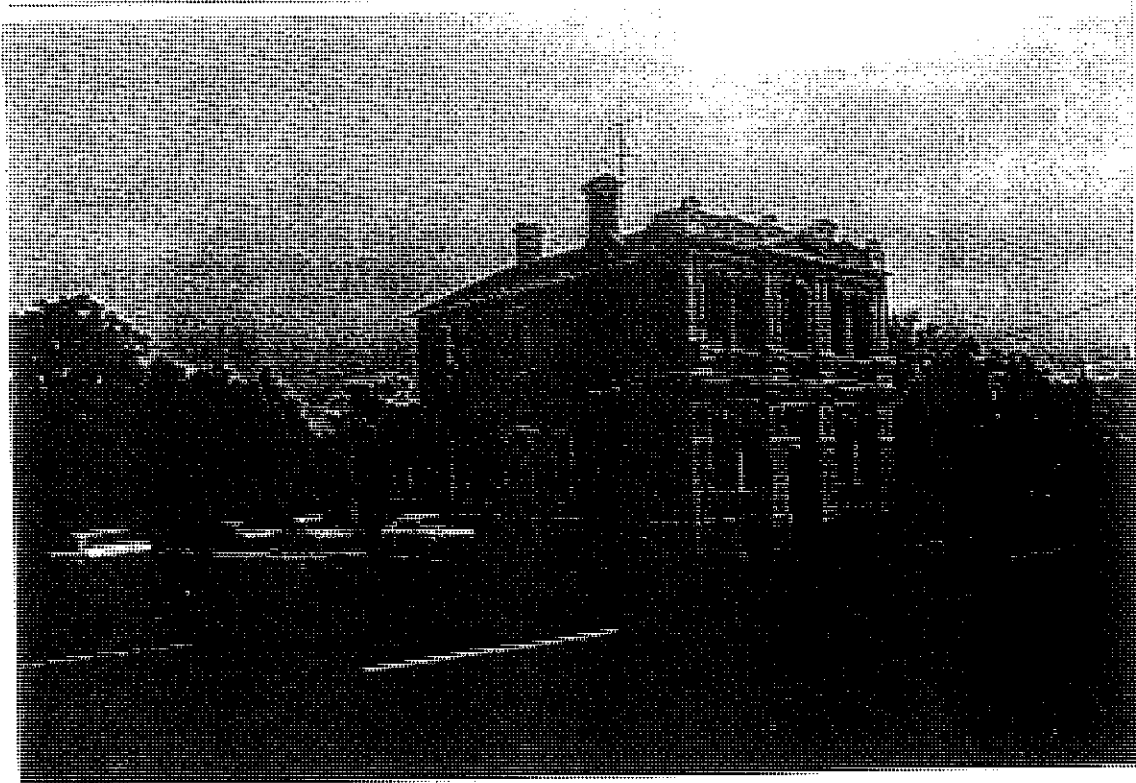
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

BUILDING DATE: 1912-13

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 5/11

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

After coming into existence in 1853, the Bank of Victoria chose Avoca for the location of its sixth branch in 1854. In September 1854 a correspondent of the *Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald* reported that the Bank of Victoria had secured a corner block for its two-storey building 'instead of transacting its business in what was once a butcher's tent and shambles' (see A 129). In November of the same year it was further reported that a 'chaste frieze in the Kinconkella style, conspicuous from afar' now surmounted the northern facade of the Bank.

The bank is said to have been built on the site of an early grave of an unknown timber worker who suffered an accident in the Pyrenees and was brought down by horse and dray but was dead on arrival. He was buried and four logs placed around his grave to mark the spot.

The Bank of Victoria continued to service the public until 1912 when it was decided to erect a new building on the corner of High and Cambridge St. The present site was purchased at a cost of £600 and a new two-storied bank constructed by Renshaw and Robson for a cost of approximately £3,000.

The building was designed both as a bank and a residence with the banking chambers and manager's room occupying the front of the building, but the rear and the second storey given over to residential use. Cellars were dug underneath the bank.

The bank operated as the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney for some years. The bank is now operated by the National Bank of Australia.

DESCRIPTION

The bank is a late example of a high Victorian style commercial building. It has a rendered facade in symmetrical classical revival style. The building is in the style of an Italian palazzo with a more simply treated ground floor and more detailed and ornate rendered decoration on the upper floor or piano nobile.

The entrance and corners are emphasised by the recessing of the window panels. The entrance is marked by a portico decoration rising through both levels. At the upper level the triangular pediment at the balustrade level is supported on paired Doric pilasters. These have panelled bases which rest on a moulded cornice line. Below the cornice line is a flat band. The lower storey has the entrance marked by wide flat pilasters marked in courses in the lower section below a cornice mould. The central entry is a wide arched opening with double half glazed doors with a semi-circular fan light above. The building's corners are marked by the flat pilasters at the ground floor with the upper marked by a paired Doric pilasters supporting the cornice. The outer pilaster is flat and the inner pilaster is round. Between the pilasters at both levels are pairs of round arched windows with the arch mouldings springing from flat pilasters. A single arched window is above the entrance door. The building is capped by a balustraded parapet. Pedestals at each end and marking each side of the pediment support moulded rendered semi-circular cappings.

The face brickwork of the sides of the building has been painted but the building is externally intact except for the removal of a chimney at the rear corner. The private entrance at the Cambridge Street side has a moulded hood over the doorway and there is a round window adjacent decorated with flat render work. The double hung timber windows are set in slightly arched openings that have rendered sills and voussoirs

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society, file on Bank of Victoria
Information from Ivan Redpath
Information from Joan and Malcolm Ford, Dorothy and Herb Robinson
Bruce Trethowan, *Banks in Victoria Study*, Historic Buildings Council, unpublished. - note on file architect - Morris L. Sullivan ? / W.S. Law ?
Information from the National bank archivist including early photographs and copies of the plans, elevations and sections of the original drawings.
Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald, September 1854

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No.
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
 Section 6, Allotments 1,2

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Lalor's pharmacy
FORMER NAME: Goodshaw's Pharmacy
ADDRESS: High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Lalor's pharmacy is a brick and timber shop and dwelling. It has significance for its age, rarity, association, influence and contextual importance.

Lalor's pharmacy has operated continuously on this site since 1855, making it one of the oldest operating chemist shops in Victoria. The building is closely associated with William Goodshaw in the nineteenth century and A G Lalor in the twentieth century, both prominent local citizens who played an influential role in town affairs while also promoting the health of the community. The pharmacy building is an integral part of the Avoca streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS: Addition to the Register of the National Estate, Addition to the Register of Historic Buildings, Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.:** 5/18

BUILDING DATE:
 DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

William Goodshaw migrated to Avoca in 1853 on board the sailing ship the Great Britain. After making his way to Castlemaine he worked as a pharmacist in conjunction with Dr Preshaw, a well-known goldfields doctor. A year later, William Goodshaw moved to Avoca and he purchased the present allotment in High St on 26 February 1855. Here he established a flourishing pharmacy business.

In 1860 William Goodshaw advertised his 'Apothecaries Hall' in the Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser, describing himself as a family chemist and druggist and seedsman. At the same time he was also the Deputy Registrar of Births and Deaths for the district of Avoca. Goodshaw invested in local companies, taking shares in the Perseverance Quartz Mining Company in 1873 and the Percydale Slate Company in 1888. In 1883 he was appointed the licensing magistrate for Avoca.

In 1863 William Goodshaw is rated for a wooden shop and dwelling on the site and although it is not certain when he erected the present building, it was probably in the late 1860s. He remained in the premises until 1889 when he sold to George W Towl. Ten years later Towl sold the business to A G Lalor.

Under Lalor's management the pharmacy diversified, selling garden plants, farm seeds and veterinary supplies as well as pharmaceuticals. In 1921 an advertisement in the *Avoca Mail* proclaimed the availability of 'fruit trees, roses, shrubs' through Lalor's pharmacy. Another advertisement promised, 'Physicians prescriptions accurately dispensed, teeth extracted, filled etc., artificial teeth fitted'.

Lalor was extremely active in town and sporting affairs and was involved at different times with the rifle club, golf club, anglers club, swimming baths, free library and Progress Association. He died in February 1933 aged fifty-nine and the shop passed to his family.

Lalor's descendants still own the pharmacy which continues to be run as a chemist shop. It has the reputation of being one of the oldest pharmacy's in continuous use in Victoria.

DESCRIPTION

The building consists of the pharmacy and the attached timber residence. The shop has a a gable roof which intersects with the long gable roof of the house which runs at right angles.

The residence has a steeply pitched gable roof with fretwork barge boards which can be seen in an early photograph. The entry to the house is on the south side of the shop. This area has been altered substantially in the twentieth century with glass doors and large windows added. Early photographs show the original entry was through a parapeted, classically detailed conservatory like section detailed to match the shop front. A bay window on the north side has been removed and a window added.

The shop has a classical facade in rendered brick with the two entry doorways and the central shop window flanked by flat Doric pilasters supporting a stepped frieze with a moulded cornice above surmounted by a central triangular parapet flanked by a plain parapet. In the centre of the parapet is a nameplate with the date of establishment - 1854. The north doorway has been built in. The south doorway and shop window are original. The building has been unsympathetically extended to the north in the twentieth century. The verandah is a later addition and it rather awkwardly springs from below the pilaster capitals. It is supported on four stop chamfered timber posts. There are some panels of the original cast iron brackets remaining but the timber capitals have all been removed. The verandah originally had cast iron finials supported by iron brackets decorating the front corners and more elaborate sign writing. The connection to the building has been altered in the twentieth century possibly to allow for a steeper pitch to the roof.

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society index
 Avoca and District Historical Society Photographic collection, Photograph Nos. 32, 70A
Avoca Mail, 3 October 1868, 13 August 1889, 13 February 1906, 1921 (advert.)
 Avoca rate books, 1863
 Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 149
 Historic Buildings Council, File No. 6007387
Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser, 2 March 1860
Victorian Police Gazette, 1 August 1883

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A71

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Avoca Roadhouse
FORMER NAME: Bull and Mouth
ADDRESS: High Street
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 196 929

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bull and Mouth hotel is a brick building built in the 1870s. It no longer functions as a hotel. It has significance for its associations.

Although no longer used as a hotel, the Bull and Mouth is a substantially intact example of a nineteenth century hotel and is a major element in the streetscape for those approaching Avoca from the north. In the past it was closely associated with the social life of the town and it is a reminder of a period when Avoca boasted many more hotels than the two which currently do business.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (hotels)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 22/14

BUILDING DATE:

DATE 24.3.94



HISTORY

The first written reference to the Bull and Mouth hotel occurred in 1876 when the publican was H. G. Wise. The license was transferred to William Smith in 1880. In October 1883 it was transferred again, this time to J. Wimble. Unfortunately only three months later a fire broke out in the Bull and Mouth, and by October 1884, J. Wimble had sold his license to Louis Silvana. The hotel passed to a Mrs Ann Smith in 1895. W. Foster was the owner at the turn of the century but in 1901 the Bull and Mouth passed to Mrs Foster and she sold to A. Emmerson in 1902.

Mrs H. Abbott took over the business in 1906 and lost little time in making improvements. On 4 January 1910 an advertisement in the *Avoca Mail* announced that Mrs Abbott had made extensive additions and alterations to the hotel bringing the place thoroughly up-to-date. The advertisement urged readers to stay at the Bull and Mouth Hotel, emphasising its possession of first class accommodation, hot and cold baths, good meals at all hours, and a range of the best brands of ales, wines and spirits. It also highlighted the fact that the hotel was only five minutes walk from the Avoca railway station.

In 1921 the Bull and Mouth hotel was in the possession of Daniel Larkins. In this year he sold the business to John Forte for £2,000, but by 1927 the hotel was again in the ownership of Daniel Larkins. Local residents remember that George Forte was licensee of the hotel in 1938 and when he died in 1943, a series of licensees followed, including Hedge, Vernon, Williams and Duggan. Since the hotel was located slightly out of town it was considered less subject to policing than those in the centre and gained a reputation for being sympathetic to requests for 'after hours' drinks.

The the Bull and Mouth ceased to function as a hotel about 1956 and became a hardware store. Later it became a milk bar and it is now known as the Avoca Roadhouse.

DESCRIPTION

The Bull and Mouth Hotel is single storey brick and timber building. The building has a brick facade which is now painted with a timber parapet and straight pitched street verandah. The building behind the facade is a series of hipped and gable roofed timber sections which would appear to have been added on demand.

The brick facade appears to date from the improvements undertaken in the 1900s. A photograph taken between 1930 and 1943 when George Forte was the licensee shows the brickwork as painted with a light wall colour and mid-colour dado and dark paint picking out the corners and architraves of the windows and doors as stepped quoins. The doorways were as they are today but all three windows have been enlarged from double hung timber windows. The parapet was the same as today. The facade and verandah has since been extended to provide access to the toilets at the north. The straight pitched verandah retains the large sectioned square, stop-chamfered verandah posts. There are some sections of the original timber capital mouldings still intact. The early photograph shows small curved timber brackets which no longer exist. The concrete bases to the posts are also a later addition. The end of the verandah has a lattice infill which can be seen in the photograph.

Behind the facade is a double hipped roof timber building which abuts a gable roofed weatherboard section and runs into the final section, also gable roofed but with a lower ridge height. Parts of these sections could date from the 1870s.

The hotel has a north facing side garden with a mature Magnolia tree and a Canary Island Palm which could date from early in the twentieth century.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 4 October 1910, 16 August 1921
- Avoca Free Press*, 27 October 1883, 11 January 1884
- Index Avoca and District Historical Society
- Coles' Hotel Directory
- Information from Ivan Redpath
- Avoca and District Historical Society, Photographic Collection, Photograph No. 273

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: B3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Bung Bong
NAME: Glenmona Bridge
FORMER NAME: Boundary Bridge
ADDRESS: Pyrenees Highway
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: YD 276905

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bet Bet Creek bridge was built in 1871. It has significance for its technical skill, age, associations and aesthetic form.

The Bet Bet Creek bridge is one of the oldest bridges to survive in the Shire and its solid design demonstrates the technical skill of the local Talbot shire engineer while also reflecting the resources devoted to it as a vital transport link. The bridge is highly valued by residents for its picturesque appearance, and is closely associated with the development of the municipality, marking the boundary between two shires.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

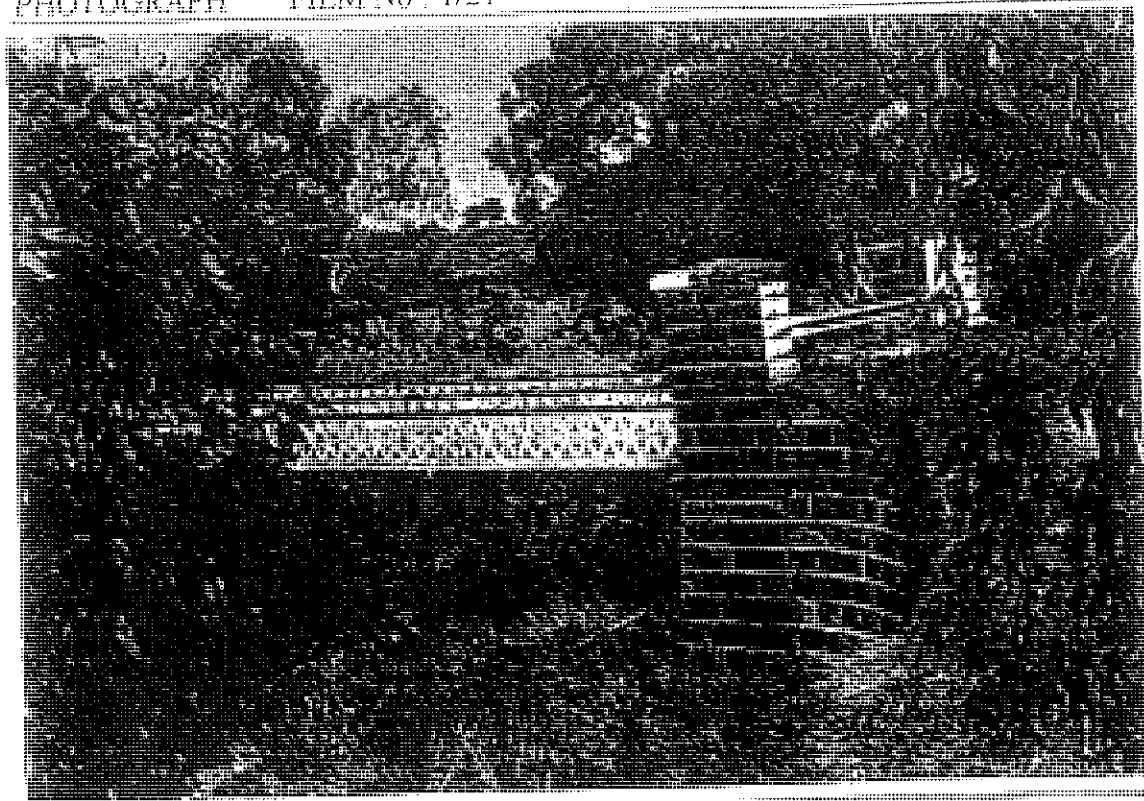
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Transport

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: 1/21

BUILDING DATE: 1871

DATE: 24 8 93



HISTORY

In September 1870 central Victoria suffered serious floods and the Glenmona bridge, which straddled the Bet Bet creek marking the boundary between the Avoca and Talbot shires, was completely swept away. Its replacement became the subject of lengthy correspondence between the Avoca and Talbot shire councils. Eventually a new bridge was designed by the Talbot shire engineer, Mr Woods, and Messrs Jenkin and Lewis were contracted to erect the bridge at a tender price of £3,303. The lattice iron girders were supplied by John Price of Ballarat and the timber used for decking came from Mt. Cole.

The new Glenmona bridge was opened in November 1871 by the president of the Talbot shire, Mr Nicholls. The Avoca Mail reported:

After the close of Mr Nicholl's speech a procession was formed, the vehicles being driven across the bridge... Besides the solids, bumpers of champagne were liberally handed around on the bridge... the Talbotites and men of Avoca parting on the best of terms, and invoking a long and flourishing career for the new Glenmona Bridge.

The high cost of the bridge caused the Talbot shire to promote the imposition of a toll. However this suggestion was vigorously opposed by Avoca shire councillors on the basis that it would injure Avoca by hindering traffic and drive the Bung Bong farmers to some other market. An application was made to the Assistant Commissioner of Roads and Bridges for half the estimated cost of construction, and it appears that the toll was never imposed.

The bridge has been superseded by a modern bridge on a more northern alignment which has enabled the earlier bridge to remain. The decking was badly damaged in the 1985 bushfires.

DESCRIPTION

The bridge has bluestone abutments and a central bluestone section supporting three parallel lattice iron girders. The bluestone is of squared rock faced stones laid in courses. The abutments curve in towards stone columns which mark the entry to the bridge. The curved abutments are topped by dressed capping stones. The stone abutments rise from a splayed base to form columns which are marked by a cornice line with rock faced stones with smooth margins. Another such line of stones marks the line of the top of the abutments and the top of the columns is marked by capping stone which rise to a shallow pyramid.

The centre support in the middle of the creek is of similar stonework with the ends curved to allow the creek to flow past. The top is capped by stones with rounded edges.

The decking and side rails or balustrade have all been removed.

The stonework on the bridge is of high quality and well detailed. It shows more working of the stone and detailing than the adjacent Rock Hill farm and Glen Mona Homestead.

REFERENCES

Avoca and District Historical Society, *Bridge over Bet Bet Creek, Bung Bong* - using the following sources

Avoca Mail, 10 December 1870, 4 February 1871, 11 November 1871, 18 November 1871
Avoca Shire Council meetings, 6 October 1870, 3 November 1870, 2 February 1871, 9 March 1871, 4 May 1871, 2 November 1871, 11 January 1872, 18 July 1872, 1 August 1872

FILE No: B2

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Bung Bong
NAME: Rock Hill
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Pyrenees Highway (off)
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: YD 272899

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rock Hill is a bluestone structure dating from the 1860s with various outbuildings including a brick and stone dairy (c 1857). It has significance for its age and building style. Rock Hill is one of the earliest surviving farm houses in the Shire. A notable feature is the dairy which dates back to 1857 before the 1860s Land Acts opened wide tracts of land for settlement. The solid construction of the house may be indicative of the wealth generated by the lucrative market for farm produce provided by the goldfields of Avoca, Lamplough and Homebush.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Farming
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No. 1/19

BUILDING DATE: c. 1860
DATE: 24 8 93



HISTORY

Edward Bennett selected land here during the 1850s, and together with a partner, William East, was rated for a residence and 109½ acres of improved land in 1864. A brick and bluestone dairy on the property has the words, D B Bennett 17 December 1857 scratched into its walls so that it appears the Bennett family was here prior to 1857.

The first residence erected on the property may have been a timber dwelling which in later years served as a detached kitchen. During the 1860s the present bluestone house was built. A number of quarry reserves existed in the neighbourhood and the stone was probably carted from these. As mentioned, a brick and stone dairy near the house was built prior to 1857.

During their early years on the land the Bennetts must have found a ready market for their farm produce since they were located on the northern outskirts of the surveyed township of Bung Bong and were within easy travelling distance of the gold mining areas of Lamplough, Avoca and Homebush. The farm also benefited by its location on the western banks of the Bet Bet Creek which allowed ready access to water. The construction of the dairy suggests that the Bennetts kept a dairy herd from an early date.

Mr Gordon (a relative of the Bennetts) eventually inherited the farm and he leased it for many years to Len Williams. Norman and Molly Wilson lived here in the 1930s. Around 1962 Bob Crooks acquired the property. It was sold in 1994.

DESCRIPTION

The house is a bluestone villa with a central doorway flanked by symmetrically placed double hung timber windows. The house has a straight pitched verandah returning on three sides. The verandah is supported on timber posts and was rebuilt in recent times. The new square profiled guttering detracts from the house. The bluestone is of squared rock faced stones laid in courses with every second block being made up of two smaller stones, giving the masonry a distinctive pattern. The house has a hipped M-form roof now clad in corrugated iron.

The stone dairy is of coursed rubble bluestone with brick infill in what may have been an earlier window to the north. It has a gable roof now clad in corrugated iron. It is set at right angles and to one side of the main house.

The earlier house was built of horizontal slabs which have been recycled for use as a wall to enclose the kitchen courtyard. The earlier building had been used as a kitchen and reached by a verandah from the rear of the bluestone house.

The garden was damaged by the 1985 bushfires which encircled the house and damaged much of the fencing and farm buildings.

REFERENCES

Information from Bob Crooks, Graeme Mills, Ivan Redpath
Township of Bung Bong, map, 1 June 1935
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1864

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
 NAME: Former Church of England vicarage
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: off High St
 MAP NAME: Avoca North
 MAP REFERENCE: YD 191932

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Church of England vicarage built of brick, dates from c. 1856. It has significance for its age, rarity and associations.

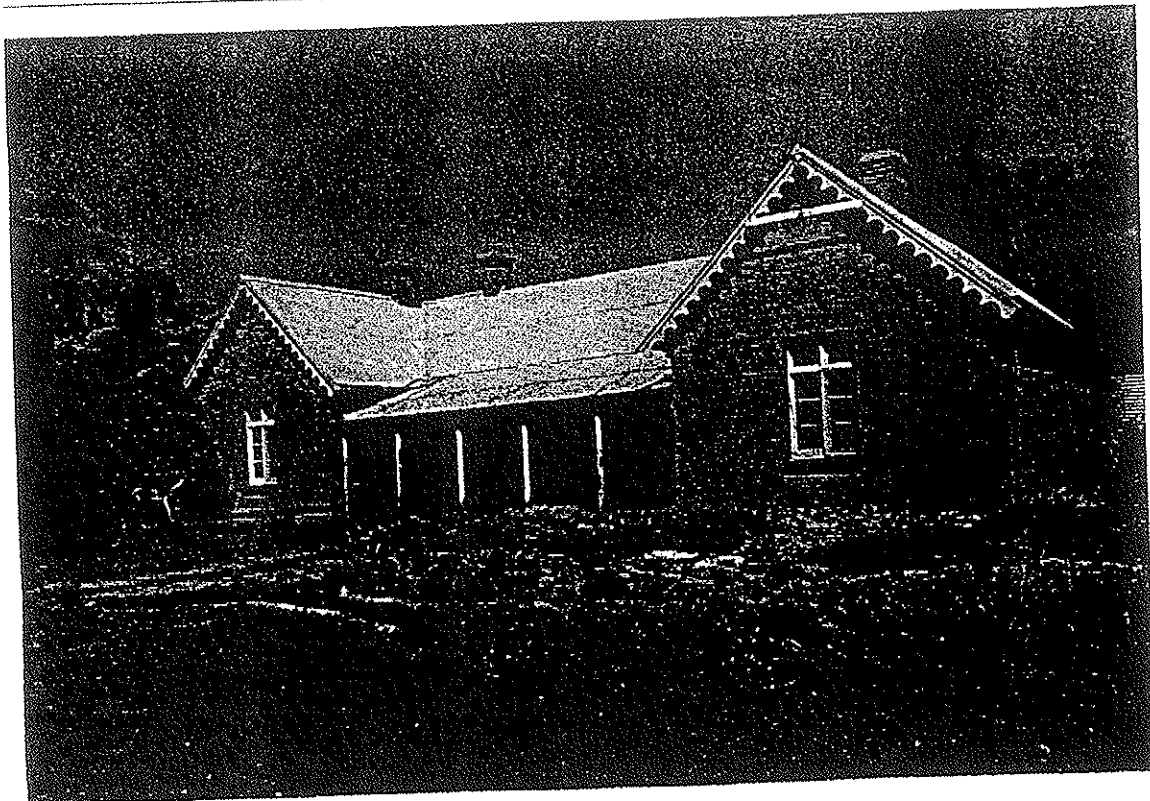
More research is needed on this building. However it appears to be one of the few early denominational schools in the State to have survived relatively intact. If this is so, it has a direct connection with Avoca's goldrush period when the large numbers of uneducated children on the diggings prompted both the Church of England and the Methodists to erect schools. Its location at some distance from the surveyed township suggests its construction before Avoca's first land sales. The building was later used as a vicarage, retaining its association with the Church of England until 1917.

SIGNIFICANCE: State (more research)

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate, Addition to the Historic Buildings Council

THEMES: Community life (schools)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 22/16

BUILDING DATE: c. 1856
 DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

Vision and Realisation reports that in 1855 there were at least two private schools in Avoca, one conducted by the Wesleyan Methodists and the other by the Church of England. This building appears to have been built by the Church of England using a similar design to that used later by the National school in 1857 (A178). Its location to the north of the township and close to the original Avoca gold diggings along the Avoca lead, suggest an early construction date.

In her brief history of Avoca written in the 1920s, Annie Mitchell claims that Mr Zergler was the head master of the early Church of England school. Little information is available from this point and the building may have closed as a denominational school soon after the National school was opened in 1857.

The building was later used by the Church of England as a vicarage. However by 1917 its location so far from St Johns had become inconvenient and the present vicarage was purchased in its place. The old vicarage was then sold as a private residence and for a time was the home of the Streeter family.

The building is still in the ownership of the Streeter family.

DESCRIPTION

The building is of brick with the bricks laid in a facing bond of one course of headers to three courses of stretchers. The roof is of three intersecting sections with the side gables projecting forward from the longitudinal hip roof with a verandah between. The verandah roof is a continuation of the main roof but at a flatter pitch. The roof is now clad in corrugated iron. There are four brick chimneys rising through the ridges of the roofs.

The projecting gable sections have decorative fretwork barge boards. In the centre of each of the gable walls is a window with a flat arch of brick voussoirs and a pair of casement windows with a pair of fixed lights above. The casement windows are divided into three sections horizontally.

The central verandah is supported on square timber posts which now have no decoration in the form of capitals or brackets. The front entry is placed in the centre of the facade protected by the verandah with two flanking windows of paired casement sashes.

The school is similar in design to the later National School (A178).

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 146-7
- Annie Mitchell, *Back to Avoca*, 1921
- National Trust file, No. 3618
- Vision and Realisation*, Vol. 2, p. 611

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A75

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST Chinese Funerary Oven
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Avoca cemetery
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Sunraysia Highway
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 190945

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Avoca cemetery, with headstones dating back to 1857, is laid out in denominational areas. It has significance for its age, and associations.

The Avoca cemetery is the oldest cemetery in the Shire. Its denominational layout suggests the relative strength of each denomination and the size and detail of head stones provides a clue to the status of individuals. A brick funerary oven and several slate head stones inscribed with Chinese characters provide one of the few remaining signs that a large number of Chinese once populated the Avoca goldfields - and at least 118 were buried in the cemetery. The separation of the Chinese section of the cemetery from the other headstones is expressive of nineteenth century relations between Chinese and Europeans and the common perception of the Chinese as 'pagans'.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (cemetaries)

BUILDING DATE: 1857

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: 33/19-20

DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

During the early goldrush to Avoca an officially designated cemetery did not exist and various burial sites were used including the hill where the Presbyterian church now stands and the Police Paddock. A block of land to the north of the township was eventually donated by Henry Knott for use as a cemetery and the first six cemetery trustees were appointed in September 1857.

The cemetery originally faced the Avoca River and was entered via the old Percydale coach road. However this section of the cemetery proved swampy and was not always accessible so the orientation was changed to face the Avoca-Moonambel Road. The cemetery records show that the first recorded burial took place at the cemetery on 13 February 1858 and was that of a still born baby. However the earliest headstone is that of Charles Filby who died 5 March 1857 aged twenty-two years.

The large number of children's graves in the cemetery illustrates the high rate of infant mortality in the nineteenth century. A chilling inscription on one head stone shows that in 1864 James and Eliza Kilpatrick lost six children (from diphtheria) in the space of three weeks. Another notable headstone has been painstakingly carved with an inscription in memory of four-year old Harriet Crowhurst, and on the back of the stone are the words, 'Worked by her mother's hand'. It is said that the Crowhurst family lived at Percydale and after the headstone was at last completed, the mother wheeled it all the way to Avoca over six kilometres of rough bush track.

The cemetery records also reveal a large number of Chinese and German burials. The Avoca goldfield was noted for its high concentration of Chinese, leading to the establishment of a Chinese protectorate in 1857 under the charge of William Templeton. A brick funerary oven was erected in the cemetery, and between 1858-99 a total of 118 Chinese were buried.

The trustees were responsible for the maintenance of the cemetery and on 6 May 1865 tenders were called for gravelling the road, footpaths and outside entrance to the cemetery. It may also been during this period that the present trees were planted.

The Avoca cemetery is still in use.

DESCRIPTION

The cemetery is enclosed by a chain mesh fence with concrete posts and is marked in the landscape by the collection of exotic trees, mainly evergreen cypresses and pines, marking the perimeter and entry gates. The entry gates are of iron.

The Chinese section is sheltered from the rest of the cemetery by a pine trees and the major item in this area is the brick funerary oven. This is a small red brick structure with an oven opening in one side with a semi-circular head. The top three courses of brickwork are corbelled with the centre course being laid on the diagonal to give a decorative chevron appearance. The curved pyramidal shaped metal roof is capped at the apex with a ball decoration.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 6 May 1865
- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 93-4
- Davidson and Doxford, *Grave Reflections*, pp. 5-13
- Helen Harris, Avoca and District Historical Society, Avoca cemetery records
- Information from Ivan Redpath

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Welcome Mart
FORMER NAME: E Snell and Co.
ADDRESS: 172 High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Welcome Mart is a timber building possibly dating from c. 1860s. It has significance for its associations and contextual importance.

The Welcome Mart is a typical and largely intact example of a nineteenth century shop dating from a period when Avoca's main street was lined with similar buildings. Its design is expressive of its continuous use as a general store/supermarket since the 1860s. The shop's scale and integrity makes it an integral part of the Avoca townscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/5

BUILDING DATE: c. 1860s
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

Edmund Snell migrated to Victoria in 1852 and was on the Avoca goldfields in 1853. He established a general store and this was in existence on the present site at least as early as 1863, when the first rates were recorded. In 1865 it was rated for the substantial sum of £120. The shop, trading as E. Snell and Co., sold a variety of produce - including groceries, drapery, hardware, timber and building supplies.

Edmund Snell was extremely active in town affairs, sitting as a member first of the Borough Council, and then of the Shire Council. He was president of the Shire of Avoca in 1865-6. He also invested in local mining companies and had a strong interest in the Golden Stream.

In 1890 Edmund Snell sold his business to Joseph Du Bourg and W Gilbert and went to live in Melbourne. However within a year he had returned to Avoca and re-purchased his old business. In January 1910 he obtained a gold buyers license and continued to operate the general store until his death, some time after 1915.

During the early 1930s the store was in the possession of J Powers and Son who renamed the business the Model Store. In December 1935 the Model Store was taken over by Iles Golder who traded as I Golder and Co.

The building now operates as a supermarket under the trade name Welcome Mart.

DESCRIPTION

An early photograph of Snell's store shows that it extended to the corner in the nineteenth century with an additional section of store stepped back a little from the existing section.

The existing section is a timber building with central doorway flanked by large shop windows with timber stall boards below. The facade has a timber boarded parapet that rises to a triangular pediment in the centre. There is a window below this pediment that can clearly be seen in the early photograph. It is now painted over.

The shop has a timber street verandah supported on timber posts with brackets supporting the verandah beam. The sign board has been increased to about double the depth which masks the parapet. The early photograph shows that the roof ended in an eaves gutter above the verandah board.

The shop windows and stall boards are original but the entry doors have been altered.

The building is characteristic of the shops in Avoca with a timber parapet and straight pitched street verandah.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Free Press*, 4 December 1935, 15 May 1937
Helen Harris, High St notes, Avoca and District Historical Society
Information from Ivan Redpath
Victorian Police Gazette, 27 January 1910
Avoca and District Historical Society Photographic Collection, Photograph No.363
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1863, 1865

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Squire's Depot
FORMER NAME: Chapman's garage
ADDRESS: 166 High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Squire's Depot is an old motor bus garage with a cream brick facade built in 1953. It has significance for its associations.

The advent of the motor car brought a new form of building - the garage - into existence and Muir's garage is an early example. The addition of the brick facade in the 1950s corresponds with a period when most Victorian families finally owned their own car and garages across the State enjoyed increased business.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Transport, Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/7

BUILDING DATE:
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

This is the site of the first Church of England building which was erected in 1857 but was later condemned when it was found the roof was too heavy for the walls and the whole structure was in danger of collapse.

During the nineteenth century there was a strong connection between Avoca and Ballarat but horse transport between the two centres was slow. However the new availability of motor transport in the 1920s prompted J E Hofsteede to establish a motor bus business in Avoca, purchasing a bus which he drove regularly between Ballarat and Avoca.

During 1927 J Hofsteede became ill and his daughter became something of a local hero when she temporarily took over the bus service. The *Avoca Mail* reported:

During the ten weeks that this young lady, unaided, conducted the business she drove the big bus on average of 100 miles a day (Sundays excepted), or a total of 6,000 miles and in addition assisted in loading and discharging the goods committed to her care. About each morning at 5 am and finishing up about 8 pm she put in 15 hours each day, enough to tax the physical strength and nerve of most men!

In view of his bad health J E Hofsteede decided to sell the business. The building was then put to a variety of different uses with Jack Kaye using the building as a workshop, Arthur Wardell as a garage, Albert Ross as a depot and Clarice (Ross) Collison used part of it for her dress making business. The property was then taken over by H. Chapman and B. Ross, transport operators who ran a service between Avoca and Melbourne. After Chapman moved to Bridport Street and B. Ross left the district, C H Squires used it as a bus stop for a period of time before transferring his bus service to the site in combination with J. T. Chapman who opened a Shell depot. In 1948, Chapman moved to the site of the old Free Press building but Squires remained on the site running a bus service that offered regular trips to Ballarat. A relative, C T Squires, was a master builder and it is thought that he built the present brick facade in 1953. It is now owned and operated by the Muir family.

DESCRIPTION

The brick facade has been added to an earlier shed. The earlier shed is a simple rectangular building with a gable roof. The roof and walls are clad in corrugated iron with the rear gable section of the wall clad in pressed metal. The use of pressed metal would indicate that the shed was built or reclad around 1900.

The facade is in cream brick. The major decorative part of the building is the curved, stepped parapet which rises to a rectangular central section that corbels out from the facade and has stepped brickwork which culminates in a shield shaped internally illuminated light. The parapet is outlined in tapestry bricks.

Two rows of tapestry bricks run across the facade above door height.

The facade has asymmetrically placed opening which do not relate to the design of the parapet. The tall bus doors have timber doors that slide on tracks. Between the bus doors are the office doors and windows which form one glazed screen to a smaller opening. The south section of the building facade is simple a wall with no building behind. The facade is decorated with restrained wrought iron lettering on the facade.

The building is set back from the building line and although it is not characteristic of the predominantly nineteenth century streetscape it is a substantial building of the 1950s reflecting the impact that modern transport and the motor car had on the townscape.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 6 December 1932

Helen Harris, High St notes, Avoca and District Historical Society
Information from Ivan Redpath, Graeme Mills

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: War memorial

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: High St

MAP NAME: Avoca North

MAP REFERENCE: YD 102913

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Avoca war memorial is an octagonal structure supported by four columns and dating from 1921. It has significance for its associations and landmark qualities.

The Avoca war memorial is of great symbolic significance to the community as a reminder of all local residents who fought in the world wars and particularly those who lost their life. Its striking design and its location in the centre of Avoca's main street and have made it a local landmark.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 24/22

BUILDING DATE: 1921

DATE: 6.5.94



HISTORY

During the First World War 137 men from the Avoca area volunteered for the armed services and of this number 29 were killed. In response, it was decided to erect a memorial in the main street plantation and a Local Soldiers Memorial Committee was formed. The first appeal for funds was made in March 1918.

In 1920 the Committee advertised for the submission of designs. Obviously the response was not overwhelming for a meeting in September 1920 was adjourned to allow designers more time to submit their plans.

An octagonal design for the memorial was finally chosen at a meeting held on 7 June 1921 and work commenced. A local resident, Robert Kaye, donated a quantity of bluestone towards its construction. The memorial was finally completed at a cost of around £1800, the whole amount being raised by public subscription. It was unveiled during a 'Back to Avoca' held in November 1921. The 'Little Digger' Billy Hughes, the prime minister, was even invited as guest of honour but was unable to attend.

DESCRIPTION

The War Memorial is an octagonal building of rendered brick supported on eight columns with rounded engaged columns on the central section of each. At the top of the rounded section is a shield decoration. The entire column terminates in a flat capital. Above the columns is a frieze which rises to a stepped parapet with every second side having a rectangular panel in the parapet and the lower intermediate panels having the names of the three main battlefields on which fought the volunteers from Avoca: Gallipoli, France, Palestine, and Belgium.

The memorial can be entered on four sides with the entry ways guarded by freestanding granite tablets which are inscribed with the names of those who served in the First World War. Low walls on the remaining four faces each carry a soldier's helmet and pack in relief.

The memorial is a very simply detailed monument based on a classical model. While taking a classical form it has stripped away most references to classical detailing. Early photographs show it set in small well planted garden beds edged in quartz stones and protected by woven wire fences.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 19 April 1921, 7 June 1921, 22 July 1921, 10 March 1922
Avoca Free Press, 29 September 1920
Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 128-9
Avoca and District Historical Society, Photographic Collection, Photograph No. 236

FILE No: A106

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Former Classen's furniture complex
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: 148 High St
MAP NAME: Avoca
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Classen's furniture complex consists of a store, residence and workshop sheds. It has significance for its rarity, associations, and technical/creative importance.

Classen's furniture complex represents a rare example of an artisan's work place which survives almost intact from the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The complex is closely linked to the technical and creative talent of John Classen and his son Herman Classen whose work is still in evidence in St John's church. The close proximity of the workshops, residence and store lend themselves to interpretation and provide insights into the Classen's daily work patterns and manner of merchandising. Classen's furniture complex is a key element in Avoca's commercial streetscape due to its size and prominent corner position.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS: Addition to the Register of the National Estate, Addition to the Register of Historic Buildings, Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/14

BUILDING DATE: 1862
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

John Christian Classen, was born in Wandsbeck Germany where he trained as a cabinet maker. He migrated to Australia and arrived on the Avoca goldfields in approximately 1856. By 1862 he had established a furniture shop in the main street, and by 1866 he was also advertising his services as an undertaker, making the coffins as well as arranging the funeral. He quickly became well known for the quality of his craftsmanship and in 1869 was commissioned to complete all the interior wooden furnishing for the new St John's Church of England.

Ledgers which survive from the Classen business covering the period 1870-1920s, show that the Classen's not only provided hand-crafted furniture but many other services as well. Horsehair mattresses were repaired or recovered, wooden venetian blinds were re-taped and re-corded, and pictures and certificates were framed. The Classen's also specialised in sign writing on such objects as delivery carts.

John Classen died in July 1886 at the age of only fifty-nine and the business passed to his eldest son, Herman Classen. Herman was also a talented craftsman and maintained the high standards established by his father. A second son, Heinrich, was a trained coach painter and also helped in the family business in French polishing and finishing work, while another son, Charles, went to Melbourne where he managed a large furniture warehouse.

In 1920 Herman Classen was commissioned to produce the ANA soldiers honour board. He took a keen interest in local affairs and was a member of the Cemetery Trust, the School Committee, and the Progress Committee. He invested in local gold mining projects, was the first president of the Avoca Bush Nursing Hospital and played an instrumental role as Government nominee on the Avoca Water Trust.

Herman Classen died in 1959 at the age of ninety-one. The property is now owned by Wesley Dawson. Little has been changed inside the furniture shop which is now used as a craft shop, while the old workshops and residence at the back also remain.

DESCRIPTION

The shop and residence are of timber with the work sheds being a combination of timber and corrugated iron.

The shop has shop windows facing both Russell Street and High Street. The shop front is protected by a straight pitched verandah which returns along Russell Street and has a splayed corner section. The verandah is supported on square, stop chamfered posts which are now without capitals or brackets. The shop has a rectangular parapet with moulded capping and edging. The shop windows and stallboards are intact. The shop is entered through a pair of half glazed doors placed centrally on the High Street facade.

The residence is clad in weatherboards and has its windows covered in sheeting which detracts from the appearance of the building.

The work sheds are a collection of gable roofed sheds along the alignment of Russell Street. The rear shed is clad in corrugated iron. The centre section is clad in vertical timber and the section closest to the residence is in weatherboards.

The shop is characteristic of the shops in Avoca with the timber parapet and straight pitched verandah. Its corner position is emphasised by the return on the verandah and parapet.

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society, Newsletter 107, 110
- Avoca Free Press, 31 July 1886
- Information from Lorna Purser
- PRO, Series 4396, No. 190, Book 3, p. 161
- Victorian Police Gazette, 8 February 1866
- Shire of Avoca rate books, 1865, 1879, 1910

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A111

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST stables
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Victoria hotel complex
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Victoria hotel complex comprises a stone and brick hotel, stone stables and the stone Pyrenees Cellar. The hotel and theatre date from the late 1850s (although the hotel was partially rebuilt in the 1930s) while the stables were built in 1872. It has significance for its architecture, rarity, associations and contextual importance.

The Victoria hotel complex is a rare surviving example of a grand nineteenth century hostelry. It is indicative of a period when hotels formed a focal point for community life, offering not just alcohol but accommodation, stabling, meeting rooms and entertainment. The size of the stables is a reminder of an era heavily dependant on horse transport. In line with its reputation as a grand hotel, the stylish alterations to the front of the hotel in the 1930s, indicate the proprietor's attempts to attract increased business at a time of economic downturn and rural decline. The Victoria hotel complex is an important element in Avoca's commercial street scape.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS: Addition to the Register of the National estate, Addition to the Register of Historic Buildings, Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business), Community life
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/20

BUILDING DATE: 1858/1930
DATE: 4.9.93



HISTORY

William Trevena migrated to Australia in 1849 and settled in Avoca in 1854. The earliest reference to a building on this site is in the Maryborough Advertiser on 2 February 1858 when William Trevena (*sic*) announced the opening of his 'Victoria Boarding House' to which he had just added 'a suit (*sic*) of stone-built bedrooms'. In September 1858 William Trevena's Victoria hotel was advertised for the first time and it was reported that he had just added to the premises 'a splendid and spacious Ball Room, which, being fitted with a stage, is most suitable for concerts or theatrical purposes'. The stone is believed to have come from the nearby Quarry Hill.

From the 1860s many overseas and Melbourne theatre groups performed in this room which became known as the Victoria Theatre. Some of these included George Coppin, Miss Dolly Green, the Davenport Brothers, and the great Osaka Troupe of Japanese (whose trained doves almost fell victim to the hotel cat). The local Avoca Garrick Club and the Avoca Amateur Dramatic Club also gave performances at the theatre.

William Trevena was committed to making his Victoria hotel one of the most substantial in the area. A visitor to Avoca in 1869 described the Victoria in this way: 'One of the finest buildings in the town is a handsome hotel built of stone and brick, provided with a ball-room, billiard-rooms and such like. It is altogether the finest up-country place of the kind that I have seen'.

On 9 December 1871, Trevena called tenders for 'about 50-60 yards of stone' and on 16 March 1872 he advertised the completion of his new range of first-class stabling which boasted thick stone walls and ventilation of the best order. Despite oral tradition that these stables were used as a staging post for Cobb and Co there is no evidence of this. The Cobb and Co coaches that ran through Avoca stopped at the Avoca hotel. Trevena's stables were intended to cater for travellers and for those who brought their horses to Avoca for the race meetings.

William Trevena appears to have sold the licence of the Victoria hotel to John Mockett in 1874 but still retained ownership of the building for some years. John Mockett continued as publican of the hotel until 1895 when it passed to a Mrs. Mockett, probably his wife. During 1930 the front section of the hotel was re-built by local builder A.F. Kaye with local resident, Jimmy Summers, as foreman assisted by Bill Whitely and the whole project took about twelve months. It was intended that the second storey be built on the existing stonework but this was disallowed by the architect.

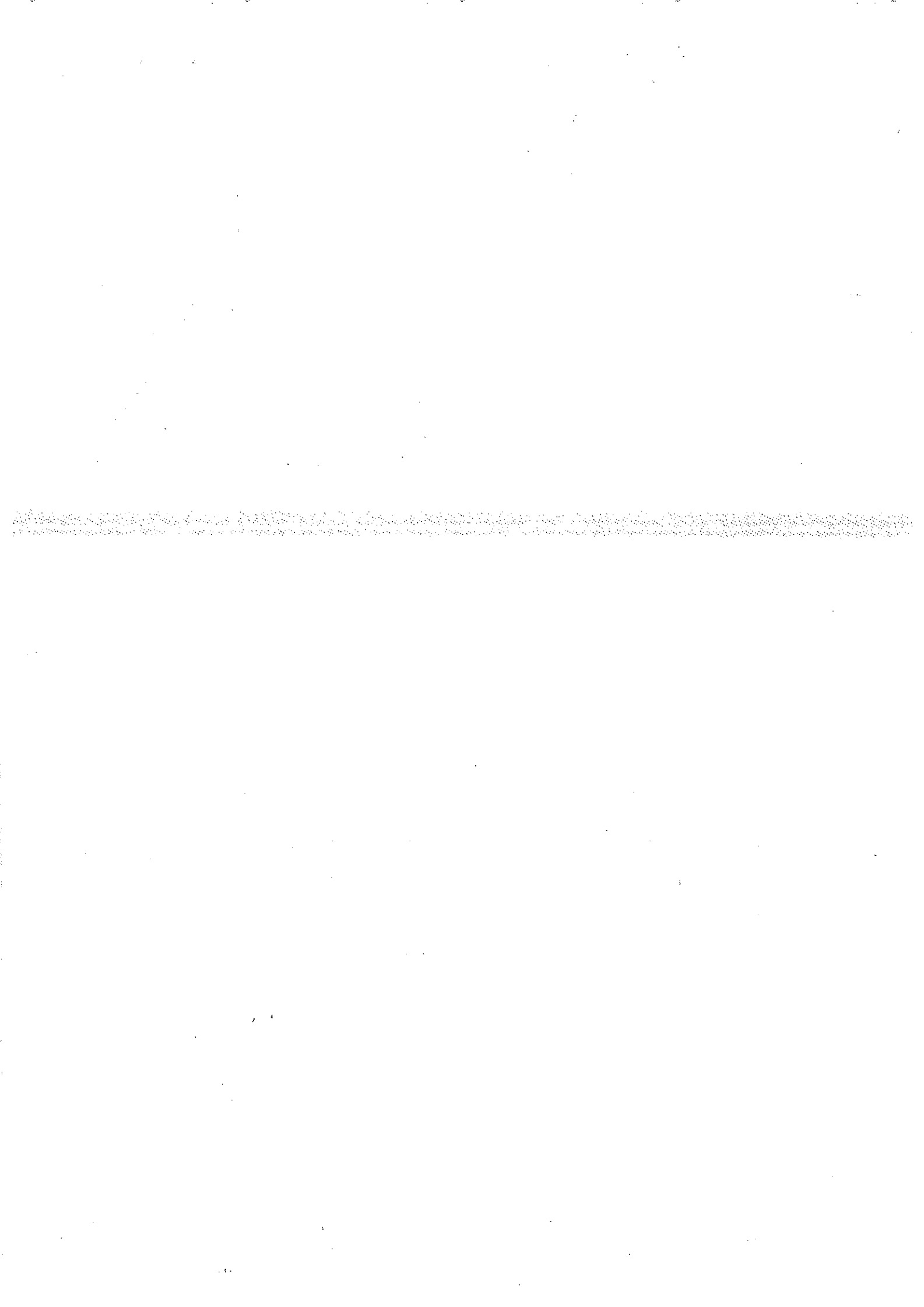
The publicans known to have been at the Victoria hotel are: 1858 - William Trevena, c1874 - John Mockett, 1895 - Mrs Mockett, 1904 - Frank Baxter, 1908 - Miss M Mockett, c. 1920 (?) - Mr Tampion, 1927. - J McDonald

The Pyrenees Cellar building operated as the Bank of New South Wales from January 1873 until 1936-7 when it moved to new premises across the road. Les Ray then ran his drapery business in the building, followed by Miss Brady. The building finally returned to the ownership of the Victoria hotel in 1987-8 and now serves as a bistro area.

DESCRIPTION

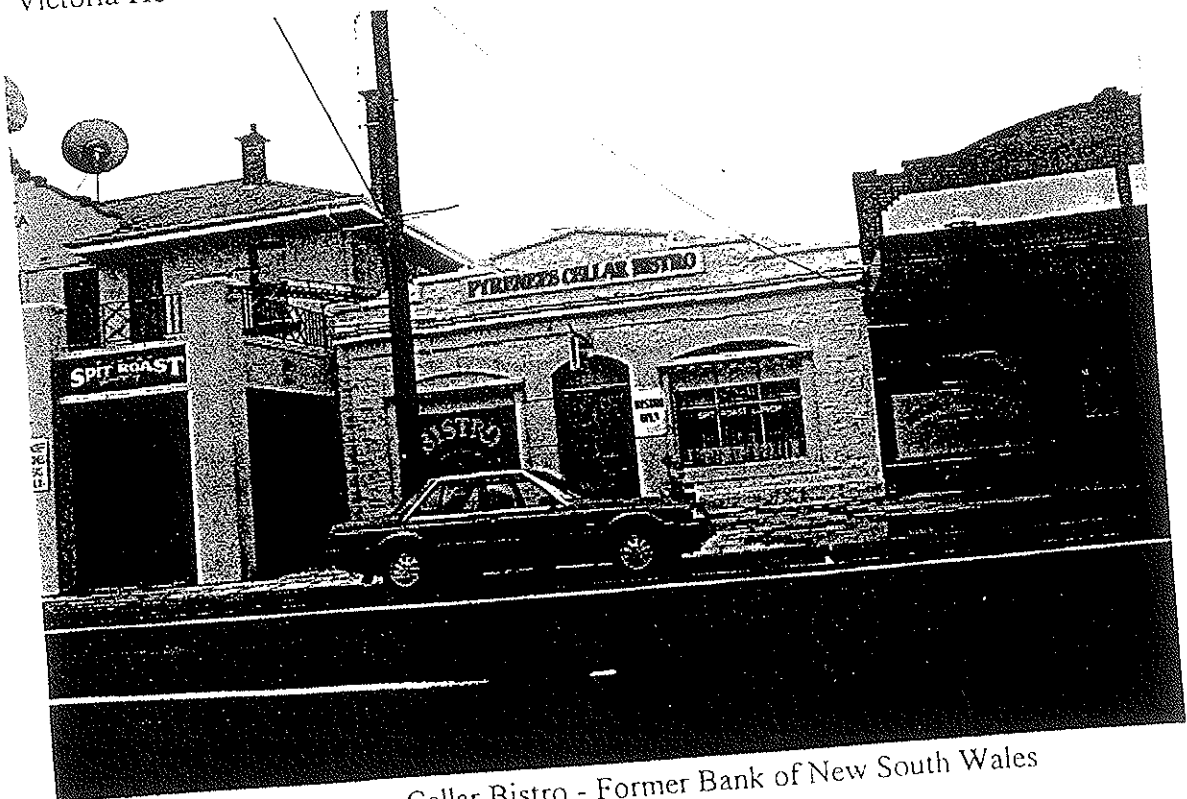
The hotel consists of the two storey rendered section built in 1930, the roughly squared and coursed stone section behind the 1930 building, the roughly coursed slate stables and the more sophisticated stonework of the Pyrenees Cellars where the stones are laid in courses with dressed quoins, cornice and capped, stepped parapet.

Early photographs, when J. Mockett was publican, show the street section of the hotel as single storeyed with stonework of similar type to that of the stables with a rendered parapet that had short panelled pillars at each end then swept up to taller central section again with pillars. The facade had a central bar window flanked by two single doors and a single, double hung window at each end. A straight pitched verandah, supported on square timber posts ran the length of the building. When B. Mockett was the publican, the stonework was rendered. The major building change until the rebuilding in 1930 was the construction of a new verandah with cast iron posts, capital and brackets with a return parapet used for signage above the gutter line.





Victoria Hotel - Stables



Victoria Hotel - Pyrenees Cellar Bistro - Former Bank of New South Wales

DESCRIPTION (cont.)

The stone rear section has a hipped roof at the back and finishes in a gable where it meets the new building. The stonework here differs from the stables and the early photographs of the front section. The stones are larger and lighter in colour. The building would appear to have been altered with chimneys rebuilt and changes to doors and windows during the 1930 works.

The stable building is at the rear of the block and appears to form the back of a stable yard. It is of narrow random coursed slate with brick quoins. The horizontal slit windows ventilated the loose boxes and have timber lintels and timber frames. The long rectangular building has a high hipped roof for storing feed and over one of the doors is a gable dormer to allow for loading of the feed into the loft. The gable end has a decorative timber barge board. The doorway below the dormer has been widened and has lost the brick quoin work on one side. The stonework on the stables and the original front section are similar to that found at the slate dairies at Percydale (P1) and Natte Yallock (N 26).

The Pyrenees Cellar building is set further forward to the street line than the hotel building. It can be seen in the early photographs and would appear to date from the at least the 1870s. It may have been built by the Bank of New South Wales when they established their branch office on the site in 1873. The building is symmetrical with a central doorway and wide windows on either side. All the openings have arched heads. The early photographs show it of unpainted stonework with stone sills, carved stone cornice and parapet. The south window appears to retain its original window mullions, dividing it into six panes. An early photograph shows the building with what appear to be bars on the inside of the windows. The original entry appears to have a pair of half glazed doors. The building has dressed stone quoin work and the windows and door now have smooth rendered architraves and sills. The stonework has been painted. It is said that the building was the stone theatre referred to newspaper reports. Due to the differences in setback of the pavement and the completely different stonework, it is more probable that this building was built as a bank and the theatre was contained in other sections of the complex and may have been demolished or altered during the 1930's rebuilding.

The two storey section is of red brick and has a pyramidal hipped roof broken in the centre of the street elevation by a rendered parapet and pierced by plain red brick chimneys with flat rendered cappings. The facade is rendered and painted and the upper floor has six rectangular windows with the central windows marked with moulding echoing the shape of the parapet. The lower storey is sheltered by a street verandah which is used as a deck at the first floor level. It is supported on rendered brick piers which rise through to form part of the balcony balustrade. Panels of wrought iron, alternating vertical balusters and panels of diamond shapes are placed between the piers. The lower floor is rendered with a dado of coloured and patterned tiles which are characteristic of the 1930s. The major alterations are the addition of the drive in bottle shop to the side of the building, the blocking in of a doorway and window to form the bottle shop and the addition of multiple signage to the building.

The unusual seats still on display at the front of the hotel were the work of Geoff Moore, who despite a crippled arm, produced useful and decorative articles from timber found in the local forests. These are an important element in the streetscape.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 16 March 1872, 4 January 1873, 11 January 1873, 21 July 1882
 Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 70
Coles Hotel Collection
 Information from Ivan Redpath, Graeme Mills.
 Helen Harris, High St notes, Avoca and District Historical Society
 Historic Buildings Council file No. 600 7411
Maryborough Advertiser, 2 February 1858, September 1858
 Avoca and District Historical Society, Photographs No. 55, 366, 606 & uncatalogued

Assessed by

W. Jacobs/K. Twigg

Assessment Date

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Chapman's store
FORMER NAME: Albion House
ADDRESS: 130 High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Chapman's store dates from c. 1866. It has significance for its associations, characteristic qualities and contextual importance.

Chapman's store is typical of the solid commercial buildings built in Avoca's main street as the goldfield transformed itself into a settled township during the 1860s. Its design is expressive of its continuous use as a draper's shop for almost 130 years and it is one of the few buildings of this age still used for its original purpose in the township. Chapman's store is an integral part of the main streetscape.

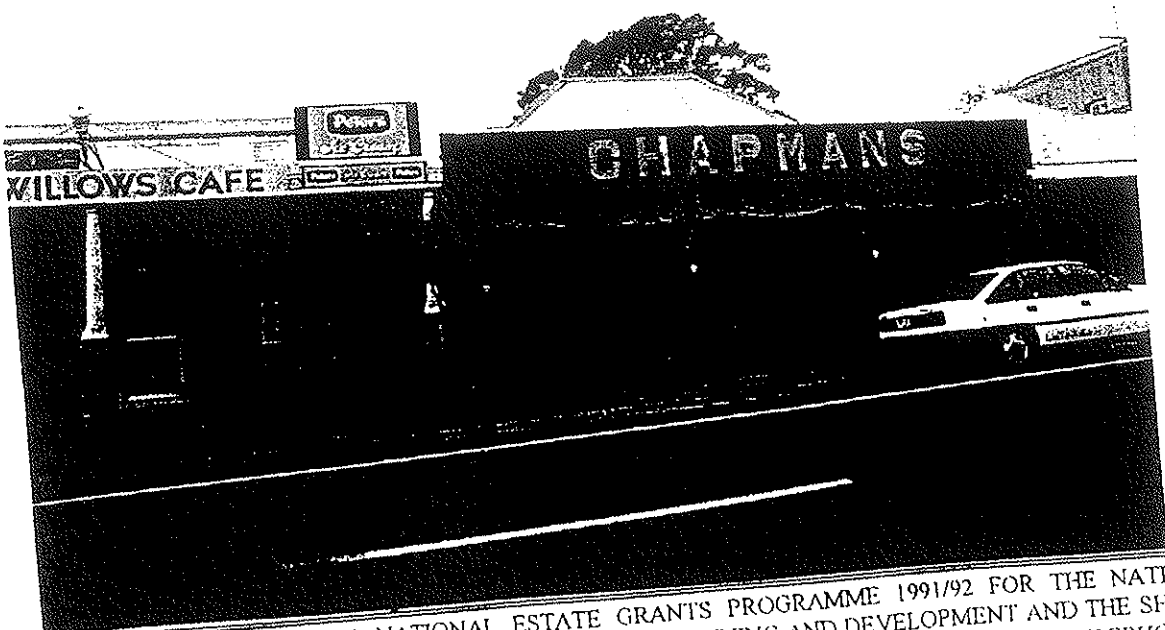
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/24

BUILDING DATE: c. 1866
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

W. Sutcliffe had established a drapery store on this allotment in High Street at least as early as 1865 when he was rated £50 for his shop and dwelling. The shop subsequently became well-known throughout the Avoca area as Albion House. In July 1868 W. Sutcliffe sold Albion House to W. Henderson who continued to operate it as a drapery store and even opened a branch at Percydale.

In 1883 the drapery store became the property of George Downton, who had previously operated a branch business of F. F. Fuggle in Avoca. In an advertisement placed in 1900 he proclaimed that Albion House, with its dressmaking, millinery and gentleman's departments, was now one of the leading establishments of the district.

In December 1921, after thirty-seven years in the ownership of the Downton family, Albion House was sold to H. J. Chapman who had previously worked as a draper and clothier in Trentham for fourteen years. From this point the business traded under the name H. J. Chapman and Sons, Albion House.

During the early 1950s the Chapman's made some minor alterations to the front of the building. The store continued to be run by the Chapman family until at least the 1970s. It now operates as the 'Country Store', providing Bed and Breakfast.

DESCRIPTION

An early photograph of this shop, taken between 1868 and 1883, shows it with a stone facade with the shop windows and central entry at the north end and a residential entry door and single double hung window at the south end. The building at that time had a timber verandah. The high hipped roof is shown clad in shingles.

An early twentieth century photograph shows the building very much as it is today with the high hipped roof clad in corrugated iron with the ridge crested in cast iron with wrought iron finials at each end. These still remain. The photograph shows a rectangular timber parapet with a capping moulding supporting a central wrought iron decoration and wrought iron finials at each end. From this springs the verandah. The parapet is no longer existing. The photograph shows the verandah with a parapet on three sides acting as sign boards. This also has a central wrought iron decoration and finials at the corners.

The existing verandah has had the front parapet replaced with a vertical metal cladding with an inappropriate sign. The original cast iron verandah posts with cast iron capitals and brackets still exist.

The shop front appears to date from the 1930s and now stretches the length of the street facade although the entry door is in a similar position, to the north of the centre of the facade, to that shown in the earlier photograph. The metal framed windows with frosted glass and etched logos and the black tiling are a good example of a shopfront of this period.

With the reinstatement of the verandah parapet and appropriate sign writing, the Albion Store would again be a major element in the streetscape.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 19 May 1866, 4 July 1868, 7 October 1871, n.d. 1900, 2 December 1921, 2 December 1931, 20 September 1967
Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 171
Information from Ivan Redpath
Avoca and District Historical Society, Photographic Collection Nos. 49, 268

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A117

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Two shops
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: High St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The two shops possibly date from the 1860s with pressed metal added in the 1900s. They have significance for their architecture, characteristic qualities, and contextual importance.

These modest shops are characteristic of the small stores which lined Avoca's street throughout the nineteenth century. The addition of pressed metal in the 1900s is indicative of the increased prosperity generated by farming in this period. The form and scale of the buildings make them an integral part of Avoca's commercial streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/25

BUILDING DATE: 1860s

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

Henry Powers was born in Bedfordshire in England and migrated to Australia in 1852 at the age of only sixteen. Arriving in Avoca in 1859 he established the Avoca Bakery a year later. The first rate records of 1865 show him occupying a bakery and dwelling on this site. A later photograph possibly dating from the 1890s, shows Henry Powers still occupying the shop to the north. Sign boards on the shop indicate that during this period he was operating a store and newsagency in addition to a bakery. The shop to the south was used by a hairdresser.

In 1900 Henry Powers was still operating on the site as a baker, while the shop to the south operated as a butcher's shop under the control of a Mrs Kang. By 1915 Arthur Ah Pee had taken over the butchers shop and he ran the business until 1919 when he sold to John Redpath who turned the building into a fruit and vegetable shop.

By 1927 the shop to the north had become the Avoca Tea Rooms under the charge of Miss Maggie Larkins, and as this business expanded it also took over the building to the south for use as a dining room. An advertisement on 14 June 1927 proclaimed that the tea rooms could provide refreshments at all hours. It also advertised cool drinks and sweets, and fresh bread and pastry daily.

The location of the tea rooms directly opposite Avoca's memorial rotunda eventually prompted a change of name and from the early 1930s it was known as the Rotunda Cafe. During this period the shops appear to have been owned by H. F. Dowsley, a fruiterer.

The Rotunda Cafe was eventually purchased by Claude Harrison, the proprietor of the Willow Cafe who established a fish and chip shop in the premises. It later became a private residence.

DESCRIPTION

Each shop is marked at the parapet line by a central triangular pediment. These were originally of timber boarding but have been clad in flat galvanised iron sheeting. The shops are marked on the facade by flat timber Doric pilasters at each end and between the shop fronts.

The south shop front has a four panelled door and a large shop window. This window is taller than that shown in the early photograph.

The north shop has the door in a similar position to that shown in the photograph but the transom light is now hidden behind the press metal cladding. The shop window is identical in size and shape as that shown in the photograph but it was originally divided in to eight panes.

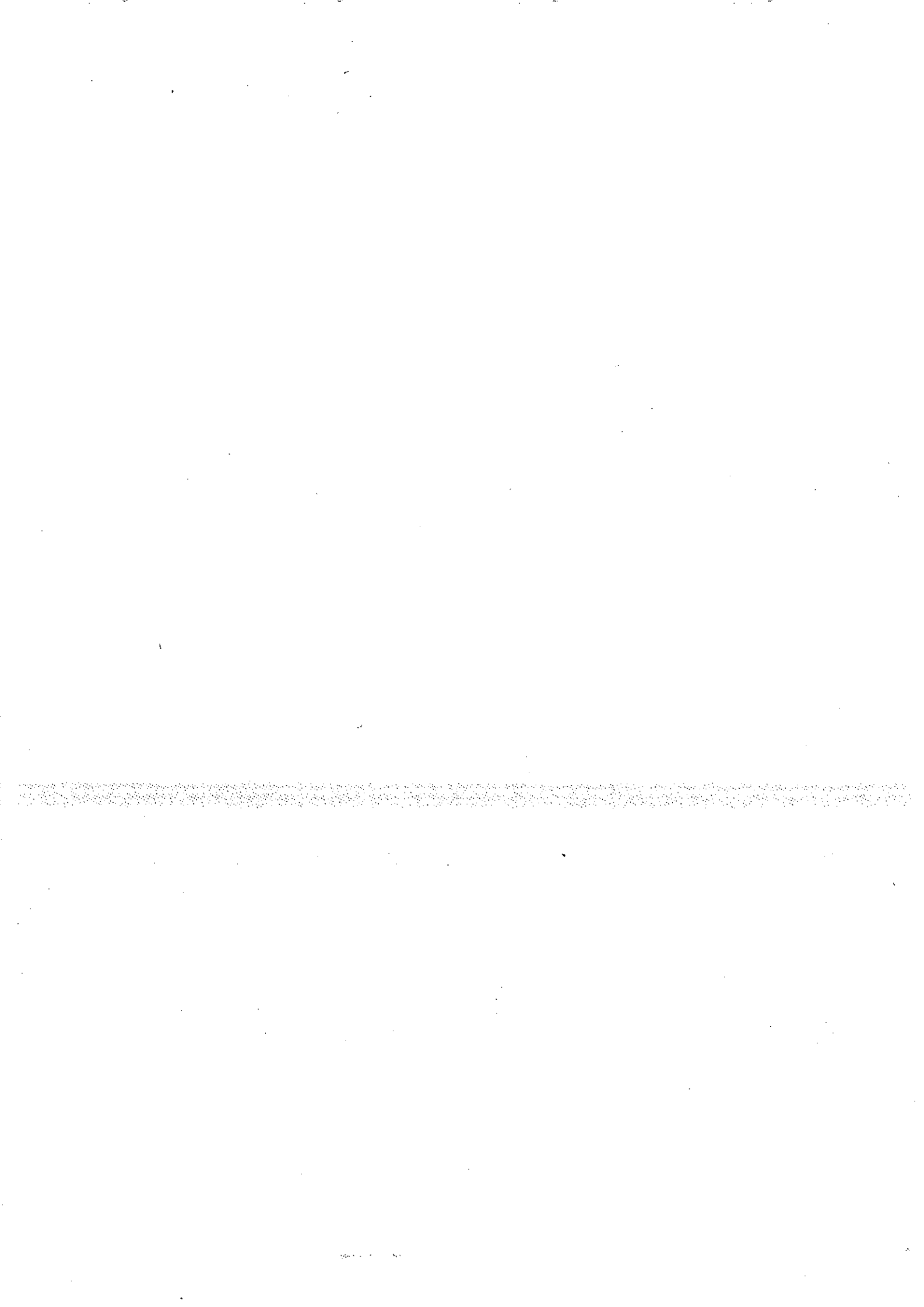
The early photograph shows that the building was clad in weatherboards. This has been altered to pressed metal sheeting. The metal is pressed to imitate brickwork.

The verandah had a boarded parapet along the eaves line and was supported on square timber posts with a small timber moulded capital with flat curved timber brackets springing from them. These have been replaced by plain square posts.

The shops are characteristic of the commercial buildings in Avoca with parapets and straight pitched verandahs. Although the pressed metal cladding is a later addition it is found in other buildings in the town and is a characteristic material.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 14 June 1927
Avoca Free Press, 2 December 1931
Information from Ivan Redpath
Sands and McDougall's Country Directory, 1915
Wise's Post Office Directory, 1900
Avoca and District Historical Society, Photographic Collection, Photograph No. 35
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1865, 1879, 1910
Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 173



AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A118

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Avoca Newsagency
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: 126 High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The newsagency is a two-storeyed brick structure built between 1887 and 1890. It has significance for its building form, associations, and contextual importance.

The newsagency has remained in continuous use since its construction over one hundred years. Its size and impressive design suggests its status as the only stationery outlet in Avoca. Together with the Herlihy's store, the Avoca hotel and the National bank (all located in close proximity), the newsagency forms a small enclave of double storey buildings which contribute significantly to the visual interest of the main streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/26

BUILDING DATE: 1887 - 1890

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

This site was originally occupied by a hay and corn store operated by John Mockett and Ransom. The present building was built between 1887 and 1890 by Tom Hellings (sen.) and it was opened by the Misses Powers as a stationery shop. By 1915 the Powers had sold to Wiltshire and Burns.

Burns eventually removed himself from the partnership and the stationery business was continued by Frank Wiltshire and his son. During this period the store also stocked sporting equipment since the Wiltshire family were well known sports enthusiasts.

The store continues to operate as a newsagency.

DESCRIPTION

The newsagents is a two storey brick and render building with a two storey cast iron verandah. The building is on a corner allotment and so presents two major facades to the street. The walls are of face red brick with cream brick bands in the centre of each storey and cream brick voussoirs to the windows. The parapet has a moulded cornice line at the base and near the top and the corners are marked by squat pilasters with vermiculated decoration in the centre panel. The main section of the parapet forms a long nameplate.

The two storey cast iron balcony now only faces to High Street. Early photographs show that it returned down the side of the building with the corner being a broad splay. The removal of the verandah explains the floor level windows in the upper floor on the side elevation. The verandah is supported on cast iron posts with Corinthian capitals and cast iron brackets. The brackets are now obscured by signs. The upper storey of the verandah has square timber posts, cast iron balustrade, cast iron brackets and frieze. The verandah roof has a bullnose profile.

The shop has a central entry doorway with transom light. There are two large shop windows either side of the entry. These are divided by vertical mullions. The early photograph shows that a similar shop window was on the side of the building but this has been bricked in leaving only a small high window in the wall.

The building is a substantial and well detailed commercial building and is an important element in the streetscape.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 6 December 1932
- Information from Ivan Redpath
- Helen Harris, High St notes, Avoca and District Historical Society
- Avoca and District Historical Society, Photographic collection, Photograph No. 268
- Shire of Avoca rate books*, 1886, 1890

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A119

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 8, Allotment 1

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Post office
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The post office is a brick structure built in 1872. It has significance for its associations and contextual importance.

The post office is one of Avoca's most prominent public buildings and a key element in the streetscape. It has acted as an important source of information for the local community for over 120 years and the cultural sentiment attached to it gives it high social value.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/27

BUILDING DATE: 1872
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

The first government post office at Avoca was a wooden building erected at the police camp in approximately 1860 despite the Municipal Council's complaint that this location was most inconvenient to Avoca's commercial interests. This building also served as the telegraph office and later housed the mechanic's institute.

By 1871 the wooden building was in a deteriorated state and in September 1871 a public meeting discussed the need for a new post office in the central part of the township. Land was finally purchased near the shire hall and William Atkinson was contracted by the government to erect a new post and telegraph office.

The foundation stone for the new post office was laid in November 1872. In 1873-4 John Foot was also contracted to supply fencing and fittings for the building at a cost of £254.10.0. The first postmaster was P R Arkins and he and his family continued to fill this role until 1888.

The building continues to function as a post office.

DESCRIPTION

The Avoca Post Office is a single storey brick building with intersecting hip and gable roofs. The building has a base of rock faced bluestone. The building is similar in design to other post office of the time such as that constructed at Maldon.

The building retains its slate roof which is hipped over the residential section and the office projects in a gable roofed section to the street alignment. The red brick chimneys which have decorative corbelled brickwork in cream bricks are intact.

The main facade to the street has three arched windows with the voussoirs picked out in cream and red bricks and cream bricks bands at the arch springing. The sills are of dressed bluestone on cream brick supports. Above the centre window is a clock with the edge marked in a round band of alternating red and cream bricks and an outer band of shaped cream bricks. The entry to the office area is at the side, recessed from the street alignment. The entry is through an arched headed doorway with matching voussoirs to the windows. Adjacent is a flat arched headed double hung timber window with the flat voussoirs in alternating cream and red. The window heads are now obscured by the addition of canvas blinds.

A verandah to the north side marks the entry to the residential section. This has a hipped corrugated iron roof and two of the original timber posts have been replaced with unsympathetic round iron posts. The attached posts to the wall are original. The original posts were pairs of square timber posts with moulded timber capitals and plain timber brackets. The existing fence is of timber posts and woven wire fencing which would appear to date from the 1920s. The original fence was of timber with large square timber gate posts and round headed pickets which formed a sweeping curved between square fence posts.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 10 November 1866, 30 September 1871, 30 November 1872
Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 110-111
Helen Harris, High St notes, Avoca and District Historical Society
Victoria - the barred numerals
Avoca and District Historical Society, Photographic collection, photograph No. 239

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Shed
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: High St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The gable roofed storage shed is clad in pressed metal on the facade. It has significance for its use of cladding.

The shed is typical of the storage sheds which were once a common adjunct to shops, but are now relatively rare. It is also unusual for the use of pressed metal on the facade which suggests an attempt to 'dress up' the building in order to attract greater custom.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

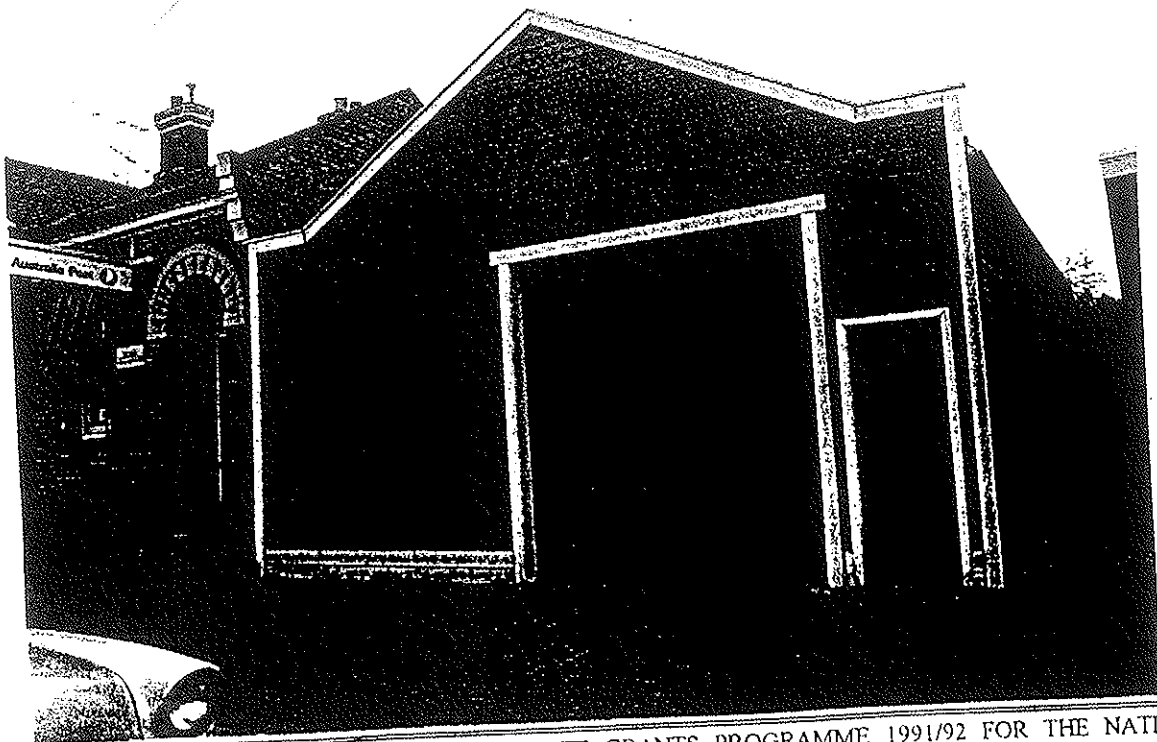
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/28

BUILDING DATE:

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

This building was in existence at least as early as 1925 when it appears in a photograph but at this time the facade was clad in weatherboards not pressed metal and the building had a straight parapet across the facade.

During the late 1930s the shed was used as a garage by Tim Healey, motor mechanic, and it is probably at this time that pressed metal was added to the facade. After he enlisted for the Second World War it became a bus depot for M E Powers Bus Service. Later it was taken over by the Avoca Shire Council and used to house the shire truck. It is now the property of the post office.

DESCRIPTION

The building is a gable roofed shed which is built on the street alignment. The building has a parapet which follows the slope of the gable and has a large vehicle door off centre and a pedestrian doorway to the south end of the building. The sides of the building are clad in horizontal corrugated iron.

The building has been re-clad in the 1920s or 30s with pressed metal sheeting. Three types of pattern have been used. The gable end has sheets pressed to resemble notched timber shingles. The main wall area is in sheets of imitation tuck pointed brickwork and the edges are clad in sheets which resemble vermiculated stone quoins. The doors have been cut in with no reference to the pressed metal decoration.

In the early decades of the twentieth century a number of buildings in the study area were clad or re-clad in pressed metal sheeting. This simple building is one of the most complete schemes remaining. Its prominent position in the main street adds to its interest.

REFERENCES

Avoca and District Historical Society, Photograph No. 361
Information from Ivan Redpath

HISTORY

The first Avoca Knitting Company was formed in 1921 and established in a building purchased from W R Samers for £400 in March 1921. This was on the allotment (presently vacant) next to the Avoca hotel and Savings bank. A year later an additional 1,000 shares were created. However in the ensuing years there is little mention of the knitting mill and it was presumably forced to close.

In 1947 a second mill opened in Avoca as an adjunct to the Maryborough Knitting Mills. This development was keenly supported by the Avoca Shire Council who were increasingly concerned about the declining population of the area as young people were forced to move outside the Shire to find employment. The project was also a response to the Government's increasing emphasis on decentralisation.

The second mill was centrally located on a High St allotment. At the turn of the century this was the site of M M Wise and Co., Beehive Stores specialising in drapery. By 1915 the property had passed to Mitchell and Son and the last owner before the property was sold to Maryborough Knitting Mills was S J Bevan.

Maryborough Knitting Mills demolished the old buildings and constructed the present southern section as a mill. Modern machinery was installed and Mrs Collings was placed in charge of the thirty-two female employees who worked in the manufacture of wool and cotton underwear. In 1950 the average weekly output of the mill was 900 to 1,000 dozen articles. In later years the mill was purchased by the Avoca Shire Council and at this time the mill was extended with the construction of a new section to the north.

After its closure various businesses operated in the building including 'Stray Cats' ladies wear run by the Richards family and Toulouse Coutre Ladies Fashion Wear Manufacturers.

The later extension now accommodates the Pyrenees Tourist Office and Australian Gem Display while the older section of the mill is leased by the Baptist Church.

DESCRIPTION

The building facade comprises two sections. The northern section is set back from the street alignment and is a plain concrete block wall with a straight parapet and a doorway in the northern section. The building has no other features on the facade.

The southern section comprises a rendered brick shop front with a cantilevered awning below a rendered, stepped parapet. The shop has a central entrance with a pair of half glazed doors and has flanking shop windows. The facade below the awning is painted. The facade above the awning retains the mottled render surface. The plain stepped parapet is broken by the use of horizontal lines of recessed tapestry brickwork at the sides and a central rendered motif, edged vertically in tapestry bricks. The building style is a very austere example of rendered facade of the late 1930s and 1940s.

Behind the facade sections of the nineteenth century building may still exist.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 22 March 1921, 12 April 1921, 18 August 1922
Back to Avoca Booklet, 1950, p. 68
 Helen Harris, High St notes, Avoca and District Historical Society
 Information from Ivan Redpath

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A121

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Avoca Knitting Mills
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former knitting mill is comprised of an older section built in 1947 and a newer brick section built by the Avoca Shire Council in the 1950s. It has significance for its rarity, associations and influence.

The former knitting mill is one of the few factories to have operated in the Shire in the twentieth century. Its existence is indicative of local council concern regarding the exodus of young people from the Shire, and State Government support for decentralisation. The factory was influential in providing employment for thirty-two local women.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/29

BUILDING DATE: c1900 and c1950
DATE: 14.9.93



AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A123

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS: 8/4

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Albion hotel
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: 112 High Street

MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Albion hotel is a brick building built in 1868. It was closed as a hotel in 1938. It has significance for its associations.

Although no longer in use as a hotel, the Albion hotel is a substantially intact example of a nineteenth century hotel and contributes to the historic character of Avoca's main streetscape. In the past it was closely associated with the social life of the town and it is a reminder of a period when Avoca boasted many more hotels than the two which currently do business.

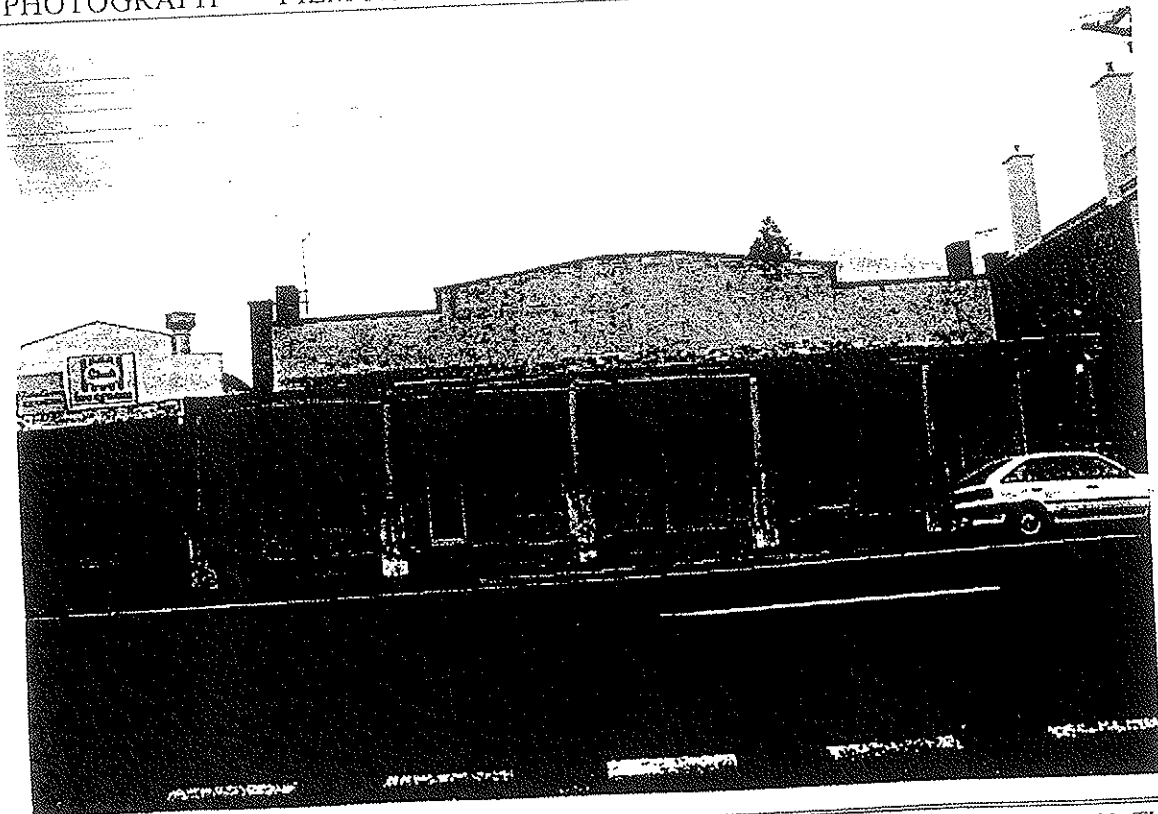
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (hotels)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/31

BUILDING DATE: 1868
DATE 14.9.93



HISTORY

On 26 September 1868 the *Avoca Mail* announced the completion of Jonathan Reed's 'new and extensive hotel' to be known as the Albion hotel. Its brick construction marked it as a hotel with some pretensions and it was well patronised. In February 1869 a meeting to form the Avoca Acclimatisation Society was held within its walls.

Reed transferred the license of the hotel to J. T. Potton, previously of the Avoca hotel, in January 1870. However the license appears to have reverted to him again since he was the owner of the hotel in April 1882 when the license was transferred to John Byrne. Byrne only remained at the hotel two years before relinquishing his business as a publican.

In 1895, the hotel was in the hands of J. Wiltshire. It passed to Oscar Wiltshire in 1904 and then to Daniel Larkins the following year. The hotel was thoroughly renovated in 1913 when John Liddle became the new owner. Advertisements inserted in the *Avoca Mail* and the *Avoca Free Press* in 1913 and 1914 emphasised that the hotel now offered 'splendid accommodation for visitors and commercial travellers' including a 'billiard room, bath room and all other conveniences'. It also provided free stabling and the provision of a number of stalls for farmers horses. A coach to Lexton left Avoca daily from the Albion hotel.

In 1915 the Albion hotel passed to James Burke. In 1927, Charles Bayton was the licensee of the hotel, although it may have remained in the ownership of the Burke family for by 1932 Mrs J. Burke was the proprietor. She sold to P. Wishart, a publican from Peshurst, in November-December 1935. In May 1937, G. A. Jongbloed took over the management of the hotel but his occupancy was short-lived. The Albion hotel closed on New Years Eve 1937 and since then has been used as a private residence.

DESCRIPTION

The former Albion Hotel presents a simple facade to the street. The single storey, brick building has a brick parapet which steps to a higher central section and a straight pitched verandah supported on square timber posts. The brickwork is now painted.

The building has a central entry with a pair of narrow, two panelled timber doors. On either side is a doorway with rectangular transom light between flanking double hung, timber windows. The windows and doors have rendered or stone sills.

The parapet is rendered with a capping of a single row of bricks corbelled out from the face. The red brick chimneys appear to be later additions to the building.

The verandah posts have had there base section replaced with rendered brick or concrete piers and the only remaining decoration is a slight arch in the bottom of the verandah beam.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 26 September 1868, 6 February 1869, 15 January 1870, July 1913
Avoca Free Press, 22 April 1882, 31 May 1884, 13 November 1895, 21 March 1914, 7 December 1932, 4 December 1935, 15 May 1937.

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A124

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Bakery
FORMER NAME: State Saving Bank
ADDRESS: High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former State Savings bank is a two-storied structure built in 1924. It has significance for its design. The building is a substantial two storey building which demonstrates the prosperity of the town in the 1920s.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 6/32

BUILDING DATE: 1924
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

This State Savings Bank branch was erected in 1924 to the design of Melbourne architects Godfrey and Spowers. Between 1920 and 1931, this firm erected many branches for the State Savings Bank.

During the 1990s the building was taken over by the Commonwealth Bank. In 1994 it was sold and now functions as a bakery.

DESCRIPTION

The building is a typical design by the firm of Godfrey and Spowers for the State Bank of Victoria in the period 1921 to 1931.

The building is of two storeys with the terra cotta tiles hipped roof flowing through the asymmetrically side parapets to form the roof of the upstairs balcony. The building is of red brick with rendered parapets, string courses and sills.

The building facade is designed with two side pavilions which extend vertically beyond the eaves line to form parapets. The northern parapet is taller and has a curved central section whereas the southern parapet is lower with a straight parapet interrupted by pillars that rise a little higher. The parapet pillars are the capping for the flat brick pilasters which mark the sides of the pavilions. In the north pavilion the pilasters flank the entry on the ground floor and a wide window on the first floor. The entry consists of a pair of half glazed doors protected by a projecting rendered awning supported on rendered brackets.

The central section of the facade consists of two windows with a transom light above a flat rendered band. These are protected by the projecting balcony supported on brackets which are the larger version of the door awning brackets.

The building is a substantial modern building derived from a Romanesque/Art Nouveau style.

REFERENCES

Bruce Trethowan, *Study of Banks in Victoria, 1851-1939*, pp. 75-80

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A125

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Former Holland's drapery shop
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: 112 High St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Holland's drapery shop is a two-storied structure built in 1866. It has significance for its associations, and contextual importance.

The solid brick construction of the former Holland's drapery store is expressive of the post gold rush prosperity of the Avoca township. The building is substantially intact and its location in close proximity to a number of other two storied commercial buildings makes it an important element in the streetscape. Like building A45 it was also used as a wine depot for the Mackereth family, and is closely associated with the development of wine making in the Shire.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

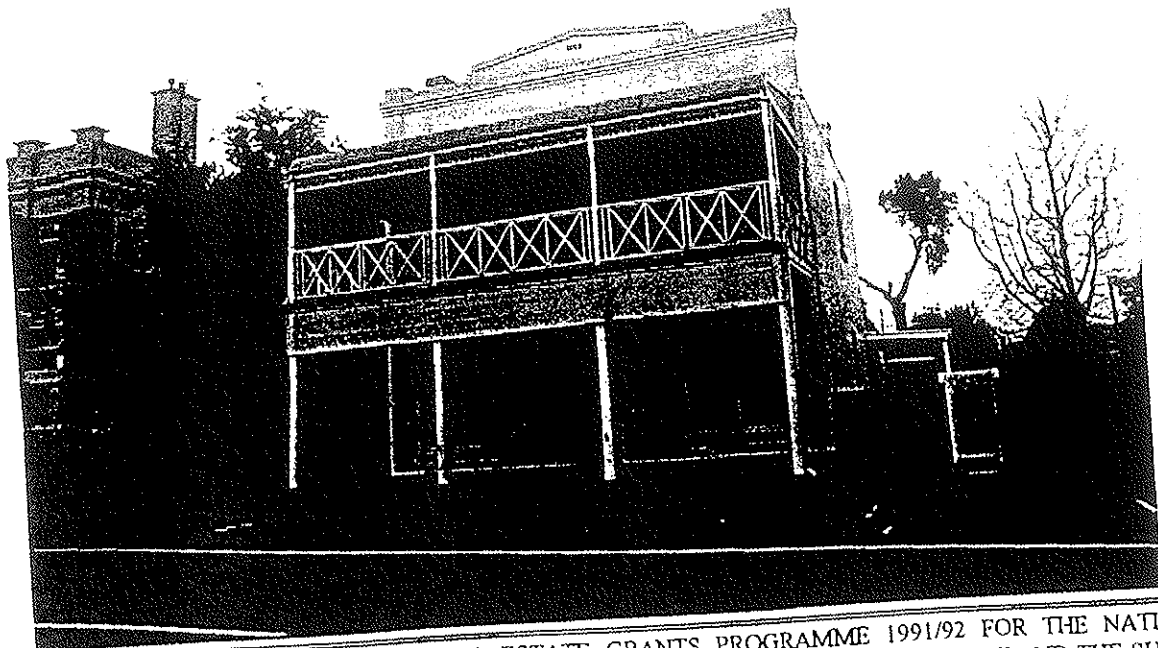
THEMES: 7/1

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.: 7/1

BUILDING DATE: 1866

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

Timothy Holland purchased this allotment in one of the first Avoca land sales on 24 October 1854 and appears to have established a drapery business on the site soon afterwards. He built the present double storey brick building in 1866.

Holland continued to operate the store as a drapery until his death in 1871. His wife, Elizabeth carried on the business for some time but by 1876 had filed an insolvency schedule.

Between 1910 and 1915 E H Mackereth transferred his wine depot to this building from across High Street (A46). By 1915 it was owned and operated by his daughter Aletha Mackereth. By 1927 she had been joined by her brother John who was sole owner in 1935. The building was operated as a wine shop by others after passing from the Mackereth family and closed in 1953.

DESCRIPTION

The two storey shop was originally of face brickwork which is now painted. The building has a two storey street verandah which would appear to be a later addition or substantially altered after 1890 as it has a bullnosed roof to the upper storey.

The building has a parapet concealing the roof line which has piers at each end with corbelled bricks forming a cornice with a central pediment with a capping of corbelled bricks. The upper storey has a central doorway with a rectangular transom light between two, timber, double hung windows with stone or rendered sills. The central doorway suggests that the building had a verandah accessible from the upper storey or was added at the time the verandah was added or altered.

The ground floor has two large shop windows on each side of a central entry. The windows are divided into four large panes of glass. They have stone or rendered sills, now painted. The central entry has been altered by the addition of modern dwarf brick walls. The entry is lined in vertical timber boarding.

The verandah would appear to date from the 1890s or 1900s or to have been extensively rebuilt. The upper storey bullnosed roofing is supported on turned timber posts. This now has a straight, patterned cast iron frieze which is not characteristic of this style of verandah and may be a modern addition. The balustrade is of timber with diagonal timbers forming panels similar to that on A49 which was constructed about 1890. The lower section has three wide boards forming a signboard along the top of the posts. The posts are square, timber, stop chamfered posts which have had the bottom section replaced with concrete piers. There is no decoration on the posts.

The side entry porch is a modern addition.

REFERENCES

Helen Harris, High St notes, Avoca and District Historical Society
Information from Ivan Redpath
Shire of Avoca Ratebooks

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A129

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 9, Allotment 1

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Bank of Victoria
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Cnr High and Bridport Sts
MAP NAME: Avoca
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Bank of Victoria is a brick structure built in 1854. It has significance for its age, rarity, associations and contextual importance.

The former Bank of Victoria is one of the few commercial buildings to survive from Avoca's early goldrush days and its expansive design reflects the prosperity and optimism of the period. It also has significance on a state level as the sixth branch opened by the Bank of Victoria. The building is associated with two minor figures in Victoria's history, Alice Maes and Edmund Heales. The prominent siting of the bank at the southern entrance of Avoca makes it an important element in the streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

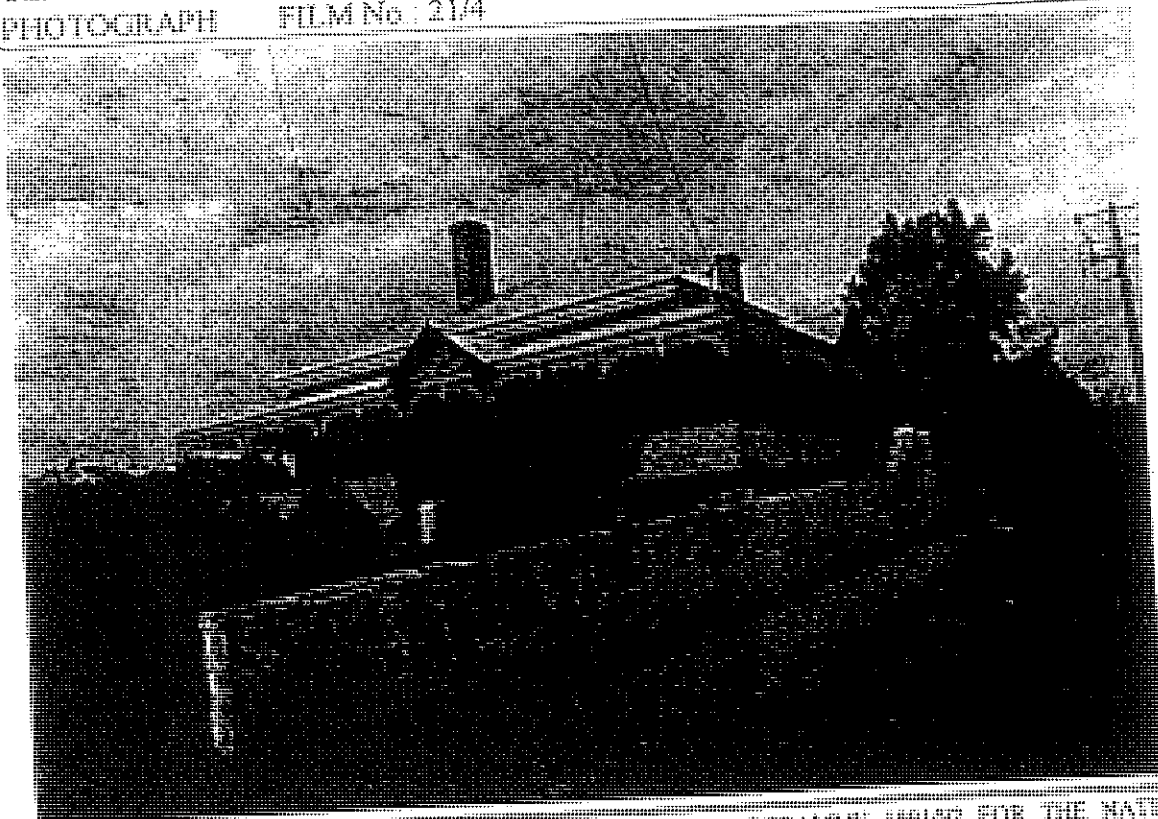
RECOMMENDATIONS

Addition to the Register of Historic Buildings, addition to the Register of the National Estate, Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No:** 21/4

BUILDING DATE: 1856/7
DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

After coming into existence in 1853, the Bank of Victoria chose to open its sixth branch in Avoca. In September 1854 a correspondent of the *Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald* reported that the Bank of Victoria had secured a corner block for its two-storey building 'instead of transacting its business in what was once a butcher's tent and shambles'. In November of the same year it was further reported that a 'chaste frieze in the Kinconkella style, conspicuous from afar' now surmounted the northern facade of the Bank. The first manager was E G Harrison with F C Oswald as his accountant. In September 1856 John Gill, Architect, called for tenders for the erection of a Bank of Victoria at Avoca. This appears to be the existing brick building which replaced or altered the two storey building.

In 1865 the bank manager, Leslie Ogilby employed as a governess a young girl, Alice Maes. She was later to achieve fame and notoriety as Marie St. Denise, an actress who suicided at the age of twenty. In 1873-1875 Classens of Avoca supplied furnishings and fittings and undertook repairs at the bank.

From 1878-83 Edmund Kent Heales, son of the politician Richard Heales, was bank manger. He later rose to become a leading banker of the colony. In 1883 Flannagan and Jobbins called for tenders in the Melbourne Argus newspaper for re-instating branch premises at Avoca for the Bank of Victoria.

In 1912-13 a new bank was erected on the corner of High and Cambridge Streets (A53) and the original building was sold. It has been used as a private residence ever since, with S.J. Beaven (owner of the Beehive Stores) and Harold Barnes (proprietor of Textile Art Pty. Ltd) being prominent occupants.

DESCRIPTION

The building is of brick with a cast iron decorated verandah around two sides. The building has hipped roofs in an M-shape with a skillion roofed section to the rear.

Early photographs show the building without the verandah. This photograph was taken some time after the building was constructed as the hedge behind the wall has had time to grow. The entry was through the existing gateway in the brick wall from High Street to a doorway with a rendered surround and a six panel timber door. The brick garden wall is as existing today with the brickwork curving up to terminate in square brick gate posts which rise above the height of the wall. A timber picket gate is shown in this photograph. The photograph shows the windows facing High Street to be as they are today and the skillion section to the rear had already been constructed. The photograph shows timber double hung twelve paned windows with three on the High Street facade having carved timber blind hoods. The windows have slightly arched heads with brick voussoirs. The Bridport Street facade has only two windows. The building has retained the three chimneys shown in the photograph.

It would appear that the verandah was added when the building was sold in 1912/13 and became a private residence, as it has a bull nosed profile and pressed metal infill panels in the gables, both only used after 1890. The verandah returns on the Bridport and High Street facades. The High Street entrance is marked by a small gable with an exposed timber truss and finial and an infill panel of fish scale pressed metal. A similar small gable marks the centre of the Bridport Street verandah. The verandah has a balustrade of cast iron panels and a cast iron frieze with droppers and brackets. Stairs lead to the verandah on the north elevation. The brickwork has been painted.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 30
 Helen Harris, High St notes, Avoca and District Historical Society
 Historic Buildings Council File No. 6007390
 National Australia Bank Archives, Letter, 18 July 1994
Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald, 8 September 1854, November 1854
 Miles Lewis, Architects Index, Argus 29.9.1856, p.7

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A143

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS: 8/4

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Tollerton

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: Cnr Mackintosh & Templeton Sts

MAP NAME: Avoca Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tollerton is a timber house dating from c. 1862. It has significance for its characteristic qualities.

Tollerton is typical of the small cottages built throughout the Victorian goldfields in the 1850s and 1860s. The additions made at the turn of the century reflect the common practice of extending as need required.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

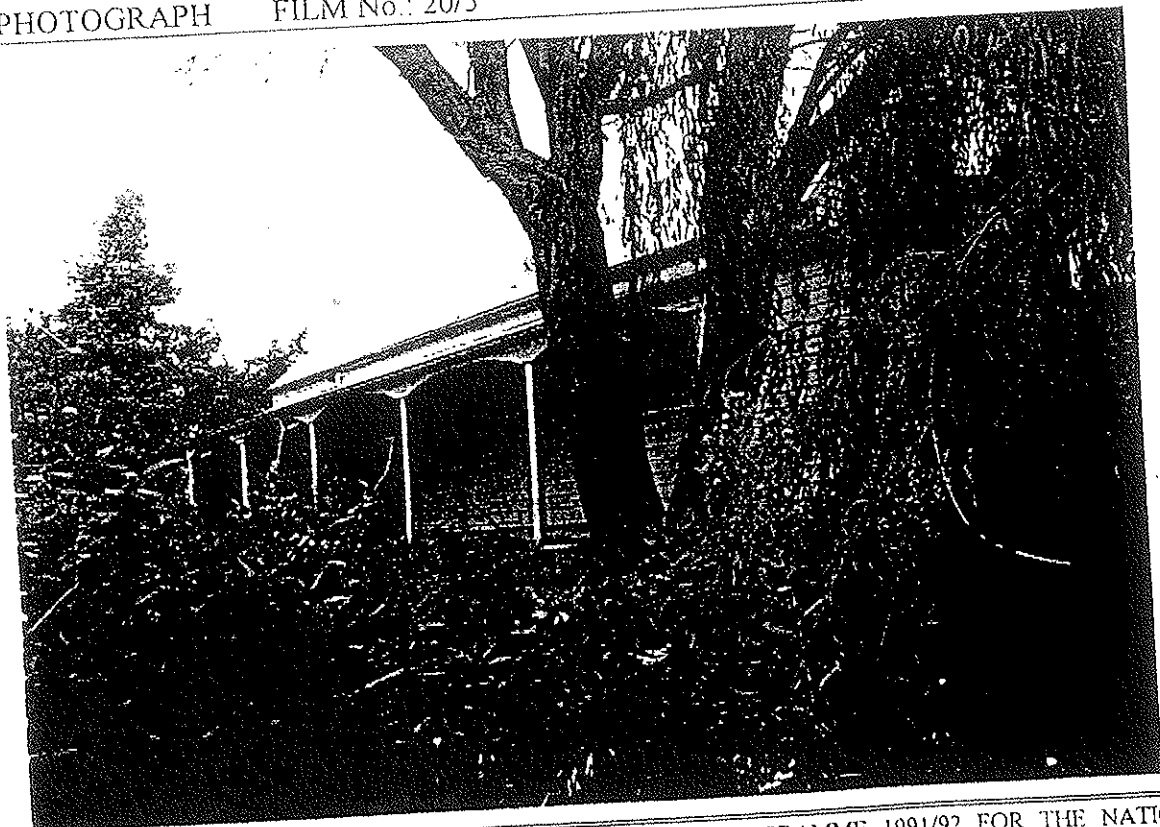
RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (hotels)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 20/5

BUILDING DATE: c. 1862
DATE 24.3.94



HISTORY

John Magee was born into a farming family in Queens County, Ireland and migrated to Victoria in c1858. On 23 January 1860, while living in Swanston Street, Melbourne, he applied unsuccessfully for the Burke and Wills expedition. In August 1862 he married Margaret Preston, also from Ireland, and soon afterwards the couple came to Avoca, probably because Margaret's brother Thomas, lived at nearby Elmhurst. They purchased a house at Avoca. This was originally named Park View but was later changed to Tollerton, believed to be a town near John Magee's birthplace although the only Tollerton listed is in fact in England. In 1865 John Magee was rated £10 for a cottage on this site.

John and Margaret's first child died shortly after birth and since the couple had no more children, Margaret's niece, Sara Jane Preston, came to live with the Magees in approximately 1876. John Magee appears to have purchased land and worked locally as a farmer. He became interested in wine making and in 1890 he had three acres of vines. On 29 November 1889 when the Government viticulture expert, Romeo Bragato, visited the area he tried experimental wines produced by both Edwin Mackereth and John Magee and described them as 'good and clear, with a nice delicate perfume, and harmonious in their components'. When he visited again in 1890 he also reported favourably on Magee's vineyards.

Margaret died in 1899, and on 13 February 1906, Sara married William Brereton, a widower with five children. The newlyweds and children moved into the house with John Magee, necessitating an enlargement of the buildings. Sara had two children, Nelly (who died when young) and Margaret (known as Peggy). John Magee died on 26 April 1922, aged ninety-two years.

Peggy Brereton lived on in the house with her parents. In the 1940s she married William Harris and the couple had two sons, Terence and Lester. William and Sara died in 1947 and 1962 respectively and the house was left to Peggy. After her death it passed to her youngest son Lester (since Terence had been killed in 1978) on the proviso that her husband, William Harris, continued to live in the house during his lifetime. William died twelve months after his wife and the house is now owned by Lester Harris.

DESCRIPTION

The house is of weatherboard with gable roofs clad in corrugated iron. The building has a straight pitched verandah across the front. It would appear to have originally been much narrower with a central four panelled door with a double hung, twelve paned, timber window on either side, probably a four roomed cottage. This has been extended to double the width of the building. The gable roofs and the verandah have been extended. At the end of the extension the verandah has been built in and extends to form a skillion addition.

The verandah decoration of arched verandah beams would appear to date from the alterations in the 1900s. The verandah is supported on square timber posts.

The building has a brick chimney on the side wall.

REFERENCES

- Helen Harris, Information on 'Tollerton, Templeton Street, Avoca
Dunstan, *Wine and Winemakers of the Pyrenees*, p. 15-18
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1865

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A15.1

CURRENT LISTINGS:

HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER

HBC No. Government Building Register

NATIONAL TRUST

NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER

OTHER

TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Police station/residence

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: Napier St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The police residence is single storey masonry house with a slate roof and front verandah. It has significance for its age, associations and contextual importance. Although altered the police residence is one of the few public buildings to date from Avoca's early gold mining period of the 1850s and it represents the very early designs of the Public Works Department. The changes to the residence in 1902 suggest a change in the function of the building from a highly public police station/residence to a place more adapted to the family life of a country constable. The police residence is an integral part of a complex of public buildings which includes the court house (1859), powder magazine (1860) and lock up (1867). As a complex these buildings are important material reminders of the part played by the courts and the police force in maintaining public safety and good order among the highly mobile gold diggings population.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

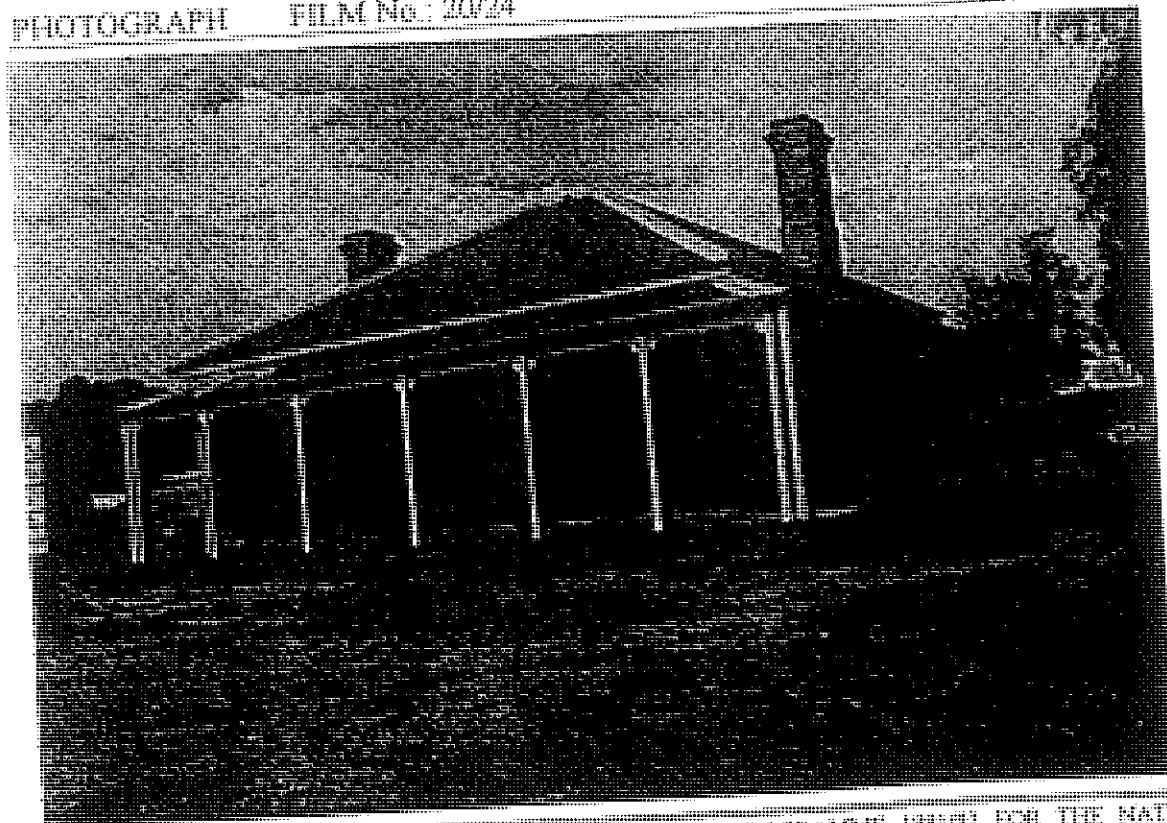
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate, Retention on the Historic Buildings Register

THEMES: Community life (law and order)

BUILDING DATE: 1859

DATE: 24.3.94

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: 20/24



PROJECT No. 187 OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE GRANTS PROGRAMME FUNDED FROM THE NATIONAL ESTATE COMMITTEE (VICTORIA) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AND THE SHIRE OF AVOCA
BY W. Jacobs AND K. Twigg SUITE 2, 6 LYDIARD STREET NORTH BALLARAT 3350 TELEPHONE 053-329 182

HISTORY

A police camp of rough slab buildings was established at Avoca during the goldrushes of 1854 in what was then considered the centre of the town. In November of that year a correspondent of the *Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald* described this area as consisting 'chiefly of stumps and gullies enlivened with congregations of pigs of tender years'.

It was not until 1859 that tenders were let for the construction of permanent police headquarters - two houses of four rooms each. These were designed by the Public Works Architect Fred. Kawereau. The successful contractors were Johnston and Steel who erected the buildings for a cost of £1,230. In the same year a court house was built nearby followed by a powder magazine the following year. In 1867 two portable lockups were replaced by a stone lockup. As a result the Camp assumed the appearance of a small village, and in 1868 eight people gave the Camp as their address - five police officers, the clerk-of-courts, the sub-treasurer and the warden. The main police quarters was located on the police reserve while the other was located a little distance away in Napier St.

As goldmining declined in importance and the residents of the Avoca area turned increasingly to farming, there was less need for police protection. By 1915 the postal directory records only two police constables, John Chandler and William Rainey, based at Avoca. Earlier in 1902 there had been additions and alterations to the main police station/residence including modifications of the internal layout, a new kitchen wing and extensions to the verandah.

The police station/residence is no longer in use.

DESCRIPTION

The building is of red rick with a hipped slate roof and a return verandah also roofed in slate. The building is of four rooms with a half corridor from the rear of the building.

The bricks are laid in English bond which gives an interesting texture to the brickwork as the headers are very dark. It appears that the windows have been altered as the panels of brickwork below the windows differs from the adjacent walls. There are two brick chimneys with decorative corbelled brickwork.

The verandah has been substantially rebuilt in recent years and now has square timber posts, in pairs at each corner, supporting a verandah beam and small quadrant timber brackets. The straight pitched verandah roof is hipped at the ends.

The timber kitchen wing was demolished in 1984.

The building is a substantially externally intact example of early Public Works Department design.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 54
- Historic Buildings Council File No. 6029501
- National Trust File No. 2332
- Frances O'Neill, *Survey of Police Buildings, 1858-1867*, *Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald*, 8 September 1854, November 1854
- PWD Contract Registers, 1859
- Bruce Trethowan, *The Public Works Department of Victoria 1851-1900*

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A152

CURRENT LISTINGS:

- HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 - HBC No. Government Buildings Register
 - NATIONAL TRUST
 - NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 - OTHER
- TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Lock up

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: Davy St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The lock up, made of coursed bluestone with a gabled slate roof and a gabled porch, dates from 1867. It has significance for its associations, characteristic qualities and contextual importance.

The lock up is closely associated with Avoca's early gold mining history when the police were responsible for the safety of a large population and those arrested were almost invariably confined. The style of the lock up is typical of the classically derived, vernacular designs of the Public Works Department during the 1860s. It is an integral part of a complex of public buildings which includes the court house (1859), police residence (1859) and powder magazine (1860). As a complex these buildings are important material reminders of the part played by the courts and the police force in maintaining public safety and good order among the highly mobile gold diggings population.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Retention on the Register of the National Estate, Retention on the Historic Buildings Register

THEMES: Community life (law and order)

BUILDING DATE: 24.3.94

DATE: 24.3.94

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: 20/25



HISTORY

A police camp of rough slab buildings was established at Avoca during the goldrushes of 1854 in what was then considered the centre of the town. In September of that year a correspondent of the *Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald* reported the completion of a log-jail at the police camp which ensured that prisoners could now be securely held. In the past they were 'merely chained and not confined' so that police spent a great deal of their time 'recapturing old offenders who escaped by night, instead of apprehending new ones'. By April 1860 two portable lock ups each ten feet square had been added to the existing gaol.

In June 1867 Fisher and Co. from Amherst were contracted to erect a far more substantial bluestone lock up for a cost of £547. It acted as a place of confinement for the next decade until 4 June 1877 when it was closed along with gaols at Inglewood and Beaufort.

DESCRIPTION

The lock-up is a rectangular bluestone building with a gable roof clad in slate. A rectangular porch is at the centre of one side with a gable roof at right angles to the main roof. This is also clad in slate. The gables have plain barge boards with timber moulding below the barge capping.

The porch has a central door with a small slit window above and a slit window in each side wall. The porch has a stone floor and timber boarded ceiling. An iron grille secures the outside entry. The lock-up is divided into two cells each with a small high window and a ventilating slit high in the wall. The cells have timber floors and ceilings. The doors are timber with metal lining.

The bluestone walls are set on a bluestone plinth with the blocks tooled along the upper edge and at the building corners. The bluestone walls are of coursed rock faced blocks with tooled corners to the building and around openings.

The building has had the slate roofs repaired and barge boards and flashing repaired and replaced in recent years.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 30, 54, 58
Historic Buildings Council File No. 6022380
Frances O'Neill, *Survey of Police Buildings, 1858-*
Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald, 8 September 1854, November 1854

FILE No: A155

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
 NAME: Former police quarters (No 2)
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: 25 Napier St
 MAP NAME: Avoca Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former police quarters No 2 is single storey masonry house with a slate roof. A wooden addition at the front appears to have replaced the original front verandah. It has significance for its age, associations and contextual importance. The former police quarters No 2 is one of the few public buildings to date from Avoca's early gold mining period of the 1850s and it represents very early designs of the Public Works Department. Although it was not used by the police department for the same length of time as police residence No 1 (A151) it should still be viewed as part of a complex of public buildings which includes the police residence No. 1 (1859), court house (1859), powder magazine (1860) and lock up (1867). As a complex these buildings are important material reminders of the part played by the courts and the police force in maintaining public safety and good order among the highly mobile gold diggings population.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (law and order)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 20/28

BUILDING DATE: 1859
 DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

A police camp of rough slab buildings was established at Avoca during the goldrushes of 1854 in what was then considered the centre of the town. In November of that year a correspondent of the *Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald* described this area as consisting 'chiefly of stumps and gullies enlivened with congregations of pigs of tender years'.

It was not until 1859 that tenders were let for the construction of permanent police headquarters - two houses of four rooms each. The successful contractors were Johnston and Steel who erected the buildings for a cost of £1,230. In the same year a court house was built nearby followed by a powder magazine the following year. In 1867 two portable lockups were replaced by a stone lockup. As a result the Camp assumed the appearance of a small village, and in 1868 eight people gave the Camp as their address - five police officers, the clerk-of-courts, the sub-treasurer and the warden.

The main police quarters was located on the police reserve while this building was located a little distance away in Napier St. The house appears to have been sold for use as a private residence in 1876 when the allotment became the property of E Johnstone.

DESCRIPTION

The building is of red brick with a hipped slate roof. The building is of four rooms with a half corridor from the rear of the building. There are two brick chimneys with decorative corbelled brickwork.

The building is of the same design as the other police residence (A151) but has been altered over its years of private ownership. The brickwork has been painted and the verandah removed and replaced with weatherboard clad, skillion roofed additions. The building retains its original form and materials and as one of a pair is an important element of the precinct.

The building is an example of early Public Works Department design.

REFERENCES

Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p 54

National Trust File No 3796

Port Phillip and Melbourne Herald, 8 September 1854, November 1854

PWD Contract Registers, 1859

Bruce Trethowan, *The Public Works Department of Victoria 1851-1900*

CURRENT LISTINGS:

- HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
- HBC No Government Buildings Register
- NATIONAL TRUST
- NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER

OTHER

TITLE DETAILS:

Sec 32

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Powder magazine

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: Napier St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The powder magazine is brick rectangular structure with a gabled slate roof, built in 1860 to one of the seven standard design types of the Public Works Department. It has significance for its rarity, associations and contextual importance. The Avoca powder magazine has value for its rarity, for although powder magazines were once common structures throughout the Victorian goldfields, only nineteen now remain in the State. It is closely associated with the township's goldmining era and is indicative of the development of lead and quartz mining where explosives were used to explore deep underground. The powder magazine is part of a complex of public buildings which includes the police quarters (1859), court house (1859), and lock up (1867). As a complex these buildings are important material reminders of the part played by the courts and the police force in maintaining public safety and good order among the highly mobile gold diggings population.

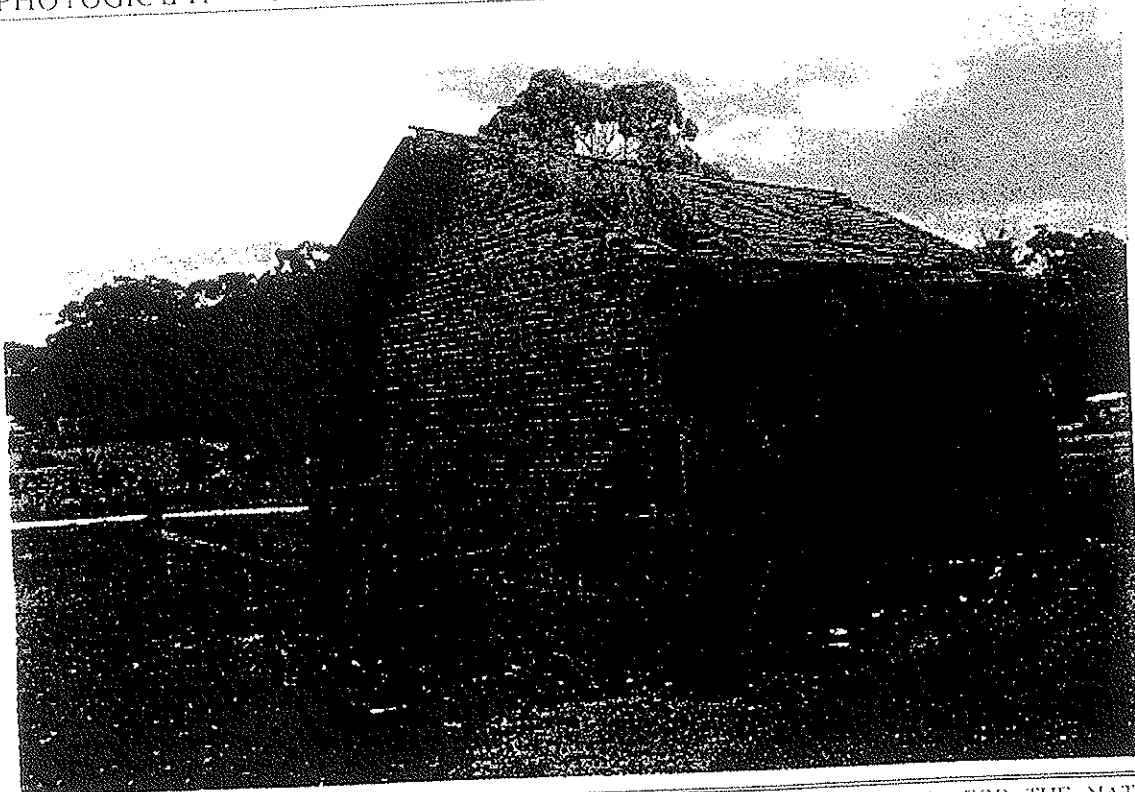
SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

Retention on the Register of Historic Buildings, retention on the register of the National Estate, Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold, Community life (law and order)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 20/29-30

BUILDING DATE: 1860
 DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

Regulations passed in 1857 prohibited the private storage of all but small amounts of explosives on the goldfields where they were frequently used in the search for gold, particularly in quartz and deep lead mining. Instead they were required to be stored under lock and key in a powder magazine controlled by a public officer, usually a member of the police force.

Both the design of the building and the regulations for its operation were derived from military sources. Powder magazines were originally designed to store quantities of gunpowder within a fort until required to load guns in an attack. It was important to store the powder in such a way as to keep it dry so as to be effective when used and to prevent accidental explosions causing injury and death.

One of the first motions passed by the Avoca Borough Council was a request to the Government for the erection of a powder magazine. On 11 September 1860 the tender of a local firm, Johnston and Steel, who had already built the Avoca police quarters the previous year, was accepted for the construction of a powder magazine. This was completed by the end of the year at a cost of £299 15.6.

Strict safety precautions were observed to prevent accidents. Persons entering the magazine had to remove their outer clothing and footwear, and put on special magazine clothing. They had to empty their pockets of articles such as matches, pipes and tobacco. Rubber boots or wooden clogs were worn, because boots with nails could cause an accident. It was important to keep the premises clean as friction between a boot sole and grit could spark off an explosion. Tools were made of wood or copper and powder kegs or cases were opened on a special mat some distance from the magazine.

Between 1895 and 1921 all the government magazines were closed as goldmining had declined. They were replaced by supervised and licensed private magazines where needed. The Avoca magazine closed in 1905.

DESCRIPTION

The powder magazine was designed to exclude all flammable materials and protect the stored materials from weather and dampness.

The powder magazine is a rectangular brick building with a gable roof clad in slate. It has a small porch in the centre of one facade with the gable roof extending as a skillion over this area. The brickwork is in English bond as seen on the police residences and the bricks have darker headers which gives the brickwork a distinctive texture.

The magazine is one of three identical buildings constructed in 1860. The other two were at Ararat and Dunolly. These are the only three designed with brick buttresses at the diagonal of each corner. The walls of the porch and two buttresses on the opposite side also strengthen the building so as to limit damage to surrounding areas in the case of explosion. The internal ceiling is a brick barrel vault constructed for the same reason. The only external openings were the door in the side of the porch, narrow ventilation slits and the window at the front of the porch. The brickwork around the window has been broken open and the door is no longer on the building.

The slate roof extends as a deep overhand at each end and the eaves extend along the sides to cover the buttresses. The roof is in poor condition with all of the slate missing over the porch area and damage over the main roof. The floor is of timber and all fixings are of copper to prevent the risk of sparking caused by striking on iron. The two copper lightning rods which were fixed to each end of the roof have disappeared.

Although requiring reconstruction and maintenance, the powder magazine is an important element in the precinct. The careful design to minimise damage and the isolated site of the building indicate the dangers of life connected with mining.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 34-5
- Historic Buildings Council File No. 602239H
- National Trust File No. 2331, 2256
- Frances O'Neill, *Survey of Police Buildings, 1858-*
- PWD Contract Registers, 1859*
- Penney, Jan (ed.), *National Trust Industrial History Kit*

Assessed by

V. Jacobs/K. Twigg

Assessment Date

November 19...

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Porter's farm complex (slate)
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Porter's Lane
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 176903

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Porter farm complex consists of the remains of a slate farm house and outbuildings constructed from a variety of materials including bush poles and galvanised iron. It has significance for its architecture (vernacular) and associations.

The former Porter farm is a characteristic farm complex of the late nineteenth century. Its construction reflects the easy availability of slate in the area while the outbuildings suggest the progression in building materials from timber to galvanised iron.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Farming

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 22/6-11

BUILDING DATE:

DATE 24 3 94



HISTORY

Little is known of the history of this farm complex although it is said to have been the property of the Porter family. John Porter came to Victoria from Western Australia and took up land near Avoca. His son, Albert B Porter, followed him onto the farm and he is listed as a farmer in the area in the 1915 postal directory. Albert Porter married Janet Reeves and their descendants still reside in the region.

DESCRIPTION

The complex consists of a slate cottage and timber and iron outbuildings. The slate house is of roughly squared stones laid in courses of varying width. The slate varies in size from long narrow pieces to approximately square block. The slate is a similar material to that used at the Percydale Slate Dairy (P1), the Natte Yallock Dairy (N26) and the Victoria Hotel stables (A111). The stonework is similar to that used at the stables in contrast to the uniformly narrow bands of stone used in the dairies.

The cottage has a two roomed section under a hipped roof. There is a central doorway with flanking windows which have large stone lintels and sills. The doors and windows are now missing. The house once had a hipped roof verandah as the shadow of the roof line can still be seen on the stonework and the springing beam is still in place. Behind this section is a stone walled section with a lower ceiling height and a part hipped roof. The remains of a chimney are in the centre of the back wall. This section has lost most of the corrugated iron cladding. The main roof is substantially intact. The remains of a brick fireplace are a little distance to one side of the house. This could have been part of a detached kitchen or a later laundry copper.

At a little distance from the cottage is a collection of farmsheds now generally clad in corrugated iron. The structure is of round bush pole columns, beams and rafters. The walls of some sections comprise of narrow round sapling fixed vertically at close intervals. There was no evidence noted that they were the basis for sapling and mud construction. The gable ends retain sections of bark used as an infill. There is some remnant bark under the corrugated iron roofing indicating that this may have been the original cladding. Other walls are clad in vertical overlapping wide palings. The roof, some gables and walls are now clad in corrugated iron.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 160
Information from Ivan Redpath
Sands and McDougall's Country Directory, 1915

FILE No: A171

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
No Section, Allotment 8

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Former private hospital
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Cnr Dawson St and Pyrenees Hwy
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former private hospital is a brick structure dating from the nineteenth century. It has significance for its architecture and associations.

Private hospitals were common in country towns in the early twentieth century and this is a representative example. As a 'lying in' home for pregnant women it is closely associated with the experience of child birth in the early twentieth century and has high social value. It is also closely associated with Avoca's sporting history as the site of the town's first bowling green.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (residential)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 20/22

BUILDING DATE:
DATE: 24.3.94



HISTORY

C F Lewis purchased this allotment from the Crown on 24 October 1854. The present building was in existence by the turn of the century when it functioned as a private hospital or 'lying-in' home for expectant mothers. Prior to this it is said to have been occupied by the Harrowfield family. Robert Harrowfield was listed as a miner in the 1884-5 postal directories.

After ceasing to function as a private hospital, probably sometime in the 1920s, the property was occupied by John Mackereth. He was the third son of the well-known local vigneron, Edwin Mackereth, but with two sons already at home on the vineyards he has been sent to train as a wheelwright and subsequently became a music teacher and traveller for the family business. However when his two brothers died in 1907, he returned home to help his father run the vineyard and winery.

John Mackereth established his own bowling green on the property, even fencing it with posts he had made himself. This was opened to the public and became Avoca's first bowling green on 8 December 1934. It remained in this location until a new bowling green closer to the town was officially opened in 1948. He became a trustee of the new Bowling Club

DESCRIPTION

The building is of red brick with two gable end wings around a central recessed section. The building is very similar in form and construction to the Former Church of England vicarage (A73) and the Former National school (A178) but has a slightly less steep roof pitch.

The gable ends have decorative bargeboards of timber fretwork and the roofs are clad in corrugated iron. The roof is punctuated by face brick chimneys. Between the gable wings is a skillion roofed section which may have been a verandah. This appears to have been extended in a flatter pitch to form an extended verandah which returns around the gable end wings and down the side of the house. The extended verandah is supported on slender posts with brackets and a frieze of an unusual geometric design which would indicate that it was built in the 1900s

In front of the house is the original town bowling green. It is neatly fenced with cast concrete posts and plinth. The posts are square with corbelled, pyramidal cappings. The posts support a chain wire fence. The fencing is continued around the front boundary and garden areas.

The house is enhanced by its setting in mature trees.

REFERENCES

- Information from Colleen Allan and Graeme Mills
- Back to Avoca, 1950
- Dunstan, *Wine and Winemakers of the Pyrenees*, pp 16-17
- Information from Ivan Redpath
- Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1884

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Ammonia compressor
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Rutherford St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The ammonia compressor dates from 1946. It has significance for its characteristic qualities and associations.

Freezing works were once common throughout country Victoria, but since most have been demolished, the ammonia compressor is a rare reminder of their existence in a period before electric refrigeration. It is also closely associated with the rabbit plague which swept Victoria in the early decades of the twentieth century and led to the development of a market for rabbit meat and skins.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

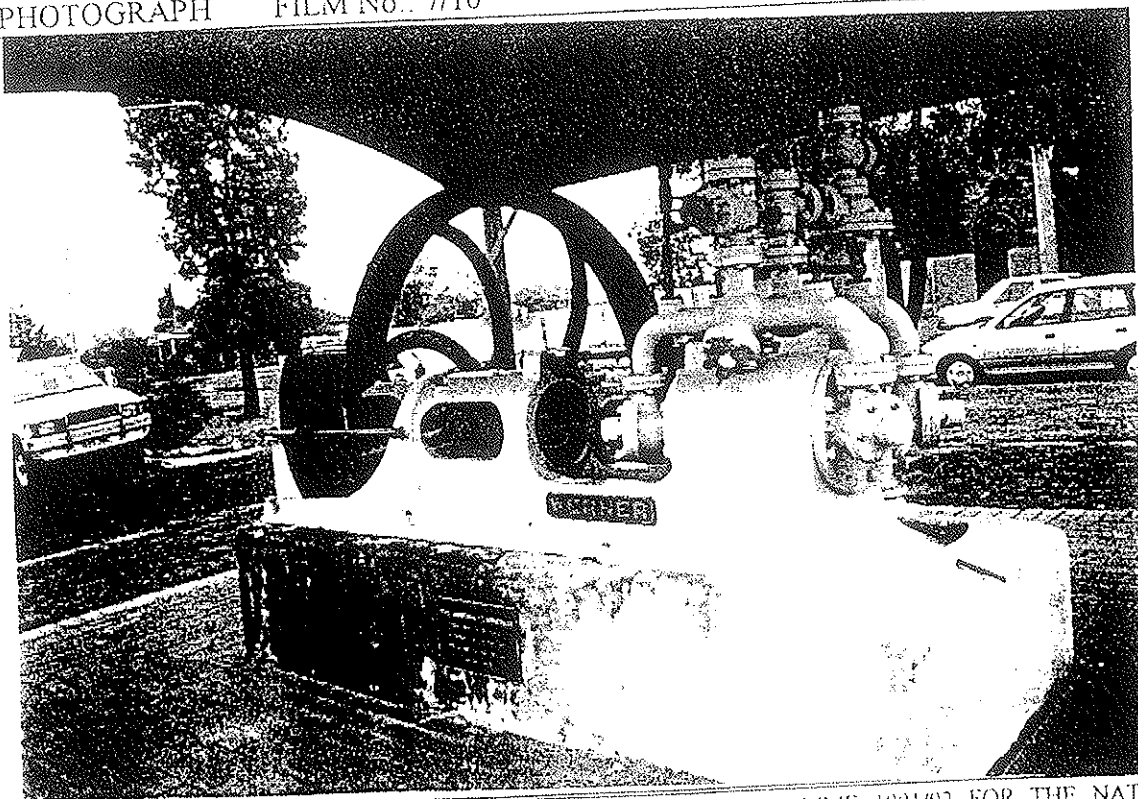
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Farming
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.: 7/10

BUILDING DATE: 1946

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

During the post-war period Avoca residents became increasingly concerned about the declining population of the area and every encouragement was given to the establishment of secondary industries to stem the drift of young people from the Shire in search of employment.

One of the first new industries to open in Avoca after the Second World War, at a time when rabbits were in plague proportions across Victoria, was a freezing works at the north end of High Street with the capacity to freeze 6,000 pairs of rabbits. This was established by S F Simmons of North Melbourne in 1946 and H O Rodwell was appointed the local manager and lived next door to the freezing works. H O Rodwell had been buying and selling rabbits and poultry in Avoca since the 1920s while also working in a cycle shop. An insert in the *Avoca Mail* dated 6 December 1932 shows him advertising for rabbits

In 1950 it was estimated that the freezing works paid an average of £50,000 a year to local sportsmen and farmers for rabbits and poultry, and during peak periods five men with five trucks were engaged in the business.

By 1950 the freezing works had also diversified and installed water purification equipment. This water was turned into ice at a rate of five tons per hour and due to an efficient delivery service it was able to meet all the town's domestic ice requirements.

DESCRIPTION

The ammonia compressor has been retained as an industrial artefact. It is protected from the weather by a modern, curved, corrugated iron canopy supported on a metal frame and posts. The area around the concrete machine base has been paved in red bricks.

With its large wheel with curved spokes and pipes and bolted connection it is an interesting addition to the streetscape.

REFERENCES

Back to Avoca, 1950, p. 61
Information from Ivan Redpath

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Former National school
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Rutherford St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former National school is a brick school built in 1857 with additions in 1868. It has significance for its age, rarity, associations and contextual importance.

The school is one of the few national schools in Victoria to survive relatively intact from the 1850s and its design is suggestive of the educational policy and classroom arrangement of the period. It is closely associated with Avoca's early goldmining period. The Avoca state school across the road demonstrates the school's progression to larger premises in 1878, and the two buildings together form a small educational precinct.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Retention on the Register of the National Estate, Addition to the Register of Historic Buildings

THEMES: Community life (school)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 7/12

BUILDING DATE: 1857
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

George Cook opened a school in Avoca in 1856. Built at his own expense, it was constructed of wood and canvas, had a slabbed front on which was a large National School sign, and measured 21 feet by 12 feet by 10 feet high. He was granted aid from the National School Board in April 1856 and 60 pupils were enrolled.

On 22 December 1854, £90.17.0. had been sent from the Avoca goldfield to the National Board of Education towards the establishment of a National school in the area. Despite persistent requests from the local police magistrate, Francis Knox Orme, the application encountered interminable delays and it was not until the end of 1856 that the local firm of Johnston and Steel were appointed to erect a National school. It was a brick building with a shingle roof and consisted of a large room 35 feet by 20 feet and 10 feet high and a 12 feet by 8 feet 9 inches classroom. The school building was completed in February 1857 at a cost of £363 8 0. and it was opened in June 1857 by the first head teacher, J.L. Willox.

The school became the Avoca Common school No. 4 in 1863-4. Although on 31 October 1857 there had been only thirty-three children enrolled, ten years later this had increased to 125, and a letter requesting additional accommodation emphasised that on hot days 'the atmosphere in the school-room is in the highest degree pestiferous and unwholesome'.

Plans were prepared by James Griffith, the Shire Engineer and by 1868 a new wing had been erected and the old building thoroughly repaired by Green Brothers for £230.6.0. A further £125 was spent in 1870 and another £113 in 1872 on the erection of a large bell and the planting of trees and shrubs supplied by Baron Von Mueller from the Melbourne Botanical Gardens.

The number of students attending the school continued to grow, particularly after the 1872 Education Act made school attendance compulsory. In the year after the Act was passed, student attendances at the Avoca Common school stood at over 300. The abandoned Church of England building in High St was leased for £20 per annum in order to provide extra accommodation but the lease was terminated at the end of 1876 because the building was considered unsafe. Instead an entirely new building was planned on a site across the road from the original school, and this was completed in 1878. The old building was used by the Church of England and it was finally purchased by them for £56 in 1880. During this period it was known as Mr Kirkwood's Grammar School. The school now functions as a private residence offering 'bed and breakfast'.

DESCRIPTION

The building is of red brick and has a hipped roof with two transverse gable roofs forming wings on the west elevation. The form of the building is similar to the Former Church of England Vicarage (A73). The brickwork is similar to that used at the Police Residences and Powder Magazine (A151, A155, A156) with the dark coloured headers adding a texture to the wall surface. The roof is now clad in corrugated iron. Three tall face brick chimneys with simple corbelled brick decoration remain.

Between the wings on the west elevation is a U-shaped verandah with a hipped corrugated iron roof supported on timber posts. The four gable ends each have a timber, double hung, twelve paned window in the centre of the wall. These have a flat rendered architrave with a raised rendered keystone in the centre of the window head.

The central section of the east elevation has been rendered. This has two timber, double hung, twelve paned windows near the centre. There are three flat buttresses along the rendered wall section and the lower part of the wall is thickened. The south gable end wall has a brick buttress on the north corner. The barge boards and render decoration is very austere in keeping with the National School Board direction not to spend money on ornamentation. The later additions would appear to have followed the original design and materials as they are difficult to discern.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 19 September 1868
- Back to Avoca*, 1950, p. 11
- National Trust File No. 3618 - Letter from Neville Drummond, 9 December 1974
- Petersen, *Survey of Historic Schools in Victoria*
- Vision and Realisation*
- Information from Ivan Redpath

Assessed by
V. Jacobs/K. Twigg

Assessment Date
November D.

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Uniting Church complex
FORMER NAME: Methodist
ADDRESS: Rutherford St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Uniting church complex consists of a brick church (1867), Sunday school hall (1870) and parsonage (1871). It has significance for its architecture, associations, and contextual importance

The Uniting church complex is a remarkably intact collection of church buildings which together form a well defined church precinct. Their construction within four years of each other 1867-1871 suggests a strong and active Methodist congregation in Avoca during this period.

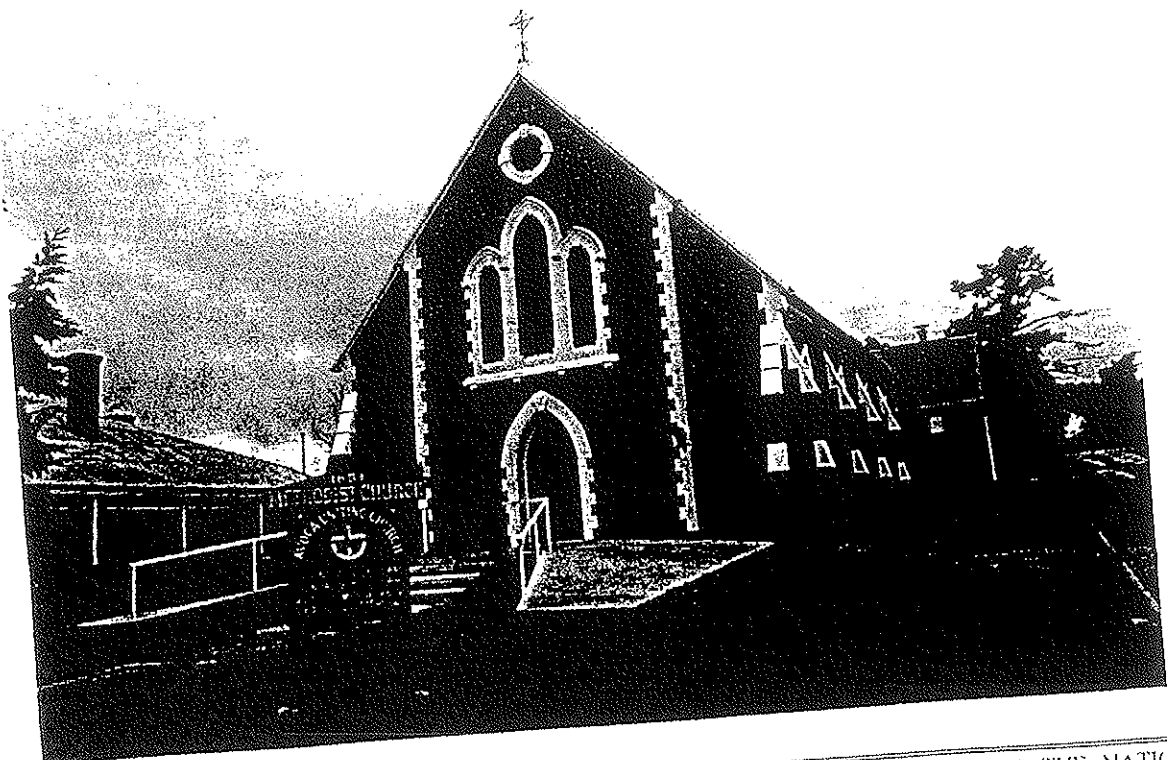
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 7/21

BUILDING DATE: 1867, 1870, 1871
DATE 14.9.93



HISTORY

During the goldrushes to Avoca in 1854, John Meadon, a lay preacher, began conducting Methodist services and he was soon assisted by Joseph Jennison with occasional visits from the Rev. W P Wells. The Uniting Church Archives show that the foundation stone for the first Wesleyan Methodist church in Avoca was laid on January 1856 and the church was opened for worship on 25 May 1856. However it lasted only five years before a second church, built of weatherboard, was opened in High St, on 20 October 1861. This too only survived five years. Although designed to accommodate 150, it rapidly proved too small and was sold in October 1866.

On 13 May 1867 the foundation stone for a third church was laid and Messrs Crouch and Wilson, architects, were instructed to prepare plans and specification for a church to hold 300 persons. The trustees accepted tenders from Messrs Green and Hallam for the brickwork and roof, and from Mr Meadows for the carpenter's work. The new church was opened on 15 March 1868 for a total cost of £900 and was enthusiastically described 'as one of the chief ornaments of the town'.

Three years later a brick Sunday School hall was built to the rear of the church by the contractors Green and Atkinson. On 28 May 1870 the *Avoca Mail* reported
the building is of brick, neatly plastered within, with pine floor, and seats to accommodate upwards of one hundred children... The building is a marvel of cheapness, costing we understand very little over £100.

Towards the end of the same year, on 3 December 1870 tenders were called for the erection of a parsonage on land next to the church. Plans and specification could be seen at T W Henry's Boot Mart but unfortunately there is no mention of an architect. The parsonage was probably erected in the following year.

A feature of the church since April 1913 has been a memorial window, ten feet high and over two feet wide, presented to the church by Albert Harvey, merchant, in memory of his mother. The Avoca Methodist church became the Uniting church in 1977.

DESCRIPTION

The church is of red brick with cement window surrounds, buttress cappings, hood moulds and keystones. The steeply pitched gable roof is clad in corrugated iron. The church has a four bay nave with a small gabled roof brick vestry at one corner. The nave is divided by stepped buttresses with a lancet window in the centre of each bay. The window has a corbelled brick surround with the sides marked as quoin work now painted. The west front has the central panel proud of the main wall with the edges marked by corbelled brick quoins to give the front the appearance of a nave with side aisles. These are now painted. The panel has a central lancet door with a corbelled brick surround and quoins and a render keystone. Above the door is a tripartite lancet window with brick quoins, render keystones, hood moulds and a rendered sill supported on brackets. Above this is a circular window with four render bands similar to the keystones and a surround of raised brickwork which is now painted. The gable parapet is capped with a render moulding and the apex has a wrought iron cross. The vestry has a simplified window surround and the roof ridge has two conical capped ventilators which indicates that the vestry could be a later addition dating from the 1900s.

The Sunday School Hall is a rectangular brick building constructed at right angles at the rear of the church. The building has gable roof clad in corrugated iron. There is a brick chimney at one end. The centre of the other gable end has a rectangular doorway. The hall is divided into three bays by brick buttresses with render cappings. In the centre of each bay is a twelve pane, timber, double hung window.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 21 March 1868, 28 May 1870, 3 December 1870.
 Davis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 158-60
 Benson, *A Century of Victorian Methodism*,
 Thomas, *An Index of Victorian Wesleyan Methodist Churches, 1836-1902*
Wesleyan Chronicle, April 1868, p. 61

FILE No: A191

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
 Section 5, Allotment 24

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Country Fire Authority Shed
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Rutherford St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Country Fire Authority shed is a weatherboard structure built in 1930. It has significance for its characteristic qualities and associations.

The Country Fire Authority shed is a representative example of a rural fire station. The attention to detail demonstrated in its construction reflects the importance attached to the local fire brigade in an area which has been regularly ravaged by fire. The fire station is not only seen as a guarantee of protection against fire, but training sessions and fire fighting competitions have also made it one of the town's social centres.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life, Towns
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 7/28

BUILDING DATE: 1930
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

Large areas of state forest and broad sweeps of grasslands have always made fire a threat in the Shire of Avoca. Early in 1857 a newspaper correspondent observed a bush fire from Mount Ararat and wrote that the Pyrenees were one continuous blaze for many miles

The first Avoca Fire Brigade was formed in 1885, six years before the formation of Victoria's Country Fire Brigade Board. Since Avoca did not receive water reticulation until some decades later, it relied on a bucket brigade. Regular training practice was introduced and in order to raise money, the Fire Brigade combined a display of their skills with a flower show in November 1895. The firemen marched to the park accompanied by the Avoca District brass band where they then competed against visiting district teams in hose and reel practice and hydrant races. Three years later the Avoca Fire Brigade attended the Fire Brigade's demonstration in Warrnambool where almost 1,200 firemen representing most of the brigades outside the metropolitan area, were in attendance

Despite the best efforts of the Fire Brigade, the wooden buildings that made up most of the building stock of the Avoca township still represented a risk and in 1895 a section of shops in High Street, Avoca, near the Victoria Hotel, was burnt to the ground.

Money raised at Fire Brigade functions went toward equipping the fire station. In May 1916 there was much celebration when Captain William Chelley managed to secure a Metropolitan Fire Brigade cart installed with a motor, at a very reasonable price. By the late 1920s plans were under way for the construction of a new fire station with funds obtained from the Country Fire Brigade's Board, the Avoca Shire Council and the sale of the original weatherboard fire station. On 7 January 1930 the *Avoca Mail* notified the public that the plans of the new Avoca fire station had been approved by the Central Board of Health and that tenders would shortly be invited for its construction. It was anticipated that the new building would be completed by June.

The fire station also acted as the local weather station where the records were gathered for many years by Alex Summers. The weather station was later transferred to the rear of the Post Office.

Fire fighting demonstrations and competitions became a more regular occurrence after the creation of the Country Fire Authority (CFA) in 1945 with the aim of co-ordinating fire fighting on a regional basis. Nevertheless this was not sufficient to halt a bush fire which began near Avoca in January 1985 and swept through the south-eastern corner of the Shire destroying a sawmill and numerous houses and sheds

A number of Avoca men served Victoria's fire fighting service outside the Shire, and at one time both Metropolitan and Country Fire Brigades had Avoca men, John Wilkins and William Chelley, as chief officers. In more recent times in the 1960s, Alex Larkins, also a past resident of Avoca, served as chief officer of the Country Fire Authority

DESCRIPTION

The CFA building is a rectangular weatherboard building with a hipped roof clad in corrugated iron. The facade has a steel tilt door which has replaced earlier timber doors. Above the doorway a timber parapet breaks through the eaves. This has a triangular pediment and supports a timber flag pole and provides a name plate for the building. The roof ridge has conical capped ventilators. The building has double hung, timber windows

The original timber floor of the truck garage has been replaced with concrete to withstand the load of the modern fire trucks. The other rooms retain their timber floors and some areas of pressed metal internal linings. The building is a simple and utilitarian design which has been modified to accommodate the changes in technology and equipment used in fire fighting.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 1 November 1895, 7 January 1931
- Back to Avoca*, 1950, p. 50
- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 83-6
- Warrnambool Examiner*, 5 January 1858

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A197

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 24 C, Allotments 3, 4, 5

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
NAME: Avoca Presbyterian complex
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Rutherford St
MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Presbyterian church complex is comprised of a brick church (1864), brick manse (1869) and a weatherboard Sunday school (originally the Berrimal church) moved to the site in 1938. It has significance for its age, architecture, associations and contextual importance.

The collection of buildings which make up the Presbyterian church complex suggest the existence of a strong and active Presbyterian community in Avoca dating from the early 1860s when the church was built. This church building is the oldest surviving church in Avoca. The addition of the Sunday School in 1938 not only illustrates the common rural practice of recycling redundant buildings but indicates the continuing vitality of the Avoca Presbyterian church at a time when many other country churches were facing closure.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 8/2-4

BUILDING DATE: 1864, 1869, 1938 (moved)
DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

In 1862 Scottish-born James Willox first inspired his fellow Avoca residents to consider establishing a Presbyterian church in the township. At his initiative Presbyterian services began to be conducted in the town hall by the Rev. Dobinson from Maryborough, and after application a Presbyterian church site was temporarily reserved in 1862 and gazetted on 20 January 1863. On 6 January 1863 the foundation stone for the Avoca Chalmers Presbyterian church was laid. Plans and specifications for the new building were prepared by C E Pascoe, the town surveyor and the total cost of the building when it was completed in 1864 amounted to £381.7.6. Opening services were held on 17 July 1864 and were conducted by the Rev. James Nish and the Rev. Dobinson.

On 13 February 1869 John Downie, a store keeper in High St, advertised in the *Avoca Mail* for tenders for the erection of a brick building to serve as the new Presbyterian manse. The manse was probably built soon afterwards.

The original church building did not include a vestry and on 19 September 1922 tenders were called for the addition of a brick vestry measuring twenty feet by eighteen feet. The foundation stone for the new structure was laid on 30 September 1922.

Sunday school classes appear to have been held in the church until 1938 when an abandoned church was shifted from Berrimal, near Wedderburn, to the grounds of the Presbyterian church. It was a weatherboard building lined with fibro plaster with a metal ceiling and iron roof. A letter from H J Saw to the Secretary of the Presbyterian church of Victoria, described the move:

The Berrimal church is now in our church grounds. It took a week to bring across but arrived in almost perfect order. By tonight it will be in place on the blocks. We will have it painted and electric light installed, and with some work that the contractors who removed the building have to do on it, it will be a matter of a few weeks before we can have an official opening. The building if put up nowadays would cost over £500 to erect.

The Presbyterian church was closed when the town's Methodist and Presbyterian churches amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. The manse has been sold as a private residence while the church and Sunday school hall are used by the Scouts and Guides.

DESCRIPTION

The church is of Flemish bond red brick. It has a gable roof which was originally clad in shingles but is now clad in corrugated iron. The building is a four bay nave with the bays marked by stepped brick buttresses with a lancet window with brick voussoirs in the centre of each bay. Diagonal brick buttresses mark the corners of the building. The front entry is a lancet shaped opening with a pair of two panelled rectangular doors below a lancet window. There is a lancet window on each side. These are marked with cream coloured brick voussoirs with large keystones. There is a narrow slit vent in the apex of the gable end wall. The vestry has a lower gable roof parallel to the main roof and has rectangular, twelve pane, double hung windows.

The manse is of matching brick to the church and originally was built with a shingle roof and no verandah. It has a hipped roof, a central front door and two flanking rectangular, double hung windows. A skillion roof extended from the main hip. This has been replaced by a second hip and the building extended. A curved roof verandah was added later in the nineteenth century.

The Berrimal church is of weatherboard and has narrow windows with triangular heads to approximate a Gothic arch. The building has three windows down each side and a gable roofed porch with a side door and two narrow windows at the front. The apexes of each gable was once marked by a timber finial. Above the porch was a circular window or vent, now covered over. The building has an unsympathetic brick landing and addition.

REFERENCES

Avoca Mail, 13 February 1869, 19 September 1922

Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 143-4

Back to Avoca, 1950, p. 43.

Information from Ivan Redpath

Uniting Church Archives, J J Saw to Secretary of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, 25 March 1938

Avoca and District Historical Society Photographic Collection, Photographs No 6/32 and No 211

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A204

CURRENT LISTINGS:

HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No. Government Buildings Register
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Avoca railway station

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: Station St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Avoca railway station/residence and goods shed are brick structures dating from 1876. They have significance for their architecture, associations and influence.

The Avoca railway station/residence and goods shed are important and largely intact examples of mid-Victorian railway architecture. A water tower at the Maryborough end of the station demonstrates evidence of the steam era. The railway has significance for the influential role it played in the development of Avoca, providing ready access to lucrative Melbourne markets and allowing residents to move freely outside the Shire. It is closely associated with the town's past prosperity and it is highly valued by the local community.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

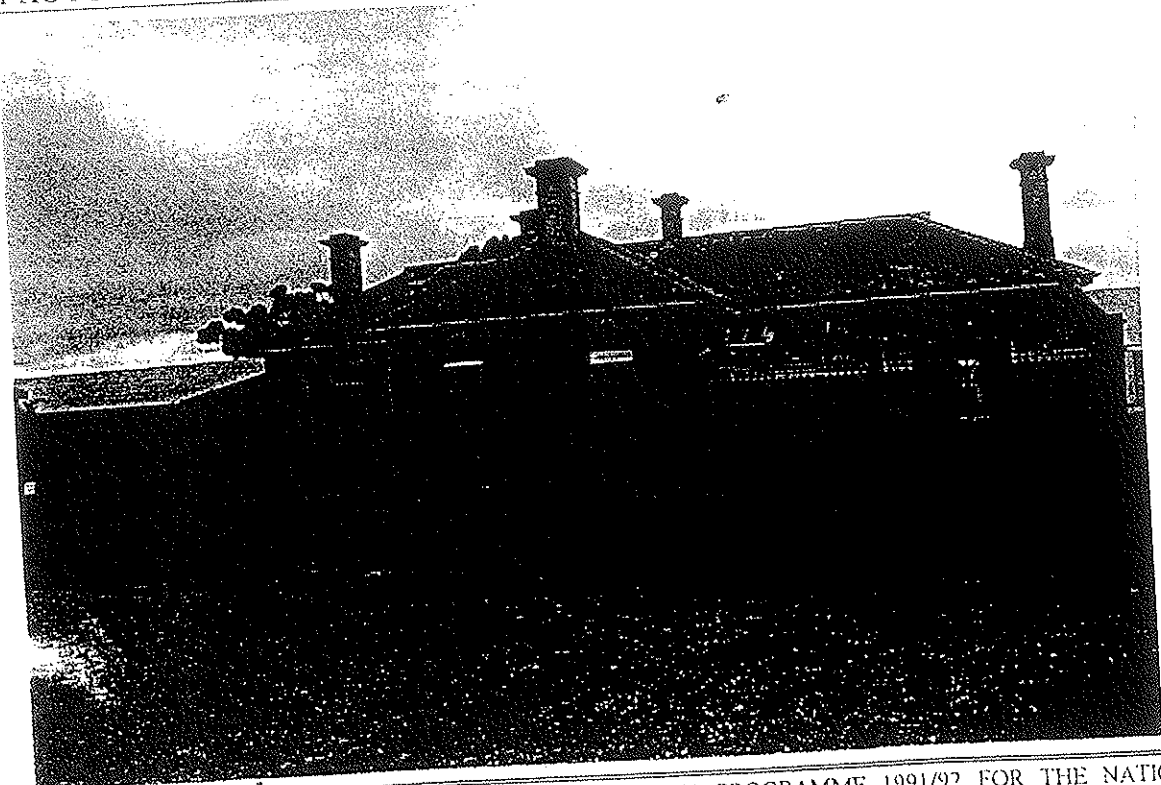
Retention on the Register of Historic Buildings, addition to the Register of the National Estate, Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Transport

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 8/33

BUILDING DATE:

DATE: 14.9.93



HISTORY

Since 1874 when a railway had been opened from Castlemaine to Maryborough, residents in the Shire had lived in keen expectation of the extension of the line to Avoca. Finally on 9 September 1875 Milne, Gartley and Tout were awarded a contract to build the fifteen miles of track between Maryborough and Avoca. On 16 June 1876 Isaac Summerland was contracted to erect the station buildings at Avoca for a cost of £2,189 while a month later Lewis and Roberts were appointed contractors for the construction of a goods shed and platform for a cost of £1067.16.0. Earlier in the year, on 10 March 1876, George Thompson had won the contract to erect gate keepers cottages along the line.

The new railway line was opened on 20 October 1876. The celebrations that accompanied the opening were extravagant in the extreme, indicating the degree of economic importance attached to the railway. There were speeches at the flag-strewn platform, a grand procession, a Chinese pageant, a tree-planting and in the evening, three separate balls. The 1,700 school children in attendance regaled the crowd with a song specially composed for the occasion and sung to the tune of 'Click go the shears':

*Here at the Railway, we State Scholars stand
Schoolmates enclasping, with hand joined to hand,
Eastward our young eyes we eagerly strain,
Waiting for the welcome cry of 'Here comes the train'.*

After the opening of the railway the Avoca station and goods shed rapidly created a new hub of activity away from the main township. As predicted the railway gave residents in the east of the Shire ready access to lucrative Melbourne markets and all manner of produce - wool, grain, livestock, fruit, firewood - was now consigned by rail. It also gave people a new freedom to move outside the Shire even making possible day trips to Melbourne, which in the past had been unthinkable. In 1890 the line was extended from Avoca to Ararat.

By the mid twentieth century, road transport had eclipsed rail and the Avoca railway station was no longer the hive of industry it had once been. In 1952 only 168 sheep and eight cattle were consigned by rail and the train had picked up just 2,480 passengers in the course of the year. In 1959 the line between Avoca and Ararat was closed although it was reopened offering a limited service in 1966. Ivan Redpath, previous station master, recalls that the station was finally closed to passengers and no longer staffed on 5 May 1979. In March 1995 the railway line from Ararat via Maryborough to Dunnolly will be relaid to standard guage.

DESCRIPTION

The station buildings consist of the brick station building with residence, the lamp room and the brick goods shed. The station building, although in need of maintenance, is substantially externally intact. The only interior alterations have been to enlarge the station masters office to include the original booking lobby and to use the original ladies waiting room as the new booking lobby. The building is of red brick laid in Flemish bond with a slate roof of intersecting hips and a verandah at the street entry and platform verandah supported on wrought iron brackets and a cast iron posts. The moulded verandah boards and timber fretwork valances on the verandah is unusual. There is still some cast iron guttering on the platform side with lion head brackets. The building has rendered chimneys with wide moulded cornices near the top. The lamp room is of matching brickwork with a hipped roof.

The goods shed is of red brick and has a gable roof now clad in corrugated iron. The end walls are marked with recessed panels of brickwork between flat brick pilasters. There is an opening in each panel; a window in one, a door with a rectangular transom light in the other. In the centre of the gable is a round vent. The track side of the goods shed has three wide timber sliding doors. The presence of the 127 mile post from Melbourne in the station area is unusual.

REFERENCES

- Association of Railway Enthusiasts, Avoca Centenary Tour, List of Stations
- Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, pp. 99-101
- Historic Buildings Council File No. 602237V
- North-central Resources Survey, p. 146
- Information from Ivan Redpath
- Avoca and District Historical Society Photographic Collection, Photograph No. 561

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: A205

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 37

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Ebeling's house
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Vinoca St

MAP NAME: Avoca Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Ebeling's house is a pise structure dating from the nineteenth century. It has significance for its building method, rarity and associations.

The pise construction of Ebeling's house is unusual for a house of this size and design. It is closely associated with Major Gus Ebeling, a prominent local figure and well known soldier.

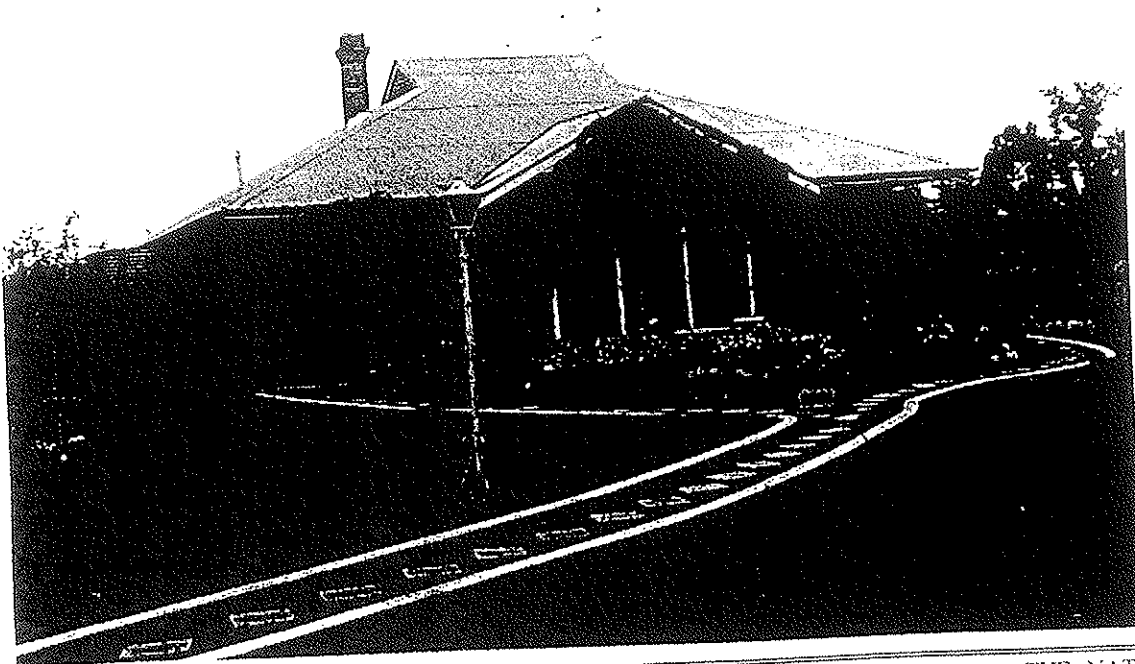
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (residential)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 19/32

BUILDING DATE:
DATE: 24 3 94



HISTORY

Gustav Ebeling was born at No. 2 Creek, Percydale in 1871, the son of Claus Gustav, a local farmer. He followed his father onto the farm but after the outbreak of the Boer War in 1899 he joined the Victorian Mounted Rifles. During his period of service in South Africa he sent back detailed letters which were published in the *Avoca Mail* in 1901. By the time he returned to Avoca in 1902 he had been promoted to the rank of lieutenant.

When the First World War began in 1914, Gustav Ebeling was one of the first to volunteer and served at Gallipoli. By the conclusion of the War he had reached rank of Major in the 8th Battalion and was awarded the DSO.

On his return Ebeling devoted part of his farm to tobacco growing in common with many other local farmers, and he erected tobacco drying kilns on his property.

It is not certain when the present mud brick house was built although it is likely it dates from the nineteenth century and was extended and re-roofed by Gus Ebeling.

After Major Ebeling's death the property passed to his sons, Hans and John. John was president of the Melbourne Cricket Club having represented Australia in England as a cricketer. He also had a strong interest in horse racing in Avoca.

DESCRIPTION

The house is of pise and has a half hipped roof with a wide gable marking the entry. The form of the roof and general appearance of the building indicates that it was built or renovated in the early twentieth century. The use of pise at this time would be unusual but may have been used to extend an earlier house or the building was simply re roofed. It is said that the roof was insulated using layers of stringy bark.

Pise de terre is a very old technique made by ramming loam mud into formwork on the site, very similar to that used for mass concrete. Without further investigation of the building it is difficult to tell if it was made in formwork or is of mud brick and rendered over in mud.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Free Press*, 20 September 1902, 28 April 1915
Beavis, *Avoca - The Early Years*, p. 127
Percydale State School No. 1042 Register, October 1875
Information from Ivan Redpath

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:
 Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca
 NAME: Mullock heap, Golden Stream Mine
 ADDRESS: South of the Avoca Cemetery,
 on the west side of the Sunraysia
 Highway
 MAP NAME: Avoca North
 MAP REFERENCE: 189 938, 192 936

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Golden Stream Company worked from 1881 to 1889. The site consists of a mullock heap, machinery foundations and the possible remains of a bob pit. A smaller mullock heap is associated with the adjoining Avoca Freehold Company worked in 1885. The site has significance for its associations and landmark quality. The site is associated with Avoca's most successful deep lead mine. It is one of the few mining sites to survive on the Avoca Lead, which earlier prompted the first Avoca gold rushes and the establishment of the Avoca township. The large mullock heap is a prominent reminder of Avoca's mining past and a well known local landmark.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: 1881-9

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE:



HISTORY

In March 1881, the Mining Surveyor reported that a claim had been taken up by the Golden Stream Company and they were engaged in erecting powerful engines and pumps. The full cost of machinery and improvements was said to amount to close to £20,000. By June 1882 the Golden Stream Company had bottomed their shaft, despite problems with excessive water, and by September 1883 the company had struck rich washdirt and was employing fifty men.

In the December quarter of 1884 the Golden Stream Company won 1,077 oz of gold from the mine and in the next quarter this more than doubled to 2,476 oz, 16 dwt. A dividend of £1,200 was paid to shareholders. The shareholders of the Avoca Freehold Company, which adjoined the Golden Stream mine, were also paid a dividend of 6s a share.

Rich gold yields from the mine continued throughout 1885, but by 1886 there was a need for further exploratory work and the Golden Stream Company devoted its resources to reef driving. The main shaft was sunk 60 feet deeper and a reef drive was tunnelled 713 feet in a north-westerly direction.

Unfortunately these workings did not meet with the success anticipated, and in March 1889, the Mining Surveyor wrote that he feared the company would shortly cease operation. His predictions must have been fulfilled for in 1895 a geologist with the Geological Survey of Victoria, Herbert Whitelaw, reported that the Golden Stream Company mine had been shut down for about five years. He wrote: the total depth of the shaft is 275 feet. The shaft in the first instance bottomed on wash at 200 feet and the company started to work without a level. As a consequence the shaft had to be sunk a further 75 feet, and driving started again. The water was a source of great trouble notwithstanding that there was an exceptionally powerful pumping plant on the lease. This is the farthest point west that the Avoca lead has been worked.

An 1899 report undertaken by the Geological Survey of Victoria mentioned that most of the machinery from the old Golden Stream Company was still on the ground, rusting and rotting. It made special mention of the old pumping plant which it described as 'exceptionally fine'

DESCRIPTION

The Golden Stream Company worked from 1881 to 1889. The adjoining Avoca Freehold was mined in 1885

Site 1: Golden Stream Mine

A massive mullock heap survives from the Golden Stream Mine with one main dumping line. At the base of the heap at the eastern end, is a large brick mounting bed. Most of the bed has been demolished and buried. The section surviving above the ground measures 20 feet x 15 feet. Between the brick mounting bed and the mullock heap is a hole (presumably the shaft) which is filled with large lumps of brick work. The hole contains some *in situ* brickwork which may belong to a bob-pit.

Site 2: Avoca Freehold Company

To the south-east of Site 116.0 is a small partly quarried mullock heap and a large raised sand dump. These appear to have been part of the Avoca Freehold Company's operations.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 116
- Herbert Whitelaw, *Reports of Rapid Surveys of the Goldfields*, 1895
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, March 1881, June 1881, September 1881, December 1881, June 1882, September 1882, March 1883, September 1883, June 1884, December 1884, March 1885, June 1885, September 1885, December 1885, March 1886, June 1886, September 1886, December 1886, December 1887, March 1888, June 1888, September 1888, March 1889.
- Monthly Progress Report*, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

Assessed by

W Jacobs/K. Twigg

Assessment Date

November-December 1994

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN A2

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Mullock heap, Morning Star Mine
ADDRESS: East of the Sunraysia Highway
between Astbury and Summers Sts

MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 197 938

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Morning Star Mine operated around the turn of the century. The site consists of a mullock heap and sand dump.
It has significance for its associations.
The Morning Star Mine was one of the last deep lead mines to operate in the vicinity of Avoca and documents the continuance of mining activity in the area at the turn of the century. It is one of the few mining sites to survive on the Avoca Lead, which earlier prompted the first Avoca gold rush and the establishment of the Avoca township.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.**

DATE: c. 1899

DATE:

HISTORY

The Avoca Lead was worked for 4½ miles during the Avoca gold rushes and shallow sinkings along the Lead proved remarkably rich, with miners frequently collecting one pound nuggets.

In later years, company mines established themselves along the Avoca Lead. Chief among these was the Golden Stream which, in the three months to March 1885, obtained 2,476 oz, 16 dwt of gold and paid a dividend of £1,200 to its shareholders.

During the mid-1890s the Morning Star Mine was established on the Avoca Lead. In 1894, the geologist, Herbert Whitelaw, reported:

This is a new venture, and is being worked by a party of four men...A shaft has been put down on an unworked portion of the Avoca lead at a depth of 90 feet, and water drives put in for a distance of 20 feet north and south. At a depth of 74 feet the shaft is opened out on nice-looking wash...The prospects are very encouraging and I anticipate payable returns.

In 1899 a progress report by the Geological Survey of Victoria reported that the Morning Star shaft was down 90 feet, excellent returns had been obtained for the last two months and the mine looked like a paying concern for some time to come.

DESCRIPTION

The Morning Star Mine was operating from 1895 to some time early in the twentieth century.

A large, partly quarried mullock heap exists on the site in addition to a sand dump. No machinery foundations are visible from the road.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 117
Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria
Herbert Whitelaw, *Reports of Rapid Surveys of the Goldfields*, 1895

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN A3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Avoca

NAME: Avoca Lead Dredging Company
ADDRESS: East side of Slaughterhouse Rd, south
of Maryborough-Avoca Railway Line

MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 213 930

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The dredging dams of the Avoca Lead Dredging Company probably date to from 1937. They have significance for their associations. The dredging dams are closely associated with the Avoca Lead, which prompted the first Avoca gold rushes and the establishment of the Avoca township. They document the new mining technology of dredging introduced in the twentieth century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: c 1937
DATE:

HISTORY

In July 1837 the *Mining and Geological Journal* reported that dredging lease applications had been inspected in the Avoca, Alma, Amphitheatre, Redbank and Landsborough districts. It was probably after this date that dredging operations started at Avoca

DESCRIPTION

There are four large dredge dams which are now full of water. Much of the dredge landscape is now covered by trees.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 118
Mining and Geological Journal, July 1937, pp 50-7

FILE No: B1

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Bung Bong/Homebush
NAME: Glenmona Park
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Glenmona Road
MAP NAME: Lamplough
MAP REFERENCE: YD 291874

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Glenmona Park consists of a bluestone homestead with a variety of out buildings. It has significance for its rarity and associations. Glenmona is one of the few early residences to survive on a pre-emptive right block within the Shire and it has strong connections to the Shire's pastoral era. The homestead is complemented by early out buildings and is enhanced by its setting on Bet Bet Creek. Historical significance is attached to the early gold discovery made in 1848 on the Glenmona run, one of the earliest publicised gold discoveries in the colony.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

Addition to the Register of the National Estate. Addition to the Register of Historic Buildings. Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Pastoralism

BUILDING DATE: c 1859
DATE.

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.:



HISTORY

The Glenmona run was created in 1845 by the combination of the Scarborough and Far Creek (or 14 Mile Creek) runs. Edmund McNeill (of Scarborough) and Charles Hall (of Far Creek) joined in partnership at Glenmona (1845-52) and in 1853 transferred their interest to Charles and Joseph Bradshaw. Glenmona was occupied by Quarterman and Bradshaw in 1859 and Quarterman by himself in 1860. By 1870 the property had passed to John Mathieson and in 1874 it was purchased by George Mills. Mills kept a series of diaries and a number of these survive from the early years of his occupancy. Glenmona is now owned by the Estate of George Mills, the grandson of the original George Mills.

It was on part of the Glenmona run that an early gold discovery was made in 1848, one of the earliest publicised gold discoveries in the colony

Osborn and Du Borg record that there was originally a slab hut at Glenmona but the present stone homestead appears to have been in existence at least as early as 1865 when Mr Quarterman is rated £140 for a residence and garden at Glenmona Station. However, it is possible that it was constructed considerably earlier than this date, since in 1859, W H Bradshaw was advertising for a gardener to work on the station. During the 1930s a letter written to Mrs Mills by a former resident of Glenmona, reminisced about the 'lovely old garden' and recalled a mulberry tree, fig trees and grapevines that grew along the wall of the house.

There is a small cemetery on the property now edged with small boulders as no tombstones remain. There are believed to be about 18 burials here, all occurring between 1840 and 1860.

DESCRIPTION

Glen Mona homestead is sited on a rise above the Bet Bet Creek. The homestead is in the former Shire of Avoca, while the majority of the pastoral pre-emptive right holding was in the former Shire of Talbot and Clunes.

The house is built of squared, rough faced bluestones laid in regular courses. The lower courses are higher and the stones get progressively smaller towards the top of the walls. The building has two wide shallow three sided bays projecting at each side with the central section recessed between the bays. The flat arches over the half glazed, French doors in the bays are spanned by shaped bluestone voussoirs. A glazed, timber verandah runs between the bays. The main roof is a longitudinal hip which extends to a skillion at the rear and has two skillion roofed wings at either side with a central cobbled courtyard between. The roofs are all now clad in corrugated iron.

The skillion wings are of roughly squared bluestone laid in random courses. The west wall of the wing and main house have been covered in a rough textured render. Both wings have been extended by timber structures. The rooms on the eastern wing are entered from doors off the courtyard and are not connected to the main house. The rooms in the stone section of the west wing are entered from the main house. The central courtyard has a beehive well which collects water for domestic use from the roofs and the courtyard which is designed as a catchment.

Adjacent to the house is a two roomed cottage with a steeply pitched hip roof. Near the house is a gable roofed, corrugated iron clad building on a bush pole frame. This is reputed to have been moved to the site and was originally a gold fields hotel. There are some mature exotic trees close to the homestead but much of the garden was lost in the 1985 bushfires.

The house with its semi-enclosed courtyard, well, garden and outbuildings is a good example of a self contained pastoral home

REFERENCES

- Richard Aitken, *Talbot and Clunes Heritage Study*, p.189
Letter, M Downton (?) to Mrs Mills, 18 June 1935 (or 9?)
Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser, 11 April 1859
Osborn and Du Borg, *Maryborough*, pp. 11-13
Information from Graeme Mills
Davidson and Doxford, *Grave Reflections*, 1983
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1865

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: B7

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush
NAME: Lower Homebush State school
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Avoca-Dunolly Rd
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: YD 247986

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Lower Homebush school was built in 1887 to service the children of company miners. It has significance for its rarity, architecture, associations, contextual significance and landmark quality.

The Lower Homebush school is the only school of its type and size to survive without major alterations and additions in the State. Its size is a powerful reminder of the large population that once resided in the Lower Homebush area, and together with the nearby mullock heaps of the Working Miners mine, it provides the only visible evidence that such a flourishing community ever existed. The school's impressive design and isolated location which cause it to stand out from the surrounding landscape, have made it a community landmark.

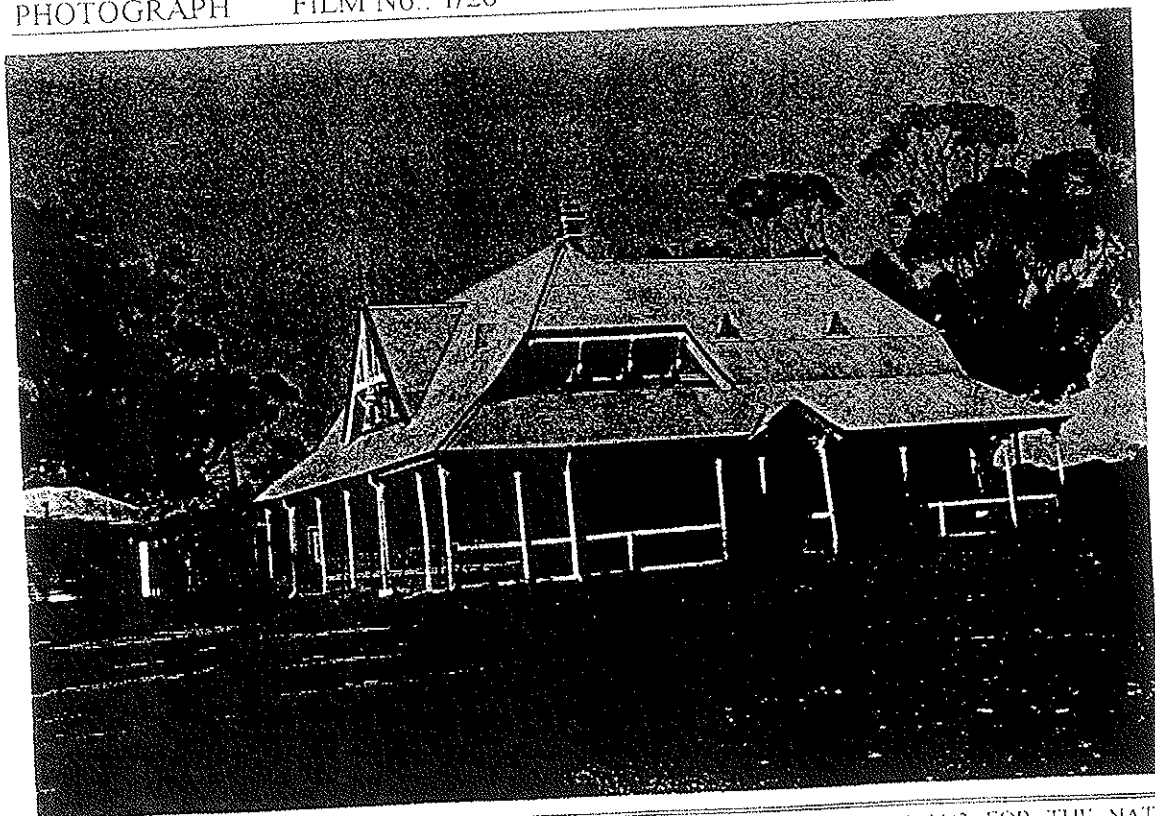
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing).

THEMES: Community life (schools)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 1/26

BUILDING DATE: 1887
DATE: 24.8.93



HISTORY

The success of the Working Miners Company in mining the deep leads at Lower Homebush in 1877, prompted the interest of other mining companies. As the population swelled, a site on Crown land was gazetted as a school reserve on 23 January 1880 and a hardwood building was purchased for use as a school. However it quickly became overcrowded and in 1881 the adjacent church hall was leased from the Union Church in order to provide extra accommodation. This still proved insufficient, compelling the school to exclude children under six or over thirteen. In 1882, when the enrolment was 183 and the average attendance was 112, the Education Department provided a portable (with quarters) which was erected beside the first school room. When a school inspector visited the Lower Homebush school in this year, he noted that there were 175 children in attendance.

Local residents banded together to agitate for a more permanent and substantial building. In 1887 they were successful and a new school was built at an estimated cost of £1,360. The school was designed on the so-called 'Horsham' prototype by S E Bindley under the supervision of the Public Works Department senior architect, H R Bastow. It was built by Joseph Jarvis. The old hardwood school room was retained as a shelter shed but the portable was removed.

As gold yields dropped and mining companies moved elsewhere, the population of Lower Homebush went into decline and by 1903 the average attendance at the school was forty. Although, at the turn of the century the town still boasted a butcher, a cab proprietor, two hotels, two boarding houses and three stores, these businesses gradually closed and the buildings were dismantled until the school was one of only a handful of buildings remaining. The name of the school was changed from Lower Homebush to Homebush in 1919, but the 'Lower' was restored in 1951. The school was unstaffed in 1962 and closed on 10 August 1967. The last teacher at the school was John Simpter. The weatherboard infants room was shifted to the Mallee.

It is now used as a education resource centre.

DESCRIPTION

The Lower Homebush School is derived from the same Horsham style prototype as the Avoca school (A9).

The school is an asymmetrical, single storey building with a distinctive, tent like roof. The steeply pitched roof comprises a large hipped section with intersecting hip and gable roofs and a flatter straight pitched encircling verandah. The hips and gables are supported on decorative timber brackets and the gable eaves are decorated with timbers in the form of trusses. The apex of each hip and gable is marked by a wrought iron finial. The verandahs are supported on timber posts with fretwork timber brackets supporting the verandah beam. The entry to the central passage is marked by a gable in the verandah.

The two main classrooms are of red brickwork with cream brick bands above the verandah level and at sill level. The third classroom was clad in weatherboards. The central chimney is of red brick with shaped cream brick cornices and cream brick banding. The roof has triangular ventilators placed about half way up the roof.

The building is substantially intact externally, the major alterations being the removal of the timber classroom and the timber verandah floor.

REFERENCES

- Lawrence Burchell, *Victorian Schools*, p. 175
- Historic Buildings Branch file, No. 83/5248
- National Trust file, No. 175
- Richard Petersen, *Survey of Historic School Buildings
Vision and Realisation*, p. 822

Assessed by

W Jacobs/K. Twigg

Assessment Date

November-December 1988

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN HI

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush

NAME: Alluvial workings, Homebush Lead
ADDRESS: Homebush Lead runs along the north side of Lower Homebush Rd between Bung Bong Rd and Avoca-Dunolly Rd
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: 246 970, 239 974

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site consists of the remains of alluvial workings along the Homebush Lead. It has significance for its age, influence and associations. The Homebush Lead has historical importance as the site of the first officially reported gold diggings in the Shire. It was influential in triggering the Avoca gold rushes and led to the establishment of the township of Homebush. As the oldest alluvial goldfield in the Shire, it is an integral part of the municipality's mining landscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.

DATE: c. 1853
DATE.

HISTORY

The first report of gold discovery in the Avoca area came from Commissioner Panton in February 1853 when he described parties working on a branch of the Avoca River, twelve miles from Daisy Hill. In May Commissioner Hall, stationed at Daisy Hill, identified this place as Four Mile Flat (later Homebush). The main lead at Avoca was probably opened in October 1853, leading to an enormous rush and drawing miners away from Four Mile Flat. However in October 1854 the Commissioner wrote, 'the deep sinkings are turning out well and many are going to Four Mile Flat which is the original cause of Avoca being occupied'.

In 1856 there was a new rush to Four Mile Flat followed by a new series of rushes in 1860-61. At this time the town was surveyed and called Homebush, and Chancery, Frenchman's One Speck and other west side tributaries were opened up. In June 1860, the Mining Surveyor reported that:
the miners on this working, collectively, are doing well, and besides those engaged upon the Main Lead, numbers are scattered in the various adjacent gullies, where the sinking is shallow, and who also, it may safely be assumed from appearances, are making a good living.

In 1864 there were 200 miners at Homebush and the area's first deep lead company, the Star Company, was in the process of erecting machinery.

DESCRIPTION

Four Mile Flat (or Homebush Lead) was opened in 1853. Deep lead mining commenced in c. 1864 (the Star Company).

The Homebush lead runs close to the Lower Homebush Road but there are only a few visible remains.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 105
James Flett, *A History of Goldmining in Victoria*, Maryborough, 1979, pp. 454-5
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1860, March 1864, September 1864

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN H2

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush

NAME: Mullock heap, Fryingpan Lead
ADDRESS: 7 kms north-east of Avoca, west side
of Avoca-Dunolly Rd, between Fields
Lower Homebush Rd and Rathscar Rd

MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: 237 980

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The mullock heap on Fryingpan Lead probably dates from 1884 when the lead was worked by the Association Company

It has significance for its associations and landmark qualities
The mullock heap is relatively intact and its prominent position in a flat, grazed paddock has made it a local landmark and an integral part of the mining landscape of the Shire. It is closely associated with deep lead mining and its size illustrates the extent of underground activity on the Fryingpan Lead

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 1/25

DATE: c. 1884
DATE: 24.8.93



HISTORY

In September 1860, Fryingpan Gully was opened west of Homebush but abandoned soon afterwards. Twenty-three years later, in December 1883, the Mining Surveyor reported that a promising rich lead had been discovered in Fryingpan Flat, on the western side of the Homebush workings.

In 1884 the Association Company were at work on the Fryingpan Lead, and in June bottomed their shaft at a depth of 97 feet.

DESCRIPTION

The deep lead mine (part of the Association Company lease) appears to have been worked during the mid 1880s.

There is a raised, intact mullock heap. No machinery foundations or pebble dumps survive. The heap is located in the north-east corner of a grazed paddock.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 107
- James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 455
- Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser*, 21 September 1860
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, December 1883, June 1884

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN H3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush
NAME: Mullock heap, Working Miners Company
ADDRESS: Homebush, 8.1 kms north-east of
Avoca, corner of Rathscar West and
Avoca-Dunolly Rds
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: 243 989

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The mullock heap dates from the company's early history as the Working Miners Company in 1876 before it amalgamated with the Homebush United Company in 1881. The mullock heap has significance for its associations, influence, landmark qualities and contextual importance.

The site is closely associated with the Working Miners Company mine which pioneered a successful period of deep lead mining at Homebush, and became the focal point for the Homebush network of deep lead mines. The mullock heap's large size is indicative of the scale of the company's operations. It now forms a well known local landmark. The mine also played an influential role in the establishment of the township of Lower Homebush, providing employment for many of its inhabitants.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 1/27

DATE: c. 1876-91

DATE: 24.8.93



HISTORY

During the early 1870s the Golden Lake Company (later the Homebush Company) and the Band and Lake Company were both at work on the Homebush Lead where they enjoyed some success. The Working Miners claim began to be extensively worked in 1876. By the following year it was yielding rich results and the Mining Surveyor reported a total of 1,381 oz in the December quarter.

In the 1879 September quarter, the Working Miners claim turned out 2,323 oz of gold from 5,760 tons of wash dirt and the mine's fortunate shareholders received £3,450 in dividends. This trend of rich yields continued over the next few years and the mine's prosperity prompted the establishment of several other large companies, such as the North Homebush Company.

In September 1881, the Working Miners Company amalgamated with the Homebush United Company to form the Working Miners United. The new company achieved a record yield in the following March quarter when it obtained 3,982 oz of gold. In June 1883, the Working Miners United Company had expanded to such an extent that it employed 122 men. Water in the shafts was very heavy and pumping machinery was in constant operation.

In December 1887 the two principal claims on the Homebush Lead, the Working Miners and the New North Homebush, amalgamated to form the Working Miners, Homebush. From this point much of the mine's resources were devoted to exploratory work aimed at tracing the course of the lead but its efforts met with only limited success. In September 1891 the Mining Surveyor reported that the Working Miners Homebush Company was the only working mine in the locality but even its prospecting drives were proving unsatisfactory.

The company appears to have ceased operation altogether during the mid-1890s. In 1899 The *Australian Mining Standard* stated that ground along the Homebush Lead was now held by a strong English and colonial syndicate. Much discussion was devoted to the importance of discovering the outlet of the lead and boring was in progress to try to find its location.

The total value of the gold produced by the Working Miners Company was £410,000.

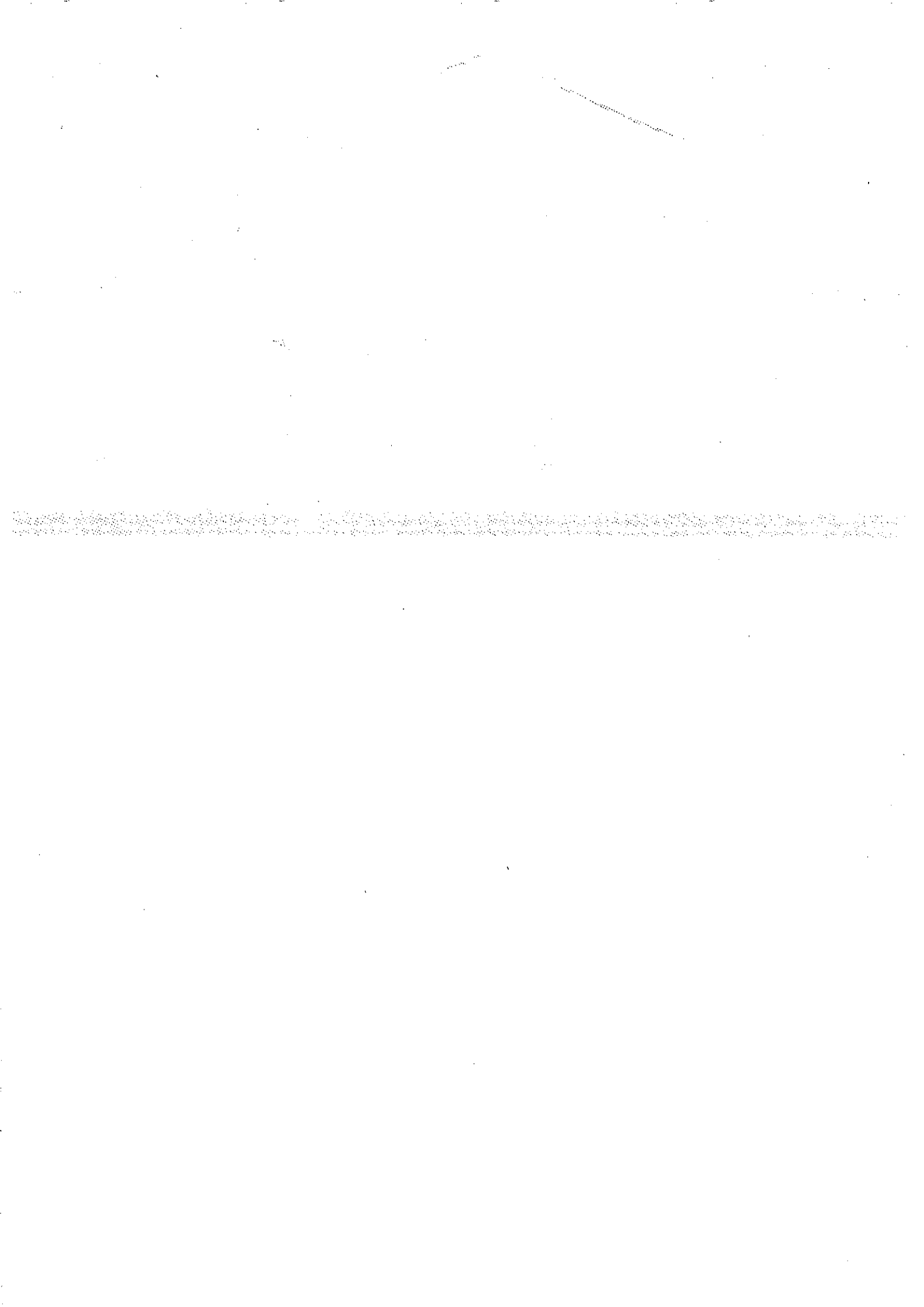
DESCRIPTION

The Working Miners Company commenced in 1876, becoming involved in a complex history of mining and amalgamations which ended with the Workers Miners Homebush Mining Company in the late 1880s.

A large mullock heap with three long dumping lines survives on the site. There are no machinery foundations and the sand/pebble dumps have been quarried.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 108
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, September 1870, December 1870, September 1872, December 1872, June 1873, December 1873, December 1875, March 1876, September 1876, June 1877, December 1877, March 1878, June 1878, September 1879, March 1880, June 1880, June 1881, September 1881, December 1881, March 1882, June 1882, September 1882, March 1883, June 1883, September 1883, December 1883, June 1884, March 1885, June 1885, December 1885, March 1886, September 1886, March 1887, September 1887, December 1887 and Appendix K, June 1888, December 1888, June 1889, September 1891
- Australian Mining Standard*, Special Edition, 1 June, 1899, pp. 105-8.



AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN H4

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush
NAME: Mullock heap, Working Miners United
ADDRESS: 8.2 km north-east of Avoca, 1 km
north-west of junction of Rathscar
West and Avoca-Dunolly Rds.
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: 238 995

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Working Miners United Company was formed in 1881 through the amalgamation of the Working Miners and Homebush United companies. The mullock heap has significance for its associations, influence, landmark qualities and contextual importance.

The site is closely associated with Working Miners Company which pioneered a successful period of deep lead mining at Homebush. The Working Miners United Company mullock heap is an integral part of the Homebush network of deep lead mines. The surviving mullock heap demonstrates the enormous scale of the company's operations and it has become a prominent local landmark. The mine also played an influential role in the establishment of the township of Lower Homebush, providing employment for many of its inhabitants.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No**

DATE:
DATE:

HISTORY

During the early 1870s, the Golden Lake Company (later the Homebush Company) and the Band and Lake Company were both at work on the Homebush Lead, where they enjoyed some success. The Working Miners claim began to be extensively worked in 1876. By the following year it was yielding rich results and the Mining Surveyor reported a total of 1,381 oz in the December quarter

In the 1879 September quarter, the Working Miners claim turned out 2,323 oz of gold from 5,760 tons of wash dirt and the mine's fortunate shareholders received £3,450 in dividends. This trend of rich yields continued over the next few years and the mine's prosperity prompted the establishment of several other large companies, such as the North Homebush Company, at Homebush

In September 1881, the Working Miners Company amalgamated with the Homebush United Company to form the Working Miners United. The new company achieved a record yield in the following March quarter when it obtained 3,982 oz of gold. In June 1883 the Working Miners United Company had expanded to such an extent that it employed 122 men. Water in the shafts was very heavy and pumping machinery was in constant operation.

In December 1887 the two principal claims on the Homebush Lead, the Working Miners and the New North Homebush, amalgamated to form the Working Miners, Homebush. From this point much of the mine's resources were devoted to exploratory work aimed at tracing the course of the lead but its efforts met with only limited success. In September 1891 the Mining Surveyor reported that the Working Miners Homebush Company was the only working mine in the locality but even its prospecting drives were proving unsatisfactory.

The company appears to have ceased operation altogether during the mid-1890s. In 1899 The *Australian Mining Standard* stated that ground along the Homebush Lead was now held by a strong English and colonial syndicate. Much discussion had been devoted to the importance of discovering the outlet of the lead and boring was now in progress to try to find its location.

The total value of the gold produced by the Working Miners Company was £410,000.

DESCRIPTION

The Working Miners United Company was formed in 1881 through the amalgamation of the Working Miners and Homebush United companies.

The site consists of a large intact mullock heap with two dumping lines. A pebble dump has been quarried leaving a scattering of uprooted timber posts and bearers. There are no *in situ* machinery foundations.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 109
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, September 1881, December 1881, March 1882, June 1882, September 1882, March 1883, June 1883, September 1883, December 1883, June 1884, March 1885, June 1885, December 1885, March 1886, September 1886, March 1887, September 1887, December 1887 and Appendix K, June 1888, December 1888, June 1889, September 1891
- Australian Mining Standard*, Special Edition, 1 June, 1899, pp. 105-8

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MINH5

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush
NAME: Mullock heap, Homebush Company
ADDRESS: 8.4 km north-east of Avoca, 0.7 kms
north of junction of Rathscar West and Avoca-
Dunolly Rds, north of Avoca-Dunolly Rd
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: 245 992

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Homebush Company mine commenced in 1878 and amalgamated with the neighbouring Working Miners Company in 1881.

The mullock heap has significance for its associations, landmark qualities and contextual importance.

The Homebush Company mine is associated with a successful period of deep lead mining at Homebush and the establishment of the Homebush settlement. The site is an integral part of the Homebush network of deep lead mines. The surviving mullock heap is an interesting landscape feature and a visible reminder of the area's mining heritage.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: c. 1878-81

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.**

DATE

HISTORY

In 1878 the success of the Working Miners Company on the Homebush Lead prompted the formation of the Homebush Company. Although the lead had not yet been traced outside the boundaries of the Working Miners claim, the wash in a northerly direction was reported to be 'very heavy and the best yet seen in the mine'. The Homebush Company subsequently pegged out ground on the north side of the Working Miners claim.

By September 1879, the company had erected machinery to work the ground and were engaged in sinking a main shaft in the hope of intercepting the lead. In June 1880 it was reported that the company had encountered a great deal of trouble and it amalgamated with the Working Miners Company in September 1881.

The new company achieved a record yield in the following March quarter when it obtained 3,982 oz of gold. In June 1883 the Working Miners United Company had expanded to such an extent that it employed 122 men. Water in the shafts was very heavy and pumping machinery was in constant operation.

In December 1887 the two principal claims on the Homebush Lead, the Working Miners and the New North Homebush amalgamated to form the Working Miners, Homebush. From this point much of the mine's resources were devoted to exploratory work aimed at tracing the course of the lead but its efforts met with only limited success. In September 1891 the Mining Surveyor reported that the Working Miners Homebush Company was the only working mine in the locality but even its prospecting drives were proving unsatisfactory.

The company appears to have ceased operation altogether during the mid-1890s. In 1899 The *Australian Mining Standard* stated that ground along the Homebush Lead was now held by a strong English and colonial syndicate. Much discussion was devoted to the importance of discovering the outlet of the lead and boring was in progress to try to find its location.

The total value of the gold produced by the Working Miners Company was £410,000.

DESCRIPTION

The Homebush Company mine commenced in 1878 and amalgamated with the neighbouring Working Miners Company in 1881.

A small intact mullock heap survives with one dumping line. There are no machinery foundations or pebble/sand dumps.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 110
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, March 1878, June 1878, September 1879, March 1880, June 1880, June 1881, September 1881, December 1881, March 1882, June 1882, September 1882, March 1883, June 1883, September 1883, December 1883, June 1884, March 1885, June 1885, December 1885, March 1886, September 1886, March 1887, September 1887, December 1887 and Appendix K, June 1888, December 1888, June 1889, September 1891
- Australian Mining Standard*, Special Edition, 1 June, 1899, pp 105-8.

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN H6

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush

NAME: Mullock heap, New North Homebush Co
ADDRESS: 9.5 kms north-east of Avoca, 1.9 kms
north of the junction of Rathscar
West and Avoca-Dunolly Rds.
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: 244 005

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The New North Homebush Company commenced mining in 1881, and was amalgamated with the Working Miners United in 1888, to become part of the Working Miners Homebush Gold Mining Company.

The mullock heap has significance for its associations

The New North Homebush Company mine is associated with a successful period of deep lead mining at Homebush and the establishment of the Homebush settlement. The site is an integral part of the Homebush network of deep lead mines. The surviving mullock heap is an interesting landscape feature and a reminder of the area's mining heritage.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 1/30

DATE: 1881-87
DATE 24.8.93



HISTORY

The New North Homebush Company appears to have been established in 1881 following the success of the Working Miners Company on the Homebush Lead, and in June 1881 the company was busy erecting expensive machinery. In September 1882 it had increased its capital and was engaged in boring operations to determine the best location for a shaft. The contract for the new shaft was let in December and three months later the company had successfully sunk the shaft to bedrock at a depth of 213 feet, and were already planning to sink a second shaft.

In December 1883 the Mining Surveyor reported that the New North Homebush Company 'had succeeded after immense trouble, in safely finishing their celebrated iron shaft', and they were now in a position to 'drive for the gutter'.

In March 1886 the New North Homebush Company was directing its energies to driving north and also extending its other drives. Twelve months later it had suspended operations in order to pump the drives free of water until a £500 prospecting grant enabled it to resume operations.

In December 1887 the New North Homebush Company amalgamated with the Working Miners United Company to form the Working Miners Homebush, since neither company had the pumping capacity to keep the shafts clear of water without assistance. The new company worked its amalgamated claim from the shaft of the New North Homebush Company and a main drive was immediately started from the shaft at a level of 250 feet with the intention of reaching the flooded ground left by the Working Miners.

The new company's efforts met with only limited success. In September 1891 the Mining Surveyor reported that the Working Miners Homebush Company was the only working mine in the locality but even its prospecting drives were proving unsatisfactory.

The company appears to have ceased operation altogether during the mid-1890s. In 1899 The *Australian Mining Standard* stated that ground along the Homebush Lead was now held by a strong English and colonial syndicate. Much discussion was devoted to the importance of discovering the outlet of the lead and boring was in progress to try to find its location.

The total value of the gold produced by the Working Miners Company was £410,000

DESCRIPTION

The New North Homebush Company commenced mining in 1881 and was amalgamated with the Working Miners United in 1888 to become part of the Working Miners Homebush Gold Mining Company.

A large partly quarried mullock heap survives with a pebble dump. There are no machinery foundations.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 111
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1882, September 1882, March 1883, December 1883, March 1886, March 1887, December 1887 and Appendix K, June 1888

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN H7

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush
NAME: Vales Reef
ADDRESS: 5.7 kms north-east of Avoca, south of
Fields Lower Homebush Rd and west
of Avoca-Dunolly Rd
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: 228 972

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Vales Reef was opened in 1855. It had two main mining periods - one in the late 1850s and the other in the 1870s.

The site has significance for its associations, age, influence and contextual importance. Vales Reef, probably the first reef to be worked in the Avoca Mining Division, is one of the oldest quartz mining sites in the Shire and played an influential role in the development of quartz mining in the area. The site has contextual importance since it displays a range of features which document different periods of quartz mining.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.

DATE: c. 1855
DATE.

HISTORY

Vale's Reef was discovered in 1855 and was probably one of the first reefs to be worked in the Avoca Mining Division. Crushing machinery was erected at the reef in 1857 but the stone got poorer and poorer at each successive crushing. When the claim was abandoned in 1859 the shaft had reached a depth of 210 feet.

Between 1865 and 1867, Bosanko and Company were crushing quartz from Vales Reef with good results. In 1866, 112 tons of quartz taken from Vales Reef and Fryingpan Reef yielded 87 oz of gold. In December 1869 the Mining Surveyor wrote that Everston's claim on Vales Reef was giving excellent returns, 'the average yield of the lode, which is two feet thick, being 2 oz to the ton'. The owner intended to erect machinery in order to test the lode 100 feet below water level.

Vale's Reef was taken up on lease in December 1873 and the Mining Surveyor expressed the hope that this well known reef would be systematically mined. Quartz mining in the area received a fillip in 1875 when the Monte Christo Company found rich stone at deep levels, disproving the contention that auriferous stone in the locality always got poorer in proportion to depth. As a result, the area east of the Avoca River was more thoroughly prospected, and in March 1875, the Mining Surveyor reported that a belt of reefs on the Monte Christo line had been traced from near Lexton to Vales Reef.

Vale's Reef was taken up by a new company in 1878 and the shaft sunk a further 80 feet. However, after working for eighteen months, the results did not prove payable, the highest crushing being between 7 to 12 dwts to the ton.

Toward the end of 1880, a new company, the Vales Reef Company, re-opened the reef. The shaft was enlarged and crushing plant erected. However the first crushing in the 1882 March quarter did not turn out as satisfactorily as expected. Although a second crushing gave better results, by December 1883 the Vales Reef Company had sold their crushing plant. The Mining Surveyor bemoaned the sale, predicting that 'some considerable time is sure to elapse before the reefs in the vicinity of that company's mine will again receive attention'.

In September 1886 Vales Reef was again taken up under mining lease but no results were reported.

In 1899 the Geological Survey of Victoria wrote that since the late 1870s, Vales Reef had been 'leased by several parties, who held it till they were compelled by the Mining Department to relinquish it, owing to non-compliance with the labour covenants'.

DESCRIPTION

Vales Reef was opened in 1855. It had two main mining periods - one in the late 1850s and the other in the 1870s. The hill on which it occurs is said to contain four separate and well-defined lodes - Vales Reef, Eastern Reef, Western Reef and Yankee Bill's Reef.

A small intact mullock heap (approximately 30 metres long and 8 metres high) is located on the crest of a low hill. This dump overlies an earlier dump which has five short dumping lines. Immediately south of the mullock heap is a small dry dam.

To the west of the mullock heap is a flattened battery site (mound of brick and stone rubble). Below the battery site is a low dump of treated tailings and a partly quarried sludge pond. 20 metres to the north of the intact mullock heap is a 40 feet diameter raised whim platform, filled shaft and partly quarried small mullock heap.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 114
Mining Surveyor's Reports, September 1865, June 1866, June 1867, June 1868, December 1869, December 1873, March 1874, March 1875, December 1880, March 1881, June 1881, March 1882, June 1882, December 1883, September 1886
Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Homebush
NAME: Homebush North deep lead mine
ADDRESS: On the south side of a dirt track that
runs west from the Avoca-Dunolly Rd
near Bradshaw's Swamp
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: 258 012

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Bradshaw Swamp mine site dates from the 1930s
The site has significance for its associations
The Bradshaw Swamp mine site is closely associated with a revival of mining in the 1930s and is a
reminder of one of the most ambitious mining projects ever undertaken in the Shire. Although the
massive oregon flume which became such a landscape feature, does not survive, the machinery
foundations are still relatively intact.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No: 11/29

DATE: 1930s

DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

In 1881 the success of the deep lead mine on the Homebush Lead caused extensive flats to the north to be prospected by boring. Ground leased by the New Homebush Consols was reported to be most promising.

The increase in gold prices during the 1930s encouraged a revival of mining activity in the Shire and a shaft was sunk on property near Bradshaw's Swamp. This was an ambitious project which involved the erection of oregon flumes designed to convey water from the mine some kilometres distant. This flume generated a large amount of local interest and when built became a dramatic landscape feature. Unfortunately the amount of sand pumped up with the water, collected in the flumes causing sections to collapse. As a result the project was abandoned before the real business of mining had properly begun

DESCRIPTION

Machinery foundations - an arrangement of small concrete mounting beds obscured by high grass. A small galvanised lean-to and water pump has been erected near the foundations and obtains water from the shaft.

Workshop - To the east of the concrete footings is a large concrete floor which has various pits, channels and small raised mounting beds.

REFERENCES

Information from Graeme Mills
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1881

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: C6

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 1, Reserve 7144

TOWN/DISTRICT: Crowlands
NAME: Crowlands State school No 756
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Ararat-St Arnaud Rd
MAP NAME: Crowlands South
MAP REFERENCE: XD 870861

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Crowlands State school, a timber building with a gable roof, was built in 1910. It has significance for its characteristic design and for its associations. The school is typical of schools built throughout Victoria in the 1900-29 period and is a well preserved example. It is one of the few public buildings to survive in the Crowlands township and has acted as a focal point for community life for over eighty years.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (schools)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 4/9

BUILDING DATE: 1910
DATE: 10.9.93



HISTORY

The present school is the third to operate in Crowlands. The first was a United Episcopalian and Presbyterian school opened on 16 February 1863 on land donated by Mr Blackwood. The average attendance at the end of 1863 was twenty-two, and although initially the local community tried to fund the school itself, by 1865 the Board of Education was providing financial assistance. The school came under the control of the newly formed Education Department in 1873. In 1889 the original school building was replaced by another school transferred from the Bulgana area.

The present school building was designed by architect S C Brittingham in 1909, and built in 1910. Students worked planting gardens and lawns around the new building and during the mid-1920s the school won the ANA prize for the best garden in the inspectorate. Before the construction of the public hall in 1956 most social events in the Crowlands area were held in the school room. It also provided the venue for church services.

In 1971 attendance at the Crowlands school stood at forty-eight with two teachers. A portable building was even acquired to provide extra accommodation. However enrolments declined in the 1980s and the portable was removed. The Crowlands school closed at the end of 1993.

DESCRIPTION

The Crowlands School is a timber building clad in square edged weatherboards, with a gable roofed main section with a hipped roofed porch at the front. The roof is clad in corrugated iron

The gable end has simple timber straps and boarding infill supported by curved timber brackets. The gable end has a large timber window with the windows in the side of the building being high lights. The roof has conical capped ventilators which were introduced to all schools at the time of building. The school has a single red brick chimney with terra cotta chimney pots.

The school is a characteristic timber single classroom school built in this era. It is substantially intact except for the skillion addition to the porch.

REFERENCES

- The Crowlands Connection*, pp. 5-8
Richard Petersen, *Survey of Historic School Buildings*, p. 14, 105, citation sheet
Information from Noel Boatman

FILE No: C8

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Sect 7, Allot 9

TOWN/DISTRICT: Crowlands
NAME: Crowlands Uniting church
FORMER NAME: Crowlands Methodist church
ADDRESS: Ararat-Avoca Rd
MAP NAME: Crowlands South
MAP REFERENCE: XD 872 864

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Crowlands Uniting church is a brick structure dating from 1936-7. It has significance for its architecture, aesthetic qualities and associations. The Crowlands Uniting church is one of Crowland's most prominent buildings and is valued by the community for its aesthetic qualities. The construction of *new* churches in the small township of Crowlands during the mid-1930s, in the midst of a severe economic depression, is unusual and suggests some rivalry between the Catholic and Protestant segments of the population. The Uniting church is now the only surviving church in the township.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: A4/11A

BUILDING DATE: 1936
DATE: 10.9.93



HISTORY

Early church services in Crowlands were probably held in the United Episcopalian and Presbyterian school built in 1862. This continued until the 1934 when, despite the economic depression, local Catholics banded together to raise funds for the construction of a Catholic church. Not to be outdone the Wesleyan Methodists also formed a Building Committee and began fund raising. On 14 April 1936 the first church trustees, L G L Dawson, L Lewis, E Start, R Williams, L Boatman and A James signed title to a block of vacant land near the centre of Crowlands

Long delays occurred during construction of the Methodist church, due to the alleged discovery that the contractor had used cement bags in the foundations as reinforcement rather than steel. His contract was subsequently withdrawn and a new contractor was appointed. The church was completed in 1936-7.

The Crowlands Methodist church became a Uniting church in the 1977 after the unification of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches.

DESCRIPTION

The Crowlands Uniting Church is a red brick building which consists of a nave with a gable roofed side porch on one side and a gable roofed vestry on the other. The steeply pitched gable roofs have exposed beams at the eaves. The front facade of the nave has two large, square engaged columns rising to above the roof height. These are capped in a band of cream bricks. Between the columns are three very narrow rectangular slit windows with three lancet windows above. These have tapestry brick voussoirs and diagonal tapestry brick panels below ending in steeply angled sills. Above the windows is a triangular pediment in diagonally laid cream bricks with a stone cross at the apex. The brickwork is corbelled in tapestry bricks at the eaves and the gable wall is capped by a row of cream bricks. The sides of the nave have pointed arched windows with tapestry brick voussoirs and the broad arch of the entry porch is outlined in cream bricks.

The church is a simple building with reference to Gothic architecture in the pointed arched windows but the engaged columns give a suggestion of Norman towers. The use of red, cream and tapestry bricks as the main decoration suggests the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement

The building is the most substantial building in Crowlands and its siting on the main road makes it a local landmark.

REFERENCES

- Information from Noel Boatman
The Crowlands Connection, p. 11
Uniting Church Archive, title information

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: C11

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Sect 7, Allot 1, 2

TOWN/DISTRICT: Crowlands
NAME: Traveller's Rest Inn
FORMER NAME: Crowland's Hotel
ADDRESS: Crowlands-Eversley Rd
MAP NAME: Crowlands South
MAP REFERENCE: XD 871 864

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Traveller's Rest Inn is a brick building, possibly erected in the 1850s. It is significant for its age and rarity. The Inn is one of the earliest surviving buildings in the study area. Its simple design reflects its origins in a town founded on the pastoral industry and police and government business rather than on the wealth of the goldfields.

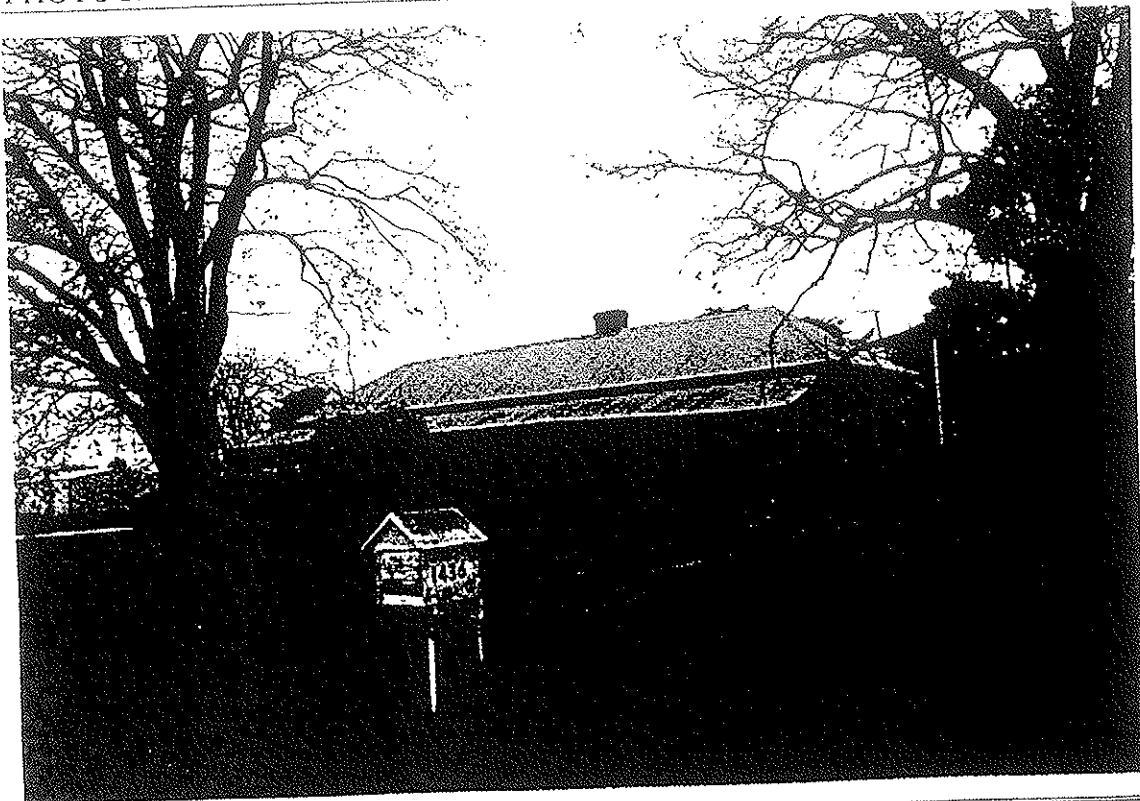
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Towns (business)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: A4/15

BUILDING DATE: c. 1850s
DATE: 10.9.93



HISTORY

In 1848 Matthew Harland opened a store and hotel to service carters and drovers on the main stock route to the Wimmera and South Australia. The small settlement of Crowlands grew up around his hotel, becoming the centre of a police district covering the Navarre and Mount Ararat region

Harland's Inn closed following Matthew Harland's death. In its place the Travellers Rest hotel was established after Daniel Noonan purchased two allotments at the corner of Wills and Wright streets in April 1854. Six years later a correspondent from the Ararat newspaper paid a visit to the Traveller's Rest and described it in some detail:

I slept there; no licence, but I liked them; good people and I took my nobbler despite their not having a licence. The hostess is really a good trump of a woman - kind and entertaining... Nice niece - very pretty - liked her too. Traveller's Rest Inn - spelt wrong - traveller with one l.

By 1865 there were two hotels in Crowlands - the Traveller's Rest Inn and the Golden Fleece. By 1885 Daniel Noonan had passed the ownership of the hotel to his son Edward. At this time it was widely known as the Crowlands Hotel. In 1907 the Licensing Board decided that the licence for the hotel would not be renewed and on 24 January 1908, the Ararat newspaper reported that Edward Noonan's hotel had closed. The hotel was sold and now functions as a private residence

DESCRIPTION

The Traveller's rest Inn is a long red brick building with a hipped roof now clad in corrugated iron. The hipped roof extends as a skillion at the back. There is a wide rendered chimney placed in the centre of the roof ridge. The building has a straight pitched verandah running the length of the main facade. It is supported on timber posts which retain their timber mould capitals but now have no brackets or other decoration.

The building retains its four panelled external doors and timber, double-hung, 12-paned windows

The side wall retains the remnants of the painted hotel sign

REFERENCES

Ararat Advertiser, 24 January 1908

Lorna Banfield, *Like the Ark*

Information from Noel Boatman

Coles Hotel Directory

The Mount Pleasant and Ararat Advertiser, 11 May 1860

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: C15

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Crowlands
NAME: Decameron woolshed
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Elmhurst-Landsborough Rd
MAP NAME: Crowlands South
MAP REFERENCE: XD 965855

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Decameron woolshed was built on the Decameron pastoral run between 1842-52. It has significance for its age and associations. The Decameron woolshed is the only surviving structure in the study area which demonstrates a clear connection with the Decameron pastoral run which once covered much of the western half of the Shire. It has a strong association with the pastoral era, its size suggesting the huge flocks of sheep once kept on Decameron before the land was opened up for selection.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Pastoralism
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 18/2,3

BUILDING DATE: c 1842-52
DATE: 20 1 94



HISTORY

The Decameron pastoral run was first occupied in 1841 when it was known as Glen Imlay after the lessee Dr Imlay. At this time it comprised 102,400 acres and carried 20,000 sheep and 250 cattle. In 1842, James Cameron, a Scot and former army officer, purchased the pastoral lease for £1,500.

Over the next ten years, Cameron made a number of improvements to the run; he built a house on Nowhere Creek and it is probably in the years of his occupancy that the current woolshed was built. Decameron was one of the largest pastoral runs in the area, covering most of the western section of the Shire of Avoca, and a substantial woolshed was needed to cater for the number of sheep that were kept on the station.

In 1852 Cameron divided the run into Decameron and Navarre, and in 1853 Decameron was sold to Charles Williamson, a wealthy Melbourne draper, for £30,000.

Despite the opening of the land for selection, Charles Williamson still held 45,000 acres of unalienated pasture land in 1864. He had purchased 436 acres.

Decameron was finally subdivided and sold by public auction in 1908.

DESCRIPTION

The Decameron woolshed is on two levels allowing for the slope of the site. The lower level is of stone construction with timber doors leading to the lower paddock. The upper section is of timber with the main structure being large sectioned, roughly squared posts with weatherboard walls between. The stone appears to be local slate laid in rough courses.

The shed is of a long rectangular section roofed with two parallel narrow gables now clad in corrugated iron. This is the section with the stone base. At right angles is a wider building with a single hipped roof. A gable roofed porch section leads into the two level section of the building.

The holding and sorting paddocks are at the higher level of the building.

REFERENCES

- Spreadborough and Anderson, *Victorian Squatters*, p. 216
Beavis, *Avoca: The Early Years*, pp 3-8, 181
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1864

FILE No: C20

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Crowlands
NAME: Mundaring
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Eversley-Crowlands Rd
MAP NAME: Crowlands South
MAP REFERENCE: XD 879853

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mundaring is a brick farmhouse built in the 1920s. It has significance for its building design and associations. The impressive design of the Mundaring farmhouse is indicative of the relative prosperity and success achieved by the Starts by the early 1920s after selecting land in the area in the nineteenth century. The building design links the Start family with another long-standing local family, the Boatmans, who also built a house of similar design during this period.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

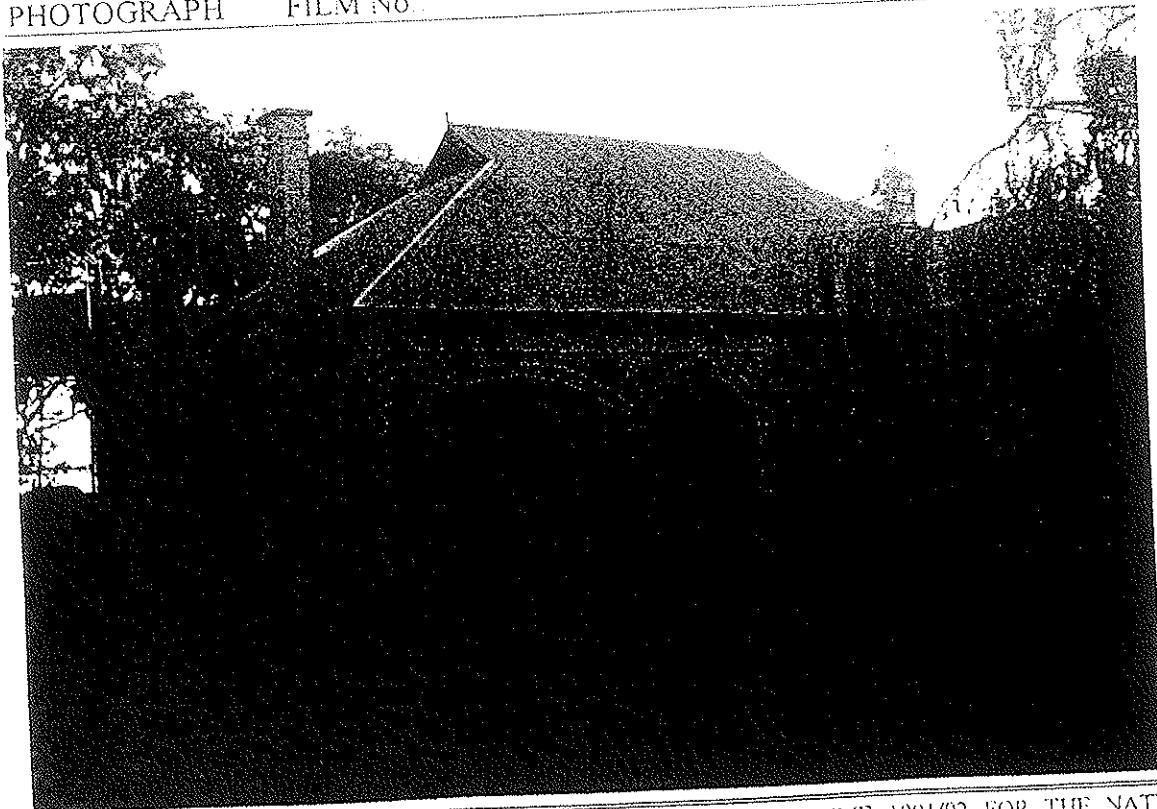
RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Farming

BUILDING DATE: c 1920-5
DATE:

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.:



HISTORY

The Start family were early settlers in the Crowlands area. The Manduring property was farmed by Victor Start in the late nineteenth century, and in the early 1920s his son, Victor Start junior, built the present house. It was erected by a local builder who also built several other houses in the district during the same period including Rhodenvale, owned by the Boatman family

The Start family are well known sheep farmers

DESCRIPTION

Manduring is reached by a curving driveway through a planting of exotic trees giving a park like landscape. The house itself is set in a well planted garden separated from the surrounding farm by fences and mature hedges.

The house is of rendered brick with the major section having a large hip roof with small half gables near the ridge. These and the intersecting gables roofs of the projecting rooms have carved timber finials. The render is a combination of rough textured wall render with smooth render used for capitals, window surrounds and archways.

The house has a return verandah under the main roof which is supported on square render columns which support three rendered brick arches of differing curvature. The front projecting room has a square bay window. There is a round window to the side of the entry with a smooth render band and curved window hood.

The farmhouse is a substantial and relatively intact example of a large family home of the 1920s and is an unusual building type in the study area.

REFERENCES

- Information from Noel Boatman
- Balliere's Victorian Directory*, 1868
- Information from Noel Boatman
- Sands and McDougall's Country Directory*, 1915
- Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1884, 1900

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: Area 2

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough Township
NAME: Landsborough Township
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS:
MAP NAME:
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Landsborough gold rush broke out in 1862 and streets were laid out in September 1862, less than a month after the gold rush to the area began. By 1868 Landsborough had a population of 141 families, making it the second largest town in the Shire. Its rapid growth was initially fuelled by gold but in the later decades of the nineteenth century it depended increasingly on the local farming community. The area has significance for its influence and associations.

The Landsborough township possesses a range of buildings reflecting both the post-alluvial gold rush period and the town's later development as an agricultural service town. The defined area includes smaller precincts of commercial, educational and religious buildings, which contribute to the significance of the larger precinct. These include:

The main commercial and residential centre of Landsborough centred on Burke Street.

The original police camp area, and religious and educational buildings on an elevated position to the north-east of the main street.

The area also includes Native Creek.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme

HISTORY

Streets were laid out in Landsborough in September 1862, less than a month after the gold rush to the area began. The town was named after William Landsborough, an explorer who was at that time in charge of a party sent to search for the missing Burke and Wills and all the major streets bore the names of the Burke and Will expeditionary party. Two weeks later a newspaper correspondent observed, 'The carpenters are still actively engaged erecting buildings and from present appearances. I think that our Burke St will be one of the finest and longest streets in the Pyrenees'.

By 1868 Landsborough had a population of 141 families, making it the second largest town in the Shire. Its rapid growth was initially fuelled by gold but in the later decades of the nineteenth century it depended increasingly on the local farming community. Land in the area had been opened up for settlement at an early date, due partly to the activities of the energetic Progress Committee which had persuaded the government to release 20,000 acres for sale or selection in the Landsborough area under the 1865 Land Act.

The first two decades of the century were profitable ones for the local farming community and they brought a new prosperity to the town, generating a spate of building activity in the 1920s. Burke Street was closely lined with shops and long-time Landsborough resident, Nancy Friend, remembers the carnival atmosphere on a Saturday evening when the shops stayed open until midnight and farming families travelled to Landsborough to shop and socialise:

Fittocks had a big old gramophone and they would have it going right out on the street when the farmers came in. They had one of the first soda fountains and we would buy a drink for one penny. And it was a great day if the Fittocks had made ice cream. They would make it in a wooden churn with cream and ice and salt and everyone would know when the Fittocks were making ice cream.

Rising up from Burke Street, on a hill overlooking the town, McKinley Street was another centre of activity. The police station/residence was located here (where it had been established in 1862) along with the state school and the Roman Catholic church and presbytery. The design of the Catholic buildings in particular witnessed to the numerical strength of Landsborough's Catholic population.

DESCRIPTION

The area begins at the intersection of Burke Street with the Stawell Road and extends north-east to the Native Creek and then south-east to McKinlay Street, then north-east to include the State School and Catholic Church, returning to Native Creek and extending south-west to King Street, then south-east to Wills Street and north-west to Stawell Road finishing at the intersection of Burke Street.

REFERENCES

- Ararat Advertiser*, 26 September 1862
- Seavis, *Avoca: The Early Years*, p. 21
- Ararat Advertiser*, 7 October 1862
- Information from Nancy Friend

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L5

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Roman Catholic presbytery
ADDRESS:

FORMER NAME:

TITLE DETAILS:

MAP NAME: Crowlands North
MAP REFERENCE: XE 899022

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The brick presbytery was built in 1917 in order to accommodate the town's first resident priest. The site is significant for its associations, contextual importance and architecture. The presbytery illustrates the strength of Catholicism in the district in the early twentieth century, and was a direct result of the inauguration of the Landsborough Mission which led to the appointment of the town's first resident priest. Its location on an elevated site in close proximity to the church, police station and school makes it one of a cluster of buildings highly valued by local residents.

The building is a rare example in the district of a solid brick Federation style building. The building demonstrates many of the features that make this style distinctive; use of red brick and render, intersecting gable and hipped roofs, half timbering, timber fretwork and multi-paned casement windows. The building appears substantially externally intact.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:

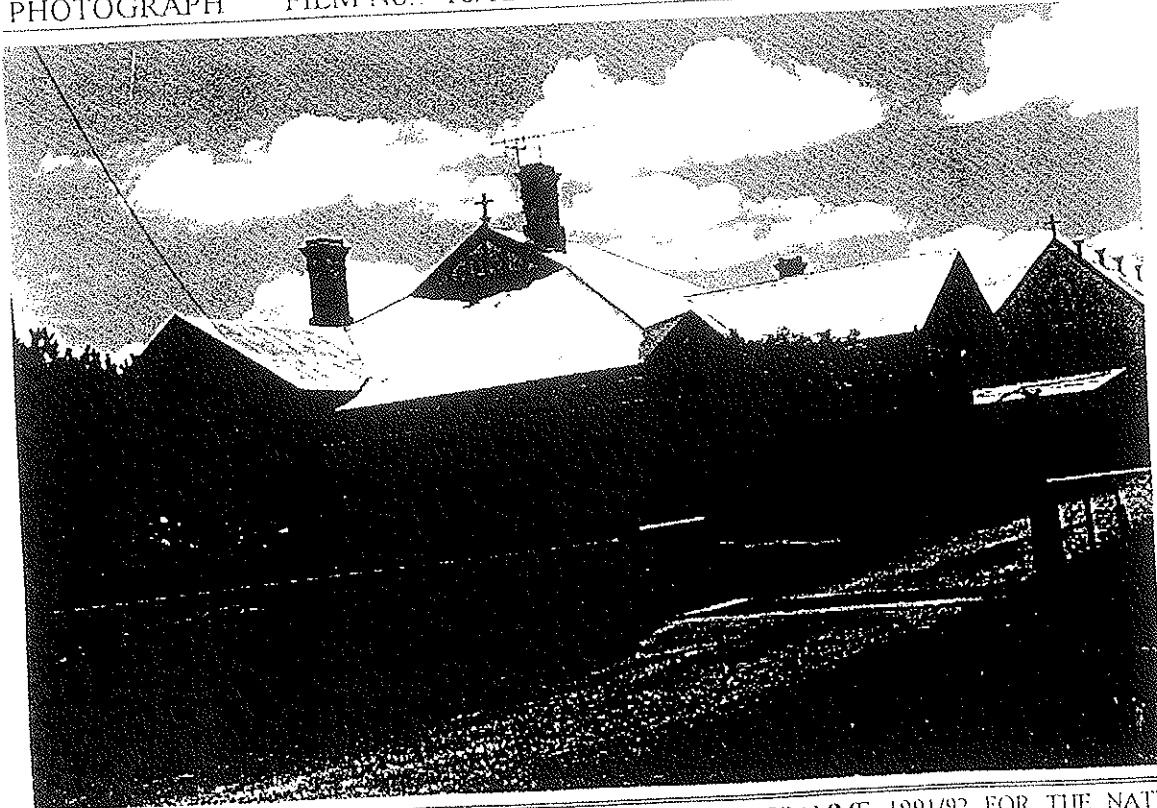
Community life

BUILDING DATE

1917

DATE 20 1 94

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 18/12



HISTORY

Landsborough has always possessed a high proportion of Roman Catholics amongst its population, and a period of energetic fund raising led to the construction of St Francis Catholic church in 1887. By 1917 Catholicism was so strong in the area that Landsborough was chosen as the centre for a new mission. The Landsborough mission district included townships that had previously been part of neighbouring parishes such as Navarre, Crowlands and Elmhurst (formerly part of the Ararat parish) and Redbank and Moonambel (formerly part of the St Arnaud parish).

In the wake of Landsborough's elevation to a mission centre, a resident priest was appointed to the town in the person of the Rev. Father Barrett, and in order to accommodate him a brick presbytery was built. It was completed in 1917 at a cost of £1,000, most of which was raised locally. The new presbytery was located directly behind St Francis Catholic church. In reporting on the progress of the presbytery, the *Avoca Free Press* described Barrett as a first class carpenter who often assisted the tradesmen in carrying out improvements to the church.

DESCRIPTION

The presbytery is of red brick construction in the Federation style current in the early days of the twentieth century. The red bricks are said to have been made locally in a brick kiln in Lennon's Lane. The design is dominated by the intersecting hipped and gabled roof with a small gable in the verandah set on the diagonal - a common feature of this style. The gables are of rough cast with half timbering and the gables at the termination of the wings overhang the wall. The windows are a combination of casement and double hung with rendered concrete lintels. The verandah is decorated with a timber fretwork frieze. The chimneys are decorated with render and form a major decorative element.

The building is a rare example in the district of a solid brick Federation style building. The building demonstrates many of the features that make this style distinctive; use of red brick and render, intersecting gable and hipped roofs, half timbering, timber fretwork and multi-paned casement windows. The building appears substantially externally intact.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Free Press*, 21 March 1917
Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L15

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough
NAME: Former Wattle Creek state school
ADDRESS: Wattle Creek School Lane
FORMER NAME:
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: NE 870068

TITLE DETAILS:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Wattle Creek state school No 2057, combining both a school room and teachers residence. was built in 1878
The site has significance for its associations and characteristic construction
The former school is closely associated with the Wattle Creek locality. It is one of the few remaining buildings which still gives the area an identity, and it has importance to local residents as a reminder of a period when the district supported a large population. The Wattle Creek school is a substantially externally intact example of a timber single room school with attached residence. Its construction is typical of rural schools built between 1873 and 1890

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:

Community life (schools)

BUILDING DATE
1878

DATE: 10.9.93

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 4/36



HISTORY

Wattle Creek state school No. 2057, located approximately eight kilometres north of Landsborough, was opened on 26 August 1878 with an enrolment of thirty-four children. The first head teacher was Rowland Gray who lived in the teachers residence attached to the school house. Wattle Creek was a mining and farming area and families made their living on small holdings or mined on leads such as the Cambrian, Nora, Kara and Simpson

Mrs Ivy Ragget (nee Burge) grew up in the area in the 1930s, and can reel off the names of almost two dozen Wattle Creek families. She even remembers a period when Wattle Creek was able to muster two tennis teams. During the early 1930s, the Point Adis mining company attracted new people to the district, and some of the mine's clerical staff boarded with local residents. Mrs Ivy Ragget recalls that between twenty-five and thirty students attended the Wattle Creek school at this time. The school also functioned as a social centres for the area and was used for a wide variety of concerts, dances, and meetings. Ivy Ragget's parents, Harold Burge and Vera Burge (nee Smith), both played the violin and another relative played the accordion. She says it was not uncommon for the school room to accommodate up to thirty dancing couples.

The increasing trend toward larger holdings, and the abandonment of the Point Adis mine, saw the Wattle Creek population decline in the late 1930s. School enrolments fell, and after operating half-time with the nearby Tulkara school for some years, the Wattle Creek school finally closed on the 22 March 1946. The last teacher at the school was Mrs Hodgetts.

DESCRIPTION

The Wattle Creek school is a substantially externally intact example of a timber single room school with attached residence. Between 1873 and 1890 240 single room schools were built in brick or timber. About 60% had an attached residence. Most were built for 40 or 60 pupils. The verandah appears to be a later addition as these were not constructed on this design prior to 1880. The original roof would most probably have been galvanised corrugated iron as these were usual by 1877 and standard by 1879, earlier buildings having shingle roofs.

The building is of weatherboard with intersecting gable roofs and a gable roofed porch. The residence has a central doorway with single double hung windows symmetrically placed on each side. The apex of the gables are marked by turned timber finials. The building retains the iron roof vents and the original brick chimney.

REFERENCES

Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance

Information from Mrs Ivy Ragget

History and Realisation, p. 813

Richard Peterson, *Historic Government Schools, A Comparative Study*, 1993, Heritage Victoria.

Lawrence Burchell, *Victorian Schools, A Study of Colonial Government Architecture 1837 - 1900*, 1980, Melbourne.

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L21

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Eucalyptus distilling vats/charcoal burners
ADDRESS: Landsborough-Elmhurst Road

FORMER NAME:

MAP NAME: Crowlands North
MAP REFERENCE: XD 943933

TITLE DETAILS:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The eucalyptus distilling vats, used for steaming eucalyptus leaves to extract oil, probably date from the period prior to the Second World War. They were later converted for use as charcoal burners. The structures are significant for their rarity and as examples of characteristic activities. The eucalyptus distilling vats/charcoal burners, provide some of the only surviving evidence of industries that were once widely practiced but are now rare within the Shire. Their poor survival rate is indicative of the nature of the industries which frequently had a low capital outlay, used second hand materials and operated deep in the bush.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:

Extractive industry (timber)

BUILDING DATE
c 1910

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 4/23

DATE: 10.9.93



HISTORY

In the last decades of the nineteenth century, and increasingly in the twentieth century, eucalyptus distilleries sprung up throughout the Pyrenees ranges. The industry concentrated on stands of blue or green mallee which were cut by hand and steamed in a vat to release the oil. The oil found a lucrative export market since it was in demand for both pharmaceutical and industrial purposes and until the 1950s Australia was almost the only source in the world. Within the Shire of Avoca, eucalyptus cutting provided casual employment for many local residents. The rusting vats at Malakhoff, south of Landsborough, are believed to have been used at one time for steaming the eucalyptus leaves.

The vats were later used as charcoal burners. Petrol rationing during the Second World War caused many cars to be converted to charcoal gas producers and hundreds of tons of charcoal were produced in the Shire.

DESCRIPTION

The site, on the edge of the Landsborough-Elmhurst Road, is a clearing adjacent to the surrounding paddocks. The only remains are rusting iron vats and the skeletons of shelters made of saplings and branches which once provided protection on the site. The site is evocative of the transient nature of the works which seldom have large or solid structures associated with them.

REFERENCES

Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance
and Conservation Study, p. 44

Ren Du Bourg, *Big Water, Little Plain: A History of Natte Yallock*, p. 35

Assessed by
J. Jacobs/K. Twigg

Assessment Date

FILE No: L23

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough
NAME: Landsborough Gun Club meeting room
ADDRESS: (off) Ararat-St Arnaud Road
FORMER NAME: Jockeys' changing shed
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: XE 87803

TITLE DETAILS:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Landsborough Gun Club meeting room, built of corrugated iron, has also been used as an afternoon tea shed, and was originally designed as a jockeys' changing room. The site has significance as a characteristic structure. The Landsborough Gun Club meeting room is typical of the simple, corrugated iron structures which were erected at sporting venues throughout Victoria. Its original design as a jockeys' changing shed suggests the importance of race meetings in the community's sporting calendar and the care taken to provide every facility. Changes to the shed's fabric demonstrate the way in which it has been adapted to fulfil different functions over time.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:

Community life (sport)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 15/15

BUILDING DATE

DATE: 4 11 93



HISTORY

In the Shire of Avoca, formal race meetings grew out of the many impromptu horse races organised on the goldfields, and they became one of the most popular forms of entertainment during the nineteenth century. The first recorded race meeting at Landsborough took place in 1868, although the location is uncertain. By 1884 the existing race course had been temporarily reserved and was under the charge of a board of local trustees. The minute book kept by the trustees between 1914-25 shows that a judges box, refreshment room and publicans booth already existed on the site, while a new grandstand and ticket box were under consideration. The jockeys' changing room was presumably erected at a later period, since it is not mentioned.

Race meetings waned in popularity after the Second World War, and the jockeys' changing room was moved to the recreation reserve where it served as an afternoon tea shed. In 1992 it was moved back to the racecourse which had become the site of the Landsborough golf course. The course was also used by the Landsborough Gun Club, established in 1900, and the shed became their new meeting room.

DESCRIPTION

The gable roofed building with vertical corrugated iron cladding and return verandah is characteristic of the simple buildings erected on recreation reserves in the country. The building has a steeply pitched roof with flat glass rooflights. The verandah has a straight pitched roof and simple square timber posts. The changing fashions in use of recreational reserves often meant that these buildings were substantially altered or fell into disrepair. This example, although moved and recycled during its life, retains the form materials and character of these buildings.

REFERENCES

- Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser*, 18 April 1868, 2 April 1869
- Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance
- Information from Nancy Friend
- Trustees of Racecourse minutes book, 1914-25 (in possession of Nancy Friend)

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L26

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Wright's House
ADDRESS: Ararat-St Arnaud Rd

FORMER NAME:

TITLE DETAILS:
Section E

MAP NAME: Crowlands North
MAP REFERENCE: XE 893025

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Wright's house was the home of an early Landsborough builder and brick maker, and once accommodated a family of five children. Only part of the original house now remains. The site has significance for its associations. Wright's house is closely associated with one of Landsborough's first residents, James Wright, who contributed to the early built environment of the town through his work as a brick maker and builder. The house demonstrates the use of locally made bricks.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

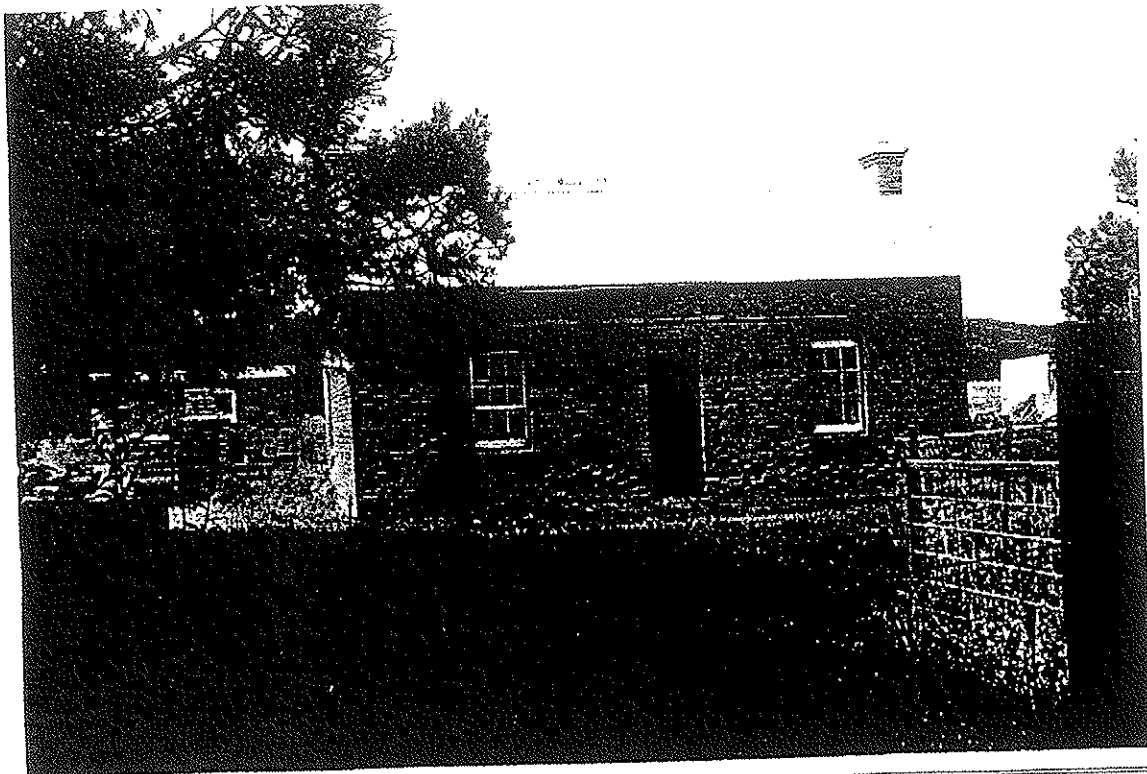
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:
Towns

BUILDING DATE
c 1863

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 15/8

DATE: 4.11.93



HISTORY

James Wright was born on 8 February 1832 into a well-to-do London family which had made its money in the building industry. He was educated at Cambridge, where he studied languages and became particularly interested in music. He played the violin, flute, piccolo, clarinet and organ and his grandson remembered, 'he was possessed of a fine voice of great range, and had the distinction of singing before notables at Convent Garden'.

In 1853, at the age of twenty-one, James and a friend migrated to Australia to try their luck at the Victorian gold rushes. After mining with some success in the Ballarat area he journeyed back to England and in 1857 married Eleanor Fleming. The couple returned to Victoria and after mining at Bendigo and then Maryborough, they followed the route taken by many gold miners; chasing gold from Avoca to Redbank, to Moonambel, to Barkly-Navarre and finally to Landsborough where they settled in 1862. When their third child, Samuel, was born on the Cambrian Lead on 2 January 1863, he became the first male child born at Landsborough.

As gold yields declined, James Wright went into business as a brick maker and builder. The Ararat Asylum was one of the first projects on which he was employed, camping at Ararat during the week and walking the forty kilometres back to Landsborough each weekend. He also built the original section of the Catholic church at Landsborough and many of the township's brick buildings. He was skilled at plastering, and became well known for his hand moulded cornice work. James built the family residence probably in the early 1860s and this became home to a family of five children.

Both James and Eleanor Wright were active members of the Landsborough community. James was a lay preacher and served as Sunday School superintendent for forty years while Eleanor was well known as a midwife and nurse. During the early gold rush days she also baked bread for sale to the miners and had a large baker's oven built into her kitchen. After the formation of the Education Department in 1872 James was commissioned to teach singing in local schools.

James and Eleanor's youngest son, Mervyn, born on 7 March 1875, continued to live in the house after his parent's death. He had previously operated a barbers' business and a small farm but by 1915 he was listed in directories as a brick layer.

DESCRIPTION

The house is a brick building with a gables roof now clad in corrugated steel. The bricks have been laid in Flemish bond, alternating stretchers with headers, which gives the distinctive texture as the headers are in places much darker than the stretcher face of the brick. The house has a central doorway with timber double hung windows symmetrically placed at each side. The doorway and windows are marked with darker red vertical bricks forming a shallow arch over them. The house once had a hipped roof verandah. The timber beam can still be seen attached to the house. With careful inspection the outline of the verandah shape may be discernible. The house has a brick chimney at each side of the roof at the apex of the gable. These are simply decorated with brick corbels. A brick chimney stands alone to one side of the rear of the remaining building indicating an extension or former separate building such as a separate kitchen which are often found in buildings of this era. The building has lost the original verandah and is suffering from spalling of the brickwork. This is caused by weathering or rising damp of the lower brickwork. Nevertheless the building, externally, retains many of its original features and the distinctive brickwork make it one of the significant buildings in the town.

REFERENCES

Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance

Information from Nancy Friend

Sands and McDougall Directory, 1915

'History of James and Eleanor Wright' compiled by James Edwin Wright, RHSV, Box 59/17, No 939

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L29

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough
NAME: Former Landsborough common school
ADDRESS: Burke Street
FORMER NAME:
MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
MAP REFERENCE: 10/8

TITLE DETAILS:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Landsborough common school No. 710 was built of locally made brick in 1867. At one period it accommodated 137 students. The site has significance for its age, rarity and associations. The Landsborough common school No. 710 is one of the earliest surviving public buildings in the township of Landsborough and its construction reflects an unusual level of co-operation between different denominations. It is a typical design for a single roomed common school constructed in the mid 1860s.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), addition to the National Estate Register

THEMES:

Community life (schools)

BUILDING DATE

1867

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.: 15/22

DATE: 4.11.93



HISTORY

The first school in Landsborough was said to be a private school located directly opposite the present school, and conducted by a Miss Price. On the 1 March 1864, a second school was established in the form of a non-vested goldfields school, built of corrugated iron with a roof of cotton canvas lined with calico. It had been established by the Catholic church at the Lamplough gold rush early in 1860, but later on in the year it had been moved to the Moonambel diggings and then to a new gold rush at Navarre-Barkly before finally coming to rest at Landsborough toward the end of 1863 (The corrugated iron school was eventually blown down in a wind storm on 5 November 1876).

By 1867 the construction of a new common school building was in progress at the northern end of Burke Street. Great local importance was attached to laying the foundation stone:

in spite of the severe inclemency of the weather. Landsborough turned out en masse to witness this very interesting ceremony...a very imposing procession was formed, consisting of the Members of the Progress, Church and School Committees; the Ancient Order of Foresters; Inhabitants of the town; School Children etc; the whole preceded by a brass band. After a little pleasant marching in the pelting rain, through the various sloughs and sludge channels that beautify the approaches to Landsborough the procession at last reached the proposed building.

The earlier school had been closely associated with the Catholic church but in laying the foundation stone of the new church, the speaker James Daly was at pains to emphasise the importance of reconciling religious differences.

The new school building is said to have been built by Jonathan Butterworth using bricks supplied by local brick maker, James Wright, who also erected a chimney in the school. The school was opened early in 1868 and was known as Common School No. 710 - the same number held by the earlier corrugated iron school. The building also doubled as a church on Sundays and was popularly known as 'the church with the chimney in it'. It is not known which denominations used the building for church services.

The school finally closed on 28 February 1877 and its 137 students were transferred to a new school building in Camp Street, Landsborough State School No. 1862. By the 1920s the old school building was being used as a blacksmiths shop. It is now used for storage purposes.

DESCRIPTION

After 1862 school buildings were controlled by the Board of Education. The community had to apply for funding and provide plans but these needed approval from the Board. The most common plan was a single rectangular room 30 feet (9.14m) by 18 feet (5.5m) with or without a porch with a hipped or gabled roof. The use of local building materials was encouraged. No ornamentation was permitted. The existing building is of the simple form and materials required by the Board. It is a rectangular brick building with plain brick piers dividing the building into three bays with a window in each bay on the north side. Originally, the steeply pitched gable roof may have been clad in timber shingles. The existing roof is clad in corrugated iron. The brick work has been covered with bagged cement possibly due to deterioration of the bricks through spalling. The front doorway appears to have been enlarged from the size required for a schoolroom during the occupation of the blacksmith. The building retains its timber windows. The building would appear to have lost its original barge board. The building retains its form and many original elements. It is a rare survivor from the early days of Landsborough.

REFERENCES

- Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser*, 22 October 1867
Rev Walter Ebsworth, *Pioneer Catholic Victoria*, 1973
Information from Nancy Friend
N. Friend and N. Fittock, *Schools at Landsborough*, c. 1962
Landsborough Times, 29 June 1869
Poem by James Wright, *Landsborough State School 1862: 1877-1977 Centenary*
Richard Peterson, *Historic Government Schools, A Comparative Study*, 1993, Heritage Victoria.
Lawrence Burchell, *Victorian Schools, A Study of Colonial Government Architecture 1837 - 1900*, 1980, Melbourne

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L30

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Hodgett's store
ADDRESS: Burke Street

FORMER NAME:

TITLE DETAILS:

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
MAP REFERENCE: 1A/2

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hodgett's store was built in 1924 by a Ballarat builder, Mr Brayshaw, replacing an earlier galvanised iron store. The site has significance for its associations and its landmark quality. Hodgett's store is closely associated with one of Landsborough's most influential residents, W. B. Hodgetts, an Avoca Shire councillor for forty-four years, and a man with an involvement in almost every Landsborough organisation. The store's imposing design reflects the wealth W. B. Hodgetts had accumulated during his lifetime through his involvement in milling, hotel keeping, store keeping and farming. It is one of the first commercial buildings the traveller encounters when entering the town from the north, and its prominent position on Burke Street and its substantial size have made it a local landmark.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:

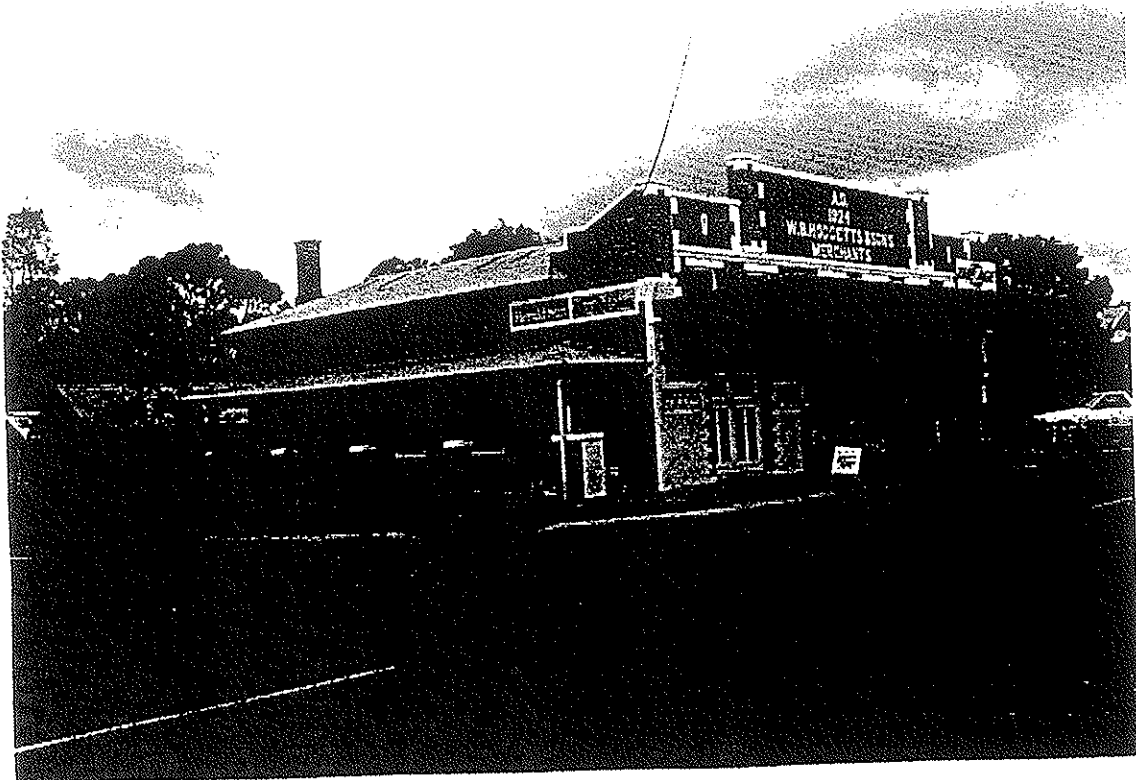
Towns (business)

BUILDING DATE

1924

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: 15/23

DATE: 4.11.93



HISTORY

W. B. Hodgetts was born in Hawthorn, Victoria in 1854, two years after his parents had migrated from Kent, England. The family travelled around the Victorian gold diggings and settled for a time at Donkey Hill near Percydale, before following the rush to Landsborough in the early 1860s. William Hodgetts senior established a store in the township and in 1869 applied for a beer licence.

W. B. Hodgetts grew up in Landsborough, and as an adult developed an entrepreneurial flair. By 1879 he and his brother were the owners of the Landsborough flour mill established in 1874. In 1888 he was also the owner of Jones Hotel in Landsborough, but was forced to surrender the hotel's victuallers license because he did not have the level of accommodation required by law. He purchased grazing land, and after his father's death in 1889, he took over the family store. He married twice and had five children and one step-daughter.

At a community level W. B. Hodgetts was connected with almost every organisation in Landsborough. He was a keen sportsman and was a particularly active member of the Landsborough Turf Club. For many years he was the honorary handicapper for the Landsborough, Avoca, Navarre and other racing clubs. In August 1881 he was elected a representative of the West Riding of the Shire of Avoca and continued to serve as a Shire councillor for the next forty-six years, filling the role of president for several terms. He was also for many years a member of the Ararat Mining Board.

The growing prosperity of farmers in the early twentieth century provided a fillip to local business, and in 1924 W. B. Hodgett commissioned a Ballarat builder, Mr Brayshaw - who in 1922 built the Landsborough public hall, to replace the Hodgett's original galvanised iron store with a larger, brick store. This was opened to the public in the same year under the name 'Hodgetts and Sons'. A newsagency and State Bank agency was attached to the store. W. B. Hodgetts died in September 1927 and the business was carried on by a daughter and two sons. Hodgett's store is now owned by W. B. Hodgett's great-nephew.

DESCRIPTION

The store is of red brick with both smooth and rough cast render trims. The cantilever awning with pressed metal lining is original as shown in early photographs. The shop has a square parapet divided into three sections by face brick piers. The render was originally all unpainted with the smooth texture of the quoin work contrasting with the rough texture used on the parapet. The shop windows and centrally placed doorway are original. The tiling on the facade is original. The doors on the north section are later additions as this originally was a chain mesh gate probably for deliveries. The hipped roof verandah at the side is original. The building reflects the use of natural materials and simple decoration characteristic of the early decades of the twentieth century. The use of the cantilevered awning displays the new technology that allowed for this structural advance. The building is a substantially intact example of a purpose built 1920s shop.

The timber shed behind the shop relates to the earlier shop on the site. The brick garage/store and the nearby brick house were both constructed in the 1920s for the Hodgetts and form part of a group of buildings relating to this site.

REFERENCES

- Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser*, 7 December 1888, 4 March 1879
Avoca Mail, 20 September 1927
Information from Nancy Friend
Landsborough Times, 29 January 1869

FILE No: L35

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Shay's Flat School
 ADDRESS: Burke Street

FORMER NAME: Burnett's Butcher's shop

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
 MAP REFERENCE: 9/19

TITLE DETAILS:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former Burnett's butchers shop first opened business in Landsborough in the 1930s after the building was transferred from Shay's Flat where it had operated as a school. The building has significance for its associations and for its representation of a characteristic activity. The building illustrates a typical recycling process which took place in rural areas once a building's original function was lost - having changed from a school to a butcher's shop to a private residence. However the building's original design as a school is still evident and it remains the only surviving structure associated with the community of Shay's Flat. Its transferral to Landsborough is indicative of the way in which small rural hamlets began to be swallowed up by larger centres from the 1930s.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

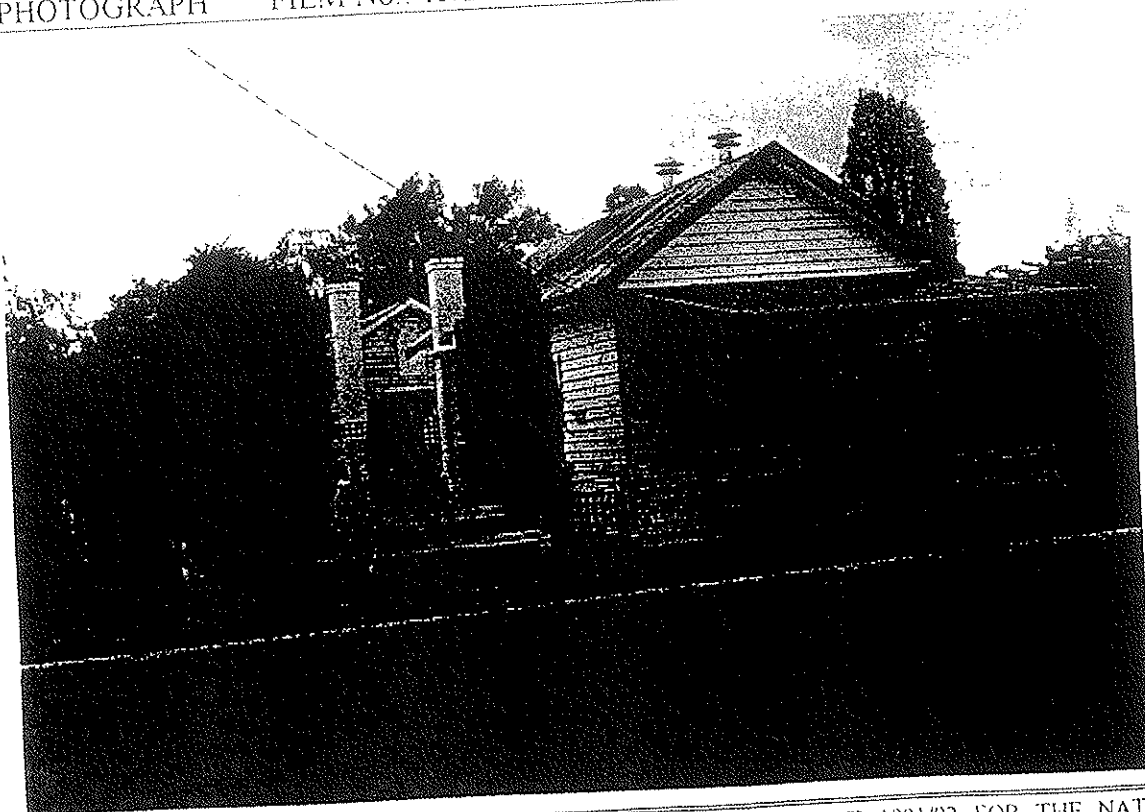
THEMES:

Towns (business)

BUILDING DATE
 c 1870s

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 15/28

DATE 4.11.93



HISTORY

Originally built as a school servicing the community of Shay's Flat, this building was purchased by Joseph Burnett, a Landsborough butcher, after its closure as a school around the 1930s. Joseph Burnett re-erected it in Burke Street, and used it as a butcher's shop. In the 1940s the business was purchased by another butcher, Lindsay Dean, who then sold the property to Owen Friend in the 1950s. During the 1960s or 1970s the building ceased to be used as a butcher's shop and became a private residence

DESCRIPTION

The existing building retains the basic form and materials typical of a single classroom school built between 1870 and 1900. The building retains two conically capped roof vents fitted to all new schools after 1899 and fitted to all existing schools after 1905. The typical school building had a porch and a turned timber finial decorated the apex of the gable. The large shop window would appear to date from its conversion to a butcher's shop in the 1930s and the straight pitched verandah supported on steel pipe posts and an open web steel truss would appear to date from the 1950s. The building retains the form, materials and some of the details of its original use as a school and the shop window illustrates its change of use.

REFERENCES

- Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance
Information from Nancy Friend
(There is no entry for Shay's Flat in *Vision and Realisation*)
Richard Peterson, *Historic Government Schools, A Comparative Study*, 1993, Heritage Victoria.
Lawrence Burchell, *Victorian Schools, A Study of Colonial Government Architecture 1837 - 1900*, 1980, Melbourne.

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L36

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Commercial Hotel
ADDRESS: Burke Street

FORMER NAME:

TITLE DETAILS:

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
MAP REFERENCE: 8/6-8

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Commercial hotel is a nineteenth century timber structure, with a brick facade added in the twentieth century. The building has significance for its age, associations and its connection with characteristic activities. The Commercial hotel is the only surviving hotel in Landsborough, and one of the few businesses to have operated continuously in the township since the nineteenth century. Its design is characteristic of a small county hotel with the brick addition representing a common attempt to modernise in the mid-twentieth century. The Commercial hotel has a close association with many Landsborough organisations which used it as the venue for their meetings, and it is of high social significance. The rabbit chiller, built at the side of the hotel in the 1940s, is a clear reminder of the huge rabbit problem that existed during this period, and the way in which the local community sought to win some return from them.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:

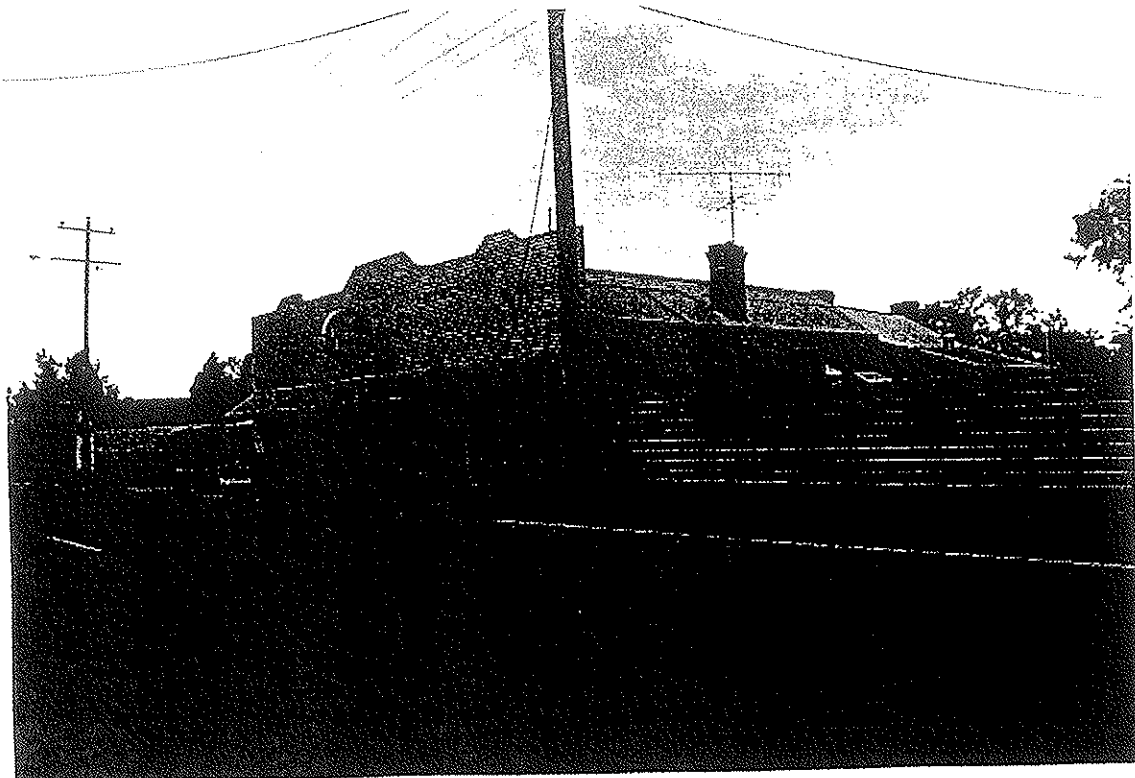
Towns (business), Community life

BUILDING DATE

1860s?

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 15/30

DATE 4.11.93



HISTORY

In 1863, Simpson and John Byrne purchased an allotment on the corner of Burke and McKinley (better known as Camp) Streets. This was the original site of Landsborough's first Commercial Hotel. It rapidly became a popular meeting place for the surrounding gold mining community, and during the new year celebrations of 1864, it was the venue for a large ball. At this time it was known as Simpson's Commercial hotel but by 1868, when another large ball was reported at the hotel, John Byrne was the sole proprietor. During this year there were five hotels operating in Landsborough and one brewery. The Commercial hotel acted as a staging post for Cobb and Co. coaches, and in 1872 John Byrne was advertising good stabling and 'every accommodation' for travellers. By 1880 John Byrne had left Landsborough and was recorded as a publican in nearby Crowlands.

The hotel was later moved its current position on Burke Street. The exact date is not known but it was certainly on the present site in 1879 when John Farrell was the publican. By 1900 there was only two hotels remaining in Landsborough - the Commercial and the Shamrock. In 1915, Mrs M. J. Hodgetts was the proprietor of the Commercial hotel but she sold to M. J. Lloyd in 1921. The hotel was a popular venue for meetings before the public hall was built in 1922. The Landsborough Turf Club, for instance, held its meetings alternately at the Commercial hotel and the Landsborough Coffee Palace.

During the late 1940s a cool room serving as rabbit chiller was built on the southern side of the hotel. Rabbits had reached plague proportions and many local men supplemented their income by rabbit trapping. Ted Ellis and Rob Vance remember that 'five bob a pair was a top price'. The rabbits were sold to a local rabbit buyer, Walter Rattray, who stored the rabbits in the cool room before transferring them to a consortium of businessmen to be sold for export.

The Commercial Hotel is the only surviving hotel in Landsborough.

DESCRIPTION

The earlier section of the building would appear to be a double gabled timber building. It is reported to have had a bull nosed verandah prior to the addition of the brick facade in the 1960s. It is probable that the hotel had a timber parapet above the verandah. The building as it stands today has a plain cream brick facade rising to a parapet with stepped brick sections at the top. A small bracketed metal awning hangs from the facade above door height. The building has three doors, two wide bar windows and a narrower double hung window. At the rear of the double gable section are other sections of the building with smaller gable roofs and skillions indicating that the building has been added to as need arose. The simply decorated brick chimneys survive. The rabbit chilling room has a weatherboard exterior with a curved roof suspended above an insulated ceiling to increase ventilation. The chiller door is a substantial framed and boarded timber door, metal lined internally, on large metal hinges. Parts of the stables appear to still exist. Although the facade has been substantially altered, much of the earlier hotel remains and the siting in the main street and collection of timber building elements are evocative of the nineteenth century hotel.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 28 October 1921
- Balliere's Victorian Directory*, 1868
- Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance
- Information from Nancy Friend
- Landsborough Times*, 6 September 1872
- Sands and McDougall's Country Directory*, 1915
- Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1884, 1900

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L39

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Aston's Butcher's Shop (former)
ADDRESS: Burke Street

FORMER NAME:

TITLE DETAILS:

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
MAP REFERENCE: 3/7

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Aston's butchers shop was built between 1891 and 1895 by Charles Aston. The building has significance for its age, contextual importance, and its associations. Aston's butchers shop represents one of Landsborough's longest surviving businesses, operating continuously as a butchers shop from the 1890s to the 1970s. It is closely associated with the Astons, a well-known local family, who have owned the shop since its construction. It gains in significance from its proximity to a number of other small shops which together contribute substantially to the early twentieth century character of Landsborough's commercial precinct.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

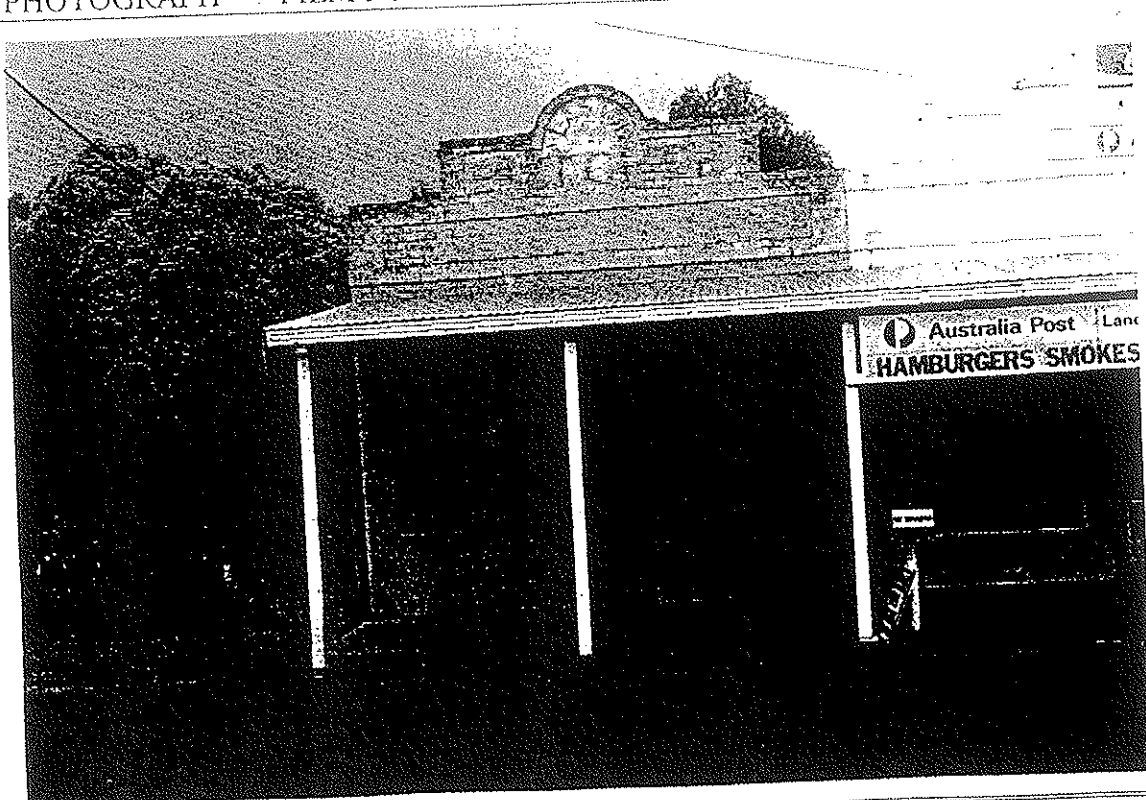
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:
Towns (business)

BUILDING DATE
1891-5

PHOTOGRAPH . FILM No.. 16/1

DATE: 4 11 93



HISTORY

Charles Aston built a butcher's shop in Burke Street, Landsborough between 1891 and 1895. Nancy Friend remembers he made his own sausages, and frequently hung sheep carcasses in the doorway of his shop in order to cut the meat with a hand saw. This proved rather a hindrance to those wanting to enter the shop. Charles Aston also owned a farm and obtained meat for his butchering business either from his own property or from other local farms. In 1900 he was one of four butchers in Landsborough. He was a well known local identity and for a period of time he served on the Avoca Shire Council. He was also the owner of the Landsborough coffee palace.

The Aston butchering business was carried on by Charles' son, Bill, who was also a farmer, and obtained meat for the shop from his own property. After Bill's death, the butchers shop was operated by his wife and two sons, Norman and Lewis. When Norman and Lewis died in the 1970s the shop was closed, although for a short period a butcher came from Stawell and sold meat at the store every Friday.

DESCRIPTION

The shop is a small face brick building, now painted, with shop windows symmetrically placed either side of the central doorway. The building has a brick parapet above the verandah line which steps in to a smaller central rectangular section with a central arched section capping the parapet. The only decoration is corbelled bricks to form edges to the name plate and the top of the parapet. The remains of the painted sign "L. Aston Butcher" can still be seen. The straight pitched street verandah appears to have been altered with an unsympathetic gutter profile and straight square verandah columns. The double arched timber windows divided into four panels are original. The building is a substantially intact example of a small brick shop. The original windows are of special interest.

REFERENCES

- Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance
- Information from Nancy Friend
- Sands and McDougall's Country Directory*, 1915
- Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1884, 1900

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L47

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Landsborough public hall
ADDRESS: Burke Street

FORMER NAME:

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
MAP REFERENCE: 12/6

TITLE DETAILS:
Section 8, Allotment 19-20

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Landsborough public hall, designed by Edmund Mulcahy, was built of locally made bricks in 1922 by J. R. Brayshaw. The building is significant for its architecture, landmark quality and associations. The Landsborough public hall is one of the few architect designed buildings in the township and its striking facade and prominent siting have made it a community landmark. The imposing design of the building is expressive of the relative prosperity enjoyed by residents in the early twentieth century and their desire to demonstrate the town's progress to the outside world. It has been at the heart of community life in Landsborough for much of this century and is closely associated with most of the town's organisations. It has high social value.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:
Community life

BUILDING DATE
1922

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 16/9

DATE 4.11.93



HISTORY

A Landsborough public hall committee was formed in 1913, and held their first meeting on 31 July 1913 in order to discuss, 'preliminary steps to raise funds for the erection of a public hall and mechanics institute.' Until this time local functions had taken place at the coffee palace, one of the town's two hotels or the Rechabite hall, but none of these provided sufficient space for large gatherings. The committee's fund raising efforts were so successful that twelve months later, in July 1914, tenders were called for the erection of the hall. However the outbreak of the First World War forced lending institutions to withdraw finance and plans for the new hall were temporarily shelved and the money invested in Commonwealth War Loans. The public hall committee meetings resumed again in 1917, and the foundation stone of the Landsborough public hall was finally laid on 15 April 1922, on a site donated by Mrs M. J. Hodgetts and Miss Dow.

The hall was built of locally made brick and was designed by a Melbourne architect and an ex-resident of Landsborough, Edmund Mulcahy. J. R. Brayshaw of Ballarat did the brick work while W. Butterworth, also of Ballarat, was responsible for the carpentry and C. Collins, W. Cairne and A. Cox, under the instructions of W. B. Radley of Ararat, completed the plaster work. The total cost of the building amounted to £1,750. The Landsborough public hall was officially opened in November 1922. The opening was celebrated by a sports gathering in the afternoon followed by a minstrel and dramatic entertainment and dance in the evening.

The Landsborough Public Hall was widely used for a variety of functions including concerts, flower shows, dances, travelling shows, scout meetings, bowling club meetings and even hookey tournaments. A new section, overlooking the bowling green was added in 1966 to provide extra space for a supper room. After the construction of a community complex at the recreation reserve during the 1980s, the hall was not used so frequently as in the past.

DESCRIPTION

The Landsborough public hall is a heavily massed composition in rendered brickwork. The render facade has survived unpainted and its decoration relies on the contrast between smooth and roughcast render and the modelling of the elements. The facade is a composition of two parapeted pavilions flanking a central colonnade of round headed arches on square columns. Above this is a raking parapet with a central square panel enclosing a recessed ellipse. Each pavilion has a centrally placed timber window with the western being a single window and the eastern being a pair of double hung windows. This is odd given the strict symmetry of the overall design. The use of unpainted render and the decoration being confined to panels, arches and ellipses is characteristic of the early twentieth century use of materials in their natural state and the movement away from applied decoration. The building design refers to medieval architecture with the use of the arcade and the reference to a blind arcade in the parapet. The western side of the hall is obscured by the 1966 extensions in red face brick.

The building has a monumental character which echoes, on a smaller scale, such contemporary structures as the Arch of Victory at Ballarat, the Mission to Seaman, Port Melbourne, and the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 14 November 1922
- Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance
- Information from Nancy Friend
- Landsborough public hall committee minutes, 31 July 1913-25 January 1917 (In the possession of Nancy Friend)

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L48

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough
 NAME: Former London Chartered Bank
 ADDRESS: Burke Street
 FORMER NAME:

TITLE DETAILS:
 Section 3, Allotment 22

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
 MAP REFERENCE: 4/7

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The former London Chartered Bank was built in 1863 during the Landsborough gold rushes. Although substantially altered the building has significance for its age and associations. The former London Chartered Bank is one of the oldest buildings in Landsborough, and possibly the only commercial building to date from the town's early gold rush days. Its simple design is representative of a period when buildings were erected quickly to service a transitory mining community which offered no guarantee of permanency. The building's function as a bank and gold buying agency, handling much of the wealth generated by the area's gold rushes, strengthens its connection with the town's early history. The former London Chartered Bank also has significance for its later function as a post office when it was the main communication centre for the township.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

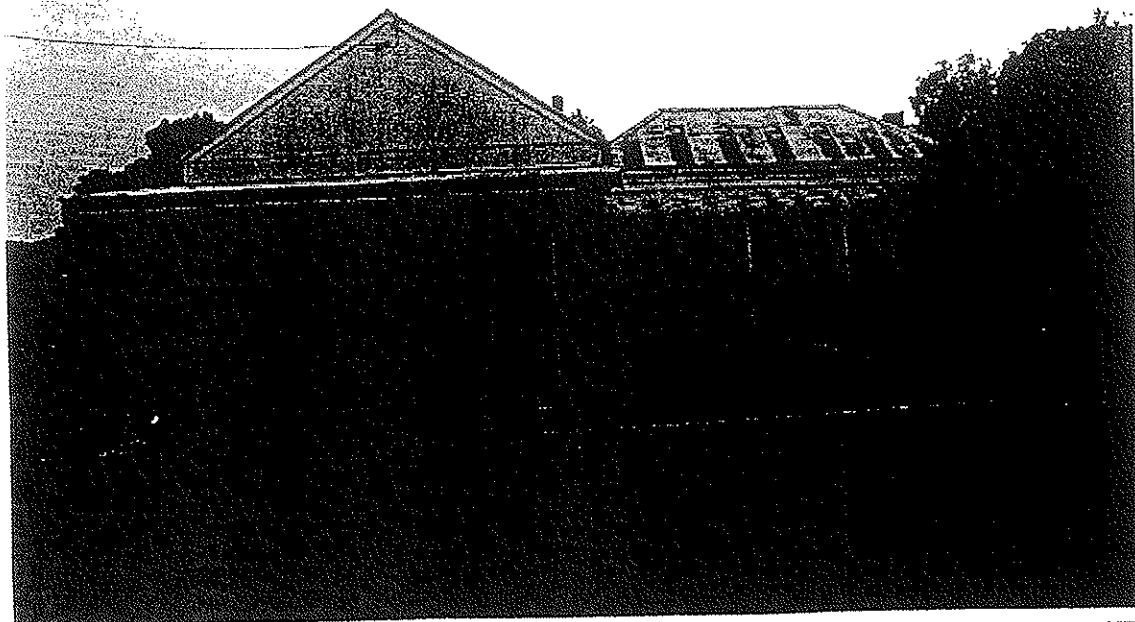
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:
 Towns (business)

BUILDING DATE
 1862-3

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No : 16/15

DATE: 4.11.93



HISTORY

The London Chartered Bank purchased an allotment in Burke Street in one of the township's first land sales on the 15 September 1863. However it is likely the bank already had premises on the site from at least as early as April 1863 when it was reported in the *Ararat Advertiser* that a stolen cheque had been cashed at the Landsborough London Chartered Bank. During this period gold mining was still the primary occupation of most residents, with 1,328 ounces leaving the township by escort in March 1863, and the bank did good business. However by the 1870s gold yields had fallen away, and in 1872 the acting-manager of the London Chartered Bank, P. H. Callen, was advertising in the *Landsborough Times*: 'Gold purchased at the highest market price, or forwarded for assay'

Nevertheless the fortunes of the bank declined until it was finally closed in 1879. The Landsborough correspondent wrote to the *Ararat Advertiser*, expressing the disappointment of local residents:

All is consternation in this quarter. We are suddenly notified that our branch of the London Chartered Bank will close its doors to all its customers at the end of the present month. The effect of such a startling announcement can be well understood, when your readers are informed that the above bank is our only one, and the only one within twenty-three miles.

After its closure at the end of March 1879, the bank building was purchased by W. H. Puddicombe who had migrated to Australia from England in 1852 and settled in Landsborough in 1862. He eventually took over his brother-in-law's (J. E. Andrew's) business and established a stationary and general store, in addition to a post office, in the old bank building. W. H. Puddicombe was officially appointed post master in 1882 and also served as warden's clerk, clerk of petty sessions, electoral registrar, registrar of births and death, and deputy mining registrar

After Puddicombe's death in 1908 the business was purchased by John Friend and operated by him and his sister Jemima. John Friend married in 1913, at which time the residence at the back of the building was erected. The Friends eventually closed the store but continued to run the post office which in later years also offered a Commonwealth Savings Bank agency and a telephone exchange. John Friend's daughter, Nancy Friend, assisted in the post office and remembers:

Mails were made up each morning for Avoca and St Arnaud, and each afternoon for Stawell. In the afternoon mail would come in from St Arnaud and Avoca. Avoca was our main centre for many years... The war years (1939-45) were busy years. Petrol ration tickets were a lot of work (and) mails were very heavy, especially when our local welfare group would arrive with between fifty and sixty parcels for our men on active service... The telephone exchange was very busy as there were not many folk who had the phone connected. Most of our calls were hooked through Stawell, and a call to Melbourne was something!

In March 1947 the post office business was transferred to Mr and Mrs Turner but the old bank building and residence remained the property of the Friend family. It is now a private residence

DESCRIPTION

The building as it stands today is a gable roofed rectangular building with the walls clad in cement sheeting. The building has a straight pitched verandah supported on a metal lattice truss and thin pipe poles. The major feature of the facade is the two light timber window which gives the clue to its original style and age. The window has flat arched headed lights and the lights are separated by a rounded muntin. All that remains visible is the building form and the one window.

The attached residence was built in 1912 and is a characteristic timber Victorian villa with a central doorway and flanking symmetrically placed timber double hung windows. The house has a bull nosed verandah supported on timber posts with cast iron frieze and brackets for decoration

REFERENCES

Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser, 24 April 1863, 14 March 1879
Information from Nancy Friend
Landsborough Times, 6 September 1872
Victoria and its Metropolis

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L49

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: St Johns Church of England

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: Burke St

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township

MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St Johns Church of England is a timber structure built in 1904 by James Irwin. It has significance for its associations and aesthetic qualities.

St Johns has provided a focal point for religious life in Landsborough for ninety years and has high social value. The memorial stained glass window is a feature and is widely known for its aesthetic qualities. The church is an integral part of the main streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (church)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 16/12

BUILDING DATE: 1904

DATE 14 11 93



HISTORY

The present Church of England was built in 1904 to the design of architect, James Irwin of Ararat. The builder was J C Law from Ballarat. The dedication service of the new church was held in November 1904 and the *Ararat Advertiser* reported:

the building which is a very handsome structure was filled to overflowing, many of the congregation present having travelled great distances. The Bishop...complimented the residents of the district in erecting such a splendid place of worship in their midst.

A magnificent stained glass window was given to the church by the Ingram family in 1919 in memory of their son, Private John Ingram, who was killed during the War. The window was unveiled as part of Landsborough's Peace Day celebration in July 1919. The celebration took the form of a procession followed by a picnic, and the church was then crowded with people to witness the unveiling of the memorial window.

DESCRIPTION

St John's was originally a timber clad building with a nave, chancel, side entry porch and vestry to one side of the nave.

The nave is a simple rectangle divided into four bays by stepped buttresses with a pointed arched window in the centre of each bay. The chancel is a smaller gable roofed section attached to the back of the larger gable roofed nave. The porch and vestry are gable roofed sections which intersect at right angles with the nave. The nave has triangular roof ventilators with the vents cut to a trefoil shape. Both the nave and chancel have three pointed arch windows with the central window rising higher than the flanking window. These and the one of the side windows have stained glass. The other windows have simple timber glazing bars dividing the windows into eight panes. The doors to the porch, nave and vestry are pointed arched in shape clad in vertical boarding.

The gable ends of the nave, porch and vestry are marked with turned timber trusses with vertical board infills and terminating in finials. The front gable finial is in the shape of a Celtic cross, half of which is now missing.

The church is now covered in imitation brick cladding which detracts from the original simple timber Gothic design.

REFERENCES

Ararat Advertiser, 1 November 1904, 24 July 1919
Church of England Minute Books, 1904-37, Nancy Friend

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L59

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: Police station/residence
ADDRESS: McKinley Street

FORMER NAME:

TITLE DETAILS:

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
MAP REFERENCE: 16/6A

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The police station/residence was probably built in 1862 in response to the need for police protection during the Landsborough gold rushes. The building has significance because of its age, associations and contextual importance. It is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Landsborough and has remained in continuous use as a police station since its establishment 132 years ago. It has a strong association with the area's early gold mining history. The location of the building on a hill overlooking the township indicates the original need for the police camp to be clearly visible and separate from the confusion of the gold diggings. It also has symbolic significance, representing the centre of law and order as elevated and removed from everyday concerns. The police station/residence is the only surviving building on the reserve which once included a court house and jail, although it is in close proximity to three other important Landsborough buildings, the Catholic church, presbytery and state school, which together form a small 'Camp hill' precinct.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local
RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:

Community life

BUILDING DATE

1862?

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No 16/21

DATE 4.11.93



HISTORY

The first reports of the Landsborough gold rushes appeared in the newspapers on 9 September 1862 and by 20 September 1862 it was estimated there were 9,000 diggers on the field. Warden F. A. Powlett had arrived early in the rush and established a police station on 25 September 1862 on an elevated piece of land which was quickly given the name Camp Hill and was later part of a 'reserve for public buildings'. The road leading up to the police station was popularly known as Camp Street - although it was officially designated McKinley Street. As the population continued to increase, reaching an estimated 12,000 in October 1862, there were calls for greater police protection. On 3 October 1862, a newspaper correspondent wrote:

We have been favoured with a few members of the Police, and, as far as I could learn, a larger number are on their way here: the increase in population warrants an addition.

By the end of the month a court house had also been erected on Camp Hill and a new police magistrate and warden, Mr W. Butler, had arrived from Buckland. In 1862 a portable house for the use of the police was erected in Landsborough. In 1866 repairs were carried out to the police building and further repairs and painting were undertaken in 1878/79 and 1883/4. In 1898/9 the office on the side of the building was added and further repairs carried out. The stables and forage store were built in 1901/2. Further additions were made to the building in 1924/25. In 1930 the police residence was described as a five roomed dwelling with a slate roof and was in fair order. The interior required renovation. The five rooms were all said to be plastered and papered and lined ceilings. The bathroom had an iron bath and shower and there was a washhouse with a copper and two cement troughs. There was a two stall stable, lockup and two cells in fair order the weatherboard office and one W.C.

As gold yields declined and Landsborough made the transition into a settled community, there was no longer such a need for police protection, and the number of police stationed at Landsborough was reduced. By 1900 the post office directory lists only one policeman in Landsborough, Constable Stowell Marshall. The court house and a small jail were eventually demolished but the police station remained and still continues in use as a police station.

DESCRIPTION

The building is of weatherboard with a hipped corrugated iron roof. The roof cladding appears to be an alteration given the 1930 report of a slate roof. The building was originally of a symmetrical design with a central front door and two flanking double hung timber windows. The room on the eastern side of the building is the office added in 1898/90. The concave curved roof verandah supported on timber posts was extended at this time to match the original hipped roof verandah. The drawings show that the verandah was supported on paired timber posts. The existing posts are single. The kitchen is a separate room to the rear of the building and may have been detached when originally constructed but has been incorporated into the main building by additions over time. The building has brick chimneys

The brick chimneys and the M roof configuration indicate that the building was constructed on this site and either replaced the first portable building or incorporated the portable within a new roof during the alterations of the 1860s. The building is characteristic in plan and detail to other police residences constructed in the 1860s.

REFERENCES

- Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser*, 3 October 1862, 31 October 1862
- Bullier's Victorian Directory*, 1868
- Chief Commissioner of Police, Publicity Officer to Nancy Friend, 17 May 1961
- Information from Ted Ellis and Rob Vance
- N Fittock, *Golden Days - Landsborough Centenary, 1862-1962*
- Information from Nancy Friend
- Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1884, 1900
- Ararat and Pleasant Creek Advertiser*, 3 October 1862, 31 October 1862

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: L61

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough

NAME: St Francis Catholic church
ADDRESS: McKinley Street

FORMER NAME:

TITLE DETAILS:

MAP NAME: Landsborough Township
MAP REFERENCE: 16/4

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St Francis Catholic church was built in 1887. The building has significance because of its associations and contextual importance. The substantial size and prominent location of St Francis Catholic church demonstrates the numerical strength of Landsborough's Catholic population in the nineteenth century. It is in close proximity to three other buildings - the police station/residence, the state school, and the presbytery - which together form a small 'Camp Hill' precinct of significant buildings.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:
Community life (churches)

BUILDING DATE
1887

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 16/23

DATE: 4.11.93



HISTORY

There was already a strong Catholic population in Landsborough in the early gold rush period of the 1860s when a Catholic non-vested school was erected in the township. Church services may have been held in this or later school rooms, or in private homes, but the community did not have the benefit of regular visits by a Catholic priest. By 1883 Landsborough was part of the Ararat parish and was classified as a mission station (as were Moonambel and Redbank), receiving irregular visits from a priest for up to a week at a time.

During this period, fund raising began for the erection of a church, and on 20 August 1886 William Chaffer invited tenders for a new Catholic church to be built of brick. The church was completed in the following year and was opened on 15 May 1887, at a ceremony performed by the Right Reverend Dr Moore. It was named the church of St Francis of Assisi.

Over the ensuing years countless fund raising activities revolved around the church. For instance in April 1913, J. W. Pennington, MLA, opened the Landsborough Catholic bazaar designed to raise funds for additions to the church. By 1917 Catholicism was so strong in the area that Landsborough was chosen as the centre for a new mission. The Landsborough mission included townships that had previously been part of neighbouring parishes such as Navarre, Crowlands and Elmhurst (formerly part of the Ararat parish) and Redbank and Moonambel (formerly part of the St Arnaud parish). A resident priest was appointed to the town in the person of the Rev. Father Barrett, and a brick presbytery was built behind the church in 1917.

DESCRIPTION

The church is of a rudimentary Gothic style with a nave of five bays, a entry porch and a side transept which may have been the addition to the church in the early 1900s. Each nave is marked by buttresses and has a central lancet window. The church has a gabled roof now clad in corrugated iron with conically capped ventilators along the ridge. The apex of the gable parapets are marked by a cross.

The building was originally face brick with render trims to the windows and render caps to the buttresses. The brickwork is now painted.

The west facing porch is centrally placed on the facade with a centrally placed lancet window with render quoins and a render mould which finishes in round render bosses. The gable end is corbelled and the apex marked by a cross. The entry doors are at the side of the porch. Above the porch in the main gable end is a lancet shaped ventilator.

REFERENCES

Ararat Advertiser, 20 August 1886, 10 May 1887, 29 April 1913
Melbourne Diocesan Archives, Annual Directories, 1883, 1887

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough
NAME: Naracoorte, Kelly's and Powers Reefs
ADDRESS: 4 km north of Landsborough, on the
east side of the Landsborough-
Moonambel Rd
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: 895 056

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Naracoorte, Kelly's and Power's Reefs were probably first opened up in the 1860s. The Naracoorte Reef was more extensively mined in the late 1880s. The site has significance for its associations and contextual importance. The Naracoorte Reef site is one of the few surviving examples of quartz mining in the Landsborough area and the variety of features on the site illustrates the operations of a quartz mine. The intact nature of the adit, in particular, clearly documents this type of mining. The solidly constructed roadway to the mine is a notable feature and a reminder of the importance of accessibility particularly when transporting quartz for crushing.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 4/26-31

DATE: c 1880s
DATE: 10.9.93



HISTORY

In December 1866 the centre of mining at Landsborough had shifted north where a number of leads and patches of rich gold had been found, the principal location being known as the Cambrian Lead. This lead was worked by some 800 miners and traced in a south-westerly direction for a distance of three kilometres. It was hoped, that the Cambrian Lead would eventually lead its followers to the main Landsborough Lead. Unfortunately this was never proven since the Cambrian Lead dropped suddenly to a deep floor where it was impossible to follow on account of the water.

Like Paul's Lead, Snake Lead and Maloney's Lead, the Cambrian Lead originated in the Blue Mountain Range of the Pyrenees. A number of quartz reefs had already been discovered here but had been mined with only limited success. Alluvial mining always appeared to take precedence over quartz mining in the Barkly Mining Division. The first mining statistics recorded for the division in July 1862 show 3,671 alluvial miners and only 50 quartz miners. However there was a brief revival of interest in quartz mining in 1869. In this year the Mining Surveyor reported that a considerable extent of ground had been taken up on various lines of abandoned reefs including Powys (Powers?) Reef. Five quartz mining companies were at work, chiefly on the Blue Mountain range, and together employed twenty men. It may well have been during this period that the small cluster of reefs - Naracoorte, Powers and Kelly's - near the head of the Cambrian Lead, were first extensively worked.

Both quartz and alluvial mining in the Barkly division were in depression during the 1870s but there was some renewed activity in the late 1880s. Aided by funds from the government, considerable prospecting took place and there was some interest shown in both the Powys (Powers?) Reef and the Wimmera Reef near Landsborough. Companies were formed to work the reefs and it is probably during this period that the Naracoorte Reef, near Powys Reef was opened up. A main shaft was sunk and an adit driven into the hill. The best result the mine achieved was 20 oz 4 dwts of gold from a crushing of 29 tons of quartz.

The Naracoorte mine appears to have ceased operation by the 1890s. It may have been re-opened for a short period during the 1930s but with limited success.

DESCRIPTION

The Naracoorte, Kelly's and Power's Reefs were probably first opened up in the 1860s. The Naracoorte Reef was more extensively mined in the late 1880s.

There is a largely intact open adit retaining all its timber supports. Nearby are several open shafts with the remains of mullock heaps. There is a well constructed road way leading up to the site.

In the surrounding locality a number of other shafts can be found. These may be associated with Powers or Kelly's reefs. The main workings appear to be related to the Naracoorte Reef.

REFERENCES

- Letter, James Flett to Nancy Friend, n.d.
Bannear, Barkly (Landsborough) Goldfield, History, 1994
Mining Surveyor's Reports, December 1866, December 1867, December 1868, December 1889
J. J. Caldwell, Geological Survey of Victoria, Landsborough map, 1927

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:
 Freehold and Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough
 NAME: Malakoff water race and alluvial diggings
 ADDRESS: West side of Elmhurst-Landsborough
 Road, 7.5 kms south-east of
 Landsborough
 MAP NAME: Crowlands North
 MAP REFERENCE: 938 940

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Malakoff Lead was first rushed in 1856 and was extensively re-worked in the 1860s. The Malakoff water race and alluvial diggings have significance for their associations, rarity and contextual importance.

The Malakoff water race is a rare surviving example of the unofficial water races which were once common throughout the Shire's goldfields, but have since largely disappeared. The effort expended in its construction reflects the crucial role played by water in the process of re-working old ground by puddling and sluicing. The dredge dam is a reminder that this process continued into the twentieth century. The diggings represents one of the few alluvial goldfields to survive in the Shire from the 1850s. Their prominent location close to the Elmhurst-Landsborough Road makes them a landscape feature and an integral part of the Shire's mining environment. The site is closely associated with the Malakoff Lead site on the opposite side of the road and they should be considered together.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: 1860s

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 4/17-22

DATE: 10.9.93



HISTORY

In February 1856 the *Age* wrote that there had been a 'rush to new ground from Fiery Creek to what is likely to be an important diggings, four miles from Crowlands'. The new ground was named the Malakoff Lead, presumably after the battle of the Malakoff at Sebastopol in the Crimea which had been reported in Melbourne in 1855. After the initial rush the lead was traced north down the valley and another rich patch was opened in 1858, and called the Glasgow Lead. In 1862 this led to the discovery of the rich Landsborough Lead and the establishment of the township of Landsborough.

During the 1860s the population of the Shire became more settled and although some miners continued the risky business of prospecting and following new discoveries, the majority were content to re-work the shallow sections of the old leads. This involved both puddling and sluicing, although the machinery statistics supplied by the mining registrar for the Barkly (Landsborough) Division shows that sluicing became the main technology - in June 1864 the registrar listed 40 puddlers/50 sluices and toms for the division, and in December 1865 the ratio had changed to 28 puddlers/125 toms and 26 sluice boxes.

Sluicing and puddling required water, and races were frequently constructed to transport water from a water course or existing dam to the alluvial gold workings. In 1868 over twenty-two miles of water races had been constructed in the Avoca mining subdivision alone.

Puddling and sluicing continued in the Malakoff area for much of the nineteenth century. In 1937 the Malakoff Alluvial Company (originally the Avoca Development Company) began sluicing gold from the Malakoff Lead. It also sluiced the upper and shallower parts of the Landsborough Lead. The company finally ceased operation in 1951.

DESCRIPTION

The Malakoff Lead was first rushed in 1856 and was extensively re-worked in the 1860s

Site 1: Water race

A water race, known locally as the 'Chinese Water Race', snakes along the side of the Malakoff Creek gully (dry) on freehold land for over a kilometre. Its design demonstrates the care taken to follow the land's gradient, ensuring that water would flow down the race even around steep slopes. It eventually terminates in the midst of the Malakoff diggings. The race has been badly weathered but is still clearly discernible.

Site 2: Dredge dam

A large dredge dam was probably built to cater for the Malakoff Alluvial Company in 1937

Site 3: Alluvial diggings

On the western side of the Elmhurst-Landsborough Road within the Malakoff Historic Reserve is a broad expanse of shallow sinkings. The workings are relatively free of scrub and are visible from the road.

Site 4: Machinery footings

There are the remains of concrete machinery footings close to the alluvial diggings.

REFERENCES

- R. Brough Smyth, *The Goldfields and Mineral Districts of Victoria*, Melbourne, 1869, p. 548
Deep Lead Gold Deposits of Victoria, Canavan, 1988, *Bulletin 62*
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 447
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1864, December 1865, September 1866

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all financial transactions.

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN L4

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough
NAME: Malakoff Lead
ADDRESS: East side of Elmhurst-Landsborough Road, 7.5 kms south-east of Landsborough
MAP NAME: Crowlands North, 937 951,
MAP REFERENCE: 935 951, 933 956, 931 959

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Malakoff Lead was first rushed in 1856 and was extensively re-worked in the 1860s. It was sluiced by the Malakoff Alluvial Company sometime between 1937-51. The site is comprised of puddlers, ground sluices, cement workings, shallow sinkings and the Malakoff Alluvial treatment site and associated slum and sluice holes.

The site has significance for its rarity, associations, characteristic qualities and contextual value. The Malakoff Lead documents the process of re-working old ground by puddling and sluicing and is closely associated with this phase of mining in the 1860s. The range of features on the site are typical of those constructed for puddling and sluicing although it is rare to find so many intact on the one site. Later sluicing techniques are illustrated in the remains of the Malakoff Alluvial Company's treatment plant, indicating the continued re-working of the site into the mid twentieth century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Recommendation for addition to the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No :

DATE: c. 1856-1951

DATE:

HISTORY

In February 1856 the Age wrote that there had been a 'rush to new ground from Fiery Creek to what is likely to be an important diggings, four miles from Crowlands. The new ground was named the Malakoff Lead, presumably after the battle of the Malakoff at Sebastopol in the Crimea which had been reported in Melbourne in 1855. After the initial rush the lead was traced north down the valley and another rich patch was opened in 1858, and called the Glasgow Lead. In 1862 this led to the discovery of the rich Landsborough Lead and the establishment of the township of Landsborough.

During the 1860s the population of the Shire became more settled and although some miners continued the risky business of prospecting and following new discoveries, the majority were content to re-work the shallow sections of the old leads. This involved both puddling and sluicing, although the machinery statistics supplied by the mining registrar for the Barkly (Landsborough) Division shows that sluicing became the main technology - in June 1864 the registrar listed 40 puddlers/50 sluices and toms for the division, and in December 1865 the ratio had changed to 28 puddlers/125 toms and 26 sluice boxes.

Puddling and sluicing continued in the Malakoff area for much of the nineteenth century. In 1937 the Malakoff Alluvial Company (originally the Avoca Development Company) began sluicing gold from the Malakoff Lead. It also sluiced the upper and shallower parts of the Landsborough Lead. The company finally ceased operation in 1951.

DESCRIPTION

The boundaries of the site are those of the Malakoff Historic Reserve (Land Conservation Council).

Site 1: Puddler and shallow sinkings

At the southern end of the Historic Reserve at the east side of the channel, is a weathered 20 foot diameter puddler. It is just possible to distinguish the inner mound from the puddling trench. The puddler's outlet channel is visible. Water for the puddler probably came from a higher water race. On the slope (east) above the puddler is a network of raised ground sluices which come off a north-south running water race. Another patch of ground sluicing survives near the Reserve's southern boundary fence.

Site 2: Cement workings

Above the ground sluicing is an open cut, two weathered puddlers and associated pebble dumps. The pebble dumps are approximately 10 metres wide, 2 metres high and have faint dumping lines. Above the puddlers are at least two dams (connected by a short race) and some well defined ground sluices

Site 3: Malakoff Alluvial (originally Avoca Development Company)

The treatment plant foundations can still be seen and consists of a 30 square feet of concrete floor containing four concrete mounting beds and a 28 feet long pit. The largest of the mounting beds measures 16 feet x 9 feet, stands 1 foot high and has 1 ½ inch bolts. On the north-west corner of the slab is an 8 foot diameter concrete vat. There is also a 6 foot diameter brick vat on the north-east corner. An underground culvert runs east from the brick vat and connects to a by-pass channel coming from a large breached embankment. The by-pass channel runs north for approximately 200 metres to a large intact slum pond. There is also a large sluice hole now full of water.

Site 4: Sluice hole

There is another sluice hole approximately 400 metres to the north of the treatment site. The hole is silted and covered by reeds. Downstream from the silted hole is a network of three shallow slum ponds. Between the two sluice holes is a band of well defined shallow sinkings.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Ararat Mining Division* (Barkly or Landsborough Goldfield), Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, November 1994
Deep Lead Gold Deposits of Victoria, Canavan, 1988, *Bulletin 62*
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 447
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1864, December 1865, September 1866

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No. Area 3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel Township
NAME: Moonambel Township
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS:
MAP NAME:
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Moonambel township was surveyed less than a month after the discovery of gold in November 1860, and in October 1861 the Municipal District of Moonambel was proclaimed. By 1865 it had consolidated into a modest mining township with a population of three hundred. The area has significance for its influence and associations.

The Moonambel township possesses a range of buildings reflecting the post-alluvial gold rush period of the later nineteenth century. The defined area includes smaller precincts of commercial, educational and religious buildings, which contribute to the significance of the larger precinct. These include:

A section of Brooke Street in which many of the remaining commercial and residential buildings in Moonambel are concentrated.

The religious and educational precinct of Humffray Street to the south of the main street.

The area also includes Mountain Creek, the site of the alluvial diggings which lead to the formation of the township.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenee's Planning Scheme

HISTORY

On a mission to discover the most direct route between Adelaide and the Mount Alexander diggings for the South Australian gold escort, Alexander Tolmer, described passing through a gap in the Pyrenees and camping the night in the valley beyond, 'in the heart of the mountains'. When gold was discovered here in November 1860 Tolmer's camping place became the site of the new township of Moonambel, said to be an Aboriginal word for 'hollow in the hills', although it was originally known as Mountain Creek.

The township was surveyed less than a month after the discovery of gold in November 1860 and in January 1861 it was reported, 'The Main or High Street is already progressing and scores of substantial buildings are being erected regardless of expense, every one in business seems to feel a confidence in this place'. In September 1861 a successful petition in support of a municipality was arranged by residents concerned to safeguard the townships pre-eminence in the face of rushes to Redbank and Barkly and in October 1861 the Municipal District of Moonambel was proclaimed. Over the next three years elected councillors vigorously sought improvements for the area before the municipality finally amalgamated with the Avoca Shire in 1864.

By 1865 Moonambel had consolidated into a modest mining township with a population of about three hundred. Moonambel's businesses spread out in a long line along Brooke Street and this became the main commercial thoroughfare. Moonambel acted as an administrative centre for the surrounding locality and the police camp occupied a central section of the commercial precinct comprising a police residence/station, a weatherboard lock up and a courthouse. with a court of petty session and wardens court.

In Humffray Street, parallel to Brooke Street, a remarkably self contained religious and educational precinct developed with the State School [M22], Methodist church [M23], Church of England [M24], and Roman Catholic church [M25] all occupying adjacent sites.

DESCRIPTION

The area is bounded by Mountain Creek to the north, the east boundary being Grant Street, the west boundary being Wood Street and the south boundary being the allotments on the south side of Humffray Street.

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p 43
L. J. Blake, *The Gold Escort*, Hawthorn Press, 1971, p 43
Bailliere's Victorian Gazetteer, 1865

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN LI

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Landsborough
NAME: Cambrian Lead alluvial diggings
ADDRESS: 4 kms north of Landsborough, off
Landsborough-Moonambel Rd
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: 893 059

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cambrian Lead was opened up in November 1866
It has significance for its associations, influence and contextual importance
The Cambrian Lead is closely associated with Landsborough's gold rush era. It has historical importance as the rush that secured the township's future just as it was facing a mass exodus of miners
The location of the deep sinkings on grazed freehold land makes them clearly visible. They are an important and evocative reminder of Landsborough's mining heritage

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 4/25

DATE: 1866-7
DATE: 10.9.93



HISTORY

In 1863 mining in the Landsborough area had been described as 'cooked' but such pessimism was misplaced. Between 1864 and 1869 an entirely new series of leads were discovered north of the township, the most important being the Cambrian lead. On 27 November 1866, the *Ararat Advertiser* reported:

'The cry is still they come.' From all quarters numbers of diggers are flocking in to the great rush, the Cambrian Lead, which never looked better than at the present moment, the bottoming of golden holes being of daily occurrence; it is estimated that there are upwards of 1,000 miners engaged in sinking and shepherding.

This Cambrian Lead was traced in a south-westerly direction for a distance of three kilometres. It was hoped, that it would eventually lead its followers to the main Landsborough Lead. Unfortunately this was never proven since the Cambrian Lead dropped suddenly to a deep floor where it was impossible to follow on account of the water.

DESCRIPTION

The Cambrian Lead was opened up in November 1866. The shafts are located on freehold land

A band of deep sinkings runs down from the foot hills of the Blue Mountain Range and crosses freehold land. The mullock heaps have been partially removed.

REFERENCES

Ararat Advertiser, 27 November 1866

Mining Surveyor's Reports, December 1866, December 1867, December 1868

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Tanwood

NAME: Tanwood church
FORMER NAME: Holy Trinity (first church)
ADDRESS: Moonambel Rd

MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 118021

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tanwood church was built in c 1960. It has significance for its rarity and associations.

The Tanwood church is a rare example of a church built using private funds during the post-war period. At a time when falling attendances were forcing the closure of churches throughout Victoria, it demonstrates local resistance to this trend. The church is closely associated with the Williams family, the first settlers in the Tanwood area, and along with the school pine plantation, it provides one of the only remaining signs that the settlement of Tanwood ever existed.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

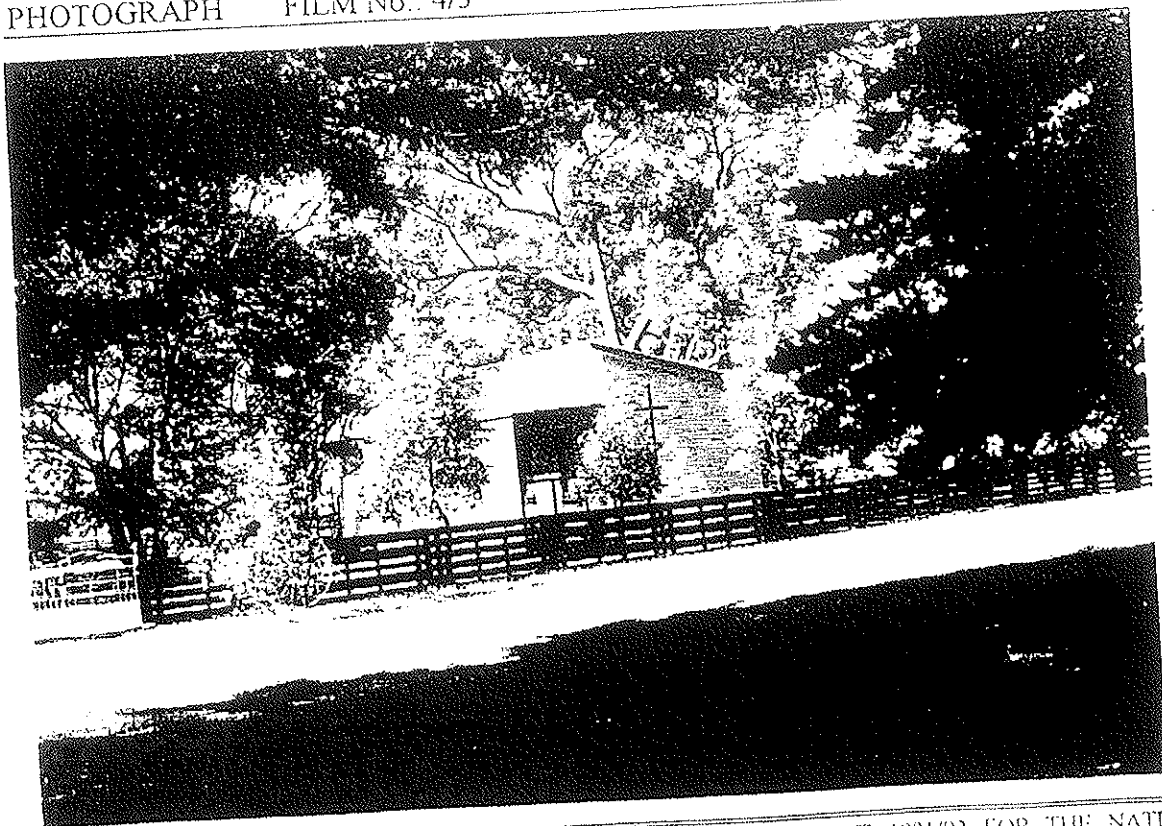
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 4/3

BUILDING DATE: c. 1960

DATE: 28 8 93



HISTORY

Under the 1865 Land Act, a free selector, Daniel Williams was successful in obtaining one hundred acres of land on which he planned to grow tobacco and vines, although both proved unsuccessful and he eventually turned to grain and wool growing.

Due to the great number of wattle trees in the area which were stripped of their bark to be used in the tanning process, he named his property Tanwood. As more land was selected the whole area became known as Tanwood and eventually boasted a school and a small weatherboard church, located adjacent to the school. The church had originally been erected at Percydale but was shifted to Tanwood between 1917 and 1924 when Canon F. C. Reynolds was the vicar.

During the post-war period the population of the area declined, and despite intense local opposition, the Anglican diocese chose to sell the church. In response, two descendants of the original Daniel Williams, E. D. and T. W. Williams, built a new brick church, using much of their own money. The church operated for some years before it was finally sold as a private residence

DESCRIPTION

The Tanwood Church is a simple cream brick church of rectangular plan with a skillion roof. The building has narrow rectangular windows down the side. The only decoration on the building is the cross marked in the end wall in contrasting brickwork.

The church is a simple and unusual design for a church. It is also unusual in that few churches were built in the country after the Second World War, especially in areas of declining population

REFERENCES

- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 71
- Information from Eulalie Driscoll and Tom Wright
- Information from Keith Farnsworth
- Information from Ivan Redpath

FILE No: M3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:
 RS 6271

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
 NAME: Moonambel police residence and lockup
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Brooke St
 MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

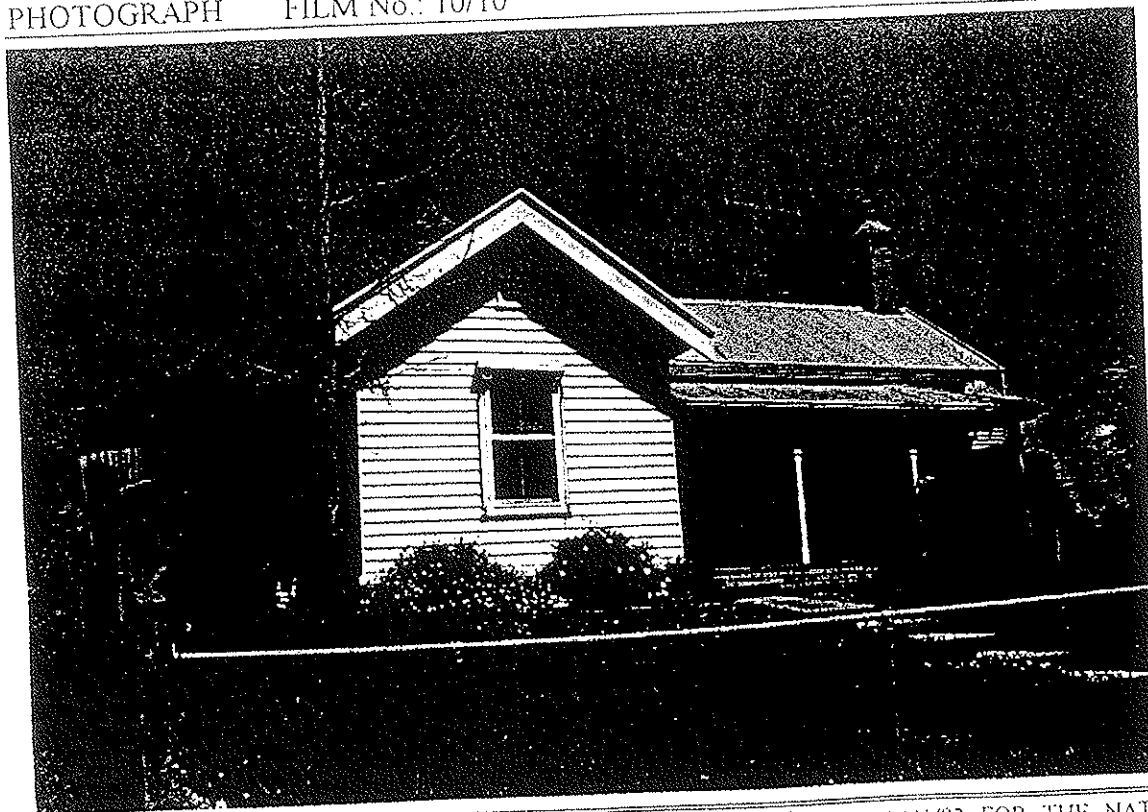
The lockup, is a timber structure dating from the 1860s. It is built behind the police residence constructed in 1880. They have significance for their architectural interest, associations, characteristic qualities and contextual importance. The lockup is typical of the portable lockups which were frequently used on the Victorian goldfields in the 1850s and 1860s, reflecting the highly mobile nature of the gold mining population. It has architectural interest for its solid timber construction with steel bars running through the walls, ceiling and floor. The design of the former police residence is characteristic of police buildings in the 1880s, and it contributes to the nineteenth century character of the Moonambel streetscape. Together the lockup and the police station/residence are important material reminder of the role played by the police in enforcing law and order in the mining towns of the nineteenth century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (law and order)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 10/10

BUILDING DATE: c. 1860s, 1880
 DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

Miners were at work at Moonambel, originally known as Mountain Creek, as early as September 1860, and by 21 December 1860 it was estimated there were between 10,000 to 12,000 miners on the field. A police presence was quickly sought and when the main street was surveyed in December 1860, the police camp reserve was marked out in the centre of the main street. Many were critical of this location since they felt it detracted 'from the value of business sites in its immediate neighbourhood, the gloomy and unlighted space presenting a marked contrast to the other portion of the street' Neither were the police particularly popular. In January 1860, when the Inspector of Police called for all places of business to be closed at 11pm, there was enormous complaint and the correspondent to the *Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser* wrote:

If even this petty interference were legally justified and carried out with a little courtesy, less complaint would be made; but when people are threatened with a summons...it is not surprising that the police here are held in little favour. A store yesterday was broken into by a mob of drunken rowdies... and very strange to say, the protectors of the public peace were nowhere to be seen.

The first police quarters and lockup were probably erected early in 1861 on the police reserve. Certainly they were both in existence in December 1863 when tenders were advertised for the provision of rations for prisoners as required at the Moonambel police station. In 1866 repairs and alterations were made to the police buildings by Hockman and Howard for a cost of £17 and in 1878-9 the Public Works Department paid J Meadows £34.19.6 for repairs to the lockup.

In 1880 tenders were let for the construction of new police quarters and the building was completed by Morris and Begg for a cost of £514.18.0. At the same time a court house was built on the police reserve for a cost of £370 by Taylor and Ellis.

As mining declined and Moonambel residents turned to farming, there was less demand for a police presence in the township. In February 1915 it was claimed that only seven arrests had been made by Moonambel police in the space of fourteen years. When the chief commissioner, Mr Sainsbury, called for a report on the Moonambel police station, Constable Dunn admitted:

Now that the collection of the agricultural statistics is finished I have absolutely nothing whatever to do at Moonambel, and find it a hard job to fill in my time, as the place itself is positively dead. A man living in Moonambel for any length of time would be graduating for a lunatic asylum.

As a result the Moonambel station was closed and the police station/residence was taken over by the Education Department as a teacher's residence.

DESCRIPTION

The Police quarters building was constructed in 1880 to plans prepared by the Department of Works. The building is a weatherboard building of four rooms with a central passageway. The roof is of two longitudinal gables with a gable roofed section at right angles. The building has a straight pitched verandah supported on timber posts. The timber posts have stop chamfering and moulded timber capitals which support simple curved timber brackets. The entry door is at the centre of the building with two timber double hung windows under the verandah and a central timber double hung window in the middle of the gable section. Above this window is a timber roof vent with a pointed arch. The building retains its three brick chimneys with corbelled brick decoration and is now clad in corrugated iron where the original drawings suggest that the roof was to be of slate. Except for the addition of a timber skillion section at the rear the building is substantially intact.

The lock up is virtually an iron cage with timber cladding and is similar to other lock ups of the period, very few which are still intact on their original locations. Some of these were imported but others were constructed locally on a similar pattern.

REFERENCES

- Argus*, 9 February 1915
- Avoca Mail*, 3 December 1957
- Information from Eulalie Driscoll and Tom Wright
- Victorian Government Gazette*, July-Dec 1880, p. 1978
- Information from Keith Farnsworth
- Frances O'Neill, *Survey of police buildings 1858-*, *Heritage Victoria*
- Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser*, 8 January 1861. Quoted in Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 48

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 3, Allot 15

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
NAME: Store/bakery
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Brooke St
MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The old store/bakery was built in c 1873. It has significance for its building design, age and contextual importance. The old store/bakery is one of Moonambel's earliest surviving commercial buildings and its design is expressive of the building's continuous use as a store and bakery for almost eighty years. Its nineteenth century character and its prominent siting on the main approach to Moonambel makes it a key element in the streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

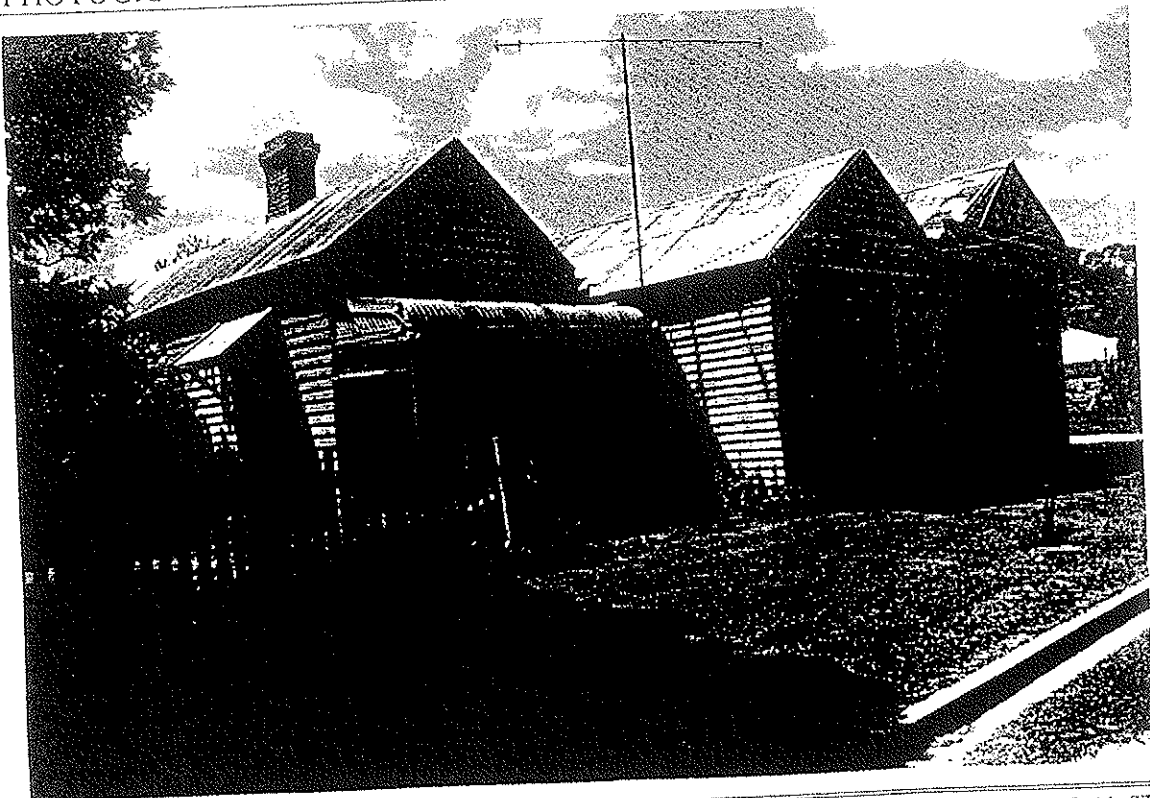
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate, Addition to the Historic Buildings Council Register

THEMES: Towns (business)

BUILDING DATE: 1873

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 10/11

DATE 7 10 93



HISTORY

Charles Stuart and Jessie McIntosh both migrated to Australia in 1852, and married at Lamplough on 15 March 1852. They operated a bakery at Sandy Creek, Stuart Mill and Landsborough before finally settling at Moonambel in 1873 where they established a store and bakery. Jessie worked as the storekeeper and Charles as the baker, providing freshly baked bread daily to the surrounding community. When Charles died in 1879, Jessie continued to operate the business. By 1884 the Stuarts were one of only two bakers in Moonambel and in 1898 they were awarded a government contract to supply prisoners' rations to the Moonambel lockup across the road. Flour to make the bread was carted from the Avoca railway station.

By the 1890s Jessie was assisted in the business by her son David (born 1873), who possessed an entrepreneurial spirit and a desire to diversify his interests. He leased sixty acres of land at Warrenmang, applied for a licence to cut 250 sleepers in 1898, and obtained a gold buyers license in 1904. He was also an active member of the Freemasons lodge. The Stuart family continued to run the grocery store and bakery until David Stuart's death in 1935 when the property was put up for public auction.

It was purchased by Aileen and David Cheesman from the Barkly area. During this period the store stocked a wide range of goods - not only bread and groceries but hardware, kitchen utensils and stock feed. The Cheesmans employed a delivery man named Kiffer 'Mungo' Broughton and he hawked bread and groceries around the entire district, in a horse-drawn baker's cart. Keith Farnsworth can also remember Esme Cheesman delivering groceries out to the bush where he and his family were cutting eucalyptus.

The Cheesmans also employed a series of bakers including Frank Phillipe, Dick Barry, Bill Lucas, Ron Harley and Ernie Eastman. The Cheesmans finally sold the grocery shop in 1947 to Arthur Gummersill and built a new shop further up the street. The builder was A. H. Kaye from Avoca. The bakery continued to operate until the late 1950s.

DESCRIPTION

The timber building is a collection of sections with the corner section having a gable roof and clad in pressed metal. Facing Brooke Street is another gable roofed shop section clad in weatherboard with a central four panelled door a large shop window which retains its timber shutters and a twelve paned timber double hung window. Next to this is the residence which is set back from the street alignment and again has a gable roof and is clad in weatherboards and has a bull nosed verandah supported on turned timber posts and curved timber brackets. The form of the verandah suggests that it was a later addition in the 1890s or the house was built at that time. Behind the pressed metal clad corner section is a section clad in horizontal tongue and groove timber boards which has a large shop window. Next to this is a weatherboards skillion roofed section joining to another gable roofed section clad on the side with weatherboards and on the back with corrugated iron. In the rear yard is a dome topped well with a timber cover to the opening.

The corner section has an angled corner with double doors opening into the bakery. The extension to the roof over this angle is framed in curved timber sections. Each side of the doorway and framing the pressed metal walls are flat timber pilasters with mouldings to suggest Doric columns. There was a return verandah which has now been removed. Above the verandah line is a timber cornice and the gable end of the roof forms a triangular pediment with the "Store and Bakery" painted sign still visible. The two walls are of pressed metal in a line and diamond pattern, similar to that used at Gollops Garage in Avoca (demolished 1994). In the centre of these walls is a large shop window divided into four panes with a timber architrave.

The collection of buildings on the corner site is one of the most prominent structures in Moonambel. The timber columns and pressed metal walls, the remnant paint scheme and sign make the corner building a landmark in the main street.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Free Press*, 4 December 1935
- Avoca Mail*, 3 December 1957
- Avoca and District Historical Society Index
- Information from Eulalie Driscoll and Tom Wright
- Information from Keith Farnsworth
- Victorian Government Gazette*, 1 July 1898, p. 2607
- Victorian Police Gazette*, 28 January 1904

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
 NAME: Judas tree
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Brooke St
 MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Judas tree was planted in c 1860 with seed brought from America. It has significance for its associations, aesthetic qualities and age.

The Judas tree is closely associated with Malvina Richardson who brought the seed from America to Australia when she migrated in 1854. The tree continues to have strong symbolic significance for her descendants who still meet for family reunions under its branches. Despite its age, which may be as great as 130 years, the Judas tree is widely known in the area for its aesthetic qualities, providing a brilliant display of pink flowers in Spring.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Environment features
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 10/7

BUILDING DATE: c 1860
 DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

Malvina Richardson was born Malvina Eason in Virginia, USA in about 1824. She was part Spanish, part native American and part English. In 1848, Malvina with her second husband and two children travelled by wagon train from Missouri to California, a perilous journey of 2,000 miles. Soon afterwards Malvina's husband died and in 1853 Malvina married a third time and the family spent some time on the Californian diggings before migrating to Sydney in September 1854. They then travelled down to the Victorian gold rushes, mining at Back Creek, Amherst and Talbot before finally settling at Moonambel.

Malvina had five more children after her arrival in Australia and she became well-known around the Moonambel area for her abilities as a midwife. Her third husband, Edward Richardson, died in 1868 from miners disease and Malvina became almost self sufficient growing vegetables and fruit trees. She had brought some seeds from America and planted a Judas tree on the main road into Moonambel.

Malvina Richardson died on 17 December 1909 at the age of eighty-five but her descendants still gather for family reunions under the Judas tree.

DESCRIPTION

The *Cercis siliquastrum* is a native of northern America, southern Europe and Western Asia. It derives its common name from the tradition that Judas hanged himself from the tree.

The tree is a large example of the type and its siting on the main road and its bright pink flowers in spring make it a landmark in the area. The land on which it grows has a collection of other exotic trees including a very large plane tree.

REFERENCES

Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 65

Letter from Mrs Valma King, 28 April 1994 descendant of Malvina Richardson.

FILE No: M9

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
 NAME: Produce store
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Brooke St
 MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Stockman's produce store was built of brick in c 1870s. It is significant for its associations and contextual importance. The solid brick construction of Stockman's produce store is expressive of the post gold rush prosperity of Moonambel, and its prominent location abutting the main road makes it an important element in the streetscape. The buildings change in function from a general store to a produce store, parallels the township's transition from a mining to a farming community.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 10/21

BUILDING DATE: c 1880
 DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

Henry Stockman, was a resident of Moonambel in 1864 when he was a member of the Common school committee. It is probable that he owned a store for in 1867 he was robbed of fifteen yards of double-width calico. Certainly by the 1880s he was proprietor of an extensive general store consisting of a 'well-assorted stock of groceries, fancy goods, tobacco, cigars, clocks, sewing machines, crockery etc etc' He offered the whole stock for sale by auction in June 1884.

By 1879 Henry Stockman was also the proprietor of a hotel in Moonambel. By 1886 he is recorded as the owner of the Commercial hotel and it was presumably this building that was under consideration in 1887 when he applied for a victuallers license 'for premises situated at Moonambel containing twelve rooms exclusive of those required for the use of my family and servants'. In January 1890, Stockman employed James Beavis as the new licensee of the Commercial Hotel, although his employment was short-lived and on 9 June 1891 the licence was transferred to William Moyle from Laverton

In 1881 the Stockmans took over a brick store previously run by the Dicksons, and Henry's wife, Mary Ann, became the storekeeper. The shop became known as Stockman's produce store, and sold all manner of goods including grains and stock feed. In 1898 Stockman was also issued with a license authorising him to deal in poisons.

Henry Stockman died on 19 November 1899 at the age of sixty-six but the store was continued for some time by Mary Ann. Later the store passed to the Stockman's daughter, Ada Peacock and it is listed under her name in the 1915 postal directory. Ada and George Peacock eventually transferred all their stock to another shop and the old produce store was used for storage

DESCRIPTION

The brick store consists of a large brick warehouse with a gable roof with a skillion roofed brick addition to the side. This section was used as the office as shown in an early photograph.

The warehouse has a central doorway with flanking tall double hung timber windows which originally were divided in twelve panes. The rises to a square parapet with a rendered nameplate in the middle. The parapet is marked by brick pillars at the side and has a row of corbelled bricks at the base and top as cornice lines. In the centre is a triangular pediment edged in corbelled bricks. This once proudly announced the date of establishment which can be seen in the early photograph and appears to be 1863.

The gable roof is shown as clad in corrugated iron in the early photograph and had a pyramidal roof lantern to allow light to the centre of the warehouse. This has now vanished.

The building is very similar to that shown in the early photograph, the only changes being the loss of the roof lantern and part of the office chimney. The building is suffering from cracking to the brickwork.

REFERENCES

- Shire of Avoca rate books*, 1879, 1882, 1886, 1890, 1900, 1910
- Avoca Free Press*, 27 March 1886; 10 December 1887
- Avoca Mail*, June 1884
- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 69
- Information from Eulalie Driscoll and Tom Wright
- Information from Keith Farnsworth
- Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser*, 21 November 1899
- Victorian Police Gazette, 11 April 1867; 11 February 1880; 7 January 1898
- Avoca and District Historic Society photographic collection, photograph No 212

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
NAME: Commercial hotel
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Brooke St
MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Commercial hotel is a timber structure, established during the gold rushes in 1860-1. It has significance for its age, associations and contextual importance.

The Commercial hotel has operated continuously as a hotel since the early gold rush period and is one of the earliest surviving commercial buildings in the Moonambel township. It has been altered and extended over time, demonstrating the changing demands made upon a public house over a period of 134 years. The hotel is a key element in Moonambel's nineteenth century streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

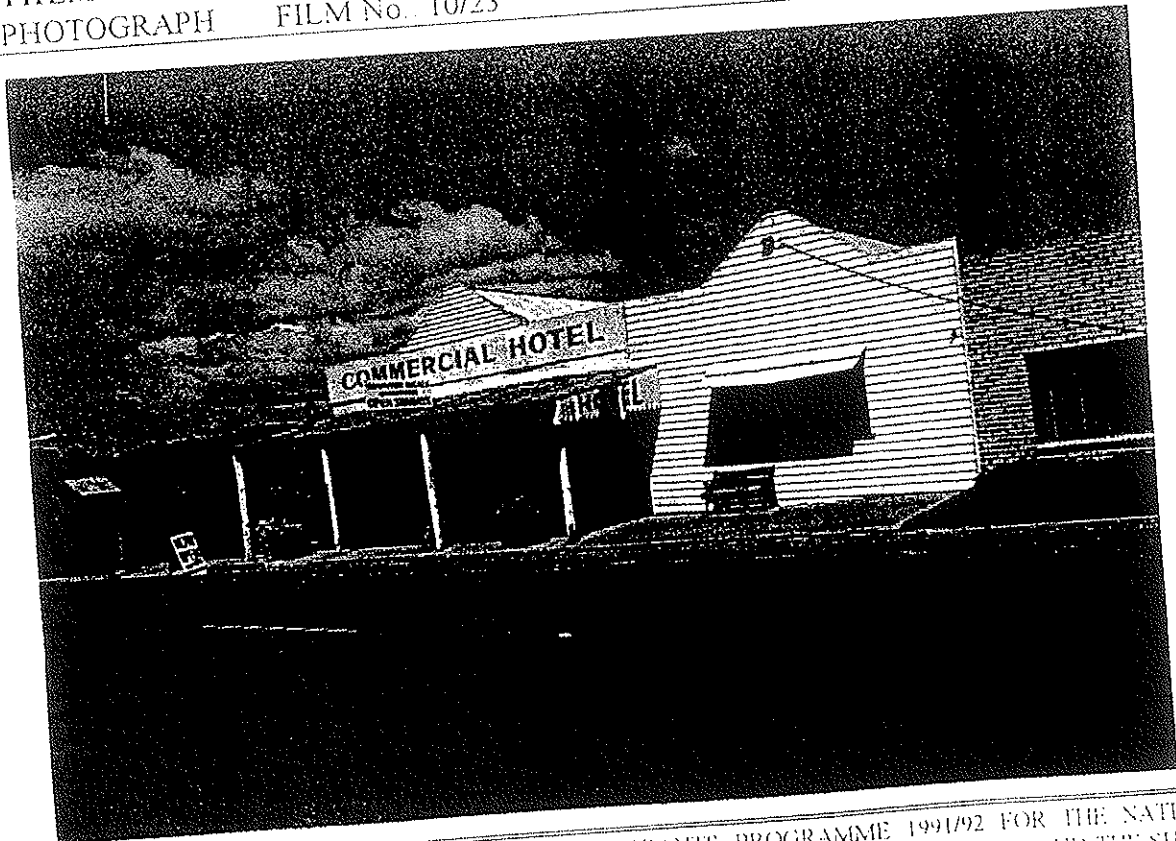
RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 10/23

BUILDING DATE: 1860
DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

During the rush to Mountain Creek (later Moonambel), early in 1861, a newspaper correspondent reported 'the immense number of public houses that have been erected here at enormous expense, is really astonishing, two out of three establishments in the main street are devoted to the sale of intoxicating liquors'. One of the most substantial and prestigious of these public houses was the Commercial hotel, and early in February 1861 it provided the venue for a meeting of 'squatters and men of commerce' to arrange the first Mountain Creek race meeting. Later in the month a 'large and influential meeting' of the local Progress Committee was also held at this hotel.

The rush to Barkly in March 1861 drained business away from Mountain Creek and many public houses were forced to sell at less than cost. However the Commercial hotel remained. It was sold by public auction in July 1868 and became the property of Edwin Glover who had previously resided at Landsborough. In February 1870 he called for tenders for the addition of a brick bedroom on the Commercial hotel and on 6 September 1872 he advertised in the Landsborough Times:

Edwin Glover, having purchased the above old established house, begs to solicit a continuance of the support hitherto bestowed on it. The Traveller, the Miner and all Visitors will find every accommodation. The Stock of Wines, Spirits and Beer will always be found to be of the best quality. The Stabling is not surpassed in the Colony.

Edwin Glover remained at the Commercial hotel until March 1884 when he moved to Avoca as the proprietor of the Avoca hotel. Henry Stockman became the new owner. In 1887 he applied for a victuallers license 'for premises situated at Moonambel containing twelve rooms exclusive of those required for the use of my family and servants'

In January 1890, Stockman employed James Beavis as the licensee. Beavis advertised good accommodation for boarders, moderate charges and a first-class billiard table. However his employment was short-lived and on 9 June 1891 the license was transferred to William Moyle.

Henry Stockman died on 19 November 1899 at the age of sixty-six but his wife Mary Ann continued to own the hotel until at least 1910. In January 1913 the license was transferred to William Moyle's wife, Maria, and in later years the hotel was carried on by two of William and Maria's daughters, Emma and Ada Moyle. It provided accommodation for lodgers and was much frequented by commercial travellers. Beer was cooled in cellars beneath the hotel where barrels were placed on blocks on ice. In approximately 1947 the Moyles extended the hotel. The Commercial hotel passed to the Murrell family in c 1969 and still remains in their ownership.

DESCRIPTION

The Commercial Hotel today reflects its long evolution. It consists of two abutting timber buildings facing Brooke Street with gable roofs and a skillion roofed addition with a modern white brick facade. The eastern section has been extended to the south in a substantial brick wing which can be seen in an early photograph in the late nineteenth century. The central gable section has been extended and is now clad in cement sheeting. The western addition has the brick facade and weatherboard side walls. The eastern and central section could date to the earliest days of the hotel. The brick extension could be the bedrooms added in 1870 as the building is described as having 12 rooms in 1887. A straight pitched verandah covers the eastern section of the hotel. All the windows have been altered in the twentieth century. The brick section has curved stamped metal window hoods. The early photograph shows that the two gable sections had rectangular timber parapets capped with central pediments and decorated with a moulded timber cornice. The eastern section had a straight pitched verandah pitching higher than the present day verandah. The hotel has lost its original windows and parapet but retains its general form and materials and evokes the small timber hotels of the gold mining era.

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society. Photograph, No. 251
- Avoca Mail, 9 January 1869; 5 February, 1870
- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, pp. 69-70
- Information from Eulalie Driscoll, Keith Farnsworth and Tom Wright
- Landsborough Times, 6 September 1872
- Maryborough and Dunolly Advertiser, 15 December 1860, 9 February 1861
- St Arnaud Mercury, 26 March 1884
- Shire of Avoca rate books, 1879, 1882, 1886, 1910

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
NAME: Moonambel State school No 1683
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Humffray St
MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Moonambel State school is a brick building erected in 1875 by the Education Department. It is significant for its high level of integrity, its characteristic qualities and its contextual importance.

The Moonambel state school is typical of early school houses erected by the Education Department, its brick construction reflecting the prosperous future predicted for the township. It has a high level of integrity and it forms a crucial part of a small religious/educational precinct in Humffray St which also includes the Church of England, Uniting and Catholic churches.

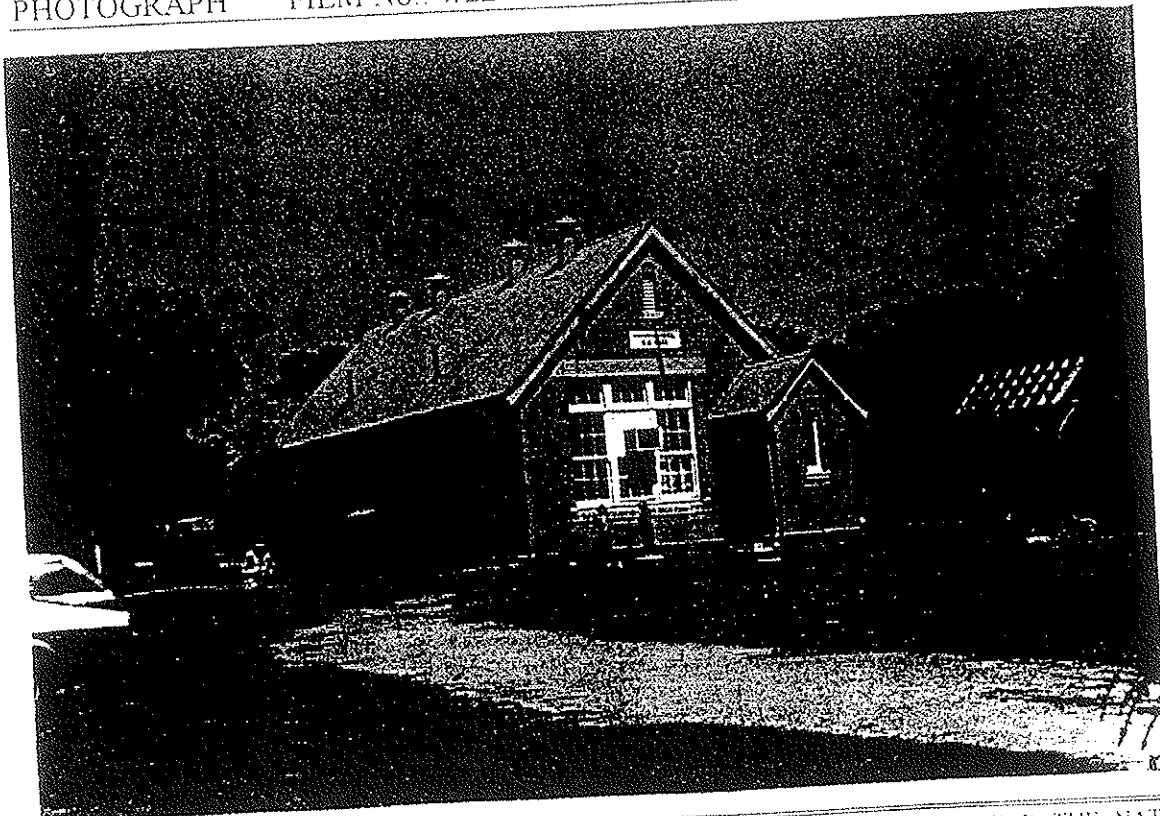
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (schools)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 9/22

BUILDING DATE: 1875
DATE: 7 10 93



HISTORY

The Church of England established a school in Moonambel on 14 January 1861. In its first year the average attendance was 439 but by the following year it had dropped to 63 as the rush passed. In later years this school became Common school No. 439. It was burnt down in mysterious circumstances on 4 January 1871 and students were forced to attend school at another building leased by the State. A public meeting was held for the purposes of taking steps to erect a new Common school in May 1871 but it was not until October 1874 that the Education Department called tenders for a new school.

The Mining Department requested that the new school be built in timber since they had reserved the right to mine on the selected site. However after some delay the Board of Advice was able to obtain a revocation of the right to mine, enabling the construction of a brick building. The new school was completed in October 1875 and opened on 1 December 1875 under the head teacher of the original Church of England school, Thomas Granger. During this year there was an enrolment of 133 and an average attendance of 71.

The school continues to operate with little change to its design although its floors were replaced and a new tank stand and shelter sheds added in the early 1960s.

DESCRIPTION

The school is of the standard one room school design erected by the Education Department between 1872 and 1890. Of the larger type to seat 80 pupils only ten per cent were built in brick. The school has a rectangular school room with a steeply pitched gable roof and a gable roofed entry porch attached to the front. The side walls have four timber double hung windows.

Early photographs show that there were two polygonal timber shelter sheds with sides of vertical boarding on the lower half and lattice above.

The school is substantially externally intact with the major change being the enlargement of the front window and the addition of the conical capped roof ventilators. Both these alterations would have occurred in the early twentieth century. The apex of the gable roof was marked by a decorative turned timber finial which is now missing.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 14 July 1870, 6 May 1871
- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 66
- Information from Keith Farnsworth
- Vision and Realisation*, p. 786
- Avoca and District Historic Society photographic collection, photographs No 515 and No 516

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
 NAME: Moonambel Uniting church
 FORMER NAME: Wesleyan church
 ADDRESS: Humffray St
 MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Moonambel Uniting church is built of brick and dates from 1913. It has significance for its characteristic qualities, its associations and its contextual importance.

The simple design of the Moonambel Uniting church is typical of small rural churches built during this period. Although not the original building, it demonstrates a continuation of the tradition of Methodism begun on the Moonambel goldfields in 1861, and it has been a spiritual centre for the surrounding community for over eighty years. The Uniting church forms an integral part of a small religious/educational precinct in Humffray St which also includes the Church of England and Catholic churches and the Moonambel state school.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

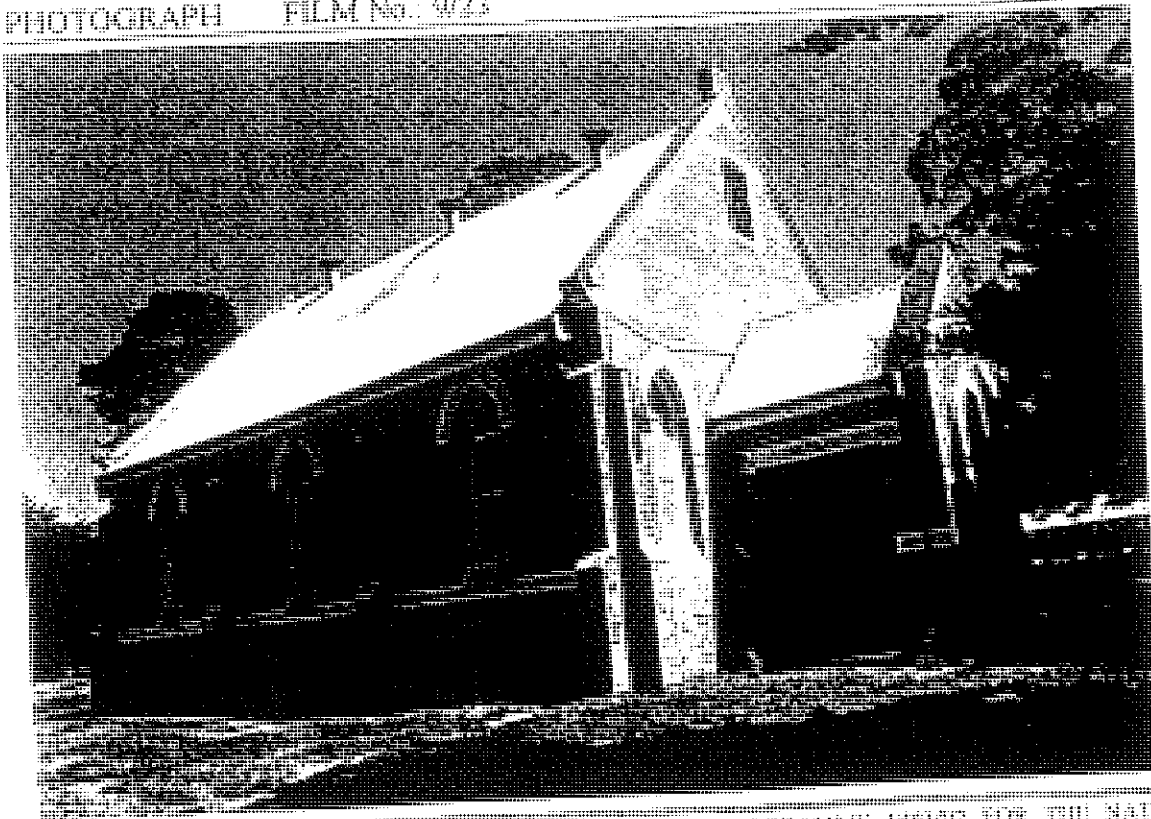
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)

BUILDING DATE: 1913

DATE: 7 10 93

PHOTOGRAPH: FILM No. 9/23



HISTORY

In January 1861, as many thousands of miners deserted the Lamplough diggings in favour of the newly discovered Mountain Creek goldfield, it is said that the Methodists brought their galvanised iron church with them. This became the first Methodist church at Moonambel. In later years the iron building was probably replaced with a weatherboard structure

On 21 November 1864, the Rev. D S Draper wrote to the Commissioner for Lands asking for a site at Moonambel for Wesleyan church purposes. However, an application had already been made for the selected site under the Gold Licensing Regulations, and the Wesleyan body was asked to make application for another portion of land. Since no further correspondence was received, it is possible the Wesleyans had already erected a church and continued to use the site regardless of possible mining operations.

In 1881 Wright's Australian and American Gazetteer makes mention of a Wesleyan church in the township, and C. Benson suggests in his *A Century of Victorian Methodism* that Methodist preachers from Avoca regularly conducted services in the surrounding district including Moonambel. On 7 April 1883 an extract from the Avoca Free Press reads:
the distribution of prizes in connection with the Wesleyan Sunday School at Moonambel took place on Good Friday as usual...the church was most tastefully decorated with all the fruits and flowers of the season.

In 1895 a site was finally reserved for Wesleyan church purposes and on 26 June 1895 the Church Trustees, Joseph Field (grazier), Joseph Bannister (rate collector), Thomas Breame (farmer), James Hunter (farmer) and John Murgatroyd (soap maker) signed the title to the land

The present church was built in 1913. The official opening was held in April 1913, with the Rev. Smith of Dunolly conducting three services. It was reported that although the cost of the new church was £413, all but £24 pounds of this has already been raised

DESCRIPTION

The Uniting Church is a simple brick nave of three bays with a centrally placed gable roofed porch at the front. Each bay is marked by stepped brick buttresses with a central pointed arch window between the buttresses. There are buttresses at each corner of the church.

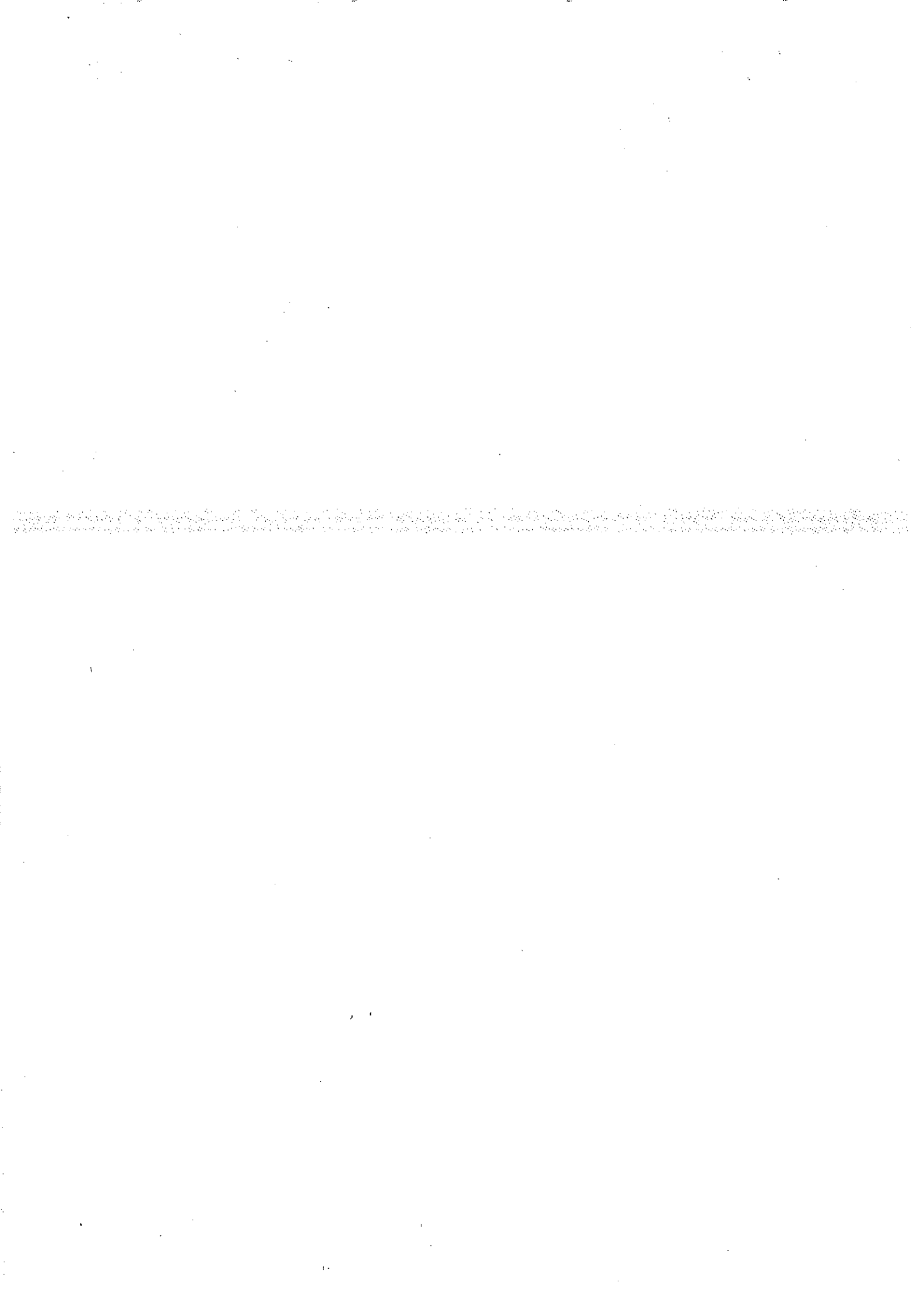
The front porch has central pointed arch window and is flanked by pointed arch windows in the north wall. Above the porch is a square vent. The apex of the gable is marked by a rendered capping piece that may have been the base of a cross.

The red brickwork is relieved by bands of smooth render below the sill and above the vent in the gable end. Rendered sills and arches outline the windows. The side entry in the porch is marked by a rendered lintel and the square double doors are of vertical timber boarding. The gable roof is clad in corrugated iron and has conical capped roof ventilators.

The church is one of three churches and together with a school of a similar form they create a streetscape in Humffray Street.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Free Press, 7 April 1883
- Avoca Mail, 16 April 1913, 6 May 1913
- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 68
- Benson, *A Century of Victorian Methodism*, p. 452
- Information from Eulalie Driscoll and Tom Wright
- Information from Keith Farnsworth
- Uniting Church Archives, Loan Fund, 5 August 1875 - 14 August 1879
- Uniting Church Archives, title information.



FILE No: M24

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 10, Allotment 3

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
NAME: Moonambel St Paul's Church of England
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Humffray St
MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St Paul's is a brick church dating from 1878. It is significant for its age, associations and contextual importance.

St Paul's is the oldest surviving church in Moonambel and although it was not built until 1878 it has a direct link back to the original galvanised iron Church of England building established on the same site in 1861. Over the course of 116 years it has been closely associated with many of the township's leading families and has provided a religious and social centre for the surrounding community.

St Paul's forms an integral part of a small religious/educational precinct in Humffray St, which also includes the Uniting Church and Catholic churches and the Moonambel state school.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 9/25

BUILDING DATE: 1878
DATE: 7 10 93



HISTORY

The first Church of England services at Moonambel were held in a galvanised iron building (with an earthen floor) which also functioned as a school. It was opened in the very early days of the goldrush on 14 January 1861. The church site was set aside on 5 May 1862 under the charge of trustees James Stephen and Thomas A'Beckett.

The present church was opened on 9 March 1879 by the Bishop of Ballarat. It had been erected the preceding year at a cost of £17.11.6 for the woodwork, £25.11.0 for painting and £44.10.0 for the brick and stone work. Its construction was widely supported by the local community. All the bricks were donated by Mr Adams, the secretary and treasurer of the church, and a variety of functions were organised to raise money for the church building fund. A church bazaar held in 1880, for instance, resulted in £78.8.8

Many of Moonambel's prominent townspeople were Church of England adherents. Store owners such as Moyle, Stockman, Peacock, and Glover were closely associated with the church. St Paul's functioned not only as religious centre but as a social venue. The church regularly held tea meetings, illustrated lectures and concerts. Later dirt tennis courts were built at the back of the church to provide a leisure time activity for young members.

St Paul's remains open, although services are held only once a fortnight.

DESCRIPTION

St Paul's has a red brick nave of three bays with a centrally placed gable roofed porch facing the street. Each bay is marked by stepped buttresses with the end buttresses set in from the corners of the building. Each bay had a centrally placed pointed arch window. Each window has render edging the arch.

The porch has a gable roof that extends to form eaves with the apex marked by a cross. There is a small pointed arch window in the centre of the front of the porch with the entry being by a side doorway. The doorway is a pointed arch opening with the arch outlined in render and a pair of arched headed doors made of vertical boards. Above the porch is a circular vent outlined in render and the apex of the gable ends are marked with crosses. The roof is clad in corrugated iron.

The church is one of three churches and the school of a similar design which form a streetscape in Humffray Street.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Free Press*, 16 September 1882
- Information from Keith Farnsworth
- Victorian Government Gazette*, 6 June 1862, p. 978, 1870, p. 1444

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS: 10/2

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
 NAME: St John the Baptist Catholic Church
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Humffray St
 MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St John the Baptist's church is built of brick and dates from 1884. It has significance for its characteristic qualities, its associations and its contextual importance.

The simple design of the Moonambel Catholic church is typical of small rural churches built during this period. It has importance for the role it played as a spiritual centre for Catholics spread over a wide area of the Shire. The church forms an integral part of a small religious/educational precinct in Humffray St which also includes the Church of England and Uniting churches and the Moonambel state school.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 9/26

BUILDING DATE:
 DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

A portable Catholic school was transferred to the Moonambel goldfields from Lamplough in February 1861. A Roman Catholic School Board was immediately established and consisted of the Rev. Fennelley, Thomas Bourke, Martin Cody, Michael Doherty, Patrick Troy, Thomas Moore, John McMahon, James Fitzgerald, Edward Griffin, Denis McCarthy, Patrick McCarthy, Thomas McCready and William Ready.

On 28 July 1861, the Rev. Dr. Beasdale reported that fifty-five children (forty-two Roman Catholic) attended the school. Given the fact that at least two priests - the Rev. Fennelley and the Rev. Dr. Beasdale - had an association with Moonambel during this period, it is likely that the school also served as a place of Catholic worship.

A large gold rush to nearby Barkly caused the school to be moved again in February 1862. It is not known where church services took place after this date, although the construction of the present church took place in 1884 to the design of Ballarat Architects, Tappin and Gilbert. It was described as a brick building, '35 feet by 25 feet with 14 feet side walls', and cost the local congregation £400.

The new church was opened on the 28 September 1884 by the Right Rev. Dr. Moore, Roman Catholic Bishop of Ballarat, and dedicated to St John the Baptist. The interior of the church was described as 'elegantly and elaborately festooned' for the opening which was also combined with a confirmation service:

A procession of forty children for confirmation, headed by their teachers, the Misses Kelly and Fitzgerald, accompanied the Bishop while blessing the church. The girls, attired in white, with blue sashes, white veils and wreaths of flowers, contributed to the imposing ceremony by their very pleasing appearance.

During the twentieth century the church was well attended with families frequently travelling long distances to attend. Prominent members of the church during this period were the Slater and the Anderson families.

DESCRIPTION

The building is a red brick nave divided into three bays by stepped buttresses with render cappings. The gable roof is clad in corrugated iron. A cream brick porch and vestry have been added to the building.

The red brick section has rectangular windows in the centre of each bay. The street facade has a circular vent in the apex and a band of darker coloured bricks at eaves level. The apex of the gable is marked with a timber cross. The barge boards are very plain.

The cream brick additions have gable roofs and the gable end walls rise to a corbelled brick parapet. Stepped buttresses in cream brick have been used to echo those on the original church. The front porch is placed in the centre of the street facade with the vestry extending at right angles to the church and placed at the final bay of the nave. The doorways are rectangular.

The original building was an austere decorated simple brick structure.

REFERENCES

- Architects Index, *Argus*, 16 February 1883
- Avoca Free Press*, 4 October 1884
- Information from Keith Farnsworth
- Melbourne Diocesan Historical Commission, *Advocate* index

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
 NAME: Anzac Avenue
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Moonambel/Avoca Rd
 MAP NAME: Moonambel Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Anzac Avenue, is a memorial avenue of mature trees planted by school children in 1918. It has significance for its associations, landmark and aesthetic qualities.

Anzac Avenue has symbolic importance to the community as a reminder of the fifty-two local men who enlisted in the First World War. The avenue of mature trees, which form a canopy along the eastern approach to the township of Moonambel, has great aesthetic appeal and is widely known as a local landmark.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: 10/28

BUILDING DATE: 1918
 DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

Approximately 112,000 Victorians enlisted in the First World War, and when the conflict finally ended in November 1918 more than 17,000 had died. At Moonambel it was decided to plant an avenue of honour as a 'lasting memorial to the bravest and the best'. The planting took place on Saturday 17 August 1918 with Miss McKinnon, the oldest resident of Moonambel, planting the first tree in memory of Trooper G R Hope the first Moonambel volunteer to lose his life in the War. A total of fifty-two trees of different varieties were planted - one for every local resident who had enlisted - and a plaque naming the individual serviceman was placed at the foot of each tree.

During 1919, Moonambel's new Avenue of Honour played a large part in festivities as soldiers began to return home from the front, and huge welcome parties were arranged. An account in the *Avoca Free Press* describes the hero's welcome given to Sapper W Bonsor and Driver E J Castleman when they returned to Moonambel in July 1919:

On arrival at Moonambel this grand procession was greeted with prolonged cheering. The president gave a nice welcome home speech, and the school children...sang the National Anthem, Home Sweet Home, and other songs. Beautiful arches had been constructed... The avenue was also beautifully decorated, each of the fifty-two trees bearing a flag, and the words, 'Anzac Avenue' were formed with green leaves. Subsequently a banquet was held at each of the hero's homes.

Keith Farnsworth remembers cutting bush poles from his paddock to make tree guards for the avenue. Although the original plaques have been removed from the trees, the names of the servicemen are still on record at the Moonambel school.

DESCRIPTION

The Avenue of trees frames the curved road on the entry to Moonambel. The variety of trees have grown with differing vigour and the use of evergreen and deciduous trees gives variety to the avenue during the year.

REFERENCES

Avoca Free Press, 14 August 1918, 19 July 1919

Information from Keith Farnsworth

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No

NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel

NAME: Moonambel Recreation Reserve
refreshment shed

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: Moonambel/Avoca Rd

MAP NAME: Redbank South

MAP REFERENCE: YE 077039

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Moonambel Recreation Reserve refreshment shed is a corrugated iron building probably dating from the turn of the century. It has significance for its characteristic qualities and contextual importance.

The refreshment shed is a typical and well-preserved example of the iron buildings frequently erected at sporting venues. The bush pole construction and the windows of folding iron demonstrate the skilful use of simple materials, and represent a local response to the need to serve people as quickly and efficiently as possible during sports days and football matches. The refreshment shed is an integral part of the broader recreation reserve complex and contributes to its interpretation.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (sport)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No: 10/33

BUILDING DATE: c 1913

DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

The Moonambel Recreation Reserve, located on the eastern outskirts of the township, was gazetted in 1866. It rapidly became a sought after venue for sports days which became increasingly popular in the post goldrush period as the population of the area became more settled and there was a demand for family-style entertainment. By the turn of the century Moonambel was well-known for its Easter Monday sports. In 1904 these sports attracted between 400 and 500 people and the events included bicycle and foot races, an egg and spoon race, quoits and bowling the cricket ball. In later years horse events were also included in the sports program. In the evening after the sports, a concert or a grand ball and supper were held at the local hall.

On 22 April 1913, the Moonambel Easter Monday Sports Committee expressed appreciation at the activities of the residents 'in erecting a pavilion 42 feet x 18 feet free of charge, the trustees providing the iron and timber.' This may be the present refreshment shed or luncheon booth.

In June 1914 the Sports Club voted £5 to the Trustees of the Recreation Reserve to erect seats near the sport arena, and in the same year George McKechnie donated the publican's booth to the Recreation Reserve free of charge. By 1919 structures at the reserve included a publican's booth, a luncheon booth and a fruit stall.

During the nineteenth century, football and cricket were not played at the recreation reserve but on the 'flats' - an area of flat land much closer to the Moonambel township. However, by the 1920s formal sporting associations were being formed, such as the Mountain Creek Football Association, and as a result both football and cricket matches moved to the Recreation Reserve.

Keith Farnsworth remembers that for many years following the move to the Recreation Reserve, football matches were played on an oval with a large tree in the centre. In later years, the Moonambel Tennis Association was also formed and tennis courts were built at the Recreation Reserve.

Football is no longer played at the Recreation Reserve although it is still used by the Moonambel cricket club.

DESCRIPTION

The refreshments shed is a gable roofed rectangular building with the walls and roof clad in corrugated iron. The steeply pitched gable roof flattens in pitch to form a verandah facing the oval. The main supports for the shed are large round poles. The verandah is supported on square timber posts. The shed is unlined.

On one gable end, a servery can be formed by opening corrugated iron flaps in the sides to form awnings to protect the customers from the sun or rain. These are operated on an ingenious system of jointed bush poles.

The simple structure is characteristic of the sheds and refreshments booths that once served country recreational reserves and race courses but are now becoming increasingly rare.

REFERENCES

Avoca Free Press, 9 April 1904; 22 April 1913, 10 June 1914, 29 March 1919
Information from Keith Farnsworth

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN MI

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
NAME: Slaughteryard line of reef
ADDRESS: Site 95.2 - 2.1 km north of
Moonambel, Sites 95.4/5/6 - 1.6 km
north of Moonambel
MAP NAME: Redbank South - 068 058,
MAP REFERENCE: 069 053, 071 053, 073 053

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Slaughteryard line of reef was mined from the 1860s to the turn of the century. The site had significance for its rarity, associations, and contextual importance. The relative intactness of the series of adits along the Slaughteryard line of reef makes them rare examples of what was once a common method of mining. The range of features on the site clearly documents the process of quartz mining using adits. The house site (stone platform, stone fireplace, house outline and stone blacksmith forge) is a reminder of the people who worked the mine and frequently lived close to their work. The Slaughteryard Reef site is one of the best preserved mining sites in the Moonambel area and an integral part of the Shire's mining landscape

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: c.1867-1904

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.:

DATE:

HISTORY

The Slaughteryard Reef was being mined at least as early as 1867 when the Slaughteryard Reef Company undertook their first trial crushing of 17 tons of quartz for a yield of 7 oz, 5 ½ dwts. The Moonambel Tunnelling Company was at work in March 1869 and carted several tons of quartz to be crushed in Ballarat. In September 1871 the Mining Surveyor reported that application had been made for a lease on the Slaughteryard Reef: 'a reef which has, I understand, produced as much as 60 oz per ton, but has been long unworked, as it requires machinery for its future development'. In June 1872 he wrote that machinery was soon to be erected on the reef. During the mid 1870s quartz mining was in depression, but in June 1878 the old Slaughteryard Reef at Moonambel was taken up again by an unnamed group.

No further mention of the reef is made until January 1900 when it was reported that Green and Doherty had won another nice return from their reef at Moonambel and they intended to erect a crushing battery on their claim. In May 1900, the two miners hit an extremely rich patch. 'From 12 tons the prospectors drolled 90 ozs and also picked out 23 ½ oz. They then took the remainder to the battery and obtained an additional 50 ½ ozs. They have now had 300 oz from the claim in one month'.

By 1903, the mine had been purchased from Doherty and Green by the Moonambel Company for £3,000. After employing a mining expert, J. N. Dunn, to provide advice on the character of the mine, the new company embarked upon extensive mining works below ground. A 'first class' five head mill was put to work crushing stone and the first crushing yielded 170 oz of gold from 113 tons of stone. It was decided to sink the shaft at least another 200 feet.

In 1904 the Moonambel Company continued prospecting in search of the succession of rich patches discovered at the higher levels. 224 tons of stone was crushed for a yield of 465 oz of gold. The company employed on average 30 men below ground and 15 men above ground. However by 1912 the Annual Report of the Department of Mines stated that mining at Moonambel was at a standstill. Several parties continued to work on the indicator belts around Moonambel, but with little success.

DESCRIPTION

Site 1: Moonambel Tunnel Company - In the next gully east of the Shire's quarry is an open adit with two intact mullock dumps. The adit is quite large (5 feet to 6 feet in height) and is slightly flooded. The excavation leading to the adit contains some collapsed sets of wooden legs.

Site 2: Reef workings run across Dead End Track. The workings on the south side of the track are on freehold land and include at least five collapsed adits with small intact mullock heaps. Also some shallow shafts and at least one stone blacksmith's forge. The workings on the north side of the track run down and up the other side of a gully. These workings include at least three collapsed adits with small mullock heaps. Also some open shafts, some of which still retain traces of their wooden collars.

Site 3: Adit - In the next gully east from Site 95.4 is a patch of shallow reef workings. The workings, which are located at the head of the gully, include two open shafts with wooden collars and a collapsed adit. The adit has a small intact mullock heap with two dumping lines, and in the excavation leading to the tunnel mouth are several collapsed sets of wooden legs.

Site 4: Adit and house site - Near the terminus of Dead End Track, to the east of Site 95.5, is another collapsed adit. This adit has a large intact mullock heap with two dumping lines. Both dumping lines still bear traces of wooden tramways. The construction of Dead End Track (a fire track) has resulted in part of the mullock heap being bulldozed. On the north side of Dead End Track, just before the adit, is a stone retained platform which measures 14 metres x 5.5 metres. On the platform, western end, is a large stone fireplace (measuring 7 ½ feet x 4 ½ feet and 4 ½ feet high). Associated with the stone fireplace is a narrow, rectangular arrangement (house outline) of post stumps (measuring 26 feet x 12 feet). The posts are set 3 feet apart. At the eastern end, contained within the rectangular arrangement of stumps, of the house platform is a stone blacksmith's forge.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 95
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 445-6
Mining Surveyor's Reports, March 1867, March 1869, September 1871, June 1872, June 1878
St Arnaud Mercury, 27 January 1900, 16 May 1900
The Pyrenees Goldfield, No. 2, Geological Survey of Victoria, 1903
Annual Report, Department of Mines, 1904, p. 69; 1912, p. 107; 1913, p. 104; 1914, p. 93; 1916, p. 14

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Moonambel
NAME: Garden/Tormeys Reef
ADDRESS: 1.6 km north-east of Moonambel,
west of Moonambel-Natte Yallock Rd
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: YE 081 043

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The New Garden Reef Company operated from 1897 to c 1903
It has significance of its associations
The New Garden Reef Company is associated with a later phase of quartz mining in the Shire and the
range of features on the site document the operation of a small-scale quartz mine. It is an important part
of the Shire's mining landscape

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No. 11/5

DATE: 1897- c 190
DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

Gold was discovered at Moonambel (originally known as Mountain Creek or McKinnon's) in November 1860. During the next ten years all the ground in the locality of Moonambel and nearby Redbank was thoroughly prospected and it was probably in this period that Garden or Tormey's reef was discovered.

In March 1887, the Mining Surveyor reported that water was being baled out of previous workings at Garden Reef in preparation for the resumption of operations. The reef was said to vary from 15 to 18 inches in thickness, showing gold and giving every indication of being of a permanent character.

The New Garden Reef Company was formed in January 1897 in order to work the old reef. The new company found good stone about 20 feet below the old workings. Work was started on the erection of a battery, and in March 1897, the Garden Reef Company was stopping in order to extract ore. Two months later a tribute party working on the reef was broken up.

The Annual Report of the Mines Department in 1903 stated that the total yield to date from the Garden Reef mine was 351 ozs of gold from 285 tons of stone. A new shaft had been sunk to a depth of 200 feet and due preparations were being made to open works on a relatively large scale.

DESCRIPTION

The New Garden Reef Company operated from 1897 to c. 1903.

There is a partly quarried mullock heap and open (fenced) shaft. Associated with the shaft are the remains of what appears to be a small stone-lined bob pit.

Near the south-west corner of the mullock heap is a flattened battery site (concrete rubble, outline of concrete boiler setting and linear excavation marking location of stamper mortar blocks).

Sludge pond - below the battery are two small adjoining sludge ponds.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 99
Mining Surveyor's Reports, March 1887
St Arnaud Mercury, 13 January 1897, 27 January 1897, 10 March 1897, 5 May 1897
The Pyrenees Goldfields, No. 2, Geological Survey of Victoria, 1903

1. The first part of the document discusses the importance of maintaining accurate records of all transactions and activities. It emphasizes that proper record-keeping is essential for transparency and accountability, particularly in the context of public administration and financial management. The text highlights that without reliable records, it becomes difficult to track expenditures, identify inefficiencies, and ensure that funds are used for their intended purposes. This section also touches upon the legal requirements for record-keeping and the consequences of non-compliance.

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natte Yallock
NAME: Stables
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: off Maryborough-Natte Yallock Rd
MAP NAME: Redbank
MAP REFERENCE: YE 196087

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The stable, built from brick with a timber extension, dates from c1879. It has significance for its associations.

The brick construction of the stable suggests its intended function as a solid hotel stable catering for passing travellers. The later adaptation of the stable for use as a garage is indicative of the transition from horse transport to motor transport in the twentieth century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

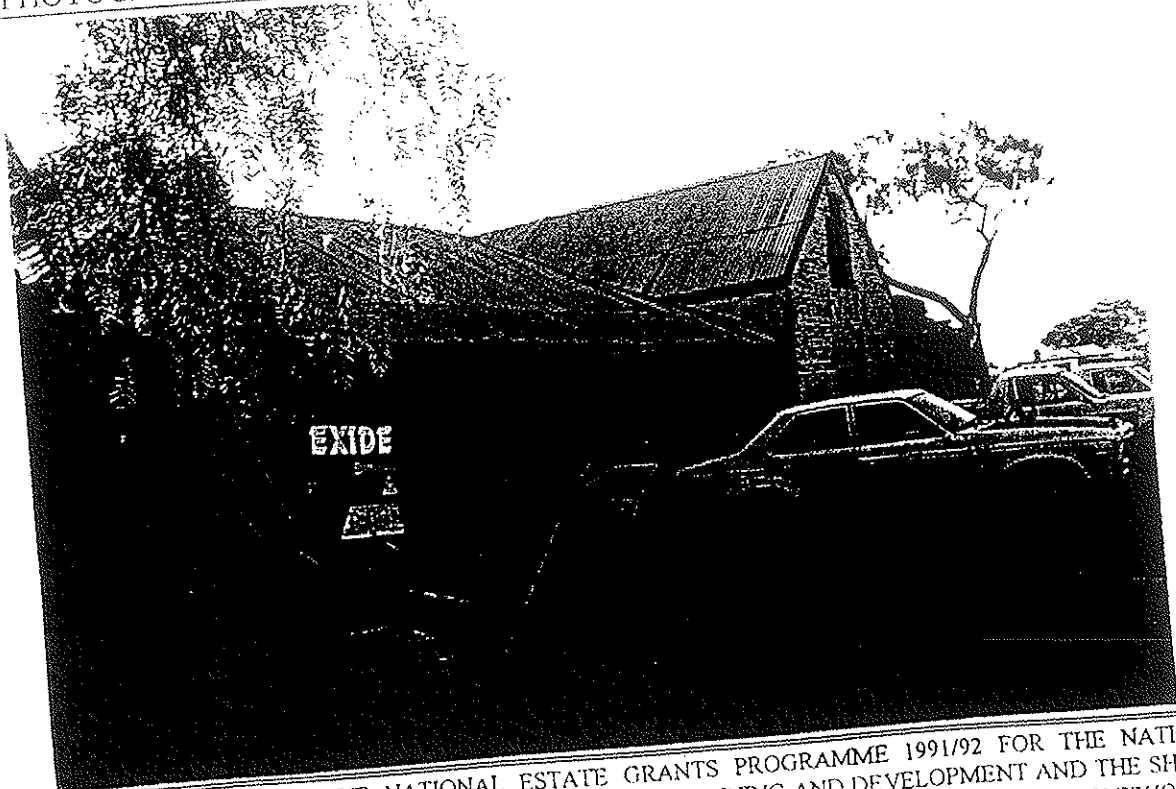
RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Transport; Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 2/4 (4/21)

BUILDING DATE: c. 1879
DATE: 25.8.93



HISTORY

The small settlement of Natte Yallock grew up around Mr Fenton's hotel established on the eastern side of the Avoca River in the late 1850s. By 1862, a second hotel was in operation - known in later years by a variety of names including the Commercial, Natte Yallock or Bridge hotel. This was also located on the eastern side of the river and operated by a colourful character named Louisa Streeter. The construction of a solid bridge over the Avoca River at Natte Yallock in 1864 increased business, and as the area further to the west was thrown open for settlement, a constant flow of bullock drays from the St Arnaud district travelled through Natte Yallock.

The stables, on the west side of the river, are said to be part of a complex built in 1879 for John Benjamin who intended to operate a hotel here. However he was refused a licence on the basis that his proposed hotel was situated in the Redbank licensing area which already had a legal maximum of licensed premises

Instead, John Benjamin who had worked as a storekeeper at Redbank during the 1870s, took over the operation of the Commercial Hotel at Natte Yallock on the eastern side of the river. In 1900 the licensee of the Commercial hotel was James Beavis and the Benjamin family had returned to store keeping.

In the twentieth century, the stables were used by Joseph Benjamin, John Benjamin's son, as a garage and storage area. Joseph Benjamin was one of the district's great entrepreneurs - working as a stock agent, a general commission agent and a country dealer for T Model Ford cars. On one occasion he is reputed to have sold more T Model Fords than any other agent in Victoria. He purchased the allotment on which the stables stand on 9 July 1906.

DESCRIPTION

The building consists of a brick section with a steeply pitched gable roof enclosing a hay loft and a timber framed section with a hipped roof at right angles to the brick section. The roof of the timber framed section extends to form a verandah along the front.

The brick section has a timber skillion roofed extension to the north. The gable end facing the road has a loft door in the upper part with an arched opening with brick voussoirs. The timber door of vertical boarding is intact.

The roofs are now clad in corrugated iron. The face brick work has been painted and has some cracking, spalling from rising damp and missing bricks

The form and materials of the building are characteristic of stables and the building forms a landmark in the area.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 7 March 1878
- Balliere's Victorian Directory*, 1868
- Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 19
- Du Bourg, *Big Water - Little Plain*, pp. 58-9
- Information from Graeme Mills and Maurice Cain
- Sands and McDougall's Country Directory*, 1915
- Shire of Avoca rate books*, 1879, 1880, 1882, 1900, 1910
- Victorian Government Gazette*, 1 April 1873; 14 January 1880
- Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1884, 1900

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section A, Allotment 3

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natte Yallock
NAME: Wesleyan Methodist church
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: off Maryborough-Natte Yallock Rd
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: YE 196088

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wesleyan church is a brick structure dating from 1868. It has significance for its age and associations.

The former Wesleyan Methodist church is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Natte Yallock, its design expressing the Methodist preference for simplicity. The church's partial construction by volunteer labour and its function as both a religious and social centre throughout the nineteenth century is indicative of the high community value and cultural sentiment attached to the building.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 2/5 (4/22)

BUILDING DATE: 1868
DATE 25/8/93



HISTORY

In 1868, Henry Mills and two other Natte Yallock residents sought an interview with the Avoca Methodist minister, the Rev. Henry Greenwood, and as a result received a promise that Natte Yallock would be included in the Avoca circuit, in addition to receiving as many ministerial week night services as was required. The first service took place in a sitting room at the Natte Yallock hotel and within months a Building Committee had been formed and plans were underway for the construction of church building.

On 27 October 1868 a contract was let for making 1,300, 'Good, Sound Bricks' for a church and on 7 December 1868 Messrs Alexander Gordon and George McDonald's tender of £74.1.16 was accepted for the erection of a Wesleyan church. Local residents contributed their labour, quarrying the stone for the foundation and carting the bricks for the superstructure.

The new church was built on what was then a government reserve, and it was opened on 16 May 1869 by the Rev. Joseph Nicholson from Avoca. Since the Avoca Methodists had built a new church just the year before, all the windows, doors and seats in the Natte Yallock church were provided by the old Avoca church. These were purchased for a small amount, reducing the total cost of the new church, including fittings, to only £107.

The Natte Yallock Methodist church continued to serve as a place of worship for the next thirty-five years and also provided the venue for many social functions including tea meetings and evening lectures. It functioned as a school for a brief six month period in 1876 when it was rented by the Education Department for 5/- a week. Almost every Natte Yallock family attended the church and it was closely associated with such well-known local names such as Mills, Elliott, Cain, Beavis and Niven.

The church finally closed in 1905 after it was replaced by a new building on another site. On 27 August 1907 it was sold to Joseph Benjamin for £30.

DESCRIPTION

The church building is of a brick nave with a steeply pitched gable roof. It is divided into three bays by stepped brick buttresses with a tall narrow window in each bay. The windows have drop arched heads. The brickwork courses show irregularities which indicate that volunteer labour was used in the bricklaying.

The timber shingle roof is still in place and can be seen under the later layer of corrugated iron. The timber ten paned window frames are still in place. The brick work has been painted.

The building has had skillion extension to the front and back to provide additional shedding after it was closed as a church.

The steeply pitched roof, lack of decoration, the remaining shingles, the unusual near semi-circle window arches and the siting away from the main road make this an evocative example of a simple country church.

REFERENCES

Natte Yallock Methodist Church 1868-1968
Wesleyan Chronicle, July 1869, p. 96

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natte Yallock
 NAME: Public hall
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: off Maryborough-Natte Yallock Rd
 MAP NAME: Redbank South
 MAP REFERENCE: YE 199089

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Natte Yallock public hall was built in 1935. It has significance for its characteristic qualities and its associations.

The Natte Yallock public hall is characteristic of numerous halls erected in the Shire during the period 1935-55 at places such as Moonambel, Redbank, Crowlands and Barkly. Its utilitarian design and simple materials reflect its construction by volunteer labour and public subscription during a time of economic hardship. The hall has served as a venue for dances and other community events since 1935 and has high social value.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 2/6 (4/23)

BUILDING DATE: 1935

DATE: 25 8 93



HISTORY

Throughout the nineteenth century and early twentieth century, most Natte Yallock social functions were held in the school building. However, the school room did not provide sufficient room for dances which by the 1930s had become extremely popular. Therefore a public meeting was held on 16 February 1935 and it was decided to erect a public hall.

The trustees of the Recreation Reserve made a site available to the Hall Committee and money was raised through public subscription and fund raising events. Charles Astbury and Henry Streeter both gave one week's labour and as far as possible voluntary workers were utilised. The new public hall was opened with a concert and dance on 20 September 1935 - only seven months after the first public meeting.

The hall was well-used, providing the venue not only for dances but for concerts, plays, meetings, euchre parties and table tennis tournaments. Local residents remember that for several years due to the lack of kitchen facilities, tea and coffee was made by boiling a large billy on an open fire outside the hall. When a kitchen was built it included an open fire place with a gantry for swinging two to three honey tins (4 gallons) in and out for boiling water for tea and coffee.

The hall continues to be used for community events

DESCRIPTION

The hall is a utilitarian design with a timber frame clad in pressed cement weatherboards for the walls and a corrugated iron roof. The roof of the main hall is a half hip and the kitchen, added later as an intersecting wing, has a hipped roof. The roof has conical capped ventilators along each side and the gable section of the half hip roof has decorative timber strapping.

The kitchen addition has a simple brick chimney and the front porch would appear to be a later addition. A skillion roofed porch has also been added in the angle between the hall and the kitchen.

The hall appears substantially intact with the major alteration being the use of pressed cement "weatherboards" to line the lower half of the walls. These replaced the original pressed cement sheeting

REFERENCES

Du Bourg, *Big Water, Little Plain*, p. 51
Information from Graeme Mills and Maurice Cain

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natte Yallock
NAME: Natte Yallock Uniting church
FORMER NAME: Methodist church
ADDRESS: Maryborough- St Arnaud Rd
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: YE 195085

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Natte Yallock Uniting church is a brick structure dating from 1905. It has significance for its architecture, associations and influence.

The Natte Yallock Uniting church has been influential in Natte Yallock's development as a closely knit community, providing leadership, spiritual reference and a focal point for community life. It is closely associated with most of the area's pioneer families.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES:

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No 2/8 (4/17)

BUILDING DATE: 1905

DATE: 25 8 93



HISTORY

The first Wesleyan church in Natte Yallock was built in 1868 but by the turn of the century this was considered cramped and the site too damp. Therefore on 18 August 1904 a meeting was called to discuss the construction of a new church. Henry Mills, who had been the instrumental in establishing the first church, donated a quarter acre block in the main street and Kell and Rothwell from St Arnaud were contracted to construct a new brick church for a cost of £343.17.6.

Henry Mills laid the foundation stone of the new church on 3 November 1905. The stone recorded W G Kell as the architect of the building. William G. Kell had worked in Stawell before joining William Miller in practice in Ballarat in the mid 1890s. The firm became Clegg, Kell and Miller by 1898, Kell left the practice in about 1904 and would appear to have moved to St Arnaud at this time.

Some time later the Rev. W R Hotham presided at the opening of the new church

In 1922 the church acquired a Sunday School when the wooden church at Lower Homebush was purchased and moved to Natte Yallock. As adults the sons of four Natte Yallock families became involved in active Christian ministry, the Rev. George Elliott, the Rev. Norman Elliott, the Rev. John Benjamin and Mr Glen Cain of the Sudan Interior Mission.

In later years the numbers attending the church declined and by 1968, when the church celebrated its centenary, membership had fallen to thirty. The final church service was held 30 December 1990

DESCRIPTION

The church is a red brick nave divided into four bays by stepped buttresses. In the centre of each bay is a pointed arch window. The steeply pitched gable roof is clad in corrugated iron and the ridge is marked by conical capped ventilators. The red brickwork is relieved by cream bands of brickwork at sill level and half way up the windows. These are matched by the render cappings of the steps in the buttresses.

The church has a front porch in the centre of the front gable porch with the entrance at the side. The timber entry door has a pointed arch and is of vertical boarding. The front of the porch has a pair of buttresses at each corner and two small pointed arched windows facing the street. The brick gable end is supported on corbelled bricks with render decoration. The gable is marked as a pediment by a render cornice line.

The main facade has a pair of windows flanking the porch with a cornice line marking the upper section of the gable end as a pediment. In the pediment are three lancet shaped openings with the central taller opening flanked by two smaller openings.

The use of dichromatic brickwork, the three stepped buttresses, decorative render cornices make this one of the more detailed simple brick churches in the study area.

REFERENCES

Natte Yallock Methodist Church 1868-1968

Peter Vernon, *Catalogue, Vernon Collection, Exhibition of architectural drawings*, Ballarat Fine Art Gallery 1992

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natte Yallock

NAME: Cain's house
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS:

MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: YE 198081

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE.

Cain's house is built of timber and dates from 1909. It has significance for its associations and contextual importance.

Cain's house is closely associated with an early Natte Yallock settler, John Cain. It is one of Natte Yallock's most substantial farm houses, its size and impressive design reflecting the hard-earned prosperity achieved by Cain family after almost fifty years on the land.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

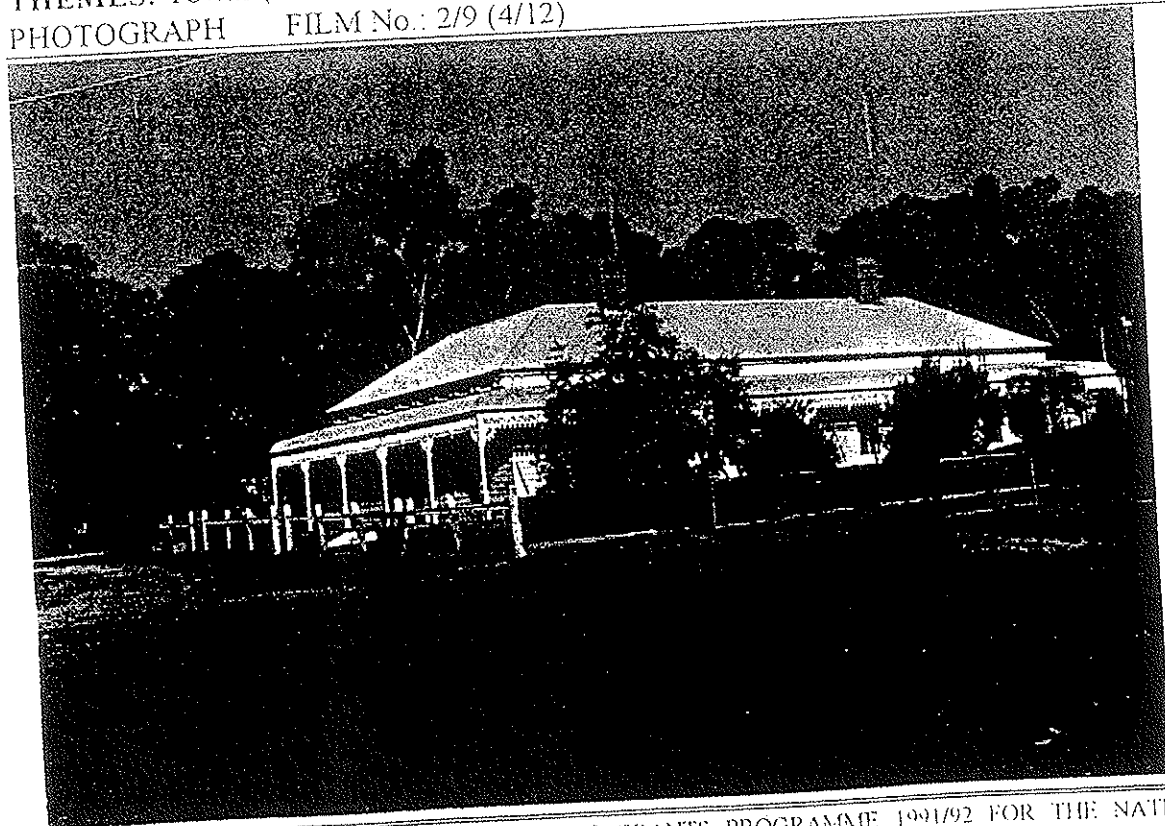
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (residential)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 2/9 (4/12)

BUILDING DATE: 1909

DATE 25 8 93



HISTORY

James Cain selected land in the Natte Yallock/Rathscar area in the early 1860s. He had been mining at the Lamplough diggings in 1860 and it may have been there that he obtained the money to buy land. In 1891 his son John Cain extended his holdings by purchasing 442 acres of prime land, on the western side of the Avoca river, just outside the township of Natte Yallock. This land had previously been owned by the Beavis family. The auction notice for the property read, 'the land is some of the very best in the district, good for cultivation or grazing'

John Thomas Cain married in March 1892; he had one son from this marriage. After the death of his wife he married Christina Wardell in 1897 and had eight children and after the auction the family moved into the Beavis home, a four-room dwelling with detached kitchen and out-buildings. It was situated in what was known as the 'home paddock' - 181 acres with a $\frac{3}{4}$ mile frontage to the Avoca River guaranteeing a permanent supply of water.

In 1909 the original dwelling was demolished and the present house built in its place by Alf Kaye, a builder from Avoca. Materials from the old house were used to construct a washroom and dairy

After John and Christina's death the house passed to their youngest son, Don. Don Cain married Flora McDonald and raised three children in the house where Don continues to live.

DESCRIPTION

The house is a large timber late Victorian villa with a hipped M roof extending in long side wings. The eaves of the front section are supported on paired timber brackets with a cornice mould beneath. The bull nosed verandah springs from below the cornice mould. The verandah is supported on turned timber posts and has a cast iron frieze and brackets. The walls are clad in weatherboards and the roof in corrugated iron. The chimneys are of red brick with corbelled brick decoration.

The front facade is symmetrical with a central doorway, flanked on each side by a three light window. The two side lights being very narrow.

The house is a large and well detailed example of a late Victorian villa and is substantially externally intact.

REFERENCES

Information from Graeme Mills and Maurice Cain
Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 18

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natte Yallock
NAME: Natte Yallock cemetery
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Moonambel-Natte Yallock Rd
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: YE 189082

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Natte Yallock cemetery was established in 1872. It has significance for its scientific/environmental importance.

The Natte Yallock cemetery represents one of the few sections of land to remain untouched by grazing in the region and it is the only place where stands of silver banksia (*Banksia Marginata*), once common across the Avoca flood plain, continue to grow.

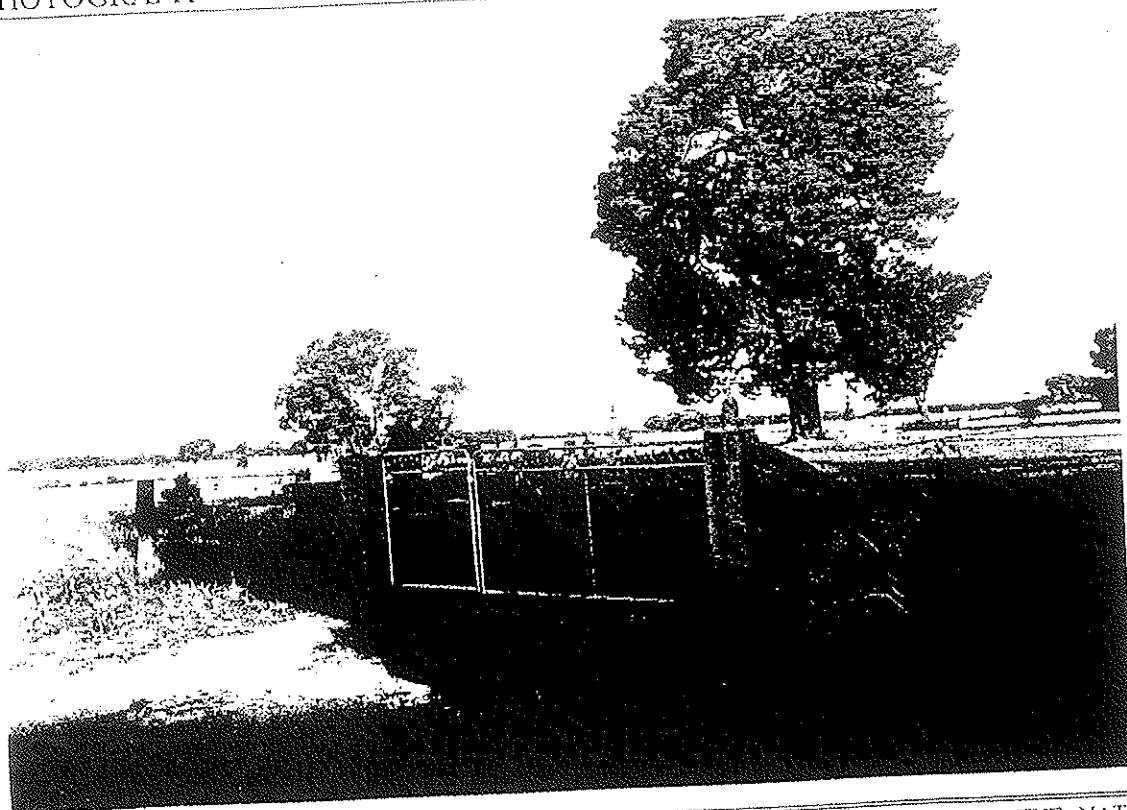
SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Environment, Community life
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 2/10 (4/11)

BUILDING DATE:
DATE: 25.9.93



HISTORY

The first burial ground at Natte Yallock appears to have been located on the river bank just south of the bridge and this is still marked on old maps. Local legend had it that coffins were simply fashioned from a sheet of bark. Others state that this was in fact an aboriginal burial ground.

The present Natte Yallock cemetery was established in 1872. The first burial recorded was that of Thomas Rowe in 1875. Another burial took place soon afterwards when George Wood accidentally drowned on Christmas Eve 1876, highlighting the hazards of the town's proximity to the Avoca River.

When the tombstone and registers were transcribed by Helen Harris in 1981-2 there were approximately 150 burials in the cemetery.

After more than 150 years of white settlement in the Natte Yallock district most areas have been grazed by stock and the Natte Yallock cemetery represents one of the few sections of land to remain untouched. As a result stands of silver banksia (*Banksia Marginata*) once common all over the Avoca flood plain, but thought to have vanished completely from the area, have been discovered in the Natte Yallock cemetery.

DESCRIPTION

The cemetery now retains little of any formal layout. It is fenced in timber posts and chicken wire with the main gateway being marked by large square timber posts and a cyclone wire gates. The cemetery retains a selection of nineteenth and early twentieth century headstones, cast iron railings and sculptures.

The cemetery retains some exotic plantings including pines as well as the *Banksia Marginata*.

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society, Natte Yallock cemetery records, 1976-1982
Du Bourg, *Big Water - Little Plain*, p. 57
Information from Graeme Mills and Maurice Cain

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: N19

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Section 6, Allotment 33A

TOWN/DISTRICT: Rathscar West
NAME: Elliott house and thatched sheds
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Elliott's Lane
MAP NAME: Bung Bong
MAP REFERENCE: YD 227015

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elliott house and thatched sheds form part of a farm complex - some elements dating back to the nineteenth century. It has significance for its rarity, associations and building techniques.

The Elliott house and thatched sheds form part of an unusual farm complex. The older section of the farmhouse, once formed half of the Elliott family home. The thatched sheds at the rear of the house are thought to date back to the nineteenth century, and testify to a process of rethatching which involved the simple expedient of throwing chaff straw onto the roof.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

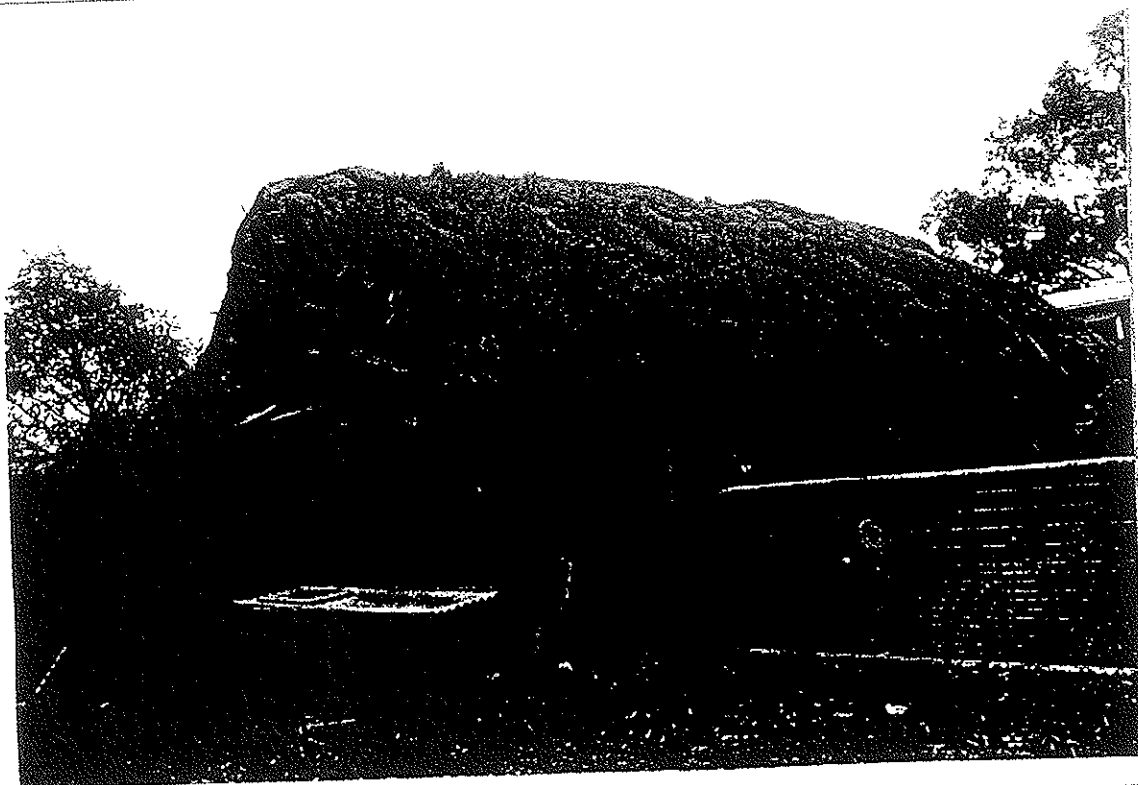
RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Farming
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.: 4/27, 11/19

BUILDING DATE: c. 1900
DATE: 25.8.93, 7.10.93



HISTORY

On 28 October 1880, Peter Scott, a farmer, purchased 322 acres at Rathscar after leasing the land for some years under the 1869 Land Act. His property was subsequently owned by Mr. Armstrong, Sam Osman, and finally passed to Thomas Elliott.

After the death of Thomas' father, Benjamin, in December 1921, much of Benjamin's property was divided between two of his sons, Thomas and James, and the family home was physically split in two. One half stayed on the original farm (AD17) while Thomas re-erected the other half on the old Scott property.

Thomas Elliott raised a family in the house and it continues to be occupied by his son, Lance Elliott.

DESCRIPTION

The farm complex consists of a house, the section of the original Elliott house, two thatched sheds and timber fenced sheep pens.

The house is weatherboard with two parallel gabled roof sections, each with an external brick chimney. The roofs are clad in corrugated iron. The house has been extended to the front by the addition of a gable roofed room and extended to the back with a parallel section with a hipped roof. The house has a front verandah which returns around the front section of the house.

The section of the original Elliott farmhouse is located near to the other building but separated by part of the garden. The section has a hipped roof at one end but truncates suddenly in a gable roof at the other end. It is clad in square edged weatherboards and has a corrugated iron roof. The house has a bull nose verandah at the front.

The two thatched roof sheds are used as machinery stores. The larger shed is in reasonable condition although it had to be pulled up from a collapsed state after a storm and is now propped by timber struts along one side. The roof is supported on timber tree trunks with forked branches at the top. The main roof beams which are round also, are supported in the forks and these support saplings which act as joists and rafters. Above the joists and presumably also the rafters, planks are placed at intervals to provide a base for the thatching. The family tradition is that new thatch is forked onto the existing to maintain the watertightness of the roof. This has resulted in excessive weight in the roof and was one of the factors which would have caused the collapse of the structure. Chicken wire was placed over the thatch in living memory as the hens were laying in the thatch and when the chicks hatched they leapt to their death causing distress to the family. The walls are clad in vertical slabs loosely pinned to the walls.

The smaller shed is of similar construction but has not been propped up and is on a significant lean and in danger of collapse.

The sheds are set in a farmyard with the timber sheep pens adjacent. The pens are constructed of round timber posts with slabs rails.

The thatched sheds may have already been on the farm when the Elliott family took possession and the construction may have formed the model for the outbuildings on their other properties or there may have been a family tradition for this type of structure and they were constructed of the readily available timbers as need arose. The sheds form a link with the earlier settlers who used the materials at hand to construct the first buildings on their land, which were replaced with more substantial construction as they were able to do so. The survival of the thatched sheds and sheep pens is unusual.

REFERENCES

Information from Graeme Mills and Lance Elliott
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1879

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: NB20

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Navarre
NAME: Navarre Station
FORMER NAME: Heifer Station
ADDRESS: Barkly-Navarre Rd
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: XE 907128

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Navarre station is a pastoral homestead, built of timber, the earliest section dating from c1856. It is significant for its rarity, architecture, garden layout and associations. Navarre station is a fascinating example of a pastoral homestead which has been enlarged and extended over time according to need so that it now demonstrates a variety of architectural styles culminating in the ornate alterations and undertaken to the design by architect J W Crawly in 1901. The linear shape of the house gives every room access to the enclosed verandah, reflecting the importance of the verandah in providing sheltered living space. The remarkably well-preserved drawing room is an example of a middle-class room of the turn of the century and is highly valued for its decorative intactness and original furnishings.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Historic Buildings Register and the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Pastoralism, Farming
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 4/22

BUILDING DATE: c. 1856
DATE: 4.11.93



HISTORY

The Navarre pastoral run was originally part of the much larger Decameron run established by Dr Imlay in 1841 but taken over by James Cameron a year later. In 1852 he divided the run into two halves - forming Decameron in the south and Navarre (also known as Heifer Station) in the north. The new Navarre run was purchased by Charles Williamson, a wealthy Melbourne draper, in 1855. Nine years later he sold Navarre station to Arthur and William Barker. In this year the rates books list Arthur Barker as the owner of a residence, pound business, wool shed and 510 acres at Heifer station, Navarre. He also occupied 16,000 acres of unalienated pasture land.

Spreadborough and Anderson's *Victorian Squatters* record Andrew Anderson as the owner of Navarre station in 1873 although family sources claim that in February 1873 it became the property of Andrew Brown. At any rate, Brown was certainly in possession of the station by 1877. He formed a partnership with his young brother-in-law, George Lawrence Thomson, who eventually became the sole owner. Following Thomson's death, the property was left as a life interest to his elder daughter, Mary Kelleher, and then to her children. Mary Kelleher's son, William Kelleher, now retains about 1,100 acres of the original holding, together with the old homestead.

The Navarre station homestead began as a timber dwelling of three rooms, dating from at least as early as 1864 when the Barker family was in residence, although family sources suggest it could have been built as early as 1856. In 1877 a room was added and the drawing room was added and decorated in 1888. The drawing room was built by local builder Charlie Martin. The decoration was arranged through Mrs. Adams of Mountain Creek Station who had recently had similar work undertaken. In 1901 the house assumed its present appearance due to the efforts of the architect J. W. Crawly. Originally the kitchen and outbuildings were all separate and he brought them under the same roof and designed the decorative timber window hoods and gables, ornamental iron cresting and finials. Extensions were also made to the east of the house. The kitchen was replaced in brick after the earlier building had been destroyed by fire.

The station employed a large number of station hands and huts were built near the woolshed for their accommodation. The station grounds still reveal various outbuildings of timber horizontal slab construction with bark roofing (beneath later iron). Extensive vegetable and ornamental gardens were also part of the homestead environment and a Chinese gardener was employed.

DESCRIPTION

The house is of weatherboard with a corrugated iron roof of intersecting gables and hips. The main section of the house has a long central section flanked by gable wings that enclose a verandah. The roof of the verandah is an extension of the main roof at a flatter pitch. The entrance is marked by a gable section of the verandah roof supported on paired timber posts with arched infills of lattice. The verandah beam is decorated with scalloped timber fretwork. The gable ends of the wings have decorative timber exposed king post trusses and curved barge boards with a trefoil decoration. The chimneys of this section are rendered with moulded cornices. The ridges of the house are crested with cast iron decoration with a wrought iron finial at each apex. The windows have timber shutters. In front of this section of the house is a circular driveway and central flowerbed.

To one side of the west wing is a passage addition which has a pyramidal roof clad in metal fish scale tiles. Windows in the next section of the house are protected by timber hoods with scalloped board cladding and valances supported on carved timber brackets. A decorative timber fretwork gable infill and entrance screen are also a feature of this section.

The interior of the parlour is richly treated with an imitation embossed gilt leather dado, a remarkable treatment of the raking sides of the ceiling to read as part of the frieze, an elegantly coloured cornice and centre flower and a star spangled ceiling.

REFERENCES

- Avoca rate books, 1864
- Balliere's *Victorian Directory*, 1868
- Information from Mr Kelleher
- National Trust File No. 3570
- Spreadborough and Anderson, *Victorian Squatters*, p. 235

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: N21

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natta Yallock
NAME: Avenue of pines & Memorial Trees
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Natta Yallock-Moonambel Rd
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: YE 199086

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The avenue of pines was planted after the conclusion of the First World War, while the wattle tree, one of a pair of trees, was planted after the Second World War. They have significance for their associations.

The avenue has great symbolic significance as a reminder of those who enlisted and especially those who died in the First World War. The remaining wattle tree also has symbolic significance as a memorial to a local resident killed in the Second World War.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.:

BUILDING DATE: c 1919
DATE:



HISTORY

Approximately 112,000 Victorians enlisted in the First World War, and when the conflict finally ended in November 1918 more than 17,000 had died. At Natte Yallock thirty men enlisted and several women served as nurses. Four men - R McDowell, C Henry, G Evans and J Beavis - were killed. After the end of hostilities Natte Yallock residents planted an avenue of pines in honour of all those from the area who had served in the war - one tree for every person. Their names and achievements were also recorded in an Honour Book unveiled at the school.

A number of Natte Yallock residents also served in the Second World War and memorial trees were planted for the two men who were killed, RAAF flight sergeant N.C. Ross No. 410852, died England 18.12.1943 and Private J.F. Evans, 58th Battalion AMF No. U2403435 who died in New Guinea 7.7.1943. Only one of these survives, a wattle tree on the west side of the road. A local Eucalypt was planted on the east side.

DESCRIPTION

The avenue of pine trees line the entry into Natte Yallock from the Avoca River bridge. Those under the power lines have suffered in recent years from unsympathetic pruning and have lost their graceful shape. The pine avenue contributes to the character of the area.

The two memorial trees planted to commemorate the locals who died in the Second World War are protected by white painted square topped picket fences. The wattle on the north side of the road is healthy but the tree on the south side of the road has died.

REFERENCES

History of Natte Yallock, 1941
Information from Graeme Mills and Maurice Cain

Assessed by
N. Jacobs/K. Twigg

Assessment Date

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natte Yallock

NAME: Slate dairy
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: off Mills Rd

MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: YE 195015

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The slate dairy is a small rectangular structure possibly dating from c. 1894. It has significance for its rarity and building materials.

The slate dairy is a remarkably intact example of a farm building type which was once widespread across the Shire but is now relatively rare. Its thick stone walls indicate the importance of keeping dairy produce cool until it could be taken for sale and its construction demonstrates a high level of masonry skill. The slate dairy gains in significance by its proximity to the sheep dip and yards [N27] also owned by the Henry family and illustrating another common farming practice.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Farming

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 11/11

BUILDING DATE: c 1890

DATE: 7 10 93



HISTORY

In 1863 Thomas Henry appears as a bootmaker in High St, Avoca, but he selected a total of 417 acres at Rathscar under the 1869 Land Act and by 1879 he is listed in the rate books as a farmer. In February 1901, he added to his holdings by purchasing another 113 acres. Most of the timber was cleared from the property and was carted to Homebush for use in the mines and boilers.

The location of the Henry farm with a small corner of water frontage to the Avoca River, provided Thomas Henry with a permanent supply of water and enabled him to keep a variety of stock. Milking cows were kept and dairy produce was probably made for domestic use and also for sale in Avoca. A slate dairy was built not far from the Henry's farm house. It is believed that this was erected by Thomas Hellings (sen.), a cousin of the Henrys.

In 1894 a creamery was opened at Natte Yallock, and the Avoca District Butter, Cheese and Freezing Company was established at Avoca, creating a lucrative new market for dairy produce. In October 1894 the Avoca factory reported that it had separated 5,895 gallons of milk for the month and had produced 3,960 pounds of butter from the churn.

After Thomas Henry's death, his son Bill and daughter, Jane, continued to live on the property. Miss Jane Henry is rated for 232 acres on this site in 1910 while Bill Henry is listed as a farmer at Natte Yallock in *Balliere's Postal Directory* of 1915.

The Henry's eventually sold to Edward Castleman and the land still remains in the family.

DESCRIPTION

The dairy is a small rectangular building of roughly coursed random rubble local slate with a steeply pitched gable roof. The slates are very roughly squared and laid in narrow courses on the flat. The walls are about 600mm thick. The roof has a timber lining laid on the rafters with a second set of rafters and battens to support the corrugated iron roof. This gives a ventilated air space to help keep the dairy cool. The inside walls have been roughly rendered.

The only opening is the doorway placed in the centre of the gable end. The frame has mortice and tenon joints.

The ruins of the chimney of the nearby house are of similar construction.

The building is substantially intact and is a rare surviving in such good condition for this type of construction. It is similar to the slate dairy at Percydale (P1). Its less accessible location far from access roads has probably resulted in its intact condition.

REFERENCES

- Information from Graeme Mills, Ivan Redpath
- Avoca and District Historical Society, Avoca rates, 1863
- Shire of Avoca rate books, 1879, 1910
- Sands and McDougall's Country Directory*, 1915
- Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1884

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Parish of Bolerch, Allotment 7 and 8

TOWN/DISTRICT: Natte Yallock

NAME: Sheep dip and yards

FORMER NAME:

ADDRESS: off Mills Rd

MAP NAME: Redbank South

MAP REFERENCE: YE 195014

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The brick lined sheep dip and its timber sheep yards may date from c 1900. They have significance for their rarity, the technical insights they provide and their contextual importance.

A sheep dip and yards of this type were once a common sight on farms across the Shire but most have since been modernised or filled in. The yards and sheep dip together lend themselves to interpretation and provide material evidence of the process of sheep dipping in the early twentieth century. The sheep dip gains in significance from its proximity to the slate dairy [N26] also owned by the Henry family and illustrating another common farming practice.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Farming

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 11/15

BUILDING DATE: c 1900

DATE: 7.10.93



HISTORY

In 1863 Thomas Henry appears as a bootmaker in High St, Avoca, but he selected a total of 417 acres at Rathscar under the 1869 Land Act and by 1879 he is listed in the rate books as a farmer. In February 1901, he added to his holdings by purchasing another 113 acres. Most of the timber was cleared from the property and was carted to Homebush for use in the mines and boilers.

The location of the Henry farm with a small corner of water frontage to the Avoca River, provided Thomas Henry with a permanent supply of water and enabled him to keep a variety of stock, including sheep and cattle. Yards and a brick lined sheep dip were built at some distance from the house.

After Thomas Henry's death, his son Bill and daughter Jane continued living on the property. Miss Jane Henry is rated for 232 acres on this site in 1910 while Bill Henry is listed as a farmer at Natte Yallock in *Balliere's Postal Directory* of 1915.

The Henry's eventually sold to Edward Castleman and the land still remains in the hands of his niece.

DESCRIPTION

The sheep dip and yards demonstrate the art of "making do" on a farm. The sheep yards are of a selection of materials and techniques.

One side of the yard has a fence of logs stacked on top of each other with the return fence acting as chocks at the corner. This type of fencing goes back to the earliest pastoral practice where the availability of long straight tree trunks led to this simple form of fencing which does not need any other tool than an axe. Other forms of fencing are remnant posts with mortice holes which remain from early post and rail fencing. The mortice supporting the rail and doing away with the need of expensive nails or wire. Vertical slabs fill in small holes in the fences and modern movable metal yarding panels and sheets of corrugated iron are used in other areas. The drafting race to the sheep dip uses a cast iron single bedhead as part of the fence.

The sheep dip is lined in pressed red bricks which were laid or have worn to a gentle curve in the path leading to the water.

REFERENCES

- Information from Graeme Mills
- Avoca and District Historical Society, Avoca rates, 1863
- Shire of Avoca rate books, 1879, 1910
- Sands and McDougall's Country Directory*, 1915
- Wise's Post Office Directory*, 1884

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: NB7A

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Barkly
NAME: Old Barkly cemetery
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Barkly-Redbank Rd
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: XE 994087

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Barkly cemetery was established in 1872. It has significance for its associations and aesthetic qualities. The Old Barkly cemetery is closely associated with Barkly's early gold mining history, the number of infant graves underlining the risks of mining life for children. The cemetery was opened when the population of Barkly was still scattered over a wide area and its closure in 1905 represents the consolidation of the community into a settlement some kilometres distant from the cemetery. The isolated position of the cemetery, marked by a chock and log fence and surrounded by shady gums, makes it a peaceful visiting place and it is valued by the local community for its aesthetic qualities.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life

BUILDING DATE: 1872

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.:

DATE: 1993



HISTORY

On 12 January 1872, three acres were temporarily reserved as a site for the Barkly cemetery, 1¼ miles from the township. The first cemetery trustees were elected at a public meeting in the school room on 24 April 1872. The new cemetery was not fenced, and minutes and correspondence of the early years of the cemetery trust reveal that the trustees were continually applying to the Minister of Public Works for money for fencing in order to protect the graves from stock wandering on the common.

After a visit from Inspector John Taylor in June 1895, a public meeting of all Barkly residents decided to recommend that a new cemetery be established closer to the township. This was approved and the first burial in the new cemetery took place in January 1903. When the old cemetery was closed on 5 July 1904, over thirty burials had taken place.

DESCRIPTION

The only two headstones remaining are those of James Taylor who died in December 1874 and of Joseph Humphrey who died in September 1895. The latter headstone is carved from wood.

REFERENCES

Driscoll, *The Barkly Story*, pp. 78-80, 114

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: NB 15

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Barkly
NAME: Driscoll's house
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Frenchman's Road
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: XE 958079

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Driscoll's house, on the banks of Heifer Station creek, is built of mud brick and possibly dates from the last decades of the nineteenth century. It has significance for its rarity and associations.

Driscoll's house is a rare example of a substantial mud brick farmhouse, the choice of building materials reflecting the ready availability of soil and water from the nearby creek. The farmhouse is closely associated with one of the district's most prominent families, the Driscolls, who have resided at Barkly since 1865.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

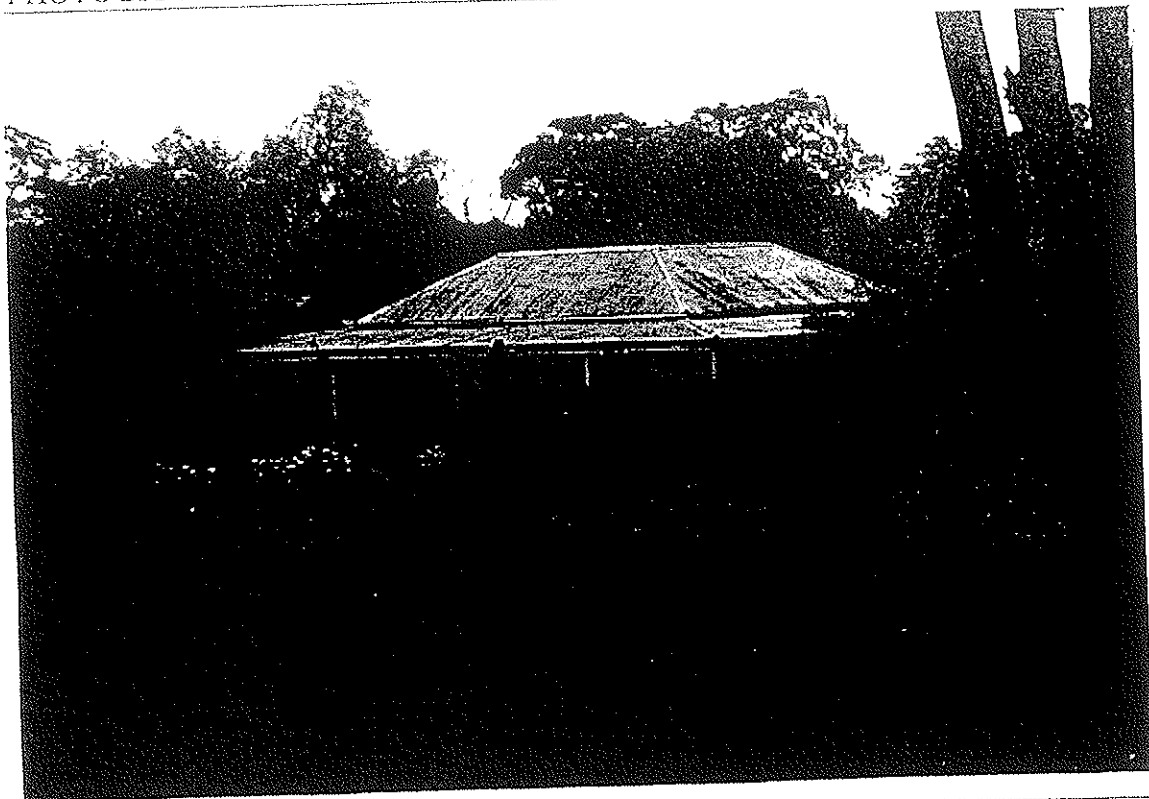
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Farming

BUILDING DATE: c
1890

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 14/5

DATE 4 11 93



HISTORY

Edwin 'Ted' Driscoll was born at the mining settlement of Lambing Flat near Young, New South Wales on 2 November 1862. In 1865 his parents, George William 'Jeremiah' and Cordelia (nee Hall), moved to Barkly and settled in the foothills at the eastern end of the diggings. As the gold petered out, Jeremiah turned increasingly to farming and the family selected forty acres beside the Heifer Station creek.

As adults Edwin and three brothers also took up land along the creek within sight of each other. Edwin built his residence from mud brick, probably in the 1880s or 1890s, and after his marriage, raised a family here. One son, Ernest, took over the property from his parents and he and his wife, Gertrude, also raised a family here. Two of Ernest's sons, Graham and Terry still remain in the district although the house has been vacant for many years.

DESCRIPTION

The house has a hipped M-shaped roof clad in corrugated iron. The shallow, straight pitched return verandah springs from just below the main roof gutter line. The verandah is supported on plain square timber posts.

The house has a single rendered chimney capped with two courses of red bricks.

The house is a substantial, unadorned farmhouse and is of interest for the use of mud brick.

REFERENCES

Driscoll, *The Barkly Story*, pp. 90-1
Information from Eulalie Driscoll and Tom Wright

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: NB19

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT:

Barkly

NAME:

Barkly Church of St Mary an

FORMER NAME:

Woodlands private chapel

ADDRESS:

Redbank-Barkly Road

MAP NAME:

Navarre South

MAP REFERENCE:

XE 968091

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The church of St Mary and St John, is a timber structure, originally built as a small private chapel. It has significance for its rarity and aesthetic qualities.

The church is a rare example of a private chapel dating from a period when pastoral stations still operated as self-contained communities. Its size reflects its original function as a chapel while at the same time giving it strong aesthetic appeal as a parish church. The church's declared availability to all denominations is expressive of a new spirit of ecumenicalism.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

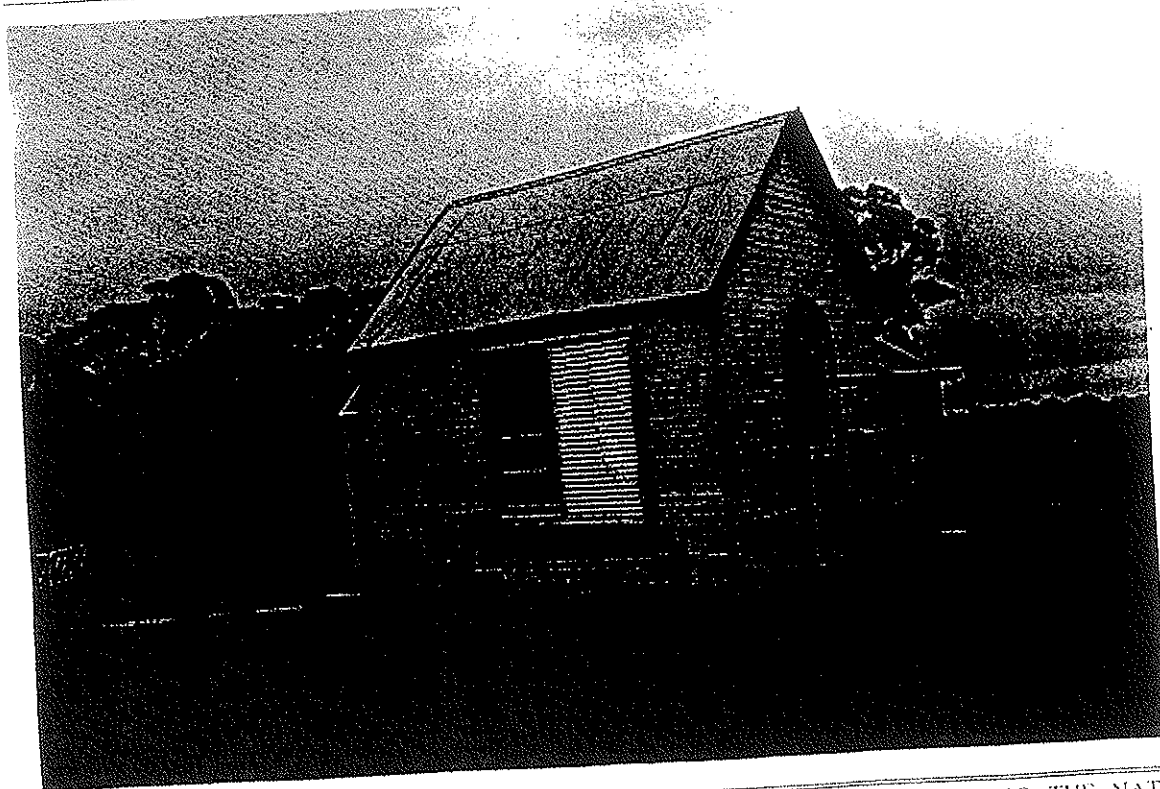
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 14/11

BUILDING DATE: c. 1870s

DATE 4.11.93



HISTORY

Until 1935 Barkly did not possess a church building and Anglican, Presbyterian and Catholic services were held periodically in the public hall. Some hasty cleaning and sweeping was often needed early on Sunday morning if the hall had been used for a dance the preceding evening.

In 1935 a local resident, Judith Cheesman, purchased the McCulloch family's private chapel at Woodlands station and it was moved to Barkly to become the area's first church. The McCulloch family had owned Woodlands station since 1888 although it had previously been the property of John Wilson who had built a large stone residence by the Wimmera river in 1867. It is possible that the chapel dates from this period. Even after the sale of the chapel, Sandy McCulloch drove his mother the twenty-five miles from Woodlands to Barkly, so that she could play the organ for each fortnightly service.

The first service in Barkly's new church was conducted on 24 November 1935 although it was formally dedicated as the Church of St Mary and St John six months later on 6 May 1936. Forty-two people attended the dedication service which must have filled the tiny church to capacity. In accordance with the wishes of Judith Cheesman the church was open for the use of any denomination. In fact it was used primarily for Anglican services, although for many years the Presbyterian Missioner from Landsborough also conducted monthly services at Barkly.

For many years there was a flourishing Sunday School attached to the church and in 1943 its membership reached a peak of thirty-eight. The Barkly church is now part of the parish of Avoca within the diocese of Bendigo.

DESCRIPTION

The tiny church is of weatherboard. The main section is a rectangular room with a steeply pitched gable roof. A gable roofed vestry intersects on one side with a small gable roofed porch protecting the entry door.

The church differs from all others in the study area due to its size and it is the only church to have semi-circular arched head windows where all the others have the pointed arch of Gothic churches. The semi-circular shape is reinforced by the arched glazing bars.

The church has decorative fretwork timber bargeboards as the only other decoration.

The problem of sun control on the north window has been solved by the addition of a sliding timber shutter. The church has been fenced with simple rectangular concrete posts and chain wire fencing with the cyclone wire entry gates set on the diagonal of the corner. The church bell is hung from an external post and beam support in the yard.

The church's isolated siting on cleared land reflects its history as a relocated building and also makes it a prominent element in the landscape.

REFERENCES

Driscoll, *The Barkly Story*, pp. 48-50

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: NB20A

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Barkly
NAME: Mashado's Well
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Mashado Track
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: XE 968030

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Mashado's well is lined with brick and was built to supply water for domestic purposes. It has significance for its rarity and characteristic qualities.

Mashado's well is a particularly well-preserved example of a water supply system which was once common throughout the Shire but is now relatively rare. Its solid construction reflects its importance as a source of domestic water

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Water

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.**

BUILDING DATE: c1865

DATE: 1993

HISTORY

Frenchman's diggings developed as an extension of the rush to Barkly. In August 1861 between 600 and 700 people were mining in the locality and it was reported that the average yield was $\frac{3}{4}$ oz to the load in wet sinking. However gold in the area soon petered out and those who chose to remain in the area turned to farming or timber cutting. A small settlement grew up around the Woolpack Hotel and Frenchman's school.

Joseph Mashado, a miner, had a residence on Crown Land at Frenchmans at least as early as 1865 and the rough track which ran past their property became known as Mashado's track. Dams were built to provide water for stock, but in order to ensure a constant supply of clean water for domestic purposes, the Mashado's followed the example of many other settlers and constructed a well near their house, since the farm's location close to the Pyrenees ensured plentiful ground water. Other settlers who could not rely on ground water, dug underground tanks in which the run off water from buildings was collected.

The Mashado's house has since been demolished, but the brick well survives.

DESCRIPTION

The well is now only a hole in a grass covered paddock but its lining is intact and water can still be used from it.

REFERENCES

Information from Eulalie Driscoll
Shire of Avoca rate books, 1865, 1881

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: NB23

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Navarre
NAME: Navarre Church of England
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Navarre-Barkly Rd
MAP NAME: Navarre South
MAP REFERENCE: XE 885139

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Navarre Church of England is built of timber and dates from 1902. It has significance for its characteristic qualities and contextual importance.

The Navarre Church of England is characteristic of churches built throughout rural Victoria in the early twentieth century, and as one of the few buildings of this age to survive in Navarre, it contributes significantly to the streetscape.

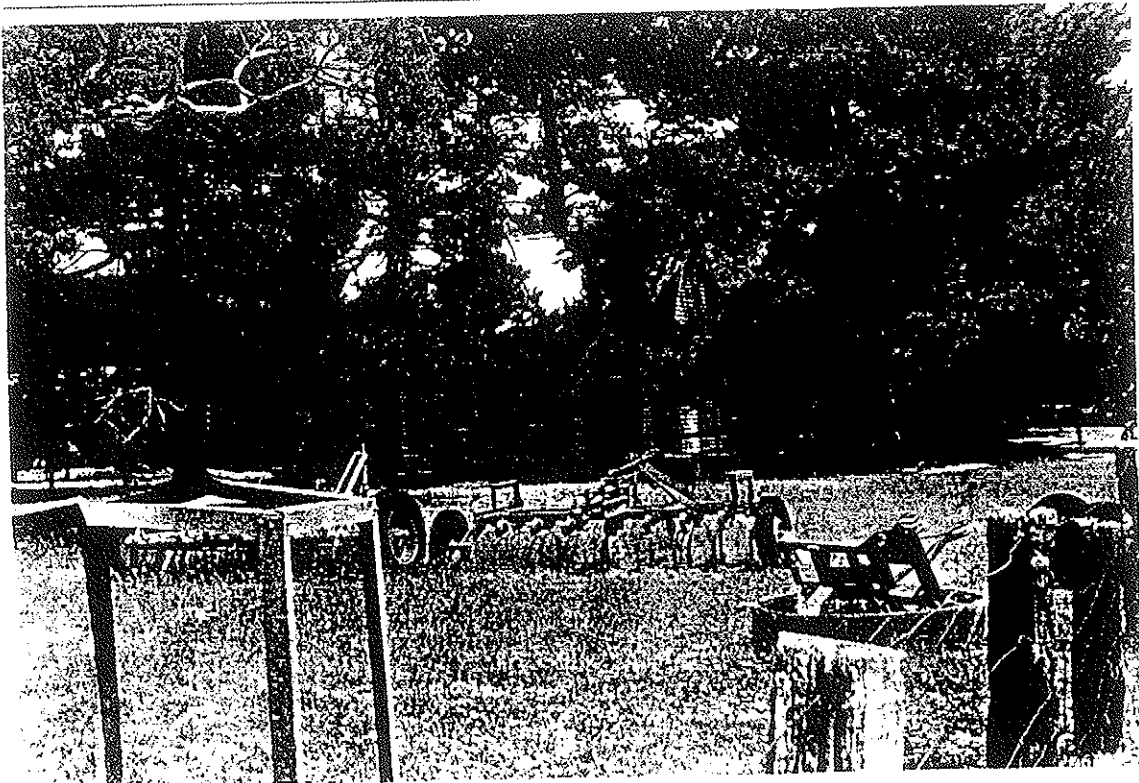
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (churches)
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 15/3

BUILDING DATE: 1902
DATE: 4.11.93



HISTORY

Little is known of early church services in the township of Navarre. However by the turn of the century adherents of the Church of England had begun fund raising in order to build their own church. The Navarre Church of England was completed in 1902 and was consecrated by the Rev. Dr Green, Anglican Bishop of Ballarat. During his visit he also consecrated the Navarre cemetery.

Prominent members of the church over the course of its history include the Bibby family and the Thomson family from Navarre station.

DESCRIPTION

The church is a weatherboard clad rectangular building with a steeply pitched gable roof. It has three pointed arch windows down each side. It is entered through a small gable roofed porch at one side where the vertical boarded doors have a semi-circular fanlight above.

The major decorative items on the church are the exposed trusses in the gable ends. The truss above the porch door is decorative with trefoil motives.

The building is a substantially intact example of a timber Gothic church. It is enhanced by its setting amongst mature pine trees.

REFERENCES

Information from Eulalie Driscoll and Tom Wright
J Hewitt, *Navarre... 1841 and afterwards*, 1964

FILE No: MIN NBI

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:
 Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Barkly
 NAME: Water race
 ADDRESS: The race begins on the southern side
 of the Cactus Loop Track. It then
 travels north before it veers north-west
 MAP NAME: Crowlands North
 MAP REFERENCE: 967 017

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The water race probably dates from the 1860s when the Frenchmans goldfield was being mined. It has significance for its rarity and association. The Frenchmans water race is a rare surviving example of the unofficial water races which were once common throughout the Shire's goldfields, but have since largely disappeared. The effort expended in its construction reflects the crucial role played by water in the process of re-working old ground by puddling and sluicing. The water race is now one of the only reminders of the existence of the Frenchman's goldfield.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No..

DATE: c. 1860s
 DATE:



HISTORY

In March 1861 a new rush to Barkly (known as the Navarre diggings) drew miners away from both Moonambel and Redbank. In June 1861 gold was also discovered at Frenchman's diggings near Barkly further swelling the population. At the height of the rush in November 1861 there were an estimated 10,000 miners on the field.

During the 1860s the population of the Shire became more settled and although some miners continued the risky business of prospecting and following new discoveries, the majority were content to re-work the shallow sections of the old leads. This involved both puddling and sluicing, although the machinery statistics supplied by the mining registrar for the Barkly (Landsborough) Division shows that sluicing became the main technology - in June 1864 the registrar listed 40 puddlers/50 sluices and toms for the division, and in December 1865 the ratio had changed to 28 puddlers/125 toms and 26 sluice boxes.

Sluicing and puddling required water, and races were frequently constructed to transport water from a water course or existing dam to the alluvial gold workings. In 1868 over twenty-two miles of water races had been constructed in the Avoca mining subdivision alone.

DESCRIPTION

The water race probably dates from the 1860s when the Frenchman's goldfield was being mined.

The water race can be traced northwards from the southern side of the Cactus Loop Track, before it veers north-west, crossing Mashado Track, toward the site of the old Frenchman's diggings. It appears to travel for over a kilometre. The race has been badly weathered but is still discernible.

REFERENCES

- James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 444
R. Brough Smyth, *The Goldfields and Mineral Districts of Victoria*, Melbourne, 1869, p. 548
Deep Lead Gold Deposits of Victoria, Canavan, 1988, *Bulletin* 62
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 447
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1864, December 1865, September 1866

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No. Area 4

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale/Warrenmang
NAME: Percydale/Warrenmang area
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS:
MAP NAME:
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The township of Percydale (originally Fiddlers Creek) was formed during a short-lived alluvial gold rush to Fiddlers Creek in 1869. The development of quartz mining in the area in the 1870s and the opening of the land to settlement allowed the town to survive. The area has significance for its rarity and associations.

Tree plantings and fenced areas still indicate town allotments although the township has all but disappeared with the exception of two significant buildings, Daly's Cottage and a slate dairy.

The unusually well preserved and numerous mining sites in the surrounding area document both alluvial mining and quartz mining activities and provide one of the most intact and concentrated mining landscapes in the Shire.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pyrenees Planning Scheme

HISTORY

Gold was found at Percydale (originally known as Fiddler's Creek) as early as 1854 and over the next fifteen years the area was occupied by a mixture of both miners and farmers. However it was not until the large alluvial rush of 1869 followed by the establishment of quartz mines in the area, that anything like a township emerged. In June 1869 the mining surveyor reported twenty-five stores and two hotels on the diggings in addition to thirty stores in the 'Chinese quarter'. Both a police camp and a school were in the course of construction and the entire place was, 'assuming an air of permanency'.

In December 1871 forty-five village lots were advertised for sale at Percydale. Due to the predominance of Chinese miners on the field (there were a reported 2,000 Chinese compared to 400 Europeans in 1869) the township developed in two parts - one frequented by Europeans and the other patronised by the Chinese. However by 1880 the Chinese population had declined and the population of Percydale and district was given as 530 Europeans and 190 Chinese. Businesses included a blacksmith's shop, a hotel, three butcher's shops and five general stores.

Alluvial mining continued in the area but many miners were diverted by gold gleaming from quartz outcrops. During the 1870s, small scale quartz mining became established on the reefs surrounding Percydale, and many mines erected their own crushing plant. The remains of batteries can still be observed at Fiddlers Reef [MIN P 3], Union Jack Reef [MIN P5], West of England Reef [MIN P 6], Halls and Rodwells Reef [MIN P 7], Hampshire Reef and Barnes Reef [MIN P 13]. Two of the main operators in the early 1870s were the Perseverance Company and the No. 2 United Barnes Reef Company. The Perseverance Company drove a tunnel, through hard rock in order to intercept the Perseverance Reef, which eventually reached an estimated 920 feet in length. [MIN P2] The No. 2 United Barnes Reef Company was one of the few companies to erect the necessary steam pumping and winding plant to sink a deep shaft, and at a depth of over 300 feet, it became the deepest shaft ever sunk in the Avoca Mining Division. [MIN P13]

DESCRIPTION

This area includes the Percydale/Warrenmang Historic Reserve as defined by the Land Conservation Council of 1981, with an extension to include the Fiddlers Creek alluvial diggings and the Percydale town area.

REFERENCES

- Bannear, David, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994
Victorian Government Gazette, 22 December 1871
Mining Surveyors' Reports, June 1869

FILE No: P1

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale
 NAME: Slate dairy
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Percydale Rd
 MAP NAME: Avoca North
 MAP REFERENCE: YD 127965

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The dairy is a small rectangular structure made of slate and possibly dating from 1870s. It has significance for its rarity, and building materials. The slate dairy is a remarkably intact example of a farm building type which was once widespread across the area but is now relatively rare. Its construction demonstrates a high level of masonry skill. It is highly valued by the local community as the only remaining nineteenth century building in the township of Percydale which once boasted a population of hundreds.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

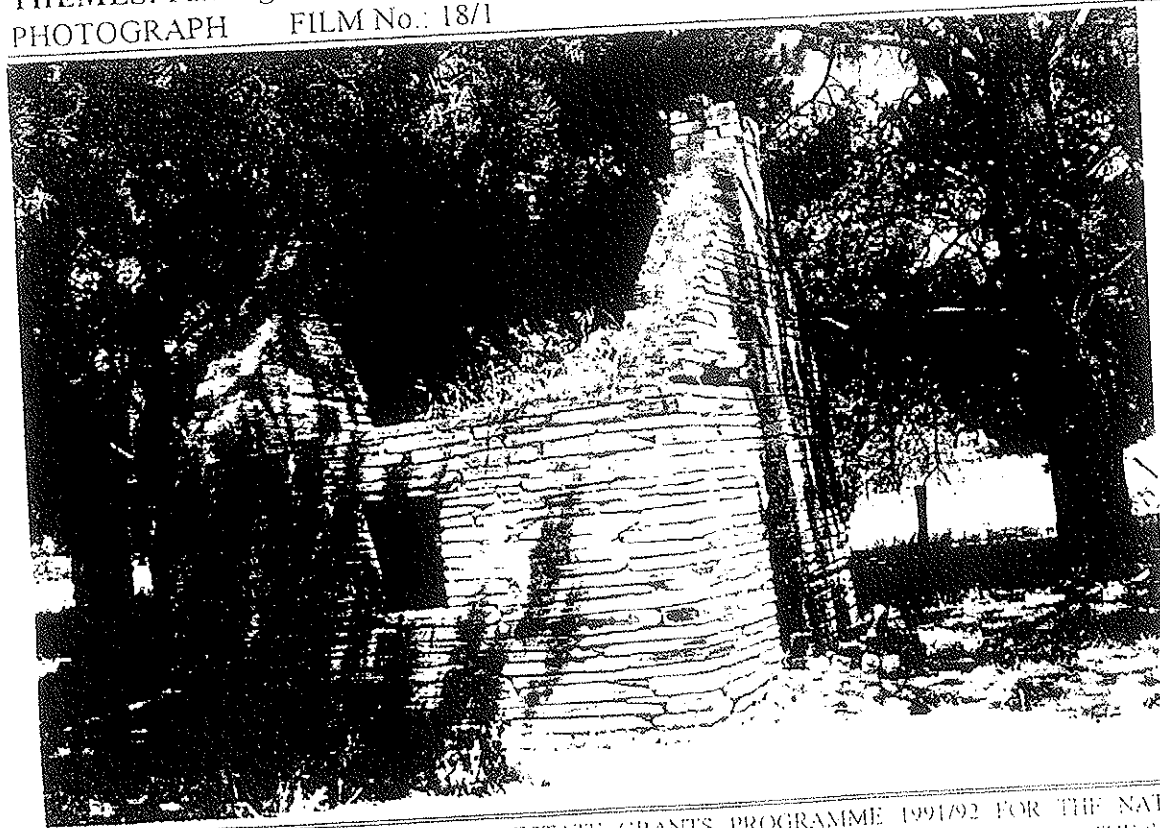
RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Retention on the Register of the National Estate, Addition to Historic Buildings Register

THEMES: Farming
 PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.: 18/1

BUILDING DATE: c. 1870s
 DATE: 20.1.94



HISTORY

John Healey was born in County Clare, Ireland. He migrated to Victoria probably during the gold rushes of the 1850s. He operated a store at Donkey Hill in the foothills of the Pyrenees during the mid 1860s but by 1866 he had selected land at nearby Fiddler's Creek, later known as Percydale.

Gold had been found at Percydale as early as 1854 but it was not until a large alluvial rush of 1869 followed by the establishment of quartz mines in the area, that anything like a township emerged. In June 1869 the mining surveyor reported twenty-five stores and two hotels on the diggings in addition to thirty stores in the 'Chinese quarter'. Both a police camp and a school were in the course of construction and the entire place was, 'assuming an air of permanency'. John Healy was quick to capitalise on the influx of miners into the area and in February 1870 he applied for a beer licence which he intended to operate from his house.

The increased population also created a thriving market for farm produce of all kinds and it may have been during this period that John Healey built the present dairy. Local legend has it that the slate used in its construction was cut by Welsh miners using the slate which abounded in the Percydale area. The dairy itself is believed to have been built by Thomas Hellings (sen.) who is also believed to have built a similar dairy at Natte Yallock [N 26].

Farmers like John Healey who kept milking cows were given new incentive when the Avoca District Butter, Cheese and Freezing Company was established at Avoca in 1894, creating a lucrative new market for dairy produce. In October 1894 the Avoca factory reported that it had separated 5,895 gallons of milk for the month and had produced 3,960 pounds of butter from the churn.

John Healey died in 1917 at the age of eighty-four

DESCRIPTION

The dairy is a rectangular building with two gable walls. It is built of local slate in roughly coursed rubble stonework with a clay mortar. The roof structure has collapsed but some roof timbers have been retained on site. A brick chimney forms the centre of one gable wall. The walls are approximately 400mm thick and there is a small, nearly square window in the side wall. The doorway is in the centre of the gable wall opposite the chimney. In the apex of the gable above the doorway is a small square opening. The roof timbers are of round bush poles and the roof was of bark.

The stone walls are in relatively solid condition. There is some minor deviation from the vertical in the walls flanking the chimney. The chimney is in poor condition with the loss of bricks in the fireplace section. Some of these bricks are retained on site. The stone walls appear in good condition due to the nature of the construction of large flat slates with mortar beds containing pipe clay which has resisted damage due to water penetration.

The lintels to the door and window and the top wall plate, which continues through the gable walls, are of timber. The door and window are missing except for framework. The door frame is held by wooden pegs.

The dairy is similar to the dairy at Natte Yallock (N26). The Natte Yallock dairy has an intact roof but differs in design as it has no window or chimney. The building is more accessible than the Natte Yallock example. They are both good examples of the use of flat broad slate construction.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 1 July 1865, 22 January 1870
- Avoca Free Press*, 24 March 1917
- Historic Buildings Council file No. 600460S
- Fay Peck, *History of the slate dairy*, n.d
- Shire of Avoca rate books, 1864, 1866, 1879
- PRO VPRS 575, Unit 7, p. 742, Central Register of Prisoners

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: P2

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
No section, Allotment 25B and 25C

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale
NAME: Daly's Cottage
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Percydale Rd
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 142 962

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Daly's cottage comprises buildings erected for James Daly in 1864 with subsequent additions and alterations. It has significance for its age, characteristic qualities, building techniques, associations and aesthetic appeal.

Daly's cottage is one of the earliest complex of farm buildings to survive in the Shire and illustrates the typical evolution of farm structures over time. The buildings reflect the use of local materials and illustrate a variety of construction techniques. Daly's cottage is valued highly by the local community for its association with the vanished township of Percydale. It is also cherished for its aesthetic appeal.

SIGNIFICANCE: State

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Retention on the Register of the National Estate, Addition to the Historic Buildings Register

THEMES: Farming
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 24/31-34

BUILDING DATE:
DATE 6.5.94



HISTORY

John Daly migrated from Kilfinane, Ireland in 1854. It is likely he spent some time on the goldfields before finding work at the Mountain Creek Station. During this period he married and lived in Turpin's Lane about ten kilometres from Avoca. The Daly's eldest son, Patrick, was born on 28 March 1861 and three years later, in 1864, the Daly family moved to Percydale.

John Daly made application for the land in 1865 and by 16 August 1875 he completed his payments and became the owner of forty acres to the west of the township of Percydale. Patrick Daly recalled that back portion of the house was built first in 1864 and this was where the family lived until the 1870s when the front two rooms were built. It is said that these rooms were constructed from a fiddle back gum tree and the old stump of the tree can still be seen directly opposite the dwelling. The roof was of bark.

John Daly died in 1902, the farm became the property of Patrick Daly. When Patrick died in 1929 the place passed to his son Roy Daly who had been born in the cottage on 10 June 1899. Roy Daly sold the property to his cousin who died unmarried and left it to a friend, Frank Bulleen. Other occupants of the house include Mrs Elizabeth Austin who lived in the cottage for a period during the early part of World War Two, and Reuben and Annie Bennett.

DESCRIPTION

The cottage is of two sections. The earlier section is at the rear and is a long rectangular structure with a gable roof. It has walls of vertical timber slabs between round timber posts. At one end is a large external chimney with the fireplace built of random rubble slate and the chimney stack in stepped rendered brickwork. The chimney is capped by a curved sheet of iron to protect it from rain entry. This section of the cottage has no windows and has an external door in the centre of the back wall. The roof is now clad in corrugated iron and the gable end at the opposite side from the chimney has been clad in vertical corrugated iron.

The front section is the later addition. It is also a rectangular building with a gable roof and is set parallel to the earlier section but offset to one side and is not as long. The gable roof extends to form a front verandah which returns to connect the two sections. This section displays more care in the workmanship of the timber and the smoothly adzed surfaces of the vertical slabs are closely fitted to each other and are set in a frame of squared timbers at the corners and at the sides of the two windows and front door. The windows are twelve pane double hung timber and the door is of four panels with a rectangular transom panel above. The gable ends are clad with horizontal weatherboards.

The verandah is supported by square timber posts. The floor of the verandah has been renewed with local slate in recent times. The framework of the verandah roof is of squared timbers.

There is an external brick chimney of stepped brickwork, slightly smaller than the stone chimney.

The roofs are now clad in corrugated iron. It is said that the interior was papered in newspapers with wallpaper covering this but most of this has been removed.

REFERENCES

Information from Roy Daly
Historic Buildings Council file No. 600460S
Information from Fay Peck, Ivan Redpath
Fay Peck, History of Daly's Cottage, n.d.

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: P3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale
NAME: Percydale slate quarries
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Slate quarry track
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: YD 105 965

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Percydale slate quarries date from 1884. They have significance for their associations.

The slate quarries represent one of the few large scale extractive industries, apart from gold mining, practiced in the Shire in the nineteenth century. During their period of operation the quarries were an important source of local employment and the size of the quarries are still expressive of the ambitions of their proprietors.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Extractive industry
PHOTOGRAPH FILM No .

BUILDING DATE: 1884
DATE:

HISTORY

Ever since white settlement of the Shire slate outcrops occurring in the foothills of the Pyrenees had prompted some settlers to use it as a building material. During the 1870s a large deposit of slate in the hills west of Percydale was discovered by Samuel Purdie and in 1884 he and his brother joined with several Melbourne businessmen and took out a mineral lease for eighty acres under the name of Messrs Spencer and Co, Melbourne. A slate quarry was established known as the Kara Kara slate quarries and began with a work force of five men. However by September of that year a visiting newspaper correspondent reported that there were now sixteen men employed at the quarries exclusive of a blacksmith, cutters and polishers and it was expected that when the quarries were fully developed three times that number would be employed.

The report also described in some detail the developments that had taken place in the quarry in the space of a few months;

A tramway has been laid down, fully three quarters of a mile in length, for conveying slate to the shed; a six ton crane will, when erected, raise huge blocks of slate from the quarries and lower them into the trucks; a dam has been constructed which will contain sufficient water for the machinery in the dry season of the year and twelve horse power steam engine drives the sawing apparatus. A planing machine, combining the latest improvements, has been ordered in Glasgow and its arrival on the ground may be shortly expected.

The slate was suitable for roofing purposes, hearthstones and steps and, according to the Avoca Mail, had been pronounced, 'equal to the best Welsh and Western Highlands varieties'.

However the market for slate which had been so strong in the early 1880s fell away with the economic depression of the 1890s and the Kara Kara quarries and other small quarries that has sprung up in the area, were closed.

The market for slate revived after the First World War and a large slate quarry was again opened at Percydale under the management of William Scott from Castlemaine. In September 1920 he had a staff of nine men including four experts from Wales. The quarry produced slate for roofing, flagging, billiard table tops, electric switch boards and school purposes. It was still in operation in 1922 but appears to have closed soon afterwards.

Later further slate quarrying was conducted by William Bartlett (sen.). Some pavement slate was taken out at the surface level by H. O. Kodwell in the 1960s and 1970s. A small slate quarry is currently being worked at Donkey Hill, near Percydale.

None of the Percydale quarries ever produced sufficient slate to be listed in Victoria's yearly statistics.

DESCRIPTION

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 1 September 1920, 6 October 1922
Avoca Free Press, 13 September 1884, 21 February 1885
Avoca and District Historical Society, Notice of application for mining lease, March 1884
David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 131

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P1

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale
NAME: Battery, Fiddlers Reef
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: 9.2 km north-west of Avoca, head of
Fiddlers Creek
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 113 960

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Fiddlers Reef was worked from the early 1860s. The main period of mining appears to have been the 1870s. The battery on the site was probably erected in the 1930s. The battery has significance for its associations and rarity.

The site contains the only surviving intact crushing battery in situ in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions. It is indicative of a mining revival in the area in the 1930s and represents the re-working of an area which has been subject to mining activity since the 1860s and continues to be worked in the 1990s. The site is also notable for its connection with a short-lived silver mine.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.

DATE: c 1860

DATE:

HISTORY

Fiddlers Creek Lead was being worked for alluvial gold at least as early as December 1854 when gold was discovered in the area by prospectors from Avoca. Ten years later, in March 1864 the Mining Surveyor reported that a party of twelve men had given notice to prospect a reef at Fiddlers Creek. Three years later he wrote that Bosanquet and Co. from Fiddlers Creek, had crushed 150 tons of quartz for the quarter and had gained 38 oz of gold.

In March 1868, 50 tons of quartz crushed by the Fiddlers Creek Company yielded 15 oz of gold. During the next quarter Dames crushing machine at Fiddlers Creek crushed 142 tons of quartz for 35 oz of gold from the Fiddlers Creek Reef.

During 1870, Mr T. Clapperton of Amphitheatre erected a quartz crushing plant of ten heads of stamps at Fiddlers Creek, but by 1872, operations had been suspended. Work was resumed at the Fiddlers Creek Reef by the Percydale Gold and Silver Lead Mining Company in September 1872 and in December the company was working at a depth of 160 feet. Operations at the reef were again at a standstill in March 1873. Water was baled out from Fiddlers Creek Reef in 1875 and there were preparations to re-commence operations in 1876, but little eventuated.

A mining lease was pegged out on Fiddlers Reef in 1886, and in June 1888 it was reported that a Ballarat company had commenced silver mining on the site.

An 1899 report undertaken by the Geological Survey of Victoria described the history of Fiddlers Reef:

First opened about thirty years ago by Barnes and party. For 30 feet from the surface it averaged over 4 oz to the ton. At that depth the ironstone gave place to quartz, containing a large amount of iron pyrites and galena, and traces of copper and antimony. At 100 feet from the surface the reef was abandoned, after working six or seven years with barely payable results. The last crushing yielded 4 dwts to the ton. Just before abandoning the reef Mr Copeland started to sink the shaft a further 50 feet, but before he had got down 10 feet, a slab of rock was met with that wouldn't shoot.

The reef was worked again in the 1930s when a battery was brought from Woods Point to crush the stone. The mine is in operation at the present time.

DESCRIPTION

Fiddlers Reef was first opened in the early 1860s (perhaps earlier). The main period of mining appears to have been the 1870s although the reef was re-opened in the 1930s.

The Fiddlers Creek mine is currently being worked and a winding and treatment plant have been installed. To the north of the modern treatment plant is an intact ten-head battery and the remains of a wood-framed loading ramp. According to the current mining company this battery came from Woods Point in the 1930s. The battery's engine and boiler have been taken away.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 90
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 455
Herald, 6 December 1854
Mining Surveyor's Reports, March 1864, March 1867, March 1868, June 1868, September 1870, December 1870, June 1871, March 1872, September 1872, December 1872, March 1873, March 1875, March 1876, March 1886, June 1886, March 1888, June 1888
Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P2

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/ State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale
NAME: Perseverance adit
ADDRESS: Perseverance Reef, 9.9 kms north-west of Avoca, 1 km north-north-west of Fiddlers Creek mine
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 110 970

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The well preserved adit (which reached an estimated 920 feet in length) with its large mullock heap, dates from the 1870s.
The Perseverance site has significance for its associations and scientific value.
The Perseverance Company site is closely associated with the development of quartz mining in the Percydale area. The intact nature of the adit clearly documents this type of mining and contributes to the site's scientific significance. The Perseverance site is an intergral part of Percydale's mining landscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: c 1874

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE:

HISTORY

In March 1871 the Mining Surveyor reported that 'good stone' had been struck at the Perseverance Reef, an extension north of Fiddlers Reef. Two years later the reef was being worked by Oate and Sons 'on the underlie' at a depth of 60 feet.

Soon afterwards a company was formed to work the claim by driving a tunnel into the hill to intersect the reef. By June 1874 the Perseverance Company had driven this tunnel 325 feet through hard rock with the intention of continuing for another 125 feet when they expected to cut the main lode. In December the Mining Surveyor reported that the company had struck a reef at 458 feet which was carrying minerals and was assumed to be the Perseverance. At 473 feet another reef was struck, also supposed to be the Perseverance.

The company drove north and south on the course of the lode in order to test the stone and by March 1875 it was obtaining stone from the north level which it was estimated would yield 1 oz per ton. These estimates proved a trifle optimistic. In September 1875 the Mining Surveyor reported that a trial crushing of 237 tons of quartz had realised 49 oz, 11 dwts. The Perseverance Company's tunnel was now 498 feet long, 7 feet high and 6 feet wide.

Quartz mining in the Percydale locality was in depression in September 1876 with only the Perseverance Company still in full work but by December it had also suspended operations. Work resumed in the Perseverance Tunnel in March 1878 under the management of a new company. The tunnel was being worked by a party of four in September and by December the Mining Surveyor estimated that the tunnel was now about 920 feet in length.

An 1899 report undertaken by the Geological Survey of Victoria stated that the Perseverance Tunnel was eventually abandoned owing to the reef 'pinching thinner and poorer'.

DESCRIPTION

The main tunnelling operations on the Perseverance Reef were carried out in the 1870s.

An open adit on the site has a 60 metre long narrow cutting. The adit's mullock heap has been partly quarried but still has six dumping lines. There are no machinery foundations visible.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 91
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, March 1871, September 1872, December 1872, March 1873, September 1873, December 1873, March 1874, June 1874, September 1874, March 1875, September 1875, December 1875, September 1876, December 1876, March 1878, September 1878, December 1878
- Monthly Progress Report*, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/Water Reserve

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: Battery site, Fiddlers Creek
ADDRESS: 9.3 kms north-west of Avoca. 1.0 km
east of Perseverance adit

MAP NAME: Avoca North

MAP REFERENCE: 120 972

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fiddlers Creek site consists of a dam, tailings dump, and a battery site which all appear to date from the twentieth century. It has significance for its associations.

The battery site is closely associated with quartz mining at Percydale and indicates the continued operation of crushing works in the area in the twentieth century. There may be some archaeological remains of a late 1860s battery giving the site added significance as an early example of a crushing plant.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE:

DATE:

HISTORY

In September 1867 the Mining Surveyor reported that a new crushing machine had lately been erected at Fiddlers Creek where he considered the prospects for quartz mining were very good. 'Innumerable reefs exist in the locality, but owing to the enormous expense attendant upon carting stone to the mills at Avoca and Redbank, reefing has hitherto not paid'. The following year saw the erection of an even larger and more powerful crushing plant and by December 1868 miners were laying up stone in the expectation that the new machinery would reduce the price of crushing.

A large rush took place to Fiddlers Creek in 1869, resulting in the formation of the township of Fiddlers Creek or Percydale. In reporting on the Fiddlers Creek rush the Mining Surveyor also commented that quartz mining in the locality was being prosecuted vigorously, the average yield being nearly 12 dwts to the ton.

DESCRIPTION

The site consists of a large full water dam. Below the dam's embankment is a tailings dump. Part of the dump is still intact (untreated), the rest has recently been processed.

On the slope above the north end of the dam's embankment is a poorly preserved small battery site. All that survives are two *in situ* decaying bed logs (shaped tree logs which are 2 feet thick and 13 feet long) and some ½ inch iron tie bolts.

To the north-east of the battery foundations are some wooden post stumps and narrow stone footings. To the west of the decaying bedlogs are some stone and brick rubble and a small square stone structure (stack base or blacksmith's forge). These remains may belong to an earlier battery erected in the late 1860s. Most of the relics appear to date to the twentieth century.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 92
Mining Surveyor's Reports, September 1867, December 1868, June 1869

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P4

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/Public Purposes Reserve

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale
NAME: Open adit, Davis Reef
ADDRESS: 10.9 kms north-east of Avoca,
Donkey Hill Slate Quarry
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 105 975

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main period of mining on Davis Reef was the 1870s. The site consists of an open adit, a water dam and a small stone U-shaped structure which may be a powder magazine. It has significance for its age and characteristic qualities.

The site is typical of small-scale mining in the 1870s and is closely associated with the development of quartz mining in the area. The possible remains of a powder magazine are a notable feature

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.**

DATE: c. 1870s
DATE:

HISTORY

Quartz was being crushed at Donkey Hill Reef in June 1868. During this period, 65 tons of quartz yielded 26 oz of gold. In December 1869 the Mining Surveyor reported that a new quartz reef, with good indications, had been discovered in the vicinity of Donkey Hill and a prospecting claim had been registered.

The quartz reefs around Donkey Hill were still being worked with payable results in September 1871. The Harrison Redan Company sunk a shaft to 130 feet in September 1873 and began taking out stone. This claim and the one adjoining it to the north erected a battery of eight stamps. However by 1874 the claims on the Donkey Hill reef were laying idle and although stone was raised at Donkey Hill in March 1874, there was no machinery available to crush it.

The 1899 monthly progress report undertaken by the Geological Survey of Victoria, referred to the reef at Donkey Hill as Davis Reef, and wrote that it was located 800 feet above the settlement of Donkey Hill. The report claimed that this reef was only worked to a depth of 50 feet with the yields averaging from 6 dwts to 1 oz to the ton which did no more than pay expenses.

DESCRIPTION

The main period of mining on Davis Reef was the 1870s.

There is an open adit on the site although its mullock heap has been levelled. The mine is now the site of the currently working Donkey Hill Slate Quarry. 400 metres down the gully from the adit is a small water dam.

On the slope above the dam is a small stone U-shaped structure measuring 4 ½ feet x 4 ½ feet with 1 ½ feet thick walls and standing 1 foot high. The structure is an odd size for a fireplace. In the past this structure was recorded as a powder magazine.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 93
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1868, December 1869, September 1870, September 1871, September 1873, September 1874, March 1875
Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P5

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: Battery site, Union Jack Reef
ADDRESS: Union Jack Reef, Fiddlers dam, 8.1
km north-west of Avoca, east side of
Fiddlers Track
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 126 961

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site comprises a range of features including an open stope, haulage adit, tramway embankment, dam, battery, cyanide works and tailings. The Union Jack Reef was probably first opened up during the 1870s. The battery site and cyanide works appear to date to c. 1904. The site has significance for its characteristic qualities, contextual importance and educational value.

The range of features in existence on the site provide insights into the work processes involved in quartz mining and illustrate the re-working of the site over a forty year period. The cyanide works are well preserved and document the new gold processing technique of cyaniding introduced in the late nineteenth century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.**

DATE: c. 1879-190

DATE:

HISTORY

The Mining Surveyor first mentions the Union Jack site in March 1881 when the Union Jack Company purchased the claim of Hall and Inglis at Percydale. However, like most of the reefs in the vicinity of Fiddlers Creek, it was probably opened up during the 1870s. In 1882 the Union Jack mine temporarily suspended operations following disappointing news from Vales Reef near Avoca, where the much awaited gold yields from its first crushings had proved unsatisfactory.

An 1899 report undertaken by the Geological Survey of Victoria summarised the history of the Union Jack Reef as:

The shaft was sunk 100 feet, and there was a large amount of water to contend with. For about three years the returns averaged about an ounce to the ton. The company had a good pumping plant, and a twelve-head battery on the ground. Heavy water compelled the shaft to be shut down.

From 1897 the new technique of cyaniding was used throughout Victoria to obtain gold from mine tailings. A number of cyanide plants operated near Percydale although in 1904 the Mining Surveyor wrote that mining was practically at a standstill and only one cyanide plant was working at Percydale.

In this year the Percydale Syndicate mine was engaged in surface prospecting while in 1908 the Percydale Proprietary Company sank a shaft to 200 feet.

DESCRIPTION

The Union Jack Reef was probably opened up during the 1870s. The battery site and cyanide works appear to date to c. 1904.

On the crown of a steep hill is a 30 metres deep open stope which is approximately 50 metres long and 30 metres wide. There are at least three adits and two open shafts located in the open stope.

At the base of the hill, on the west side, is an open adit which has a 30 metre long narrow cutting. Running north from this cutting, past a water dam, is a 200 metre long tramway embankment which terminates at a loading ramp.

At the base of the loading ramp is a narrow depression which once contained the wooden foundations for ten head of stamps. Below the stamper foundations are the remains of several small concrete mounting beds (1/2 inch mounting bolts) and some sections of a concrete floor.

To the west of the battery site is a 50 metre long dump of tailings which has three well preserved 18 feet diameter galvanised iron cyanide vats. At the base of the tailings dump is a small galvanised iron drainage vat.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 94
Mining Surveyor's Reports, March 1881, March 1882
Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria
Mines Department Annual Report 1904, 1908

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P6

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: Battery site, West of England Reef
ADDRESS: 8.6 kms north-west of Avoca, south
side of Fiddlers Creek Lead, 0.6 kms
north-west of Site 94
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 122 962

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The site consists of a small loading ramp with an excavated floor, an 80 metre long tramway embankment and an open adit. The site has significance for its associations, characteristic qualities and contextual importance.

The site is typical of small-scale mining in the 1870s and is closely associated with quartz mining in the area. The variety of features on the site provide insights into the work processes involved in quartz mining.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.:**

DATE:
DATE

HISTORY

In December 1868, Daw's crushing machine at Fiddlers Creek was crushing quartz from the West of England Reef.

No further mention is made of the reef by the Mining Surveyor until December 1881 when he reported that a good payable reef was being worked from the summit of the West of England Hill. In order to facilitate its working, a tunnel had been opened out at the base of the hill to intersect the reef at a depth of 213 feet.

However, by March 1882, operations had been suspended at the West of England Hill partly due to a failure in confidence as the first crushings from the re-opened Vales Reef proved unsatisfactory.

The 1899 progress report undertaken by the *Geological Survey of Victoria* stated that the West of England Reef had originally been known as Hancock's Reef:

The first twelve months the reef averaged 2 ½ oz to the ton. At 50 feet, when yielding 1 oz to the ton, it was sold to Copeland and Company, who worked it nearly another 50 feet. The stone gradually got poorer and harder. The last crushing yielded only 4 dwts to the ton.

The West of England Reef was also referred to as the Church of England or Coronation adit.

DESCRIPTION

A few metres to the west of Fiddlers Track is a small loading ramp. At the base of the ramp is an excavated floor. Associated with the floor is a scatter of machine-made red bricks (single frog bearing the name NORTHCOTE).

100 metres to the south of the loading ramp is an 80 metre long tramway embankment which leads to an open adit. The adit end of the tramway has been bulldozed.

The open adit has a security gate. Most of the adit's mullock heap has been levelled. There is a short untouched section running along the eastern side of the tramway embankment.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 95
Mining Surveyor's Reports, December 1868, December 1881, March 1882
Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P7

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: Battery sites (2). Cement workings and puddler, Hall's and Rodwell's Reefs
ADDRESS: 7.7 km north-west of Avoca, 100 metres west of Fiddlers Track
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 130 955/956/957

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The place is comprised of a dam, battery site, tramway embankment, adit and open stope (Site 96.0), a dam and battery site (Site 96.1) and a cement workings and puddler (Site 96.2). The main mining period for reefs in the vicinity of Fiddlers Creek was the 1870s and early 1880s. The site has significance for its characteristic qualities, contextual importance and educational value.

The range of features on the site document two different types of mining - quartz reefing and cement workings - providing a relatively comprehensive picture of these gold mining methods. The site is typical of those once found throughout the goldfields and is an integral part of Percydale's mining landscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: c 1870-1900s
DATE:

HISTORY

There are few documentary references to Hall's or Rodwell's Reefs although the main mining period for Fiddlers Creek reefs was the 1870s and early 1880s. Hall and Inglis had a claim in this area early in 1881 although they sold to the Union Jack Company in March 1881.

In 1899 a report undertaken by the Geological Survey of Victoria report summarised the history of Hall's Reef (Dyke) in this way:

Discovered and worked thirty years ago by a party of sailors, with good results. What is now known as Hall's Reef is a slate formation of peculiar green colour; through it are disseminated grains of oxidised iron ore. Gold in this rock was discovered by Mr Jno. Hall, of Percydale, about three years ago. The gold is exceptionally fine but nevertheless heavy. Prospects from parts of the claim have averaged as high as 4 oz to the ton, but the stone, of course, was picked. Taken altogether it is estimated to yield a trifle under 10 dwts to the ton, which would pay handsomely. Leases have been taken up and granted north and south of Hall's.

DESCRIPTION

Site 1: Battery site

The first battery site consists of a large dam, 80 metres long and 3-5 metres high with a breached embankment. On the slope above the breached dam is a partly bulldozed small loading ramp, several up-rooted battery stumps and bearers, a spread of red brick rubble and a largely buried stone boiler setting. About 20 metres to the south of the battery site is a 40 metre long tramway embankment which leads to a narrow cutting (entrance to haulage adit). This 70 metre long, narrow cutting leads to a collapsed but partly open adit. South of the adit, on the crown of the hill, is a tadpole shaped, partly collapsed, open stope/cut. The open stope is approximately 55 metres long, 10 metres wide and 10 metres deep.

Site 2: Battery site

Following a gully upstream and west 100 metres from the large dam (Site 96.0) is another large breached embankment. About 80 metres north-west of the breached dam is another loading ramp. At the base of the ramp is a narrow 24 feet long depression, a scatter of red bricks and a largely buried stone boiler setting. On the slope between the dam and the battery site is a deposit of tailings. On the slope above the battery site (north) is a sizeable shaft and a bulldozed mullock heap.

Site 3: Cement workings and puddler

Approximately 100 metres to the south-west of the battery site is a small quarry or open cut into a conglomerate (cement) cap. The quarry is approximately 40 metres long. Near the western end of the quarry is a very weathered 18 foot diameter puddler. It is only just possible to distinguish the inner mound from the puddling trench. No trench slabbing survives.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 96
Mining Surveyor's Reports, March 1881
Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P8

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land and Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: Puddlers, Fiddlers Creek Lead
ADDRESS: Fiddlers Creek Lead is located 8.6 kms
north-west of Avoca, running north
-east from Fiddlers Reef mine
MAP REFERENCE: Avoca North: 122 962,
123 969, 125 971, 126 972

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The main rush to Fiddlers Creek Lead was in 1869. The weathered state of the puddlers suggests they operated in the nineteenth century. The Fiddlers Creek site has significance for its characteristic qualities, contextual importance and associations.

The series of puddlers on the Fiddlers Creek site document the process of re-working old ground by puddling, a popular mining technique in the 1860s and 1870s. Together the puddlers form a network which illustrates the extensive nature of puddling in the past. The two puddlers at Site 97.0 form a focal point of the network and are particularly notable for their fine state of preservation. The site is closely associated with the Fiddlers Creek gold rush which led to the establishment of the Percydale township.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: c. 1869-1900
DATE:

HISTORY

Fiddlers Creek Lead was being worked for alluvial gold at least as early as December 1854 when gold was discovered in the area by prospectors from Avoca. In September 1864, the Mining Surveyor reported that the Fiddlers Creek area maintained a population of a 'settled description' but it was not until early in 1869 that a large rush occurred to the locality. By June 1869, Fiddlers Creek boasted an estimated population of 2,000 Chinese and 400 Europeans, and the lead had already been traced for two miles. Shafts were being bottomed at around 130 feet deep and the yields averaged between 4 dwts to 1 oz. During this period the Mining Surveyor counted thirty-five puddling machines, three whims and thirty horse whips.

A township rapidly sprang up on the site of the diggings and in June 1869 the Mining Surveyor wrote: There are twenty-five stores, including five butcher's shops, drapery stores, etc; there are also two public-houses. In the Chinese quarter there are about thirty stores, a joss-house, and several places of amusement. The inspector of police selected a site for a police camp, about a fortnight since; it is now in the course of erection. A school house is also being built, and the place is assuming an air of permanency.

In September 1870 the lead at Fiddlers Creek was being traced into deep ground. The following year a new lead was discovered about a quarter of a mile from the old one at the head. Both leads were eventually found to join.

DESCRIPTION

The main rush to Fiddlers Creek Lead was in 1869. The weathered state of the puddlers suggests they operated in the nineteenth century.

Site 1: Adjoining puddlers. To the north of Fiddlers Track is a small dam. On the dam's embankment are two puddlers which are located 3.5 metres apart. The western puddler has a diameter of 22 feet and is fairly weathered. It is still possible to distinguish the inner mound from the puddling trench. The pivot post is not visible and no slabbing survives. The eastern puddler is better preserved. It has the same diameter as its neighbour and has a more pronounced inner mound and deep puddling trenched with sheer sides. It has a well preserved pivot post but no trench slabbing. Both puddlers are free of vegetation and are associated with a large, partly quarried bank of wash.

Site 2: Puddler. On the west side of Fiddlers Track is a large dry dam which has a massive, but extensively quarried, bank of wash. On the north end of the dam's embankment is a poorly preserved puddler. In the gully below the puddler is a 50 metre raised intact pond of slum. The slum pond's embankment is visible from Fiddlers Track.

Site 3: Puddler. On the east side of Fiddlers Track is a long breached embankment. On the eastern end of the dam's embankment is a poorly preserved puddler. There is also another breached embankment a little way up the gully on the other side of Fiddlers Track. The puddler associated with this embankment has been obliterated.

Site 4: Puddler. On freehold land, east of Fiddlers Creek Track (near the boundary fence with the Historic Reserve) is another very weathered puddler. The puddler is located on the southern end of the dam's embankment and it is still possible to distinguish the inner mound from the puddling trench. The puddler's pivot post is not visible, no slabbing survives and most of the wash has been quarried.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 97
Mining Surveyor's Reports, September 1864, March 1869, June 1869, September 1869, September 1870, June 1871

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P9

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: Alluvial workings, Donkey Hill
ADDRESS: 10.8 kms from Avoca on freehold
land, 1 km north of Donkey Hill.
The lead crosses Fiddlers Track.
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 111 988

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The rush to Donkey Lead occurred in 1870, as an extension of the Fiddlers Creek rush. The diggings consist of a curving wide band of undisturbed shallow sinkings (small white mounds and shaft depressions). The diggings have significance for their associations, characteristic qualities and contextual importance.

The Donkey Hill diggings provide a rare example of an early alluvial goldfield (dating from 1870) which does not appear to have been re-worked. The shallow sinkings are typical of early mining and their location in open grazed country, allows the course of the lead to be traced. The diggings are an important and prominent element in the mining landscape surrounding Percydale.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: 1870

DATE:

HISTORY

The rush to Fiddlers Creek in 1869 caused the surrounding country to be prospected more thoroughly and led to the opening of other alluvial diggings which included No. 2 Gully in December 1869 and Donkey Hill Lead in September 1870.

There is little further information about the Donkey Hill diggings although soon after the rush to the area the Mining Surveyor commented that the new diggings did not appear to be turning out very well.

DESCRIPTION

Donkey Hill Lead was rushed in 1870 as an extension of the Fiddlers Creek rush.

There is a curving wide band of undisturbed shallow sinkings (small white mounds and shaft depressions). There are no puddlers associated with the workings.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 98
Mining Surveyor's Reports, September 1870

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P10

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale
NAME: Puddlers (2), Sardine Lead
ADDRESS: 12 kms north-west of Avoca, south
junction of Farnsworth and Sardine
Tracks
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 092 981, 092 980

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Sardine Gully rush was part of the Raggedy Creek rush of 1871. The weathered nature of the puddlers suggest they all operated during the nineteenth century. The puddlers have significance for their associations and characteristic qualities.

The puddlers are typical of nineteenth century puddling machines and represent some of the best preserved examples in the Shire. They are closely associated with alluvial mining and form an important part of the Percydale mining landscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: c. 1871
DATE:

HISTORY

The first gold rush to Avoca broke out toward the end of 1853, and by June 1854 the population on the field was estimated to number 14,000. By the end of 1854, areas west of Avoca in the foothills of the Pyrenees were also being prospected and gold was discovered in Sardine Gully on the fall to Middle Creek, Warrenmang, in October 1854.

Sardine Gully received renewed attention in 1871 following the rush to Raggedy Gully (located almost immediately to the west and parallel to Sardine Gully). Sardine Gully became an extension of the Raggedy Gully Diggings and in October 1871 the Mining Surveyor wrote that the population at the rush stood at 300 Europeans and between 700 to 900 Chinese. Nine or ten stores had been erected and more were in the course of construction.

The rush to Raggedy Gully was short-lived although the diggings led to the establishment of a small settlement known as Kimberley. A church was built here which later served as a school.

DESCRIPTION

The Sardine Gully rush was part of the Raggedy Creek rush of 1871. The weathered nature of the puddlers suggest they operated during the nineteenth century.

Site 1: Puddler

Located on the eastern end of a breached embankment is a well defined 22 feet diameter puddler. The puddler's inner mound is pronounced and the puddling trench is deep with sheer sides. The pivot post is not visible and no slabbing survives. Most of the associated bank of wash has been quarried. In some places the quarrying has come within a metre of the puddling trench.

Site 2: Puddler

100 metres up the gully (south) of Site 99 is another low embankment and puddler. The puddler is slightly smaller (20 feet diameter) but is in a similar condition to its neighbour. There is a small raised pond of slum below the puddler

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 99
Mining Surveyor's Reports, September 1871

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MINP12

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: Raggedy Lead

ADDRESS: 12.2 kms north-west of Avoca. The
lead crosses Farnsworth Track 1 km
from its junction with Sardine Track

MAP REFERENCE: Avoca North: 088 977,
089 973, 089 970, 085 980

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Raggedy Lead site dates from 1871 and is comprised of a line of relatively deep sinkings and approximately 1.5 km of shallow workings. Associated with the workings are several house sites and puddlers (Sites 100.1 to 100.3) and some fruit trees. It has importance for its rarity, historical associations, contextual importance and scientific/educational qualities.

The Raggedy Lead diggings is a rare example of a shallow alluvial mining landscape which has not been re-worked. Many features on the site remain substantially intact and provide insights into the workings of an alluvial gold field. The fruit trees and the remains of house sites indicate the existence of dwellings along the course of the lead. The small stone-retained mullock paddocks around the shafts are notable features. Raggedy Gully diggings also has historical significance for its association with the last great gold rush in the Shire.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Recommendation for addition to the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Mining

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.

DATE: 1871

DATE

HISTORY

The rush to Fiddlers Creek in 1869 caused the surrounding country to be prospected more thoroughly and led to the opening of other alluvial diggings which included No. 2 Gully in December 1869 and Donkey Hill Lead in September 1870. In September 1871 a rush started to Raggedy Gully about three or four miles west of the recently established township of Percydale.

A lead had been opened at Raggedy Gully some years previously and worked for half a mile but it had never attracted large numbers of miners. The new lead ran almost parallel to the old lead and was worked for about a mile. In October the Mining Surveyor wrote that the population at the rush stood at 300 Europeans and between 700 to 900 Chinese. Nine or ten stores had been erected and more were in the course of construction.

However the average yields at the new diggings were not high and the Mining Surveyor commented: It is noticeable...throughout this rush that no very extraordinary finds have been made (the earliest average from 7 to 10 dwts), and the cause of the rush seems to have been more the certainty of obtaining something payable, than anything so attractive, say, as the yields of the Prospectors' and a few other claims at Sandy Creek.

The rush to Raggedy Gully was short-lived although some miners remained leading to the establishment of the small settlement of Kimberley. A church was built which later served as a school.

DESCRIPTION

Site 1: Raggedy Lead workings. A line of relatively deep sinkings is marked by shaft depressions and partly bulldozed small heaps. This line of deep workings end at a gully which contains a wide band of fairly intense shallow sinkings. The shallow workings run for approximately 1.5 kms in a southerly direction and form a most unusual landscape because a lot of the shafts have small stone-retained mullock paddocks. Associated with the workings are several house sites and puddlers (Sites 100.1 to 100.3) and some fruit trees. The stone retaining wall around the shafts may have been for water management.

Site 2: Puddlers. At the junction of the deep and shallow workings is a massive bank of wash. Associated with this wash is a long breached embankment. On the south end of the embankment is a very weathered puddler. On the north end of the embankment is less weathered puddler, 20 feet in diameter. It is still possible to distinguish the puddling trench from the inner mound. The inner mound has an unusually large pivot post (1¾ feet in diameter) but no slabbing survives.

Site 3: Puddler. To the north of Site 100.1 the gully divides into two channels. At the head of the western channel, approximately 1.1 kms from Site 100.1 is another weathered puddler, 20 feet in diameter. This puddler is located at the northern end of a breached embankment and still retains its pivot post. No slabbing survives and some of the wash has been quarried. The puddler is obscured by a small tree and some fallen branches.

Site 4: Puddler. Located on the north side of Farnsworth Track is another long breached embankment and weathered puddler. The puddler is associated with two large, partly quarried, banks of wash. The puddler has been partly buried and a portion of its mound has been quarried. there is no pivot post visible and no slabbing survives.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 100
Mining Surveyor's Reports, September 1871
Information compiled by Fay Peck, Avoca
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p 456

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P13

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: Barnes Reef Mine site
ADDRESS: 7.6 km north-west of Avoca. North of
the junction of Vinoca Rd and Main
Track.
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 125 946

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Barnes Reef was first mined extensively during the early 1870s. The site consists of a mullock heap, battery site, a water dam and partly quarried dump. The site has significance for its rarity and contextual importance.

The Barnes Reef mine is the site of the deepest shaft ever sunk in the Avoca Mining Division and one of the deeper mines in the Avoca Shire. The several features on the site document the operation of a quartz mine.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: c. 1870s
DATE:

HISTORY

Barnes Reef appears to have been worked sporadically in the 1860s, but it was not until the 1870s that it was fully developed. In September 1872, the Mining Surveyor reported that Barnes Plumb Reef, No. 2 Creek - one of the best in the division - had been applied for on lease by the original holders who were contemplating forming a company for the more efficient working of the mine. By September 1873, both the United No. 2 Company and the United No. 2 North Company were working on the reef.

In March 1874, a winding and pumping engine was erected on Barnes Reef, and in the next three months a battery of six stamps was established with the intention of erecting six more. In December 1874, the No. 2 United Barnes' Company were following a well defined reef at the 226 foot level, and three months later the Mining Surveyor reported that the results achieved from the crushings were 'highly satisfactory'. He stated that the No. 2 United Barnes Company was in the process of sinking even deeper to make a total depth of 374 feet.

An 1899 report undertaken by the Geological Survey of Victoria described the history of the reef :
For nearly four years the stone averaged 2 oz of gold per ton, but after that, and a depth of 200 feet had been reached, each crushing was poorer than the one before, till at about 300 feet the reef wouldn't pay

Nevertheless, at 300 feet, the mine was deeper than any other mine in the Avoca Mining District.

DESCRIPTION

Barnes Reef was first mined extensively in the early 1870s. The battery and other plant was erected c. 1874.

There is a partly bulldozed heap with six dumping lines. There are also the remains of a flattened battery site with a large spread of red brick and stone rubble.

On the slope above the battery site a rectangular water dam has been excavated.

Below the battery site there is a partly quarried dump.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 123
Mining Surveyor's Reports, September 1872, December 1872, March 1873, June 1873, September 1873, March 1874, September 1874, December 1874, March 1875, December 1874, June 1881
Monthly Progress Report, November and December 1899, Geological Survey of Victoria

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN P14

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Percydale

NAME: No. 1 Lead

ADDRESS: The centre of No. 1 Lead is
located 5 km south-west of Avoca.
The lead crosses Levers Track.

MAP NAME: Avoca North

MAP REFERENCE: 145 903

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The No. 1 Lead was first rushed in 1856 although it was later re-worked. The diggings have significance for their associations and landmark qualities.

The No. 1 Lead workings are closely associated with early alluvial gold mining in the Shire during the 1850s. The highly visible nature of the alluvial diggings make them a prominent landscape feature and an integral part of Percydale's mining environment. The shallow sinkings south of Levers Lane are particularly evocative and stark.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: c. 1866-75
DATE:

HISTORY

The first gold rush to Avoca broke out toward the end of 1853, and by June 1854 the population on the field was estimated to number 14,000. By the end of 1854, areas west of Avoca in the foothills of the Pyrenees were also being prospected and gold was discovered at No. 1 Creek in November 1856.

In June 1866 an alluvial prospecting claim of 200 feet x 200 feet was registered near the top of the Pyrenees ranges near the source of the No. 1 Creek, after 5 ozs of nuggets had been obtained from a shallow sinking. The Mining Surveyor reported that about thirty miners were at work on the ground.

The rush to Fiddlers Creek in March 1869 brought a new influx of miners into the locality and it is likely that No. 1 Lead was re-worked during this time. For instance in September 1870 the Mining Surveyor wrote that a new rush had begun to Yorkie's Gully, a tributary of No. 1 Creek.

DESCRIPTION

The Number One Lead was first rushed in 1856 but was re-worked many times after this.

A wide band of shallow sinkings are located to the north of Levers Lane. These appear to be relatively undisturbed but are obscured by high grass. The situation on the other side of Levers Lane is completely different. The land has been grazed bare and the sinkings are very visible and evocative. The starkness of the shallow workings is compounded by the presence of lots of dead tree stumps.

The two patches of workings described above are separated by an area of land devoid of shallow sinkings. The presence of some large sand dumps suggest that it may have been sluiced or dredged.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Maryborough and Avoca Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, June 1994, Citation 102
Age and Herald, 20 November 1856
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 455
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1866, March 1869, June 1869, September 1869, September 1870

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN/P15

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land/State Forest

TOWN/DISTRICT: Warrenmang
NAME: Wet Patch Lead, Middle Creek
ADDRESS: The lead crosses Miles Track 3.75
kms from its junction with the
Glenlofty-Warrenmang Rd
MAP NAME: Avoca North
MAP REFERENCE: 034 977

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wet Patch Lead site consists of puddling sites, shallow workings, dams and camp sites. It has significance for its associations and contextual importance.

The Wet Patch Lead documents the process of re-working old ground by puddling and is closely associated with this phase of mining in the 1860s. The remains of several camp sites are notable features and suggest the relative success of the puddling operations, enabling miners to establish semi-permanent dwellings.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.:

DATE: c 1860s
DATE.

HISTORY

The first gold rush to Avoca broke out toward the end of 1853, and by June 1854 the population on the field was estimated to number 14,000. By the end of 1854, areas west of Avoca in the foothills of the Pyrenees were also being prospected. The Middle Creek diggings were opened up when gold was discovered in Sardine Gully on the fall to Middle Creek, Warrenmang, in October 1854.

During the 1860s the population of the Shire became more settled and although some miners continued the risky business of prospecting and following new discoveries, the majority were content to re-work the shallow sections of the old leads. This involved both puddling and sluicing, though the machinery statistics supplied by the mining registrar for the Barkly (Landsborough) Division shows that sluicing became the main technology - in June 1864 the registrar listed 40 puddlers/50 sluices and toms for the division, and in December 1865, the ratio had changed to 28 puddlers/125 toms and 26 sluice boxes.

The Wet Patch Lead was probably extensively re-worked in the 1860s in common with other leads in the vicinity, although new ground was still being found up until the early 1870s.

DESCRIPTION

Up the gully (south) from Miles Track are the remains of four puddling dams. The dams are positioned from 150 to 200 metres apart. The puddling site nearest the track has a well defined puddler (covered by a fallen tree) but its pebble dump has been quarried. The next puddling site is the best preserved - its 22 foot diameter puddler being associated with a 30 metre long embankment. The last two puddling sites have been extensively quarried but both sites have large slum ponds (50 metres wide and 1 metre high)

The shallow workings above the puddlers, at the head of the lead, are associated with several deep holes (dams) ringed with small banks of wash. The wash may have been generated by cradling operations. Associated with the workings are several camp sites, one of which has shards of Chinese pottery.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Ararat Mining Division* (Barkly or Landsborough Goldfield), Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, November 1994
Deep Lead Gold Deposits of Victoria, Canavan, 1988, *Bulletin 62*
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 455
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1864, December 1865, September 1866

FILE No: R3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
 NAME: Redbank racecourse
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Cnr Centre and Racecourse Rds
 MAP NAME: Redbank South
 MAP REFERENCE: YE 082096

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Redbank racecourse is a large, cleared area with associated galvanised iron buildings. It is significant for its characteristic qualities and associations.

The Redbank racecourse is typical of racecourses created throughout the central goldfields region where horse racing developed as an extremely popular sport in the predominantly male, gold diggings environment. Although it has not been used for many years, the form of the track is still visible, and the carefully cleared surroundings and galvanised iron shed and toilet are clear reminders of a time when hundreds gathered at Redbank for race meetings. In the twentieth century the racecourse is associated with the growing popularity of tennis after courts were constructed on the site.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (sport)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 3/1A

BUILDING DATE: c 1860s
 DATE: 25.8.93



HISTORY

One of the most popular forms of entertainment in the Shire's early days was horse racing which developed out of the predominantly male, gold diggings environment. Two-day race meetings were held at Avoca by 1860 and it is probable that similar meetings were arranged on the Redbank diggings in 1861.

In 1873, a large New Years Day race meeting was reported at Redbank and it was noted that these races had for some time been a regular annual occurrence. Since the spectators came not just from Redbank but from the surrounding neighbourhoods of Avoca, Moonambel and Barkly the timing of the races was a matter of concern. The *Avoca Mail* complained:

The first event did not take place until about 2 o'clock, and at 5 o'clock, when most of the visitors from any distance commenced to take their departure, the third race had not started.

In 1881 the Redbank races were held on St Patrick's Day and concluded with presentation ceremonies at the Shamrock hotel. Gymkhanas were still being held at the Redbank racecourse in the early 1920s but had lapsed by the 1930s.

Eulalie Driscoll remembers tennis courts being built at the reserve just after the Second World War and these made use of galvanised iron buildings for shelter and afternoon tea sheds.

In October 1994 there was a revival of racing at Redbank racecourse when the local community banded together to stage a Bush Racing Carnival:

Over 700 people passed through the gates on Saturday and Sunday with superb weather helping to enhance the picnic atmosphere. Plenty of shady trees encouraged families to setup tables and relax between races.

There are currently plans to make this a local event.

DESCRIPTION

The racecourse area comprises the cleared oval shape of the racetrack and on the edge on the higher side of the track in the shelter of gum trees are the refreshment shed, change rooms and toilets. Adjacent to the buildings are the tennis courts which have been constructed near to the access road.

The sheds are clad in corrugated iron and are in the form of one U-shaped building with gable roofs of varying pitch. The gable end of the refreshment tent has two corrugated iron flaps that lifted up to form awnings giving protection from the elements and opening up a servery for the bar or afternoon tea. A similar set of awnings can be seen at the Moonambel recreation reserve (M31).

A small lonely corrugated iron clad gable roofed toilet stands at a distance from the other buildings.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 4 January 1873, 18 March 1881
Information from Pat Murrell
Victorian Government Gazette, January- June 1880, p 326
Avoca and District News, 26 October 1994

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
 NAME: Redbank cemetery
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Cnr Sunraysia Hwy and Cemetery Rd
 MAP NAME: Redbank South
 MAP REFERENCE: YE 073104

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Redbank cemetery was established in 1864-5. It has significance for its associations. It is the best surviving example of a cemetery in the study area with substantially intact plantings and layout.

The Redbank cemetery, with headstones dating back to 1865, is closely associated with the early Redbank gold diggings and the subsequent growth of the Redbank township. The denominational layout of the cemetery is clearly delineated by tree plantings and suggests the relative strength of each denomination, with the size and detail of head stones also providing a clue to the status and wealth of individuals. The memorials also indicate a high rate of infant mortality, common in the nineteenth century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

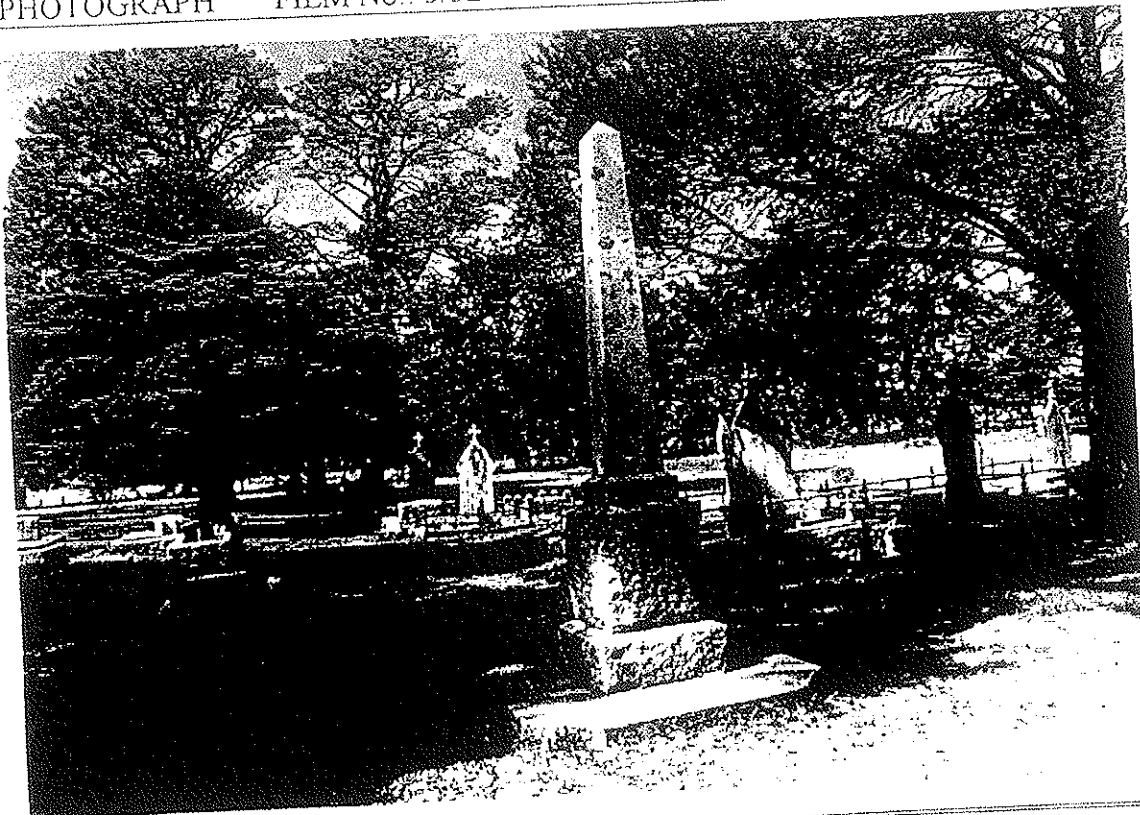
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing), Addition to the Register of the National Estate

THEMES: Community life

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 3/3B

BUILDING DATE: 1865

DATE: 25.8.93



HISTORY

Gold was discovered at Redbank in December 1860, and within two weeks it boasted a population of 4,000. Early burials took place at a variety of sites until the Redbank cemetery was formally established in 1864-5. The first recorded burial was that of G Hinds from Hinds Station in 1865.

In 1866 the Redbank cemetery trustees received a loan from the government for improvements, part of which was used for fencing. It may also have been at this time that the present trees were planted.

Full records survive for the Redbank cemetery, and these provide an insight into the high rates of infant mortality in the area during the nineteenth century. Of ninety-seven burials which took place before the turn of the century, twenty-eight were children under the age of ten.

DESCRIPTION

The Redbank cemetery is laid out with perimeter planting and two avenue which intersect to form a cross. The central paths delineate the various religious denominations. The mature trees are of a variety of exotic species including pines and cypresses.

A similar layout can be seen at Moonambel and Barkly but the Redbank cemetery has retained more of the original trees and is in relatively good condition.

The mature evergreen trees and the formal avenue layout give the cemetery a peaceful and special character.

REFERENCES

- Avoca and District Historical Society, Redbank cemetery records
Avoca Mail, 17 April 1869
PRO, Series 987, Unit 1, p. 78, 25 May 1866; p. 66, 4 April 1866
Redbank public cemetery - rules and regulations

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
NAME: Shamrock and Thistle hotel
FORMER NAME: Shamrock hotel
ADDRESS: Navarre St
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: YE 070095

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Shamrock hotel is a timber building erected during the Redbank gold rushes early in 1861. It has significance for its age, associations and contextual importance.

The Shamrock hotel is one of the few buildings to date from Redbank's early gold rush days and it is important as a representative example of an early goldfields hotel, its size still reflecting the large number of facilities it once provided. The name of the hotel and its original Irish proprietor also suggest a close association with the goldfields large Irish population. The hotel's prominent siting in the centre of the township, makes it a significant element in the streetscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (business)

PHOTOGRAPH: FILM No.: 3/9

BUILDING DATE: 1861

DATE: 25 8 93



HISTORY

In *Melbourne and its Metropolis*, William Sutherland wrote that the Shamrock Hotel was 'the first house erected in Redbank, and was put up during the first rush' [in December 1860]. Certainly by 16 February 1861 an advertisement in *The Pioneer* notified the public that Cornelius Mulcahy, who had previously operated the Shamrock hotel on the Lamplough diggings, was now the proprietor of the Shamrock hotel, Redbank. In this year the Shamrock hotel became a staging post for Cobb and Co and McPhee with coaches leaving daily. In August 1861 the hotel was also the venue for a large election meeting and William Byrne, the mining registrar and surveyor, conducted his work from the Shamrock.

In 1864 Mulcahy, decided to sell the hotel at public auction - supposedly to return to Ireland although four years later he was the proprietor of the Bull and Mouth in Ararat, and Mayor of the Borough of Ararat. Auction advertisements describe the hotel as 'first-class, well-known, exceedingly comfortable'. It was built of the best pine weatherboards, roofed with galvanised iron, floored all through with pine boards and contained:

one private parlour; one dining room, 24 feet by 13; ten bedrooms; one billiard-room, 25 feet by 23, with first-class billiard table by Thurston, with cues...bar, 22 feet by 20, with fixtures, and stores, splendid fountain; and a large cellar underneath; kitchen etc

In the hotel yards was a coach-house, and other out-offices, a stable of eight stalls, a spring well, and a garden.

Richard Haworth was proprietor of the Shamrock hotel until October 1868 when it was again put up for public auction. The proprietor in January 1871 was Joseph Gawith. In 1874 the hotel was purchased by another Irishman, Matthew Johnston, and the Johnston family continued to hold the license until at least 1908 when George Johnston married.

The hotel was closed by Mr and Mrs Murphy after which time it was used as a private residence. In the late 1980s it was opened as a cafe. It now operates as a hotel again under the management of Mr and Mrs Collins.

DESCRIPTION

The hotel is a large single storey building with a low pitched M-shaped hipped roof. There have been various alterations and additions over time. The front hipped roof extends to form a verandah facing onto the street. The brick verandah piers are later alterations and would appear to have been added in the 1940s or 1950s.

The side yard is fenced with a stone wall of rubble construction consisting of a large variety of stones of various types and size.

Adjacent to the hotel is a large Bunya Bunya pine which is a landmark in the area.

The building would require detailed inspection to ascertain which sections of the building dated from the 1860s. The low pitched roof and general form of the building indicates that the main part of the hotel could date from this period.

REFERENCES

- Avoca Mail*, 3 October 1868; 21 November 1868; 14 January 1871
 Beavis, *Pioneers of the Pyrenees*, p. 89
Melbourne and its Metropolis, p. 112
The Pioneer and Mountain Creek Advertiser, 16 February 1861
The Pyrenees Herald, 1 August 1861
 Information from Graeme Mills, Ivan Redpath

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
 NAME: Redbank police residence/station
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: Navarre St
 MAP NAME: Redbank Township/Redbank South
 MAP REFERENCE: YE 070095

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Redbank police residence/station is a brick structure possibly dating from 1861. It has significance for its age, associations and characteristic qualities. The Redbank police residence/station is one of the few buildings in the township to date back to the early gold rushes. It is characteristic of police buildings erected during this period which typically functioned as residences with rooms allocated for station use. Its solid brick construction is indicative of the prosperous future predicted for Redbank in the 1860s.

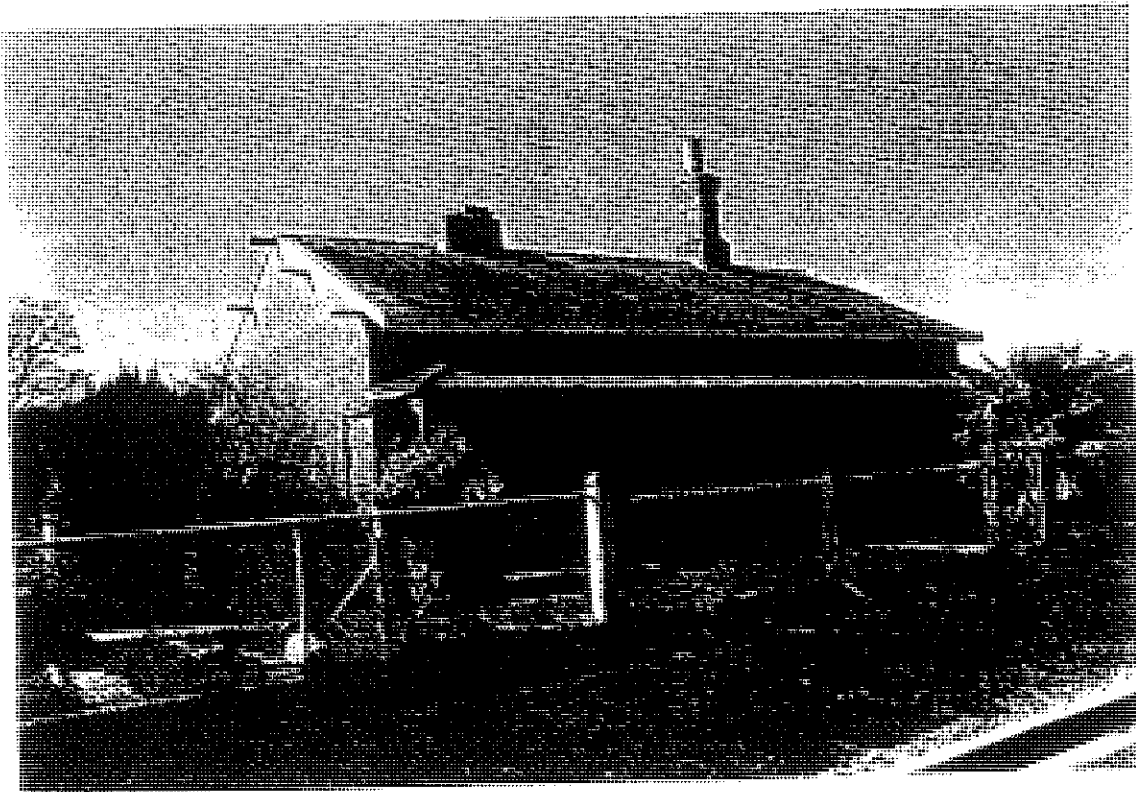
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (law and order)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No. 3/15

BUILDING DATE: c. 1861
 DATE: 25.8.93



HISTORY

The sudden shifts of population triggered by gold rushes in the 1850s and 1860s stretched police resources to the limit. On 14 May 1861 a letter from an inhabitant of the Navarre (Barkly) area complained of the lack of police protection, stating:

the two policemen, spoken of in a former letter, constitute still the sole protection afforded to a population of 4,000 souls against the depredations of a horde of villains, who nightly prove a terror to the peaceful and industrious. Robbery now seems to be carried on as a regular and profitable trade.

A police station/residence was established on the Redbank diggings in 1861, in order to provide protection for its population of over 4,000. In 1866 the police station underwent repairs and in 1879/80 it was removed from its original position and re-erected on its present site in Navarre St. More repairs took place on 1889-90 and 1895-96. (There is some question whether the present building is the original 1861 police station but as yet there is no record of it ever being replaced.)

However by the turn of the century Redbank had been transformed from a turbulent mining township into a peaceful farming settlement and there was little work for the resident police officer. In 1902 the Redbank police station was closed.

DESCRIPTION

The police station/residence is a rectangular brick building with a gable roof of slate. The building has a hipped roof verandah springing from below the main roof. The verandah roof is clad in corrugated iron and the verandah is supported on pairs of square timber posts with small timber fretwork brackets.

The building has a central doorway flanked on each side by a twelve paned double hung timber window. One wide brick chimney has been partly demolished while the narrower brick chimney retains its decorative corbelled brick bands.

The building has been altered in some way at the west end. It would appear that the overhanging eaves have been removed leaving the exposed eaves beams projecting from the brick wall. This may have been when the barge board was renewed.

The verandah posts, brickwork, slate roof and windows all indicate that the building was constructed on this site during the 1879/80 works or earlier.

REFERENCES

Frances O'Neill, *Survey of police buildings, 1858-Victorian Police Gazette*, 5 January 1881, 27 June 1902
National Trust file, No. 5607

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: R19

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
NAME: Burge's house
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS: Navarre St
MAP NAME: Redbank Township
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Burge's house is a timber structure built c1905. It has significance for its associations.

Burge's house is a notable example of a substantial timber residence. Its impressive design reflects the status of the Burge family, a prominent local farming family, and the prosperity they had achieved by the turn of the century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

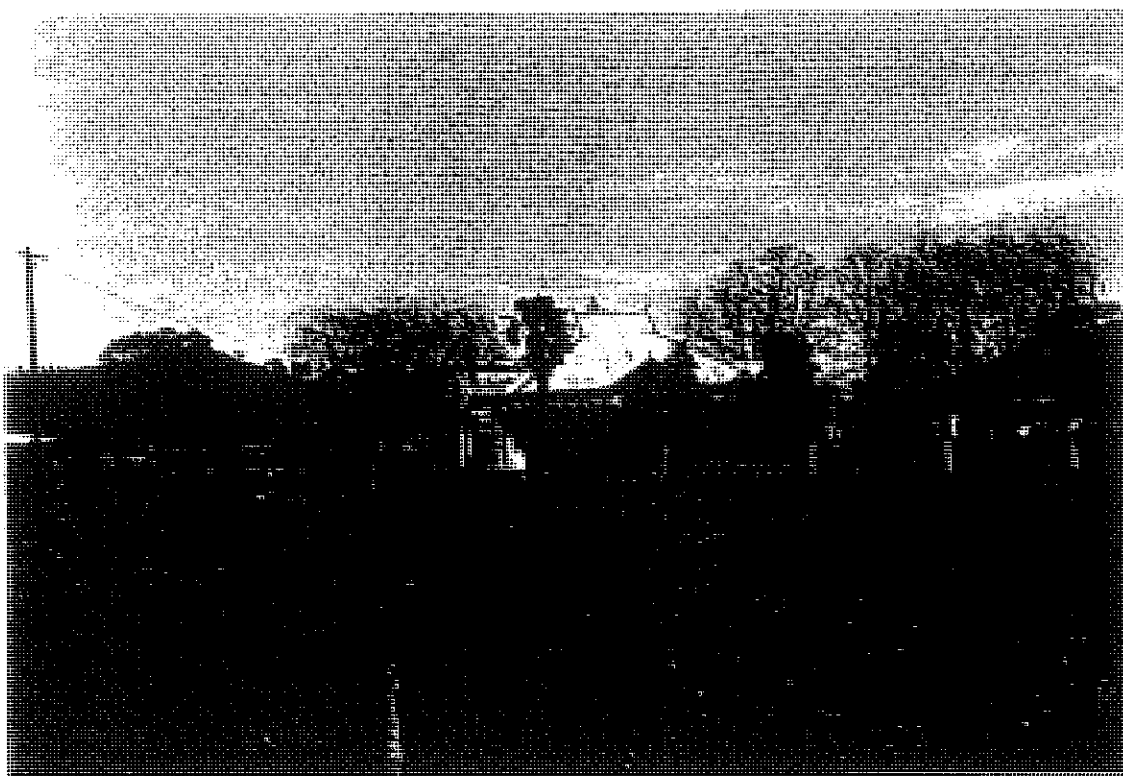
Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Towns (residential)

BUILDING DATE: c1925

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 3/17

DATE: 25.8.93



HISTORY

The Burge's family were early settlers in the Shire and by the turn of the century they had substantial land holdings. This house was built for Tom Burge in the mid 1920s by a local builder, Charles Astbury. Local residents remember that during this period it was considered one of the grandest houses in the district.

The house is now owned by Mr Lindsay Harrison and family.

DESCRIPTION

The house is a large timber residence with a steeply pitched half hipped central roof with intersecting gable roofs defining the entrances and projecting rooms. There is a bull nosed verandah returning between the projecting gables.

The house is clad in weatherboards and has corrugated iron roofs. The verandah has a decorative cast iron frieze and brackets and is supported on timber posts. The main entry gables have half brick pillars as verandah supports.

The front entry gable is decorated with scalloped patterned boards on the gable infill.

The building is of a form popular in the first two decades of the century with the late use of cast iron and a bull nosed verandah.

The building is enhanced by the mature trees, especially the willows, fan palm and garden setting. It is a large and substantially intact residence of an unusual style and size for the area.

REFERENCES

Information from Ivy Raggett
Information from Rob Vance
Information from Graeme Mills.

CURRENT LISTINGS:
 HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
 HBC No
 NATIONAL TRUST
 NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
 OTHER
 TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
 NAME: Redbank school residence
 FORMER NAME:
 ADDRESS: High St
 MAP NAME: Redbank Township
 MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Redbank school residence was moved to Redbank from Natte Yallock in 1947. It has significance for its characteristic qualities and contextual importance.

The Redbank school residence is typical of the accommodation provided by the Education Department in country areas. Its transfer from Natte Yallock to Redbank illustrates the common rural practice of recycling redundant buildings. The school residence contributes to a larger educational complex which includes the Redbank school and related structures.

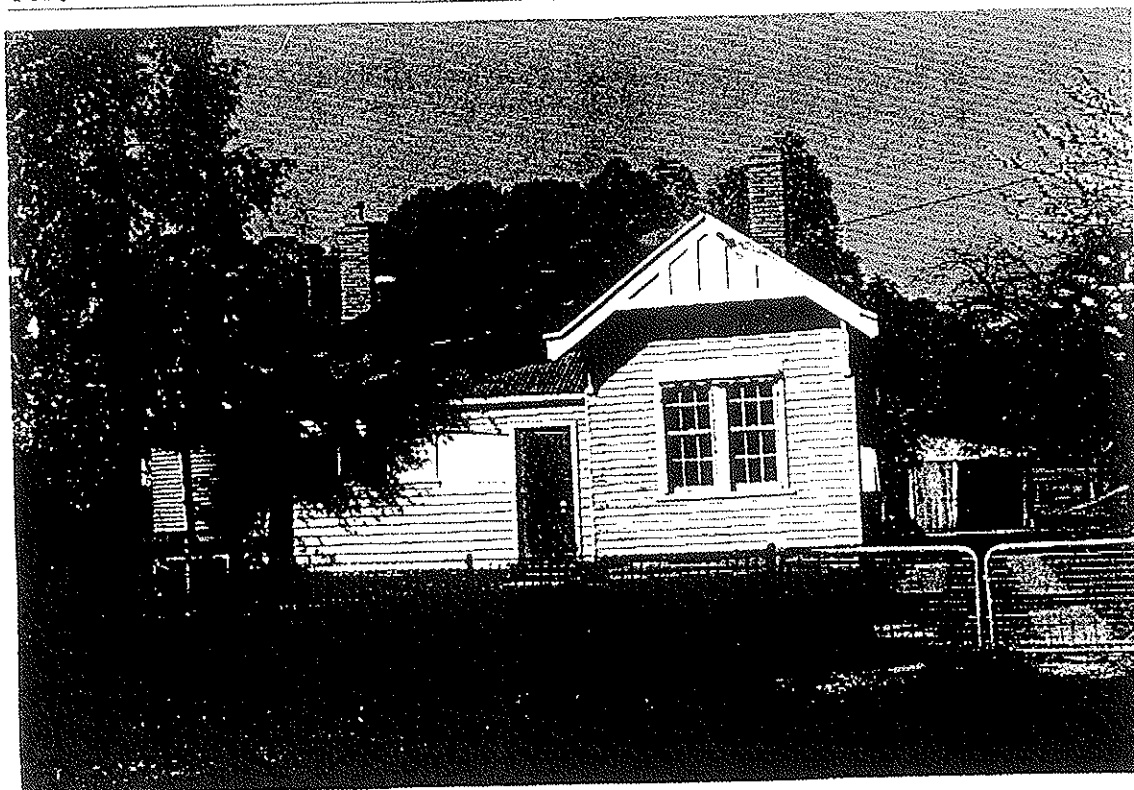
SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Community life (schools)
 PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.: 3/23

BUILDING DATE:
 DATE: 25.8.93



HISTORY

The Redbank Common school was opened in 1867, but despite much local agitation a teacher's residence was not provided for almost twenty years. The head teacher, Henry Gibson, wrote to the Education Department in 1879 complaining that he had been forced to store his furniture and go into lodgings and his wife had gone to her parents in Ballarat. Nevertheless it was not until March 1886 that a contract for a four-roomed teacher's residence was let and in August 1886 a wooden residence was completed at a cost of £232 including some repairs to the school.

The residence remained in use for the next fifty years but in 1936 the Public Works Department wrote that if did not propose to incur any further expenditure on the school residence 'as it is considered to be beyond repair'. The residence was offered for sale by tender and purchased by G Burge who removed it on the 3 September 1937. The issue of a new residence was temporarily shelved due to the outbreak of war, but from 1942 local residents, W Irwin and then W P Durant, wrote constantly to the Education Department requesting a new residence and even enlisting the support of Alex McDonald, the local MP.

The Education Department pleaded lack of funds but finally suggested that the school residence at Natte Yallock, where there were only seven students, be moved to Redbank. Despite protests from the Avoca Shire Secretary, who recommended that the school residence from Percydale be moved instead, the plan went ahead. A quarter acre site was acquired from Mrs Helen Horwill next to the Redbank school for a cost of £5 and the new residence was re-erected here rather than on the former site which had taken up part of the school grounds.

The work on the house was finally completed in August 1947 at a cost of £379.0.0 and the new head teacher, Sidney Binns, moved into the residence in January of that year.

DESCRIPTION

The school residence would appear to have been originally constructed in the 1920s. It is a weatherboard building with a hipped roof and a projecting gable roofed front room. The hipped roof extends to form a verandah which is now enclosed. The house has two simple red brick chimneys that would have been built new at the time of relocation.

The projecting gable has a pair of double hung windows in the centre with the gable eaves supported on timber brackets and having a characteristic infill of panels and strapping.

REFERENCES

- Jenny Keating, *History of the Redbank school*, unpublished
PRO, Department of Education Building files, 27 October 1879; 29 August 1936, 28 April 1945;
August 1947
Vision and Realisation, p. 705

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN R1

CURRENT LISTINGS: HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER

HBC No.

NATIONAL TRUST

NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER

OTHER

TITLE DETAILS:

Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank

NAME: Pyrenees Company Mine site

ADDRESS: 1.1 km south of Redbank, near Bridal
Track Rd

MAP NAME: Redbank South

MAP REFERENCE: 070 083

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pyrenees Reef was discovered in 1861 and mined until 1915. The site has significance for its rarity, associations and scientific value. The Pyrenees Company Mine is the site of Redbank's most successful gold mine, and is closely associated with the development of quartz mining in the area. The survival of large machinery foundations and a sludge pond have scientific interest, and contribute to an understanding of the operation of the mine.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

PHOTOGRAPH FILM No.:

DATE: c 1899
DATE:

HISTORY

Gold was discovered in the Redbank area in December 1860 and the Pyrenees Reef was opened up in January 1861. In March 1864 the Redbank Crushing Company was treating stone from the reef and a total crushing of 75 tons of stone yielded 76 oz of gold. However by December 1864, work on the reef had been suspended awaiting the erection of pumping machinery. The new pumping machinery was damaged by fire late in 1866 and work on the reef was not resumed until March 1867. In September 1867 the Mining Surveyor reported that the Duke of Edinburgh Company, on the Pyrenees Reef, was sinking their shaft a further 100 feet. Quartz from the reef was still being crushed in March 1868.

The 1870s saw a depression in quartz mining followed by a small revival in the 1880s. In March 1882 a new company was floated to work the Pyrenees Reef and by September the contractors responsible for sinking a new shaft had reached a depth of 132 feet 6 inches. Presumably this company did not meet with success for in September 1887 the Mining Surveyor reported the formation of the Pyrenees Reef Company on the old Pyrenees Reef. After encountering large amounts of water the directors of this company purchased pumping machinery in order to drain the old shaft. In March 1889 the Pyrenees Reef Company had stopped work pending the issue of a new lease.

The lease on the Pyrenees Reef claim was forfeited in February 1897 but work was again being undertaken in January 1900 when the shaft reached a depth of 170 feet. By June the depth had increased to 220 feet. In 1903 it was reported:

The Pyrenees Company's area at Redbank...to date is said to have yielded more than 10,000 oz of smelted gold, taken from stone which yielded from a few pennyweights to four or five ounces to the ton... There is a first class steam pumping, winding and crushing plant at the main shaft ready for action.

By 1904 the New Pyrenees Company, the only mine left at Redbank, had temporarily ceased operation. Four years later the mine machinery was overhauled and water baled out by the Pyrenees Proprietary Company in preparation for resuming work. In 1910 the Mining Surveyor reported that the Pyrenees Company had been delayed during the year due to machinery repairs but had nevertheless treated 1,782 tons for a return of 1,133 ozs of gold. The following year the company carried out developmental work, and sunk the main shaft a further 100 feet, making a total depth of 425 feet.

In 1912 the Pyrenees sunk the main shaft to 445 feet and treated 3,060 tons for a return of 1,677 ozs of gold. It was planned to treat with cyanide several thousand tons of battery sand from the mine. Ore values fell off in 1913 causing the Pyrenees Company to suspend operations for a period although it still treated 220 tons of stone for a return of 56 ozs. In 1914 the company only opened up the mine as funds allowed but were able to crush 1,214 tons of stone for a gold yield of 541 ozs. Finally in 1915 the Pyrenees Company was compelled to cease operation for want of capital. When it closed it had reached a depth of 350 feet.

DESCRIPTION

There are a set of large concrete beds which are approximately 5.5 metres long and stand 1.5 metres high. At the rear of the beds are the remains of a stone boiler setting on another large concrete mounting bed. No shaft is visible and the mullock heap has been quarried.

Immediately to the north of the mining machinery beds is a large concrete battery engine bed. Running north from this bed is an arrangement of stamper blocks and bearers (two battery boxes of five head stamps). The rest of the stamper foundations have been bulldozed.

Below the battery foundations is a large quarried sludge pond.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994. Citation 88
- Annual Report, Department of Mines*, 1904, p. 69; 1908, p. 116; 1910; 1911, pp. 130-1; 1912, p. 107; 1913, p. 104; 1914, p. 93; 1915, pp. 43-44
- James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, pp. 446-7
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, June 1864, September 1864, December 1864, March 1865, June 1865, September 1865, December 1866, March 1867, September 1867, March 1868, March 1882, June 1882, September 1882, September 1887, December 1887, March 1889, June 1889
- The Pyrenees Goldfields*, No. 2, Geological Survey of Victoria, 1903
- St Arnaud Mercury*, 20 February 1897, 14 April 1897, 10 June 1900, 2 June 1900

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No. MIN R2

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
NAME: Grumbler's Gully diggings
ADDRESS: 1.1 km north of Redbank. The gully runs along the western edge of Bridal Track Road.
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: 063 079

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Grumbler's Gully was mined for gold from January 1861. It has significance for its rarity, influence and associations. Grumbler's Gully diggings represents a rare example of a relatively undisturbed alluvial goldfield. It has historical importance and influence as one of the gullies where gold was first discovered at Redbank. The position of the diggings along a track and in a relatively scrub-free environment, makes it a prominent landscape feature and an integral part of the mining landscape of the Shire.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.

DATE: 1861

DATE

HISTORY

In December 1860, gold was discovered about three miles north of the newly discovered Mountain Creek diggings (Moonambel) in an area known as Redbank or Hines. The area was rushed and by the first week in January boasted a population of 4,000. In January 1861 gold was also discovered on the lower Grumblers Lead near Redbank.

In March 1865, a prospecting claim was registered at what was known as the Old Slaughteryard Diggings, Redbank, with the prospectors obtaining 18 dwts per ton of washdirt. It was generally believed that a junction of the New Year's Flat and Grumbler's Gully would take place about this place. The depth of sinking was 70 feet and very wet.

At the same time the Old Redbank Mining Association's claim in Grumbler's Gully, which had been taken up some time earlier, was again being worked. The company had re-formed with an increased capital and the Mining Surveyor confidently proclaimed, 'there is no doubt that this ground will be fully tested'.

DESCRIPTION

Grumbler's Gully is now known as Long Gully and was first worked in January 1861.

Shallow alluvial sinkings - There are 1.5 kms of well defined and undisturbed sinkings which run along the western side of Bridle Track Road. The band of workings has an inner core of very concentrated sinkings with more dispersed sinkings on the edges. The workings are relatively free of scrub and are thus very visible from the track.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 89
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 446-7
Mining Surveyor's Reports, March 1865

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FILE No: MIN R3

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank

NAME: Richmond Reef adit and house site
ADDRESS: 3.2 kms south-east of Redbank, off
Wright/Richmond Tracks

MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: 081 064, 082 065

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Work on the tunnel into Richmond Reef appears to have commenced in 1872 and the adit was still being worked in 1903. The site is comprised of the adit, a partially quarried mullock heap, a dam and a house site with the remains of a stone fireplace.

The site has significance for its associations, scientific value and contextual importance. The Richmond Reef site is closely associated with quartz mining in the Redbank area and the range of features on the site help build up a picture of the work processes involved in tunnelling. The intact nature of the adit gives it scientific significance. The remains of a stone fireplace at the house site is a notable feature. The site is an integral part of the Redbank mining landscape.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: 1872-1903
DATE:

HISTORY

In December 1860, gold was discovered about three miles north of the newly discovered Mountain Creek diggings (Moonambel) in an area known as Redbank or Hines. The area was rushed and by the first week in January boasted a population of 4,000.

Over the next decade the area surrounding Redbank was thoroughly prospected and gold was found in a number of quartz reefs. A ton of quartz was crushed from Richmond Reef in March 1864 for a return of 3 oz of gold and another crushing took place in the quarter ending September 1864. In June 1865 application was made for a lease on the Richmond Reef.

In June 1872 the Mining Surveyor reported that an endeavour was being made to form a company to work the Richmond Reef by tunnelling. Four years later a new extended quartz claim had been secured on the Richmond Reef although no stone had been crushed.

In January 1897 the Richmond Quartz Crushing Company was advertising shares. Two years later the Mining Surveyor reported that the Richmond Tunnel Company was working and in January 1900 he wrote that the stone was widening as the drive was extended. By June the company was negotiating for a trial crushing of 50 tons of quartz from the No. 2 shaft at the Surprise battery, although in October it put through a trial crushing at the government battery at Moonambel.

By 1903 the Richmond Tunnel Company had tunnelled 1,100 feet into the range and had erected a small crushing mill.

DESCRIPTION

Work on the tunnel into Richmond Reef appears to have commenced in 1872 and the adit was still being worked in 1903.

Site 1: Richmond Tunnel Company

An adit is located at the base of the Pyrenees, on the south side of the track. The adit is open but flooded. There are several sets of wooden legs in the excavation leading to the tunnel. Most of a tunnel's once large mullock heap has been quarried. In the gully below the tunnel is a small breached dam.

Site 2: House site

On the west side of Wright's Track are the remains of a stone fireplace. (According to Ken Hull, former Operations Area Supervisor, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, there is also a grave associated with this site).

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 90
- James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 446-7
- Mining Surveyor's Reports*, March 1864, June 1864, September 1864, December 1864, March 1865, June 1865, June 1872, June 1876
- St Arnaud Mercury*, 6 January 1897, 2 September 1899, 13 January 1900, 27 June 1900, 6 October 1900
- The Pyrenees Goldfield*, No 2, Geological Survey of Victoria, 1903

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FILE No: MIN R4

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER

TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank

NAME: Surprise Company

ADDRESS: 3.8 km south-east of Redbank, north
of Sunraysia Highway

MAP NAME: Redbank South

MAP REFERENCE: 102 077

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Surprise Company operated from 1897 to c. 1900

It has significance for its associations and contextual importance.

The Surprise Company site is associated with a later phase of quartz mining activity in the Shire. The range of features on the site demonstrate the operations of a small scale gold mine and make it an important part of the Redbank mining landscape

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: 1897-c. 1900

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.:**

DATE:

HISTORY

The first half-yearly meeting of the Surprise Gold Mining Company was held in January 1897. At this meeting the mine manager, J. Barrow, said that an examination of the property showed the whole hill to be one mass of lodes and lode material. The mine exceeded anything he had seen on the Pyrenees.

In September 1897 the company applied to be registered as a limited liability company and announced its intention to erect a winding and pumping plant with a 20 head battery and reducing mill.

In March 1900 it was reported that a good deal of work was being done at the Surprise Company mine and they intended to sink the shaft a further 100 feet. Three months later the shaft was down to 300 feet and the company's plant had been increased by plunger and pump workings. Alterations were also being made to the battery.

DESCRIPTION

The Surprise Gold Mining Company operated from 1897 to c. 1900.

Mine/shaft site - On the crest of a ridge is a largely intact mullock heap with two dumping lines. The heap measures approximately 50 metres by 30 metres. The shaft has been filled with part of the mullock heap.

Machinery site - Approximately 20 metres from the shaft are the poorly preserved remains of a concrete boiler setting and mounting bed. Scattered around the largely buried foundations are lots of red bricks.

Mullock paddock - On the south side of the shaft site, are the remains of the battery's loading ramp. At the base of the ramp are some concrete foundations which once held large wooden mortar blocks for 10-head of stamps.

Sludge pond and tailings - In the gully below the battery are two small adjoining sludge ponds. Below the dams is a small dump of tailings

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 91
St Arnaud Mercury, 30 January 1897, 10 March 1897, 22 September 1897, 3 March 1900, 27 June 1900, 9 September 1900.

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FILE No: MIN R5

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
NAME: New Year's Flat/Crawler's Gully diggings
ADDRESS: 92.0 - 3 km north-west of Redbank,
north side of Redbank-Barkly Rd.
92.1 - 1.6 km north-west of Redbank,
south side of Redbank-Barkly Rd
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: 038 102, 053 101

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The bulk of alluvial mining in the New Year's Flat/Crawler's Gully area appears to have taken place in the 1860s.

The site has significance for its rarity, associations, scientific value and contextual importance.

The New Year's Flat/Crawler's Gully diggings represent a rare example of a relatively undisturbed goldfield dating from an early period of alluvial mining in the Shire. The large number of sinkings reflect the intensive way in which the field was worked in the 1860s while the intact condition of the site lends itself to interpretation and increases its scientific value. The New Year's Flat/Crawler's Gully alluvial workings are an important part of the mining landscape of the Shire.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No :**

DATE: c 1860s

DATE:

HISTORY

In December 1860, gold was discovered about three miles north of the newly discovered Mountain Creek diggings (Moonambel) in an area known as Redbank or Hines. The area was rushed and by the first week in January boasted a population of 4,000.

Early in January 1861, gold was also discovered at New Year's Flat, precipitating a large rush. By February miners were spread throughout the locality and there was a population of between 8,000 and 9,000 mining in the area around Hine's station. However many actually lived at New Year's Flat walking the 1 ½ miles to Hine's each day.

There was renewed activity along the New Year's Flat Lead in March 1865 when a prospecting claim was taken out at the old Slaughteryard diggings at Redbank after prospectors procured 18 dwt off the bottom. It was generally thought that the junction of New Year's Flat and Grumbler's Gully leads would take place on the new prospecting claim.

In June 1869 applications were made for the lease of several large areas on the Slaughteryard Lead prompted by the news that good prospects had been obtained by the White Elephant Company (previously the North British) at New Year's Flat. The company had erected a ten horse power engine and pumping gear and were in the process of driving for the lead.

DESCRIPTION

The bulk of alluvial mining in New Year's Flat/Crawler's Gully area appears to have taken place in the 1860s.

Site 1: A narrow band of deep sinkings (shaft depressions ringed by small mullock paddocks) run across the Barkly-Redbank Road. Sinkings on the north side of the road, which appears to be on Crown Land, are the most intense.

Site 2: A 0.5 km long, narrow band of deep sinkings runs along the southern edge of the Barkly-Redbank Rd. The workings are not visible from the road.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 92
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p. 446-7
Mining Surveyor's Reports, January 1861, February 1861, March 1865, June 1869

AVOCA SHIRE HERITAGE STUDY 1993/94

FILE No: MIN R6

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Crown Land

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank

NAME: Fighting Flat
ADDRESS: 2.7 km south-east of Redbank, east of
Richmond Track

MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: 085 073

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Gold mining commenced at Fighting Flat in 1861 and there was renewed mining activity in 1871. A section of the gully is currently being re-worked.
The site has significance for its associations and contextual importance.
The Fighting Flat diggings are associated with an early period of alluvial mining in the Shire and are an important part of the mining landscape of the Shire.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: 1861

PHOTOGRAPH **FILM No.**

DATE:

HISTORY

In December 1860, gold was discovered about three miles north of the newly discovered Mountain Creek diggings (Moonambel) in an area known as Redbank or Hines. The area was rushed and by the first week in January boasted a population of 4,000. Over the next twelve months gold was found in gullies and flats in a wide sweep of country surrounding Redbank and Moonambel. One of these was Fighting Flat which was opened up in September 1861.

The area was re-opened again for a short period in June 1871 when prospects of 7 dwts a ton were found on the Fighting Flat Lead and a small rush took place.

DESCRIPTION

Gold mining commenced at Fighting Flat in 1861 and there was renewed mining activity in 1871. A section of the gully is currently being re-worked.

Shallow alluvial sinkings extend down two branches of a gully. A track runs to a silted dam which is surrounded by a massive bank of wash. There is no puddler visible.

A small mining claim is being worked downstream from the dam.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 93
James Flett, *History of Gold Discovery in Victoria*, 1870, p 446-7
Mining Surveyor's Reports, June 1871

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FILE No: MIN R7

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
NAME: Redbank Dredging Company
ADDRESS: 2.8 km north of Redbank, east side of Sunraysia Highway running along the south side of Hines Lane.
MAP NAME: Redbank South. Two main
MAP REFERENCE: areas - 070 120, 058 120

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Redbank Dredging Company operated between the years 1937 to 1941. It has significance for its rarity and associations. The Redbank Dredging Company site is a rare example of a relatively undisturbed dredging landscape. It illustrates the new mining technology of dredging introduced in the twentieth century.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold
PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No.:

DATE: 1937-41
DATE:

HISTORY

In July 1837 a dredging lease application was made for the Redbank district in addition to Avoca, Alma, Amphitheatre and Landsborough. By January 1838 the Redbank Dredging Company was in existence under the management of J. J. Hunter. The company initially installed a pump dredge at German Gully which immediately began regular production.

In July 1938 the Redbank Dredging Company was in the process of installing modern dredging plant and machinery. Reservoir dams had been constructed and the erection of an electric bucket dredge, with a capacity of 25,000 cubic yards per week, was nearing completion. A power house was also constructed.

The new electric dredge finally commenced operations on 21 March 1939. It was designed to dig to a depth of 33 feet on the company's western lease which was estimated to contain six million cubic yards of payable material. Despite such high hopes, the early returns from the dredge were disappointing. In September 1940 the dredge's power plant was increased to enable larger scale operations.

By March 1941, sluicing and dredging throughout the area was restricted due to very limited water supplies, and it is thought the Redbank dredge ceased operation during this period.

DESCRIPTION

The Redbank Dredging Company operated between the years 1937 to 1941.

There is an arrangement of large rectangular ponds with low embankments running along the south side of Hines Lane. There are also three large ponds filled with water. According to local residents, the remains of the power plant still survive.

REFERENCES

David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 100
Mining and Geological Journal, July 1937, pp. 50-7; January 1938, pp. 41-51; July 1938, pp. 39-47; January 1939, pp. 41-6; July 1939, pp. 26-31; January 1939, pp. 41-6; July 1939, pp. 26-31; January 1940, pp. 100-04; September 1940, p. 170; March 1941, p. 229

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FILE No: MIN R8

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:
Freehold

TOWN/DISTRICT: Redbank
NAME: Cambrian Reef
ADDRESS: 2.2 km north-north-west of Redbank
MAP NAME: Redbank South
MAP REFERENCE: 061 115

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Cambrian Reef had been worked to the water level by 1861. Its main period of mining appears to have been from the mid 1880s until the turn of the century.
The site has significance for its associations.
The Cambrian Reef is one of the earliest quartz mines in the Redbank area and it is closely associated with the development of quartz mining in the Shire. Its re-opening in the 1880s and 1890s after being rapidly worked to water level in the early 1860s, reflects the new availability of pumping plant and the injection of outside capital into district mines.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

Pyrenees Planning Scheme (individual listing)

THEMES: Gold

DATE: c. 1880s - 1900

PHOTOGRAPH

FILM No :

DATE:

HISTORY

In December 1860, gold was discovered about three miles north of the newly discovered Mountain Creek diggings (Moonambel) in an area known as Redbank or Hines. The area was rushed and within two weeks boasted a population of 4,000.

Over the next decade, the area surrounding Redbank was thoroughly prospected, and gold was found in a variety of quartz reefs including the Cambrian Reef. In March 1861, the Mining Surveyor reported that miners on the Cambrian Reef were greatly hindered from prospecting by the quantity of water they had met with at a depth of 40 feet. Most of the claimholders had grants for dams on their claims in order to retain the water for washing purposes.

Reef mining was in depression during the 1870s, but in December 1884, application was made for a lease on the site of the Cambrian Lead. Although in September 1885, the Cambrian Company was sinking a new shaft and good progress was being made, in December 1885 the Mining Surveyor declared himself sorry to report that the 'prospects of the Cambrian Company appear to wane'.

In June 1889 the Cambrian Gold Mining Company were involved in the purchase of a pumping and crushing plant. They had 100 tons of quartz waiting for treatment although a trial crushing of 1 ton, 8 dwts of quarts at the battery in Maryborough, yielded only 5 dwts of gold.

In June 1896 a new company was formed to work the Cambrian Reef and new plant was erected in the mine. This consisted of winding and pumping engines with the necessary housing, poppet heads and 8 inch lifts. A dam was completed with a capacity of 500,000 gallons of fresh water, sufficient to cater for the boilers throughout the year. By March 1897 the new Cambrian Company had sunk its main shaft to a total depth of 163 feet and in December of the same year, it began erecting a 15 head battery and engine.

In April 1899, a mining development report prepared by A. M. Howitt, stated that the Cambrian Company possessed five separate leases extending north-west from the Redbank cemetery and close to the township of Redbank. The company had sunk its main shaft a depth of 170 feet on the Cambrian Reef. Despite the fact that the company had not obtained good prospects since taking over the mine they planned to sink the shaft a further 25 feet.

DESCRIPTION

The Cambrian Reef had been worked to the water level by 1861. Its main period of mining appears to have been from the mid 1880s until the turn of the century. In 1897 a battery was reported to have been erected at the mine.

The site has not been surveyed, but according to local residents, not much of it survives because of bulldozing done by the Department of Mines.

REFERENCES

- David Bannear, *Historic Mining Sites in the Inglewood, Wedderburn and St Arnaud Mining Divisions*, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, February 1994, Citation 101
Mining Surveyor's Reports, March 1860, May 1861, December 1884, June 1885, September 1885, December 1885, June 1889
St Arnaud Mercury, 9 January 1897, 3 February 1897, 10 March 1897, 3 November 1897, 22 December 1897
A. M. Howitt, 13 April 1899, *Mining Development Report*

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FILE No: Area 5

CURRENT LISTINGS:
HISTORIC BUILDINGS REGISTER
HBC No.
NATIONAL TRUST
NATIONAL ESTATE REGISTER
OTHER
TITLE DETAILS:

TOWN/DISTRICT: Pyrenees Ranges
NAME: Pyrenees Range
FORMER NAME:
ADDRESS:
MAP NAME:
MAP REFERENCE:

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Pyrenees Ranges occupy the entire centre and northern section of the Shire of Avoca clearly dividing it into east and west and forcing townships and roads to be sited around the base. The Ranges have significance for their influence, associations and aesthetic qualities.

The Pyrenees Ranges form the most prominent landscape feature in the Shire. They have played an influential role in the Shire's development, dictating settlement patterns, determining the course of transport routes, providing the raw material for a local timber industry and a focus of interest for both alluvial and quartz miners. They can be seen throughout the Shire, rising up out of the surrounding plains and are much admired for their aesthetic qualities.

SIGNIFICANCE: Local

RECOMMENDATIONS

The importance of the Pyrenees as a major landscape feature in the region should be taken into consideration in any decisions that may affect the area

HISTORY

The Pyrenees Ranges are a major and dramatic landscape feature in the Shire and have played an influential role in its development. Since the early days of white settlement the Pyrenees range dictated settlement patterns and determined the course of transport routes. The thickly timbered slopes provided the raw material for a local timber industry and the spurs and quartz reefs were mined for gold. The ranges have also been much admired for their aesthetic qualities. The *Cyclopedia Of Victoria* wrote in 1904:

The Pyrenees forms an imposing feature of the Landscape, and these, visible from High Street [Avoca] which is three chains wide, are objects of grandeur and beauty at all seasons of the year, but never more so than in the spring, when the sombre foliage of their thickly wooded spurs contrast so effectively with the bright green of the rich pasture lands at their base, where paddocks under cultivation for wheat and oats, interspersed with gardens and orchards, and with neat white cottages peeping out from clumps of tree, combine to charm the eye.

DESCRIPTION

The Pyrenees Ranges occupy the entire centre and northern section of the Shire of Avoca clearly dividing it into east and west.

The range is heavily timbered and covers about 20,000 hectares of State Forest, most of which is still available for hardwood production. It has a diverse variety of plants and animals with over 200 species of plants and 100 birds.

REFERENCES

- Smith, James (ed), *Cyclopedia of Victoria - An Historical and Commercial Review*, The Cyclopedia Company., Melbourne, 1904, 3 volumes, p 313
Department of Conservation, Forest and Lands, Pyrenees Walking Track leaflet