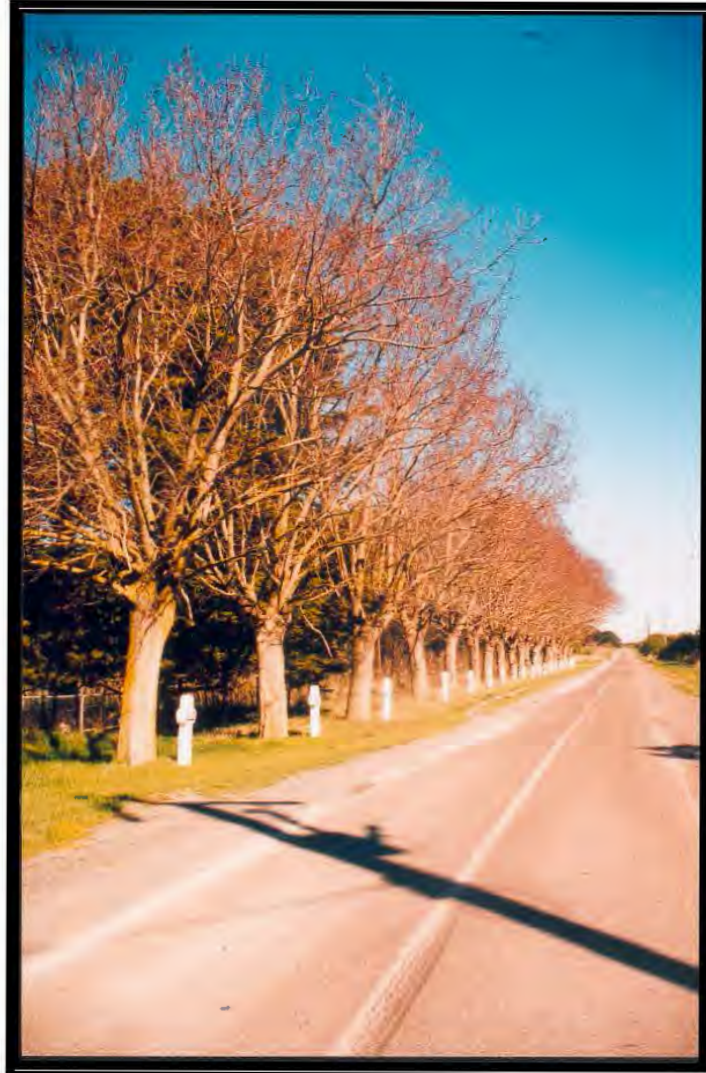


Colac Otway Heritage Study



Volume II - Part 1

Contains Data Sheets 1 - 140

Mary Sheehan & Assoc.

2003

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INTRODUCTION

This section of the Heritage Study contains a series of recommendations relating to the places identified as cultural heritage importance or significance.

The Shire of Colac Otway has a rich and fascinating history, resulting in the presence of considerable cultural heritage, evident in the Environmental History. This cultural heritage is reflected in buildings, plantings, memorials, industrial sites and archeological remains that range from public buildings, halls, and schools, to places that represent aspects of the shire's economic development through the pastoral, timber, dairying and tourist industries.

The Recommendations made in the study are derived from the significance of the identified places. Assessing the cultural significance of places is a key factor in determining appropriate levels of protection and options for future use.

1. Cultural Significance

Cultural significance, as defined in the *Burra Charter* [see Appendix Volume I] means 'aesthetic, historic, scientific or social value for past, present or future generations.' Determining the cultural significance of a site or place draws out and highlights the qualities that make a place special or important. All values are enhanced by the degree of surviving evidence, the intactness and integrity of the place or its fabric, or its ability to demonstrate the processes or events that occurred in the past. Some rare places, however, with few or no remnant features to connect physically with this history, may still be of strategic historical importance, or retain strong historical or community associations. Occasionally a memorial or plaque will point to the importance of such a place.

The Cultural Significance of a place or precinct is defined in a Statement of Significance. All Statements of Significance have been developed utilising the criteria adopted by the Victorian Heritage Council.

2. Criteria for Determining Significance

The Victoria Heritage Council developed criteria for the assessment of significance (criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in 1997 pursuant to Sections 8(c) and 8(2) of the Heritage Act 1995) [listed below - see also Appendix Volume I]. The Victoria Heritage Council criteria are based on established criteria, especially those developed by the Australian Heritage Commission. The criteria developed and adopted by the Victorian Heritage Council has been used in this study.

The Victorian Heritage Council criteria are intended to provide for the assessment of a range of places, from intact buildings and structures, industrial sites and archeological remains through to natural landscape areas, gardens and other forms of plantings.

A place may be considered significant if it meets only one of the criteria, or if it is a component of a network or complex of places, the totality of which is significant. Where prior assessment of

the significance of historic places in the Colac Otway Shire has occurred, such as for places listed on the Victorian Heritage Register or those assessed by the Land Conservation Council, then the levels of significance already assigned will stand in this heritage study (See 5. 'Existing Assessment' below).

**HERITAGE VICTORIA
CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE
SIGNIFICANCE**

- The historical importance, association with or relationship to Victoria's history of the place or object.
- The importance of a place or object in demonstrating rarity or uniqueness.
- The place or object's potential to educate, illustrate or provide further scientific investigation in relation to Victoria's cultural heritage.
- The importance of a place or object in exhibiting the principal characteristics or the representative nature of a place or object as part of a class or type of places or objects.
- The importance of the place or object in exhibiting good design or aesthetic characteristics and/or in exhibiting a richness, diversity or unusual integration of features
- The importance of the place or object in demonstrating or being associated with scientific or technical innovations or achievements.
- The importance of the place or object in demonstrating social or cultural associations.
- Any other matter which the Council considers relevant to the determination of cultural heritage significance.

3. Recommendation Levels

The Recommendations for the protections of places identified to be of cultural heritage significance in this study are determined in a Shire or Statewide context. The Recommendations therefore advocate the protection of significant places by either inclusion in the Shire's Planning Scheme or, for those places that are significant to the State of Victoria, by nomination for inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register.

One of two levels of significance has been attributed to each place identified in this study. They are:

- **Local** – this means the place in some way has either contributed to, illustrates or demonstrates the Shire’s history and is able to provide information about the story of its development.
- **State** – this means the place in some way has either contributed to, illustrates or demonstrates Victoria’s history and is able to provide information about the story of its development.

Those places identified to be of ‘Local’ cultural heritage importance have been recommended to the Council for protection in the Shire of Cola Otway’s planning scheme. Those identified to be of ‘State’ cultural heritage importance have been recommended for nomination to the Victorian Heritage Register.

4. Information Contained in the Data Sheets

The Recommendations and a Statement of Significance are contained in the Data Sheets prepared for each Individual Site and Precinct. They incorporate the following information:

- Reference Number identifying the site or precinct, and cross-referenced to the Recommendation Summary lists for easy reference.
- Name of the Individual Site or Precinct; address and, where no street numbering available, Grid References (GR).
- Photograph of the Individual Site or, in the case of a Precinct, a map outlining the boundaries of the Precinct.
- Statement of Significance
- Recommendation and Recommended Listing at the Local or State level.
- Reference to the appropriate Environmental History Theme
- Brief history of the Individual Site or Precinct
- Physical Description
- Assessment of condition and integrity, where relevant (see discussion in reference to horticultural features below).

Assessment of Horticultural Features of Cultural Heritage Importance

Assessment of ‘integrity’ is not always applicable for trees and other living plant material or collections. Therefore, when required, ‘N/a’ has been used.

Assessment of Archeological Sites & the Heritage Inventory

The primary criterion used to assess archaeological sites is scientific significance. This is based on the capacity of archaeological relics and sites to provide us with historical, cultural or social information.

The Heritage Inventory was established pursuant to Section 120 of the *Heritage Act 1995*. The Heritage Inventory includes historical archaeological sites, places and relics in Victoria, providing they are older than 50 years, and regardless of their level of cultural heritage significance.

A Consent is required for particular works or activities, including excavation, in relation to an archaeological site. Under the Heritage Act it is an offence to damage or disturb relics and archaeological sites, whether or not they have been included on the Heritage Inventory, without obtaining the appropriate permission from the Executive Director.

5. Existing Assessment

As referred to above, where prior assessment of the significance of historic places in the Colac Otway Shire has occurred, such as for places listed on the Victorian Heritage Register or those assessed by the Land Conservation Council, then the levels of significance already assigned will stand for this heritage study.

Victorian Heritage Register

Eight places within the Shire of Colac Otway have been assessed and listed on the Victorian Heritage Register. These are as follows :

Knott's No 3 Mill	Otway State Forest, Wyelangta	VHR 818
Henry's Tramway Tunnel	West Barwon Valley, Barramunga	VHR 817
Mount Hesse Station	Mount Hesse Estate Road Ombersley	VHR 1208
Pirron Yallock Railway Station	Penshurst-Warnambool Road Pirron Yallock	VHR 1584
Tarndwarncoort Homestead	Princess Highway Warncoort	VHR 281
Former Adam Rea's Store	cnr. Murray & Queens Streets Colac	VHR 433
Henry's No 1 Mill	West Barwon Valley Barramunga	VHR 1815
Cape Otway Lightstation	Otway Lighthouse Road Cape Otway	VHR 1222

Data sheets with the available information on these above sites have been incorporated into Volume II of the study.

Land Conservation Council

The Land Conservation Council carried out an investigation of historic places on public land in south western Victoria and its report, *Historic Places: Special Investigation, South-Western Victoria* was published in 1997. The recommendations made by the report have been incorporated into the Heritage Study.

Sixty-three places were identified by the Land Conservation Council in its 1997 report. Some of these places were also considered during the course of the Colac Otway Heritage study. Generally, those places not considered by the consultants undertaking the Colac Otway Heritage Study have been incorporated into the study and a data sheet for each site included in Volume II.

The full list of places identified by the Land Conservation Council's report is as follows:

Marchbank sawmill, tramway & double incline	Weeaprounah
Knott's No. 3 Sawmill	Wyelangta
Henry & Sanderson sawmills & features	Barramunga
Marchbank zig zag tramway	Weeaprounah district
Knott No. 3 sawmill	Wyelangta district
Henry No 1 sawmill	Barramunga
Tunnel, Henry's tramway	Barramunga
Great Ocean Road, inc. Old Springs site , Cape Patton, & natural features named by soldier-workers such as	

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Schrapnell Gully (not included in study)	
Hayden's sawmills	Forrest district
Henry's Nettle & Carisbrook sawmills	Kennett River
ACA sawmill (not included in study)	Angahool Lorne State Park
Sharp's No. 1 & No. 3 sawmills	Olangolah Nature Reserve
Mackie No 2 sawmill	Forrest district
Hitt No 4 sawmill	Lardner Creek
Hayden No 4 sawmill	King Creek
Mackie No 5 sawmill	Mount Cowley
Hayden/Gales sawmill (not included in study)	Wimba
McDonald tramway	Wimba
Smedley sawmill	Olangolah
Sharp No 2 sawmill	Skenes Creek
Cemetery	Colac
Features of Colac water supply system (not included in study)	
Reserves in Aire Valley plantation (not included in study)	
Melba Gully	Otway National Park
Godfrey Creek graves, Great Ocean Road	Angahook Lorne State Park
Hay's sawmill & jetty remains (not included in study)	Wye River
Dugout, Grey River Road	Kennett River
Armistead's sawmill	Kennett River
Martin's sawmill	Otway National Park
Apollo Bay Timber Company sawmill	Elliott River
Landing site, Blanket Bay	Otway National Park
Parker River Track (not included in study)	Otway National Park
'Eric the Red' anchor, Point Franklin area (not included in study)	Otway National Park
Royle sawmill (not included in study)	Barwon Downs district
Northern Timber Company sawmill	Crowes district
Knottt No 2 sawmill	Otway National Park
Seebeck/Henry sawmill	Forrest
Henry sawmill	south-west Forrest
Mackie No 4 sawmill	Forrest district
Mackie No 6 sawmill	Otway State Forest
Sanderson sawmill	Barramunga
Henry No 2 sawmill	Barramunga
Salt extraction site	Lake Cundare
Red Rock Reserve	Alvie district
Primary school No 2028 (not included in study)	Elliminyt
Golf links & gardens	Birregurra
Great Western Colliery Company mine (not included in study)	Benwerrin
Cemetery	Yaughar
Turtons Track	Otway Ranges
Casper Towers sawmill (not included in study)	Skenes Creek
Johnson Bros sawmill & chute	Apollo Bay district
Features of foreshore reserve & breakwater	Apollo Bay
'Speculant' anchor	Apollo Bay
Birregurra-Forrest railway line (separate recommendation made)	
Railway station	Colac
Police lock-up	Colac
Primary school No 2210	Barongarook

Memorial Square	Colac
Primary School No 482	Beeac
Hospital complex	Colac
High School	Colac
Primary school No.2708	Forrest
Colac-Beech Forest-Crowes railway line (separate recommendation made)	

6. Summary of Recommendations

The following list summarises recommendation for the protection of individual sites and precincts determined by investigations as part of the Colac Otway Heritage Study.

This comprehensive list includes a reference number for each site and precinct, the location of the place or precinct, street name and number and, where the latter is not available, a grid reference (GR), and the place name. The list also provides reference to the theme connected to the place and the theme reference number to allow referral to the Environmental History and more detailed information about the theme as well as bibliographical information. Finally, the list includes reference to the level of protection recommended for the place or precinct.

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Name of Place : CORAGULAC HOUSE, PLANTINGS &
WASHINGTON PALM (*Washingtonia robusta*)

Ref. No. : 1

Location : 895 Corangamite Lake Road
Alvie



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Coragulac House was built for George Robinson, son of Colac pioneer William Robertson, on land subdivided from 'The Hill', William Robertson's pastoral run. The house was designed by Davidson and Henderson and built in 1873. It was extended in 1874 and 1880. Coragulac House is of historic and aesthetic significance to the State of Victoria. The remnant garden, especially the *Washingtonia robusta* (Washington Palm), is of scientific (botanic) importance to the State of Victoria. Coragulac House is historically important through its association with the district's early squatters and demonstrates the success of the pastoral industry in Victoria, and the financial achievements and social status attained by Western District pastoral families. Coragulac House is aesthetically important for exhibiting the good design and aesthetic characteristics of Davidson & Henderson's work through its fine architectural character, demonstrated by the layout design of the house, bluestone masonry work, fine interior decoration, and the evocative setting of the homestead on the slopes of Red Rock. The garden is of scientific (botanic) importance, especially the Washington Palm which is the tallest known of the species in the State, and rare because of its exposed environment.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Nominate for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

Coragulac House was built by George Robertson, son of William Robertson in 1873. William senior originally owned 23,000 acres centred on 'The Hill' [site # 211]. He gave 640 acres in equal shares to his four sons William, John, George and James who in turn built mansions on their land, with the exception of William who took over 'The Hill'. John built Cororooke House (demolished); James built Glen Alvie [site #4]; and Coragulac house was built by George Robertson.

Coragulac House was built in several stages in 1873, 1874 and 1880 to a Davidson & Henderson design. The house has distinctive cone topped towers and stained glass windows. It is 26 rooms in extent, with cedar and karri ceilings and Oregon floors. A feature is the dining room mantelpiece with carved lions, while in the billiard room, the ceiling beams have panther head carvings. The house was originally set in 14 acres of enclosed area containing the mansion, stables, polo ground, fish ponds and glasshouses.

On George's death in 1892 the property passed to Andrew Chirside, who introduced electric lighting throughout the house. According to the current owner, Ron Matthews, the property comprised 640 acres with the garden covering an area of 14 acres, when Chirside took over Coragulac House. Gradually Chirside subdivided the land, particularly along the road and including the land on which the Washington Palm was planted (later repurchased and reabsorbed into the Coragulac House estate), and reduced the size of the property to 96 acres.

Subsequent owners included the Baker family, Ralton, Robinson and Matthews.

Thomas Baker contributed significantly to the development of the surrounding district as owner of the Corunnun Estates when he assisted his Irish countrymen from the Koroit district to settle on land at Cororooke. He was also a Colac Shire councillor and president, and the Member for the Legislative Assembly representing Polwarth between 1894 and 1897.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION : STRUCTURES

The earliest section of the imposing bluestone country mansion was built in 1873 with later additions in 1874 and 1880. The artful re-styling of the building in the late 1890s or early 1900s was undertaken by the new owner, Andrew Chirside. All the various additions can be attributed to the architectural firm, Davidson & Henderson. Each new extension was designed to integrate with the original house by the use of similar materials, bluestone masonry work, window and quoining details, roof form and pitch, heights, scale and massing. The whole complex reads as one building, despite the major re-modelling by Chirside to change the original early Italianate symmetrical building into an asymmetrically picturesque Scottish Baronial mansion. This was achieved by converting the square bay windows located on the extreme diagonal of the building into conical shaped alcoves and towers. The rear courtyard was enclosed with the construction of a magnificent billiard room top lit by a large roof lantern. At this time the interiors were similarly refurbished in an opulent early Arts and Craft style, displaying superb gold embossed original wallpaper and fine timber craftwork, which remain totally intact. Chirside introduced electric lighting throughout the house powered by a small generator still housed in its original structure. The house is located within a traditional farm complex, comprising stables, dairy and other outbuildings, set within mature gardens, facing east, overlooking open fields and countryside. The condition of the house and outbuildings are good, although damage by water ingress into the house is a problem. Integrity: the house is substantially intact and architecturally outstanding.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

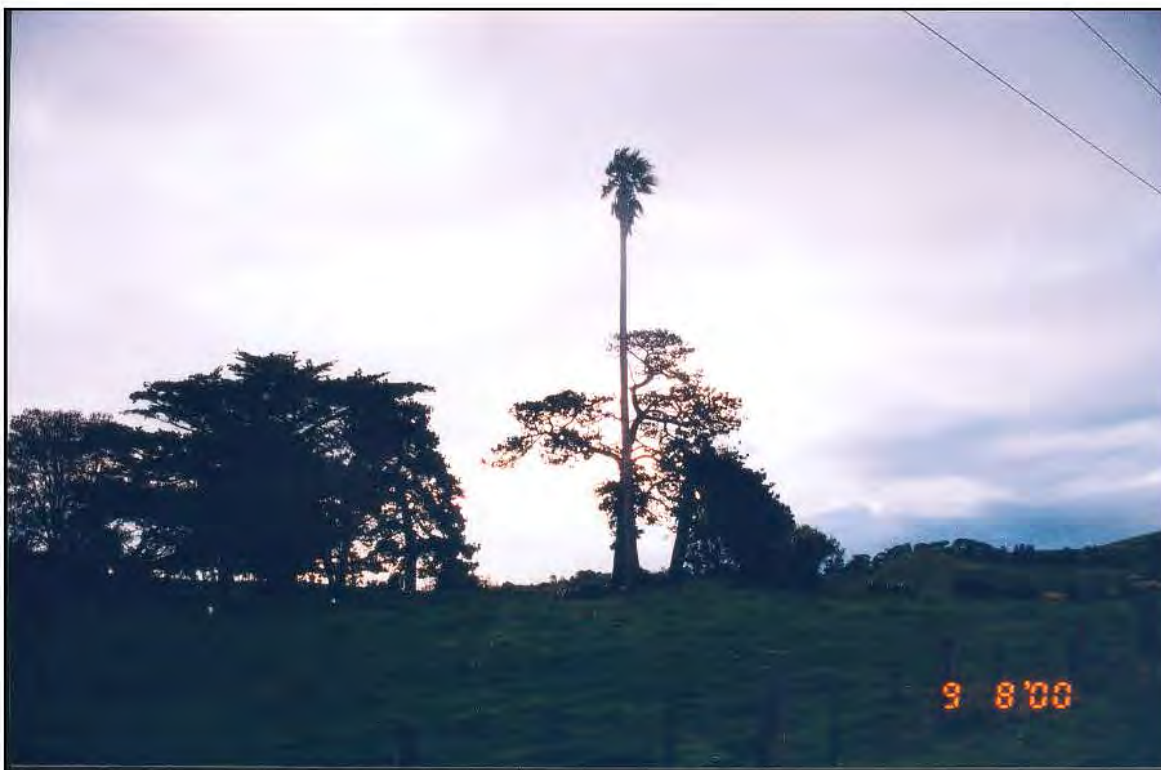
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION : PLANTINGS

No. of Trees: 1
Est. Age: 130yrs (pl. c1870s)
Ht: 24m. Canopy: 2.5m
Circumference: 2m (est.)

The single specimen of *Washingtonia robusta* (Washington Palm) is located 50m west of Lake Corangamite Road. Its height and vigour are accentuated by its location at the top of a small rise, and are further remarkable by the exposed nature of the site.

Condition : **Excellent** Good Fair Poor Poor Ruins

Integrity : Assessment not relevant



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Name of Place : GLEN ALVIE

Ref. No. : 2

Location : 40 Corangamite Lake Road
Alvie



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Glen Alvie was built for James Robinson, son of Colac pioneer William Robertson, on land subdivided from 'The Hill', William Robertson's pastoral run. The house was designed by Davidson and Henderson and built in 1874. It was extended in 1875. The original building was extensively damaged by fire in 1914 and was rebuilt as a single storey structure. Glen Alvie is of historic and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Glen Alvie is of historic importance through its association with the district's early squatters and demonstrates the success of the pastoral industry in the Shire, and the financial achievements and social status attained by Western District pastoral families. Glen Alvie is architecturally important for exhibiting the good design and aesthetic characteristics of Davidson & Henderson's work through its fine architectural character, demonstrated in the remnant section of the building that survived the 1914 fire. The remnant garden is of scientific (botanic) importance in demonstrating the popular and fashionable garden plants of the nineteenth century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

The original Glen Alvie homestead was built for James Robertson, son of William Robertson (the squatter), to a design by Davidson & Henderson.

William senior originally owned 23,000 acres of land centred on "The Hill". He gave 2500 acres in equal shares to his four sons William, John, George and James who all, in turn, built mansions on their land, with the exception of William who took over "The Hill" from his father.

John built Cororooke House (demolished); George, Coragulac house; and James built Glen Alvie in 1874. Additions in the form of a library and billiard room were made at Glen Alvie in 1875.

The original building was extensively damaged by fire in 1914 and was rebuilt as a single storey structure.

Jack Morrissey purchased the property from the Robertson's. He was a Colac Shire Councillor between 1918 and 1949 and Shire President in 1921, 1922, 1930 and 1941.

The Turner family purchased the property from Morrissey, and it remains in their ownership.

The name of the property recalls the birthplace of Colac pioneer, William Robertson at Alvie, Inverness Shire, Scotland.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The homestead is a substantial bluestone building designed by the leading architectural firm of Davidson and Henderson. They were responsible for some of the most outstanding nineteenth century buildings constructed in the Western District of Victoria. The design of Glen Alvie has been strongly influenced by the English architect, Richard Norman Shaw, one of the most inspirational British architects of the 1870s who popularised the Queen Anne style. This architectural style developed out of the early Tudor and Scottish Baronial architectural style of the mid Victorian era to become one of the leading fashionable building styles of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in suburban Victoria. R.N. Shaw is particularly associated with country houses in England and Scotland. Despite the fire damage to Glen Alvie many of the major architectural features and detailing remains intact, making this an important early example of a Queen Anne style country residence.

Major sections of the ground floor remain, including the two storey circular turret and castellated double storey battlements, as well as the fine semi-circular bay window and other Tudor inspired details. These relate to the extravagant detailing finely wrought in sandstone such as the medieval pilaster-like mullions to the windows and the lion faced gargoyles to the tower. The 1915 elements can be seen in the timber valence and brackets to the return verandah. The skill with which this rambling building has been restored after the fire suggests that the work was completed under the direction of an architect, possibly from the offices of Davidson and Henderson. These changes in no way detract from the significance of the building which is a particularly good example of the work of Davidson and Henderson associated with early Queen Anne country residences.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

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Name of Place : RED ROCK RESERVE

Ref. No. : 3

Location : Alvie
GR 719080763550

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C358



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Red Rock Reserve has been popular in the Colac district since the 1880s as a scenic and recreational spot. It was 'dedicated to the public' by the Hon. William Hutchinson, Minister for Lands, on 4th December 1915, and was formally gazetted in 1916. The reserve was also included in a list of proposed 'Natural Monuments' presented to the Minister of Lands in 1939.

The reserve contains a number of memorials, including a memorial to those from the Alvie and Dreite districts who died in service during the First World War. A more recent memorial was unveiled in July 1987, in recognition of the dedicated service to the community by Edward Patrick Carmody who, during his time as Shire councillor (1971-86), furthered the development of the Red Rock Reserve.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

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Name of Place : PIONEER MEMORIAL

Ref. No. : 4

Location : Foreshore, Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Pioneer Memorial was erected by the Apollo Bay community on the foreshore in 1959 to commemorate the district's early pioneers. The memorial is composed of a pre-made or mass-produced pedestal urn with fountain and pool. The Pioneer Memorial is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Pioneer Memorial is historically important for its ability to demonstrate the local community's acknowledgment of a debt to the district's pioneers. The Pioneer Memorial is historically important in illustrating a growing awareness and appreciation of history and culture heritage within the community. The Pioneer Memorial is aesthetically important as representative of modest and unpretentious local memorials found throughout Victoria, and demonstrates the modest funds, and means available, to the Apollo Bay community.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

In 1959 the Apollo Bay community erected a pioneer memorial on the foreshore.

The notion of erecting a memorial to commemorate the district's pioneers developed following the death at Ballarat, in April 1959 at the age of 101, of the former resident of Apollo Bay, Annie McPhee.

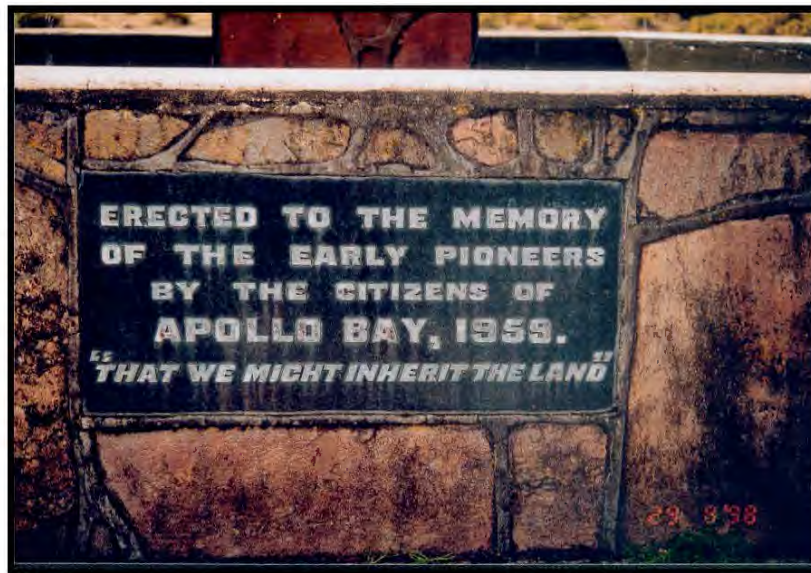
McPhee's death prompted the realisation by local Apollo Bay residents, that she, and other pioneers still living in the area, had lived for a century. This realisation provided the catalyst in developing an understanding of the age of the settlement that was originally called Kambruk.

Inscribed on the memorial are the words :

*Erected to the memory of the early pioneers by the citizens of Apollo Bay, 1959.
'That we might inherit the land'.*

The members of the community, by erecting the memorial, demonstrated a dawning interest in and appreciation of the history of the town. It also demonstrated a need to recognise and commemorate the pioneers who had contributed to the town's foundations and growth.

The Apollo Bay foreshore Pioneer Memorial now illustrates the development of an appreciation of the town's heritage, and the social values operating at the time of its erection and dedication.



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The fountain is located on the lawns of the foreshore reserve with modest landscaping of concrete paving and mounding shrubs and daisies. The fountain is composed of an octagonal pool or bowl with centrally located pressed cement dish on a pedestal and single jet fountain over. The walls of the main pond are low parapet with crazy paving style sandstone cladding and rectangular memorial plaque facing the main street. The stripped classical style fountain includes four lion-head rosettes around the rim of the bowl and four standing boy relief statuettes with heads reverentially bowed, being near naked save for waist high swimming bathers. The date of the fountain suggests that the structure is reasonably intact. There are a number of landscape additions such as planting, lighting and pump housing. The fountain is in reasonable condition, although the jet of water may be running under strength.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

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Name of Place : 'SPECULANT' ANCHOR

Ref. No. : 5

Location : Foreshore Reserve
Apollo Bay

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 395



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The *Speculant* was a barque on the regular run between Portland and Melbourne, which was driven ashore at Cape Patton by heavy seas in 1911. The anchor is displayed in the foreshore reserve at Apollo Bay.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

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Name of Place : MONTEREY CYPRESS AVENUE

Ref. No. : 6

Location : Foreshore, Great Ocean Road (*Cupressus macrocarpa*)
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Cypress tree plantings along the Apollo Bay foreshore were commenced in 1910 and were intended to improve the landscape that had been denuded of trees by earlier settlers. Although some sections were removed in the 1950s and in the 1960s, a substantial number survive. The Cypress trees at the Apollo Bay foreshore are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Cypress trees are historically important for their association with the development of Apollo Bay and the attempts of residents to provide amenities for the local community and visitors. The trees are also historically important in demonstrating the early attempts of Apollo Bay residents to attract visitors to the town and promote the area as a tourist destination, and for illustrating early nineteenth century concepts of aesthetics. The Cypress trees are aesthetically important through exhibiting a richness and diversity of shapes and sizes and through the integration of late twentieth century design and amenity features

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Tourism (9.5)

HISTORY :

The dominant personality in the early Apollo Bay beautification movement from 1910 to 1930 was John Thomson (1869-1934). He was an immigrant baker who arrived in the town in 1906 and did much to instil local pride through plantings and beautification work. He was very active in the local Progress Association, the Ocean Road Movement and the Water Trust.

Thomson inspired most of the planting and beautification schemes along the foreshore to Skenes Creek, in Apollo Bay streets and at the recreation reserve, and put his own money into tree plantings. His motivation came from the fact that Apollo Bay was then treeless because the early settlers had removed all of the original vegetation to create farm land. Thomson wished to beautify the town for tourist purposes and use the foreshore trees for shade in summer and protection for the main street from the wild easterly winds in winter.

In 1914 the Shire of Colac approved funds for timber guards to be erected to protect the trees, which had been purchased and planted by the Apollo Bay Progress Association. In 1918 the *Colac Herald* advertised a 'working bee' to plant 100 trees along the foreshore, 'sent by the Colac Shire Council, another 100 having been planted the previous year'.

Long sections of the foreshore plantings were removed at the jetty and along the business street in the 1950s and early 1970s. Changes to road reserve boundaries removed control of the trees from the Foreshore Committee to Vic Roads in the late 1960s.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Total number of trees: 75 Est. Age: 83 (pl. 1917)
Height: 16m (average) Canopy: 15m (average)
Circumference: 7.9m (average: trees generally multi-trunked or buttressed)

Avenue Spacing (Distance between trunks): 15m, but more open in parts where trees have been removed

The *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress) avenue consists of some 75 trees extending from the east side of Apollo Bay township at Wild Dog Creek to the golf course on the west. Its total length is approximately 3km, but some breaks occur where trees have been removed or replanted, including a 300-400m stretch in the township where open parkland succeeds the avenue effect and where some specimens are set back from the road in the parkland. Other interplanted species include the park plantings of four young *Araucaria heterophylla* (Norfolk Island Pine), and some other smaller species such as *Callistemon* (Bottlebrush) and *Melaleuca* (Paperbark) along the beach frontage towards Wild Dog Creek. These trees do not relate to the main planting.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact		<u>Damaged/disturbed</u>	Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically	

Name of Place : WAR MEMORIAL

Ref. No. : 7

Location : Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Apollo Bay War Memorial was erected in 1922 to commemorate the local men and women who volunteered for active service during the First World War. The Apollo Bay War Memorial is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Apollo Bay War Memorial is historically important in illustrating the widespread involvement of ordinary people in the war, and in recording the loss of life and suffering which affected the local community. The Apollo Bay War Memorial is historically important in demonstrating the local community's collective reaction to the First World War, and their appreciation and desire to publicly recognise those who enlisted. The Apollo Bay War Memorial is aesthetically important as a typical local war memorial, and for the positive contribution the structure makes to the Apollo Bay streetscape.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

The outpouring of grief experienced by communities throughout Australia for the numbers who died in combat in the First World War found an outlet, after the conclusion of the war, in public expression through memorials.

Apollo Bay had achieved one of Victoria's highest percentages for the enlistment of eligible local men in the war. Some one hundred and two men and women enlisted, and eighteen paid the supreme sacrifice through dying in combat.

In 1922 Apollo Bay and district residents recognised the efforts of these volunteers by erecting and dedicating a War Memorial to the local volunteers.

The memorial was funded through public subscription and was erected on one of the town's most prominent sites, overlooking the main street. Built by J. Wilson & Co of Bendigo, the Apollo Bay Memorial depicts the lone soldier, a typical symbol of the sentiments of communities who had lost faith in heroism and had learnt to recognise the level of loss caused by war amongst ordinary volunteers. This recognition, which occurred throughout Australia, marked a turning point as the 'unknown soldier' was increasingly commemorated instead of military leaders as had previously been the traditional practise.

The memorial is a reminder of the widespread involvement of ordinary people in the war and records the loss of life and suffering which affected communities. It is also a reminder of the people's collective reaction; their appreciation and need to publicly recognise those who enlisted; and the sense of community spirit which arose as a result of the involvement.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The war memorial is located on a triangular site at the south end of and over looking the length of the main street. A characteristic figurative monument, the memorial comprises a single standing soldier, looking down the main street, atop a polished granite pedestal with honour roll set on a huge rock faced granite block. The memorial is fenced by heavy set square concrete bollards supporting heavy gauge chain between each.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

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Volume II

Name of Place : MECHANICS INSTITUTE

Ref. No. : 8

Location : 21 Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Mechanics Institute Hall at Apollo Bay was constructed in 1887, with further work being carried out on the building in the 1930s. The post office operated from the building, as did a free lending library. The hall was also used to show films and for a variety of social activities. The Apollo Bay Mechanics Institute Hall is of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Mechanics Institute Hall is historically important in relation to the growth of mechanics institutes in the Shire, and Victoria. The Mechanics Institute Hall is historically important for its association with the development of the Apollo Bay community, the dissemination of knowledge, and the social and entertainment focus it provided for over a century. The Mechanics Institute Hall is socially important in providing a cultural focus for a community geographically isolated from other population centres.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Mechanics Institutes & Public Halls (8.2.4)

HISTORY :

In 1823 Dr Birkbeck founded the first Mechanics' Institute in Glasgow. Its aim had been to 'impart instruction to workmen in the rules and principles which lie at the basis of the arts they practise'. Thirty years later when there were seven hundred institutes throughout Great Britain with about 120,000 members, their character had changed so that their interests were often literary, dramatic and musical. The first Australian institute was founded in Hobart in 1839 followed quickly, in the same year, by one in the Port Phillip settlement.

The first purpose-built Mechanics' Institute in Port Phillip was erected in 1842.

The Apollo Bay Mechanics Institute was constructed in 1887. It was one of the many mechanics' institutes which had multiplied rapidly in Victoria after the arrival of the gold immigrants, with more than three hundred opened by the mid-1880s. Institutes appealed to all classes of people in Victoria, offering lectures for adults, concerts, entertainment, reading rooms and free libraries. It was particularly important in places like Apollo Bay that was so isolated from other population centres. A Post Office and Free Lending Library were located at the front of the Apollo Bay Mechanics Institute, in rooms flanking an entrance lobby.

The front two rooms were remodelled about the 1930s and the library was closed. The hall was then used to show films and became a popular venue for locals and visitors, particularly during the summer months. The hall was also used for a variety of public meetings, social events, concerts and private functions and has been a community focal point for over a century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Mechanics institute is a modest timber hall with a single corrugated iron roof and front verandah. It is located in a precinct of early development which included the Post Office and burial ground in the vicinity of the original pier. The Mechanics Institute appears to have been constructed in two main stages with a timber framed and weatherboard clad hall being extended with front entrance lobby. The original building's pointed arched windows are not carried into the front section, which has a main Dutch gable roof and secondary gable set above the central entry doors. A skillion and verandah appears to be a later addition or later upgrade.

Condition : Excellent Good Fair Poor Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact Altered sympathetically
Damaged/disturbed Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BLUEBIRD CAFE

Ref. No. : 9

Location : 47-49 Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Bluebird Café, located at 47-49 Great Ocean Road Apollo Bay, was built in the late 1920s to initially accommodate a blacksmith business and residence. Later the building was converted into a garage. In 1941 the property was altered and commenced operations as a guesthouse, in response to increased numbers of tourists visiting Apollo Bay after the opening of the Apollo Bay to Forrest and Great Ocean Roads. The Bluebird Café was converted into a café after standards for holiday accommodation improved in the mid-twentieth century. The Bluebird Café is historically important for its ability to demonstrate the social and economic impact the construction of the Apollo Bay to Forrest and Great Ocean Roads had on Apollo Bay, and the town's evolution as a tourist destination. The Bluebird Café is important as an architecturally modest and economically built shop residence, constructed from lightweight cheaper materials in part due to Apollo Bay's remote location and isolation.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

Roy Birkin began operating his blacksmith business from the site of the Bluebird Cafe in 1914. At that time the property was described as a 'shop and dwelling', and was rated at £15.

By 1918 the value of the property had increased to £17, indicating the possibility of improvements or extensions to the building.

In 1927 an 'all-weather' road was completed between Forrest and Apollo Bay. This road greatly improved access to Apollo Bay.

A year later Birkin extended his premises to include a garage, and the rate assessment increased from £22 to £40.

In 1930 a shop, later described as a cafe, was incorporated into the business.

By the late 1930s business for the blacksmith was slowing; the Great Ocean Road had opened and an increased demand for tourist facilities had occurred.

In 1938 Birkin sold his business to Shallvey who apparently converted the premises into a café, and in 1941 offered guesthouse accommodation for seventeen guests.

In 1950 the property was still listed as a guesthouse and cafe under the operation of Stewart and Telfor, but still offering accommodation for seventeen guests.

The Bluebird Café now operates as a take away food shop, continuing to provide supplies to the district's tourists.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Bluebird Cafe is a single storey timber framed shop and residence on a narrow and deep allotment. The building is mainly constructed from timber with external sheet cladding and a pitched corrugated iron roof. The substantially altered shop front has a front parapet formed in sheet cladding with battened joints and a small rounded pediment and cantilevered verandah. A side driveway and rear attached residence form a complete shop and residence ensemble.

The Blue Bird's shopfront is modern, which undermines the integrity of the building, though it is possible that this building has always had a cafe at the front. The building appears to be adequately maintained.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

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Name of Place : SHOPS

Ref. No. : 10

Location : 51 - 53 Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber Shops at 51-53 Great Ocean Road Apollo Bay, now known as Buffs Bistro, were built as one shop in 1938. Alterations and extensions were undertaken in 1946 when the shop was divided into two, and accommodation units added at the rear. The Shops are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Shops are historically important through their ability to represent a palimpsest of the development of leisure and recreation in the Shire, and of a thriving tourism industry in the second half of the twentieth century. The Shops are historically important for their ability to demonstrate the social and economic impact of the construction of roads, and Apollo Bay's subsequent evolution as a tourist destination. The Shops are architecturally important for their ability to demonstrate building materials commonly used in isolated areas of the Shire, and during the materials shortage which occurred post World War Two. The Shops are aesthetically important through their impact on the Apollo Bay streetscape.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The Apollo Bay settlement initially developed virtually in isolation from the rest of the shire, locked in by the Otways and looking to the sea for its lifeline. After the 1880s, as leisure time and disposable incomes gradually increased, tourism also increased. By the 1880s the tourist industry was seen to be a progressive development by the Apollo Bay community and excursionists were encouraged to take the voyage to “the Bay”. In 1891 a coach service commenced from the Forrest railhead and tourists in increasing numbers travelled to Apollo Bay. However the sea route continued to be the main method used by tourists to reach Apollo Bay until the First World War killed the trade.

An all-weather route was finally built to Apollo Bay via Forrest in 1927, comparatively late in terms of the construction of roads in the Shire. Whilst this provided better access, and encouraged tourism to 'the Bay', the main fillip to the tourist industry in the district came after the Great Ocean Road was officially opened to traffic on 26 November 1932.

The shops at numbers 51-53 Great Ocean Road, Apollo Bay, now know as Buffs Bistro, were initially built in 1938 in response to the increased traffic to Apollo Bay after the opening of the Great Ocean Road.

John Irving constructed the shop and commenced operating a café in 1938. Prior to this, Irving had managed his farm at Skenes Creek, which he or his family may have gained as a result of selecting land.

In 1946 the shop built by Irving was altered, extended and divided into two shops. At the same time dwellings were constructed at the rear as well as two ‘bungalows’. Irving continued as the proprietor of the nearby Apollo Bay Café (later renamed the Illuka Motel), and Adele Baker ran a ‘fruiterers’, or greengrocery business, in Irving’s shop.

Increased car ownership continued to boost numbers seeking accommodation and a holiday in Apollo Bay.

In 1955 John Treseder purchased Adele Baker's fruit shop and converted the building into a café. At some stage, in the later twentieth century, the shops reverted to single occupancy.

The shops are still used as a café.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The premises known as Buffs Bistro is a single storey shopfront located on Apollo Bay’s Main Street. The building comprises stallboard with shopfront glazing, verandah and front parapet wall.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact		Altered sympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed		Altered unsympathetically		

Name of Place : ILUKA MOTEL

Ref. No. : 11

Location : 65-71 Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Iluka Motel began operating as the ABC (Apollo Bay Café) in 1926. In 1962 the property was altered and extended, and reopened as the Iluka Motel. The Iluka Motel is of historic and aesthetic importance for its ability to demonstrate the aspirations and values of the owners in the 1960s, who attempted to present a 'modern' façade in the hope of capturing tourist trade. The Iluka Motel is historically important for its relationship to the growth of the leisure and tourist industry in the Shire. The Iluka Motel is historically important in demonstrating the impact the motor car had on tourism and the accommodation offered to travellers. The Iluka Motel is aesthetically important for its inventive adaptation of the use of cement sheet and battens decorated with contrasting timber battens to give an impression of a half timbered Tudor or lodge building.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Tourism (9.5)

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Name of Place : APOLLO BAY HOTEL

Ref. No. : 12

Location : 95 - 101 Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Apollo Bay Hotel was built in timber in 1886 to provide for an increase in tourism to the town. The hotel was altered and modified in the mid-twentieth century. The Apollo Bay Hotel is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Apollo Bay Hotel is historically important in illustrating the number of tourists attracted to Apollo Bay for more than a century, and demonstrates the town's transition from a predominantly timber and dairy town to a tourist destination. The Apollo Bay Hotel is aesthetically important through the building's contribution to the streetscape, and as a central element in Apollo Bay's main street. The hotel's pavilion style arrangement conveys chaletesque notions in keeping with the period of the hotel's design and the milieu in which it was built. The Apollo Bay Hotel is historically importance for the building's capacity to demonstrate, through its various stages of development, its continuous use as a hotel for more than a century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Recreation (9.4)

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Name of Place : VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

Ref. No. : 13

Location : 100 Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The modern utilitarian Apollo Bay Visitor Information Centre was opened by Jeffrey Kennett, the then Premier of Victoria, in 1996. The Apollo Bay Visitor Information Centre is of historic, aesthetic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Apollo Bay Visitor Information Centre is historically important in demonstrating increased tourism and visitor numbers along the Great Ocean Road in the late twentieth century. The Apollo Bay Visitor Information Centre is historically important in illustrating the Shire of Colac Otway's recognition of the economic benefits of the tourist industry. The Apollo Bay Tourist Centre is aesthetically important as an architecturally designed complex of buildings, contrived to harmonise with the surrounding environment. The Apollo Bay Visitor Information Centre is socially important in illustrating the employment opportunities available to the local district from the tourist industry.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Tourism (9.5)

HISTORY :

In the last decades of the twentieth century, the number of tourists travelling along the Great Ocean Road and passing through Apollo Bay increased dramatically. This was, in part, the result of the opening of the Westgate Bridge, which allowed easier access to the Great Ocean Road, and the sealing of the road between Apollo Bay and Port Campbell. The promotion of the Twelve Apostles as a tourist destination ensured increased visitors travelling to and through Apollo Bay.

The Apollo Bay Visitor Information Centre was opened in 1996 to provide advice to visitors to the area. It demonstrates increased numbers to the area and the desire of visitors to gain more information and direction, and the efforts of the Shire to recognise the demands of the tourist. The Visitor Information Centre also demonstrates recognition of the importance of the tourism industry and a commitment to its development in the area.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Constructed in stages during the 1990s and located on the foreshore reserve, the Tourist Centre comprises a complex of visitor information facilities, toilets and car parking. The buildings are composed in a series of pavilions. Constructed in timber with bowed corrugated steel roofs, the complex is tied together by the consistent use of materials, architectural detailing and a connective walkway of timber decks and landscaped paths. The complex is of note in Apollo Bay for its high level of architectural detail and its mannered response to the beachfront site. Of recent construction, the complex is highly intact.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Highly intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

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Name of Place : SUBMARINE CABLE REPEATER STATION

Ref. No. : 14

Location : 6250 Great Ocean Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The former Apollo Bay Submarine Cable Repeater Station, located at 6250 Great Ocean Road, was built by Commonwealth government in 1936 for the telephone cable that extended from Apollo Bay to Stanley in Tasmania. The building is a simple symmetrical single storey structure, faced in red brick, with a central timber doorway. The Submarine Cable Repeater Station is of historic and aesthetic importance in demonstrating the vital telegraph link established between Tasmania and Victoria in the 1930s, strategic in establishing more reliable communications between the states. The Submarine Cable Repeater Station is important through association with the provision of skilled employment for Apollo Bay residents. The utilitarian style of the Submarine Cable Repeater Station is aesthetically important in demonstrating the stylistic design commonly adopted by the Commonwealth, as the nation emerged from the 1930s economic depression. The Submarine Cable Repeater Station is architecturally representative of the inter-war Georgian revival style as widely used in many Commonwealth projects.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Transport & Communication (4.0)

HISTORY :

Tasmania was first linked to the mainland by means of a submarine telegraph cable in 1859, as Morse's telegraphic code, and subsequent refinements, was adopted by colonial governments in Australia in a bid to bring communication to the remote areas of the country.

The land line established between Melbourne and Cape Otway in 1859 was extended via a submarine cable to French Island, and from there to Tasmania. This link remained in use, although replaced three times, until 1936.

In 1933 the Commonwealth Government agreed to install a telephone cable from Apollo Bay to Stanley in Tasmania. The cable was laid between October 1935 and February 1936 and opened by the then Prime Minister Joseph Lyon on 25 March 1936.

At the Apollo Bay end, a repeating station was built facing the Ocean Road. The station was constructed of brick and equipped with the necessary switching and repeating racks. On-site current was provided by motor powered generators.

The station apparatus was upgraded from time to time to keep pace with technology, until finally radio transmission and the telephone overtook the station's technology.

The station closed in 1980 and now functions as the Apollo Bay Historical Museum. It is a reminder of the isolation of not only the Apollo Bay community, but also the rudimentary communication systems between Victoria and Tasmania, and of efforts in advancing technology to eradicate isolation and improve levels of communication.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Cable station is located on the Great Ocean Road on the eastern outskirts. The single storey red brick building is designed in a lean twentieth century interpretation of Georgian Revival architecture, which was widely used on Commonwealth designed buildings. The front facade is symmetrically composed having central entry doors with pairs of flanking double hung sash windows and a hipped roofed clad in corrugated iron. A secondary side entrance is protected by a skillion awning. The cable station forms a small complex with the adjacent dwelling and Cypress plantings. Earlier photographs indicate that the building is reasonably intact with minor external additions. Most of the equipment relating to the building's original use has been removed. The building is in excellent condition.

Condition : Excellent Good Fair Poor Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact Altered sympathetically
 Damaged/disturbed Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : DAIRY MANAGER'S RESIDENCE

Ref. No. : 15

Location : 1 Hardy Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Apollo Bay Dairying Company's Manager's Residence was built in 1911, seven years after the company was formed in 1904 in response to the growth in the area's dairying industry. The Manager's Residence is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Manager's Residence is historically important through association with the Shire's dairy industry, and demonstrates the prosperity of the industry in the first half of the twentieth century. The Manager's Residence is historically important for its ability to illustrate Apollo Bay's isolation from other population centres, and demonstrates the necessity to provide accommodation to attract quality managerial staff. The Manager's Residence is aesthetically important as a relatively substantial dwelling of some architectural refinement for its time in Apollo Bay. The location, size and design of the residence demonstrate the importance of the Dairy Co-operative to the local community. The Manager's Residence is substantially intact and includes remnants of early and possibly original specimen trees.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

HISTORY :

Selectors moved into Apollo Bay during the last decades of the nineteenth century. Dairying became a major industry for these small farmers, but the lack of transport made access to markets difficult. With the development of effective refrigeration, long-distance marketing of perishable products became a reality and a healthy butter export market developed.

The Apollo Bay Dairying Company was established in 1904 to take advantage of the growth of export butter.

As a result of the formation of the company, in the five years between 1905 and 1910 Apollo Bay's butter production increased three fold allowing sufficient profits for the company to construct a house for the manager – a measure of the success of the firm.

The company was placed under the operational control of a professional manager. Three held the position during the life of the factory – F. Sheahan, F. Martin and R. Conn.

Because Apollo Bay was geographically isolated and travel on a regular basis from other population centres was impossible, a company house was provided for the manager after 1911.

The Apollo Bay Dairying Company continued to operate until 1968 when it was bought by the Colac Dairying Company and closed in a rationalisation move.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Dairy Manager's residence is a substantial Federation style dwelling. It is located opposite the former Co-op and immediately to the rear of the Great Ocean road shops on an established suburban allotment with mature specimen trees. The site may have originally had a frontage on to the original main street. The asymmetrical plan and massing of the building with high chimneys, large corrugated iron roof extended into a return verandah, is consistent with contemporary interest in accentuating the picturesque. The building displays a suite of architectural embellishments widely used at a popular level during the period including half timbered gable ends, bay windows, window hoods and roughcast external walls.

Condition : Excellent Good Fair Poor Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact Altered sympathetically
Damaged/disturbed Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : MARRINER'S LOOKOUT

Ref. No. : 16

Location : 165 Marriner's Lookout Road
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Marriner's Lookout and Nursery Site is located at the upper terminus of Marriner's Hill Road, Apollo Bay (the nursery being at the base of the walking track to the Lookout). It was developed by George H. Marriner (1853-1928), a member of the Marriner family who were the earliest and most prominent nursery growers in the Western District, trading from 1860 and continuing to 1998. The nursery site is heavily treed with mature specimens of evergreen and deciduous trees, which are clearly visible from the nearby township of Apollo Bay. Marriner's Lookout & Nursery Site are of historic, scientific (horticultural) and aesthetic significance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Marriner's Lookout & Nursery Site are of historic significance for their association with the Marriner family of nursery growers. Marriner's Lookout & Nursery Site are of horticultural significance for the remnant plantings which provide information about the introduction, cultivation and dissemination of exotic species in the Western District landscape and an association with naturalist research and collecting of Australian flora. The site is of aesthetic value as a scenic spot with panoramic views popularised as a tourist destination in the 1920s.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Recreation (9.4)

HISTORY :

George H. Marriner (1853-1928), known as G.H., was the first son of George Marriner and part of the family who were prominent nursery growers in the Western District from 1860-1998. The genesis of Marriner's Lookout were his plant collecting, nursery and gardening activities. Marriner arrived in the shire with his parents in the late 1850s. His father, George Marriner Snr, was employed as a gardener by Hugh Murray at his Barongarook House [see site #95], and commenced trading first in 1860 at Barongarook and then from 1865 in Colac as the influential 'Fulham Nurseries', which continued as a family business until 1998. After his marriage in 1886, G. H. settled on what became known as Marriner's Hill. He was known to often walk the distance to Colac through the forest. He began an Alpine Nursery, achieving great successes with primroses in particular, and was also known for his collection and selection of grasses (rye and meadow foxtail) and also forest ferns and sphagnum moss. Marriner's interest in botany led to a friendship with the world famous botanist Baron von Mueller who visited him and the Nurseries to exchange plants and gardening knowledge. They developed and attempted to promulgate the philosophy that forests performed vast physiological functions in the plan of nature. They both warned against the despoliation of virgin forests and called for systematic measures to prevent their destruction by fire. About 1905 Marriner opened his nursery to visitors, escorting them through his extensive nursery of Australian and exotic plants. He also conducted an Old Curiosity Shop stocked with quaint objects and souvenirs on the site (now destroyed). The panoramic views from near the nursery led to the development of the site as a tourist lookout by the Apollo Bay Progress and Tourist Association in the 1920s. Some remnant plantings remain on the site which provide information about the introduction and dissemination of exotic species in the landscape.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The nursery site, of 1-2 acres, is located at the upper terminus of Marriner's Hill Road, Apollo Bay, and at the base of a walking track to Marriner's Lookout. It is heavily treed with mature specimens of evergreen and deciduous trees, which are clearly visible from the nearby township of Apollo Bay. These include: pine (*Pinus radiata*), elm (*Ulmus* sp.), poplar (*Populus alba*), birch (*Betula* sp.), hollies (*Ilex cornuta* and *Ilex aquifolia*), cedar (*Cedrus deodara*), and cypress (est. *Cupressus macrocarpa*). Of particular note are two yew trees (*Taxus baccata*) which, though in very poor condition, are of considerable size, each being approximately 6m in height. Some 50m or more along the footpath to Marriner's Lookout is a single mature specimen of oak (*Quercus canariensis*) which is likely to be connected to the other site plantings. The site was not accessible for assessment of smaller woody plantings, perennials and bulbs.

Access to the property was not available at the time of investigation, therefore information is based on visual assessment from outside the property. Further investigation and documentary research recommended.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

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Name of Place : GRAND VIEW HOLIDAY FLATS

Ref. No. : 17

Location : 3-5 McLennan Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Grandview Holiday Flats, in McLennan Street Apollo Bay, were built by 1956 by local builder Charles Allen. The Grandview Flats are of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Grandview Flats are historically important in demonstrating the impact of mid-twentieth century increases in tourism to the Shire's coastline, and for reflecting the range of holiday accommodation available at Apollo Bay. The Grandview Flats are of social importance in demonstrating levels of accommodation offered to holidaymakers in the mid-twentieth century. The complex is also important as an intact example of mid-twentieth century holiday flats. The "C" shaped plan of the units demonstrates the impact of the motor car in recreational activities.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Tourism (9.5)

HISTORY :

Although Apollo Bay began to be promoted as a tourist destination in the first decades of the twentieth century, it wasn't until an 'all-weather' road was constructed from Forrest in 1927, and the Great Ocean Road was opened in 1932, that the seaside town was easily accessible for tourists. As a result, by 1935 two hotels and four guesthouses advertised accommodation at Apollo Bay in the government's tourist handbook *Where to Go in Victoria?* The onset of the Second World War hindered further tourist development. But by the 1950s, with increased car ownership and a greater disposable income, holidays at seaside resorts became available to more Victorians.

By 1956 Apollo Bay's local builder, Charles Allen, had built the Grandview Holiday Flats in McLennan Street, to take advantage of the increased numbers of holidaymakers.

By 1958 Mrs C Allen, presumably Charles Allen's wife, was advertising the "furnished" holiday flats in the Victorian Railway's *Where to go in Victoria*.

According to information gained from directories and telephone books, Mrs Allen continued to run the flats until the mid-1960s, and was helped during that time by Mrs E Allen.

Sometime in the late 1960s or early 1970s the Grandview Holiday Flats were taken over by George and Cynthia Vipont. At about this time the place was also extended to incorporate another wing.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Grandview Flats are located inland toward the end of one of the town's suburban streets. The flats comprise a number of units in three single storey extruded blocks arranged in a "C" formation which frames a central carpark and children's playground. The flats have been constructed in stages over a period of time and are of modest design and construction. The complex includes a covered verandah around the inside perimeter.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : MASONIC TEMPLE

Ref. No. : 18

Location : 15 McLachlan Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Apollo Bay Masonic Temple, located in McLaughlin Street, was built as a single storey hall in 1953. The Apollo Bay Masonic Temple is of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Apollo Bay Masonic Temple is historically important in demonstrating the social needs of returned servicemen in small isolated rural communities. The formation of the Apollo Bay lodge and construction of the Apollo Bay Masonic Temple in 1953 is socially important in illustrating an increase in the local population. The scale, size and modest architectural treatment of the temple is representative of Masonic Temples in smaller regional centres throughout Victoria and is historically important in demonstrating the modest aspirations of the lodge members, as well as the level of funds available for building.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Forming Associations (9.2)

HISTORY :

Freemasons, or Masons, were essentially an educational and ethical society, based on the British model, which formed in many Victorian towns and cities in the late nineteenth century.

The first Freemason meeting was held in Melbourne in 1839, where a lodge was opened in 1840.

The Warrion Lodge of Freemasons, as the Colac lodge was called, was formed in 1882. Initially lodge members met in a local hotel (now demolished). In 1891 the site in Hesse Street, Colac was purchased and a small timber temple was erected. This was the first masonic temple constructed in the Shire of Colac Otway.

After the First World War many of the Shire's ex-servicemen, and also those in other areas of Australia, were attracted to the social prospects and fraternity of Freemasonry, and the philosophy offered by the movement. They sought solace and support from a male environment whilst trying to adjust to civilian life after their experiences during the war. This solace was gained for most in Freemasonry rather than from the Returned Servicemen's League (RSL). The RSL never enjoyed the same level of membership numbers, except in 1918 when servicemen were signed up whilst on board the ships returning them home. It was at this time that the Warrion (Colac, site #108) and the Birregurra (site #244) Lodges were constructed.

After the Second World War a similar situation occurred, and lodge membership again increased.

The Apollo Bay community had previously been too small to form a lodge and travelling to Colac or Birregurra were the only options available for those who sought the male companionship offered in Freemasonry. But after the Second World War the male population of the Apollo Bay district increased, which allowed the formation of a lodge.

An Apollo Bay Freemasons Lodge was formed in 1953. Because sufficient funds were immediately available from membership subscriptions, a new temple was constructed in McLaughlin Street and opened in the same year the lodge was formed.

The Warrion, Birregurra and Apollo Bay Freemasons Lodges are collectively important in demonstrating the social needs of the men of the Shire. The construction of the building in 1953 also illustrates the society's increased post World War II membership, and the area's increased population.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The single storey Masonic hall is located on a suburban block in the town's residential area. The building comprises a single storey hall, side entry porch and flat parapeted façade all uniformly finished in white painted render on a red brick footing. The simple facade includes characteristic high-level windows and Masonic emblems in ritual colours.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Name of Place : UNITING CHURCH & HALL

Ref. No. : 19

Location : cnr. Nelson & Diana Streets
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Construction of the timber Apollo Bay Wesleyan church (now known as the Apollo Bay Uniting Church) was completed in 1887. The church was relocated to its current site in 1937. The Apollo Bay Uniting Church and Hall are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Apollo Bay Uniting Church and adjacent Hall are historically important in illustrating the social value of religion in the nineteenth and early twentieth century, particularly in small isolated communities like Apollo Bay. The design and construction material used for the Uniting Church and Hall are also important in illustrating the simplicity of lifestyle that formerly existed in what was essentially a poor rural community prior to the opening of the Great Ocean Road and the improved accessibility of Apollo Bay for tourists. The Uniting Church and Hall are of aesthetic importance for their capacity to demonstrate the development of Apollo Bay, and the typical practices and beliefs of non-conformist churches in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

The Uniting Church was originally built as the Apollo Bay Wesleyan church.

Because of the size of the Krambruk community (later known as Apollo Bay) and the isolation of the predominantly timber and dairy settlement, only one denomination, the Anglican Church, applied for a land grant in the town. Consequently denominational groups like the Wesleyan community were dependent on the generosity of those who were able to offer the use of their freehold land.

Construction commenced on the Apollo Bay Wesleyan church in the second half of 1886 on land which formed a triangular block at the intersection of Nelson Street and Collingwood Street (the Great Ocean Road), on which the War Memorial is now located. But work ceased for months when doubts arose as to the correctness of the title of the land after resurvey of the road alignment. Building resumed in 1887 and the church was ready for occupancy in October 1887.

The land on which the church had been constructed was subsequently gazetted for post and telegraphic use, and the church was moved from its original site to another, before being located to its current position on the corner of Nelson and Diana Streets in about 1937.

The simple utilitarian timber Wesleyan church now demonstrates the important social role that religion played within isolated and small communities like Apollo Bay. It is a reminder of a different lifestyle that existed prior to the opening of the Great Ocean Road and increased car ownership.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The church and hall are two similar single storey timber buildings with large gable roofs and projected entry lobbies. The buildings' crisp volumes are set on the rolling lawn of the corner site. The buildings are of note for their lack of ornamentation, a single pointed arch doorway and some pointed windows being the only traditional evocation of sacred use. The church building's plain hall like appearance is consistent with non-conformist beliefs and practices. The ensemble of church and hall or church and school is similar to many other Methodist sites in Victoria. Both buildings are reasonably intact although possibly relocated or moved.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : OUR LADY STAR OF THE SEA CHURCH

Ref. No. :20

Location : 1 Nelson Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic church, located at 1 Nelson Street, Apollo Bay, was constructed in 1952. The church was designed in the post-war Romanesque style and was constructed in brick. Our Lady Star of the Sea is of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Our Lady Star of the Sea is of historic importance through its ability to illustrate the impact of the Great Ocean Road on the development of coastal areas that were previously isolated and inhabited by small communities. Our Lady Star of the Sea is socially important through its association with the development of ethnic cultures in the Shire. Our Lady Star of the Sea is of architectural importance as a reasonably well designed post war church, and is representative of the then popular adaptation of evocative historical styles in a Moderne manner.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1); Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

Although Apollo Bay dates back to the 1850s when it was settled as a sea-based sawmilling community, the population of the area remained essentially small throughout the nineteenth century and the early twentieth century. By 1890 the town's population was only two hundred, and it remained virtually isolated and dependent on shipping for communication, supplies and trade. As the ethnic composition of the small community was predominantly of English origin, a Catholic church was not required.

In 1916 the Sisters of Mercy purchased a property adjacent to the present church site as a holiday house. The building was colloquially known as 'The Folly', and was renamed 'Stella Maris House' by the nuns. It was here that religious services were conducted until the mid-twentieth century.

After the Great Ocean Road was opened in the 1930s, Apollo Bay began to attract tourists and holidaymakers, as well as permanent residents. The town's population increased sharply, from 500 in the early 1930s to 1,500 by the early 1950s.

The increased population, particularly over the summer months, resulted in the construction of a Catholic church. The foundation stone for Our Lady Star of the Sea was laid in September 1952 by the bishop of Ballarat. A presbytery was constructed on land adjacent to the church in the 1960s.

The church continues to provide a focal point for the area's Catholics.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Constructed in a post-war Romanesque influenced style, the church is located in a prominent position overlooking the marina and pier and is visible from land and sea. The red brick church has architectural details of parapets, high level arcaded windows, architraves and niches in a contrasting render finish now painted. The church also has some maritime theme stained glass windows, which contribute to the considerable character of the interior.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : THE FOLLY

Ref. No. : 21

Location : 11 Nelson Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Folly, at 11 Nelson Street Apollo Bay, was built in 1905 for local dentist and landowner Richard Heath. The Folly is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Folly is historically important as one of the few remaining early residences in Apollo Bay, essentially a poor community dependent on the local fishing and dairy industries before the opening of the Great Ocean Road. The Folly is historically important for illustrating, through the alterations undertaken on the house, facets of Apollo Bay's evolution from an isolated settlement to a thriving tourist resort. The Folly is historically important for illustrating the standard of housing available to those who settled in the area, albeit of a more substantial nature than the modest housing stock which existed earlier in the town. The Folly is of aesthetic importance as an early building and local landmark, unusual in Apollo Bay for its size and architectural pretensions.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

Richard Heath, a dentist, purchased land at Apollo Bay in 1876 after the town survey was completed in 1875. In 1905 he built his house at 11 Nelson Street, which later became know to locals as ‘The Folly’. It was called ‘The Folly’ because, as local legend claims, the house was built for Heath’s fiance who never lived there.

In 1916 the house was purchased by the Mercy Sisters, who renamed it ‘Stella Maris’. The nuns used half the house for holidays, and a tenant rented the other half of the building.

Gladys Henriksen who moved to Apollo Bay with her husband, a fisherman, after they were married in the 1930s, rented one side of the house for a number of years. Henriksen has written a vivid account of her early years in Apollo Bay in *Paradise by the Sea*.

In 1955 the Mercy sisters sold the house after purchasing the Otway Chalet in Noel Street. The house is now used as a private residence.

The Folly is one of the few remaining early residences in Apollo Bay, which was essentially a poor community contributing to a fishing and dairy industry, before the opening of the Great Ocean Road improved access to the town. The house demonstrates facets of Apollo Bay’s evolution from an isolated settlement to a thriving tourist resort. It is able to indicate the type of housing available to those who settled in the area, albeit of a more substantial nature than the typical housing stock existing at the time of its construction.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Folly is a two storey timber dwelling overlooking the bay and the foreshore. It is an identifiable landmark building in early photographs of Apollo Bay and today retains some landmark qualities by way of its location and roof form. The building displays the influence of the Victorian period Carpenter Gothic style in the multi-gabled roof. The building has been substantially altered, particularly at ground level with replacement of a verandah, enlargement of windows, addition of decks and rear additions, but retains original features to the roof and first floor façade. The building is in reasonable condition.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact Damaged/disturbed		Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically		

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : GREENACRES MOTEL

Ref. No. : 22

Location : 17 Nelson Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Greenacres Motel was built in 1962 for the proprietors of the Greenacres Guesthouse, Alan and Merlyn Coop, in response to the increased number of motor cars passing through the area in the mid-twentieth century. The Greenacres Motel is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Greenacres Motel is of historic importance for its association with the tourist boom that occurred along the Great Ocean Road in the decades after the Second World War; a change which had a major effect on the industry of Apollo Bay. Sited in a key location with views over Apollo Bay the complex of buildings making up the Greenacres Motel are important for their ability to demonstrate the range of holiday accommodation available at Apollo Bay

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Tourism (9.5)

HISTORY :

The Greenacres Motel has developed from a private hotel in Nelson Street opened by G and C Thomson in 1950 to cater for the post-war tourist market boom. The original establishment was an unnamed guesthouse. In 1957 Alan and Merlyn Coop acquired the business and immediately began marketing it more aggressively by making a feature of its name, Greenacres. By 1958 it accommodated sixty-four people.

In 1962 the proprietors built six motel units fronting the Great Ocean Road to capture the passing motor car traffic, which increased in the mid-twentieth century, and to supplement the guesthouse operation.

Australia's first motel opened in Tasmania in 1949. In 1956, just in time for the Olympics, Melbourne's first American-style purpose-built motel opened at Oakleigh. Soon motels were replacing guesthouses as the favoured means of accommodation for tourists, and were seen as a modern alternative that allowed people to stay in places as private and self-contained as their cars. The designs adopted in Australia were modelled on those applied in the construction of American motels, which began to appear along Route 66 as early as 1931.

The Greenacres' motel units were very popular and it was soon after that the original premises were completely rebuilt in the motel style.

Greenacres was marketed as a resort motel - the owners dubbed it 'the rendezvous of the south' - rather than a transit motel with most of the tenants being holidaymakers. Fronting onto the golf course, it was a popular destination.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Greenacres is a modern two-storey building with a low slung gabled roof. Full length glazing and balconies help to maximise views over the nearby golf course and beach.

The building has undergone some alterations since construction in the 1950s. Most of the front appears to have been re-glazed and modernised. The building presents itself more as a motel than a guesthouse. Even when constructed, it would have been more like a precursor to the motel, boasting modern facilities such as internal sewerage and hot and cold water to all bedrooms. The building appears to be well maintained.

The complex of post WWII buildings which makes up the Greenacres Motel is located at a prominent corner at the west end of town opposite the Golf course and within the original pier precinct. The motel includes two storey buildings overlooking the bay, the buildings being reminiscent of private hotels to the street frontage and single storey, drive-up motel units to the rear, staggered to accommodate each car park.

The grounds site includes garden areas to the rear. The buildings have undergone continuous adaptation and modifications including painting, re-glazing, and construction of balconies.

Condition : Excellent **Good** Fair Poor Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact **Altered sympathetically**
 Damaged/disturbed Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : POST OFFICE (fmr)

Ref. No. : 23

Location : 21 Nelson Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The former Post Office, located at 11 Nelson Street Apollo Bay, was built of timber in 1873 for the community of Krambruk, first settled in the 1850s. The Post Office building is historically and architecturally important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Post Office building is historically important as the Shire's oldest postal building, and for its ability to illustrate the postal facilities available to isolated communities in the second half of the nineteenth century. The Post Office building is historically important in demonstrating the settlement of Apollo Bay, formerly known as Krambruk and later Middleton, and one of the Shire's oldest settlements. The Post Office building is architecturally important for its high degree of integrity. The Post Office building is of interest for its non-standard design, at a time when design and construction of purpose built post offices and dwellings was well established in the less remote areas of Victoria.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Postal Communications (4.1)

HISTORY :

Apollo Bay was initially settled in the 1850s as a sea-based sawmilling community. In the early 1860s the area experienced an influx of timber splitters in search of sleepers to be used for the construction of railways in the new colony. About one thousand settled in the area, but the difficulties of transport and a decline in demand left only about two hundred by the mid 1860s

An organised postal service was initiated in Apollo Bay at 11 Nelson Street in May 1873. The settlement was then known as Middleton, but a year later in 1874 the name was changed to Krambruk, following the completion of the town survey. The post office operated from the Nelson Street premises until 1887, when a dedicated Colonial Post Office opened in a room at the new Mechanics Institute. In 1898 the town's name was changed to Apollo Bay.

In 1921 postal service operations were moved next door to roomier premises in a large weatherboard house rented from Mrs. Ramsden. The telephone exchange was also installed in this building.

These premises remained in use for postal business until 1969 when a purpose-built, modern post office was constructed on land purchased by the Commonwealth Postal Department in 1901.

The building formerly used a post office is one of the oldest surviving buildings used for public purposes in Apollo Bay. Not only was the building used to serve an important connection with the outside world for the isolated community, it also provided an important social function for those within the district by offering a central meeting place for the people.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The former post office is a single storey timber Italianate style shop and dwelling. It is an asymmetrical building with shop on the street front and dwelling with characteristic bullnose verandah setback behind separate front garden and fence. The former post office is located at a key corner amidst the area of Apollo Bay's earliest settlement.

The building is in altered condition but retains much of its original or early fabric and architectural details including brick chimney, bracketed eaves, double hung sash timber windows and corrugated iron roof. It is readily legible as an early shop and dwelling.

The building is in good condition and has been sympathetically maintained and altered.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : FREDERICK AUGUSTUS LEE MEMORIAL STONE

Ref. No. : 24

Location : 25 Nelson Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Frederick Augustus Lee Memorial Stone, now located in the grounds of St Aidan's Church at 13 Nelson Street Apollo Bay, was initially erected in 1861 to mark Lee's grave in Apollo Bay's original cemetery (the site is now roughly in the middle of the road opposite 11 Nelson Street). Lee's memorial stone, the only one to survive in the cemetery, was relocated to its current position in 1905. Frederick Augustus Lee was a Linesman responsible for the telegraph line between Blankett Bay and Elliot River, and died at the age of 54 whilst on patrol. The Frederick Augustus Lee Memorial Stone is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Frederick Augustus Lee Memorial Stone is historically important through association with Frederick Augustus Lee and the Colonial Government's early attempts to improve communication. The Frederick Augustus Lee Memorial Stone is historically important through association with the settlement of Apollo Bay by timber splitters in the decades after 1850. The Frederick Augustus Lee Memorial Stone is a rare and important relic of the Shire of Colac Otway's development, and an important memorial to its early pioneers.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Cemeteries & Lone Graves (8.2.6)

HISTORY :

In 1837 Morse invented a telegraphic code, which was refined by others. Australia adopted the telegraph very quickly in a bid to bring communication to the remote areas of the vast colony. By 1859 a land line was established between Melbourne and Cape Otway where a telegraph building was erected near the recently completed Cape Otway lighthouse. Linesmen were employed to inspect and repair the telegraph land line.

Frederick Augustus Lee was a Linesman who was responsible for the telegraph line between Milford Creek, Apollo Bay, and Cape Otway. Lee died whilst on patrol in 1861 at the age of 54 of a heart attack. He died at Jack Huts Creek halfway between Blankett Bay and Elliot River. He was buried at Apollo Bay (then called Krambruk) in the cemetery established for the small settlement that had sprung up.

A Geelong-based sawmilling company pioneered coastal trade between Apollo Bay and Geelong in 1849. This encouraged settlement of a sawmilling community at Apollo Bay, then known as Krambruk. By the early 1860s timber splitters arrived in search of sleepers to be used for the construction of railways in the new colony. About one thousand settled in the area, but in 1866 the timber market collapsed and most left the district that was no longer serviced by the coastal trade. Only about 200 settlers remained by the late 1860s.

Frederick Augustus Lee's burial plot was originally in the cemetery that had been surveyed in 1854. The site would now be approximately in the middle of the road, in front of the Old Post Office at 11 Nelson Street. The cemetery continued to be used for a short period while the timber trade boomed.

In 1905 St Aidan's Church of England was built on the cemetery site and Lee's headstone, about the only surviving visible remnant of the long defunct burial ground, was relocated and resited at the front of the church. It is a memorial not only to Lee, but to all the early pioneers of Apollo Bay who were buried on the site. In 1884 a public cemetery reserve was set aside at Apollo Bay.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Now located in the grounds of St Aidan's Church, the Frederick Augustus Lee memorial stone was initially located in the grounds of the original cemetery. The stone was relocated during the construction of the timber church. The memorial stone is a single slab of white Carrara marble composed with pointed arch top and central carved relief of a right hand with extended, upward pointing forefinger and extended thumb in an enduring gesture of sacred art.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CHALET OTWAY

Ref. No. : 25

Location : 60 Noel Street
Apollo Bay



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Chalet Otway, now know as the Star of the Sea Convent, was constructed in brick in 1939. Extensions were undertaken in 1956 that almost doubled the accommodation capacity of the holiday guesthouse. The Chalet Otway is of historic and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Chalet Otway is historically and architecturally important as an intact purpose-built tourist accommodation in Apollo Bay. The Chalet Otway is important in demonstrating the commitment and optimism felt by original and subsequent owners in the development of the tourism industry in the Shire following the opening of the Great Ocean Road in 1932. The 1956 extensions to the Chalet Otway and former guesthouse are historically important in demonstrating the growth in the leisure industry and the popularity of Apollo Bay as a tourist destination. The Chalet Otway is historically important in demonstrating the level of accommodation acceptable to mid-twentieth century holidaymakers. The Chalet Otway is architecturally important as a substantial and highly intact twentieth century guesthouse. The Chalet Otway is of architectural importance for its use of early twentieth century design characteristics, illustrated by Bungalow and chaletesque motifs evocative of relaxed outdoor recreation.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Tourism (9.5)

HISTORY :

The Chalet Otway at Apollo Bay was built in 1939 in response to an increase in tourism after, first, the construction of the 'all-weather' Forrest to Apollo Bay Road in 1927, and then the opening of the Great Ocean Road in 1932. It is one of the earliest surviving purpose-built accommodation facilities for holiday-makers, and was constructed in response to the increased demand of the 1930s caused by the opening of the Great Ocean Road and easier access to Apollo Bay.

The materials used to construct the Chalet are unusual in comparison to those utilised in other areas of Apollo Bay because of the difficulties of transport to the site. The substantial nature of the building is indicative of the commitment and optimism of the original owners in Apollo Bay's developing tourism industry.

The land, formerly owned by a farmer, Frances McKenzie, was purchased by Apollo Bay's 'retired storekeeper' John McLennan and his wife Prudence who together built and operated the guest house until selling it in 1944 to Mary Margaret Shallvey, the former owner of the Blue Bird Café.

Shallvey continued to operate the guesthouse and in 1956 extended the building from a thirty to forty-five bed capacity.

In 1962 the Sisters of Mercy purchased the property and it was used for permanent lodging by girls attending the Sisters' of Mercy school. It is still used as lodging.

The former Chalet Otway demonstrates the effect of increased tourist trade in Apollo Bay, after the area became more accessible by road, and signals a transition away from primary production to an emphasis on the leisure industry.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Star of the Sea Convent (Chalet Otway) is a long and low, Bungalow influenced, brick building in a conventional suburban setting. The front is symmetrically composed having a central entry with gable roof over and stepped verandah and projecting bays to each end, book-ending the deep verandah in a composition reminiscent of the Apollo Bay Hotel. The building's institutional scale and character is balanced by domestic motifs of the period including the round bay of timber double hung sash windows, timber singles to the three main gable ends, and suburban scale front fence composed of brick piers, pipe balustrades and wire infill. The building is highly intact and retains key external elements. It is in excellent condition and does not appear to have been substantially modified, unlike the similar Apollo Bay Hotel.

Condition : Excellent Good Fair Poor Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact Altered sympathetically
Damaged/disturbed Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

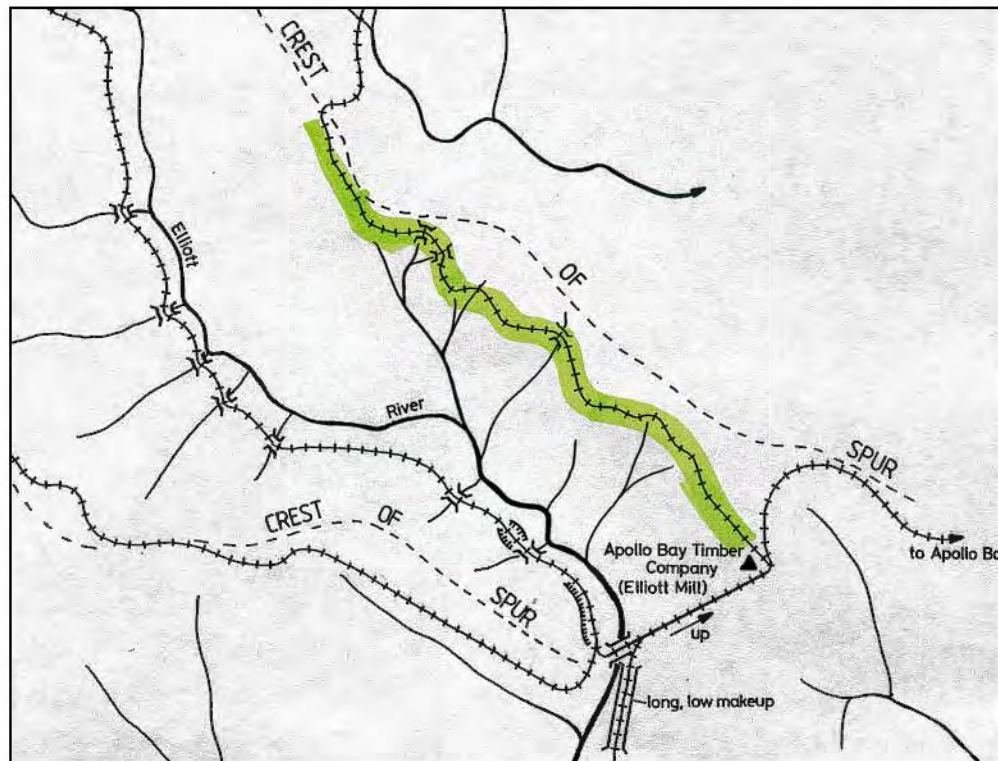
Volume II

Name of Place : MARTIN'S TRAMLIN

Ref. No. : 26

Location : Apollo Bay
GR 726851704528

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 69



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

Apollo Bay was a major sawmilling area for the 100 years from 1849 and this site represents the only surviving remnant of the methods and practices of the pre 1939 era. The soil conditions in the area are so soft and sandy that it is rare for remnant features to survive.

Apollo Bay was a significant sawmilling centre from the 1850s to the First World War. In 1912 the Martin family opened a sawmill on their property to the north west of Apollo Bay. Logs came off the property and the sawn timber was sent out on a tramway that was laid for three kms to connect with the Elliott mill tramline. Trading difficulties associated with the war led to the mill closing in 1914.

The mill site and parts of the tram have been obliterated but a significant length of the tramway road bed remains intact.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

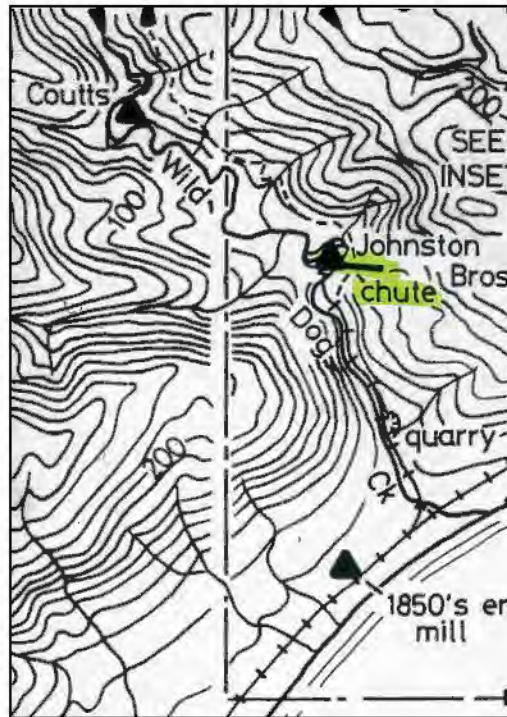
Volume II

Name of Place : JOHNSON BROTHERS CHUTE

Ref. No. : 27

Location : Wild Dog Creek
Apollo Bay district
GR 732693709991

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C394



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

This sawmill was associated with a pioneering sawmilling and settler family in the Apollo Bay district. Logging chutes were extremely rare in the Otway Ranges and Johnson's chute is the only example of a full scale chute, the others being relatively short and tiny.

Johnson Bros opened a mill near the mouth of the Wild Dog Creek in 1875. The mill was built on the creek flats at the base of the very steep hillsides. Logs were obtained from the heights to the south of the mill by animal haulage and sent to the mill from off the heights by means of a chute. The mill closed in 1878.

The mill site has been built over and nothing remains. The log chute remains visible on the side of the nearby slope.

Condition: Fair Integrity: Substantially Intact

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : POST OFFICE (former)

Ref. No. : 28

Location : 20 Alford Road
Barongarook



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

A postal business commenced from this small timber building at Barongarook in about 1906, and a telephone service was provided in about 1908. The building operated as a post office at the Alford Road site until its closure in 1974. The Barongarook Post Office building is a rare example of building type in the Shire of Colac Otway. The Barongarook Post Office building is historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Barongarook Post Office building is historically important in demonstrating early nineteenth century postal methods. The Barongarook Post Office building is important in illustrating the existence of the small Barongarook community, which disappeared after the formation of the Country Roads Board and the development of a more efficient route through the Otway Ranges to the coast. The location of the Barongarook Post Office building is important in demonstrating the significant contribution made by the Colac to Beech Forest railway, or 'Beechy Line', in the development of the Otway Ranges.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Postal Communications (4.1)

HISTORY :

Postal communication was a vital means of maintaining links and contact with the outside world for isolated communities like Barongarook, particularly prior to the introduction of the radio and before increased ownership of telephones and the motor car.

A formal postal service commenced in 1887 and operated from Conway's saloon at Barongarook [site #29]. In about 1906, and after the Colac to Beech Forest railway, 'Beechy Line', was completed in 1902, the post office was re-located immediately behind the railway station in a small eight foot by ten foot building. A telephone service was provided in about 1908, by which time Barongarook's population had reached fifty.

The Barongarook Post Office reached its busiest days during the 1920s and became a social centre for the small community. When the mail arrived it was usual for there to be up to a dozen residents milling around the wooden shutter through which the letters were passed.

The post office closed at the end of October 1974, after being superseded by an automatic telephone exchange in 1969 and the introduction of the more economically efficient wayside delivery service.

The Barongarook post office had been operated for eighty-seven years by only three postmistresses, providing a social continuity for locals.

The Barongarook Post office is now a reminder of nineteenth century postal methods. It also provides evidence of the existence of the small Barongarook community which disappeared after the formation of the Country Roads Board and the development of a more efficient route through the Otway Ranges to the coast. The location of the post office, behind the railway station, also provides an indication of the importance of the railway, which operated between 1902 and 1962.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The former post office is a small (single car) garage-sized timber building with weatherboard cladding and gable roof. The building is of note for its lack of ornamentation or architectural embellishment. Two small hatches or counter windows of different sizes are located on the front façade facing the street. The freestanding building shares the site with a gable roofed timber cottage. The post office building is a rare example of its type. No other example of this building type is known to exist in the Shire.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	<u>Poor</u>	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : PRIMARY SCHOOL, No. 2210, &
TEACHER'S RESIDENCE

Ref. No. : 29

Location : 275 Barongarook Road
Barongarook



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The small, timber Barongarook Primary School and attached Teacher's Residence, located on the Barongarook-Gerangamete Road, were constructed in 1879 for the newly-formed Victorian Education Department, soon after the passing of the *1872 Education Act*. The Barongarook Primary School and Teacher's Residence are historically, aesthetically and socially important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Barongarook Primary School and Teacher's Residence are historically important in demonstrating the existence of a larger community in the area, which sprang up on what was then a main road connecting Colac with the Otway Ranges, and the community's commitment to education. The Barongarook Primary School and Teacher's Residence are aesthetically important as an early example of the Victorian Education Department's rural buildings. The Barongarook Primary School and Teacher's Residence are of cultural importance through operating as the main social focus for the community until the mid-twentieth century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

HISTORY :

Barongarook Primary School, No 2210, opened with an enrolment of thirty-five pupils on 12 December 1879. It was opened in response to the passing of the *1872 Education Act* and the establishment of the Victorian Education Department.

The school was the first public building at Barongarook and consisted of one classroom with a teacher's residence attached. It operated on a full-time basis until 1893 when the effects of an economic depression forced it to run half time with the Yeo school. Teacher George Williams supervised both these schools until 1897 when the Barongarook school returned to its former full-time status.

The school structure has hardly altered apart from the front porch being enlarged to form a cloakroom and the floor being replaced on two occasions. A room and verandah were also added to the residence. A light timber classroom was added later to the site.

The school building became the focal point of the area, with the class room being used for meetings and dances, until a public hall was built by the local Barongarook community in 1941.

The building continues to operate as a school. A cairn in the front of the school commemorates the school's centenary, which was celebrated on 31 March 1979.

The Barongarook Primary School indicates the commitment to education of small communities, as well as providing a social focus. The school has operated for more than one hundred and twenty years. The proximity of the teacher's residence also provides information about the isolation of the community, prior to increased ownership of cars, which required the Education Department to provide accommodation for teachers within the vicinity of their school.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The building comprises the original timber single room school building with projected entry porch and a timber dwelling to one side. The schoolroom is designed in a slightly Gothic influenced style with the emphasis on the vertical proportions and a steeply pitched roof. The front facade includes a timber louvre to the wall under the gable end and multi-light double hung sash windows. The adjoining dwelling is essentially a symmetrical timber cottage grafted on the entry side of the schoolroom. The schoolroom retains a high degree of original fabric. The exterior of the dwelling appears to have been heavily, although sympathetically, restored.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BARONGAROOK PUBLIC HALL

Ref. No. : 30

Location : 280 Barongarook Road
Barongarook



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Barongarook Public Hall, located on the Barongarook-Gerangamete Road, was built by volunteers in 1941. The Barongarook Public Hall is of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Barongarook Public Hall is historically important in demonstrating the commitment of local residents to the provision of a public venue for community functions. The Barongarook Public Hall is important for illustrating the value and importance placed on public halls in providing a central meeting place and fostering an identity in small rural areas like Barongarook. The Barongarook Public Hall is of social importance to the community that demonstrated, through the voluntary involvement in the hall's construction, a commitment to the ideals of community living.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Mechanics Institutes & Public Halls (8.2.4)

HISTORY :

Prior to the mid-1930s the Barongarook Primary School (site #27) had been used for the community's recreational activities. But the difficulties involved, and the opposition of the teacher to the disruption to the school, caused Barongarook residents to consider an alternative venue and a decision was taken to erect a local hall.

The Barongarook community began discussing the merits of a local hall in January 1936. It was believed the hall would be an asset to the district and a useful facility for the young.

The acquisition of a public hall was important for communities like Barongarook's in providing a social focus for the people within the district. Halls were used to welcome soldiers' home from war, to celebrate the success of local football teams, for fund raising functions and for local dances.

By 1940 a substantial sum of money had been raised by the Barongarook locals and construction commenced. Local volunteers, working during their spare time, built the weatherboard building. On completion, the hall measured 20 feet by 30 feet with a kitchen annex 10 feet by 20 feet. The project was completed early in 1941 and the building handed over to a committee of management.

The Barongarook Public Hall demonstrates the commitment of local residents to providing a venue for community functions. It also indicates the value and importance placed on these buildings in providing a central meeting place and fostering an identity within small areas like Barongarook.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Barongarook Public Hall is a small, utilitarian single-room building of lightweight construction with a broad-hipped roof; skillion roofed annexe and brick chimney. The hall is located adjacent to a public tennis court. The building has been much altered, and the cladding and windows renewed. The roof cladding and roof-mounted tube ventilators may be original.

Condition : Excellent Good Fair Poor Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact Altered sympathetically
 Damaged/disturbed Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : LOMBARDY POPLARS (x 3) (*Populus nigra* 'Italica')

Ref. No. : 31

Location : Reynolds Road Reserve, adjacent to 10 Reynolds Road
Barongarook



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The three *Populus nigra* 'Italica' (Lombardy Poplar) are located on the Reynolds Road reserve adjacent to number 10 Reynolds Road, Barongarook. The three *Populus nigra* 'Italica' (Lombardy Poplar) were planted around or before 1900 by Pat Conway at the site of his accommodation house and wine saloon at Boundary Creek (now Barongarook). These Poplars are the only evidence of the development remaining after fire destroyed the building in 1912. The Lombardy Poplars are of historical importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Lombardy Poplars, planted at Conway's former saloon about a century ago, are historically significant for their association with the development and subsequent demise of Conway's Store at Boundary Creek. The Poplars are also of historic importance in demonstrating the earlier demographics of the area, as well as changing patterns of both settlement and transport in the Shire.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

In 1894 Pat Conway purchased land at Boundary Creek, later know as Barongarook. The forested area around Barongarook had been opened for selection in 1866, and after 1884 selection commenced in the Otway Ranges.

Traffic increased between Colac and the Otway Ranges, and Conway decided to satisfy the needs of passing travellers by erecting a house of accommodation and wine saloon alongside the Gerangamete Road near where it crossed Boundary Creek. The main timber building was 16 feet by 24 feet with an attached three room annexe, and Conway ran the saloon until about 1906.

The opening of the Beech Forest railway in 1902 took away some of Conway's trade, but sufficient travellers were still available to keep the saloon profitable until old age and the death of the proprietor finally closed its doors in 1905.

The building remained intact until November 1912 when it was destroyed by fire.

The site of the saloon is readily identifiable from the poplar trees, believed to have been planted by Conway along the earlier road alignment, and still standing near the Boundary Creek bridge.

It now provides a reminder of early settlement patterns within the Shire; of earlier methods of travel and dependency on wayside inns to gain accommodation and refreshments; and as a symbol of the many earlier settlements which failed to survive because of the introduction of rail and the establishment of more efficient and direct road routes.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

No. of trees: 3	Age (est.): 100 yrs (pl.1895-1900)
Ht: 16 - 20m	Canopy:6m
Circumference:	8.5m

Three specimens of *Populus nigra* 'Italica' (Lombardy Poplar) are located at the Boundary Creek crossing of the Gerangamete Road. Two trees stand as a pair at the road verge, and one is now in a paddock, subsequent to realignment of the road.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
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<u>Integrity :</u>	Assessment not Appropriate
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Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : TURTONS TRACK

Ref. No. : 32

Location : Tanybryn & Barramunga

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 392

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Also known as Mount Sabine Road or the Beech Forest-Apollo Bay Road, Turtons Track was built in 1927 and upgraded in the 1930s with unemployed relief labour. It extends from the Forrest Apollo Bay Road to Lardners Creek Road. It is one of the best known drives in the Otways, and passes through forest which retains evidence of former selections, as well as stands of mountain ash and fern gullies.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

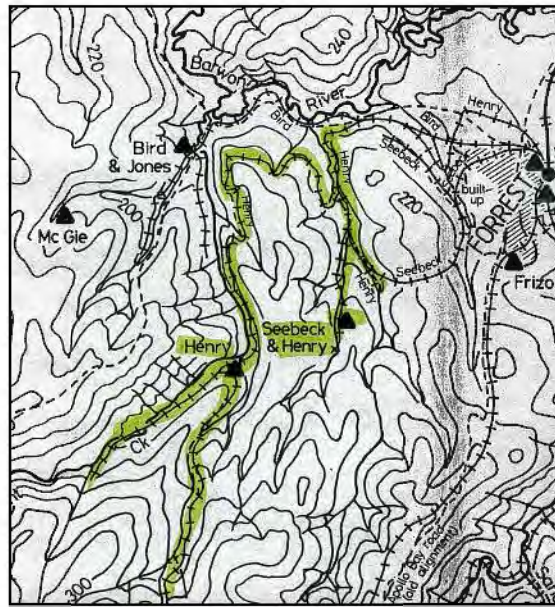
Volume II

Name of Place : HENRY SAWMILL

Ref. No. : 33

Location : Barramunga
GR 738166727250

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 101



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

This is a rare example of a 1930s milling operation using steam locomotive haulage, modern winches and taking the fast approaching last gasp of tramway technology to its end.

The Roadknight mill was installed by Henry in 1932 to work private property sites that the firm owned to the south towards Barramunga. The mill was of a reasonable size and logs were hauled to the mill by direct winching and from along two logging tramways. An access tram was laid from the Forrest railway station and this line was a masterpiece of contour routing involving almost continuous curves and some short straights as it turned in all directions of the compass to maintain a shallow and uniform gradient. The gentle gradient was required for locomotive haulage that was used on this line. The mill closed in 1935.

A scenic tram route, which is only accessible on foot, and passes through private property in long sections, is largely intact, as are the earthworks along the creek and beyond the mill to the logging area to the south. The mill site has many remnant features although the site is heavily overgrown and difficult to view.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HENRY'S NO 1 MILL

Ref. No. : 34

Location : Barramunga
GR 738166572551

SITE LISTED IN THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER

VHR No. H 1815

VHR STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

Henry's No.1 Mill was the largest sawmill in the eastern Otways, operating from 1904-1927. The mill settlement included a boarding house, bakery, store, billiard room, post office and school, with huts for single men and cottages for families. The mill site extends in a clearing along the West Barwon River, and features intact tramway formations, extensive scatters of domestic debris, mature exotic trees, and numerous foundations of industrial and residential buildings.

Henry's No.1 Mill is of historical and archaeological significance to the State of Victoria.

Henry's No.1 Mill is historically important as a characteristic example of a large, isolated sawmill with associated settlement. Sawmilling sites are important to Victoria for their role in providing a vast range of timber products for use in domestic, commercial and industrial contexts. Henry's No.1 Mill was a long-established bush mill (23 years), supplying timber to centres throughout western Victoria, including Colac, Geelong, Hamilton and the Ballarat goldfields. It was associated with a major figure in the Victorian sawmilling industry, W. R. Henry.

Henry's No.1 Mill is archaeologically important for its potential to yield artefacts and evidence which will be able to provide significant information about the technological history of sawmilling, and the cultural history of sawmilling settlements.

Colac Otway Heritage Study

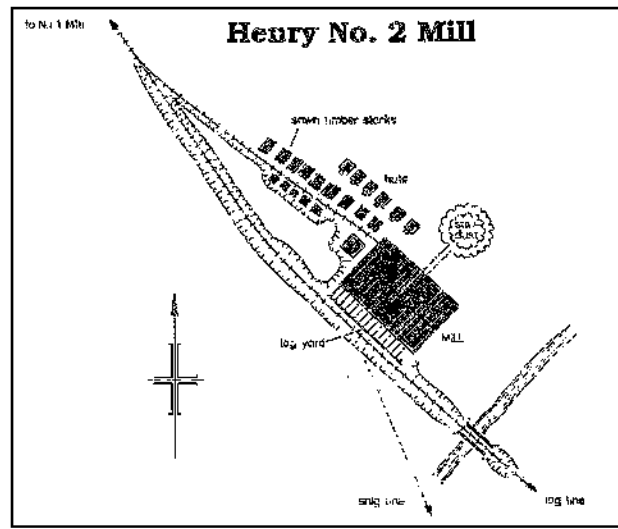
Volume II

Name of Place : HENRY NO. 2 SAWMILL

Ref. No. : 35

Location : Barramunga
GR 741934723850

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 105



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

This site represents a typical pre First World War mill of medium capacity situated in a very isolated location. The uncompleted log line exhibits the construction methods used in these types of tramways and is the only surviving example in the entire Otways.

The No.2 mill was installed in 1911, four kilometres in a direct line south-east from the No.1 mill and was sited high on the side of a very long spur running from the Barwon River up to the Kennett River divide. The No.2 mill was known as 'Siberia' because it was so far from the No.1 mill. About a dozen employees lived here.

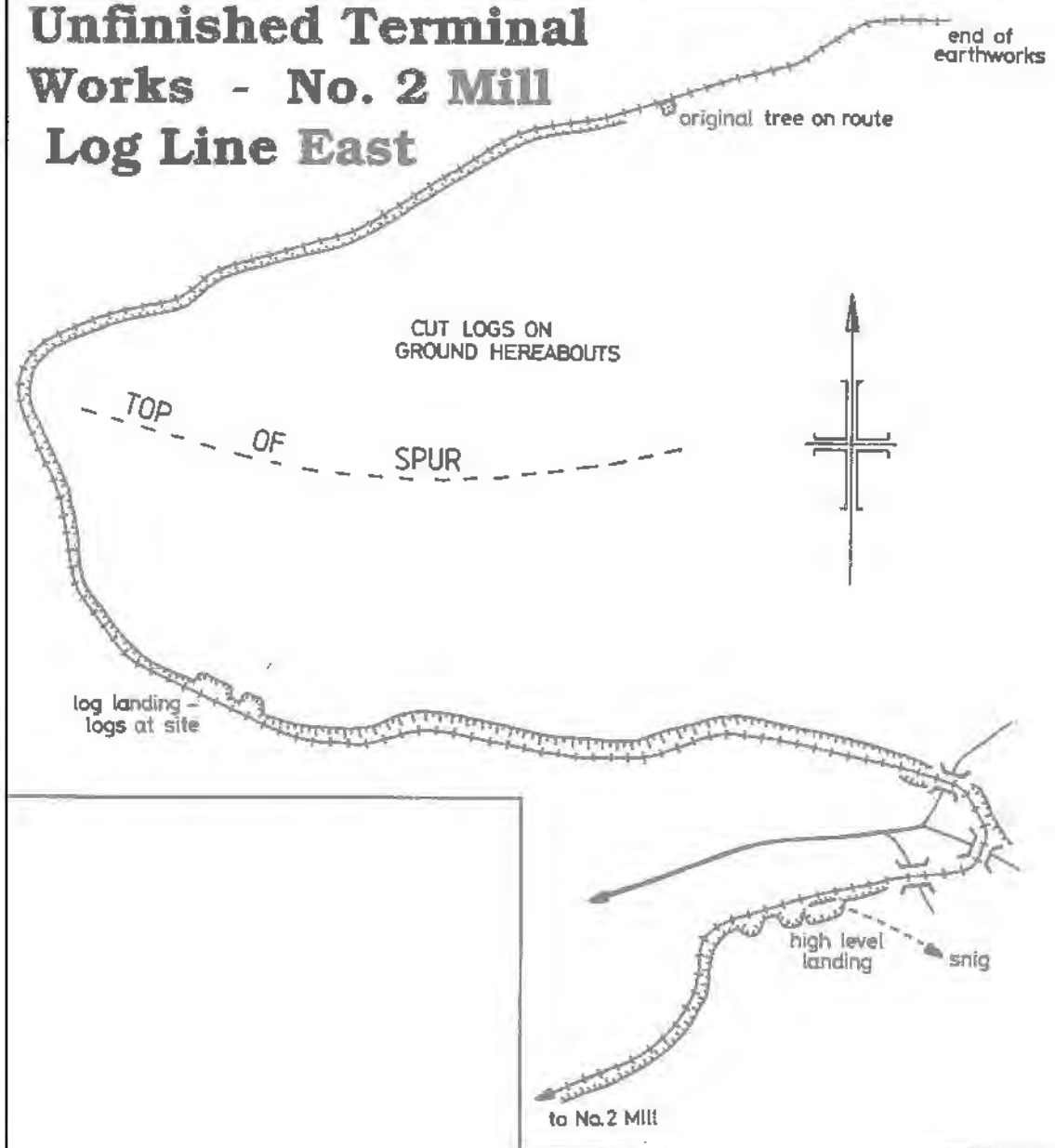
At first, logs for the No.2 mill were obtained by direct winching from the west and south and afterwards a log tram was laid east. This log line had an easy grade with the load and more or less followed the contour around the slope. By 1919 the log line ran almost three tram kilometres, had 14 bridges and seven log landings and it was being further extended into the very head of a creek. The unexpected destruction of the No.2 mill in the 1919 bushfire brought a sudden halt. Logs were left at the last landing, cut logs abandoned at the stump and the tram stopped dead in very gentle terrain with one large tree on the roadbed itself not yet cut down.

The mill site is overgrown and has some erosion damage to its remnant features but the broad outline of the operation is evident. The access and log tramway earthworks are mostly intact and of significance are the remnant features on the log line showing landings, cut logs in situ that were not hauled, and the uncompleted extensions cut short by the premature closure of the mill due to bushfire damage.

Condition : excellent. Substantially Intact

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Unfinished Terminal Works - No. 2 Mill Log Line East



Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HENRY & SANDERSON SAWMILLS

Ref. No. : 36

Location : Barramunga
GR 738280728930

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT

LCC A10

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

The complex features the site of Henry's No.1 sawmill which was established in 1901 and was one of the bigger mills in the entire Otways, together with settlement remains and many kilometres of comparatively intact tramway earthworks. The site has evidence of hauling technology, including the remains of a winch and incline, switchback tram routes and two tunnels, the largest of which was 440 metres long and 2.5 metres high.

The tunnels, which are closed/silted over are rare features for a Victorian sawmill, being two of only three such tunnels in Victoria. In addition to providing access to timber, the tunnel provided the main access for workers at the No.1 mill because the mill was one of the most isolated and self contained mill settlements in the Otways.

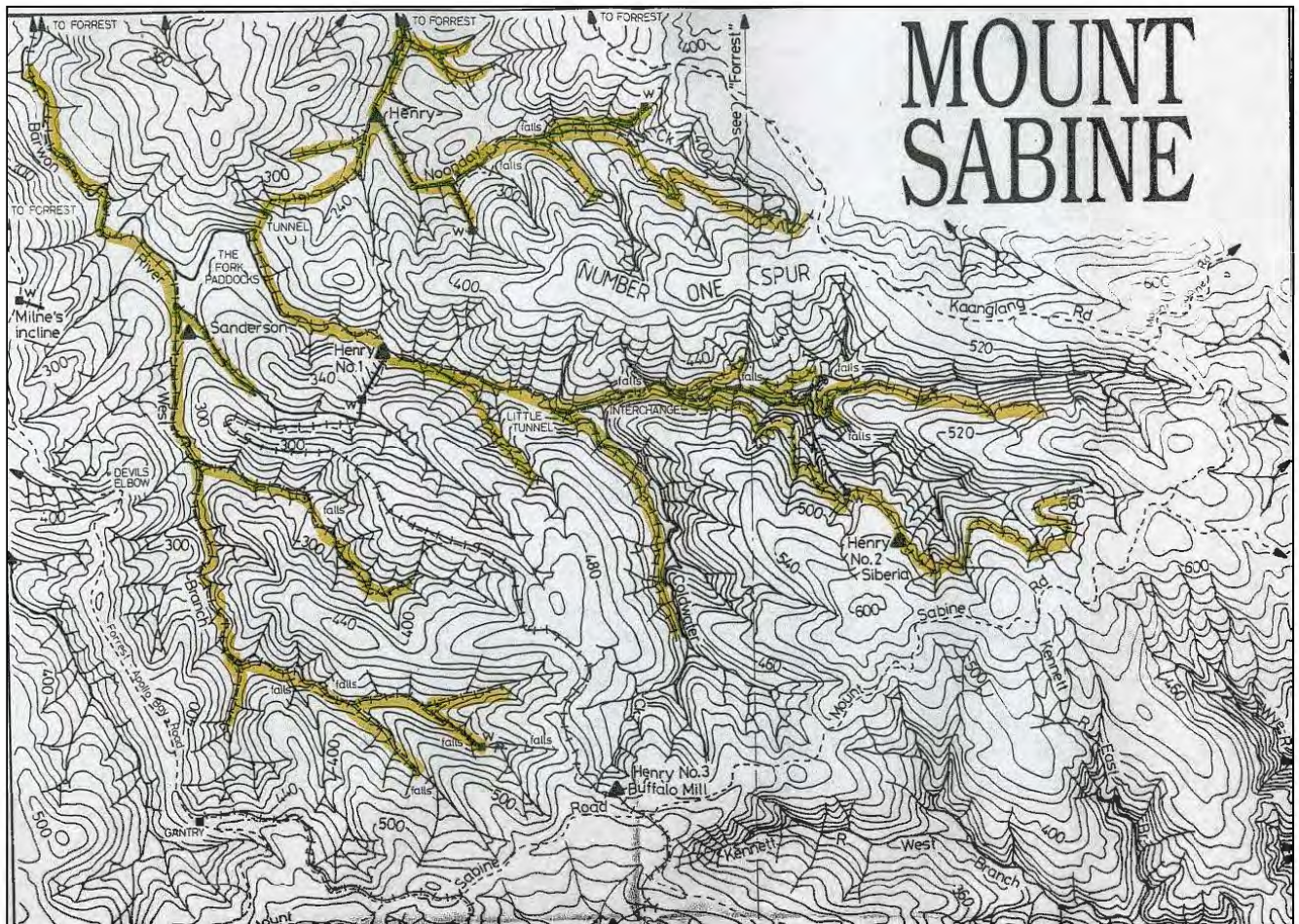
Henry's Noonday mill is also in this complex and has comparatively intact tram routes. Sanderson's sawmill also features comparatively intact tramway earthworks (although the Barwon mill site itself has been obliterated by reservoir works), and the remains of an incline and winch site. It displays evidence of a tram system graded for locomotives. This complex of mills and trams represents the pinnacle of steam driven sawmilling operations in the Otways. The construction and design of the features indicate an appreciation of difficult terrain, an application of ingenious solutions and technological innovation.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

HISTORY :

In the period from 1897 the sawmilling firms of Sanderson and of Henry established a network of sawmills and tramways in the West Barwon and Noonday valleys to the south of Forrest. The mills ranged in size from medium to large by the standards of the day and were surrounded by small settlements for workers. The access tramways were of a high standard and were graded for locomotive haulage. Several small locomotives were used by the millers to haul the timber to the Forrest railway station. The logging tramways were built to a lower standard and were worked by horses. The trams ran along all the river and creek level routes and some went along and up the side gullies to form a complicated and extensive network that stretched over 30 kms in extent. Two tunnels were built along Henry's tramway system to allow the trams to clear ridges.

The waters of the West Barwon dam cover the remnant features of the mills and trams in the northern part of the valley closest to Forrest but clear of this the remnant tramway earthworks and mill sites are comparatively intact. Flooding, erosion and silting has obscured some features



Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HENRY'S TRAMWAY TUNNEL

Ref. No. : 37

Location : Barramunga
GR 739355724974

SITE LISTED IN THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER

VHR No. H 1817

VHR STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Henry's Tramway Tunnel is the most intact tramline tunnel in Victoria. Built around 1911, it provided timber tramline access through a projecting spur between Henry's No.1 and No.2 Mills in the upper West Barwon Valley. The tunnel is approximately 11 metres long, approached by box cuttings at either end, and retains most of its internal structural timbers. It was in use until 1928, when logging operations ceased in the valley.

Henry's Tramway Tunnel is of historical and scientific significance to the State of Victoria.

Henry's Tramway Tunnel is scientifically important as a comparatively intact example of one of only three such tunnels built on Victorian tramlines. The site has the potential to yield evidence relating to the technological history of timber transport.

Henry's Tramway Tunnel is historically significant as a rare and innovative response to the challenge of timber-getting in a remote forest environment. Timber production was important to Victoria for its role in providing a vast range of products for use in domestic, commercial and industrial contexts. Henry's Tunnel is also significant for its association with a major figure in the Victorian sawmilling industry, W. R. Henry.

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BARRAMUNGA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ref. No. : 38

Location : 1 Upper Gellibrand Road
Barramunga



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Barramunga Primary School, located at 1 Gellibrand Road, Barramunga, is a small timber rectangular building built in 1886. The school was built in response to the agitation of those who had selected land in the area and the local timber community. The Barramunga Primary School closed in the 1970s and is now used as a camp by the Colac High School. The Barramunga Primary School is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Barramunga Primary School is historically important in demonstrating the commitment to education by the earlier, once thriving, community. The Barramunga Primary School is historically important as an example of nineteenth century methods of design and construction adopted by the colonial Education Department for rural areas. The Barramunga Primary School is of social importance for providing a focus for the Barramunga community for more than a century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

HISTORY :

The forested locality of Barramunga was thrown open for selection in the 1880s and soon after there were a number of occupied selections with sawmilling, timber splitting and agriculture the principal economic activities. The nearest school was then at Yaughar, more than 10 kilometres distant, so agitation by parents resulted in a school being provided. The Barramunga parents were not unusual. After the passing of the *1872 Education Act* and establishment of the Victorian Education Department, parents lobbied enthusiastically throughout the colony for a school in their region.

Caleb Gardner offered a site on his land adjoining the Apollo Bay Road. Gardner was not atypical. Frequently local land owners donated or offered their land for sale to the Education Department, particularly in areas where land surveys had not set aside a site.

The Education Department accepted Gardner's land and in 1886 a small, weatherboard, rectangular school was built.

When the timber industry was dominant, especially when Sanderson's mills were operating nearby, enrolments at the school were large, sometimes up to eighty pupils. Enrolments declined after 1950 and, with improvements to the road to Forrest, the local need for a school became less urgent. The school was closed in about the 1970s. Subsequently Colac High School acquired the property for use as a school camp.

The Barramunga primary school now illustrates an earlier thriving timber community, isolated until transportation methods improved. Its current use by Colac High School is indicative of the changing emphases in education and adaptation of facilities.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The primary school is a single storey, single room timber school with rectangular floor plan and corrugated iron clad gable roof. The building includes entry porch to the front. The building is designed in a utilitarian hall-like style with the only embellishment being the glazing bars to the casement windows. The integrity of the building is reasonable, although the entry porch may be a later addition. The current olive drab colour scheme is highly unsympathetic to the building.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair-Poor</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

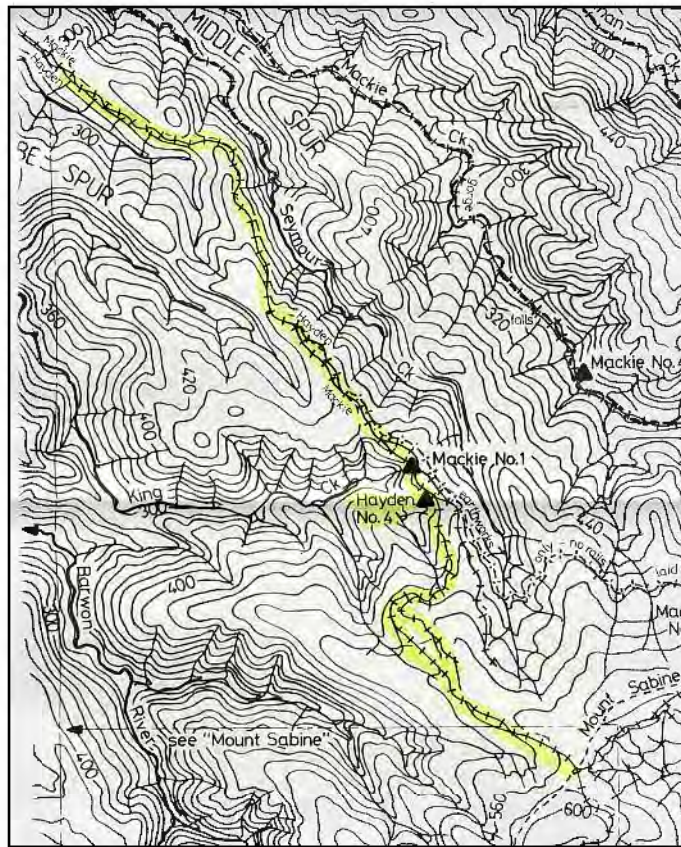
Volume II

Name of Place : HAYDEN NO. 4 SAWMILL

Ref. No. : 39

Location : Barwon Downs
GR 753572729480

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC B43



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

This mill and tram complex is a rare and representative example of this type of tramway for the early part of the 20th century.

Hayden Bros of Barwon Downs resumed sawmilling after a wartime break in 1919 and established their No. 4 mill 11 kms to the south. An access tramway was laid from the Barwon Downs railway station to the site and later extended as a series of log lines to the south and south east. The mill was built with the latest technology available and logging was carried out using a steam winch. The mill operated full time until 1924 and on an intermittent basis after that (due to the company having its main mill further along the tramline) until 1931.

The access tram route to this mill from Barwon Downs is mostly intact along what is now Hayden Track. The tram routes beyond the mill to the south are largely intact and these are both scenic and contain the longest and deepest cutting of any mill tram route in the entire Otway Ranges. The mill site is compromised on its eastern side but from the eastern end of the sawdust trench to the west all remnant features are intact.

Condition : Good Integrity: Substantially intact

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

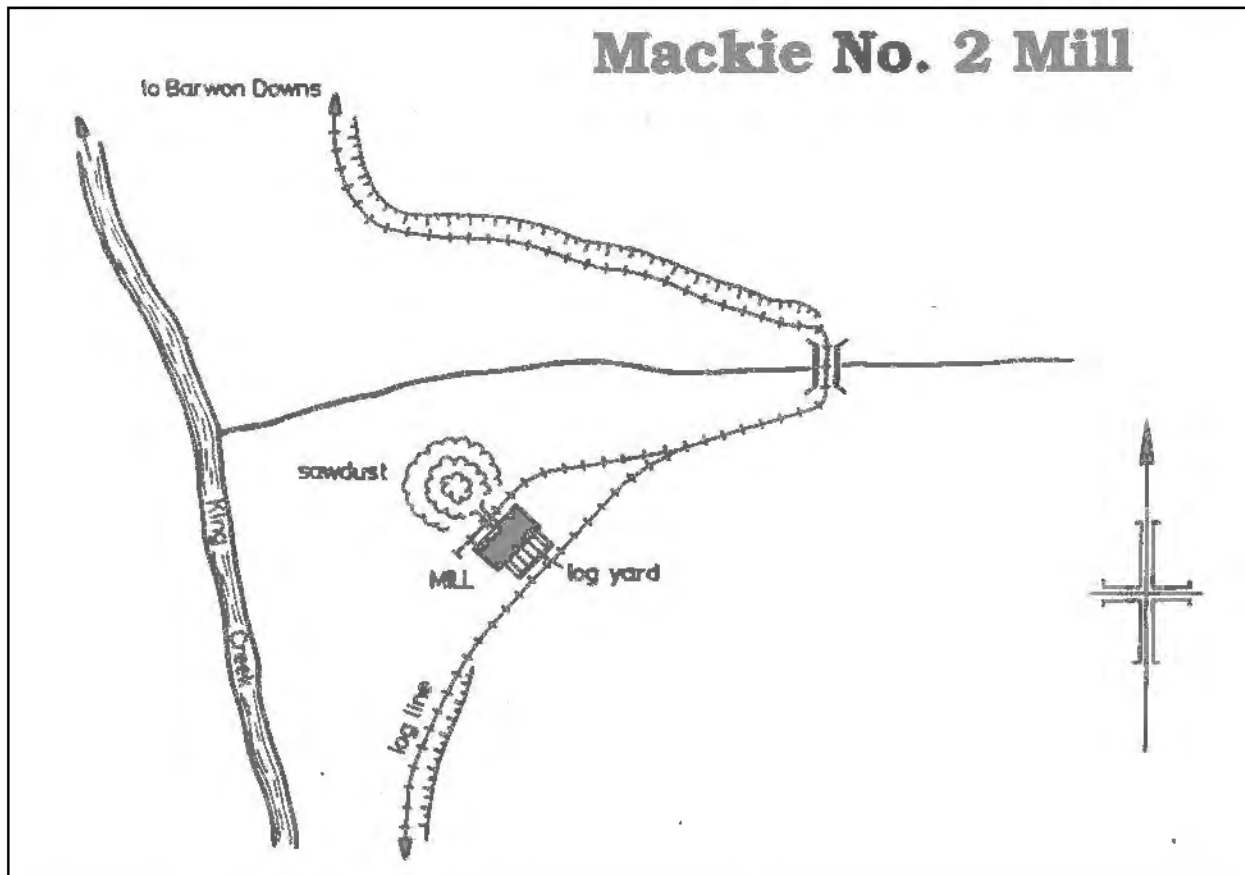
Name of Place : MACKIE NO. 2 SAWMILL

Ref. No. : 40

Location : Barwon Downs
GR 740284732660

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT

LCC B41



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

This sawmill was installed in 1900 by the firm of Anderson, Mackie & Co and was typical of its medium size plant and operation. The mill was sited on the margin of King Creek and logging was carried out to the east and south.

The site is undisturbed and all remnant features are intact.

Condition : excellent Substantially intact

This mill and log tramway earthworks are intact and are a fine example of a mill and its logging operations for this early 20th century period. The log line is noteworthy for its very picturesque setting.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : MACKIE NO. 4 SAWMILL

Ref. No. : 41

Location : Barwon Downs
GR 738166727250

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 102

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

This is a representative example of an isolated, self contained milling operation in the first quarter of the 20th century. Mackie's No.4 mill was the largest and best appointed. Mackie operated and could cut around nine cubic metres per day. The mill was placed on a large flat area on the inside of a sweeping creek bend in a very picturesque setting. Mackie had the knack of picking delightfully scenic mill sites and the No.4 was the best of all. At the mill site there were eight four roomed houses, cook house, an office, twelve huts, blacksmith shop and stables. The mill worked from 1908 until 1923 when flooding destroyed all the mill tramways and the mill site had to be abandoned.

This mill is situated in a picturesque setting in very wild terrain and few easily discernible surface features remain owing to flooding and thick ground cover. The access tramway earthworks are intact, although floods have scoured long lengths of this, and one of the features is a length through a gorge via a deeply entrenched side cut. Parts of the log lines remain evident all the way to the foot of Mount Cowley. Access is extremely difficult and hazardous for this site.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

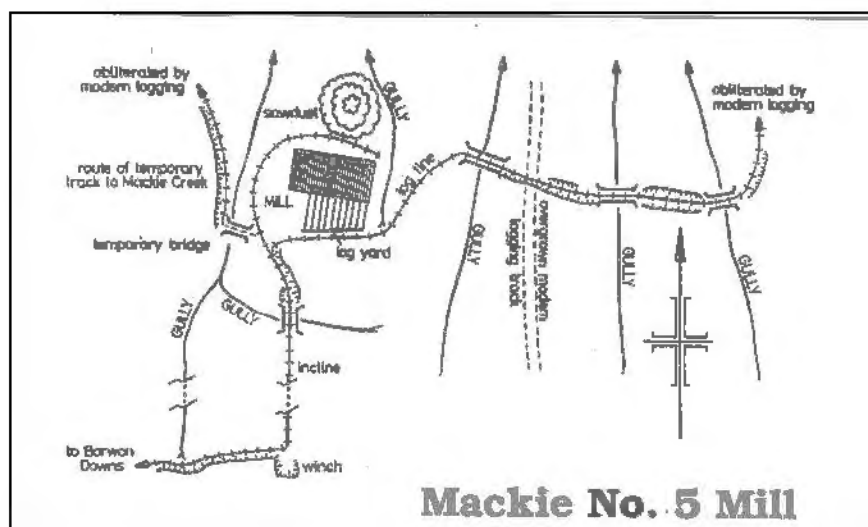
Volume II

Name of Place : MACKIE NO. 5 SAWMILL

Ref. No. : 42

Location : Barwon Downs
GR 745772728460

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC B44



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

The site represents a post 1923 flood installation and shows how strict economy was required by the firm to overcome the washing out of its previous mill situated down the slope on the creek flats. The site is a rare, undisturbed example of 1920s sawmilling.

The firm of Anderson, Mackie & Co had its Mackie Creek mill washed out by the 1923 flood and was compelled to start a new mill site on the high ground out of the valley. This plant, known as the No.5 was installed in 1925 and worked until 1936. A series of log and access trams was installed and these connected with Hayden's nearby tram to get the timber into Barwon Downs.

This mill site is intact, as is the tram route in the vicinity of the mill and allows for interpretation of the operation.

Condition : Excellent Integrity: Substantially intact

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Name of Place : ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Ref. No. : 43

Location : 209 Callahans Lane
Barwon Downs



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

St Joseph's Catholic Church, located in Callahans Lane Barwon Downs, was built in 1907. St Joseph's was built in the Carpenter Gothic style in timber to a design prepared by the Geelong architectural firm Laird and Barlow. St Joseph's Catholic Church is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. St Joseph's Catholic Church is historically important in illustrating the effect nineteenth century employers' religious affiliations had on the ethnic composition of communities. St Joseph's Catholic Church is historically important in demonstrating changing ethnic social influences, and illustrates the predominance of Catholics in the district in the early twentieth century, supplanting Presbyterianism as the dominant denominational group. St Joseph's Catholic Church is of aesthetic importance in demonstrating the principle design characteristics of the Geelong architectural firm Laird and Barlow, evident in the stylised use of pointed arch windows and modified billet mouldings. St Joseph's Catholic Church is of architectural interest for its ability to demonstrate the unique architectural variations possible within a common building type.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

The majority of the Barwon Downs population were initially predominantly members of the Presbyterian Church [site #35]. But after 1900 a significant Catholic presence began to be asserted in the district, following the opening of the Birregurra to Forrest railway in 1891 and the concomitant development of the timber industry after 1897.

The town's largest employers between 1897 and 1977 were the sawmillers Hayden Brothers [sites #31 & 32]. The Haydens were Catholic and it is probable that they had a direct influence in selecting their employees and, consequently, influenced the denominational composition of the town. It is also plausible that the Hayden mills supplied the timber for the neat weatherboard Catholic Church that was erected in 1907.

Initially it had been intended that the church would be built of brick, but no doubt the availability of timber from Hayden's mills led to the decision to clad in weatherboard. Geelong architects, Laird & Barlow, designed the church.

The date of the original design was 1900, indicating a delay in the construction and completion of the church.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

St Joseph's is a typical single storey Carpenter Gothic influenced regional church, constructed in timber, with a steeply pitched corrugated iron roof and pointed arch windows. The building also incorporates the characteristic projected central entry porch. The building is of note for its excellent condition and consistently stylised use of pointed arch windows with modified billet moulding.

<u>Condition :</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	Good	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Highly intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HAYDEN'S SAWMILLS

Ref. No. : 44

Location : Delaneys Road
Barwon Downs
GR 745840733310

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT

LCC B13

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

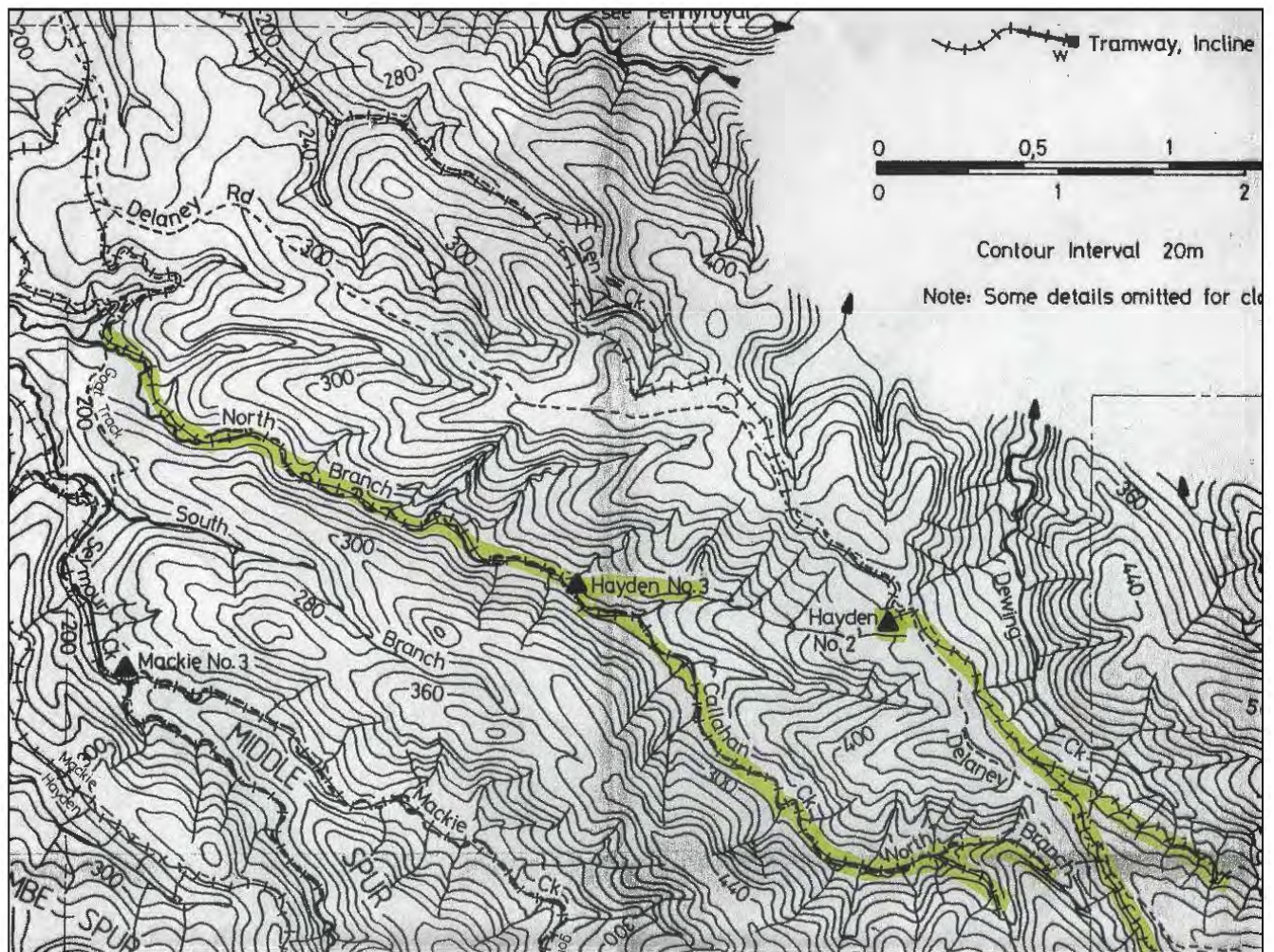
This sawmilling and logging operation represents a good example of pre 1920 methods and is a rare, intact survivor of this era. The No.3 mill log line has a very unusual three way log landing that was worked by a single winch and also shows a large and significant smig track running from creek level up to a ridge top.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

HISTORY :

The firm of Hayden Bros commenced sawmilling at Barwon Downs in 1896 with a small mill on Den Creek. This site was cut out in 1898 and a new mill, the No.2, placed nearly eight kms south east of Barwon Downs. An access tramway was laid to the site and two log lines built further south east towards the top of the divide. These log lines are laid in a picturesque setting and one is built as a series of undulating grades to minimise bridgework in the gully heads. The mill burnt down in 1901 and the site was abandoned. The firm then transferred operations to the adjoining valley of Callahan Creek and laid a new network of access and logging tramways along the creek. This No. 3 mill site was worked until 1917.

A major portion of the log and access tramway earthworks is intact as is the site of the No. 2 mill, although road works have come very close. The no. 3 mill site is hard to discern because it was built on a mud flat but most of its log lines are evident as remnant earthworks.



Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Ref. No. : 45

Location : 1560 Forrest-Birregurra Road
Barwon Downs



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Barwon Downs Presbyterian Church (now Uniting Church), located on the Forrest-Birregurra Road, was built in timber in 1900. The building was renovated in 1938 when additions were also made to the rear. The Presbyterian Church is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Presbyterian Church is also historically important in illustrating the size of timber communities in the Colac Otway Shire and the commitment of those local communities to the development of a social infrastructure in their settlements. The Presbyterian Church is representative of small churches in the smaller towns of the Colac Otway Shire. The Presbyterian Church is aesthetically important, the unusual Moorish arches illustrating an unusual exotic element for a non-conformist church, and demonstrates the small variations which may be incorporated into an architectural design to refine a common building type.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

Settlements like Barwon Downs, Forrest, Baramunga, Gellibrand and Beech Forest developed in the Shire to service the timber industry. Once these settlements stabilised, social infrastructures began to develop, and an important component of a settlement's social infrastructure was the establishment of religious institutions.

In 1900 the local Presbyterian community, the dominant religious group in the Barwon Downs region, built a small weatherboard church on land donated by John McLennan. This was not unusual. Land for churches and schools was frequently donated by local landholders, particularly in areas where sawmilling communities had developed before a survey was undertaken.

One of the two major sawmilling companies in the Barwon Down's settlement at the end of the nineteenth century was Anderson, Mackie & Co and, as Arthur Mackie was a Presbyterian, it is likely that he donated the timber for the construction of the church at Barwon Downs.

The church became a focus for other denominations for many years and was shared with the Methodists and Anglican parishioners.

By the early 1930's the church had fallen into disrepair, following the contraction in sawmill employment after 1923 when Mackie was forced out of business. However the building was renovated in 1938 and additions were also made to the rear.

The Presbyterian church at Barwon Downs is now a reminder of the important role religion played in the lives of the community, particularly in the early decades of the twentieth century. It is also indicative of the thriving community that developed in response to the timber industry, an industry that played an important role in the economic and demographic development of the Shire.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Barwon Downs Presbyterian Church is a single storey timber building, externally clad with weatherboards. The building has a centrally projected front entry porch, steeply pitched corrugated iron roof and unusual Moorish-arched windows and front door. The main building includes some smaller components to the rear. The church is located on a mostly cleared and grassed site with concrete pavers laid in a path, and a wire hairpin fence on a timber frame to the front boundary.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair-Poor</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Reasonably intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BLACKWOOD

Ref. No. : 46

Location : 1630 Forrest Birregurra Road
Barwon Downs



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Blackwood, located at 1630 Forrest Birregurra Road, Barwon Downs, is a weatherboard house that was constructed in 1902 for the Hayden family, prominent in the Colac Otway Shire's timber industry for eighty years. Blackwood is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Blackwood is historically important in illustrating attempts by the Hayden family to assert a status in an area that essentially comprised poor settlers and timber workers, who typically occupied simpler and more humble dwellings. Blackwood is historically important in demonstrating the economic significance and social impact of the timber industry in the Shire of Colac Otway. The materials used in the construction of Blackwood reflect the availability of timber in the area. The style of Blackwood exemplifies popular housing design at the turn of the century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Forests (7.1)

HISTORY :

The most successful sawmillers working in the Barwon Downs district were the Hayden Bros, who operated their business in the area between 1897 and 1977 [site P26].

The initial boom in sawmilling, that allowed the Hayden Bros to succeed in the industry, developed in the Otway Ranges after the opening of the railway to Forrest from Birregurra in 1891.

John and William Hayden were the principal sawmilling firm and invested heavily in the district.

As a result, little communities of workers, and sometimes their families, grew around sawmilling sites like Barwon Downs.

The Hayden Bros employed sixty staff at the peak of its bush operations at Barwon Downs in the 1920s.

In 1902 they built two houses and a shop fronting the Forrest Road and the house adjoining the shop (now demolished) became the family's principal residence. A commodious weatherboard structure, the house was called Blackwood after the township from where the family had engaged in mining and sawmilling from 1880 to 1899. The family continued to occupy the house until the early 1990s.

The house named Blackwood indicates the prosperity of the timber industry in the Barwon Downs area. It also illustrates the desire of the Hayden family, who operated timber mills in the area for eighty years, to assert a status in an area that essentially comprised poor settlers and timber workers, who typically occupied simpler and more humble dwellings.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Blackwood is a single storey, timber Victorian Italianate style villa located close to the road frontage. The main house comprises a symmetrically arranged facade with central doorway flanked by double hung sash windows, return verandah to the front, hipped corrugated iron roof. A pair of brick chimneys complete the composition. The building includes a characteristic cluster of rear annexes and buildings. Blackwood retains the original fabric. The house has been sympathetically restored and is reasonably intact, although the landscaping is possibly less intact.

Condition :

Excellent

Good

Fair

Poor

Ruins

Integrity :

Substantially intact

Damaged/disturbed

Altered sympathetically

Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : SALT EXTRACTION SITE

Ref. No. : 47

Location : 2 Beeac Cemetery Road
Beeac

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 356

INFORMATION PROVIDED BY LCC:

Salt scraping on Lake Cundare was pioneered by Henry Berry in the late 1860s and endured in various forms until the 1940s.

Remains of a former salt extraction operation at Lake Cundare include the remnants of a bluestone structure on the lake edge, and possibly other artefacts under the boxthorn vegetation.

RECOMMENDATION: Undertake further investigation

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BRAEBURNE

Ref. No. : 48

Location : 155 Beeac Dreeite Road
Beeac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The bluestone dwelling, remnant garden and stone wall fencing is located on the property known as Braeburne, at 155 Beeac Dreeite Road, Beeac. Michael Murphy selected the land in 1869 and fulfilled the requirements of the *1869 Land Act* by constructing a dwelling and stone wall fences. Additions were made to the dwelling in the 1880s. Braeburne is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Braeburne is aesthetically important for its isolated setting in the volcanic stony rise country near Lake Corangamite; and for contributing to the rich and distinctive stone masonry tradition, for which the area is well known. Braeburne is historically important through association with the *1869 Land Act* and for its ability to demonstrate the affect of the Colonial government's selection acts. The property is also historically important as an early rural villa constructed by a selector and demonstrates the wealth obtainable by some settlers.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Settlement by Selection (3.2.2)

HISTORY :

The land on which Braeburne was constructed was made available as a result of the land acts enacted by the Victorian colonial government in the 1860s. Under the first of these acts, the 1860 *Land Sale Act*, three million acres of country lands in Victoria were surveyed into allotments of 80 to 640 acres and made available to selectors. Generally, no person could select more than 640 acres annually. The land had to be paid for outright, or half-paid and half-leased. Further areas were opened up for selection under the *Land Act* (1862) and the 1865 *Amendment Act*. Finally, in 1869, another *Land Act* opened the whole colony of Victoria for selection, including unsurveyed land.

The 1860s land acts did little at first to 'unlock the land' in the Colac Otway Shire, largely because of the loopholes and methods adopted by the squatters who actually increased their holdings. The fertile volcanic area around Colac, in the Lake Corangamite region, was practically the only part of the Shire where any subdivision was made.

Michael Murphy selected Braeburne, initially part of the Watch Hill run, under the provisions of the 1869 Act. By 1872, according to the inspector's reports, a stone house 20 feet by 12 feet with shingle roof was completed. This house, it was reported, had been erected in 1869. Murphy had also sunk a waterhole by 1872, and had constructed stone walls (to the extent of 80 chains) and post and wire fencing (to the extent of 24 chains). Remnants of stone walling survive at the front of the property. Site inspection suggests the dwelling was subsequently extended in the 1880s and it is probable that at the same time a garden was planted.

But it is not clear whether the land was still occupied by Murphy at this time. The Shire Rate Books indicate that the land was owned by John Pink in 1875 and leased to William Marshall.

Anecdotal information suggests that John Pink was a builder who constructed many of the Beeac stone buildings. Pink owned land his father had taken up in 1863 opposite Braeburne, on Crown Allotment 39a & b in the Parish of Cundare. Whilst research to date has not been able to substantiate the assertion, it is nevertheless plausible that Pink constructed or extended the stone dwelling commenced by Murphy in 1869 after gaining ownership of the land. It is probable therefore that Braeburne, as it survives today, is the result of John Pink's efforts. Detailed external and internal inspection is necessary before the sequence and approximate dates of the dwelling's construction can be more accurately obtained.

Two additional buildings at the rear of the dwelling are shown on the 1949 Military Survey Map (no. 856) to which another building, according to the topographical map (Warrion 7621-4-3) had been added by 1980.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A hipped corrugated iron clad roofed, blue stone, rural colonial styled, homestead built in circa 1869, with later additions in circa 1880s. The return verandah is supported by three quarter height cast iron posts, with fine decorative cast iron brackets and valence. The house is set in mature landscaped gardens with large palm trees and front random dry stone wall.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : BEEAC CEMETERY

Ref. No. : 49

Location : 20 Cemetery Road
Beac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Beeac Cemetery, located at Cemetery Road Beeac, was set aside in 1870 to cater for the interment of local settlers who took up land in the surrounding district after the 1860s Land Acts. The Beeac Cemetery is laid out in a formal geometric manner and is divided into denominational sections with rows of early grave sites marked out by stone kerbing, and later substantially decorated headstones, pedestals, obelisks, Celtic crosses and/or cast iron low palisade fencing. Decorous entry gates and a timber gatekeepers house remains. The cemetery also includes mature plantings. The Beeac Cemetery is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Beeac Cemetery is of historic importance through association with the second phase of land use in the Shire after European settlement, in accordance with the 1860s land acts. The Beeac Cemetery is of historic importance through memorialising the district's residents for more than a century. The Beeac Cemetery is of aesthetic importance for its ability to demonstrate good design characteristics through a combination of monuments and mature plantings within a formal geometric layout, and is associated with the Shire's early settlement that had been influenced by the cultural, ethnic and social values of the district's inhabitants.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Cemeteries & Lone Graves (8.2.6)

HISTORY :

The rituals of death were a part of everyday life of people of the Victorian era. Many thousands of people died from diseases and illnesses resulting from unsanitary conditions and lack of medical knowledge. Most people believed in an after life and cemeteries, which were often like public parks, were popular destinations for family outings.

Cemeteries now provide valuable information about early settlers in the region. They also reveal the important value society placed on religion by their strict adherence to denominational sections.

The cemetery at Beeac is no exception. It was established in 1870 soon after the Beeac district was thrown open for selection under the Land Acts of 1862 and 1866.

The European settlers who first established farms in the area are interred at the Beeac Cemetery, along with the townfolk who provided services to the settlers.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The historic cemetery is approached through main gates past a small timber gatekeepers house located on the northern side of the entry. The cemetery is laid out under scattered trees in an open, but formal geometric manner. Rows of early grave sites are marked out by stone kerbing, and later substantially decorated headstones, pedestals, obelisks, Celtic crosses and/or cast iron low palisade fencing, some marking out individual family plots, demonstrate the customs and beliefs of the time.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : RAILWAY EARTHWORKS

Ref. No. : 50

Location : Adjacent to Colac-Ballarat Road (GR 730926766428)
Beac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Railway Earthworks, the remains of the former Irrewarra-Ballarat Railway, are located adjacent to the Colac-Ballarat Road and extend, in various degrees of integrity, from Irrewarra to Cressy. The railway was built in five sections over 28 years from 1883 with the extension through to Cressy opened in 1911. The railway line operated until 1953. The Railway Earthworks are of historic importance through association with the vital role played by the railway in the development of agriculture and dairying at the end of the nineteenth century and in the early twentieth century, when the land surrounding the line was subdivided into smaller holdings. The Railway Earthworks are historically important through association with the development of towns on the line, such as Beac and Cressy.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Railways & Railway Stations (4.3)

HISTORY :

In the latter third of the nineteenth century, when Ballarat was the second largest city in Victoria, there arose the notion of strengthening communication and facilitating trade between south-west Victoria and Ballarat by providing the best means of land transport then available, a railway. This development was inspired by local municipalities, parliamentary representatives, landholders and traders and was intended to take advantage of Ballarat's manufacturing, commercial and service industries. It was intended that timber and agricultural produce would move north to Ballarat while manufacturers, livestock, and other traffic would go south.

Between 1911 and 1953 this cross-country railway ran northwards across the Western Plains from Irrewarra (near Colac) on the main south-western line to Beeac, it continued on to Cressy and then to Ballarat via Newtown on the Skipton branch line.

The railway was built in five sections over 28 years from 1883. The link from Irrewarra to Beeac was completed in 1889; the extension through to Cressy was opened in 1911.

The railway served its purpose as a transport link, particularly between Beeac and Colac. It particularly played a vital role in the development of agriculture and dairying at the end of the nineteenth century and in the early twentieth century when the land surrounding the line was subdivided into smaller holdings. The line also played an important role in the development of towns like Beeac and Cressy.

The railway managed to survive until 1953 when road transport finally caused its demise.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

This site consists of the remains of the former railway from Irrewarra to Beeac, Cressy and then to Ballarat via Newtown on the Skipton Branch Line. It is composed of the remaining earthworks that are visible between Irrewarra and Cressy. The earthworks' remains are variable in regard to intactness. The majority of the earthworks' remains are within private land - mostly farmland. Some of the landowners have levelled the earth mound in places to provide vehicle and stock access to their land and to provide a flat expanse of land for cropping purposes. Sections of the earthworks were inspected where possible and there do not appear to be any remains of metal rail tracks, timber sleepers, iron dog spikes or other material remains associated with the former railway.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	<u>Poor</u>	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact				Altered sympathetically
	<u>Damaged/disturbed</u>				Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : GRASSYVALE

Ref. No. : 51

Location : 305 Cororooke Road
Beac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Grassyvale, located at 305 Cororooke Road, Warrion, was built of brick in the 1880s for Alexander Lang and his family. Constructed in the Victorian Italianate style, Grassyvale incorporates fine ironwork detailing including an iron lacework portico over the north entrance. Grassyvale is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Grassyvale is of historic importance through association with the second phase of post contact settlement in the Shire, the subdivision of pastoral holdings into smaller farms. Grassyvale is also historically important in demonstrating, through the imposing nature of the house and the incorporation of detail such as tuckpointing and iron lacework, the success of settlers like Alexander Lang in developing viable farms. Grassyvale is aesthetically important in exhibiting the good design and aesthetic characteristics of the Victorian Italianate style, and in exhibiting a richness of detail especially evident in the brick work, and in the iron lacework portico and verandah detailing. The Monkey-Puzzle Pine at the front of the house, planted in about the 1880s, is also a fine example of the specimen.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

As a result of the 1847 Order in Council, by the 1860s squatters had been forced to relinquish some of their vast tracks of land. Estates like Watch Hill were subdivided and portions of 640 acres, known as Pre-emptive Rights, were purchased at £1 an acre. The remaining land they had held became available for purchase through Crown land sales or the 1860s selection acts.

The Order in Council and land acts did little at first to ‘unlock the land’ in the Colac Otway Shire, largely because of the loopholes and methods adopted by the squatters who actually increase their holdings. The fertile volcanic area around Colac, in the Lake Corangamite region, was practically the only part of the Shire where any subdivision was made.

Alexander Lang (1834-1918) purchased 71 acres, Crown Allotment 32b in the Parish of Ondit, in December 1860. He purchased another 167 acres of surrounding land in the same year and, by 1870, had been able to buy the 71 acres of adjoining land. Lang built Grassyvale on allotment 32b. He initially built a small cottage that was later moved to Beeac, and still stands on the south east corner of Wallace and Coulson Street.

Sometime in the 1880s, after Lang had established on the land and amassed sufficient capital, he built Grassyvale. The house was built of tuckpointed brick, and was designed to be imposing to indicate the success Lang had made of farming. At about the same time a garden was planted including a Monkey Puzzle Pine that survives today. Lang, his wife and seven children lived at Grassyvale until around 1900 when he moved to Geelong. Alexander’s son, Archibald, moved into Grassyvale. Archibald (1869-1955) and his wife Celia (1876-1957) had eight children. The small stone, one-room structure on the north west boundary of the homestead block (Crown Allotment 32b) was built as a schoolhouse for their children and a Governess was employed. In the 1920s Archibald and his family moved to Geelong to allow their children to continue their education. During this time Salmon leased the land and lived at Grassyvale with his wife and 13 children. In 1934 Archibald and his family moved back to Grassyvale until 1949. Lindsay Lang, one of Archibald Lang’s sons, then took over the farm. Soon after the Second World War he sold it to the current owners.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Grassyvale was constructed in the 1880s in the Victorian Italianate style. The house is assymetrical in design and is built of tuckpointed brick on a bluestone base with bracketed eaves. The south side of the house includes a polychromatic brickwork pattern, and the north side has a stuccoed wall finish. The window surrounds have been also been stuccoed. The house features fine ironwork including a fine-detailed lacework portico over the north-facing entrance to the house. Timber additions have been incorporated on the south side of the house, which also includes a bluestone chimney to the rear of the house. Additions and extensions were undertaken to the rear of the house in the 1970s. A white-washed stone, one-roomed structure, overgrown with ivy and other creepers, survives to the north west of the property. This building, it is said, was constructed as a small school for the Lang children in the last decades of the nineteenth century. A fine specimen of Monkey Pine survives to the front of the house. The house is in good condition, although the verandah’s iron work needs urgent attention.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : AVENUE OF HONOUR

Ref. No. : 52

Location : Coulson & Wallace Streets
Beeac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Beeac Avenue of Honour is a World War I memorial planted in 1917 and comprising two convergent avenues of 36 *Ulmus x hollandica* (Dutch Elm) on Wallace and Coulston Streets, in excellent condition. The Beeac Avenue of Honour is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Beeac Avenue of Honour is historically important for its commemoration of the wartime service and sacrifices of the Beeac community, illustrating the impact of the war on local communities. The Beeac Avenue of Honour is of historic importance through association with the local community and for demonstrating the affect the 'Great War' had on rural districts. The Beeac Avenue of Honour is of aesthetic importance in providing a valuable contribution to the township's streetscape.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

The Beeac Patriotic Committee were one of the first organisations in the shire to adopt the practise of planting trees to memorialise local servicemen killed in the First World War. As early as June 1915 a tree was planted in memory of Private E C Illett who 'was killed in action in the Dardenelles' and later, in 1916, another was planted in memory of Private A Turner. As no markers survive, nor other historic documentation discovered, it has not been possible to identify these two trees.

After these two memorial trees to Illet and Turner were planted at Beeac, Victoria became the heartland for avenues of honour. This probably occurred because the planting of memorial trees was promoted in the State earlier and harder than in other areas of Australia. The Victorian State Recruiting Committee had written to all municipalities and shires in 1917 recommending that an assurance be given to every intending recruit that his name would be 'memorialised in an avenue of honour'.

After the Victorian State Recruiting Committee's letter, the Beeac Patriotic Committee embraced the idea of avenues of honour to memorialise recruits. In June 1917 permission was sought from the Colac Shire Council to plant an avenue of trees "as a memorial to fallen soldiers". Fourteen elms were planted in Wallace Street between Main and Coulston Streets in 1917, and 22 were planted in Coulston Street, between Wallace and Lang Street in 1918.

Beeac's Avenue of Honour survives today as a legacy of the district's commitment to supporting its local volunteers, and as an illustration of the affect the war had on rural farming areas.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

No. of trees: 36 Est. Age: 83 yrs (pl. c1917)
Ht: 8m Canopy: 8m
Trunk Circumference: 1.m
Spacing (Distance between trunks): 5m

The Avenue of Honour at Beeac comprises two converging avenues of *Ulmus x hollandica** (Dutch Elm), including 14 trees along Wallace Street (between Main and Coulston Streets) and 22 trees in Coulston Street (between Wallace and Lang Streets). The trees are in excellent condition.

A further planting of note is the avenue on the main street of Beeac, comprising some 30 *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress), inconsistently spaced and pruned but remaining a strong landscape element, and potentially being connected with the Avenue of Honour planting. However, this has not been confirmed within the limits of the Study.

*Species should be confirmed when in leaf.

<u>Condition :</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	Good	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BEEAC CREAMERY

Ref. No. : 53

Location : 5 Eurack Road
Beeac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Beeac Creamery, located at 5 Eurack Road, near the corner of Colac-Ballarat Road Beeac, is a large double gabled rendered brick rural industrial building built in 1915 for the Colac Dairying Company. The Beeac Creamery is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Beeac Creamery is historically important through association with early dairy farming in the area. The Beeac Creamery is historically important in demonstrating a farming practise that became associated with the Shire's volcanic plains area in the early twentieth century, and which has since changed radically due to improved technology and the deregulated dairy industry. The Beeac Creamery is also historically important for illustrating the size of the Colac Dairying Company; the importance of the dairying industry in the Shire; and the vital role the industry played in the Shire's development.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

HISTORY :

In 1915 the Colac Dairying Company erected a substantial rendered brick creamery on the main road just north of Beeac at the junction with Eurack Road.

The dairying company had formed and set up a factory in Wilson Street, Colac in 1892 [site #96]. The construction of the railway from Colac to Beeac in 1889, and the subsequent subdivision of estates and opening of the area for closer settlement, resulted in the development of a healthy dairying industry in the surrounding area. The industry received a further boost with the extension of the railway to Ballarat in 1912.

The Colac Dairying Company's Beeac creamery was built at the major road junction to allow for a convenient catchment area in a time of market expansion. At the same time the company also set up creameries in other outlying districts at Nalangil, Swan Marsh [site #214], and Warrion.

In 1962 bulk milk collection was introduced and, during the 1960s, the size of dairy herds increased under the influence of advances in milking machines. These factors, along with the introduction of road transport and increased bulk handling of milk, caused creameries like that at Beeac to become redundant. The creamery closed in 1974, although the building continued to be used for a few more years for storage. It is now unoccupied.

The Beeac Creamery indicates the size of the Colac Dairying Company; the importance of the dairying industry and the vital role it played in the development of the Shire.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An early twentieth century large double gabled, rendered brick, rural industrial building, located just beside the main road junction. The building is typical of early dairy industrial buildings in the area, identified by their sturdy load bearing construction, high walls usually of about 5 to 6 metres high reinforced by brick piers, a corrugated iron clad twin gable roof, regular almost symmetrical placement of timber doors and windows around the building in a domestic style, deep eaves, and with the interior well ventilated by a series of wall vents and long strip ventilators along the central ridge capping. Usually the design includes a raised recessed verandah at the front used as a delivery and collection point.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair-Poor</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COUNCILLORS MEMORIAL & AVENUE OF HONOUR

Ref. No. : 54

Location : Lang Street (GR 731153769195)
Beac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The stone obelisk style Councillors' Memorial, located on the northern side of the Lang Street road reserve, east of the intersection of Main and Lang Streets, Beac, was erected in 1970 to commemorate two Shire Councillors, Herbert Martin (1892-1968) and Thomas Barnard (1916-1968), who both died in office in August 1968. A memorial and Avenue of Honour of flowering Prunus trees was planted in Lang Street at the same time. The Councillors' Memorial and Avenue of Honour is historically, socially and aesthetically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Councillors' Memorial and Avenue of Honour is historically important in demonstrating the local community's appreciation, esteem and respect held for two prominent local councillors, both of whom had devoted time to public duties in a voluntary capacity by serving on the Shire of Colac Council for over thirty years. The Memorial and Avenue of Honour of Prunus trees are important in demonstrating social and cultural associations of the community and illustrate the gratitude felt for the two councillors by their colleagues and the community. The Avenue of Honour of Prunus trees and Memorial are aesthetically important in contributing a richness to the Beac streetscape design.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

Although the shire was formed in 1864, it was substantially altered and became predominantly rural in composition after the creation and severance in 1948 of the Borough of Colac (proclaimed a city in 1960).

The Shire of Colac's two most prominent councillors in the middle of the twentieth century were Herbert Leslie Martin (1892-1968) and Thomas Anzac Barnard (1916-1968).

Councillor Martin served on the Shire Council during this period, including terms that extended from 1935 to 1968. He was also Shire President four times, in 1937, 1946, 1952 and 1961.

Councillor Barnard served on council from 1946 to 1968. He too served several terms as President, in 1948, 1957 and 1967.

Both Councillors Martin and Barnard died in August 1968 whilst still serving on the shire council. Martin was 76 years old at the time of his death, and Barnard was 52.

This double tragedy prompted the Council and local community to commemorate the services of the two men. An avenue of flowering Prunus trees was planted in Lang Street and dedicated to their memory, together with a kerbside memorial stone unveiled on 10 August 1970.

The memorial provides information not only about those who voluntarily devoted their time to public duties, it also provides information about the esteem their colleagues and the community held for these two individuals.



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The memorial consists of a simple rectangular rock-cut grey granite block, laid on a larger foundation stone, on the grassy pavement near the concrete kerb in Lang Street, Beac. It is a typical example of a mid-to-late twentieth century stone memorial monument, commonly found in country areas. The front of the block has a polished surface in which text has been engraved and painted white. The memorial was dedicated in 1970 when the avenue of ornamental cherry trees were planted. The following text is inscribed on the memorial stone : *This avenue of trees was dedicated on 10 August 1970 to the memory of Cr H L Martin and Cr T A Barnard who both served the shire with distinction P B Mercer Shire President.*

The white engraved lettering on the memorial has weathered.

Condition :

Excellent

Good

Fair

Poor

Ruins

Integrity :

Substantially intact

Damaged/disturbed

Altered sympathetically

Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BEEAC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ref. No. : 55

Location : 35 Lang Street
Beeac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Beeac Primary School, located in Lang Street, Beeac, was built of brick in 1922 by the Victorian Education Department in the Californian Bungalow style, derived from the English Arts and Craft movement. The Beeac Primary School is aesthetically and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Beeac Primary School is aesthetically important as a good example of a later Federation Free style rural school building designed with Arts and Craft architectural detailing, and continuing a long association with the style by State's education departments. The Beeac Primary School is historically important for association with the provision of educational services in the Shire, as well as the local community's commitment to educating its children. The Beeac Primary School is also historically important for demonstrating the area's increased population, brought about by the subdivision of pastoral estates and the construction of the Colac to Cressy railway. The primary school, in conjunction with the former Beeac Common School (site #40), is important in illustrating the phases of development in education that occurred in Victoria in response to the *1862 Common Schools Act* and the *1872 Education Act*.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

HISTORY :

Public education at Beeac dates from 1862 when a Common School was opened in the Methodist Church. A purpose-built bluestone building was constructed in 1869 [see site #40]. The Common School building sufficed until well into the twentieth century when overcrowding and poor facilities prompted local agitation for a new school. Population numbers had increased in the district as a result of the division of pastoral estates under the various nineteenth century land selection and closer settlement acts, and the soldier settlement policies of the twentieth century. The construction of the railway from Colac to Creswick, and then beyond to Ballarat, also contributed to an increase in numbers of school-aged children in the district.

In 1922 a brick school building was erected in Lang Street. The new school had a distinctive porch and two classrooms. It was designed with Arts and Craft architectural detailing and continued a long historical association with this style by government education departments, specifically associated with educational institution. The choice of style was based on earlier theories of a social Utopia as expounded by William Morris and other proponents of the Arts and Crafts Movement at the end of the nineteenth century.

The school was officially opened in March 1922 by the Victoria Education Department's Chief Inspector, Fussell. It was remarked, at the time of opening, that the school building was designed with a southern aspect to the windows to allow for the correct lighting for a pupil sitting at a desk, and ensured daylight fell over the children's left shoulder.

Some minor additions were subsequently added to the rear of the building.

The school still operates today and is important in providing information about the provision of educational services in the Shire, as well as the local community's commitment to educating its children. The primary school, in conjunction with the former Beeac Common School [site #40] is valuable in documenting the phases of education which have occurred in Victoria over a one hundred and thirty year period.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An attractive red brick school designed in a Californian Bungalow architectural style derived from the English Arts and Craft movement. The building comprises a long horizontal rear wing with simple low pitched corrugated iron clad ridge, deep over-hanging eaves, exposed rafters and two front projecting wings, with alternately hipped roof and street facing front gabled roof. The Arts and Craft style detailing is evident in the Free Classical Style rendering to the tall brick chimneys and the pediment-like decorative portal above the front entrance door. Arts and Craft detailing can also be seen in the use of contrasting colours and textures, as evidenced by the coupled front timber windows with projecting frames, which extend to the eaves line above the band of roughcast rendering to the upper red brick wall. The school is designed with two south facing classrooms and is sited just off the road in large school grounds.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COMMON SCHOOL (fmr)

Ref. No. : 56

Location : 53 Main Street
Beeac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The former Beeac Common School, located at 53 Main Street, Beeac, was built in 1869 in response to the *1862 Common School Act* and the subdivision of squatters' holdings in the surrounding area. The Gothic Revival bluestone school was designed by Alexander Davidson and built for the Beeac St Andrews Methodist Church. The Beeac Common School is historically and aesthetically important to the State of Victoria. The Beeac Common School is historically important through association with the development of Victoria's education system, and provides evidence of rural responses to the *Common School Act*. The Beeac Common School is historically important through association with the early work of Alexander Davidson, who went on to become one of Victoria's leading architects. The Beeac Common School is aesthetically important in exhibiting the good design characteristics of Alexander Davidson's early work, demonstrated in the Gothic detail, including double and triple lancet shaped windows with stone mullions, and the dressed sills and lintels on the front façade. The Beeac Common School is also historically important in demonstrating the relationship between schools and contemporary design theories. The bluestone school building, adjacent to the later 1878 bluestone St Andrew's Anglican Church, also designed by Alexander Davidson, is important in contributing to the formation of an aesthetically important group of buildings in the main street of Beeac.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Nominate for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register.

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

HISTORY :

The Beeac Common School was opened in 1862 in the St Andrews Methodist church premises and made possible by the Board of Education created by the *1862 Common Schools Act*, which assumed control of over six hundred schools in the Colony of Victoria.

In 1869 a purpose built bluestone building was erected, designed by the prominent architect Alexander Davidson. The new building was required to accommodate the increased numbers of school-aged children in the area, the result of subdivision of the surroundings pastoral holdings into small farms, much of which was taken up by selectors.

The Beeac Common School became a State School following the introduction of the *1872 Education Act*. The building was used for school purposes until 1922 when a new purpose-built State School commenced operations on another site (see site #42). Ownership of the former school building reverted to the Methodist Church and was used to supplement its requirements for enlarged Sunday School and hall space.

The former Beeac Common School provides important information about the development of education in Victoria, encompassing the early phase of the educational system and the transition to centralised government control of education following the passing of the *1872 Education Act*.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An attractive mixed Gothic Revival purpose-built bluestone school designed by Alexander Davidson in 1869. The design of the rectangular school building is influenced by the picturesque English vernacular tradition. This is seen in the irregular silhouette, created by the steeply pitched slate roof, prominent gables, offset small gabled entry porch to the north side and central gable dormer window with finial to the main road elevation. The walls are made up of coarsely textured, large, regular sized blocks of blue stone, laid in a distinctive pattern associated with other early buildings in the district, (see 1862 Cressy Presbyterian church and the 1868 Weering school). The Gothic details refer to the double and triple lancet shaped windows with stone mullions, dressed sills and lintels on the front facade. The timber sash windows are multi paned. At the rear is a red brick addition, designed as a parallel wing to the front structure, similar in form and shape as the early building, but with corrugated iron roof.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good-Fair</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ST ANDREW'S CHURCH

Ref. No. : 57

Location : 53 Main Street
Beeac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The St Andrew's Anglican Church, located at 53 Main Street, Beeac, was built in 1878 for the district's Wesleyan Methodist parishioners. St Andrew's was designed by Alexander Davidson in the Gothic style and was constructed of bluestone. The nave of the church was extended in 1888. St. Andrew's Church is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. St Andrew's Church is aesthetically important as a good representative example of an early primitive Gothic Revival church. St Andrew's Church is also aesthetically important in exhibiting the good design characteristics of the architect, Alexander Davidson, demonstrated especially in the distinctive stone masonry, evident in the rock cut quoining and window label moulds, contrasting with the freestone dressed sills. St Andrew's Church is historically important for demonstrating the nineteenth century ethnic and cultural composition of the district in which Scottish settlers predominated. The church is also historically important in illustrating the value of religion in providing a social focus for new settlers. The extensions undertaken to the church are historically important in demonstrating an increased population in the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

The Wesleyan Methodist denomination predominated in the Beeac district during the nineteenth century, reflecting the Scottish migrants who mainly populated the area. The first church opened in 1862 and was extended two years later in 1864.

But by 1878 the Beeac Wesleyan Methodist congregation had outgrown their church. The foundation stone for a new Gothic, bluestone place for their worship was laid in 1878. The church was designed by Alexander Davidson as a Gothic structure in bluestone with freestone dressings that measured only 35 feet by 21 feet. St Andrew's Wesleyan Methodist church was opened on 6 October 1878. However, because of increased numbers in the area following the subdivision of the surrounding pastoral estates, the church was soon too small and had to be enlarged in 1888.

Services continue to be operated in this church and it provides valuable information about the religious affiliations operating in the area, and about the ethnic composition of those who settled in the region. It also demonstrates the importance placed on the value of religion in the nineteenth century, and the sacrifices parishioners were prepared to make to ensure a church was constructed which reflected their religious values.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The primitive, bluestone Gothic church was designed in 1878 by the architect Alexander Davidson, who established the well-known architectural firm of Davidson & Henderson. The simple rectangular building is constructed out of coursed square patterned, locally quarried, bluestone. The stone masonry work is of an unusual patterned style with rock cut quoining and window label moulds, but with freestone dressed sills. The Gothic style is only expressed in the form of pointed arch windows and buttressed walls. St Andrew's Church was enlarged in 1888 by extending the nave.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair-Poor</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : WAR MEMORIAL

Ref. No. : 58

Location : 53 Main Street
Beeac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Beeac War Memorial stands in a large formal fenced enclosure on the corner of Lang and Main Streets, Beeac. The Memorial was unveiled in 1923 to commemorate the district's World War One volunteers. A plaque was added later to commemorate those who died in the Second World War. The Beeac War Memorial is of historic, social, cultural and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Beeac War Memorial is of historic importance in demonstrating, through the names listed on the plinth, the profound affect the First World War in particular had on the Shire's rural communities. The memorial is also of social and cultural importance through demonstrating the community's public recognition and acknowledgment of the district's contribution to two world wars. The Beeac War Memorial is aesthetically important as a good example of a typical unknown Australian Digger, standing high on a tall obelisk and rough stone plinth, that honours those members of the local community who served and died in the First and Second World Wars.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

The outpouring of grief experienced by communities throughout Australia for the numbers who died was able to find an outlet, after the conclusion of the war, in public expression through memorials. A memorial to those Beeac and district people who served in World War One was erected in Beeac's main street. Sixty-two names memorialise those who volunteered from the Beeac district. The memorial includes the names of twenty soldiers who died, eight of whom were from four families who lived in the area.

The memorial comprises a bluestone base, with a polished granite name stone, topped by the figure of a lone soldier, a typical symbol of the sentiments of communities who had lost faith in heroism and had accepted the degree of loss caused by war to the ordinary volunteer. The official dedication was carried out by General Elliott in February 1923.

In 1948 the names of nine soldiers from Beeac who died in World War Two were added to the memorial on a polished tablet fixed to the monument's base.

The memorial is a reminder of the widespread involvement of ordinary people in both the First and Second World Wars and records the loss of life and suffering which affected the community. It is also a reminder of the people's collective reaction and their appreciation and desire to publicly recognise and acknowledge those who enlisted. The memorial also illustrates the community spirit which arose as a result of the district's involvement through its volunteers.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A typical memorial statue of a soldier, a single standing Digger, dressed in infantry uniform with slouch hat, standing to attention in solemn requiem with rifle upside down in remembrance of fallen comrades at arms. It is interesting to note that the soldier's gaze is upwards and is not looking down. The memorial, made up of a rock cut bluestone foundation and plinth, supporting a tall polished grey granite obelisk on which rests the figure of the soldier, is set on a large square concrete base in a fenced off enclosure. The low fencing has been designed with red brick kerbing, a series of coarse bluestone pylon posts supporting double circular metal tubular bar fencing. A small metal gate gives access into the enclosure. The memorial was dedicated in 1923 when the long list of names of those who served and died in the First World War engraved in the granite was unveiled by General Elliott. An additional pink polished granite engraved tablet is set at the base of the statute commemorating the district's men who served and died in the Second World War.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair-Poor</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : MINGAWALLA WOOLSHED

Ref. No. : 59

Location : 1420 Warrowie Road
Beac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber Mingawalla Woolshed complex is located on Warrowie Road, Beac, which also incorporates two small attached double gable ended outbuildings. The complex was built in about 1903 by William Winter after the subdivision of land and formation of the Mingawalla Estate. The Mingawalla Woolshed complex is of historic and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Mingawalla Woolshed complex is of historic importance through association with the wool industry, which played an important role in the economic growth of the Shire in both the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The Mingawalla Woolshed complex is of historic importance through association with the division of pastoral lands as a result of late nineteenth century social and economic factors. The Mingawalla Woolshed complex is of historic importance in demonstrating the size and extent of the wool industry in the Shire in the twentieth century. The Mingawalla Woolshed complex is of architectural importance as a landmark timber frame weatherboard woolshed, with two small attached outbuildings.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Primary Industries (3.4)

HISTORY :

Mingawalla was initially part of Armytage's Inglesby run. Squatters like George Armytage were members of the first wave of settlement in the Shire. They controlled vast tracts of land and enjoyed periods of great prosperity in the decades after the discovery of gold in the colony, as the increased population required employment, feeding and clothing, and as the overseas wool price boomed.

The primary industry introduced into the Shire after European settlement was sheep grazing and the production of wool and tallow. This was maintained throughout the 1840s and 1850s. In the 1860s and 1870s sheep numbers markedly increased. But in the 1870s wool prices began to fluctuate, and then to fall steadily in the 1880s. Pastoralists, pressed to pay their debts, carried more stock, but were then hit by the rabbit released by Austin at his Barwon Park Estate, which reached plague proportions in the countryside. These conditions occurred against a backdrop of the emergence of the Amalgamated Shearers Union in 1886, which soon began to affect the industry. Then, in the depression of the 1890s, wool prices slumped to a new low, to be followed by a crippling drought. The introduction of income tax in 1895 was an added burden for the pastoralists. The affect of these factors on the wool industry can be measured by the fact that, during the 1890s, the number of sheep in Australia halved and did not recover to the 1890 level until 1931.

As a result of all of these factors, in the early years of the twentieth century, portions of Armytage land was divided to form Mingawalla, which incorporated about 4,342 acres. The pastoral holding was purchased by William Winter who built a timber house. Out-buildings included stables, shearers' huts and workman's cottages, and a woolshed, all of which were constructed of weatherboard.

By 1919 William Joseph Winter had sold Mingawalla to Edward White. By 1933 it had been purchased by James Barclay.

Mingawalla is still held by the Barclay family.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A landmark timber frame weatherboard woolshed with two small attached double gable ended outbuildings, one of which has a small central timber and iron roof lantern, all the structures are constructed of similar material and have red painted corrugated iron clad roof. The whole complex is on raised timber stumps facing east, set back away from the main road in a large open paddock, about a hundred metres from a similar but unpainted complex of what appears to be shearers' huts and other outbuildings. The woolshed is in good condition and has recently been painted.

Condition : Excellent Good Fair Poor Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact Altered sympathetically
Damaged/disturbed Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

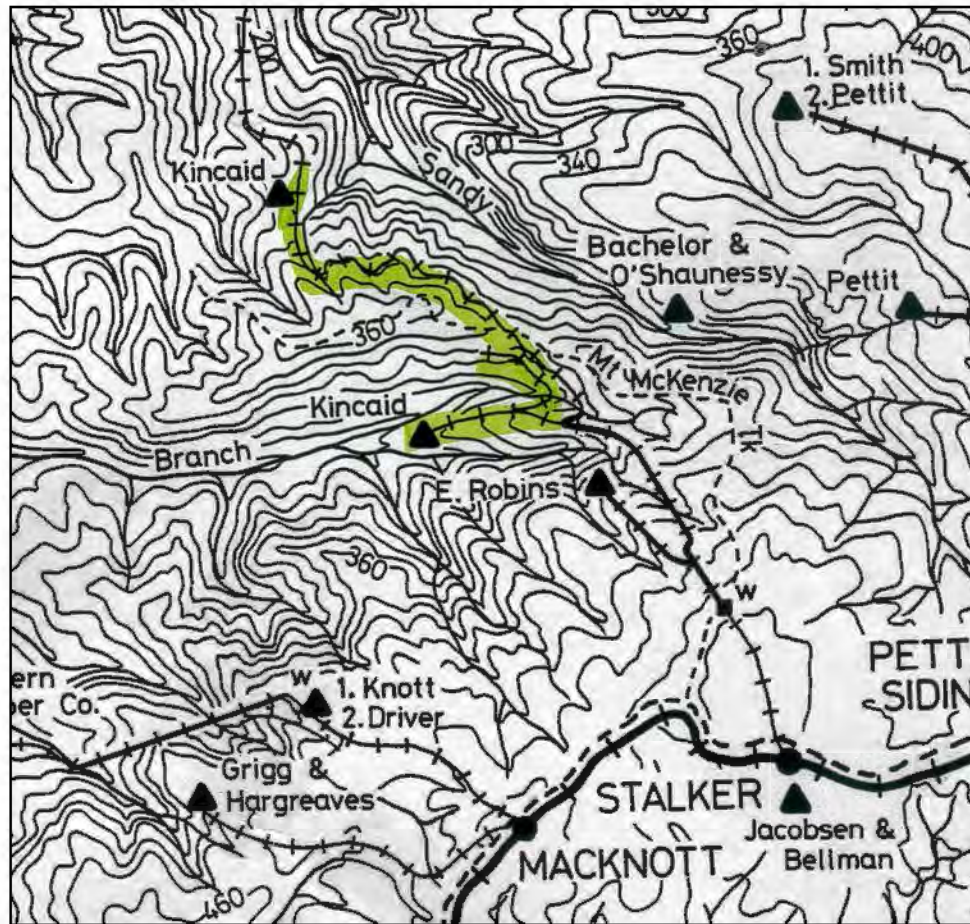
Volume II

Name of Place : ROBIN & KINCAID SAWILLS

Ref. No. : 60

Location : Beech Forest
GR 709441719270

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC B39



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

This operation by two significant Otway milling firms shows the technology and methods used in the industry over a 30 year span. The parallel tramways are unique for the West Otways. This complex of mills and tramways was established in 1911 by Edwin Robins and later worked by Jack Kincaid through to 1939. Three mills were established over time to work the headwaters of Chapple and Sandy Creeks. The technology used involved animal power, steam power and a locomotive tractor on the last tramline to be operational. The sites have been logged in modern times and many features and remnant earthworks compromised in the process. The site of Kincaid's first mill on Chapple Creek and its associated log tramway is reasonably intact, as is the access line from this point to the Sandy Creek mill site, but most other features are scarcely discernable. A unique parallel set of tramways along the Mount McKenzie Track is the major feature of this site.

Condition : Fair Integrity: Damaged /Disturbed

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : OTWAY SHIRE HALL

Ref. No. : 61

Location : 2 Main Road
Beech Forest



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Construction of the timber Otway Shire Hall, located on Main Road, Beech Forest, commenced in 1921, two years after the Shire of Otway was proclaimed in 1919. The Otway Shire Hall is historically and socially important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Otway Shire Hall is historically important in illustrating the genesis of local government and the municipal authorities that existed prior to the formation of the Shire of Colac Otway in 1995. The simple utilitarian design of the Otway Shire Hall and the construction material utilised is historically important in illustrating the difficulties of establishing an infrastructure in a community with few resources immediately after World War One. The Otway Shire Hall is historically important for illustrating the increased population in the district. This occurred as a result of the selection acts and the development of the Beech Forest narrow-gauge railway, which necessitated the severance of portions of Shires of Colac, Heytesbury and Winchelsea and the formation of the Otway Shire. The Otway Shire Hall is socially important for the people of the Otway district who contributed to the growth of the former local government area, and who maintain a strong identity with the region. The Shire of Otway Offices, together with the Otway Shire Hall, are historically important in demonstrating the evolution of the former shire.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Formation of Local Government (8.1)

HISTORY :

In 1919 portions of the Shires of Colac, Heytesbury and Winchelsea were severed to form the Shire of Otway.

The first Otway Shire Council meeting was held in the Commercial Room of the Ditchley Park Hotel, with business continuing to be transacted there for the next two years. Land was finally offered to the shire council on the condition it build on the site of the former public hall and library which had been destroyed by the 1919 bush fires. This was accepted and the Shire of Otway's Council Chambers and a hall were built on the site of the former hall at a cost of £3,300. Councillor Martin laid the foundation stone of the timber hall on 7 December 1921.

The design, style and construction material used for the hall were humble and are illustrative of the difficulties posed by this newly formed local government in establishing a presence in an essentially demographically low and economically poor district.

In 1963 the offices and hall were modernised and continued in use until more modern premises were built adjacent in 1979.

In 1995, as a result of the Victorian Government's municipal amalgamation scheme, the Shire of Colac Otway was formed and the former Shire of Otway was abolished.

The hall is now used for public purposes.

The Otway Shire Hall now illustrates changes in administering the Colac Otway Shire for more than one hundred and thirty years.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The former shire hall and offices is a cluster of buildings located on the rising pocket of land between a split in the main road. The building comprises an amalgam of buildings, with an early central gable roofed hall with projecting end porch and transverse annexes. The building includes a skillion roofed, cream brick entry and lobby, circa 1960s, inserted into the original building's frontage and extending a protective skin of cream brick to some of the original hall's external walls. Its integrity is fair, the original building has extensive additions.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			Altered sympathetically	<u>Altered unsympathetically</u>

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : FACTORY WELL

Ref. No. : 62

Location : 32 Main Road
Beech Forest



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Factory Well is located on Main Road at Beech Forest. Dairy factories operated from the site between 1902 and 1924 under various names, including Fern Leaf and the Otway Dairying Company. The factory also produced ice and processed rabbits in the last phases of its existence. The only evidence that remains of the factory on the site, and a secondary industry in the area, is the Factory Well. The Factory Well is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Factory Well is historically important in demonstrating the existence of secondary industry in the Otway Ranges in the first decades of the twentieth century. The failure of the enterprises related to the Factory Well are also historically important in illustrating the difficulties posed by isolation and poor transport in the Otway Ranges in conveying the necessary primary materials to the factory for processing into secondary products.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

HISTORY :

The Beech Forest local residents proposed the construction of a butter factory soon after the Beech Forest Railway opened, and sufficient interest was shown in raising the necessary capital for the co-operative venture.

In November 1902, the Beech Forest Butter Factory commenced business in the main street opposite the railway station. The building was a timber-framed, weatherboard structure, with a cream loft, and was built facing the street.

At first the factory had a troubled existence, encountering various problems ranging from shortages of cream and equipment deficiencies to lack of shareholder support.

The factory closed in 1906, but reopened soon after under new management. At its peak the factory took in around 200,000 pounds of cream and manufactured in excess of 20,000 pounds of butter per annum under the "Fern Leaf" brand. A fleet of wagons was employed carting cream, and these wagons travelled as far west as Johanna and north east of Upper Gellibrand.

In 1912 the company went into liquidation and remained idle for a short time before a new firm took over and resumed operations. But this new company did not rely exclusively on butter making. The processing of rabbit carcasses and the manufacture of ice also became a major line of business. Some of the ice manufactured on the site was sold in Colac during summer time.

In about 1918 this business closed.

The newly formed Otway Shire Council took out an option on the factory. The council intended to use the building as its first Shire Hall, but the deal failed.

The factory was again revived as the Otway Dairying Co. for a further few successful years until finally closing down in 1924.

The well is the only surviving remnant of the factory complex and physical evidence of a Beech Forest dairy manufacturing industry.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The well is a large diameter cylindrical open shaft with concrete or cement rendered retaining wall lining the shaft. The retaining wall finishes flush with the natural ground level. Archaeological investigation should be initiated for this site that has the potential to provide evidence of the development of secondary industry in the Shire.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Poor</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	<u>Damaged/disturbed</u>				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : OTWAY SHIRE OFFICES (fmr)

Ref. No. : 63

Location : 6 Main Road
Beech Forest



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The brick, steel-framed Shire of Otway Offices were opened in 1980. Shire of Otway Offices are of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Shire of Otway Offices are historically important in demonstrating the evolution of the Shire of Otway from its formation in 1919 until its amalgamation in the Shire of Colac Otway in 1995. The Shire of Otway Offices are important in providing tangible evidence of the existence of the former shire, and the impact of the Victorian Liberal Government's mid-1990s local government amalgamation policies. The design of the Shire of Otway Offices is historically important in demonstrating the aspirations of the council to conform to popularly accepted standards of shire offices in Victoria in the mid-twentieth century. The Shire of Otway Offices are important in illustrating the increasing responsibilities of local government, particularly in mid-twentieth century Victoria. The Shire of Otway Offices are socially important for the people of the Otway district who contributed to the growth of the former local government area, and who maintain a strong identity with the region. The Shire of Otway Offices, together with the Otway Shire Hall, are historically important in demonstrating the evolution of the former shire.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Formation of Local Government (8.1)

HISTORY :

The Shire of Otway was created in 1919 from portions severed from the Shires of Colac, Heytesbury and Winchelsea. The Otway Shire Council initially met in the Commercial Room of the Ditchley Park Hotel, and subsequently in offices in Main Street (site #46).

However the need for more up-to-date premises to cater for the changing and increasing role of local government was manifest by the 1970s.

In 1979 the Shire erected a modern steel framed, brick office block and council chamber alongside its old office and hall. The project cost \$150,000 and was carried out by John Robinson Pty Ltd. The Minister for Local Government, Digby Crozier, officially opened the office on 2 May 1980.

The building was used for municipal purposes until 1995 when the Victorian Government's municipal amalgamation scheme created the Shire of Colac Otway, and the former Shire of Otway was abolished.

The former offices of the Shire of Otway are now used as a private residence. However, the building continues to represent the changing and increasing role of local government, and the aspirations of the ratepayers of the former Shire of Otway. It also shows, together with the Otway Shire Hall, the evolution of the Shire of Otway from small local government managing isolated communities to a council conforming to the standards represented by local government generally in Victoria.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The former Otway Shire Offices are located on a central reserve of land formed by a split in the main road in the centre of Beech Forest and lie adjacent to the former shire hall. The building is a 1970s single storey, flat roofed, brown brick building designed in the primarily pragmatic and functionalist-influenced style widely employed on public buildings during the period.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

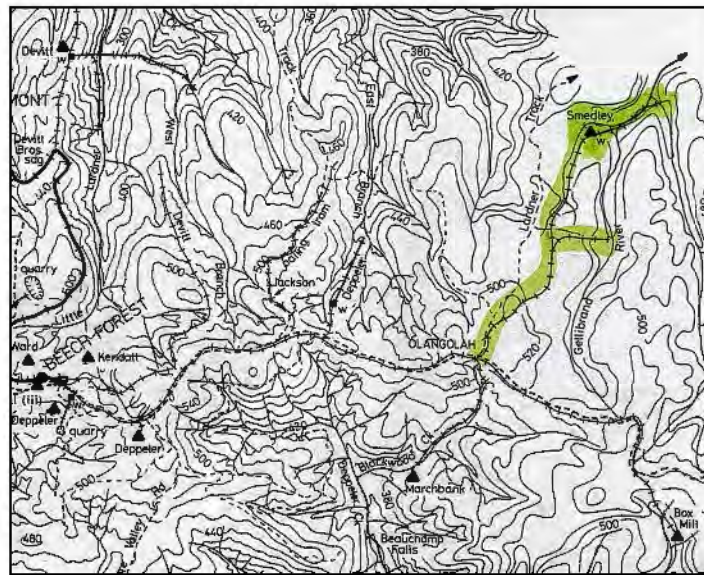
Volume II

Name of Place : SMEDLEY SAWMILL

Ref. No. : 64

Location : Olangolah
Beech Forest
GR 729570722780

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC B47



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

This site is one of a very few completely intact examples of a 1920s mill in the West Otways. The site is within the catchment boundary of the West Gellibrand dam.

Ern Smedley & Co installed this plant in 1924 to mill timber on a number of private blocks that he owned. Logs were winched to the mill and obtained from along a tramway laid to the east. A small settlement developed around the mill for the staff. Access to Beech Forest for the sawn timber was by means of another tramway laid south and west to join the Box Mill tramline. The mill closed in 1931.

The mill features are clearly evident as is the log line, complete with an incline grade and bridge remains. The access tram route is less clearly defined because of the flat terrain.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : PRIMARY SCHOOL (fmr)

Ref. No. : 65

Location : 1570 Old Beech Forest Road
Beech Forest



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Beech Forest Primary School, located on the Old Beech Forest Road, was constructed in 1909 for the Victorian Education Department. The school was built as a large, single-classroom, timber building and functioned as the Beech Forest Primary School until 1981. The Beech Forest Primary School is of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The size of the Beech Forest Primary School building is historically important in demonstrating the demographics of Beech Forest, influenced by early settlement under the selection acts, the Beech Forest Railway and the timber industry. The Beech Forest Primary School is historically important in demonstrating the value placed by isolated rural communities on education. Beech Forest Primary School is socially important to the local community as one of the few remaining former public buildings that have survived in the district.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

HISTORY :

Although some of the shire's settlers could neither read nor write, they recognised the value of at least an elementary education for their children. Under the provisions of the *1872 Education Act*, all children over the age of six had to attend school unless they lived more than two miles away, and school was compulsory until twelve or thirteen years of age.

Beech Forest was isolated by terrain and lack of transport from other educational facilities in the shire.

When the district's population levels increased, after the construction of the Beech Forest Railway, the need to identify a school site became urgent. But division arose amongst the town's residents over the location of the school and the ensuing factions split the town of Beech Forest.

John Gardner (town founder and provider of a ramshackle private school house on his property) led those who wanted the new school to be built on Gardner's Hill, on the east side of the town. He was opposed by John Cockerill and others who favoured a site to the west on Bowen's Hill, and at the other end of the town. The intervention of the Education Department and the suggestion of a compromise solution resulted in partial agreement on a site closer to the railway station, but did not fully resolve the issue.

Eventually the Gardner faction won the day and, in 1909, the Beech Forest State School opened on Gardner's Hill, on land donated by John Gardner.

The school building comprised a large single classroom facing the main road, with a porch and cloakroom to the rear.

Enrolments remained buoyant for many years but, with the opening of the Lavers Hill Consolidated School in 1953, numbers dropped markedly and the school closed in 1981.

The building is now used as a private residence. However it remains as a legacy to the value placed on education by the communities within the Colac Otway Shire. It is also an indication of the size of the population in the area at the turn of the nineteenth century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The former Beech Forest Primary School is a small timber regional school, with corrugated iron central jerkin-head gable roof and steeply pitched cross gable roof, forming a small cluster of picturesque buildings. The building retains characteristic large windows that incorporate ventilating hopper windows. The institutional character of the school has been reduced by domestic style landscaping and softening from built accretions.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : HOUSE

Ref. No. : 66

Location : 48 Old Main Road
Beech Forest



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber House located in Old Main Road, Beech Forest, was constructed in about 1905 in the Victorian Italianate style. The House was initially the residence of Dr Backhouse, the first medical practitioner in the area, and accommodated a private hospital and surgery. The property was taken over by the Post Master General's Department in 1917, and a post office operated formally and informally from the building until the late 1990s. The House is of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The House is also historically important in illustrating the 'cottage' health facilities available in the Otway Ranges in the early decades of the twentieth century. The House is socially important through association with the district's early health and welfare facilities and the establishment of the district's Bush Nursing Service, and later through association with formal and informal postal services. The House is aesthetically important as a typical example of a comfortable middle class house in Victoria, and is an important example of its type in an area that has lost much to bushfires.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Hospitals (8.2.2); Postal Communication (4.1)

HISTORY :

By the turn of the century over five hundred families lived within a twenty-five mile radius of Beech Forest. They were mostly isolated from the medical facilities offered at the larger centres, like Colac, by the cost of rail transport and inadequate roads. A Beech Forest branch of the Australian Natives Association friendly benefit society was formed in 1903 to assist in meeting the medical expenses of its members. But no doctors were resident in the Otway Ranges at the time, so the services of a medical practitioner were not available to members of the Beech Forest branch.

In 1904 a local group formed at Beech Forest, and called themselves the Otway Medical Association, to raise funds to employ a local medical practitioner. By April 1905 the Otway Medical Association had appointed Dr Benjamin Backhouse to fill the position.

Backhouse built his house and surgery in Main Road, Beech Forest. The house was also designed to incorporate a private hospital.

Backhouse supported the district's attempts to establish a Bush Nursing Service. This was a new initiative at the time and brainchild of the Governor-General's wife, Lady Dudley. The scheme was designed for those "self-respecting dwellers in the country who lacked skilled nursing." It was envisioned that a local committee would raise the nurse's salary by subscriptions, donations and social fundraising. This would allow them to then apply to the Central Council who would advertise for and engage an appropriately qualified nurse. The first service in Victoria was set up in Beech Forest in 1911, with the help of Dr Backhouse.

Backhouse continued to practise at Beech Forest after the establishment of a Bush Nursing Service in the district, until his resignation in 1917.

After Backhouse's departure the Commonwealth government purchased the site and the P.M.G. Department established a post office in his old premises. The postal business continued to operate from the premises until official status was withdrawn in 1973, following the introduction of wayside deliveries. Subsequently, an unofficial post office operated from the premises, mostly sustained by the Otway Shire's mail business.

In 1995, as a result of the Victorian Government's municipal amalgamations scheme and the formation of the Shire of Colac Otway, the Shire of Otway was abolished. Because of the loss of business generated by the shire, the unofficial post office closed.

Dr Backhouses' residence now symbolises the struggles of isolated communities to gain medical services. It also represents the difficulties experienced in gaining services, including postal, in small towns throughout the shire.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The building is a single storey Victorian Italianate style dwelling located on one of the branches of Beech Forest's main street. The dwelling comprises a single storey, timber framed and weatherboard clad, with return skillion verandah and hipped corrugated iron roof. The facade composition, with central door flanked by single double hung sash windows with sidelights, is typical of comfortable middle class houses in Victoria.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

Ref. No. : 67

Location : Old Main Road (GR 723510720148)
Beech Forest



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Beech Forest World War Two Memorial was erected in 1949 adjacent to Old Main Road. The War Memorial is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The War Memorial is historically important as a memorial to the Otway community, and illustrates the efforts made to commemorate the sacrifices of the people of the district who died in the Second World War. A granite obelisk, The War Memorial is aesthetically important in demonstrating traditional funerary monument composition techniques and materials. The War Memorial is of aesthetical importance, this being demonstrated in the structure's composition, scale and location amidst civic buildings, and is typical of war memorials in smaller regional towns. The War Memorial is historically important as the only known memorial erected by the Shire of Otway to commemorate the sacrifices of the district's residents in war.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

A number of local men enlisted in the First World War. Because the Shire of Otway was not created until after the First World War in 1919, they were recorded as residents of the Shire of Colac. Nevertheless, an Honour Board was erected in the hall to commemorate those from the district who volunteered for armed service in the First World War and recorded those who lost their lives, but the hall burnt down in 1919.

During the Second World War seventy men and women enlisted from the Beech Forest district. A memorial to their service was funded by public subscription and a suitable monument was erected in front of the Otway Shire Hall. The inscription on the monument carried a didactic message to all those who viewed the memorial. The engraved inscription includes the following text:

In a period of meditation after the blood and sweat of battle we the people of Beech-Forest District have written in stone a story that we pray future generations will remember.

The memorial also records six names of the dead and sixty-four who returned. It was important that the involvement in the Second World War was commemorated, particularly as all evidence of participation in the 'Great War' had been destroyed. An official unveiling by the local member of the Victorian parliament, Allan McDonald MHR, was held on 23 January 1949. The memorial is a reminder of the losses which occurred in many communities throughout the Shire, as well as Victoria. It is also a memorial to the community itself and the efforts it made to commemorate the sacrifices of the people of the district during war.



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The memorial is located adjacent to the former town hall, in the centre of Beech Forest, in the main civic area. The memorial lies on a concrete paved landing elevated with steps leading up from the adjacent road. The memorial is composed of a tooled granite obelisk on a polished granite base which includes the honour roll. The ensemble rests on a square plinth of three granite steps with rock-faced risers and polished treads.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : RAILWAY TURNING LOOP EARTHWORKS

Ref. No. : 68

Location : 55 Main Road
Beech Forest



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Beech Forest narrow gauge railway, or 'Beechy Line', which ran from Colac to Beech Forest was opened in 1902. The line was extended to Crowes in 1911. The Railway Turning Loop was constructed in 1902 to evenly distribute wheel wear whilst turning the rolling stock. The rails and associated equipment were removed after the line closed in 1962. The Railway Turning Loop Earthwork is of historic and scientific (archaeological) importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Railway Turning Loop Earthwork is historically important as a rare example of a turning loop in Victoria. The Railway Turning Loop Earthwork is of scientific (archaeological) importance in providing physical evidence of the means by which the difficult terrain of the Otway Ranges was ingeniously managed in the operation of the narrow gauge railway. The Railway Turning Loop Earthwork is historically important as a legacy to the 'Beechy Line', which was largely responsible for the settlement of the Otways and aided the development of the timber industry in the Shire.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Railways & Railway Stations (4.3)

HISTORY :

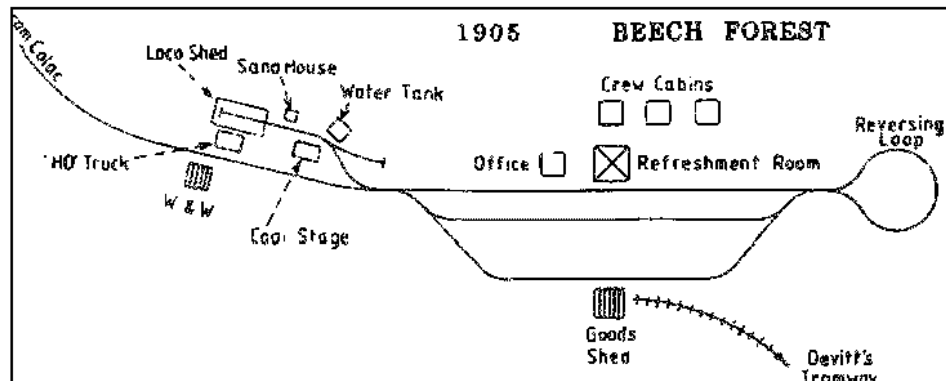
The 'Beechy' narrow gauge railway line extended from Beech Forest to Crowes and was officially opened in 1902.

The Railway Turning Loop (reversing or balloon loop), at the former Beech Forest railway station on the narrow gauge railway to Colac, was an afterthought. It was not initially considered by Victorian Railway Engineers until 1902 when the problem of turning the rolling stock to even wheel wear was raised. The engineers considered using either a turntable or a triangle before deciding on a loop.

The plans for the loop were not drawn until late 1902 and even then the construction proceeded in fits and starts over the next four months. The loop was used from the very start of the railway and remained serviceable until the railway closed in 1962.

Turning loops in Victoria are rare. Only one other example survives at North Melbourne, and that was constructed for a broad gauge line.

The earthworks that have survived, after the removal of the railway, remain as physical evidence of the means by which the difficult terrain of the Otway Ranges was ingeniously managed in the operation of the narrow gauge railway. The earthworks are also a legacy to the railway that was largely responsible for the settlement of the Otways and the development of the timber industry in the Shire.



Plan : Turning (Reversing) Loop & Beech Forest Railway Station, 1905
Houghton *The Beechy*

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

This site is composed of the earth remains of a railway turning loop also known as a "balloon loop". The iron rail tracks and timber sleepers are no longer present and the most obvious physical remains comprise a large loop dug into the earth. The width of the loop was large enough to fit a narrow gauge rail track. The remains of a post and wire fence is present around most of the loop. Immediately west of the turning circle is an area of land enclosed by a wire fence. This land is flat and there are a number of concrete pads present, indicating a number of former structures. This area is densely infested with weeds and visibility of the ground surface is reduced as a result. This fenced area of land appears to be the remains of a railway station. Further investigation into this site is required to confirm its former use. The area is substantially intact as an archaeological site.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : RAILWAY WORKERS' HOUSES

Ref. No. : 69

Location : 32 Southorn Street
Beech Forest



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The two Beech Forest Railway Workers' Houses, located in Southorn Street, were built in timber in 1905. They were erected to provide accommodation for staff employed on the Beech Forest, or 'Beechy', narrow gauge railway that was constructed between Beech Forest and Colac in 1902, and was extended to Crowes in 1911. The Beech Forest Railway Workers' Houses are of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Beech Forest Railway Workers' House are historically important in demonstrating the size and significance of the 'Beechy Line'. The Beech Forest Railway Workers' Houses are historically important in demonstrating the impact of the 'Beechy Line' on the development of the town and the district. The Beech Forest Railway Workers' Houses are important in illustrating the type of dwelling provided as public housing by the Victorian Railways in the first half of the twentieth century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Railways & Railway Stations (4.3); Public Housing (8.2.3)

HISTORY :

The railway station at Beech Forest was an important operational centre on the narrow gauge, or 'Beechy Line', which operated from Colac between 1902 and 1962. Facilities for passengers, goods, locomotives and staff were increased after 1911 when the railway was extended west to Crowes.

In order to house key operating staff, the Victorian Railways supplied cabins and weatherboard houses at Beech Forest. Three cabins were initially provided for the workers in 1902.

In 1905 the Victorian Railway began to replace the cabins temporarily erected in 1902.

Two houses were built first in 1905 and in 1910 an additional two were erected and the cabins were removed.

The railway workers' houses were located in the vicinity of railway reserves. In some large railway centres, like Colac and Cressy, the railway workers' residences were numerous - twelve departmental residences were erected at Cressy by the Victorian Railways for its staff..

Two houses survive at Beech Forrest. These two houses were erected in 1905.

The two surviving worker's houses are a reminder of the importance of the 'Beechy Line' to the development of the Otway Ranges.

They provide evidence of the size of operations involved in the management and running of the 'Beechy Line'. The houses also provide information about the type of dwelling provided by government departments for workers in rural areas.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The railway workers' house is a single storey dwelling with corrugated iron gable roofs. The building is a detached dwelling set on unlandscaped suburban scale allotments.

Condition : Excellent Good Fair **Poor** Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact Altered sympathetically
Damaged/disturbed Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

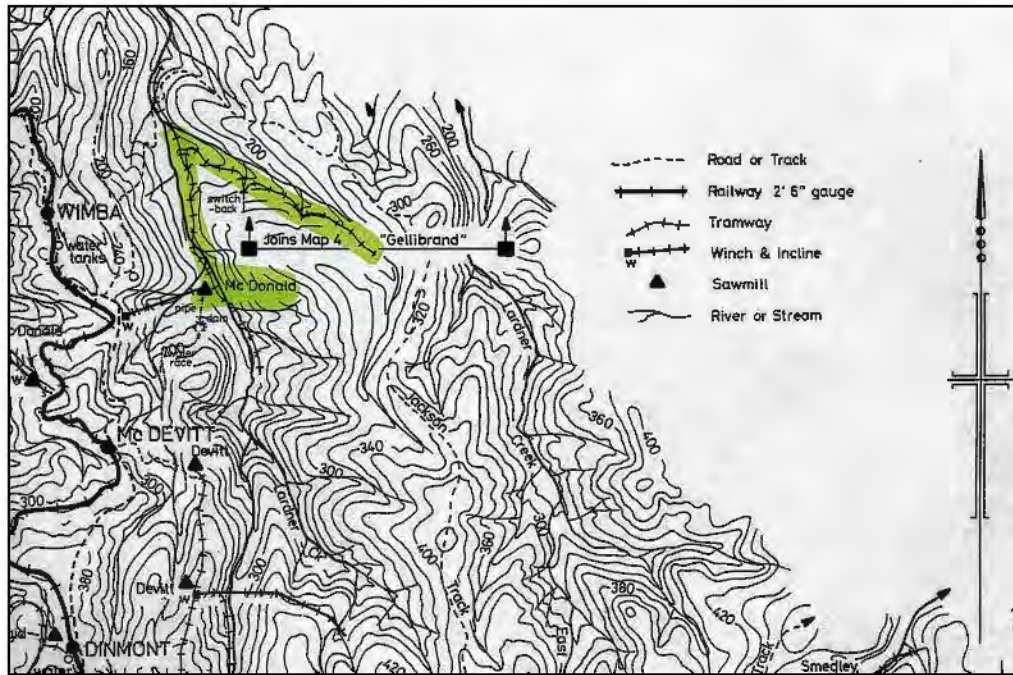
Volume II

Name of Place : MCDONALD TRAMWAY

Ref. No. : 70

Location : Wimba
Beech Forest
GR 724290725990

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC B46



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (Source: Norm Houghton)

This sawmill was a rare and unusual type powered by a Pelton wheel and was the only example in the entire Otways. The logging and water power infrastructure is mostly intact as remnant and identifiable earthworks.

The McDonald family of Wimba established this mill on Lardner Creek in 1922 after experience in New Zealand sawmilling using water power. The mill was powered by a Pelton wheel driven from a water supply collected in a dam above the mill. Logs were obtained by tramways laid along the creek and up a tributary stream, using a switchback to gain a workable grade. The outlet route for sawn timber was a winch powered tramway incline running west up the slope to the Beech Forest railway. The mill operated until around 1942.

The mill site has been compromised as has the access tramway incline but the other features, including the dam and water race, are intact.

Condition Fair Integrity: Damaged/Disturbed

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH (fmr.)

Ref. No. : 71

Location : 50 Beal Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The former Wesleyan Methodist Church is located on the corner of Beal and Jenner Streets at Birregurra. The original chapel, the rear portion of the building, was built in timber in 1863 and is a legacy of the influence of the Wesleyan Missionaries who operated the Buntingdale Mission near Birregurra from 1838 to 1849. It was the first religious building constructed in Birregurra, the 'Town of Churches'. A larger timber section was added to the chapel in 1909. The building was sold into private ownership and converted to a residence in 1982. The Wesleyan Methodist Church building is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Wesleyan Methodist Church building is of historic importance through association with the Buntingdale Mission that operated near Birregurra between 1838 and 1849, and had a profound effect on the settlement of the district and the establishment of religious institutions in the town. The Wesleyan Methodist Church building is historically important as the oldest church in Birregurra, and one of the oldest in the Shire. The Wesleyan Methodist Church building is aesthetically important through exhibiting the characteristics of a small rural picturesque timber church.

RECOMMENDATION :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

The Buntingdale Mission was established in 1838 by the Reverends Francis Tuckfield and Benjamin Hurst to 'protect' and 'prepare' Aborigines 'for living in a British community'. Sixty-four square miles were set aside for the Buntingdale Wesleyan Mission on the Barwon River, four miles up-stream from the present site of Birregurra. It was doomed to fail because of the squatters' encroachment on the land; the economic circumstances at the time, and the well-intentioned but colonising mentality of those involved. In 1848, ten years after establishing, defeat was accepted and the Wesleyan missionaries abandoned the site.

But, although the mission failed, the presence of the Wesleyan missionaries had a profound effect on the establishment of religious institutions and the development of the area, especially in nearby Birregurra.

The first sale of land at Birregurra took place in 1863. In the same year, 1863, a small timber Wesleyan Chapel was built at Birregurra for the Wesleyan congregation that remained after the missionaries had departed. Anecdotal evidence suggests that pit-sawn beams and other timbers from the Buntingdale Mission may have been used in the construction of the rear, the original portion of the building. However this may be conjecture as no evidence has been offered to support the theory, and it is plausible that the bushfires of February 1851, known as Black Thursday, destroyed the surviving above ground evidence of the mission.

The chapel was extended in 1909.

A commemorative centenary plaque was unveiled on 26 August 1939 by J Tuckfield in the presence of other Tuckfield descendants. The Methodist minister Reverend R H Howie officiated during the ceremony, and his name was also included on the Cairn. The Cairn was originally located in the grounds of the Wesleyan Methodist Church at Birregurra. When this church was sold the cairn was relocated to its current position in the grounds of the Uniting (formerly Presbyterian) Church in 1982.

The building is now a private residence.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The timber weatherboard building consists of two parts, the simple rectangular former 1863 Wesleyan Chapel and the later 1909 Federation Gothic style front addition. The building has a medium pitched roof which is clad with old style short, heavy duty corrugated metal roof sheetings. The former church has been converted into a residence but apart from the front glazed door there have been relatively few alterations since the early twentieth century. The front section comprises a projecting high gable entrance area which is set at right angles to the main chancel and nave of the former church. The extension has a small gabled front porch. The several single double hung arched windows clearly reference the building's former use as a church. The only non-functional detailing on the building are the two decorative half timber gables. According to the Birregurra Heritage Walk Interpretative panel located nearby, pit-sawn beams and other timbers from the Buntingdale Aboriginal Mission (1839-1851) may have been used in the rear section of the building, although this suggestion has not been substantiated. The building still retains the character of a picturesque small rural timber church.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : RAILWAY STATION

Ref. No. : 72

Location : 460 Birregurra Road
Birregurra

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C395



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (derived from Victorian Heritage Branch information)

The Birregurra Railway Station, located in Birregurra Road, Birregurra, is a bio-chromatic station with cast iron platform and detached ladies' toilet. The station was built in 1877. The goods van shed, signal box, residence, lamp room, goods shed and down platform have all been removed. A 20,000 gallon water tank is adjacent to the station. The station was built in 1877 by J King, and the goods shed was built by George Anderson. The Birregurra Railway Station is a representative example of the Creswick-type station. The Birregurra Railway Station is historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Birregurra Railway Station is historically important through association with the development of transport links in the Shire, which significantly contributed to the area's social and economic expansion. The Birregurra Railway Station is historically important through association with the Geelong to Colac railway and the spur line to Forrest which played an important role in the settlement of the eastern Otways.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

HISTORY :

The line to Birregurra was opened on 16th March 1877, with the station at Birregurra operating soon afterwards.

Later additions were necessary due to the additional traffic handled after the opening of the Forrest branch line in 1891.

These included the water tower built by Messrs Reed and Randall in 1891.

A turntable was formerly situated at the east end of the station ground.

The station was formerly a branch line junction and point of interchange for traffic to Lorne.

On 16th November 1978 station master services at the Birregurra station was closed; the line is still active.

The station was formerly included on the Victorian Government Buildings Register. The Victorian Heritage Council undertook a review of the Government Buildings Register in 1998. As a result of this review, the Victorian Heritage Council recommended that the Shire of Colac Otway offer the building planning protection.

The Victorian Heritage Council's recommendation did not occur until after the commencement of the Colac Otway Heritage study. Consequently, no further research has been undertaken.

In 1997 the Land Conservation Council Report also identified the building to be of cultural heritage importance, and recommended its protection.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION : STRUCTURES (derived from Victorian Heritage Branch information)

The station building is quite sound although some additions to the main brick structure have been demolished. Renovations were undertaken to the station building in the last decade of the twentieth century.

Condition : Excellent Good Fair Poor Ruins

Integrity : Substantially intact
Damaged/disturbed Altered sympathetically
Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

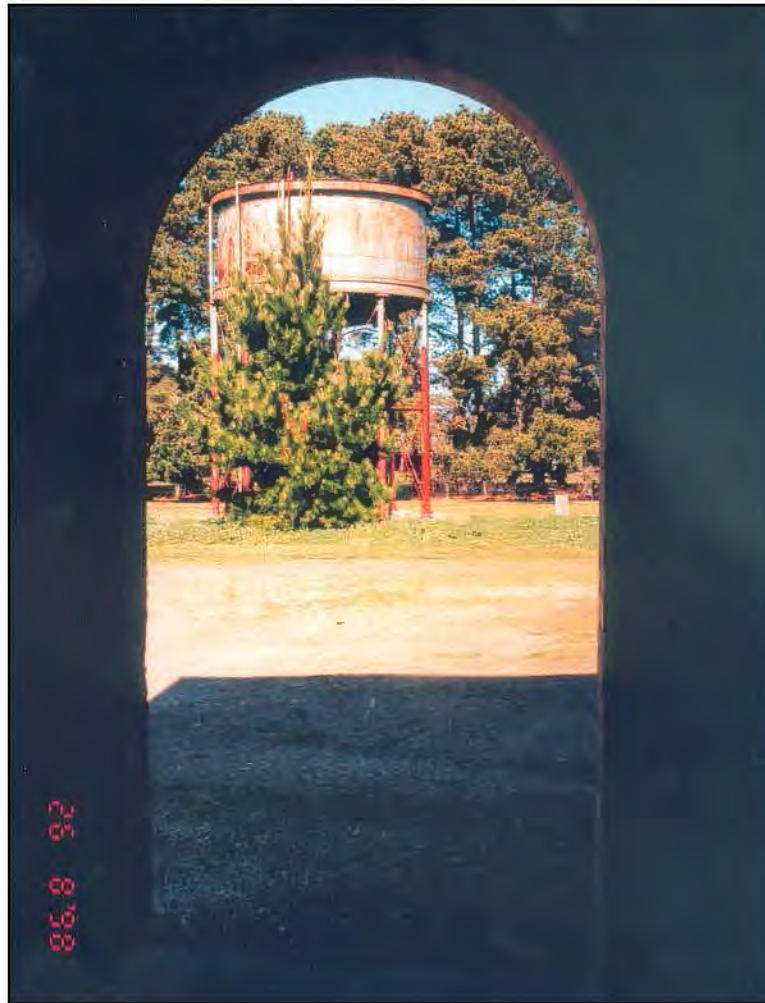
Volume II

Name of Place : WATER TOWER

Ref. No. : 73

Location : 470 Birregurra Road
Birregurra

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 395



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (derived from Victorian Heritage Branch information)

The Birregurra Railway Water Tower, located in Birregurra Road, Birregurra, is a 20,000 gallon riveted circular tank supported on ten metal columns which are seated on raised concrete pedestals, and was erected in 1891. The Birregurra Railway Water Tower is historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Birregurra Railway Water Tower is historically important in demonstrating the expansion of railway services at Birregurra following the construction of the spur line to Forrest in 1891. The Birregurra Railway Water Tower is historically important through association with the development of transport links in the Shire, which significantly contributed to the area's social and economic expansion.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

HISTORY :

The line to Birregurra was opened on 16th March 1877, with the station at Birregurra operating soon afterwards.

Later additions were necessary due to the additional traffic handled after the opening of the Forrest branch line in 1891.

These included the water tower built by Messrs Reed and Randall in 1891.

A turntable was formerly situated at the east end of the station ground.

The station was formerly a branch line junction and point of interchange for traffic to Lorne.

On 16th November 1978 station master services at the Birregurra station were closed; the line is still active.

The Birregurra Railway Water Tower is now located on freehold land adjacent to the railway station, and is in separate and independent private ownership.

The water tower was formerly included on the Victorian Government Buildings Register. The Victorian Heritage Council undertook a review of the Government Buildings Register in 1998. As a result of this review, the Victorian Heritage Council recommended that the Shire of Colac Otway offer the building planning protection.

The Victorian Heritage Council's recommendation did not occur until after the commencement of the Colac Otway Heritage study. Consequently, no further research has been undertaken.

In 1997 the Land Conservation Council Report also identified the tower to be of cultural heritage importance, and recommended its protection.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION : STRUCTURES (derived from Victorian Heritage Branch information)

The Birregurra Railway Water Tower is located approximately 25 metres south of the station building. The tank is sound with only some surface corrosion. It is a standard design 20,000 gallon riveted circular iron tank supported on ten metal columns that are seated on raised concrete pedestals. The columns are braced with tie rods. Part of the depth gauge is missing, as is some of the piping. On the ground, about 2 metres from the base, is a valve in a concrete lined pit. Nothing remains of the water crane which would have been used to fill the boilers. Likewise a goods shed, gantry crane and all evidence of a turntable have gone.

<u>Condition</u> :	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity</u> :	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : STUDBROOK

Ref. No. : 74

Location : 365 Birregurra Forrest Road
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Studbrook, located at 365 Birregurra Forrest Road, Birregurra, was built of timber in about 1912 after John Darcy purchased a portion of the Armytage family's Ingleby Estate. Studbrook is historically and socially important to the Shire of Colac Otway. Studbrook is historically important for its association with the twentieth century subdivision of the last large estates held by a small number of Western District families, and demonstrates the demise of influence of the squattoocracy who could no longer afford to own the land. The simple design of Studbrook is historically important in demonstrating the unpretentious lifestyle of small farm owners like Darcy, in contrast to the squatters they replaced. The social and cultural associations of Studbrook are demonstrated by the community's perceptions of the importance of the dwelling through its connections with the Ingelby Estate. The building is distinguished by its unusual exterior decorative details, which are interesting variations of then popular domestic architecture.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Squatters & Pastoral Settlement (3.1)

HISTORY :

Studbrook was originally part of the Ingleby Run taken up by George Armytage in the 1840s, who managed to buy more land than any other grazier in the district. By the 1880s George Armytage had amassed 35,524 acres, 9,000 more than his original leasehold.

Originally the Studbrook Estate comprised 17,000 acres. It was gradually subdivided and sold by George and Albert Armytage, sons of George Armytage who originally owned the Ingleby Run. The last sale of the Studbrook Estate occurred in 1912.

The influence of squatters had declined by the end of the nineteenth century. During the depression of the 1890s wool prices slumped to a new low, to be followed by a crippling drought. The introduction of income tax in 1895 was an added burden for the pastoralists. The boom in dairying towards the end of the century saw some estates cut up and sold off or leased as dairy properties. After 1898 the State began purchasing estates to cut them up into small farms. In 1904 it acquired compulsory purchasing powers which accelerated the break-up of large estates. By 1906, one hundred and ninety-five holdings of more than 10,000 acres still survived, occupying almost thirteen percent of the privately owned land in Victoria - fifty disappeared during the next six years and barely a hundred remained in the State by 1925.

The sale of the Armytage land was held at the Birregurra Mechanics' Institute on 4 April 1912 and the auction notice (held at the GHRC) described the area as 'ideal Dairy country'. It included the timber 'Studbrook Homestead', which comprised 17 rooms an orchard to the south of the homestead, and outbuildings that, in 1912, included stables, men's hut and a woolshed. John Francis Darcy, who had bought parcels of land at earlier sales, purchased the homestead block.

In 1914-15 Darcy re-built Studbrook. It has since been extended and altered at various times during the ownership and occupancy of other members of the Darcy family. Studbrook remained in the family's ownership until the late twentieth century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Studbrook is a reasonably large rural dwelling with gardens, ancillary buildings and tennis court, the main components being constructed at the turn of the nineteenth century. The dwelling is of note for its stylistically transitional characteristics blending then current Queen Anne, Arts and Crafts and Federation styles into a distinctive large roofed and verandahed picturesque dwelling. The dwelling is of note for its detailing that includes bulkily curvaceous timber verandah post brackets and stained glass. The building's setting is of note for the specimen trees in the front garden and the tree lined driveway.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : STUDBROOK WOOL SHED

Ref. No. : 75

Location : 420 Birregurra Forrest Road
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The gable roofed corrugated iron-clad Studbrook Woolshed, located on the Birregurra Forrest Road, Birregurra, was built for the Armytage family in the 1880s or 1890s. The Studbrook Woolshed is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Studbrook Woolshed is historically important through association with the development of the wool industry in the Shire, and is able to illustrate, through its dimensions, the size of the Shire's nineteenth century sheep flocks and the wool industry. The Studbrook Woolshed is historically important through association with the Armytage family, who owned vast tracks of land centred on the Inglesby Estate. The Studbrook Woolshed has iconographic importance in symbolising the Shire's first major industry established after European settlement.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Primary Industries (3.4)

HISTORY :

The primary industry introduced into the Shire after European settlement was sheep grazing and the production of wool and tallow. This was maintained throughout the 1840s and 1850s. In the 1860s and 1870s sheep numbers markedly increased. A crucial factor in allowing this peak in sheep numbers was the fencing of land. Once fencing had occurred water supplies were improved, ending the dependence on natural water supplies, and pastures were also subsequently improved to enable selective breeding to begin. This increase in sheep numbers required the construction of large shearing and woolsheds.

The Studbrook woolshed was originally part of the Ingleby Run taken up by George Armytage in the 1840s. The Studbrook Estate comprised 17,000 acres but was gradually subdivided and sold by George and Albert Armytage, sons of George Armytage. The last sale of the Studbrook Estate occurred in 1912 when John Francis Darcy purchased the woolshed, dwelling and other buildings. The sale was held at the Birregurra Mechanics' Institute on 4 April 1912. The auction notice (held by GHRC) advertised that the woolshed was "fitted with 8 Burgon sheep shearing machines". At the rear of the woolshed was a men's hut, which has since been demolished.

It is difficult to ascertain the date of the woolshed's construction, but it seems plausible to suggest it was built in response to the increased number of sheep and the boom experienced in the wool industry in the late nineteenth century. The woolshed, which locals claim has been reduced in size, remains as a reminder of the importance of the wool industry in the Shire, as well as providing an indication of the size of pastoralists' flocks in the nineteenth and twentieth century.

The Studbrook residence and woolshed are now in different ownership.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Studbrook wool shed is a large gable roofed corrugated iron clad shed of note for its prominent location at the top of a sharp and rising bend on the Birregurra Forrest Road. The shed is located across the road from the Studbrook homestead. Whilst the form and appearance of the woolshed are part of the rural iconography of rural Victoria, the building's siting close to the main road is unusual.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Reasonably intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

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Volume II

Name of Place : BUNTINGDALE MISSION SITE

Ref. No. : 76

Location : 530 Birregurra-Forrest Road
Birregurra

No photograph available

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

As access to the Buntingdale Mission site was denied, it has not been possible to physically assess the site nor prepare a Statement of Significance.

However, available historical evidence provides sufficient information to indicate that the site is worthy of protection, at least until such time as a thorough assessment can be undertaken.

Comparative information shows the Buntingdale Mission site was the second established in Victoria. All evidence of the first, in the vicinity of the Melbourne Botanic Gardens, has been destroyed as a result of disturbance that has occurred for more than a century and a half.

The Buntingdale Mission Site is of potential historic and scientific (archaeological) importance to the State of Victoria.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : N/A

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Imposing European Values (2.2)

HISTORY :

The London-based Wesleyan Missionary Society sent Joseph Orton to Victoria with his family in 1836. His primary objective was to 'civilise' the Aborigines and "equip them for living in a British community".

In 1838 sixty-four square miles were set aside by the New South Wales Colonial Government for the Buntingdale Wesleyan Mission on the Barwon River, four miles up-stream from the present site of Birregurra.

It was not the first Aboriginal mission established in the Port Phillip District. Langhorne attempted to establish a 'native village' on 900 acres on the Yarra bank about a mile and a half upstream from the fledgling town of Melbourne in January 1837. But his efforts failed.

The Reverends Francis Tuckfield and Benjamin Hurst, with their families, were placed in charge of the Buntingdale Mission. The missionaries arrived at the Buntingdale site in 1838 and set about establishing the mission.

In 1840 government increased the land reserve to 32,580 acres. But by 1843 the New South Wales Colonial Government had reduced the grant allocation to the mission. As a result, a portion of the mission reserve was let for grazing purposes (Austin gained some of this land). Stock were also allowed to be grazed on other sections of the mission reserve.

This, and the increased number of squatters whose "encroachments had the effect of driving away" the Aborigines, along with the economic circumstances and the colonising mentality of those involved meant the mission was doomed to fail.

In 1848 stock was sold and Tuckfield left with his family to take up a posting in Geelong. In February 1851 (Black Thursday) the mission buildings were destroyed by fire, and later in the same year the land was subdivided and sold at auction in Geelong. By November 1851 Buntingdale had ceased to officially exist.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Access to the site of the former Buntingdale Mission has been denied, so examination for physical evidence has not been possible.

According to the current owner, no tangible visual evidence of the former Buntingdale Mission has survived.

But valuable subterranean evidence relating to the previous existence of the mission may still survive. This can only be determined by archaeological investigation.

Condition : Unknown

Integrity : Unknown

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : RIPPLEVALE

Ref. No. : 77

Location : 4100 Cape Otway Road
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Ripplevale, located on Cape Otway Road, Birregurra, was established by Sir Charles Sladden in 1854. The property includes an 1850s timber cottage, an 1871 brick house designed by Davidson and Henderson, a circular timber storehouse, stable and woolshed, and remnant garden. Ripplevale is of aesthetic and historic importance to the State of Victoria. Ripplevale is aesthetically important for its ability to demonstrate the good design principles of the architects Davidson and Henderson. Ripplevale is also aesthetically important for the unusual but practical design of the circular storehouse. The complex of buildings, set in a mature garden, is also of aesthetic importance for illustrating the values and aspirations of the Shire's wealthy elite. Ripplevale is historically important for its association with Sir Charles Sladden, one of Victoria's first solicitors and a prominent political figure in local affairs and in the Victorian colonial government. The complex is historically important for demonstrating the evolution of a pastoral estate through its various buildings. The buildings on the property are historically important in illustrating a variety of nineteenth century construction methods.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Nominate for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register.

THEMES : Squatters & Pastoral Settlement (3.1)

HISTORY :

Ripplevale was purchased by Sir Charles Sladden in 1854. Sladden arrived in the Port Phillip District in 1842 and, in the same year, commenced practise as an attorney in Geelong. Sladden served as a member of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly for various lengths of time between 1855 until his retirement from politics in 1882.

Sladden's Ripplevale estate was originally part of the Buntingdale Mission Station, which was leased by George Armytage. Sladden commenced his occupancy of Ripplevale in 1853, in what is thought to be the original homestead – a timber cottage with corrugated iron roof, which possibly still survives. A new homestead was constructed in 1871 to a design produced by Davidson and Henderson.

In spite of being designed by this notable Sottish architectural team, the exterior has been described as of 'Dutch design' (Kiddle p.316). The rooms are also said to be 'tiled and there are typically Dutch mantelpieces and grates.' The house is single storey and built of red brick, at one end of which is a round room vaulted with cedar.

The property also includes a circular storehouse of unknown date, possibly 1850s. These round stores were, according to Kiddle, very popular and were designed to avoid dust and dirt and raised on piles with guards to prevent inroad of rats and vermin. Timber-framed stables also survive on the property, built in the early 1870s.

Sladden resided at Ripplevale for many years, where he concentrated on sheep breeding, principally Leicester. He retired to Geelong where he died in 1884. After Sladden's retirement, Ripplevale was managed by James Ford Strachan, who had built Kirrewur (site #216) for his wife and Sladden's adopted daughter, Harriet Chapman. In the early 1890s the property was taken over by Cecil Armytage. It has been variously owned throughout the twentieth century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Ripplevale comprises the main house, original homestead, circular storehouse, stables and remnant garden plants. The main house was designed by Davidson and Henderson and constructed in 1871 of brick on a bluestone base. The east elevation consists of two low blocks with separate hipped, slate roofs, one housing the main entry. To the north a large roof spreads down beyond the drawing room forming a wide spreading verandah paved with quarry tiles. The original homestead is a timber cottage with a corrugated iron roof. The circular storehouse is 14 feet in diameter and has a conical roof of galvanised iron with an old shingle roof beneath. At the rear are located stables (c.1872) and a woolshed (c.1900). All the buildings are in good condition.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : SUNNYBRAE

Ref. No. : 78

Location : 4285 Cape Otway Road
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The brick house known as Sunnybrae, located on the Cape Otway Road at Birregurra, was built by John Bickett in 1868. Sunnybrae is of historic, aesthetic, architectural and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Sunnybrae is historically important for its association with the land regulations enacted in the 1860s. Sunnybrae is historically important through its association with 'unlocking the land' in the Shire and its settlement by small landholders. Sunnybrae is aesthetically and architecturally important in exhibiting the principle characteristics of mid nineteenth century construction methods and the use of primitive materials. Sunnybrae is of social importance in demonstrating, through its occupancy by farmers and dairy farmers and its use as a restaurant, the different and various forms of employment available in the shire over a period of more than one hundred and forty years.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

After initial settlement of vast tracts of land by squatters, more modest parcels of land were taken up after 1862 and the passing of the Closer Settlement Acts. John Bickett (or Bicket), who had operated as a bootmaker in Birregurra, took up thirty-three acres of land in the small settlement of Whoorel on Cape Otway Road. Bickett's four-roomed, brick house was built by 1868.

Mixed farming was the focus for most small landholders in the district with the typical property holding cows, some pigs, a few acres of potatoes and other crops such as barley and oats. Bickett's land was on Cape Otway Road, which in 1861 had been declared a main road a year after the Winchelsea District Roads Board was established. Birregurra flourished as a market town, particularly after the opening of the Birregurra to Forrest line and the extension of the line to Colac in 1877. The Shire Rate Books show that, by 1880 John Bickett had died and Mary Bickett, his wife, was the owner-occupier of the house and managed the farm. In 1891 the Birregurra to Forrest rail line opened, providing Bickett with an ideal opportunity to transport his produce to market. By 1892 Birregurra's population was 392.

According to information held by the Birregurra Historical Society, John Bickett's son, also named John, sold the property to Toms in 1904. Toms ran a dairy and poultry farm on the property until he too sold to Frederick Haunstein in 1934.

In the last decades of the twentieth century a successful restaurant business, named 'Sunnybrae', was established on the property. The restaurant closed in 2000.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Located outside of Birregurra on a rural holding, Sunnybrae is a small brick 1870s farmhouse dwelling with gable roof and skillion verandah to the front. The building is located on rising ground at the end of a straight driveway and has been sited to face the road.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Fairly intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : KILLURIN

Ref. No. : 79

Location : 320 Dunlops Road
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Killuran, located at 320 Dunlops Road, Birregurra, was designed by Roy Grounds and built of brick for the Peardon family in the early 1950s. Killuran is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Killuran is aesthetically important as a highly intact dwelling in a rural setting designed by Roy Grounds in the post World War Two period. Killuran is aesthetically important in exhibiting good design and the aesthetic characteristics of Roy Grounds' architectural style. Killuran is of historic importance for its capacity to demonstrate Roy Grounds transition from derivative and vernacular domestic architecture to the geometric and abstract composition that marked his later, larger and better-known work. Killuran is of historic importance for its association with the prominent Melbourne mid-twentieth century partnership, Grounds, Romberg and Boyd. Killuran is historically important for its association with the Peardon family, who sought one of the better known Melbourne metropolitan architectural firms to design their rural dwelling.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

Killurin was built for the Peardon family in the mid-1950s on land previously part of local grazier John Dunlop's estate. Killurin was specifically designed as two wings, one accommodating the children, Anne and Robert Peardon and their nanny, the other intended to operate as a parents' wing.

Roy Grounds was commissioned to design the house for the Peardons, which was built of hand-made bricks, reputedly made by Melbourne University architecture students (conversation Prue Campbell, Birregurra, 1 July 2001).

Roy Grounds was a prominent Melbourne architect who was born in 1905 and graduated from Melbourne University. After graduating he worked for a short time for a local architectural firm. Grounds then travelled to the United States where he worked in New York and Los Angeles. He returned to Melbourne in 1932 and went into partnership and gained a reputation as a designer of modern functionalist houses. The partnership was dissolved and Grounds worked as a sole practitioner between 1939 and 1942. In 1953 Grounds entered partnership with Frederick Romberg and Robin Boyd. The three architects tended to design separately and independently of each other, and Grounds continued to design assured, low-key modern houses and produced an extraordinary series of 'idea' houses daring in structure and form. Between 1956 and 1959 he also designed the award-winning Academy of Science building in Canberra. In 1959 Romberg was commissioned to design the award winning National Gallery of Victoria and Cultural Centre, and relationships between the three partners became strained. The partnership ended in 1962 and Grounds devoted the next two decades to the completion of the National Gallery complex. Roy Grounds died in 1981.

The Grounds, Romberg and Boyd partnership comprised three different and extraordinary architectural talents and was, arguably, the most important firm in Melbourne in the 1950s.

The Peardons sold the house in about 1964 to the Crosbys, who in turn later sold to the current owner.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Killuran is comprised of an ensemble of elegantly composed linear pavilions, evidently to the design of Roy Grounds. The expansive regional house is reminiscent of Grounds' suburban and metropolitan work during the post war period and incorporates innovative and "modern" planning, acknowledging private car ownership, the devolution of household servants and post war aspirations of comfort and status. The house's design demonstrates Grounds' interest in the precedence of Georgian architecture and the increasing emphasis in his later work on abstraction and geometry.

<u>Condition :</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	Good	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : GOLF LINKS & GARDENS

Ref. No. : 80

Location : 1 Hopkins Street
Birregurra

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 367



INFORMATION PROVIDED BY LCC:

The Birregurra golf course is prominently located and features large mature and exotic trees and landscaped greens, which incorporates the garden.

RECOMMENDATION: Undertake further investigation

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CHRIST CHURCH VICARAGE

Ref. No. : 81

Location : 2 Hopkins Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Birregurra Christ Church Vicarage, located in Hopkins Street, was built in 1867 to a design prepared by Leonard Terry. The Vicarage was constructed in brick in the Gothic Revival style. The Birregurra Christ Church Vicarage is of historic and aesthetic importance to the State of Victoria. The Birregurra Christ Church Vicarage is of aesthetic importance in exemplifying the work of the prominent nineteenth century architect Leonard Terry and as a demonstration of the Gothic Revival style fashionable in the mid-nineteenth century. In conjunction with the adjacent Christ Church, the Birregurra Christ Church Vicarage is historically important as a demonstration of the influence of 'establishment' Anglicanism in the district. Christ Church and the vicarage form a refined and distinctive nineteenth century complex of church buildings. The Christ Church Vicarage is of aesthetic importance for its simple Gothic-influenced design and its high level of integrity. The Christ Church Vicarage is of additional importance for the ability to demonstrate the town of Birregurra's early influences in being founded by a religious organisation, the Wesleyan Mission at Buntingdale in 1838.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Nominated for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register.

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

In spite of Birregurra's foundation by a religious organisation, with the establishment of the Wesleyan Mission at Buntingdale in 1838, Anglicanism was comparatively slow to gain momentum because of the subsequent dominance of Presbyterianism in the Shire.

The first church services were held in the homes of local parishioners and later in the Presbyterian church. The survey of the Birregurra township was completed in 1862 and, at the same time, land was identified for church and civil functions.

Four years later, in 1866, Anglican residents of the district held their first church council meeting and were informed that Bishop Perry had consented to supply a clergyman, and thus formally establish a parish, if a suitable residence was provided. As a result, a two-storey brick vicarage was built to a design of Leonard Terry, and was completed in June 1867.

Tenders for the vicarage were accepted from Trevena and Gubby, builders from Geelong, although originally they were granted to Paton and Pepper of Alexander Pruluna but were subsequently withdrawn. The bricks were burnt locally.

The Reverend Thomas Sabine took up residence in the vicarage in 1872 when the Birregurra Parish was created.

The vicarage remained substantially unaltered, with the exception of a sheet iron roof placed over the original singles and asbestos cement-sheet lining to the eaves, replacing the original timber boarding.

The vicarage was occupied for church purposes until 1970 and is now used as a private residence.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The vicarage is located on an adjacent block to the rear of the church and is a suburban villa set on a town allotment rather than an architecturally complementary building to the church. The vicarage is a two storey asymmetrical mid Victorian Gothic revival style building and includes a front skillion roofed verandah. The scale, form and style of the building is reminiscent of pattern book dwellings of the day and is reasonably intact and in good condition.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : BUNTINGDALE MISSION CAIRN

Ref. No. : 82

Location : 1 Jenner Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Buntingdale Mission Cairn is located in the grounds of the Uniting (formerly Presbyterian) Church at 1 Jenner Street, Birregurra. It was erected in 1939 to commemorate the Buntingdale Wesleyan Mission, conducted between 1838-1849 on the Barwon River, four miles up-stream from the present site of Birregurra. The Cairn was originally located in the grounds of the Birregurra Wesleyan Methodist Church, but was relocated to its current site in 1982. The Buntingdale Mission Cairn is of historic importance as the only known physical evidence of the Buntingdale Mission, and for commemorating the role of the Wesleyan Church in the mission's establishment. The Buntingdale Mission Cairn is historically important as an evocative reminder of concerted attempts, albeit misguided, to 'prepare' the Indigenous people for, and 'protect' from, the invaders of their land. The Buntingdale Mission Cairn is historically important for demonstrating the value placed by the community in their cultural heritage and the role played by the mission in the development of the district.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Imposing European Values (2.2); Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

The Buntingdale Mission memorial Cairn was erected in 1939 to commemorate the Buntingdale Mission established in 1838 by the Reverends Francis Tuckfield and Benjamin Hurst. Sixty-four square miles were set aside for the Buntingdale Wesleyan Mission on the Barwon River, four miles up-stream from the present site of Birregurra. The mission was set up to 'protect' and 'prepare' Aborigines 'for living in a British community'. It was the second mission established in the Port Phillip District. The Reverend George Langhorne attempted to establish a 'native village' on 900 acres on the Yarra bank in January 1837, about a mile and a half upstream from the fledgling town of Melbourne, but his efforts failed after only a few weeks. The Buntingdale Mission lasted longer than Langhorne's, but it too was doomed to failure as a result of the squatters' encroachment on the land; the economic circumstances at the time, and the well-intentioned but colonising mentality of those involved. In 1848, ten years after establishment, defeat was accepted and the Wesleyan missionaries abandoned the site.

A commemorative centenary plaque was unveiled on 26 August 1939 by J. Tuckfield in the presence of other Tuckfield descendants. The following text, engraved in marble, was fixed to the Cairn :

This Cairn commemorates the founding of the Buntingdale Mission by the Reverend Francis Tuckfield, August 1839 and was unveiled by J L Tuckfield Esq., 26 August 1939.

The Methodist minister Reverend R. H. Howie officiated during the ceremony, and his name was also included on the Cairn.

The Cairn was originally located in the grounds of the Wesleyan Methodist Church at Birregurra. When this church was sold it was relocated to its current position in 1982.

The Cairn now commemorates the role of the Wesleyan Church in establishing the mission, and ultimately the settlement at Birregurra. The Cairn is also an evocative reminder of this important phase of Victoria's history, and the attempts to 'prepare' and 'protect' the indigenous people from the invaders of their land. The Cairn, too, reflects the value placed by the community in their cultural heritage and the importance they placed on the mission and the role it played in the development of the district.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Buntingdale Mission Cairn is a squat obelisk constructed of uncoursed bluestone. The cairn has a flat top and square section in plan. The cairn is placed on a square concrete base and bears two commemorative plaques.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (Uniting)

Ref. No. : 83

Location : 1 Jenner Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The red brick Presbyterian (now Uniting) Church, located in Jenner Street, Birregurra, was built in 1908. The Presbyterian Church Birregurra is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Presbyterian Church is of historical importance too for its association with the development of religious institutions in the Shire, and reflects the ethnic settlement of the region. The grounds of the church are of social importance through association with the district's important historic events and people, demonstrated in the Ramsay Memorial Gates and the cairn commemorating the Buntingdale Mission (site #82) that was originally erected in the grounds of Birregurra's Wesleyan Church. The small red brick Gothic Style Presbyterian Church is of architectural significance for the high degree of integrity of original building and for the many sympathetic additions which demonstrate its continued use for a changing population.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

Presbyterianism had a strong following in the Birregurra district from the 1840's and a proper church was erected in 1865. This bluestone structure was used for over forty years and was demolished in 1907.

Its replacement was a much larger, brick church, built in 1908 by contractor H. Pell. The church was dedicated to the memory of Donald 'Dosh' McLennan Jnr. The foundation stone from the earlier church is incorporated into the building.

There have been two extensions added at the rear end of the building, a hall/Sunday school in about the 1930s, and kindergarten in 1954. The architects Buchan, Laird & Buchan designed both buildings.

An entrance ramp at the front of the church – a gift from Jack and Jess Hose – was installed in 1990.

The church grounds are approached through a memorial gate dedicated to Robert and Urquart Ramsay on 14 May 1955. The Ramsay family of "Mooleric" Station were strong supporters of the church.

In 1939 a memorial Cairn was erected in the grounds of the Wesleyan Church at Birregurra to commemorate the Buntingdale Mission established in 1838 by the Reverends Francis Tuckfield and Benjamin Hurst. The Cairn was relocated to the grounds of the Birregurra Uniting Church in 1982 when the church was sold (site #56).

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The small red brick Gothic style church is located in the centre of landscaped grounds with a low bluestone fence to the front boundary, memorial gates and curved gravel driveway leading to the church's front door. Other landscaping comprises lawn and a variety of exotic and mature trees apparently planted at different times. The church is a small Gothic style chapel with front entry porch and two later rear additions, one is a red brick complementary buttressed style and the second is a well designed and discretely located flat roofed addition circa 1970. The church is constructed in red brick with cement rendered base, dressings, parapets and string courses and a moderated Blood and Bandages style. The building also retains a recently added memorial disabled access ramp to one of the entry porch's front doors. The original section is substantially intact with later sympathetic additions.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : STONE PINES (*Pinus pinea*)

Ref. No. : 84

Location : Main Street (GR 743067753070)
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The avenue of *Pinus pinea* (Stone Pine), and including one *P. radiata* (Monterey Pine), is a street planting of ten trees located in the median strip on the south side of Main Street, Birregurra, between Austin and Ennis Streets. The avenue is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The avenue is historically important as a rare street tree planting of *Pinus pinea* (Stone Pine), which reflects a Victorian-era aesthetic for bold, evergreen (and, particularly, coniferous) plantings. These are increasingly rare in streetscapes across Victoria as they are replaced with other more fashionable amenity species.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

Local

RECOMMENDED LISTING :

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : RIVERSIDE INN

Ref. No. : 85

Location : 10 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber building located at 10 Main Street, formerly known as the Riverside Inn, was constructed in 1865 soon after the town of Birregurra was surveyed. The building operated as an inn offering refreshments and accommodation for travellers. It was also used as a blacksmith's shop and a residence. The Riverside Inn building is of historic and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Riverside Inn is historically important in demonstrating the various commercial requirements of the town's residents and visitors in the nineteenth century. The Riverside Inn is important in illustrating the evolution and adaptability of the Shire's commercial buildings. The former Riverside Inn is architecturally important as an example of a simple, nineteenth century, utilitarian timber structure. The application of a domestic style to an, initially, commercial building is also of architectural importance.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Recreation (9.4)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : NATIVE YOUTH HOTEL (fmr.)

Ref. No. : 86

Location : 20 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Native Youth Hotel, located in Main Street, Birregurra, was built in 1876. Extensions were subsequently added to the building in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The building is now used as a private residence. The Native Youth Hotel is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Native Youth Hotel is historically important in demonstrating the influence of the friendly benefit society and federation advocate, the Australian Natives Association, in the late nineteenth century. The Native Youth Hotel is historically important as one of the Shire's oldest hotels, and is able to illustrate the importance of providing accommodation for travels to and through the town. The Native Youth Hotel is historically important in demonstrating the late nineteenth century prosperity of Birregurra as a market town, and the need to provide accommodation to those who visited on market days. The Native Youth Hotel is aesthetically important for its ability to demonstrate the construction methods and materials utilised in the Shire's nineteenth century commercial buildings.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Roads & Routes (4.4); Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The fledgling settlement of Birregurra, surveyed 1863, received its first major boost whilst the Geelong to Colac railway was being built between 1875 to 1877. The town received an influx of labourers and as a consequence the number of hotels increased from two in 1872 to four by 1876.

The last of these boom time hotels was the Native Youth, which was constructed in brick with wooden additions and stabling, and was built in 1876 for Patrick Cahill. Cahill, two years prior to this, had operated the Oddfellows Hotel, further along the Main Street. The Native Youth Hotel gained its name during the formative years of nationalism which culminated in the Federation movement, initiated by the Australian Natives' Association (ANA) friendly society, which was founded in Melbourne in 1871. It was in the environment of a prosperous colony, a people politically minded and experienced, a rising tide of native-born children and a growing popularity with friendly societies that the ANA was formed, with originally a membership restriction to those born in Victoria. The name of the Native Youth Hotel is indicative of a degree of support for the association in Birregurra.

By 1889, when Birregurra was in its hey-day, with a population of about 400 people, the Native Youth Hotel attempted to entice travellers by advertising 'good stabling and billiard tables' on its premises. P. E. Cahill, the hotel's licensee in 1891, was also a Winchelsea Shire Councillor. Cahill left the district the same year and the hotel was variously licensed to W. C. Rice; Louisa McKenzie, Mary Crouch, John Doyle, Horace Moloney and, in 1920, to H. Clarke. A year later, in 1921, the hotel was delicensed and the building was used as a coffee palace and later a boarding house, until World War Two when the building was divided into flats.

In 1972 it was purchased and used as a private residence.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Native Youth Hotel is located in a characteristic commercial location on the street boundary at a corner of Main Street and a secondary cross street. The hotel is composed in three distinct sections of a single storey brick corner building, with steeply pitched hipped corrugated iron roof, a single storey timber building, with gable roof end to the main street, and a smaller hipped roofed timber dwelling on the second street frontage. The brick building is constructed in a chequered pattern of red and brown bricks and is architecturally tied to the timber building on Main Street by a timber posted concave verandah that returns along the secondary frontage.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : STEVEN'S CORNER STORE

Ref. No. : 87

Location : 38 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

The timber shop known as Steven's Corner Store, located at 40 Main Street, Birregurra, was built in 1878 as a residence and commercial premises for William Denny. The premises were used as a saddlery, and later as tearooms. Steven's Corner Store is historically and socially important to the Shire of Colac Otway. Steven's Corner Store is historically important for its association with a variety of forms of retail business that operated from the store, and is able to demonstrate the evolution of Birregurra as a town, and of its commercial precinct. Steven's Corner Store is socially important for its cultural associations with the town's growth, and for providing an important social focus for the town. The single storey shop and dwelling have been substantially altered but are of interest for the capacity to demonstrate ongoing use of the site as a commercial building.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

William Denny built a residence and shop on this site, now known as 40 Main Street, Birregurra, in 1878 and carried on business as a saddler through to 1908. Firth McCallum took over the business for a number of years. McCallum's father, James, had started a butcher shop in Birregurra in 1864, so Firth McCallum had a knowledge of Birregurra's commerce before taking over the saddlery. However, he only stayed in business until his death at 37 years of age in 1910. McCallum had been involved in the Birregurra football club, and his death was felt more keenly by the community because it followed the death of his two younger brothers William and John, aged 11 and 12, in the bushfire which devastated the town and surrounding area in 1901.

In the 1920s Miss Hickey operated a tearooms from the premises. The tearooms provided an important function for those who visited Birregurra, particularly on livestock market days. It allowed an alternative to the pub for those attending the market sales, and was one of several tearooms that existed in the town. The premises was also used a fruit shop.

In 1971 the present milk bar operation was established and continues to provide a social focus for the community, particularly at the end of the twentieth century after the closure of facilities like the bank and local hospital.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The building is a single storey corner shop and dwelling located on Birregurra's main street. It is constructed of weatherboard external walls, brick chimneys, hipped corrugated iron roofs with lightweight parapet and deep skillion verandah to the main street and corner frontages. The front façade illustrates the continuous evolution of the site and building with numerous small alterations having been made to windows, doors and other openings. The new signage and mechanical services are not entirely sympathetic additions.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			Altered sympathetically	<u>Altered unsympathetically</u>

Name of Place : BIRREGURRA WAR MEMORIAL

Ref. No. : 88

Location : 42 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Birregurra War Memorial was erected in 1922 to commemorate local men and women who volunteered for active service during the First World War. The Birregurra War Memorial is historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Birregurra War Memorial is historically important in illustrating the widespread involvement of ordinary people in the war and records the loss of life and suffering which affected the Birregurra district. It is also important in demonstrating the local community's collective reaction to the First World War; their appreciation and desire to publicly recognise and honour those who enlisted; and the sense of community spirit which arose as a result of the involvement in conflict. The memorial is architecturally significant as a typical local war memorial. The war memorial's composition, scale and location is typical of war memorials in smaller regional towns.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

The outpouring of grief experienced by communities throughout Australia for the numbers that died in the Great or First World War found an outlet in public expression through memorials erected when the war ended.

Birregurra acknowledged the service of its residents who served in World War One through a memorial in the middle of the Main Street at the Roadknight Street corner. Erected in 1922, the memorial comprises a substantial bluestone base supporting a name stone on polished granite steps, topped by a slender column. Inscribed on the base are the words:

*Erected in honour of the Birregurra district residents who responded to the
Empire's call in the Great War 1914-1919*

Like many other memorials erected throughout Australia, the Birregurra memorial extended the date of the war beyond the Armistice of 1918 until the peace treaty was signed in 1919. Seventeen names of the district's residents who died in combat are listed on the plinth. The base contains the frequently used inscription drawn from the Book of Ecclesiastics:

Their names liveth for evermore

The memorial is a reminder of the widespread involvement of ordinary people in the war and records the loss of life and suffering which affected the Birregurra community. It is also a reminder of the people's collective reaction; their appreciation and desire to publicly recognise those who enlisted; and the sense of community spirit which arose as a result of the involvement, albeit in unhappy circumstances.

The Birregurra memorial was later relocated from the road to the front of the public hall.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Birregurra's war memorial is located on the main street and is composed of a slender Harcourt granite column with a rounded top, set on a pedestal of a truncated pyramid base of rough faced blocks. The pillar includes an inscribed shield and zinc wreath. An honour roll is included on the column's pedestal in applied zinc lettering. The lettering is only in fair condition as a result of weather damage. The memorial is surrounded by close planting of rose bushes.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good-Fair</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

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Name of Place : BUTCHER SHOP & DWELLING

Ref. No. : 89

Location : 41-3 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Butcher Shop and attached Dwelling, located at 41 Main Street Birregurra, was built of brick and timber in 1930 for Tom McAdam. The Butcher Shop is a rare example of an early twentieth century rural butcher's commercial premises. The Butcher Shop and Dwelling are of historic and aesthetic importance to the State of Victoria. Because of its integrity and retention of original and early fabric, the Butcher Shop is a rare example of an early twentieth century rural commercial premises that retains its interior screening, separating customers from the meat preparation area. The intact interior of the Butcher Shop is historically important for demonstrating past retail practises. The Butcher Shop and Dwelling are aesthetically important in exhibiting the principal characteristics and common practise of combining commercial and residential premises. The Butcher Shop is historically important in demonstrating the building of towns through the development of retail premises, the present building being the last of a succession of butcher shops on or near the site.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

Nominate for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

Maguire's Butcher Shop is said to be almost on the site of Birregurra's pioneer butcher James McCallum, who commenced business in 1864. McCallum's shop was one of the first commercial businesses established in Birregurra, or Birregura-on-the-Barwon as it was then known, which was surveyed in 1862. The first town blocks were auctioned in 1863 and by the time McCallum had moved from Winchelsea with his wife Mary, purchased land and established his business, Scouller's steam flour mill had been set up outside the town's boundary and the Victoria Hotel was open for business. At this time about half the traffic from Geelong to Colac passed through Birregurra, which was ideally situated close to the fresh water supplies of the Barwon River.

James McCallum died in 1888 at 44 years of age and was succeeded by, first, his son John McCallum, then J. Farquarson and Tom McAdam.

In 1930 McAdam demolished the original structure and erected an up to date dwelling with attached butchering premises. The butcher continued the common practise of combining his commercial premises and residence. The shop, however, was constructed in an up-to-date style and incorporated a screened area which separated customers from the meat preparation area to reduce fly infestation. Attached to the east of the shop, but set back from the street, was a timber residence. The McAdam family ran the business until 1978 when I. Maguire took over. Maguire continues to operate his butcher's business in the shop that has undergone little or no alterations since construction in 1930.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The butcher shop is located on Birregurra's main street and comprises a hybrid of street front Butcher's shop with shop front windows, parapet signage and skillion verandah and verandahed residence to the side. The shop and residence are composed in a lean Federation style, which includes modestly curving verandah brackets and friezes. The shop includes original or early shop windows, glazing and display window joinery.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

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Volume II

Name of Place : HOUSE

Ref. No. : 90

Location : 52 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber House at 52 Main Street, Birregurra, was built sometime after the sale of town land in 1863, and before 1868-9. A timber addition was constructed to the front of the House in the 1920s. The House is of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The House is historically important in demonstrating the early settlement and growth of towns in the Shire. The House is important in demonstrating social and cultural associations with the town's settlement and development, and in illustrating the lifestyles of the district's more humble settlers. Constructed soon after the township's subdivision, the House at 52 Main Street is aesthetically important in exhibiting the principle characteristics of timber dwelling construction in the early mid-eighteenth century. The twentieth century additions to the house are important in demonstrating improved living conditions and the prosperity of the district.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The timber house at 52 Main Street Birregurra dates back to the town's initial settlement.

Birregurra-on-Barwon', as Birregurra was first known, was surveyed in 1862 by contract surveyor F E Gilbert. The town allotments were offered for sale at Geelong in April 1863.

John Keeghan was one of the first to purchase land and he bought a one acre town allotment in 1863.

A house, according to the Rate Books, was constructed on the site in Main Street sometime between 1868 and 1869.

Keeghan, according to the *Victorian Pioneer Index*, was twenty-nine when he set up a home in the new town for his thirty year old wife Bridget and their child Thomas who was born the same year, in 1863. Another child, Ann, was born in 1869.

John Keeghan was variously described in the shire Rate Books as a labourer (in 1880) and a farmer (in 1890). His son Thomas was later the licensee and owner of the Commercial Hotel in Main Street.

Keeghan died in 1902 and his wife Bridget three years later in 1905, but his daughter-in-law Anne still occupied the house in 1929.

Sometime between 1925 and 1929 alterations or extensions were carried out, indicated by the increased rates shown in the shire's Rate Books from £18 in 1925 to £24 in 1929. The extensions were added to the front of the 1860s house, almost doubling the size of the dwelling.

The house is valuable in providing information about the living conditions of the town's early settlers.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The House at 52 Main Street Birregurra is a single storey symmetrical timber dwelling with hipped corrugated galvanised iron verandah and Dutch gable roof. The earlier section to the rear forms a side entry. A detached shed survives to the rear.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

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Volume II

Name of Place : POST OFFICE

Ref. No. : 91

Location : 65 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Birregurra Post Office, located at 65 Main Street, was built in 1895. Extensive remodelling and alterations were undertaken in 1912. The Birregurra Post Office is of historic, social and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Birregurra Post Office is historically important in demonstrating the development of public facilities in rural areas by the Victorian Colonial government. The expansion of those facilities by the Commonwealth government in the early twentieth century also reflects the growth and prosperity of the town. The Birregurra Post Office is of social importance through the attribution of a geographical identity to the district and for the important role it played as a social nexus in the community. The Birregurra Post Office is historically important as the oldest, continually operating post office in the Shire. The Birregurra Post Office is architecturally important as a simple, timber structure that is substantially intact, in spite of being altered sympathetically in the early decades of the twentieth century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Postal Communication (4.1) ; Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The original name Birregurra was given to township subdivision on the Princess Highway. The present town of Birregurra was earlier known as Bowden's Point, and later Birregurra-on-the-Barwon.

The original Birregurra developed on the main transport route between Winchelsea and Colac (now the Princess Highway). It was surveyed and the lots offered for sale in 1861. Postal facilities were set up within the general store built in 1861 (site #68).

'Birregurra-on-Barwon' was surveyed in 1862 by contract surveyor F. E. Gilbert. Town allotments were offered for sale at Geelong in April 1863.

Birregurra-on-Barwon had an advantage over the highway settlement then known as Birregurra – the former settlement possessed a bridge that was constructed over the Barwon River in 1862. It also had a permanent water supply. These factors attracted greater numbers to the town and by 1865 Birregurra-on-Barwon had two hotels, a population estimated at 100, and 20 dwellings.

Postal arrangements at Birregurra-on-the-Barwon were initiated on an official basis on 19 April 1864 when a Post Office was opened.

But the two similar names, 'Birregurra-on-the-Barwon' and 'Birregurra', within close proximity of each other caused confusion with postal deliveries in particular. So, the name 'Birregurra' was officially adopted for the post office, replacing the name 'Birregurra-on-the-Barwon', and the settlement on the Princess Highway was renamed Mt Gellibrand. In 1877 the railway was extended from Winchelsea to Colac and the fledgling settlement on the Princess Highway began to be overtaken by Birregurra. Mt Gellibrand foundered and by 1885 had all but disappeared into grazing land.

Birregurra, however, continued to grow. The town received an influx of labourers when the Geelong to Colac railway was being constructed between 1875 and 1877. The 1870s and 1880s was Birregurra's 'hey-day' when the town became the central market-place for fattened cattle.

Because of the town's growth in the 1870s and 1880s, a purpose-built post office was constructed at Birregurra in 1895. Staff quarters were also built at the same time.

By 1901 increasing activity and the introduction of a telephone exchange service led to overcrowding of existing facilities. So, in 1912 a new post office was built. The 1895 section of the building was moved to the rear of the site, and several items from the older building, such as the windows, were reused in the new structure.

The post office continues to operate today.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Queen Anne Style influenced building features a half timbered gable end to the street frontage. The "L" shaped plan of the post office forms a covered lobby area sheltered by the later addition of a flat roof. Alterations to the lobby and entry area demonstrate the facility's changing operations throughout the twentieth century, including installation of (and later removal of) telephone boxes. And post boxes.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

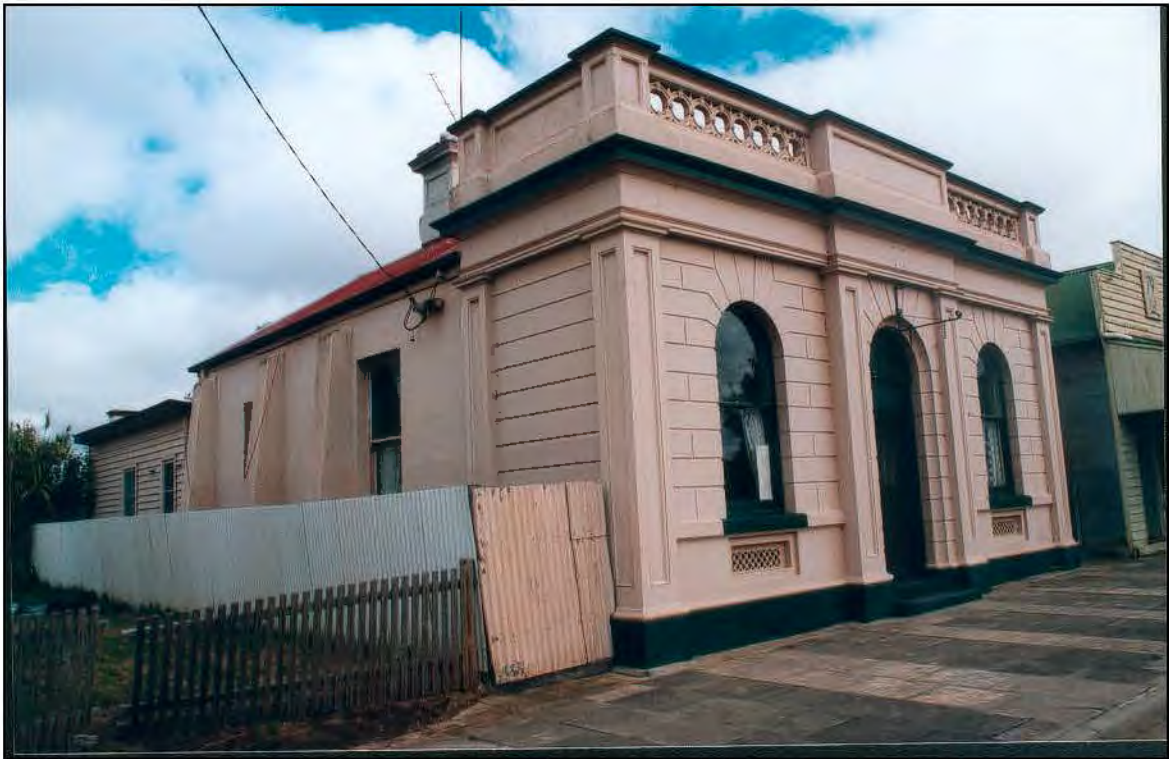
Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COLONIAL BANK

Ref. No. : 92

Location : 77 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Colonial Bank of Australasia building, located at 77 Main Street, Birregurra, was built in about 1884. The bank was designed by the Colonial Bank architect George Jobbins with an Italianate classical façade. The Colonial Bank of Australasia building is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Colonial Bank of Australasia is historically important in demonstrating the economic prosperity of Birregurra in the final decades of the nineteenth century, the consequence of the extension of the railway and establishment of Birregurra as a market town. The Colonial Bank of Australasia is historically important in illustrating the optimism held by the Colonial Bank for the development of Birregurra. The Colonial Bank of Australasia building is aesthetically important for exhibiting the good design characteristics of the prolific bank architect George Jobbins, evident in the classical façade of the building and the pilastered front door and corners, and ring balustraded parapet wall.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The Colonial Bank of Australasia opened a branch at Birregurra in temporary premises in July 1876.

In 1884 the architect George Jobbins called for tenders for the construction of new premises at Birregurra for the Colonial Bank. Jobbins also designed banks at Warrnambool, Koroit, Casterton, Horsham, Dunkeld, Frankston, Kilmore, Morwell, Euroa, New Market, Lilydale, as well as at Nhill, Newlyn, Boort, Newstead and Northcote.

The bank has been described as a “rendered brick building providing a proud and dignified classical facade to the public view, with a less pretentious building at the rear of the façade”. The ‘proud and dignified’ façade was appropriate for Birregurra, which at the time of the bank’s construction, was a busy market town.

The construction of new banking premises for the Colonial Bank of Australasia reflected the economic prosperity experienced in Birregurra in the 1880s. The 1870s and 1880s were Birregurra’s ‘hey-day’, the result of extending the railway from Winchelsea to Colac in 1877, and the construction of the branch line to Forrest in 1889. At that time the town became the central market place for fattened cattle and the population increased steadily from four hundred in 1882 to five hundred in 1901.

The building was taken over by the National Bank in 1918, following a merger between the Colonial and the National companies. The ANZ Bank subsequently operated from the premises until the early 1990s.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Colonial Bank building is a small single storey rendered Italianate classical style building, located on the front boundary of the Main Street, Birregurra. The front façade is an edified composition of rusticated walls, pilastered front door and corners and ring balustraded parapet wall. The building includes possibly later rear additions in timber and side buttresses.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	<u>Poor</u>	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

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Volume II

Name of Place : SHOPS

Ref. No. : 93

Location : 79-81 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The pair of timber shops at 79 and 81 Main Street, Birregurra, were built in 1903 by local builder John Shepherdson, who conducted a hardware business from the two premises. The Shops at 79 and 81 Main Street Birregurra are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Shops are historically important for their association with the evolution of the Shire and its retail districts prior to the mid twentieth century and increased ownership of automobiles. The Shops are historically important for their ability to demonstrate optimism and confidence in the town's continued growth that was experienced by Birregurra's citizens. The Shops are architecturally important in exhibiting the application of simple design to commercial buildings in the Shire's formerly more settled areas. The Shops are of aesthetic importance through the valuable contribution they make to the Birregurra streetscape, and for understanding the history and evolution of the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

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Volume II

Name of Place : ELIMINOOK

Ref. No. : 94

Location : 80 Main Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Elliminook, located on Main Street, Birregurra, is a single storey brick house surrounded by a garden. Elliminook was built in 1865 for John Broomfield. Elliminook is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Elliminook is historically important through association with the development of the Birregurra district, and the subdivision and settlement in the area. Elliminook is aesthetically important in exhibiting the pattern of house construction and garden design of the district that was typical of Western District settlement, albeit on a more modest scale. The Elliminook Garden is aesthetically important for retaining many mature garden specimens. Elliminook is aesthetically important for its well-balanced house, garden layout and planting which reflects a Victorian-era garden style, particularly in elements such as the *Araucarias*, and the driveway and lawn at the front of the house.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

John Bromfield built a simple four-roomed timber structure after settling on 1300 acres, the Elliminook site, in about 1857. In 1865 Bromfield extended the house to incorporate fourteen rooms. He surrounded the house on three sides with a verandah. Bromfield also added stables, coach house and sheds at the same time. It was then that the house was named Elliminook. Following the trend of other settlers in the region, like Dennis at Tardwarncoort and Murray at Barongarook, Bromfield also surrounded the house with a garden, introducing exotic plantings fashionable at the time. Bromfield died in 1870 but his widow continued to live on at Elliminook. Bromfield's widow later married the manager of Ripplevale, William Edmunson, and together they lived at Elliminook. In 1887 Edmunson died. Mrs Edmunson continued to live at Elliminook until the property was sold in 1908. The house was variously owned, including by the grazier Charles Hayes, between 1919 and 1981.

The current owners now operate the houses as a bed and breakfast business.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION : STRUCTURES

Elliminook is a large single storey mid-Victorian style dwelling and ancillary buildings, located in a landscaped setting with mature specimen trees. The main section of the house is a single storey mid-Victorian dwelling. The dwelling is based on a rectangular floor plan with slate roof, rendered chimneys and gentle curved verandah. The brick walls are constructed from red and dark Hawthorn type bricks laid in an alternating stretcher (red), header (dark) coursing, giving a regular chequered pattern (similar to the Native Youth Hotel, Birregurra). The verandahed front elevation faces on to the round driveway turning circle and garden area. The building's rear has developed in two wings in brick and weatherboard forming a semi enclosed rear garden area. Unlike the area's other pastoral residences, the dwelling has evolved along a suburban model, being a relatively small dwelling in an unprepossessing geographic location and close to the main road. As such the house interprets more as a large house on the edge of town rather than the main house of a pastoral holding. The house has been altered substantially, the north wing having been completely rebuilt in the 1980s, new structures introduced, and the interiors refurbished.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION : GARDEN

The main features of the garden are the driveway, edged with volcanic rocks, and central lawn at the front of the house with a large specimen of *Araucaria bidwillii* (Bunya Bunya Pine) at its centre. The delineation of some garden beds is unclear, and several new beds have been introduced, however the planting to the south-east and south of the house retains several mature trees, which now form a closed canopy over the garden, as well as a range of woody shrubs and some other plants. In this and other areas, trees include *Araucaria cunninghamii* (Hoop Pine), *Pinus canariensis* (Canary Island Pine), *Cedrus deodara* (Himalayan Cedar), *Cordyline australis* (Cordyline), *Brachychiton poulneus* (Kurrajong) and several deciduous trees, including fruit trees. A row of *Cupressus semervirens* (Funeral Cypress) includes a double row planted at a secondary gate and driveway to the former stables (as shown in c1920s photographs). The *Tracycarpus fortunei* (Chinese Windmill Palm) (south-east corner of house) post-dates the 1920s. A large *Tilia x europeae* (Linden) adjacent to the original house wing is one of the oldest plants on-site. An extensive *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress) windbreak on Warncoort Road has been removed in part.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BLEAK HOUSE

Ref. No. : 95

Location : 10 McDonnells Road
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Bleak House is a bluestone residence located in McDonnells Road, Birregurra. Bleak House was constructed for Charles Beal by architects Davidson and Henderson and completed in 1870. Additions were undertaken in 1873 for Charles Beal's son, Alfred, who then managed the property. The property remained in the Beal family until subdivided and sold in 1926. Bleak House is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Bleak House is historically important for its capacity to demonstrate a second phase of settlement in the shire, after the introduction of land legislation in the 1860s. Bleak House is aesthetically important in exhibiting the good design characteristics of the prominent Western District architects Davidson and Henderson. Bleak House is aesthetically important in illustrating the principal design characteristics favoured by the shire's wealthy graziers in the nineteenth century that were contrived to exhibit their wealth and social status. Bleak House is historically important in demonstrating the wealth accrued from the wool industry in the second half of the nineteenth century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving homes (3.5.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : DWELLING, STORE & POST OFFICE (fmr.)

Ref. No. : 96

Location : 4500 Princess Highway
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber Birregurra (later Mt Gellibrand) Post Office, Dwelling and Store building, located at 4500 Princess Highway, was erected in 1861. The business operated in the area then known as Birregurra, before nearby Bowden's Point assumed the name. The area then became known as Mt Gellibrand. The Post Office, Dwelling and Store building is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Post Office, Dwelling and Store are historically important in illustrating an earlier fledgling settlement, which serviced travellers on the main thoroughfare between Winchelsea and Colac. The Post Office, Dwelling and Store building is historically important as the sole remaining survivor of the earlier township known as Birregurra, and in demonstrating the impact of rail routes on settlement patterns in the Shire in the nineteenth century. The Post Office, Dwelling and Store is important as an early and reasonably intact commercial building developed on the main highway.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The original name Birregurra was given to a township subdivision on the Princess Highway. The present town of Birregurra was earlier known as Bowden's Point, and later Birregurra-on-the-Barwon.

The original Birregurra developed on the main transport route between Winchelsea and Colac (now the Princess Highway). It was surveyed and the lots offered for sale in 1861.

Edwin Wood was one of the first to purchase land surveyed for the new township. He immediately constructed a dwelling and store, and was soon joined by a blacksmith on an adjacent block. The settlement became a staging post for coaches and the Travellers Rest Inn was erected to provide stabling, refreshments and accommodation for travellers. By 1865 James Wood had joined Edwin Wood and the store was also used as the Birregurra Post Office

In 1877 the railway was extended from Winchelsea to Colac and the fledgling settlement on the Princess Highway began to be overtaken by the former Birregurra-on-the-Barwon, which by then was known as Birregurra. The settlement on the Princess Highway, previously called Birregurra, had been renamed Mt Gellibrand. The small settlement on the highway foundered and, by 1885, had all but disappeared into grazing land. However the shop, residence and former post office remained as a legacy of the earlier, aborted settlement. It operated as a general store until 1985 although, Koenig claims in *Coast to Coast*, it was rebuilt in 1938. Superficial inspection suggests Koenig's claim is questionable. The position of the chimney and the different window treatment suggests the building has been extended to the east. However detailed external and internal inspection may clarify the construction sequences.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The former post office and store is a single storey mid-Victorian timber building, with hipped corrugated iron roof and corrugated iron skillion verandah, with return ends and timber bracketed verandah posts. It is located on the Princess Highway, facing directly on to the roadway, supporting the building's supposed commercial use. The building has evidently been constructed in two phases, comprising of a small symmetrical timber cottage with central front door and double hung sash windows to each side; the later addition being a matching extension of near equivalent size to the east end. A second doorway in the extension has been later filled in with matching weatherboards. Internal inspection will need to be undertaken to clarify the building's construction phases.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HOUSE

Ref. No. : 97

Location : 4705 Princess Highway
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The bluestone section of the House at 4705 Princess Highway Birregurra was built in about 1865 by James North. A weatherboard extension was constructed in about 1912. The House is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The House is historically important for its association with attempts to 'unlock the land' from the control of the squatters in the Shire. The House is historically important in demonstrating the utilitarian dwellings constructed in the region in the nineteenth century, and the local materials utilised for the construction of these simple dwellings by the district's early settlers. The House is historically important as a continuum representing the evolving requirements of a farming household in the Shire in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Architecturally, the siting, scale and design of the residence at 4705 Princess Highway, Birregurra, are of interest for their capacity to demonstrate later development of the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Settlement by Selection (3.2.2)

HISTORY :

The bluestone dwelling at 4705 Princess Highway Birregurra was constructed in about 1865 by James North.

North arrived in the Colony in 1847, married Mary Clifton in 1853 and, as his grand daughter Beatrice has informed, worked as a shepherd for the Austin family. North gained land on the main route from Winchelsea to Colac west of the surveyed town of Birregurra (later to be renamed Mt Gellibrand) in the early 1860s. North was able to purchase the land as a result of the New South Wales Colonial Government regulations designed to divide the land more equitably.

In 1847 the New South Wales Colonial Government passed land regulations that offered a 'pre-emptive right' to squatters. This 'pre-emptive right' allowed squatters to purchase their homestead blocks at £1 an acre. The Order was due to expire in 1861-2 so, by the early 1860s, tracts of Crown Land previously held by squatters under license increasingly became available for purchase by people like James North.

The Order-in-Council, and the Victorian Colonial Government's 1860s land acts, were intended to divide squatters land and, by providing smaller parcels, allow more people the opportunity to gain a living from the land. It was argued that this would create a stable and prosperous rural community of small farmers. The 1860s land acts did little at first to 'unlock the land' from the squatter's control in the Colac Otway Shire, largely because of the loopholes and methods adopted by the squatters to actually increase their holdings. But eventually the government's closer settlement policies fostered a degree of agricultural enterprise, despite initial careless legal drafting, inefficient supervision and associated blatant frauds by monopolists.

The houses constructed by early settlers like North were simpler than those built by squatters at the same time. People like North did not have the same financial opportunities as pastoralists to improve their homes. They usually constructed utilitarian houses and added to them as their families grew larger. This was what happened to the Norths' home, which had to accommodate eight children.

James North died in 1887 and his son John took over the farm. Mary continued to live there until her death in 1900.

When John's daughter Beatrice was born in 1912 a weatherboard extension was added to the house to accommodate his wife and eight children. This extension was later removed and replaced with another timber extension.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The selector's house is a single storey Italianate style bluestone dwelling, set in a mundane location a short distance from the Princes Highway. The house comprises a typical single storey dwelling with verandah and later additions. The building has been heavily modified or restored with rear additions in timber.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			<u>Altered sympathetically</u>	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ST PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & PRESBYTERY

Ref. No. : 98

Location : 7 Skene Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Construction of Birregurra's brick St Peter's Catholic Church, located at 7 Skene Street, commenced in 1906. The Camperdown architect McCabe designed St Peter's Catholic Church. The adjacent brick Presbytery, also designed by McCabe, was commenced a year later in 1907. St Peter's Church and Presbytery are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. St Peter's Church and Presbytery are historically important in illustrating the significance of religion in the Birregurra, Barwon Downs and Beech Forest area, as well as the Shire. St Peter's Church and Presbytery are historically important for demonstrating the social role played by religion in providing a focus for communities, particularly in rural areas where few other sources of entertainment were available. The St Peter's Church and Presbytery are aesthetically important as elements of Birregurra's church precinct, and are of note for their capacity to demonstrate the prevailing architectural fashions in church architecture and Birregurra's vigorous development during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

Initially the needs of the Birregurra Catholics were provided for by the Colac Mission located at Mt Moriac. In 1864 a small timber church was built at Birregurra.

In 1906 Birregurra was declared a parish, incorporating Barwon Downs, Beech Forest and the district of Birregurra. This swelled the numbers of parishioners in the area sufficiently to undertake the construction of a more substantial church, so on 2 December 1906 the foundation stone was laid for a new brick church, designed by Camperdown architect McCabe, and built by the Geelong firm, Dew Bros. The original timber church continued in use as a parish hall until demolished in the 1930s.

In December 1907 construction of the adjoining Presbytery commenced, a single storey brick residence also designed by McCabe.

Fund raising efforts to pay for the new church and presbytery included fetes, raffles and concerts. These social functions provided entertainment for Catholic parishioners as well as other denominations, a vital outlet before other forms of entertainment, like television, were available, or within reach by car.

A priest was appointed to the parish and served parishioners until 1979 when control reverted to Colac. The presbytery was then turned over to the Little Sisters of Our Lady of Mount Carmel.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The church and presbytery lie adjacent to one another facing Skene Street. Together the architecturally cohesive Gothic-influenced buildings form a small complex of robust, early twentieth century buildings. The homogeneity is enhanced by the use of red brick and rendered dressings. The church presents a picturesque front elevation with a central steeply pitched gable roof and end wall with large arched window above a pair of small round windows, with side entry porch and zinc tiled roofed lancet tower to the other corner. The presbytery is a single storey detached red brick dwelling, with large corrugated iron roof designed in a transitional Federation style, with light touches of Gothic elements in the pointed arched moldings over some windows. The buildings lie in a simply landscaped setting of crisp lawn, concrete paving and bitumen driveways, with some specimen trees and a later masonry fence.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : CHRIST CHURCH

Ref. No. : 99

Location : 1 Sladen Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The bluestone Anglican Christ Church, located in Sladen Street, Birregurra, was completed in 1871 to a design by Leonard Terry, and executed by Davidson and Henderson. A tower and spire designed by Reed and Henderson was added in 1890. Christ Church is of aesthetic and historic importance to the State of Victoria. Christ Church is aesthetically important in exhibiting the good design characteristics of the work of Melbourne's prominent nineteenth century architects, Leonard Terry, Davidson and Henderson, and Reed and Henderson. The stained glass windows incorporated in Christ Church are of aesthetic importance, particularly the west window, as a remarkable and rare example of stained glass in an Australian church. Christ Church is historically important for its association with the socially influential 'establishment' who pioneered the district, many of whom have been memorialised in features and objects in the building. Christ Church, together with the Vicarage, form a refined and distinctive nineteenth century complex of church buildings. The buildings are of additional importance for their ability to demonstrate Birregurra's religious foundations dating back to the Wesleyan Mission at Buntingdale in 1838.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Nominate for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register.

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

The Anglican movement was slow to make adherents in Birregurra, as also in the Shire generally. Anglican parishioners initially worshipped in private homes, and later the Presbyterian church. It was not until the early 1870s that a permanent church was provided at Birregurra for Anglican parishioners. The church was designed by Leonard Terry, built by Trevena and Gubby (from Geelong), and was executed by Davidson & Henderson. The building committee had grand ideas for the church and spent the then huge sum of three thousand pounds. The press commented that "this may appear to be an unnecessarily large sum to spend in a country district with so small a population but, in our opinion, great foresight has been shown, as it is evident, sooner or later, the large estates in the neighbourhood being so favourable for agricultural pursuits will be cut up into smaller blocks, and the population will be thereby much increased. It was, therefore, best to build a substantial and spacious church at once." The main contributor to the building fund was Eliza Edmundson of *Ellimnook*. The church was completed in December 1871. It was built in ironstone, or bluestone, pointed with Waurn Ponds freestone and with a moulded ceiling. Bishop Perry officially opened the church on 22 January 1872.

The tower and spire were added in 1890 as a gift from James Strachan of *Ripplevale* station in memory of his wife Harriet. The architects for the tower were Reed and Henderson.

Christ Church incorporates a number of memorials to the district's pioneers. The west window to the memory of Sir Charles Sladen, former Victorian Premier (1868); the east wing window is dedicated to John Bromfield of *Ellimnook* (Site #66); and other memorials within the church include those to Charles Beal (Site #55); Oscar Armytage (*Barwon Park*); as well as to those who died during the 'Great War'.

The west window has been assessed by stained glass experts Hughes•Hughes• and is, in particular, considered to be of importance. It incorporates the text: *To the Glory of God in loving memory of Sir Charles Sladen KCMG of Ripple Vale Birregurra, second son of the late John Baker of Ripple Court, Kent, England. Died Feb 23^d 1884.*

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION : STRUCTURE

The church and vicarage are located on adjacent sites, an area separated by a fence. The church is a medium sized Gothic revival style bluestone building with slate roof, freestone dressings to windows and engaged buttresses to each side. The entry is through a square tower or belfry which has a slim lancet tower grafted to one corner.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u> Damaged/disturbed			Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically	

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION : WINDOW

The west Gothic-arched window is made up of four cusped lights. The window has a complex iconography focusing on the main subjects of the four lights – David and Joseph, and the saints Paul and Stephen. English glass, generally of very good quality, has been used for the window and the glass painting is of a high standard. The window retains a majority of the original material and is of excellent quality, design and workmanship. The window is fair to poor and is gradually being pulled apart, apparently by the movement of stonework.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair-Poor</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u> Damaged/disturbed			Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically	

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : MASONIC HALL

Ref. No. : 100

Location : 29 Strachan Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The red brick Birregurra Masonic Lodge, located at 29 Strachan Street Colac, was built in 1933. The Masonic Lodge is of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Birregurra Masonic Lodge is historically important for its association with returned servicemen from the First and Second World Wars, and the valuable role played by the masonic movement in assisting the servicemen to adjust and adapt to civilian life. The Birregurra Masonic Lodge is important for its social and cultural associations, in providing a social focus for the district's men and, to a lesser degree, their wives. The Birregurra Masonic Lodge is historically important for the ability to illustrate, through the building and additions, the district's membership patterns. The Warrion (Colac), Birregurra and Apollo Bay Lodges are collectively important in demonstrating the growth of the masonic movement in the Shire. The scale, size and modest architectural treatment of the temple is representative of masonic temples in smaller regional centres throughout Victoria.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Forming Associations (9.2)

HISTORY :

Freemasons, or Masons, were essentially members of an educational and ethical society, based on the British model, which formed in many Victorian towns and cities in the late nineteenth century. The first Freemason meeting was held in Melbourne in 1839, where a lodge was opened in 1840.

The Warrion Lodge of Freemasons, as the Colac lodge was called and the first to form in the Shire, was established in 1882.

After the First World War membership increased, as servicemen returned from the war and sort the continued camaraderie gained from all-male groups, independent of the armed forces. Increased membership, and interest in, the Warrion Lodge allowed the Birregurra Masonic Lodge to be formed in 1918. J C Farquarson donated land for a lodge in Strachan Street in 1919, although members met in the Church of England Sunday School until enough money could be raised to construct a temple.

In 1933 the builders, JC Taylor and Sons, constructed a purpose-built temple in Strachan Street. Fund raising functions were held at the temple to pay off the debt incurred by the building, including a 'Ladies Night', which was held for the first time in 1937.

By 1946, after the end of the Second World War, membership numbers in the Birregurra Lodge, and masonic lodges generally, again increased. The resulting increased funds gained by the Birregurra Lodge allowed all debts to be paid off and a credit balance that allowed the addition of a kitchen. In 1967 a new fence was erected around the site.

The Freemason's Hall is important in not only demonstrating the social needs of shire's men, the construction of the building in 1923 also illustrates the society's increased post World War I membership, and the area's increased population.

The freemason lodges attracted many, particularly after the First and Second World Wars when returned servicemen joined in search of camaraderie whilst trying to restructure their lives after years in the armed forces.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Birregurra Masonic Lodge is located on a suburban block in a secondary street off the main street and opposite Birregurra's civic area. The building is a single storey red brick hall with a domesticated neo-Palladian front elevation divided into three bays divided by brick collonettes. Each bay has a domestic scaled timber window with etched glass, the central bay is embellished with a modest cement rendered pediment and Masonic emblems displayed on a central medallion. The main hall to the rear is a simple hall with corrugated iron pitched roof. A small side annexe and entry is a later addition. The original building is very similar to the Masonic Hall in nearby Colac.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HOUSE

Ref. No. : 101

Location : 48 Strachan Street
Birregurra



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber House at 48 Strachan Street, Birregurra, was constructed for local cooper William James in 1867. The House is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The House at 48 Strachan Street, Birregurra, is historically important for its association with the genesis of the town of Birregurra and for its ability to demonstrate the settlement and development of towns in the Shire. The House is aesthetically important in exhibiting the principal design characteristics of a mid-nineteenth century tradesman's dwelling, and for demonstrating the changing needs in housing requirements over a 150 year period. The House at 48 Strachan Street is an early and substantially intact mid-Victorian dwelling, of interest for the retention of its service buildings and remnants of early landscaping.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

Birregurra-on-Barwon (originally known as Bowden's Point) was surveyed in 1862, with the first town blocks offered for sale in 1863. The township had a distinct advantage over the nearby settlement originally called Birregurra, but later renamed Mt Gellibrand, located on the government road now known as the Princess Highway.

Birregurra-on-Barwon had the advantage of a bridge, constructed over the Barwon River in 1862, and a permanent water supply. By 1865 Birregurra-on-Barwon also had two hotels, a population estimated at 100, and 20 dwellings.

In 1867 William James erected his principal residence at 48 Strachan Street. James was a cooper by profession and seems to have done well as he soon owned a number of blocks in the town. He later took on the position of Town Herdsman, a paid position which would have augmented the money gained as a cooper. By 1868 he was also renting 40 acres of James Strachan's land in Irrewarra.

With the advent of the railway to Colac in 1877 Birregurra became a busy cattle-market town, augmented by the later construction of the Birregurra to Forest branch line in 1889. The period 1870s to 1900 was Birregurra's 'hey-dey' and the town flourished until the introduction of the motor car and improved transport links with larger population centres.

William James' house, at 48 Strachan Street, has retained its early outhouses and remains as a legacy of the genesis of Birregurra as a town, and the lifestyles of its early inhabitants.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The house at 48 Strachan Street is a mid-Victorian single storey detached timber dwelling, complete with residual early landscaping and annexed service buildings. The main building is sited with a small offset to the street boundary with the principle façade facing the garden. The building has evolved with two smaller timber annexes to the rear. It is substantially intact and retains a high degree of original fabric.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CAPE OTWAY LIGHTSTATION LANDING SITE

Ref. No. : 102

Location : Blanket Bay
Cape Otway

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 71

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

This was the site where supplies were landed for the Cape Otway lighthouse after 1877, from which they were hauled to the lighthouse by bullock teams. A stone chimney from one of the storage huts and traces of a tramway reputedly remain. Originally there was also a jetty. Three men drowned here when unloading supplies in 1896, and soon after attempts to supply the lighthouse from the sea were abandoned.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CAPE OTWAY LIGHTSTATION

Ref. No. : 103

Location : 1140 Otway Lighthouse Road
Cape Otway

SITE LISTED IN THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER

VHR No. H 1222

VHR STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

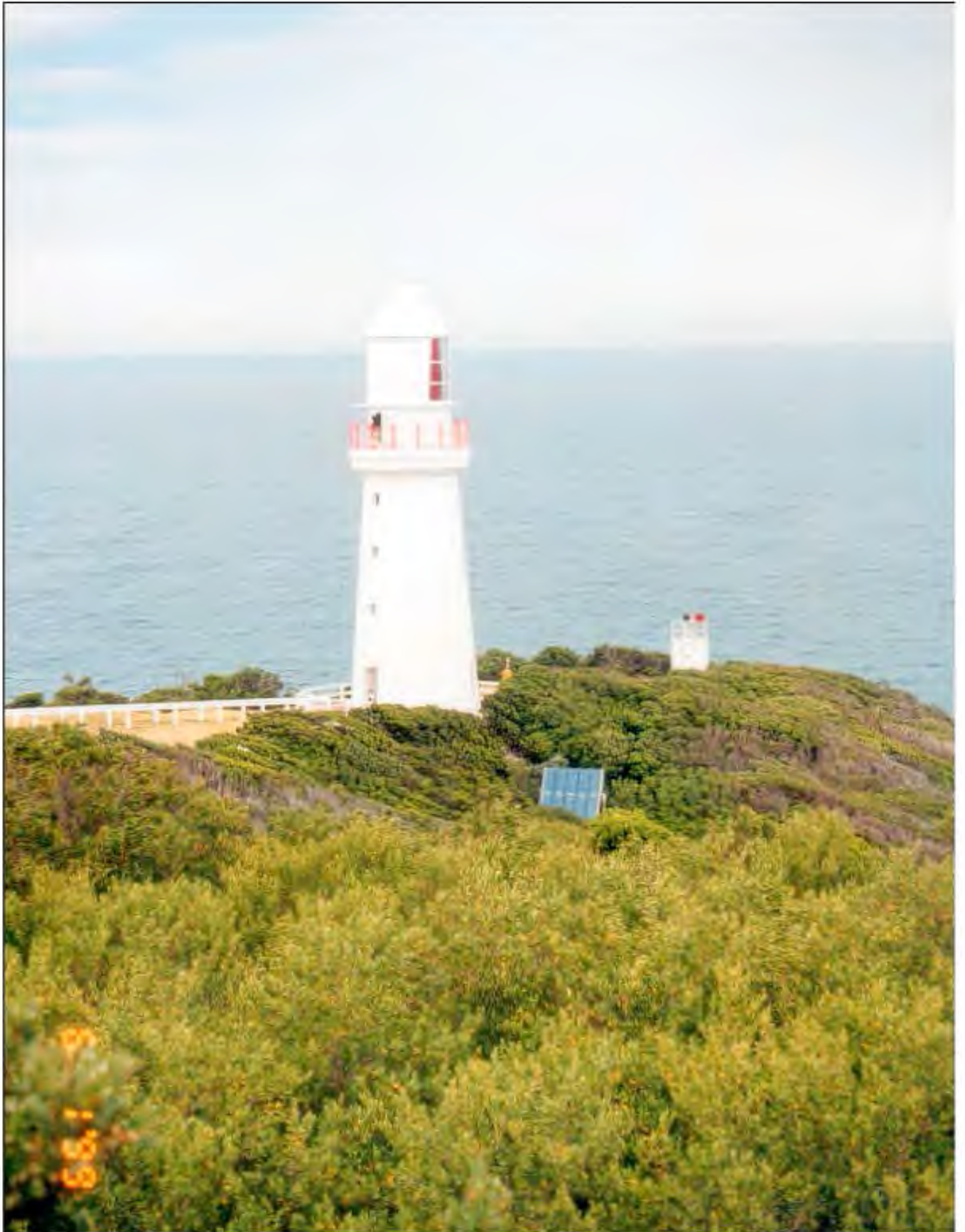
The Cape Otway Lightstation was constructed in 1846-48 following the recommendation of the 1845 New South Wales Select Committee on Lighthouses in response to a number of shipping disasters in Bass Strait. The site was personally selected by Superintendent Charles Joseph La Trobe and the lighthouse was designed by NSW government architect Mortimer Lewis. The lighthouse was built of nearby Parker River sandstone and was altered to accommodate a Chance Bros lantern in 1891. The stone keepers' quarters date from 1857-58, probably to the design of Victorian Public Works Department architect Charles Maplestone, and replace an earlier structure. The two roomed assistant keepers' quarters of c.1848 were later incorporated into the store and workshop building. The signal station was built in 1859 and was a link in the first telegraph connection across Bass Strait. Most of the early buildings, with the exception of the signal station, are in very good condition and have had only slight alteration. The lighthouse no longer operates but retains all its equipment. Also related to the site are a cemetery and the ruined remains of some Second World War military buildings.

Cape Otway Lightstation is of historical, architectural and social importance to the State of Victoria.

Cape Otway Lightstation is historically important because the lighthouse is the oldest surviving lighthouse on the Australian mainland. The lightstation has, since 1848, been a crucially important link in the national system of navigation aids which began with the Macquarie light in 1819. It is also historically important as the usual Australian landfall for ships coming from Europe. The signal station is important for its key role in the relaying of news from Europe to Melbourne before the construction of the overland telegraph.

Cape Otway Lightstation is architecturally important as a grouping early lighthouse buildings. The lighthouse is important as a rare Victorian example of the work of NSW government architect Mortimer Lewis. The keepers' quarters are important as an intact group of lightstation residences and for their associations with Charles Maplestone, who designed the similar and contemporary quarters at Cape Schanck, Wilsons Promontory and Gabo Island, and which together form the best series of lightstation residences in Victoria. The signal station is important as a fine and rare example of a building type.

Cape Otway Lightstation is socially important as a manifestation of the remote yet responsible lifestyle of the lightkeepers and their families. The lightstation was a crucially important outpost which provided a dependable link to the outside world for mariners and the surrounding community. The cemetery, in which are interred the remains of both lightkeepers and their families and victims of marine accidents is an important manifestation of the former isolation of the site.



Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CARLISLE RIVER BUTTER FACTORY

Ref. No. : 104

Location : 25 Moomowroong Road
Carlisle River



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The roughcast Carlisle Butter Factory, located on Moomowroong Road, was built in the 1930s to replace a timber butter factory constructed in 1899 when the co-operative was formed. A cream brick section was added to the complex in about the 1960s. The Carlisle Butter Factory is of historic and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Carlisle Butter Factory is of historic importance in illustrating the growth of the dairy industry in the Shire. The factory is of historic importance in demonstrating the impact of poor transport modes in remote areas of the shire in the early decades of the twentieth century, which limited the development of secondary industry in the area to butter production. The Carlisle Butter Factory is of architectural importance as a reasonably intact, interwar period, industrial dairy complex related to local processing activities. The building is of interest as a utilitarian industrial building displaying stylistic influences more associated with domestic rather than industrial architecture.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

HISTORY :

The Carlisle River area was opened for selection in 1892. As with most other areas in the shire, the new settlers concentrated on clearing their land, fulfilling the requirements of the Closer Settlement Board, and mixed farming.

But the Carlisle River settlement was isolated. Although good dairying country, the produce was difficult to transport to market. However, butter remained fresh for longer than other dairy products on the long journey over unmade roads to the railhead at Colac. So, in 1899, a butter factory was set up by a co-operative – the first public building in the tiny settlement. After the rail line was constructed from Colac to Beech Forest in 1902, the butter was transported to Gellibrand. The rail link, and quicker route to market, also allowed the production of cream. Finally, in 1911, the rail reached Crowes and production increased five times greater than the amount manufactured in 1901, from approximately 26,000 pounds to nearly 147,000 pounds. In the 1930s a new factory was constructed to replace the original timber building erected in 1899, and in the 1940s a manager’s residence was also provided.

The Colac Dairying Company took over the Carlisle business in 1958. The factory was enlarged and extended by the Colac Dairying Company soon after taking over. It continued to manufacture butter at the site. The factory ceased production in 1979, although the business remained open as a dairy supply store until 1994 when the property was sold.

Dairying has played an important role in the growth of the Shire of Colac Otway reflected by the number of dairy-manufacturing factories located throughout the region. These factories now operate as a mapping device for the development of the industry, particularly in the formerly more remote areas where selectors were often struggling to establish an existence on the land.



PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The butter factory is a single storey gable roofed building on a rectangular plan, with roughcast finished external walls and engaged columns expressing the regular structural bays. The essentially industrial building has touches of the bungalow style with the roughcast external wall finish, small eaves overhang to the front gable end, and two humble timber brackets supporting the eaves. The roof’s central section is capped with a small gable roofed and louvred ridge vent or lantern. The building has some ad hoc external additions.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Substantially intact			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CARLISLE RIVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ref. No. : 105

Location : 55 Moomowroong Road
Carlisle River



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Carlisle River Primary School, located in Moomowroong Road, was built in 1916. Alterations and extensions were undertaken in the 1920s and in 1947. The Carlisle River Primary School is a single-classroom building constructed in timber for the Victoria Education Department. The Carlisle River Primary School is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Carlisle River Primary School is historically important in exhibiting the principle characteristics of education facilities provided in the Shire's remote areas. The Carlisle River Primary School is historically important in demonstrating the demographic increase in the district in the early decades of the twentieth century, and after the post-World War II 'baby boom'. The single-classroom Carlisle River Primary School is aesthetically and architecturally important as an early twentieth century example of the Education Department's rural buildings.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

HISTORY :

Under the provisions of the *1872 Education Act*, all children over the age of six had to attend school unless they lived more than two miles away. School was compulsory until twelve or thirteen years of age. Therefore, the date of the establishment of a school in a particular area now provides an indication of the beginnings of stable settlement. The establishment of a school was an important achievement for local residents. Some settlers could neither read nor write, but they recognised the value of at least an elementary education for their children. After the establishment of postal communications, a school was frequently one of the first government facilities offered to a district.

The Carlisle River area was opened for selection in 1892 and soon became a district of predominantly dairying farmers. In 1905 a school was established for the Carlisle River and district children in the local hall. At first the school operated on a part-time basis. In 1910 the Education Department recognised that Carlisle River warranted a full-time school, but the school continued to be operated from the local hall. This arrangement lasted until 28 July 1916 when the Department formally opened a school on donated land a little distance from the hall.

The weatherboard building was initially planned to accommodate 23 pupils, but it was extended in the 1920s and again in 1947 to cater for increased enrolments. These extensions illustrate the population increases at Carlisle River and its surrounding district.

Many of the Shire's smaller schools have now closed, but the Carlisle River Primary School survives, more as an indication of the community's isolation than pupil numbers. The school now provides an example of the many small schools formerly operating in remote areas throughout the Shire.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Carlisle River Primary School is a small single room Federation style timber school on a rectangular plan with galvanised iron Dutch gable roof. The weatherboard clad external walls have large sections of grouped timber, double hung sash windows with glazing bars and highlight hopper windows over. The roof has deep over-hanging eaves with exposed rafters typical of the period.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HOUSE

Ref. No. : 106

Location : 12 Alexander Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Robin Boyd designed the House at 12 Alexander Street Colac, also known as the Winter-Irving house, in 1956 for Clive and Patricia Winter-Irving. The House is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The House is aesthetically important as an excellent example of a domestic design by Robin Boyd, a leading mid-twentieth century architect of the Melbourne School, who is famous for his modernist architectural work associated with structural functionalism and an interpretation of the East Coast International style. The House is aesthetically important through its ability to demonstrate the good design principles of Robin Boyd's style of architecture. The House is historically important through association with Robin Boyd, and for its ability to demonstrate the evolution of his house design principles. The House is historically important for its association with the Winter-Irving family and for demonstrating their social values and aspirations in not only choosing Boyd to design their dwelling, but also for the selection of the prominent site overlooking Lake Colac.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HOUSE

Ref. No. : 107

Location : 1 Bromfield Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Federation Queen Anne Style House, located at the corner of Bromfield & Connors Streets, Colac, was built for Dr Gibbs in 1907. The House is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The house is aesthetically important as a most impressive example of a Federation Queen Anne Style two-storey residence and doctor's surgery, with excellent Art Nouveau detailing. The aesthetic characteristics of the House are demonstrated in the ebullient Art Nouveau render and stained glass detailing around the side verandah door. The House is historically important in demonstrating early twentieth century development of health care in Colac. The House is historically important through illustrating a common practise before the construction of the Colac Community Hospital, the combination of a medical practise with a private hospital. The House is historically important for its location opposite the hospital, and adjacent to the earlier 1892 Lislea House, which is of a similar style. The House is important for its location opposite the hospital and association with the medical precinct that developed in the vicinity.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

THEMES : Hospitals (8.2.2)

HISTORY :

Dr Richard Gibbs took up practice in Colac around 1900 and lived in a small wooden house opposite the hospital, which had been established in 1892. By 1901 the hospital could accommodate 18 patients, and was extended in 1908 to provide 24 beds [Site #110]. The growth of the hospital, along with the early twentieth century movement away from consulting chemists to seeking the advice of doctors, ensured a medical precinct developed in the vicinity of the hospital. Gibbs was one of the doctors who reaped the benefit of the growth in health care.

In 1907 Gibbs demolished his timber house and built a large, two storey brick residence befitting his social status within the town, and close to his private hospital in Connor Street. Sometime after construction was completed it became known as Glen Ora.

Following Gibbs' death in 1919, his practice and private hospital was taken over by Dr Francis Nance who rented Gibb's house from 1919 until 1921. After years of difficulty renting the property, in 1927 Dr Archibald Murray took up rental of the house, but was replaced soon after in 1932 by Dr Thomas Uglow until 1937.

By the early 1930s concern developed in the community that medical facilities were being duplicated through competition from private hospitals. In 1934 overlapping of services began to be discouraged through an agreement reached with the private operators to close private facilities and join with the community hospital. After this, Glen Ora was rented to Alice Hutchinson who operated a guesthouse and was probably utilised by relatives of patients from remote areas.

The house continued to be used as a guest house until 1942 when the Post Master General's Department leased the building for the District Engineer which involved management in engineering, technical matters and line maintenance. The PMG moved out in the late 1970s following staff rationalisation of the District function.

In 1980 the neighbouring legal practice of Arundell, Murray & Ryan acquired the site and relocated to the building.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An excellent example of a two-storey Federation Queen Anne style villa built in 1907, on a prominent site on the corner of a street opposite the community hospital, and purpose built to accommodate a doctor's surgery and private hospital, both with separate entrances. The configuration of the design is complex, made up of several projecting gable wings, returned two-storey verandah, Marseille pattern terra cotta tile roof with decorative ridge cappings and finial, upper storey oriel bay window, cantilevered box windows, heavy bracketed window and door hoods, decorative half timber gable ends, exposed rafters and tongue and groove lined eaves, with timber fret work and most importantly ebullient Art Nouveau render and stained glass detailing around the side verandah door.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed		Altered unsympathetically		

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : FIREMEN'S MEMORIAL

Ref. No. : 108

Location : 1 Calvert Street (GR 725765575369)
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The granite Firemen's Memorial, located at the corner of Corangamite and Fireman Streets, Colac, was unveiled in 1962 to commemorate the "devotion to duty by all firemen who served in the Colac Fire Brigade" since its formation in 1887. The Firemen's Memorial is socially and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The memorial is historically and socially important through association with the Colac Fire Brigade and its volunteer firefighters since 1887. The Firemen's Memorial, and simultaneous naming of Fireman Street, is historically and socially important in demonstrating the value placed by the local community on the voluntary service of Colac's firemen.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

HISTORY :

A fire brigade commenced operations in Colac in 1887 as a loosely formed group. This group continued to function until 1891 when the Country Fire Brigade was established. The Country Fire Brigade was set up under the provisions of the 1890 Victorian *Fire Brigades Act* that set up two boards with similar powers and responsibilities - the Country Fire Brigade and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. The Country Fire Brigade operated in areas beyond the 10 mile metropolitan radius and was a volunteer body. The name was later changed to the Country Fire Authority to distinguish between it and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, and reflect the voluntary nature of the former group.

A memorial to all the firemen who served in the Colac Fire Brigade was unveiled on 10 July 1962, near the time of the brigade's 75th anniversary. The monument is a stone block with a polished granite inset incorporating the text:

This street was named Fireman Street in recognition of devotion to duty by all firemen who served in the Colac Fire Brigade since its inception on 16th July 1887. Ready, Aye, Ready.

The Firemen's Memorial, and naming of Fireman Street, is important in demonstrating the value the local community placed on the voluntary activities of those involved in Colac's fire brigade.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A typical memorial cairn consisting of a rock cut square granite block onto which a bronze plaque has been fixed. The inscription is clearly engraved in varying sized lettering commemorating the establishment of the local Colac Fire Brigade. The cairn is located directly on the ground, with foundations hidden beneath the grass, amidst scattered trees on the edge of an oval.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : LISLEA HOUSE

Ref. No. : 109

Location : 61 Corangamite Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The two-storey Federation Queen Anne style villa Lislea House, also known as Wagenknecht Funeral Home, located at 61 Corangamite Street, Colac, was built in 1892 for local doctor Joseph Wynne as a hospital and residence. Lislea House is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Lislea House is aesthetically important as an impressive example of an early Federation Queen Anne style two-storey residence and doctor's surgery, demonstrated through the decorative banding and fretwork details of the verandah. Lislea House is important for its location opposite the hospital and association with the medical precinct that developed in the vicinity. Lislea House is historically important for its association with the development of health care in the Shire of Colac Otway.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Hospitals (8.2.2)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COLAC COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Ref. No. : 110

Location : 63 Corangamite Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Colac Community Hospital, located at Corangamite and Connor Streets, Colac, was built in 1934 in the Inter-War Functionalism style, to the design of the architectural firm Stephenson & Meldrum. The Colac Community Hospital is aesthetically and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Colac Community Hospital is aesthetically important as an outstanding example of an Inter-War Functionalism style hospital designed by the leading architectural firm Stephenson and Meldrum, who had an international reputation for excellence in hospital design. The 1934 hospital is aesthetically important for exhibiting the principal characteristics of the Inter-War Functionalism style demonstrated in the streamline modernity of the design, which addresses the necessary health and hygiene matters required of the building. The Colac Community Hospital is historically important as the first community hospital established in Victoria. The hospital is historically important for demonstrating the commitment to health care by the council and residents of the shire. The 1934 hospital is important for reflecting the district's demographic growth, which occurred as a result of the subdivision of large pastoral holdings and the development of secondary industry.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Hospitals (8.2.2)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : FIRST COLAC SCOUT HALL

Ref. No. : 111

Location : 100 Dennis Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The First Colac Scout Hall, built in 1940, is located in an open grassy block in Dennis Street, Colac, near the banks of the Barongarook Creek. The First Colac Scout Hall is of historical, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The First Colac Scout Hall is historically important as a purpose built log cabin style hall, built at a time when the scout movement was receiving world-wide recognition as an organisation that taught youth about civic duty and the merits of a healthy out-door life style. The hall is socially important for its ability to demonstrate the value placed by the community on scouting as a recreational activity for Colac and district's youth. The First Colac Scout Hall is aesthetically important as a rustic log cabin building associated with the American Californian bungalow architectural philosophy, demonstrated in the low pitched corrugated gable roof, the chunky detailing, the stone pylon posts, the decorative stained pole walls, and the small multi-paned windows.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

Local

RECOMMENDED LISTING :

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Recreation (9.4)

HISTORY :

Englishman Robert Baden-Powell pioneered the scouting movement in Britain in 1907 and in the first half of 1908 his work, 'Scouting for Boys', was serialised in Australia, prompting the beginnings of the scouting movement in Victoria.

In 1917 the first scout group was formed in the Shire and, although there were 18 scouts recorded as members, the group does not appear to have survived long and no information could be gained of its demise.

A second group was formed in 1925, sponsored by Christ Church. Three more groups were formed in the succeeding few years, sponsored by St Andrew's church, St John's, and a fourth group by Colac Wesleyans.

In 1935 an independent, non denominational group was formed. Although initially designated the Fifth Colac Scout Group, Scouting Headquarters soon decreed the group must adopt the name taken by the 1917 group, the First Colac Scout Group.

The First Colac Scout Group had 17 members in 1935 and met in Morrison's Hall. In July 1935 a meeting of parents and public spirited people met to support the fledgling group. A Cub Pack was formed in 1937, and by 1938 a second Scout Troop was formed, a second Pack in 1939 and a third Pack in 1940.

In 1940 the Apollo Bay builders, Uebergang Brothers, commenced work on constructing the scout hall on the banks of Barongarook Creek. The hall was completed and officially opened on 6th April 1941, totally debt free because of the efforts of the community in raising funds.

The hall utilised plans used for the construction of the Brunswick Scout Hall. The American bungalow style projected, through its design, the outdoor activities promoted by the Scouting Movement to encourage independence, integrity and a healthy life style.

Originally the building consisted of a long hall and four patrol rooms. A kitchen, headquarters room, toilets, store and Venturer's Den were subsequently added.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A long rectangular pole structure built in 1940 and designed as an outdoor cabin to reflect the nature of its users and their activities, the local Scout groups. The building is a charming rustic structure carefully designed and modelled in the American bungalow architectural style, symbolising outdoor oriented, relaxed activities and is located near the banks of the Barongarook Creek. The building has a low pitched corrugated gable roof, chunky detailing, squat pebble/river stone pylon posts to the gable porch, decorative stained pole walls, and small multi-paned windows.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CONVENT OF MERCY

Ref. No. : 112

Location : 1 Fireman Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Convent of Mercy, located in Fireman Street, Colac, was built in 1889 and extensions were added in 1902, 1924 and 1959. The Convent of Mercy is of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Convent of Mercy is historically important in illustrating the growth of education in the Shire and the role played by the Catholic religious order of Mercy nuns in educating the area's Catholic children for over a century. The Convent of Mercy is of social importance in demonstrating significant cultural associations with a large proportion of Colac's population. The Convent of Mercy is aesthetically important for its visual and landmark qualities, and as a representative example of late nineteenth and early twentieth century Catholic convent architecture, identifiable by the austere styling.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

HISTORY :

Catholic education in Colac dates from 1849 when lay teachers operated a school with an enrollment of 30 pupils, which grew after the construction of a purpose-built primary school in 1857. After the Colonial government's *Education Act* was enacted in 1872, and following a marked increase in Colac's population, the Sisters of Mercy were invited by the diocese to establish a school.

The Mercy Sisters commenced their school in Colac in 1888 with 90 primary and 17 secondary students. In June 1889 Bishop Moore laid the foundation stone for the two-storey brick convent. A balcony was added in 1902, and in 1906 a kitchen, dormitory and large schoolroom wing was added to the south. (This wing was demolished in 1991 when the complex was converted to residential units.)

The Gothic style chapel was built to the west in 1909 and in 1924 another wing was added to the east of the convent, when a dormitory, bathroom, music room and three classrooms were constructed.

In 1959, when 550 students were enrolled at the school, two classrooms were added. In the 1990s the Geelong Architects, Cirillo Halse, designed a development of 34 residential units, 7 of them inside the convent. The rest of the convent building was used for community rooms and chapel. The original stained glass windows were retained as well as the cast iron lace on the balcony.

The complex reflects Catholic contribution to education in Colac and the district for a 120 year period.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A large two storey red brick faced 1889 rectangular building, articulated by hip and gable projecting wings to the front and side, with a deep two-storey verandah encircling the building on three sides. The building was designed as a convent and is accordingly quite simple in detail except for the decorative cast iron balcony panels, deep valance and cast iron posts. The verandah roof is clad with corrugated metal sheeting, separate from the main roof, which appears to have been retiled at some stage. Tall original face red brick chimneys are still intact.

Nearby, at right angles, is the Gothic Revival style chapel. The chapel is a tall landmark structure with bold contrast painted rendered banding, brick buttresses, parapet gables, deep rendered cornice, and series of small lancet windows with continuous window mould and lintel banding around the building. The roof is clad with textured terracotta roof tiles.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CARAVAN PARK AMENITY UNITS (24 UNITS)

Ref. No. : 113

Location : Colac Botanic Gardens Caravan park
1 Fyans Street, Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The 24 Caravan Park Amenity Units, located in the Colac Botanic Gardens Caravan Park, were designed and built in the mid-1970s. Each one has been constructed from a single-unit fibreglass module and contains a one-piece fibreglass shower; a stainless steel washbasin with drainage board; toilet; power points and hot water service tank. The 24 Caravan Park Amenity Units are of aesthetic and historic importance to the State of Victoria. The 24 Caravan Park Amenity Units are aesthetically important as excellent examples of late modernist design of the high-tech plug-in space age modular architectural style, demonstrated in the pyramidal or free curved shapes of each unit. The Caravan Park Amenity Units are aesthetically important in demonstrating rarity by combining sanitary services in an innovative functional conception with a futurist design. The Caravan Park Amenity Units are historically important through association with the impact of the motor car and caravan as an affordable alternative for travellers and tourists. The Caravan Park Amenity Units are historically important in demonstrating the efforts of local communities to promote and attract tourists to the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Nominate for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register.

THEMES : Tourism (9.5)

HISTORY :

The Colac City Council had originally planned to follow conventional caravan park design with a communal amenities block, until Councillor Peg Klutke suggested that inspection should be made of a private caravan park with individual facilities. Council and staff were so impressed with the inspection that the original plans were scrapped and replaced with plans for the individual units.

Deputy Engineer Doug Cole designed and managed the project. The design, preparation and construction and supervision broke new ground, not only for council but also for the Colac Waterworks and Sewerage Authority and other authorities. New regulations had virtually to be written by the Trust and Sewerage Authority for the design to be achieved.

Colac City Council officially opened the Lake Colac Caravan Park at Easter 1977. The park was unique in concept for the region and modern in design.

The 24 units provide a one-piece fibreglass shower deep enough to allow it to be used for a bath for children; a deep stainless steel washbasin with drainage board; toilet; power points and hot water service tank. Each caravan hooks up to its own power and drainage pipe.

A feature is the minimum maintenance needed and low risk of vandalism.

The 24 amenity units represent the Colac City Council's attempts to attract tourism to the shire, particularly tourism based on motor car travel. The location, overlooking Lake Colac and adjacent to the Botanical Gardens and children's play area, was considered, at the time, to be ideal. The amenity units were also intended to offer an economical alternative to other forms of holiday accommodation, including motels. They now reflect the Colac City Council's innovative attempts to compete in attracting tourism to the city.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The 24 late 1970s futuristic toilet/shower capsules have each been constructed out of a single-unit fibreglass module, echoing the plug-in city concept of late modernism and captures the image of the new computer and satellite technology. The geometric-like prisms of the earlier minimalists has been relinquished, and these matchbox-like shapes have been sliced, chamfered or serrated in order to stress the 45 degree angle. This has created the pyramidal or free curved shapes, a forerunner to post-modernism and non-linear forms of architecture. The units were originally painted in pastel colours of pink and lime green. All were repainted in 1990.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BOTANIC GARDENS

Ref. No. : 114

Location : 1 Fyans Street
Colac

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC C 395



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE : (derived from Patrick & Wallace, 'Colac Botanic Gardens: A Conservation Study', 1993)

The Colac Botanic Gardens are located on the southern shore of Lake Colac, in Fyans Street. The land on which the Colac Botanic Gardens is located was gazetted in 1865 and in 1868 the then director of the Geelong Botanic Gardens, began the garden's plan. In 1910 William Guilfoyle contributed advice regarding the remodelling and development of the gardens. Colac Botanic Gardens are of historic, aesthetic, social and scientific importance to the State of Victoria. The Colac Botanic Gardens are of historic importance through demonstrating the nineteenth century remnant path lay-out which, though modified in parts, retains much of its earlier form. The Colac Botanic Gardens are of historic importance through association with two pioneers of garden design in Victoria, Daniel Bunce and William Guilfoyle. The Colac Botanic Gardens are of aesthetic importance through demonstrating a degree of intactness, which reveals a form very similar to that existing in the last century and documented in the plan prepared by William Guilfoyle (1910). The Colac Botanic Gardens are of social importance through the role of the gardens and recreation reserve as a site for past community activity. The Colac Botanic Gardens are of social importance in the on-going role of the gardens as a focus for activities by the Colac community. The Colac Botanic Gardens are of scientific importance through the high diversity of plant taxa, and most especially for the fine trees of gardenesque form. The Colac Botanic Gardens are of scientific importance through the presence of rare plant taxa in the gardens eg. *Cupressus forbesii* and *Aonis marginata*.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HOUSE & STABLES

Ref. No. : 115

Location : 16 Fyans Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber House and Stables located at 16 Fyans Street, Colac were designed and built in 1920 by Donald Dunoon for the prominent local identity David Dunoon. The timber House and Stables are of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The House and Stables are aesthetically important in demonstrating the good design attributes of a Californian Bungalow style house with associated stables, and in displaying fine craft work and timber detailing. The House and Stables are historically important for their ability to demonstrate the social status of a member of one of Colac's leading families, and for their association with local architect Donald Campbell Dunoon, partner of Alexander Hamilton. The stables are important as a rare example of a previously common building type, prior to the impact of the automobile and displacement by the more modern garage.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

This substantial Fyans Street timber house and stables were built for David Dunoon in 1920. It was supposedly designed by Dunoon's father the Colac architect Donald Campbell Dunoon (1863-1946), a partner of the prominent western district architect Alexander Hamilton.

David Dunoon had been raised in Colac and his brother, Donald Campbell Dunoon, served on the Colac Council from 1894 to 1920.

The Colac Shire Council employed David Dunoon when he was 31 years old, in 1899, where he remained for 48 years until 1947. He also served as Shire Secretary from 1913 to 1947. As a member of a high profile family, David Dunoon had a status to maintain in Colac and this he expressed in the design of his house located in one of Colac's more prestigious areas. Ironically the stables were constructed within a decade of an increase in car ownership. David Dunoon died a year after retiring in 1948.

After Dunoon's death the house was bought by Gordon Chapman who ran a local engineering works, and was used as his family home.

The property is now able to provide an example the unusual combination of house and stables common prior to the impact of the automobile.



Timber Stables, rear of 16 Fyans Street Colac.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A fine 1920s single storey timber frame weatherboard residence with stables and garage designed by local architect Donald Dunoon, (1863-1946). The building has an evocative atmosphere redolent of early 20th century country living, as suggested by its homely earthy unpretentious character, of simple detailing, low pitched dominant roof, wide overhanging eaves, timber casement windows and casual garden setting; and associated timber weatherboard outbuildings. These are designed in a similar style projecting gable roof, corrugated metal clad, white painted weatherboard cladding, exposed rafters, and corrugated or timber doors, all set behind a painted corrugated high fence.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
& PARISH CENTRE

Ref. No. : 116

Location : 1 Gellibrand Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

St Mary's Catholic Church and Parish Centre complex, located in Gellibrand Street, Colac, was built in white brick to the design of Canberra-based architect Bryan Dowling. The Centre was built in the late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical style, and opened in 1980. A stained glass lantern roof designed by John Knott was added in 1982. St Mary's Catholic Church and Parish Centre is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. St Mary's Catholic Church and Parish Centre is aesthetically important as an innovative Late Twentieth-Century Ecclesiastical style church. St Mary's Church complex is historically important in demonstrating the increased numbers of Catholics in the district. St Mary's Catholic Church and Parish Centre is historically important for illustrating the changing social needs of the district's Catholics. St Mary's Church complex is historically important in demonstrating the liturgical changes brought about by the 1965 Vatican II.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : THE ELMS

Ref. No. : 117

Location : 14-16 Gellibrand Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The single-storey brick house known as The Elms, located at 14-16 Gellibrand Street, Colac, was built for Dr Thomas Foster in 1876. The prominent Western District architect, Alexander Hamilton, designed the Elms in the Victorian Georgian style. The Elms is of historic, and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Elms is historically important as a substantial medical residence, and demonstrates the social pre-eminence and aspirations of the medical profession in Colac in the nineteenth century. The Elms is also historically important for its association with Alexander Hamilton, and for exhibiting the principal characteristics of his residential design style. The Elms is aesthetically important in exhibiting the good design and aesthetic characteristics of the early Victorian Georgian style, for incorporating polychrome stylistic features, and for its extant slate roof.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The single storey brick residence, The Elms, was designed by the prominent Western District architect Alexander Hamilton and built for Dr Thomas Foster in 1876. Medical practitioners enjoyed a high social status within communities, particularly in rural towns. The Elms was designed to reflect this social status enjoyed by Dr Foster in the Colac community.

At the time of construction, the house had ten main rooms, consisting of a drawing room, dining room, library, sitting room, six bedrooms, kitchen, two maids rooms, two pantries, two store rooms, cellar and billiard room, with spacious verandahs on three sides. Dr Foster practised at home and built an out-office as consulting rooms.

In 1896 Dr William Brown acquired the house from Dr Foster, reflecting too his position in the Colac district. Brown appears to have run his practice from the private hospital he established further along Gellibrand Street, at the corner of Manifold Street and opposite where he later built Derrinook private hospital [site #118]. Dr Brown lived at The Elms until his death in 1920.

Local hardware merchant Max Castles then bought the house.

Upon Castle's death in 1949 his widow, Edith, and son Geoff, converted the house to two flats, demonstrating the demand for housing existent in Colac, as elsewhere in Victoria, post World War Two. The house was later sold and reconverted to a single occupancy dwelling.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The single-storey brick residence The Elms was built in the early Victorian Georgian style for Dr T Foster in 1876 by the local architect, Alexander Hamilton. The house is similar in design to the Prince of Wales Hotel [site #150]. Both buildings share similar distinctive quoining detailing for all openings and corners, the arched entrance porch is similar and the bracketed eaves is also of the same design, this also extends to the general height, form, roof design, pitch and brick dimensions and roof materials. The building is articulated by two matching projecting front wings, the layout plan is in a traditional 'H' form. A flat roofed bay window centrally positioned on one wing, contrasts with the overall impression of symmetry. There are neither extant verandahs nor traces of an earlier front fence. Although the verandahs have been removed at some stage, the house is substantially intact.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically		

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COLAC HOUSE

Ref. No. : 118

Location : 29-35 Gellibrand Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber Federation Queen Anne style Colac House, located at the corner of Gellibrand and Manifold Streets, was built in 1903 for the local doctor William Brown. Colac House is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Colac House is historically important through association with Colac's early hospitals, prior to the establishment of the Colac Community Hospital in 1934 [site #110]. Colac House is aesthetically important in exhibiting the principal characteristics of rural hospital architecture at the beginning of the twentieth century, in contrast to later government-designed institutional hospital buildings. The later use of Colac House, after it ceased operations as a private hospital, provides information about Colac's housing shortages, which occurred in the second half of the twentieth century, as well as the district's demographic growth.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Hospitals (8.2.2); Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

In 1903 the well-known Colac medico Dr William Brown erected a commodious weatherboard private hospital in Gellibrand Street. Dr Brown's son Arthur took over the hospital in 1920.

In 1934, as a consequence of a community agreement to close private hospitals in Colac in favour of the new Colac Community Hospital that opened in Corangamite Street in 1934 [site #110], Brown immediately converted the building to six private flats of three and four rooms and rented them. During the post World War Two housing shortage the number of flats was increased to nine.

The property remained in the Brown family until 1958 when it was sold to estate agent Stuart Joyce. It continues in use as rental flats.

The building is now the largest and grandest wooden structure in Colac. The house is also a reminder of the need for private hospital facilities prior to the opening of the Colac Community Hospital in 1934. Its subsequent use as flats reflects the increased population in Colac during the post-war prosperity of the mid-twentieth century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An unusual rambling freestanding single-storey timber frame weatherboard structure designed in the Federation Queen Anne style, which was constructed as a large private hospital. The domestic scale of the large building is slightly incongruous as it has been designed as one long continuous meandering structure. The design is broken up by a strongly articulated façade with projecting decorative gable bays, verandahs and multiple angled roof with brick strap-work chimneys rising high above the corrugated metal roof, their height accentuated by tall red terracotta chimney pots. The exuberant and picturesque original decorative details have been removed, considerably reducing the romantic appeal of the complex. The building is unusual, the more common approach to rural hospital designs at the beginning of the twentieth century being to design hospital complexes either as a series of interconnected pavilions or arranged around quadrangles and courtyards.

The building is substantially intact, although much of the original decorative detailing has largely been removed.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS HALL

Ref. No. : 119

Location : 43 Gellibrand Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The former Independent Order of Odd Fellows (IOOF) Hall, located at 43 Gellibrand Street, Colac, was designed by Alexander Hamilton and completed in 1891. A stage and change room were added in 1914. The former IOOF Hall is historically and aesthetically important to the State of Victoria. The hall is historically important through its association with the significant welfare role played by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows prior to the introduction of social welfare. The building is historically and architecturally important as one of the largest IOOF halls constructed in Victoria. The hall is historically important for its association with the various social activities undertaken by the IOOF within the State. The hall is architecturally important as an example of a Victorian Italianate Classic Revival style purpose-built IOOF hall, which later incorporated a stage and changing rooms. The IOOF Hall is important through demonstrating the prevailing attitudes towards the use of architecture for public show by concentrating the most elaborate decorative detailing and symbolism on the front elevations.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Nominate to the Victorian Heritage Register.

THEMES : Forming Associations (9.2)

HISTORY :

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was a benefit society formed in most Victorian towns and cities in the nineteenth century. The first lodge was established in Melbourne in 1840. In 1858 six lodges were formed in Victoria and by 1864 there were 22, 14 of which were outside Melbourne, including the Colac Lodge.

The aim in forming a lodge was to gain social security in an age when the government provided no welfare services and private charitable organisations were few. Each lodge was financed and run democratically by the members. Their aim was simply to give help when it was needed. The societies attracted many workers for whom a sole wage was a precarious means of support and, in the absence of government pensions, the accumulation of members' contributions established a valuable fund out of which benefits were paid.

In 1863 an Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodge was established in Colac and meetings were held at the Odd Fellows Hotel in Murray Street. Until a simple brick building was constructed in 1870 next to the Common School in East Colac.

The Colac lodge was one of the largest in rural Victoria, and by the 1880s the idea of constructing a hall which could be rented out to other groups for meetings had occurred to the Colac lodge members.

In 1891 local architect Alexander Hamilton was commissioned to design a brick cement rendered hall, on a bluestone base, decorated with pilasters and Corinthian cornices. The hall included an anteroom, Secretary's office and lodge room. The hall was built by Henry Pell and John Bartlett and was available for occupancy by mid 1891. An extension to the west end in 1914 provided for a stage and change room.

The hall was used for lodge purposes as well as hiring out for concerts, shows, public meetings and lectures. At one time it was employed as a hospital ward during a scarlet fever epidemic.

The building became irrelevant to the Lodge by the late 1960s and in 1969 it was sold to Duff's Panel Beating business as a workshop. Duffs opened a large doorway in the south wall, but otherwise did not compromise the building. The building was converted to a restaurant in 1998 when restoration works were also undertaken.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A beautiful Victorian Italianate Classical Revival style, load bearing brick, stucco finished hall, displaying many of the elements which were later remodelled and replicated in the 1923 Free Mason's Hall of the Warrion Lodge in Colac. These features relate to the temple like front elevation as expressed in Palladian style Greek pediment with parapet wall, entablature, frieze and cornice, Corinthian capitals to the pilaster, arched side windows and large central double panelled timber front door. Behind the elaborate front façade the building is simple, shed-like, in style and was designed by the local architect A Hamilton in 1891 and built by H Pell and J Bartlett. The side elevations are simple and there is a west end extension set at right angles to the building.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : LEGACY HOUSE

Ref. No. : 120

Location : 45 Gellibrand Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The red brick Federation Queen Anne style Legacy House, located at 45 Gellibrand Street, Colac, was built in 1915 for Dr Otto Bayer to use as a dentist's surgery and residence. Bayer named it 'Panshanga'. The building was acquired by the legacy movement in 1968 and renamed Legacy House. Legacy House is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Legacy House is aesthetically important as a good example of a late Federation Queen Anne style single-storey residence and dentist's surgery. Legacy House is important for the aesthetic characteristics demonstrated in the building's picturesque design and fine stained glass detailing. Legacy House is important for its location adjacent to the 1903 large rambling former private hospital, Colac House [site #118]. Legacy House is historically important for its association with the development of allied health care in Colac. The building is historically important for its association with the Legacy movement and the welfare role played by legatees in the district in assisting deceased veteran's dependants.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Hospitals (8.2.2); Forming Associations (9.2)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : RAILWAY STATION

Ref. No. : 121

Location : 102a Gellibrand Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Construction of the timber Colac Railway Station, located in Gellibrand Street, commenced in 1877. The station buildings were extended in 1902 and 1950, and alterations were undertaken in 1987. The Colac Railway Station is of historic and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Colac Railway Station is historically important for association with Colac as a rail transport hub. The Colac Railway Station is historically important for association with Colac as the main retail and business centre in the region, the railway being the critical factor in the economic development and growth of the region. The Colac Railway Station is also historically important for its relationship to the growth of primary industry in the area through the provision of transport facilities for the timber and dairy industries, for potatoes and onions, as well as a variety of forms of secondary industry. The Colac Railway Station is important aesthetically as a good example of country regional railway centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Railways & Railway Stations (4.3)

HISTORY :

The Colac broad gauge railway opened in 1877 following the extension of the railway from Winchelsea. By 1900 facilities at Colac had been extended to accommodate the extra services offered after the line was extended to Camperdown, another laid to Beeac in 1889; and to Forrest in 1891. These facilities included the construction of a wooden office, parcels room, waiting lobby, and refreshment room with residence on the north side, plus a locomotive shed and turntable. On the south side, a goods shed and freight yard were built.

In 1902 an extensive narrow gauge yard was laid out on the south for the Beech Forest railway which opened in the same year, and also included locomotive servicing facilities, a transfer shed, crane and passenger shelter.

By 1912 Colac Railway Station was the hub for both broad and narrow gauge lines, with trains running on the Geelong-Camperdown line, the Irrewarra-Beeac-Ballarat and the Birregurra-Forrest lines. The lines provided essential transport for produce, timber and other freight and were depended on by the small selector-farmers in the shire, as well as the larger pastoralists and Otway timber-mill owners.

By 1920, 80 staff were employed at Colac, including ten locomotives crews, and the station was graded as Class 2, - the second-highest classification in the State. Soon after, in 1922, a line was put through to Alvie, assisting in the development of the potato industry in that region.

In the 1950s the goods shed was extended and an electric crane installed. The narrow gauge yard was removed in 1962 and other facilities were subsequently trimmed. In 1978 the Freight Centre concept was introduced and a large open shed erected south of the goods shed. The Refreshment Room closed in 1983 following the introduction of on-train catering and new ticketing. Waiting facilities were incorporated into part of the old refreshment rooms in 1987.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The railway station was built in 1877 at 102a Gellibrand Street to the west of the then centre of Colac. This location allowed room for expansion, which occurred over the next decades to include wardens office, parcel room, waiting lobby, refreshment rooms and residence, locomotive shed, turntable, goods shed and freight yard. The place continued to expand over the twentieth century with a new turntable in 1928, additional sheds and other alterations to the original buildings. The original timber weatherboard offices and station remains, although they have lost their earlier decorative architectural detailing along the front entrance and are surrounded by later accretions. However, the earlier Victorian Italianate style is clearly visible in the block roof form, domestic scale, hip roof and central roof lantern and elegant Italianate rendered chimneys. The whole site has importance for its various associated structures.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : RAILWAY TURNTABLE

Ref. No. : 122

Location : 102a Gellibrand Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Railway Turntable, located on the same site as the Colac Railway Station [site #121] in Gellibrand Street, was built in 1928 to replace a smaller turntable. The Railway Turntable is of scientific, historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Railway Turntable is of scientific importance as one of the few remaining of its size and type in Victoria. The Railway Turntable is historically important through its ability to demonstrate the method of turning steam locomotives. The Railway Turntable is historically important through association with the development of Colac as a rail hub, a development that contributed significantly with the economic growth of the region. The Railway Turntable is of social importance to the community, who demonstrated their belief in the value of its retention and assisted in its conservation.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Railways & Railway Stations (4.3)

HISTORY :

The locomotive turntable is the second such installation at Colac. The first turntable was a small 50 feet long structure that served from 1877. It was constructed because it was necessary to turn the train around, because of the limited reverse speed of steam locomotives that ran engine-first with the coal and water tender behind.

The Colac railway station developed into an important train servicing locale with fitters and train examiners due to traffic volumes and radiating branch lines [see site #121].

The introduction of larger locomotives in the 1920s led to the need for longer turntables, so in 1928 a 70 feet table was placed in service.

The continued importance of Colac was confirmed by the retention of the turntable into the 1970s, after such installations were abolished elsewhere. The table fell into disuse in the late 1970s but was refurbished through the joint efforts of the Victorian Railways and the community in 1981.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A large substantially intact 1928 railway turntable, comprising a 70 foot table built by the Railways to replace an earlier turntable. The turntable was restored in the 1980s after falling into disrepair following discontinued use in the 1970s.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CEMETERY

Ref. No. : 123

Location : 56 Gravesend Street
Colac

SITE RECOMMENDED FOR PROTECTION IN 1997 LAND CONSERVATION COUNCIL REPORT
LCC B109



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Colac cemetery contains graves of many notable people, and some distinctive grave monuments. The cemetery is surrounded by a large cypress hedge with clipped bays and alcoves on the inside fence. Entry is through substantial cast-iron entrance gates, and nearby features include an Edwardian shelter pavilion and a Canary Island palm.

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

HISTORY :

Ida McIntosh provides the following information in *Forest Lakes and Plain* (pp. 63-64):

The establishment of a cemetery was no doubt all important to the community. Although it is known that the Colac Cemetery was used as early as the 1850s, it was not until 2 December 1895 that the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, 'reserved temporarily, from sale and leasing ... seventeen acres ... commencing at the east side of Gravesend Street and the south side of Hearn Street ... for the Colac Cemetery. The Colac Cemetery Trust was formed at least some ten years before this, although existing records don't show the exact time. It was thought to be around 1880. The first trustee listed was Mr James Yardley on 20th march 1885, although it is believed that there were several appointees prior to that date. The cemetery was designed with denominational areas set aside; for example, Presbyterian, Anglican, Methodist and Roman Catholic. Mrs Susanna Hall O'Hair, wife of Mr John O'Hair and formerly of Armagh Ireland, was the first internment of the Roman Catholic section of the cemetery on the 11th August 1868. The Cemetery trust operates in a supervisory capacity and has initiated improvement, including the construction of a lawn cemetery, a scheme which was implemented in 1979. Provision was also made for the ashes of the deceased to be accommodated.

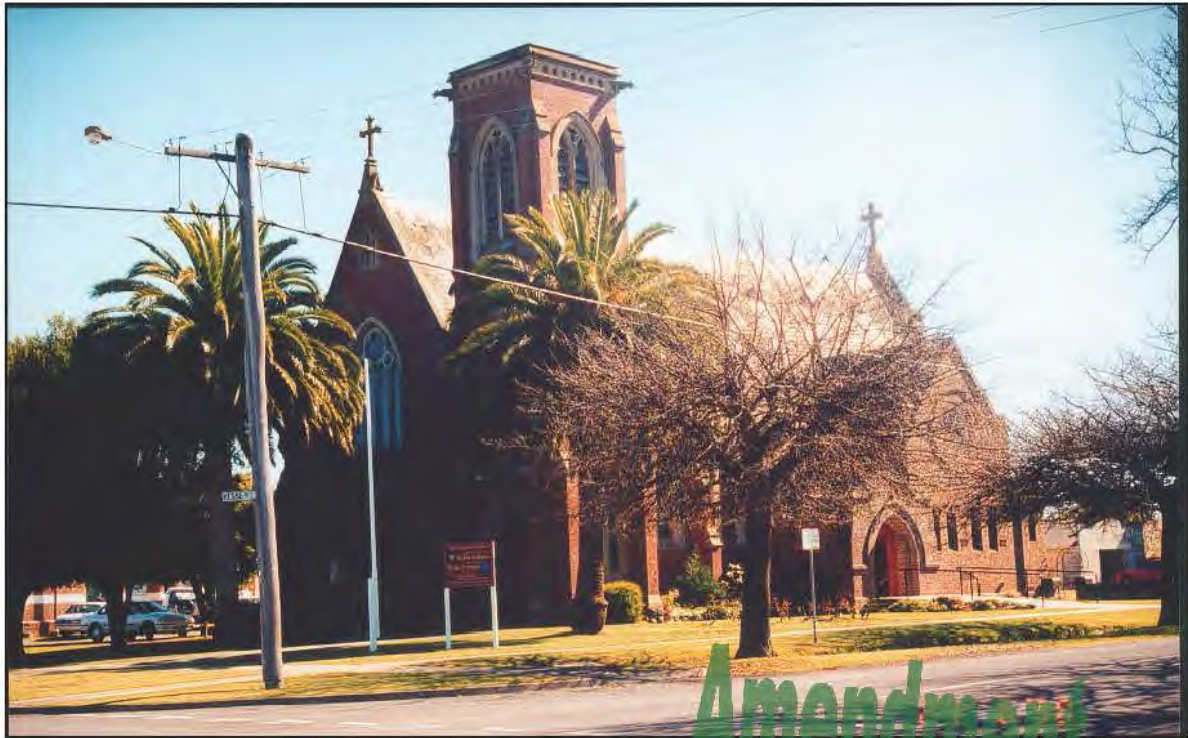
Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ST JOHN THE BAPTIST & ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANGLICAN CHURCH, & PARISH HALL

Ref. No. : 124

Location : 19-23 Hesse Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The brick St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist Anglican Church Complex, located on Hesse Street in Colac, was constructed in 1891. An extension, designed by Louis Williams, was added in 1934. The Parish Hall, also in brick, was built in 1902 to accommodate a grammar school and was subsequently used as a Sunday School. The St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist Anglican church and Parish Hall are of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Church is aesthetically important as an attractive Gothic-early-English Revival church with a beautiful square tower. The Parish Hall is aesthetically important as a fine example of the Federation Free Classical style, demonstrated by the Arts and Craft style proportioning, the use of brick and render contrasting bands, the glazing bars on the upper windows only, all combining to convey a self-confidence in society's growing prosperity. The Church is historically important in demonstrating the growth of Anglicanism in the shire in both the 1891 building and the 1934 Louis Williams' designed extension. The Complex is of historic importance for the ability to illustrate the significant social and educative role played by churches in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The adjacent Parish Hall is historically important in demonstrating the social role played by Anglicanism in the region as a religious and educational institution.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

Amendment – c. 2004 St John's Close multi-dwelling units excluded from planning scheme.

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

The Anglican movement was slow to gain a foothold in Colac, where non-conformist religions originally predominated. Whilst the Anglican Church also provided an ethnic focus, because the English were the dominant migrants in Victoria, they needed less aid in adapting to their new surroundings. Thus it was not until 1870 that a brick church was erected in Hesse Street for Anglican Church worshippers. Within ten years the building proved to be too small and in 1891 a new, grander and larger church was built, and the bricks from the old church were used in 1893 in constructing the Vicarage.

The construction of a more substantial church, in a traditional Gothic-early-English Revival design, is illustrative of not only to an increased number of adherents to the Anglican religion in Colac, but also the commitment of the local parishioners to their church. The new church was in brick and built by Mr Belyea as the principal contractor, and Robert Bell executed the masonry work.

The church was found to be too small as the twentieth century advanced. It was considerably enlarged at the north end in 1934. The extensions were designed by the notable twentieth century architect, Louis Williams, who was commissioned to design many Anglican churches in the early twentieth century. He was also commissioned to design extensions for other nineteenth century Anglican churches throughout Victoria including St Andrews, New Street Brighton; St Johns Portland; and All Saints Newtown.

A Parish Hall and Sunday School was constructed in 1902 whilst the Reverend Peacock was minister. Peacock was energetic and was the instigator behind the construction of the Parish Hall, which accommodated a Grammar School, opened on 6 May 1902



St John the Baptist & St John the Evangelist Anglican Parish Hall

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

St John the Baptist and St John the Evangelist Anglican church is a handsome Gothic-early-English Revival brick church with a square tower, which was built by Belyea and Robert Bell in 1891. The church was extended on the north side in 1934 by the architect Louis Williams, and contractor A Ackland. The Parish Hall was designed and constructed in 1902 in the Federation Free style with Arts and Craft style detailing, brick and cement rendering, detailing bands.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Amendment – c. 2004 St John's Close multi-dwelling units excluded from planning scheme.

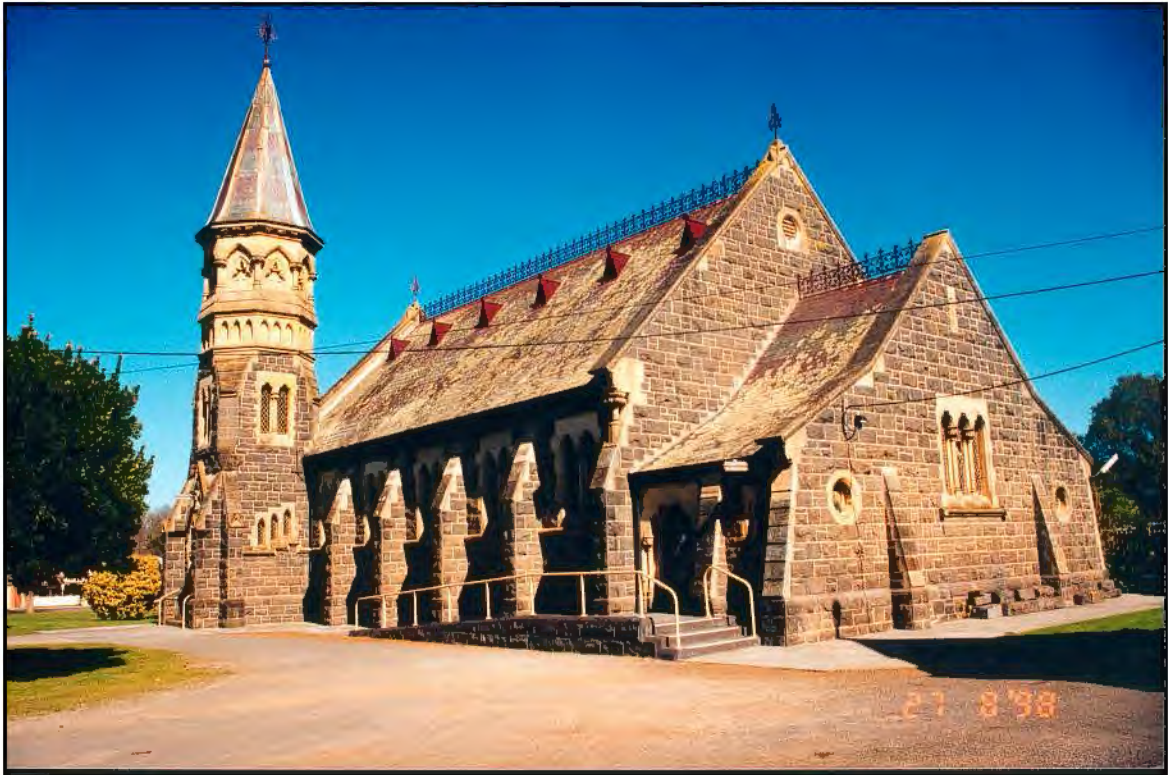
Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ST ANDREW'S CHURCH (1877) &
SUNDAY SCHOOL (1854)

Ref. No. : 125

Location : 25 - 29 Hesse Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The bluestone St Andrew's Church was built in 1877 in Hesse Street Colac. The bluestone church replaced an earlier brick church, built in 1854. The 1854 brick church was converted into a Sunday School after the bluestone church was completed. The St Andrew's Church and Sunday School complex is of aesthetic, historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The 1877 St Andrew's Church and 1854 Sunday School building are aesthetically important as excellent examples of church architecture. St Andrew's Church is aesthetically important as a mixed Gothic French Revival church with an outstanding and unusual octagonal bluestone tower and spire. The Sunday School is aesthetically important as an attractive and very early simple Gothic Revival church. The Church and Sunday School are historically important through association with Presbyterian Scots, who predominated as an ethnic group amongst the shire's early settlers, and demonstrates the district's early cultural influences. The Complex is historically important in illustrating the economic pre-eminence and success of the Scottish Presbyterian settlers in the area, demonstrated by the juxtaposition of the simple 1854 brick church (later the Sunday School) to the grandeur of the 1877 bluestone and Waurin Ponds freestone Church. St Andrew's Church is socially important for the role the institution played in assisting Scottish migrants to settle in the district.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : FREEMASON HALL

Ref. No. : 126

Location : 34 Hesse Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The substantially intact red brick Freemason Hall, located at Hesse Street, Colac, was built in 1923 for the Warrion Lodge. The Freemason Hall is of aesthetical, historical and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Freemason Hall is aesthetically important as an outstanding example of the Inter-War Free Classical style, purpose built temple. The hall is aesthetically important for exhibiting the principle characteristics of the Inter-War Free Classical style, demonstrated in the façade's fine craftsmen detailing. The Freemason Hall is historically important for its association with the formation of the Warrion Lodge in 1893, and the lodge's subsequent growth as a result of the closer settlement movement and following the First and Second World Wars. It is also historically important for its ability to illustrate the increase in membership and activity of the Warrion Lodge after the First World War, which provided the finances for the construction of the hall. The Freemason Hall is also important for its social and cultural associations with the district's men, particularly returned servicemen following the First and Second World Wars.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Forming Associations (9.2)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : MANIFOLD STREET CULVERTS

Ref. No. : 127

Location : Manifold Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Road Culverts located in Manifold Street, Colac extend the length of the street from Queen Street to Grant Street. The Culverts on the south side of Manifold Street are formed from concrete, and those on the northern side are formed from bluestone. The Culverts were constructed by the Shire in two stages, in 1897 and 1901, the road was asphalted in 1903, following which the street plantings were established. The Manifold Street Road Culverts are historically and aesthetically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Manifold Street Road Culverts are historically important through association with the formation and development of local government in the area, whose main responsibility initially was the provision of services and infrastructure to ratepayers. The Manifold Street Road Culverts are aesthetically important through exhibiting a richness and diversity through the integration of features including the culverts, street plantings and absence of road curving, which all together demonstrate late nineteenth and early twentieth century residential road formation.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Formation of Local Government (8.1)

HISTORY :

The Shire of Colac was formed in 1864 under the terms of the *Municipal Institutions Amendment Act* (1863). The first task was to establish a local council, then it was necessary to construct a Shire Hall that would suitably define and create a distinction for the newly-formed government. The prominent architects Alexander Davidson and E G Ovey were commissioned and Colac's Shire Hall was completed and ceremoniously opened in 1878. With this task completed, the councillors could then look to developing the less-exciting aspects of the infrastructure necessary for a town.

Colac's streets were generally not formed until the 1870s, after the building of a meeting place for the council and suitable edifice, and the focus initially was on those areas, like Murray Street, that attracted the greater traffic. The construction of residential roads were delayed until funds became available, and it was not until the 1880s and 1890s that government grants were available for kerb and channel work.

Manifold Street was kerbed and channelled in three separate works programs in 1897, 1901 and 1903. Contractor J Pell undertook the work. Asphalt was laid to the roadway in 1903 by Conway and Evans.

The street works provide evidence of the growth of local government and the projects undertaken in providing the infrastructure of towns in the Shire.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Manifold Street road culverts, formed of concrete, extend along the south side of the road from Queen Street to Grant Street. On the north side the culvert is formed from bluestone and extends the length of Manifold, from Queen Street to Grant Street. The planting of exotic trees and the absence of guttering along the road verges is contiguous with early nineteenth century road forms, and adds to the aesthetic importance of the site. In the mid-twentieth century ramps were formed across the verges at various intervals to enable vehicular access to residential properties.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	Highly intact			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	<u>Damaged/disturbed</u>				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : THORNBANK

Ref. No. : 128

Location : 44 Moore Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Thornbank was constructed in three stages. The first stage in 1870, utilising rusticated bluestone. The house was then a modest size and was built for John Bartlett, the Colac Shire Council's Engineer. Two other extensions were undertaken later, in about 1885 and again in 1910. These extensions doubled the size of the house. Thornbank is of historic importance and architectural interest to the Shire of Colac Otway. Thornbank is of historic importance for its ability to demonstrate, in the original section and through the various additions to the house, the evolution of housing and construction methods in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. Thornbank is of architectural interest for the mix of Victorian Free Classical and Victorian Free Gothic styles. Rusticated stone, arched windows, and slate covered roof, combined with the corrugated iron verandah roofs, elaborate bargeboards and rendered walls, provide an unusual composition and provide architectural evidence of the house's evolution.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : HOUSE

Ref. No. : 129

Location : 56 Moore Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The brick polychrome Federation style house located at 56 Moore Street, Colac was built in 1902 for local identity Ernest Forbes. The house is aesthetically and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The house is aesthetically important as an excellent example of 1900s Federation architectural style, which displays fine timber craftsmanship in its detailing. The Federation-style house at 56 Moore Street, Colac is historically important in demonstrating Colac's early twentieth century prosperity, and for association with a prominent Colac identity Ernest Forbes, who chose to publicly exhibit the success of his business and wealth by constructing a home in the fashionable Federation style.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ADAM REA'S STORE

Ref. No. : 130

Location : 1 Murray Street
Colac

SITE LISTED IN THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER.

VHR No. H 433



VHR STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Draft) :

The building at 1 Murray Street Colac is one of a small group of surviving and relatively intact single storey shops from the period. It is a well-proportioned emporium prominently located within the original section of the town and architecturally detailed and finished with a remarkably high degree of sophistication for buildings of that period located outside one of the major shopping streets in Melbourne. It is considered that Adam Rea was a man of some importance in the development of Colac and district.

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : POST OFFICE (fmr)

Ref. No. : 131

Location : 4 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The two-storey Victorian Academic Classical Post Office building, located at the beginning of the commercial area in Murray Street, Colac, was built in 1888. A telephone exchange was installed in 1904 and extensive renovations were undertaken in 1950. The Colac Post Office is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Post Office building is aesthetically important as an impressive example of a two-storey Victorian Academic Classical style that has been strongly influenced by the principal design motif used in the Colosseum (Rome AD 70). The Post Office building is historically important as a nineteenth century purpose-built regional post office, its size illustrating the demographic composition of the district it serviced. The location of the Post Office building, adjacent to Colac's grand civic and commercial buildings, is historically important in reflecting the pre-eminence of the town as a regional centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Postal Communications (4.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COLAC SHIRE HALL (fmr)

Ref. No. : 132

Location : 6 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Colac Shire Hall building and cast iron palisade Fence is located at 6 Murray Street, near the entrance to the commercial strip of Colac's main street. Alexander Hamilton designed the two-storey stuccoed building in the Victorian Academic Classical style in 1892. The Colac Shire Hall building and Fence are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Colac Shire Hall building is historically important through association with the formation and development of local government in the area. The Shire Hall building is historically important as a prestigious 1892 shire hall, and demonstrates the development and prosperity of the district at the end of the nineteenth century. The Colac Shire Hall building is aesthetically important as an excellent example of a carefully controlled Victorian Academic Classical style building, complimented by the cast iron palisade Fence. The Colac Shire Hall building and Fence are aesthetically important in demonstrating the principle characteristics of Alexander Hamilton's design principles. Together with the adjacent Post Office building (1888) [site #131], the Shire Hall provides aesthetic and formal architectural qualities to the location.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Formation of Local Government (8.1)

HISTORY :

The Colac Shire Council was formed in 1864 and the next year, in 1865, erected a modest suite of offices. These premises were inadequate within a decade but it was not until the boom times of the 1880s that a replacement was affordable.

Early in 1892 Alexander Hamilton was commissioned to design a new Shire Hall which was opened in September 1892.

The building is of Colac brick, cement rendered, resting on bluestone foundations and designed in the Victorian Academic Classical style. When built, the ground floor consisted of a Secretary's office, Engineer's room, contractor's room and strong room. Attached to the rear was accommodation for the Rate Collector and Weights and Measures Inspector. The first floor housed the Shire Council Chamber and Committee Room.

A six-room addition in Colac brick was erected in 1964 to cater for increased staff and record storage, but in 1991 another substantial addition was needed. The office remained in use until 1994 when municipal amalgamation occurred.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A dignified two-storey stuccoed shire hall designed in the Victorian Academic Classical style, reflected in the scholarly and formal use of classical architectural detailing, based on the European Renaissance interpretation of Imperial Rome, using long established conventions of proportion, subdivision and placement of elements. The ground floor arched windows are framed between Doric order pilasters which support an entablature on which rests the upper storey Corinthian pilasters framing aedicule rectangular windows, formally terminating in a deep cornice above which rises the hipped tiled roof. A formal central portico entrance and steps, which project out in line with the elegant cast iron palisade front fence, break the symmetrical façade. The Shire Hall standing beside the former Post Office [site #131] creates a formal civic complex at the beginning of the main commercial street of Colac. The building is substantially intact, although a 1960s cream brick addition was built to the rear. The original roof finish has also been replaced at some stage.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : UNION BANK (fmr)

Ref. No. : 133

Location : 15 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The red brick former Union Bank (later ANZ Bank) building, located at 15 Murray Street, Colac, was designed by Walter Butler in the Inter War Old English style and built in 1938. The Union Bank building is aesthetically and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The building is historically important for its association with Walter Butler, the well-known architect who was responsible for the design of many notable buildings in Melbourne and Victorian regional centres. The former Union Bank building is aesthetically and architecturally important in exhibiting the principle characteristics of Walter Butler's design principles, demonstrated in the tall chimney-end gable parapet walls and the decorative render banding of the walls and central arched entrance. The bank building, constructed at a time when Colac was emerging from the constraints of economic depression, is also historically important in expressing, in built form, the confidence held by the banking corporation in Colac's development. The building is also historically important for demonstrating 1930s changes in corporate philosophy with the introduction of a more homely image in an effort to win the business of rural communities.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The Union Bank was initially established in Colac in the 1880s in premises at 15 Murray Street. In 1938 the original building was replaced with a modern two storey brick banking chamber and offices. The building also included a manager's residence that comprised three rooms on the ground floor and four on the first floor.

The bank was designed by English architect Walter Butler (1864-1949), one of Melbourne's favourite architects for the wealthy in the early twentieth century. Butler designed many notable buildings including the Mission to Seamen's Building (Flinders Street Extension - VHR 946) and the Queensland Building (Williams Street - VHR 445), both in Melbourne, as well as many notable private residences.

In 1951 the Union Company merged with the Bank of Australasia to form the Australian and New Zealand (A.N.Z.) Banking group and the branch adopted the same name. The branch closed in 1975 and its business was transferred to another A.N.Z. branch in Murray Street.

The former bank building was constructed at a time when Colac was emerging from the constraints of an economic depression and is able to express the positive attitude the banking corporation held for the future of Colac.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A two-storey red brick purpose built bank designed in the Inter War Old English style often commonly referred to as the 'Stockbroker's Tudor', a popular domestic style of architecture associated with the *nouveau riche* English businessman's residence which developed around the commuter belt of London in the 1920s and 1930s. The style also became popular in Australia, especially amongst those, who idealised the English tradition and the concept of the 'Home' country. The building was designed by English architect, Walter Butler (1864-1949), one of Melbourne's favourite architects for the wealthy. He was known with his nephew Richard Butler, for working in the Arts & Crafts and Old English styles. The characteristics elements of the building relate to tall chimney end gable parapet walls, shingled roof, decorative render banding of the walls, the central arched entrance, the triple and double casement windows, multiple upper panes to the front bay window, which appears altered from the original.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : REGENT PICTURE THEATRE

Ref. No. : 134

Location : 19-21 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Art Deco Regent Picture Theatre, located at 19-21 Murray Street, Colac, was built 1925 for John McDonald who named it the Paramount. The theatre was altered in 1939, 1955 and 1979. The Regent Picture Theatre building is of social, historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Regent Theatre building is socially important for its association with the entertainment and recreational activities of Colac and district residents, encompassing its use as a picture theatre to its current operation by the Colac RSL as a club. The Regent Theatre building is historically important as a good example of a 1920s provincial purpose-built theatre. The Regent Theatre building is historically important for demonstrating twentieth century changes in entertainment through alterations to the use of the building. The Regent Theatre building is aesthetically important for exhibiting the characteristic principles of early Art Deco style theatre, designed in the classical heroic manner. The Regent Theatre is aesthetically important as a building that provides evidence of changing attitudes and cultural patterns of Colac's local community.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Recreation (9.4)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : MORAN & CATO SHOPS

Ref. No. : 135

Location : 23-25 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Shop pair at 23-25 Murray Street Colac was constructed for the grocery chain Moran and Cato in 1911. The Moran and Cato Shops are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The shops are historically important through their association with Colac's retail development and demonstrate the early twentieth century commercial growth of the town. The Moran and Cato Shops are historically important for their ability to demonstrate the area's prosperity and illustrate the growth of Colac as a retail centre within the region. The Moran and Cato Shops are aesthetically important as substantially intact good examples of Federation Free Classical style commercial premises which demonstrate quality shop front window detailing, specifically the delicate stained glass upper fanlights incorporating the proprietor's name.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

Moran and Cato were an importing and manufacturing grocery firm established in 1881 at the height of Melbourne's economic boom. By 1890 the firm had opened 34 shops in the suburbs of Melbourne, gaining the distinction of being one of the first retail chain stores in Victoria.

By 1902 the firm had survived the 1890s economic depression, had established 51 shops in suburban Melbourne, and begun to focus on other areas where the grocery business could be developed.

In 1911 the firm built a double shop, each with frontages of 16 feet, in a prime area of Murray Street within the civic and banking precinct. The firm was astute not only in choosing a site for the business; the business was also set up at a time of prosperity for Colac which had become the hub of the railway for the district and was able to attract people from the rural area of the region to the regular cattle sales.

One shop was used as the grocery store from which the Moran and Cato firm operated, and the other was let as a café.

The firm carried on the grocery trade in this shop until 1956 when it moved operations further along Murray Street to more modern premises. The old premises then became a Disposals Store. The two shops were eventually sold to a local investor who leased to a variety of tenants over the years.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A pair of 1911 single storey double fronted commercial shops originally built as a grocery with attached café. The building is designed in a restrained Federation Free Classical style, very typical of pre First World War commercial premises. The style is demonstrated in the classical detailing of the parapet wall with central pediment, small pilasters, and large consoles supporting the cornice. A corrugated iron skillion verandah supported by simple square timber posts extends out over the pavement. The shop front windows are finely detailed with deep, but delicate stained glass upper fanlights with insert mirror framed proprietor's nameplate 'Moran & Cato' written in Arts and Craft style lettering, metal framed display windows, central recessed doors, glazed ceramic blue tiles to the plinth and elaborate tessellated and terrazzo tiles to the entrance floor.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically		

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : STATE SAVINGS BANK (fmr)

Ref. No. : 136

Location : 24 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Inter-War Colonial or Georgian Revival State Savings Bank building, located at 24 Murray Street, Colac, was built in 1921. The State Savings Bank building is of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The State Savings Bank building is historically important in demonstrating the twentieth century growth of Colac, as well as illustrating the rationalisations that occurred in the banking industry in the last decades of the century. The State Savings Bank building is aesthetically important through its location adjacent to several other similarly designed classical buildings in Murray Street, lending this section of the street a formal civic character. The bank building is socially important through association with the development of savings banks in the Shire and the role these institutions played in providing financial assistance to Colac and district residents in purchasing homes. The State Savings Bank building is historically important for its potential to educate the role of banking in Colac's development and its relationship to civic institutions.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The State Savings Bank was established in the new Colony of Victoria in 1852, and commenced business in Colac in 1882. The banking business operated out of premises at 24 Murray Street from about 1900, however the growth of business in the post World War One boom showed up the inadequacies of these facilities and brought about the need to provide larger premises.

In 1921 the old premises were replaced with a two-storey building of nine rooms which included a banking chamber and offices on the ground floor, and manager's residence on the first floor.

The bank manager lived on the premises until 1956 when the rear and upstairs portion were turned into offices for several state government departments. The bank vacated the premises in the early 1990s when branch rationalisation was carried out and the State Bank of Victoria was taken over by the Commonwealth Bank.

Substantial renovations and additions were undertaken in 1940, 1956 and 1963.

The State Savings Bank was instrumental in providing housing loans for many home owners in the decades after the First World War. The former bank illustrates the twentieth century growth of Colac, as well as the rationalisations which occurred in the banking industry in the last decades of the century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A well proportioned Inter-War Colonial or Georgian Revival commercial building built in 1921, consisting of a well ordered symmetry, highlighting features from the classical order such as expressed plinth, heavy rusticated coursing on the ground level, smooth stuccoed finish to the upper level, regular fenestration, breakfront articulating the front elevation, emphasised by pediments, first storey pilasters, heavily moulded stringer course and cornice, parapet roof line. The front door is located to one side and has upper Georgian style fanlight. This feature is repeated above the ground floor windows, which appear to have been modified at some stage. The building stands adjacent to the 1886 Italianate styled former National Bank, which it compliments in design. The building is substantially intact, although the ground floor windows may have been modified at some stage.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : NATIONAL BANK (fmr)

Ref. No. : 137

Location : 28 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Italianate former National Bank at 28 Murray Street, Colac was built in 1886. The former Colac National Bank and cast iron palisade fence are of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The former National Bank building and cast iron palisade fence are aesthetically important through exhibiting the good design characteristics of nineteenth century bank design. The former National Bank building and cast iron palisade fence are important for their aesthetic attributes and style, typical of early purpose built 1880 bank buildings. This style was a forerunner to that developed as a common generic style for banking institutions throughout Australia until the Second World War. The former National Bank is historically important for its association with Colac's nineteenth century economic growth. The former National Bank is also historically important for its association with Colac Men's Club, which operated from the building between 1932 and 1972.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The first bank in Colac was the National, which commenced operations from the Victoria Hotel in 1864. In 1866 a purpose built banking chamber was erected at 28 Murray Street. This sufficed until 1886.

During a period of economic growth in Colac the old 1866 building was demolished and replaced with a new two-storey structure. The design of the new building allowed for offices and banking chambers on the ground floor and a manager's residence on the first floor.

The building was used for banking until 1918 when it became redundant, following the merger with the Colonial Bank. The National Bank then sold the building to Augustus Cunningham, a local solicitor.

Cunningham ran his legal practice from the building and lived on the site. Upon his death in 1928 Thomas Byrne took over the practice, which seems to have occupied only a couple of rooms.

The rest of the building was eventually used for a professional social club called The Colac Men's Club. This Club was formed in 1932 and bought the building in 1937.

Over the years the law practice functioned as Cunningham & Byrne and then as Cunningham & Larkins. The Colac Club folded in 1972 due to declining membership, and the premises were sold.

The law practice moved out in 1973, after which plans were made to convert the building to a restaurant or motel, but it continued to be leased as office space.

The former bank building remains as a reminder of the economic growth experienced in Colac in the late nineteenth century. The building's later uses reflect the increased legal demands placed on the community in the twentieth century, as well as an important social activity which operated in the town between 1932 and 1972 through the Colac Men's Club.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A solid load bearing rectangular two-storey building, with fine stucco finish to the walls, divided by central stringer course delineating the ashlar coursed ground level walls from the smooth finished upper storey walls. The front façade parapet has a central pediment and deep bracketed eaves and cornice, and corner pilasters. An excellent example of an Italianate nineteenth century purpose built bank with imposing front portico, front Corinthian columns, double front panelled entrance door, arched windows on ground level, entablature embellishing the heads of the upper storey windows. The original cast iron palisade fence and drive way entrance pillars are intact and display fine workmanship.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

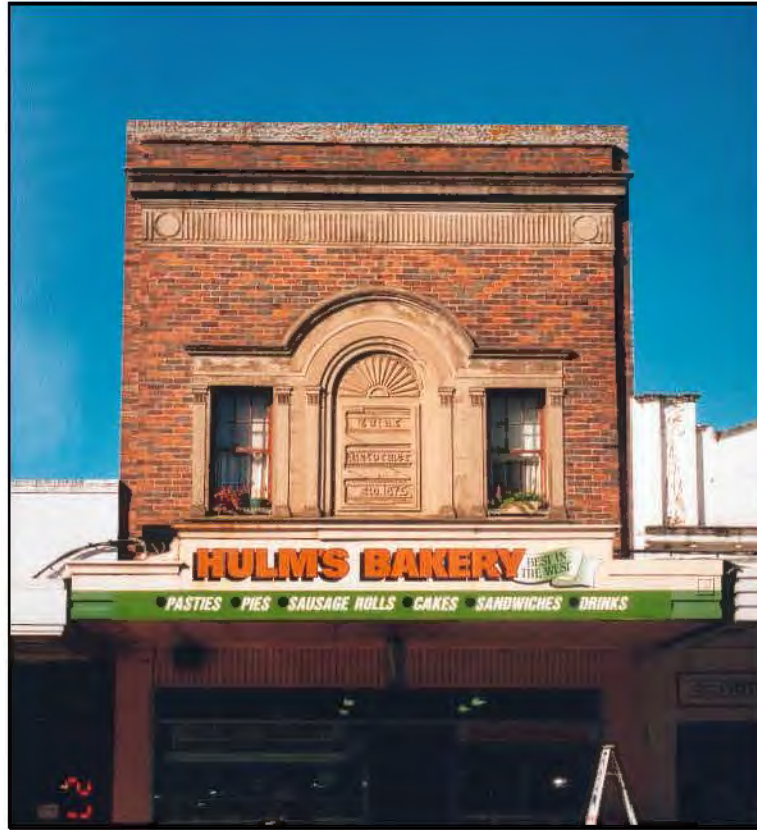
Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COLAC REFORMER BUILDING

Ref. No. : 138

Location : 66 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Colac Reformer Building, located at 66 Murray Street, Colac, was constructed in 1894 for the proprietor and editor of the Colac Reformer Newspaper, Henry Richmond. A new façade, verandah and shopfront were added in 1938. The Colac Reformer was absorbed into the Colac Herald in 1955 and the building sold. Alterations were subsequently carried out again to the shopfronts in the late twentieth century. The Colac Reformer Building is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Colac Reformer Building is aesthetically important for its stylistic characteristics demonstrated in the design of the upper storey front façade, which is in an unusual Inter-War Georgian Classical Revival style. The Colac Reformer Building is historically important in demonstrating the values of the newspaper's proprietors, reflected in the building's upper storey front façade. The former offices of the Colac Reformer are also historically important through association with the newspaper and the valuable role it played in the development of the Shire prior to radio and television, and improved transport links with a larger metropolis.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

Name of Place : CENTRAL ARCADE

Ref. No. : 139

Location : 90 - 94 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The group of shops and offices that are known as Central Arcade are located at 90-94 Murray Street, Colac. The building was constructed in 1927 for Colac native Thomas Inglis and comprised offices on the first floor and 13 shops on the ground floor. The building was constructed of brick in the Arts and Crafts style. Central Arcade is aesthetically and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. Central Arcade is aesthetically important in demonstrating a richness and diversity of detail and features in the shop fronts of the internal Central Arcade shopping mall. Central Arcade is historically important through illustrating the inter-war prosperity experienced by the district as the dairy and timber industries flourished and the area's population increased.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

Thomas Inglis, a native of Colac, constructed Central Arcade in the mid-1920s. Inglis, who was born in Colac in 1858, built the shops and first floor offices when in his 60s after he retiring, as an investment for himself and his wife Margaret. Prior to his retirement, Inglis was initially employed as a building 'contractor' before moving to Alvie where in 1909 he established a butter factory. He lived at Alvie for 11 years before returning to take up residency in Colac in 1920, leaving his son James to operate the butter factory. When he returned to live in Colac he began construction of Central Arcade in 1926, which was completed a year later in 1927. Thomas Inglis died seven years later in September 1934. The site was inherited by his wife who survived her husband by 14 years.

Inglis also served on the Colac Shire Council from 1932 until retirement just prior to his death in 1934 (according to his obituary in the *Colac Herald*, 21 September 1934 or, according to McCormack in his history of the Colac Shire council, 1923 - 1932).

According to the Rate Books for 1949-1954 the Central Arcade, also known as the Inglis Arcade, was occupied by a fishmonger, machine salesman, chiropodist, butcher, dressmaker, bicycle repairer, jeweller, accountant and a boot repairer. It then comprised 13 shops.

The complex is now valuable in providing information about Colac's prosperity in the first half of the twentieth century and about retailing. It is also important in demonstrating the money that was accrued by those involved in the dairying industry.



Central Arcade, Interior

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Central Arcade, forms part of a group of brick Inter War two storey commercial premises, Central Chambers, Clarke's Building and Central Arcade, located in Murray Street opposite Memorial Park. The buildings all adjoin and abut each other in an integrated fashion and have similar but different Arts and Craft Style parapet detailing, but nevertheless form a coherent group, with slightly different heights, widths and windows. Central Arcade comprises an internal arcade of eight shops facing each other along a wide top lit mall, which opens into a large warehouse at the rear. Each shop is of conventional design with recessed side front entrance. The group are all remarkably intact whilst showing various types of adaptation from the previous 1926 designs. Although much of the original detailing has been replaced there is sufficient insitu, to warrant consideration of future conservation and restoration of the place.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Fair – Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION OFFICES

Ref. No. : 140

Location : 119-121 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The State Electricity Commission's (SEC) South West Region Headquarters building (now the Sewell's Building) was designed by L A LaGerche and built in 1938 at 119-121 Murray Street, overlooking Memorial Square in Colac. The State Electricity Commission building is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The State Electricity Commission building is aesthetically important as an excellent example of two-storey Inter War Functional style office building. The aesthetic importance of the State Electricity Commission building is demonstrated in the La Gerche design, which relates to the 'functionalist aesthetic' architectural movement, a movement that proved it was possible to design a modern, functional structure with classical proportioning in an aesthetic manner. The State Electricity Commission building is historically important for its association with the supply of services to Colac and district, and the contribution these services made to the development of the region.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Supplying Service (5.2); Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

The State Electricity Commission (SEC) Offices were built in 1938 for the headquarters of the South West Region.

The SEC established a presence in Colac in 1923 following an unexpected and disastrous fire that wiped out Colac's existing power station. A crash program to connect power from Geelong was undertaken and the SEC opened an office in rented premises in Murray Street.

Colac became a focal point for electricity management and distribution in the region and this required suitable premises in Colac. The old premises were demolished in 1937 and an up to date, two storey showroom and office complex was opened in December 1938.

The ground floor showroom had large display windows, a demonstration kitchen and a cashier's counter. Décor was Queensland Walnut panelling. The first floor housed the Region Headquarters staff and included a conference room.

The building was designed by L A LaGerche and built by Mr Irwin using local Thomson & Sons bricks in brown and cream. It demonstrates the belief of proponents of this style that it was possible to design a modern structure, based on concepts of functionality, standardisation and industrialisation of building components which, although devoid of reference to traditional styles, could be designed in an aesthetic manner with classical proportioning. The best architects of this style were young, like the architect, L A La Gerche, who went on after the Second World War to contribute to the International style of modern architecture, which radically changed the appearance of the Melbourne city centre.

The building was used by the SEC until rendered redundant by privatisation in the 1990s, and was sold to Sewell's Solicitors.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A two storey Inter War Functional style building designed in 1938 by L A LaGerche, a leading modernist architect, who is well known for designing some of the first American influenced high rise glass wall office buildings in Melbourne. The building was designed by the State Electricity Commission as their South West Region Headquarters and is a good example of La Gerche's early work, showing conservative almost classical proportioning in the subdivision of the facades into a series of large steel frame sheet glass windows set between horizontal wide bands of cream brick walls broken at the corner by a curved corner low tower. The cantilevered awning wraps only partially around the eastside of the structure on the side street. The detailing is simple, the horizontality of the style is highlighted by window brick sills and concrete hoods.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study ~ Summary Recommendations

Ref No	Location	Street	No.	Grid Reference	Place Name	Theme	Listing
1	Alvie	Corangamite Lake Rd	895		Coragulac Hse Plantings&Washington Pa	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	State
2	Alvie	Finns Road	40		Glen Alvie	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local
3	Alvie			GR 719080763550	Red Rock Reserve	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C358
4	Apollo Bay	Foreshore			Pioneer Memorial	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
5	Apollo Bay	Foreshore Reserve			'Speculant' anchor	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C395
6	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road			Monterey Cypress Avenue	Tourism - 9.5	Local
7	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road			War memorial	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
8	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road	21		Mechanics' Institute	Mechanics Institutes & Public Halls - 8.2.4	Local
9	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road	47-49		Bluebird Cafe	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
10	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road	51-53		Bufs Bistro	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
11	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road	65-71		Iluka Motel	Tourism - 9.5	Local
12	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road	95		Apollo Bay Hotel	Recreation - 9.4	Local
13	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road	100		Visitor Information Centre	Tourism - 9.5	Local
14	Apollo Bay	Great Ocean Road	6250		Submarine Cable Station	Postal Communication - 4.1	Local
15	Apollo Bay	Hardy Street	1		Dairy Manager's Residence	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
16	Apollo Bay	Marriner's Lookout Rd	165		Marriner's Lookout	Recreation - 9.4	Local
17	Apollo Bay	McLennan Street	3-2		Grandview Holiday Flats	Tourism - 9.5	Local
18	Apollo Bay	McLachlan Street	15		Masonic Hall	Recreation - 9.4	Local
19	Apollo Bay	Nelson & Diana Sts	cnr.		Uniting Church & Hall	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
20	Apollo Bay	Nelson Street	1		Our Lady Star of the Sea Catholic Church	Building Towns - 5.1; Relig. Instit's - 9.1	Local
21	Apollo Bay	Nelson Street	11		The Folley	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
22	Apollo Bay	Nelson Street	17		Greenacres Motel	Tourism - 9.5	Local
23	Apollo Bay	Nelson Street	21		Post Office (fmr.)	Postal Communication - 4.1	Local
24	Apollo Bay	Nelson Street	25		Augustus Lee Memorial	Cemeteries & Lone Graves - 8.2.6	Local
25	Apollo Bay	Noel Street	60		Chalet Otway	Tourism - 9.5	Local
26	Apollo Bay			GR 726851704528	Martin's tramline	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C69
27	Apollo Bay			GR 732693709999	Johnson Bros chute	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C394
28	Barongarook	Alford Road	20		Post Office (fmr.)	Postal Communication - 4.1	Local
29	Barongarook	Barongarook Road	275		Primary School #2210	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
30	Barongarook	Barongarook Road	280		Public Hall	Mechanics Institutes & Public Halls - 8.2.4	Local
31	Barongarook	Reynolds Road	10		Trees, fmr. Conway's store	Building Towns - 5.1	Local

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32	Barramunga & Tanybryn			Turtons Track	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C392
33	Barramunga			GR 738166727250 Henry sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C101
34	Barramunga			GR 738166572550 Henry No 1 sawmill	Site Listed Victorian Heritage Register	VHR H1815
35	Barramunga			GR 741934723850 Henry No 2 sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C105
36	Barramunga			GR 738280728930 Henry & Sanderson Sawmills	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC A10
37	Barramunga			GR 739355724970 Tunnel, Henry's tramway	Site Listed Victorian Heritage Register	VHR H1817
38	Barramunga	Upper Gollibrand Road	4	Warracknabeal Primary School (fmr.)	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
39	Barwon Downs			GR 753572729480 Hayden No 4 sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B43
40	Barwon Downs			GR 740284732660 Mackie No 2 sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B41
41	Barwon Downs			GR 738166727250 Mackie No 4 sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C102
42	Barwon Downs			GR 745772728460 Mackie No 5 sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B44
43	Barwon Downs	Callahans Lane	209	St Joseph's Catholic Church	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
44	Barwon Downs	Delaneys Road		GR 745840733310 Hayden's sawmills	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B13
45	Barwon Downs	Forrest Birregurra Rd	1560	Presbyterian Church	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
46	Barwon Downs	Forrest Birregurra Rd	1630	Blackwood	Forests - 7.1	Local
47	Beeac	Beeac Cemetery Road	5	Salt extraction site	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C356
48	Beeac	Beeac Dreeite Road	155	Braeburne	Settlement by Selection - 3.2.2	Local
49	Beeac	Cemetery Road	20	Beeac Cemetery	Cemeteries & Lone Graves - 8.2.6	Local
50	Beeac	Colac-Ballararat Road		GR 730926766420 Railway earthworks	Railways & Railway Stations - 4.3	Local
51	Beeac	Cororooke Road	305	Grassyvale	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local
52	Beeac	Coulson & Wallace Streets		Avenue of Honour	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
53	Beeac	Eurack Road	5	Beeac Creamery	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
54	Beeac	Lang Street		GR 731153769190 Councillors Memorial	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
55	Beeac	Lang Street	35	Primary School	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
56	Beeac	Main Street	53	Common School	Schools - 8.2.1	State
57	Beeac	Main Street	53	St Andrew's Anglican	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
58	Beeac	Main Street	53	War Memorial	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
59	Beeac	Warrowie Road	1420	Mingawalla Woolshed	Developing Primary Industries - 3.4	Local
60	Beech Forest			GR 709441719270 Robin & Kincaid Sawmills	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B39
61	Beech Forest	Main Road	2	Otway Shire Hall	Formation of Local Government - 8.1	Local
62	Beech Forest	Main Road	32	Butter Factory Well	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
63	Beech Forest	Main Road	6	Otway Shire offices	Formation of Local Government - 8.1	Local

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64	Beech Forest	Olangolah		GR 729570722780	Smedley sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B47
65	Beech Forest	Old Beech Forest Road	1570		Primary School	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
66	Beech Forest	Old Main Road	48		House	Hospitals - 8.2.2; Postal Communication - 4.1	Local
67	Beech Forest	Old Main Road		GR 723510720148	World War II memorial	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
68	Beech Forest	Southorn Street			Railway turning loop	Railways & Railway Stations - 4.3	Local
69	Beech Forest	Southorn Street	32		Railway workers' house	Railways & Stations-4.3; Public Housing-8.2.3	Local
70	Beech Forest	Wimba		GR 724290725990	McDonald tramway	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B46
71	Birregurra	Beal Street	50		Wesleyan Methodist Church (fmr)	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
72	Birregurra	Birregurra Road	460		Railway Station	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	Local
73	Birregurra	Birregurra Road	470		Water Tower	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	Local
74	Birregurra	Birregurra Forrest Road	365		Studbrook	Squatters & Pastoral Settlement - 3.1	Local
75	Birregurra	Birregurra Forrest Road	420		Studbrook Woolshed	Developing Primary Industries - 3.4	Local
76	Birregurra	Birregurra Forrest Road	530		Buntingdale Mission site	Imposing European Values - 2.2	N/a
77	Birregurra	Cape Otway Road	4100		Ripplevale	Squatters & Pastoral Settlement - 3.1	State
78	Birregurra	Cape Otway Road	4285		Sunnybrae	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local
79	Birregurra	Dunlops Road	320		Killurin	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local
80	Birregurra	Hopkins Street	1		Golf links & gardens	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C367
81	Birregurra	Hopkins Street	2		Christ Church Vicarage	Religious Institutions - 9.1	State
82	Birregurra	Jenner Street	1		Buntingdale Mission Cairn	Imposing Values-2.2; Mems/Monuments-9.3	Local
83	Birregurra	Jenner Street	1		Uniting Church	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
84	Birregurra	Main Street		GR 743067753070	Stone Pine Avenue	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
85	Birregurra	Main Street	10		Riverside Inn	Recreation - 9.4	Local
86	Birregurra	Main Street	20		Native Youth Hotel	Roads & Routes - 4.4; Building Towns - 4.4	Local
87	Birregurra	Main Street	38		Steven's Corner Store	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
88	Birregurra	Main Street	42		War Memorial	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
89	Birregurra-	Main Street-	41-3-	2011-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000	Butcher Shop-	Building Towns - 5.1	State
90	Birregurra	Main Street	52		House	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
91	Birregurra	Main Street	65		Post Office	Postal Communication-4.1; Building Towns-5.1	Local
92	Birregurra	Main Street	77		Commercial Bank	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
93	Birregurra	Main Street	79-81		Shops	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
94	Birregurra	Main Street	80		Elliminook	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local
95	Birregurra	McDonnells Road	10		Bleak House	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local

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96	Birregurra	Princess Highway	4500		Dwelling, Store & Post Office (fmr.)	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
97	Birregurra	Princess Highway	4705		House	Settlement by Selection - 3.2.2	Local
98	Birregurra	Skene Street	7		Catholic Church & Presbytery	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
99	Birregurra	Sladen Street	1		Christ Church	Religious Institutions - 9.1	State
100	Birregurra	Strachan Street	29		Masonic Hall	Forming Associations - 9.2	Local
101	Birregurra	Strachan Street	48		House	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
102	Cape Otway	Blanket Bay			Cape Otway Lighthouse Landing site	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C71
103	Cape Otway	Otway Lighthouse Road	1140		Cape Otway Lighthouse	Site Listed Victorian Heritage Register	VHR H1222
104	Carlisle River	Moomowroong Road	25		Butter Factory	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
105	Carlisle River	Moomowroong Road	55		Primary School	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
106	Colac	Alexander Street	12		House	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
107	Colac	Bromfield Street	1		House (Glen Ora)	Hospitals - 8.2.2	Local
108	Colac	Calvert Street	1	GR 725765575369	Firemen's Memorial	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
109	Colac	Corangamite Street	61		Lislea House	Hospitals - 8.2.2	Local
110	Colac	Corangamite Street	63	With no recommendation	Colac Community Hospital	Hospitals - 8.2.2	Local
111	Colac	Dennis Street	100		Scout Hall	Recreation - 9.4	Local
112	Colac	Fireman Street	1		Convent of Mercy	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
113	Colac	Fyans Street	1		Caravan Park Amenity Units (24)	Tourism - 9.5	State
114	Colac	Fyans Street	1		Botanic Gardens	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC A182
115	Colac	Fyans Street	16		House & stables	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
116	Colac	Gellibrand Street	1		St Mary's Catholic church	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
117	Colac	Gellibrand Street	16		The Elms	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
118	Colac	Gellibrand Street	29-35		Colac House	Hospitals - 8.2.2; Building Towns - 5.1	Local
119	Colac	Gellibrand Street	43		Independent Order of Oddfellows Hall	Forming Associations - 9.2	State
120	Colac	Gellibrand Street	45		Legacy House	Hospitals - 8.2.2; Forming Associations - 9.2	Local
121	Colac	Gellibrand Street	102a		Railway Station	Railways & Railway Stations - 4.3	Local
122	Colac	Gellibrand Street	102a		Railway Turning Circle	Railways & Railway Stations - 4.3	Local
123	Colac	Gravesend Street	56		Cemetery	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B109
124	Colac	Hesse Street	19-23		St Johns Church & hall	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
125	Colac	Hesse Street	25-29		St Andrew's Ch. & fmr. school	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
126	Colac	Hesse Street	34		Freemason's Hall	Forming Associations - 9.2	Local
127	Colac	Manifold Street			Road culverts	Formation of Local Government - 8.1	Local

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128	Colac	Moore Street	44		Thornbank	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
129	Colac	Moore Street	56		House	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
130	Colac	Murray Street	1		Adam Rea's Store	Site Listed Victorian Heritage Register	VHR H433
131	Colac	Murray Street	4		Post Office	Postal Communication - 4.1	Local
132	Colac	Murray Street	6		Shire Hall, fmr	Formation of Local Government - 8.1	Local
133	Colac	Murray Street	15		Union Bank (fmr)	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
134	Colac	Murray Street	19-21		Regent Picture Theatre	Recreation - 9.4	Local
135	Colac	Murray Street	23-25		Moran & Cato shops	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
136	Colac	Murray Street	24		State Savings Bank (fmr)	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
137	Colac	Murray Street	28		National Bank (fmr)	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
138	Colac	Murray Street	66		Colac Reformer Building	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
139	Colac	Murray Street	90-94		Central Arcade	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
140	Colac	Murray Street	119-121		State Electricity Commission Offices	Supplying Services - 5.2; Building Towns - 5.1	Local
141	Colac	Murray Street	126		Office Building	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
142	Colac	Murray Street	144		J G Johnston & Co	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
143	Colac	Murray Street	168-170		Shops	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
144	Colac	Murray Street	172-176		Shops	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
145	Colac	Murray Street	185		Austral Hotel	Recreation - 9.4	Local
146	Colac	Murray Street	224		Chevrolet Salerooms	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
147	Colac	Murray Street	243-253		Shops	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
148	Colac	Murray Street	266-68		Coles Showrooms & Factory	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
149	Colac	Murray Street	413		High School	Schools - 8.2.1	State
150	Colac	Murray Street East	2		Prince of Wales Hotel	Roads & Routes - 4.4	Local
151	Colac	Pollock Street	19		Second Presbyterian Manse	Religious Instit. - 9.1; Building Towns - 5.2	Local
152	Colac	Pollock Street	21		First Presbyterian Manse	Religious Instit. - 9.1; Building Towns - 5.2	Local
153	Colac	Princess Highway	5855		Yeowarra	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local
154	Colac	Queen Street	40		Police Lock-up	Law & Order - 8.2.5	Local
155	Colac	Queen Street	49		Maternal & Child Health Centre	Formation of Local Government - 8.1	Local
156	Colac	Queen Street	63-67		Drill Hall	Law & Order - 8.2.5	Local
157	Colac	Skene Street	15		Wesleyan Church & Hall	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
158	Colac	Skene Street	26		Firestation	Supplying Services - 5.2; Fire & Flood - 6.2	Local
159	Colac	Stodart Street	3		Balnagowan	Improving Homes - 3.5.1; Hospitals - 8.2.2	Local

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160	Colac	Wallace Street	26-34		Mooringarara	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
161	Colac	Wallace Street	81		Wesleyan Methodist Parsonage	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
162	Colac	Wilson Street	131		Colac Dairy Company Complex	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
163	Colac West	Rossmoyne Road	20		Onion Factory	Farming - 3.6; Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
164	Coragulac	Corangamite Lake Road	725		Good Samaritan Convent	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
165	Coragulac	Corangamite Lake Road	725		St Brendan's Catholic Church & Bell Tower	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
166	Cororooke	Corangamite Lake Road	520		St David's Church & Hall	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
167	Cororooke	Cororooke Road	546		Shop	Building Towns - 5.2	Local
168	Cororooke	Factory Road	15		Dairy factory	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
169	Cressy	Hall Street	5		Frenchman's Inn	Roads & Routes - 4.4	Local
170	Cressy	Lyons Street	1		St Andrew's Church & Hall	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
171	Cressy	Lyons Street	7		Police lock-up	Law & Order - 8.2.5	Local
172	Cressy	New Station Street	19		Water tower	Supplying Services - 5.2	Local
173	Cressy	Tennant Street	5	with brickwork	Dalgety-Saleyards	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
174	Cressy	Yarima Rd/New Station/Lyons Sts			Avenue of Honour	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
175	Cressy	Yarima Road	17		Primary School #731	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
176	Cundare	Corangamite Lake Road	3815		Watch Hill	Improving Home - 3.5.1	N/a
177	Cundare	Corangamite Lake Road	3840		Bluestone Cottage	Closer Settlement (3.1)	Local
178	Dreeite	Beeac Dreeite Road	1840		Tennis pavilion	Recreation - 9.4	Local
179	Dreeite	Beeac-Dreeite Road	575		Stockyard & Watertank Base	Fences & Boundaries - 3.5.2	Local
180	Dreeite	Corangamite Lake Road	1890		House	Soldier Settlement - 3.2.3	Local
181	Dreeite	Corangamite Lake Road	1995		Dreeite Estate Dining Hall & Watertank	Developing Primary Industries - 3.4	Local
182	Dreeite	Iletts Road			Dry Stone Rabbit Wall	ts-Rabbits -6.1; Fences & Boundaries -3.5.2	Local
183	Dreeite	Iletts Road	60	GR 724750768370	Consumption Cairn	ts-Rabbits -6.1; Fences & Boundaries -3.5.2	Local
184	Dreeite	Iletts Road	10	GR 724980768220	Cattle yard (dry stone)	Farming - 3.6	Local
185	Dreeite	Iletts Road	100		House	Settlement by Selection - 3.2.2	Local
186	Dreeite	Lawlors Road		GR715890767290	Galloway Dyke	Fences & Boundaries - 3.5.2	Local
187	Dreeite South	South Dreeite Road	545		St Andrews Uniting	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
188	Eliminyt	Harris Street	85		House	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
189	Eurack	Eurack Road			Avenue of Honour	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	State
190	Eurack	Eurack Road	1000		Marandoo	Settlement by Selection - 3.2.2	State
191	Eurack	Mt Hesse Road	585		Eurack	Improving Home - 3.5.1	Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study ~ Summary Recommendations

192	Forrest			GR 735455732200	Seebeck/Henry tramline	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C100
193	Forrest	Birregurra Forrest Road	2315		Railway bridge remnants	R/ways & R/way Stations-4.3; Forests-7.1	Local
194	Forrest	Grant Street	10		Primary School #2708	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
195	Forrest	Hennigan Crescent	1		House	Exploiting Natural Resources: Forests - 7.1	Local
196	Forrest	Cemetery Road	20		Cemetery	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C370
197	Gellibrand	Colac-Lavers Hill Road	2370		Sawdust Burner	Exploiting Natural Resources: Forests - 7.1	Local
198	Gellibrand	Main Road	13		Railway workers' house	ailways & Stations-4.3; Public Housing-8.2.3	Local
199	Gellibrand	Old Main Road	1		Gellibrand Public Hall	Mechanics Institutes & Public Halls - 8.2.4	Local
200	Gellibrand	Old Main Road	20		Gellibrand Hotel	Recreation - 9.4	Local
201	Gellibrand	Wonga Road	385		Wonga Park Windbreak	Fences & Boundaries - 3.5.2	Local
202	Irrewarra	Irrewarra School Road	20		Teacher's residence (fmr.)	Public Housing - 8.2.3	Local
203	Irrewarra	Irrewarra School Road	85		Irrewarra House Estate	Pastoral Settlement - 3.1; Farming - 3.6	Local
204	Irrewarra	Ryans Road	20		Irrewarra Homestead	Squatters & Pastoral Settlement - 3.1	State
205	Irrewarra	Warrowie Road	205		Farm Complex	Soldier Settlement - 3.2.3	State
206	Irriwillipe	Irriwillipe Road	1920		Bible Christian Church (fmr.)	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
207	Johanna	Red Johanna Road	430		House	Settlement by Selection - 3.2.2	Local
208	Kennett River			GR 740570718275	Henry's Nettle & Carisbrook sawmills	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B15
209	Kennet River	Great Ocean Road	15		General Store	Recreation - 9.4	Local
210	Kennett River	Grey River Road		GR 745260717090	Dugout	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C67
211	Larpen	Corangamite Lake Road	155-7		Chilean Wine Palm, The Hill	Squatters & Pastoral Settlement - 3.1	State
212	Lavers Hill			GR 707246717530	Northern Timber Company sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C98
213	Lavers Hill	College Drive	10		Lavers Hill P-12 College	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
214	Lavers Hill	Great Ocean Road	53-81		Japanese Flowering Cherry Tree	Building Towns - 5.1	Local
215	Lavers Hill	Melba Gully Road	35		Melba Gully	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B164
216	Ombersley	Mooleric Road	635		Mooleric	oser Settlement-3.1; Improving Homes-3.5.1	State
217	Ombersley	Mooleric Road	715		Turkeith	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local
218	Ombersley	Mount Hesse Estate Road	155		Mount Hesse Station	Site Listed Victorian Heritage Register	VHR H1208
219	Ondit	Colac Ballarat Road	960		Gnarwyn	Improving Homes - 3.5.1	Local
220	Ondit	Ondit Warrion Road	10		Ondit Memorial School Ground	Memorials & Monuments-9.3; Schools-8.2.1	Local
221	Ondit	Ondit Warrion Road	340		House	Farming - 3.6	Local
222	Otway State Forest			GR 725536728483	Hitt No 4 sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B42
223	Pirron Yallock	Princess Highway	1429		St Joseph's Catholic Church	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local

Colac Otway Heritage Study ~ Summary Recommendations

224	Pirron Yallock	Princess Highway	1735	Withdrawn	Koala Motel Roadhouse	Tourism - 9.5	State
225	Pirron Yallock	Station Street	2		Pirron Yallock Railway Station	Site Listed Victorian Heritage Register	VHR H1584
226	Separation Creek	Great Ocean Road		GR 754040722550	Godfrey Creek graves,	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C65
227	Separation Creek	Stanway Drive	Withdrawn	Withdrawn	Stanway/Harrington Cairn	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
228	Skenes Creek	Great Ocean Road	5640		House	Settlement by Selection - 3.2.2	Local
229	Swan Marsh	Swan Marsh Road	280		Cora Lea Cheese Factory	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
230	Swan Marsh	Swan Marsh Road		GR 707856749905	Colac Diarying Co. factory	Developing Secondary Industries - 5.3	Local
231	Tanybryn			GR 735310718318	Sharp's No. 1 & No. 3 sawmills	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B29
232	Tanybryn			GR 733775717100	Sharp No 2 sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B48
233	Warncoort	Princess Highway	5755		Kirrewur	Settlement by Selection - 3.2.2	Local
234	Warncoort	Roseneath Road	50		Tarndwarncoort Homestead	Site Listed Victorian Heritage Register	VHR H281
235	Warrion	Coragulac Beeac Road	603		Uniting Church & hall	Religious Institutions - 9.1	Local
236	Warrion	Coragulac Beeac Road	633		Public Hall	Mechanics Institutes & Public Halls - 8.2.4	Local
237	Warrion	Ricarton Road	159		Cattleshed & water tank	Developing Primary Industries - 3.4	Local
238	Weering	Barpinba Road	350		House (ruin)	Squatters & Pastoral Settlement - 3.1	Local
239	Weering	Porneet Road	280		Weering	Improving Home - 3.5.1	Local
240	Weering	Weering School Road	340		Weering School	Schools - 8.2.1	Local
241	Wongarra	Sunnyside Road	65		Wongarra Heights	Tourism - 9.5	Local
242	Wye River			GR 749037716510	Armistead's sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C68
243	Wye River	Great Ocean Road			War Memorial Cairn	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
244	Wye River	Great Ocean Road	19		Wye River Hotel	Tourism - 9.5	Local
245	Wyelangata			GR 716835716760	Knott No.1 Sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC B40
246	Wyelangata			GR 715289723760	Marchbank Sawmill	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC A8
247	Wyelangata			GR 715203715520	Knott's No. 3 Sawmill	Site Listed Victorian Heritage Register	VHR H1818
248	Yeo	Colac Forrest Road		GR 728651752754	Hugh Murray Memorial Cairn & Plaque	Memorials & Monuments - 9.3	Local
249	Yeo	Colac Forrest Road	70	Withdrawn	Barongarook House	Squatters & Pastoral Settlement - 3.1	Local
250	Yeodene	Yeodene Birregurra Road	130		Yeodene Public Hall	Mechanics Institutes & Public Halls - 8.2.4	Local
251	Yuulong	Great Ocean Road	5655		Yuulong Public hall	Mechanics Institutes & Public Halls - 8.2.4	Local
252					Birregurra-Forrest railway line	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C397
253					Colac-Beech Forest-Crowes railway line	Site Recommended LCC 1997 Report	LCC C400

COLAC OTWAY HERITAGE STUDY AUDIT

9th September 2005

1. BACKGROUND

The Colac Otway Heritage Study (2003) recognises 270 places (inc. 10 precincts) of cultural heritage importance in the Colac Otway Shire. Of these 270 places 8 were included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) before the study was commissioned, and a further 63 places were identified by the Land Conservation Council (LCC) report, *Historic Places: Special Investigation, South-Western Victoria* (1997). All LCC places are on Crown Land.

The 63 places recommended for protection by the LCC and the 8 places protected by VHR legislation are integrated in the Colac Otway Heritage Study (2003), providing a comprehensive inventory of heritage places within the Shire.

2. HERITAGE STUDY AUDIT

The audit of the Colac Otway Heritage Study 2003 considered the 199 places (inc. 10 precincts) identified for heritage protection by Mary Sheehan and Associates, and determined 15 of these recommendations be withdrawn or amended.

Listed below is a summary of the audit findings. Following the summary is a detailed account that includes illustrated attachments as relevant.

2.1 Summary Audit Findings

NO.	PLACE NAME	LOCATION	RECOMMENDATION
22	Greenacres Motel	Nelson Street, Apollo Bay	Local - Withdrawn
38	Primary School (fmr)	Upper Gellibrand Rd Barramunga	Local - Withdrawn
89	Butcher Shop	Main Street, Birregurra	State - Withdrawn
110	Community Hospital	Corrangamite Street, Colac	Local - Withdrawn
124	St John's Church & hall	19-23 Hesse Street Colac	Local - Amended
173	Saleyards	Tennant St, Cressy	Local - Withdrawn
184	Drystone Cattleyard	Illets Road, Dreeite	Local - Withdrawn
221	House	340 Ondit Warrion Road Ondit	Local - Modified
224	Koala Motor Inn	Princess Highway Pirron Yallock	State - Withdrawn
249	Barongarook House	Colac Forest Road, Yeo	Local - Withdrawn
300	Apollo Bay Precinct	Great Ocean Road Apollo Bay	Local - Withdrawn
302	Barwon Downs Precinct	Callahan Lane Barwon Downs	Local - Withdrawn
308	Colac Estate Housing Precinct	Colac	Local - Amended

Study Recommendation	Local
Adjustment	Recommendation withdrawn
Explanation	Heritage importance of place irreparably compromised through removal of holding pens and timber-framed hut.
Place Name	Dry stone Cattleyard, 10 Illetts Road, Dreeite
Study Reference	184
Study Recommendation	Local
Adjustment	Recommendation withdrawn
Explanation	Place demolished.
Place Name	House, 340 Ondit Warrion Road
Study Reference	221
Study Recommendation	Local
Adjustment	Recommendation modified
Explanation	Cypress windbreak plantings removed
Place Name	Koala Motel & Roadhouse, 1735 Princess Highway, Pirron Yallock
Study Reference	224
Study Recommendation	State
Adjustment	Recommendation withdrawn
Explanation	Place demolished
Place Name	Stanway/Harrington Cairn, Stanway Drive, Separation Creek
Study Reference	227
Study Recommendation	Local
Adjustment	Recommendation withdrawn.
Explanation	Plaque removed.
Place Name	Barongarook House, 70 Colac Forrest Road, Yeo
Study Reference	249
Study Recommendation	Local
Adjustment	Recommendation withdrawn
Explanation	Archeological integrity of the place compromised through removal of artifacts and disturbance caused by the construction of a dwelling on site.
Precinct Name	Apollo Bay Precinct
Study Reference	300
Study Recommendation	Local
Adjustment	Recommendation Withdrawn

Explanation Demolition and unsympathetic development on multiple sites has severely compromised the precinct.

Precinct Name Barwon Downs Timber Precinct

Study Reference 302

Study Recommendation Local

Adjustment Recommendation Withdrawn

Explanation Demolition and deterioration severely compromises importance of the precinct.

Precinct Name Colac Estate Housing Precinct

Study Reference 308

Study Recommendation Local

Adjustment Amendment

Explanation 4 Stewart Street - demolished, vacant land;
19 Stewart Street - demolished, new house constructed on site;
21 Stewart Street – inappropriate extension.
Note: 7 Stewart – although land not included in precinct, multi-dwelling development unsympathetic in context of the philosophy that motivated the design of the Colac Estate.

Precinct Name Moore & Sinclair Housing Precinct

Study Reference 309

Study Recommendation Local

Adjustment Amendment

Explanation 9 Bilson Street – multi-dwelling units unsympathetic in a single dwelling precinct. Furthermore, the siting of the two dwellings on land deliberately set aside as a public recreation reserve for the use of the community is unsympathetic to the precinct’s design philosophy.

Precinct Name Residential Precinct

Study Reference 311

Study Recommendation Local

Adjustment Amendment

Explanation 4 Queen Street early twentieth century timber cottage demolished;
12 Queen Street demolished;
20 Queen Street unsympathetic dwelling;
51 Calvert Street dwelling demolished and replaced with multi-dwelling units.

Colac Otway Heritage Study



Former Shire of Colac Municipal Offices



Former Otway Shire Municipal Offices

Volume II ~ Part 2

Contains Data Sheets 140 - 318

Mary Sheehan & Assoc.

2003

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Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : OFFICE BUILDING

Ref. No. : 141

Location : 126 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The two-storey red brick Office Building located at 126 Murray Street, Colac was built for Charles Johnstone in 1907 as an insurance office. The Office Building is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Office Building is historically important through association with the development of professional office buildings in Colac's commercial district, and demonstrates the development of the town as a regional centre. The former insurance company building is aesthetically important as a good example of a conservatively designed Federation Romanesque Style two-storey building constructed for an insurance agency. The Office Building is important through the aesthetic characteristics of the building, which are similar in style to the nearby J G Johnstone commercial premises [site #142], displays careful modelling of the proportions to maximise the daylight into the interior office spaces. The absence of this modelling was a common contemporary criticism of this architecture style.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

In 1886 Colac could boast the existence of five insurance companies in the town. By 1895 this number had increased to seven servicing a Shire population of 2000 in 1890.

Charles Johnstone was one insurance broker who established a business in Colac. He was working from the site of the present building in the 1890s, from where he managed various commercial agencies in insurance, brokering and general dealing.

In 1907 Johnstone demolished the original premises on the site and erected a neat, two-storey office block with a 20 foot frontage. The building had a shop front and one office downstairs and six offices upstairs, which were rented to various tenants.

The office block was constructed in response to increasing demand for insurance by the district's residents. It reflects the increase not only in insurance companies in the town, but also the impact of skilled professionals who did not rely on physical labour for their livelihood. The office block marks the transition occurring in Colac in the early twentieth century and development of the town as a regional centre.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A two-storey red brick single fronted commercial business located on the main street. The building freely adopts classical motifs, mixing styles drawn from Arts and Craft, Romanesque and Anglo-Dutch. This is evident in the treatment of the central pediment to the gable, with high machicolation treatment of the parapet, painted rendered trim to the red face brick walls, the round arches to the ground level entrance and front window. It is also evident in the segmental arches to the row of four timber double hung sash windows on the first level, and the deep simple cornice stringer coursing and medieval like stylised hanging end wall pilasters.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : J G JOHNSTONE & CO. OFFICES

Ref. No. : 142

Location : 144 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The J G Johnstone livestock company (founded in 1883) constructed the red and white brick Romanesque commercial premises designed by Alexander Hamilton in 1902. Located at 144 Murray Street, Colac, the J G Johnstone building is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The J G Johnstone building is aesthetically important as an outstanding example of Federation Romanesque style building, designed by Alexander Hamilton. The aesthetic importance of the building is exhibited in the display of fine craftwork and unusual detailing in the flamboyant polychrome banding of the walls and the checkered pattern of the glazed ceramic tiles at the front elevation. The building is historically important for its association with the stock and real estate company, J G Johnstone, and the important role he played in the development of the shire's primary and secondary industries.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : SHOPS

Ref. No. : 143

Location : 168-170 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The two-storey free standing brick Shops, located at 168-170 Murray Street, Colac, were constructed for the local baker Harold Bartlett in 1925-7. Further alterations were undertaken to the rear and ground floor level in the second half of the twentieth century, although the first floor façade has remained relatively intact. The Shops are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Shops are historically important for their association with local baker, Harold Bartlett, whose business expansion in the early twentieth century illustrates the town's retail and demographic growth. The Shops are important for their aesthetic characteristics, demonstrated in the unusual Inter War Art Deco modelling of the upper storey of the building. This style is uncommon in Colac, with the retail centre retaining more numerous examples of English-styled nineteenth century buildings and Functionalist twentieth century structures.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : SHOPS

Ref. No. : 144

Location : 172-176 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Brown & Holmes building is a two-storey rendered brick commercial premises located at 172-176 Murray Street in Colac. The building was constructed in 1922 by George Gray for leasing to the Brown & Holmes Printing business. The Brown and Holmes building is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Brown and Holmes building is historically important for its ability to illustrate the prosperity which existed in Colac after the First World War. The Brown and Holmes building is historically important for its association with George Gray, a successful local businessman and shop keeper, who built this rental property in 1922 on the economic success of his drapery and clothing business. The Brown and Holmes building is aesthetically important as a good example of an early 1920s Inter War Free Classical style building with original and unusual eclectic Arts and Craft Style detailing.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : AUSTRAL HOTEL

Ref. No. : 145

Location : 185 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The brick Austral Hotel, located at 185 Murray Street, Colac, was built in 1904 in the Arts and Crafts style for the Colac publican James Bird. The Austral Hotel is of aesthetic, historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Austral Hotel is of aesthetic importance as an excellent local example of an Arts and Crafts style hotel that is substantially intact and prominently located in the main street of Colac. The Austral Hotel is also aesthetically important in integrating a richness of details demonstrated in the base-relief panels of lilies, the decorative half timber gables, and the oriel upper corner tower. The hotel is also important for the aesthetic contribution it makes to Colac's streetscape and the commercial precinct. The Austral Hotel is historically important for its long association with the Shire's tourism industry and the provision of accommodation for travellers to and through Colac. The Austral Hotel is socially important as a venue for entertainment for Colac residents and for meetings for groups such as the Colac district's Freemasons.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Recreation (9.3); Tourism (9.5)

HISTORY :

A similar establishment called the Brewers Arms' originally occupied the site of the Austral Hotel. The Brewers Arms owner was James Bird, founder of the Masonic Movement in Colac and Councillor on the Colac and Winchelsea Shires. Bird died in 1885 and his estate continued ownership of the hotel.

In 1904 the Brewers Arms was demolished and a very large, two storey brick hotel called The Austral was erected by James Bird's son, James, the licensed publican. It was built three years after Federation, and it is possible the name of the hotel, 'The Austral', recognises this important event in the nation's history.

The Austral was built almost as a square in 1904, with a fifty-four foot frontage and a sixty-six foot depth. Subsequent additions changed the original symmetry of the building. The accommodation wing was also later extended along Corangamite Street as well as to the east into the adjoining block.

The Austral remained the leading hotel in Colac and the surrounding district for decades, in particular when owned and operated by the Kincaid (Otways' sawmilling) family, during the years 1914 to 1971.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Austral hotel is an excellent example of a Federation Arts and Crafts style building, an architectural style, which was immensely popular in Victoria in the early twentieth century. The two-storey load-bearing brick building has a domestic character and informality in massing. It incorporates English vernacular decorative half timber gables, hipped roof, oriel upper corner tower, with parapet extending above the roof line, tall tapering chimneys, recessed upper verandah with stylised two-storey columns in antis (?), classic Art Nouveau styling such as base-relief panels of lilies inserted above the windows. The exterior walls have been painted, obscuring the once striking decorative render and red brick banding of the main street facades. The roof is of a moderate pitch clad with corrugated iron sheeting, replacing the earlier slate and terracotta ornamental ridge capping. Later additions to the accommodation wing were executed in a similar style, and extended as a two-storey section along the side street.

The exterior of the building appears to be well maintained. It is also substantially intact, although there have been minor alterations to the windows and door openings on the ground level. The painted exterior walls also hide the dramatic architectural design of the original concept. However this is regarded as reversible.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good-Fair</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u> Damaged/disturbed			Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically	

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : CHEVROLET SHOWROOM BUILDING

Ref. No. : 146

Location : 224 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Chevrolet Showroom, located at 224 Murray Street, Colac, was built in the Inter-War Spanish Mission style in 1935. The Chevrolet Showroom building is aesthetically and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Chevrolet Showroom building is aesthetically important for exhibiting the good design characteristics of the Inter-War Spanish Mission style, demonstrated in the decorative detail of the façade. The Chevrolet Showroom building is aesthetically important for the incorporation of flamboyant Spanish baroque decorative motifs, symbolising American stylistic extravagance that began to influence Australian design in the inter-war years. The Chevrolet Showroom building is historically important for the adoption of a flamboyant design, which was used as a promotional device for advertising the sale and servicing of Chevrolet's latest car models, and for demonstrating an optimistic attitude towards the future as the district emerged from the 1930s economic depression. The Chevrolet Showroom building is historically important in demonstrating the emergence of Colac as the district's leading retail centre.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

Arthur and Percy Parker first entered the motor trade in 1919, working out of unsophisticated premises in Murray Street. With the continued development of the automobile and the economy emerging from the economic Depression, the Parker Brothers felt it appropriate in 1935 to expand and rebuild their premises. Motor car ownership had dramatically increased in Victoria from 10,000 vehicles in 1914 to 100,000 about a decade later, as automobiles gradually began to replace horses. Farmers in particular purchased automobiles, viewing this new mode of transport as a more reliable alternative to horses. The Parkers recognised this growth and moved to construct up-to-date premises to deal with all aspects of the motor car trade.

A showroom 35 feet by 115 feet, fronting Murray Street, was constructed in the popular Inter-War Spanish Mission style as the marketing centrepiece. The business was supplemented by a servicing and repair workshop to the rear (which extended almost to Bromfield Street), as well as the refurbishment of the old adjacent garage. Much of the parking and show area was under the one roof, and it was said at the time that this covered space was the largest in country Victoria.

The new showroom was launched in August 1935 with a motor show in conjunction with Henderson Motors. All of the General Motors Corporation's latest models from the Melbourne Motor Show were brought to Colac for a street procession and subsequent display at Parkers.

The car showrooms are now a reminder of the enthusiastic way the district's people embraced the automobile, as well as the degree of prosperity existing, which enabled the purchase of this more efficient means of transport. The flamboyant style of the Chevrolet salerooms also reflects the optimism felt in the 1930s, as the shire emerged from the economic Depression, in the future of the automobile industry. It also reflects the development of Colac as the district's main retail centre.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A free standing rendered brick Inter-War Spanish Mission style car showroom and service repair building extending the depth of the block. The high parapet at the front hides the traditional rear shed-like structure behind. The front entrance is marked by two large fluted and twisted columns with stylised baroque rendering motifs above, forming a swirling swag above the recessed entrance porch, which is defined by rope beaded decorative rendering. The decorative detailing incorporates, *fleur de lies*, acanthus leaves, ropes, flutings, chevrons and other designs. An excellent Spanish Mission style wrought iron grill gate remains across the service entrance. Although the front of the showroom windows has been modified, the surviving flamboyant entrance porch is the most critical element in the style.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : SHOPS

Ref. No. : 147

Location : 243-253 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The single-storey row of five brick commercial premises, located at 243-253 Murray Street in Colac, were built in 1919 by the local builder Alfred Searle as an investment. The Shops at 243-253 Murray Street are of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Shops are historically important through their ability to demonstrate the economic prosperity and optimism that existed in the shire in the early decades of the twentieth century. The Shops are historically important in illustrating the extension of the retail precinct west along Murray Street, demonstrating a demand for retail services and Colac's growth as a major regional commercial centre. The Shops are historically important in illustrating the prosperity of Colac and its citizens. The Shops are important for the aesthetic contribution to the streetscape.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1)

Name of Place : COLES SHOWROOMS & FACTORY

Ref. No. : 148

Location : 266-268 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The cream brick Coles Showroom and Factory building, located at 266-68 Murray Street, Colac, was built in 1940 in the Inter-War Functionalist style. The Coles Showroom and Factory building is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Coles Showroom and Factory building is historically important through association with Charles Cole, the inventor and manufacturer of the Coles Onion Seeder, and through association with the development of Colac's secondary industry. The building is significant for demonstrating the importance of the onion industry, one of the Shire's important primary industries. The former factory is also historically important for its association with opportunities grasped by local manufacturers, ultimately assisting in the economic growth and the development of the shire. The former factory is of aesthetic importance through exhibiting the good design characteristics of the Inter War Functional style. This style illustrates the use of symbolism in its architectural design, apparent in the narrative language of the decorative detail advertising the dynamic and innovative use of new technology carried out both within the building and by the owner.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

HISTORY :

Charles Cole, who lived at Alvie in the heart of one of the state's most important onion growing areas, founded the 'Coles S.U.' manufacturing business. By the mid-twentieth century nearly sixty-five percent of the total production of onions in the State came from the Alvie district, between Lake Corangamite and Lake Colac.

In 1913 Cole devised a seeder for onions - a two-row spoon-type drill "of simple design". The onion seeder, which was later refined further, was manufactured in Colac. It sold throughout Australia as well as widely overseas.

By the 1920s Cole had established an implement works on the east side of Hart Street, at the corner of Murray Street, to manufacture his onion seeder. Business so improved in the mid 1930s that Cole bought the corner block on the other side of the street and, in 1940, built an up-to-date brick showroom, workshop and factory for the manufacture of his onion seeder. The original complex had a frontage of 79 feet by 55 feet, which was later extended by 55 feet along Murray Street.

The onion seeder continued to be manufactured in Colac until the last decades of the twentieth century, and was marketed as the 'Coles S.U.'

Charles Cole was one of the Shire's successful entrepreneurs. The showrooms reflect the ingenuity of local manufacturers like Cole, as well as the importance of the onion industry in the shire. The opportunities grasped by Cole and other local manufacturers ultimately assisted in the growth and development of the shire.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An Inter-War Functionalist showroom and factory built on the corner of Murray and Corangamite Streets. The style is expressed by a striking segmental curved corner turret, which rises above the circular glass brick entrance door terminating in a tall metal finial above the parapet level. Vertical fins delineate the only form of decorative detail, the cut out lettering of the firm's name 'McMahons', which is fixed down the front of the tower. Large fin-like steel frame showroom windows are set into cream face brick panels, which project from the background, white rendered, structure of the building.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COLAC HIGH SCHOOL

Ref. No. : 149

Location : 413 Murray Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Colac High School was established in 1911 as the Colac Agricultural High School. The red brick building was opened in 1912 and, although variously extended, the building has retained its original external appearance. The Colac High School is of historic, aesthetic and social importance to the State of Victoria. The Colac High School is historically important through association with the development of agricultural high schools in the State, the precursor of secondary education provision in Victoria. The High School is historically important in demonstrating, through the various alterations and changes undertaken, the growth and development of secondary education in Victoria. The original 1912 main building is aesthetically important as an excellent example of a Federation Arts and Crafts style building designed by the Education Department and built around a courtyard model. The High School is socially important for its ability to demonstrate the values placed on education by the local community and the State of Victoria. The High School is socially important in illustrating the shift in education philosophy in Victoria from an agricultural focus to mainstream teaching.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : State

Nominate for addition to the Victorian Heritage Register.

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : PRINCE OF WALES HOTEL

Ref. No. : 150

Location : 2 Murray Street East
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The red brick Prince of Wales Hotel, located near the banks of the Barongarook River at 1 Murray Street, Colac, was built in 1874 for George Ball and Daniel Treacey. The building has been used as a hotel, boardinghouse, private residence and, currently, as Bed and Breakfast accommodation. The Prince of Wales Hotel is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Prince of Wales Hotel is historically important as the oldest surviving example of its type in Colac. Although the Prince of Wales was not the earliest hotel in Colac, it is now the oldest extant. The Prince of Wales Hotel is historically important in demonstrating the accommodation facilities available to nineteenth century travellers, typically located adjacent to river and creek crossings and particularly prior to the advent of rail transport. The hotel is aesthetically important for its relationship to its site, on the edge of the road and beside the river, evocative of early travel and settlement in the region.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Roads & Routes (4.4)

HISTORY :

The Prince of Wales Hotel was erected in 1874 for joint owners George Ball and Daniel Treacey. It was built at the Barongarook Creek crossing, a prime location enabling the proprietors to offer refreshments, accommodation and stabling for the weary traveller and was typical of many inns which sprang up at river crossings, or were sited on main roads, to provide accommodation for travellers.

In 1890 some additions were made to the building, probably in the form of a residential section.

The hotel continued to retain a good reputation for wayside accommodation and remained operating until the 1920s.

The premises then became a boarding house for about 20 years, and then a private residence.

In 1970 it was proposed to demolish the building to create space for a service station, but planning laws defeated the proposal. The premises were revived as a bed and breakfast establishment in the 1990s.

The Prince of Wales is not the oldest hotel established in the Shire, but it is the oldest extant in Colac and, because of its position on the banks of Barongarook Creek, is now illustrative of the type of siting sought by hoteliers in the nineteenth century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A single-storey long, low red brick country hotel built in 1874 on the roadside beside the river, Barongarook Creek, designed in a simple Victorian Georgian style, but with an informal irregularity about the arrangement of doors and windows, reflecting the function of the building, rather than architectural style. Polychrome decorative brickwork is used to delineate corner and opening quoining and on the chimneys. The simple hip corrugated roof has closed eaves with a bracketed cornice on the front elevation. Windows are timber framed double hung sash, single pane and there is one arched window, possibly highlighting the public bar area. A small coach-style entrance is located on the western side of the front façade, where there is also a small semi-detached residence with front verandah, recessed behind the wall of the main façade, which is without verandahs.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed		Altered unsympathetically		

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : SECOND PRESBYTERIAN MANSE

Ref. No. : 151

Location : 19 Pollock Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Presbyterian Manse building, located at 19 Pollock Street, Colac, was constructed in 1911 to replace an adjacent 1855 manse. The 1911 Manse was constructed in brick in the Federation Bungalow style. The former Presbyterian Manse is aesthetically and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The former Presbyterian Manse is aesthetically important as a good example of a substantial Federation Bungalow Style residence. The former Presbyterian Manse is historically important for its ability to demonstrate, together with the 1855 manse, an evolution in house styles over a 50 year period. The former Manse is also historically important for illustrating the commitment of Presbyterian parishioners to the welfare of their religious minister.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1); Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

In 1855 the Colac Presbyterian parish erected a manse for its minister [site #152]. As the dominant religious group in the district in the nineteenth century, Presbyterian parishioners were also the first to build a church in Colac [1854, site # 125].

By the first decades of the twentieth century the 1855 manse had become outdated.

In 1911 a new manse was built at 19 Pollock Street adjacent to the original 1855 Manse. It was built as a substantial brick building of eight main rooms and demonstrates a continuum in the Colac Presbyterian parish, and a commitment to the parishioners' religious leaders.

The Uniting Church sold the twentieth century Presbyterian Manse in 1987, at what was then a Colac record price of \$159,000 for a dwelling.

The house continues to remain in private ownership.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The substantial Federation Bungalow style former Presbyterian Manse was built in 1911 and is essentially conservative in architectural design. The tuck pointed red brick building is typical of many Federation residences, with projecting front gable wing, return verandah with timber posts and decorative timber valance, bull nose corrugated verandah roof, dominated by a corrugated clad main roof with central new double dormer and original Arts and Craft style chimneys. The house is substantially intact, but with new dormer window to the front designed in a sympathetic way.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MANSE

Ref. No. : 152

Location : 21 Pollock Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Construction of the Presbyterian Manse, located at 21 Pollock Street, Colac, commenced in 1855. The premises was no longer used as a Manse after new accommodation was constructed for the minister in 1911 at 19 Pollock Street, however it continued to be used as a dwelling. The former Presbyterian Manse is aesthetically and historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The former Presbyterian Manse is historically important in demonstrating, together with the 1911 Manse, an evolution in house styles over a 50 year period. The former manse is historically important in illustrating the commitment of Presbyterian parishioners to the welfare of their religious minister. The former Presbyterian Manse is architecturally important in exhibiting the principle design characteristics of accommodation offered to religious ministers in regional centres in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The former Presbyterian Manse is historically important through association with the development of Colac and demonstrates the theme of settlement and building of towns within the Shire.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1); Building Towns (5.1)

HISTORY :

Presbyterianism was the pioneer religion in Colac and the congregation was the first to erect significant structures for religious observance when they built St Andrew's Church in 1854 [site #125].

A manse was built for the congregation's minister at 21 Pollock Street in 1855, and reflects the denominational dominance of Presbyterians in the area, as well as the high number of Scots who migrated to the district.

Major additions were carried out in 1873, and some minor works in 1875.

The house was used by the local minister until 1911 when a new manse was constructed on the adjoining site at 19 Pollock Street [site #151].

The church retained ownership of 21 Pollock Street for many years, and rented the property to various tenants.

The 21 Pollock Street manse was awarded to the continuing Presbyterian Church at the time of church unification in 1977, and was sold to private ownership in the early 1980s.

The former manse is one of Colac's oldest buildings, and is able to provide valuable information about the social values of the district's early settlers as well as the Presbyterian congregation's commitment to their religion and their church leaders.

In 1911 the Presbyterian Church erected a new manse alongside the old 1855 building. The new 19 Pollock Street manse is a substantial brick building, of 40 squares and eight main rooms. This manse was disposed of by the Uniting Church in 1987 at what was then a Colac record price of \$159,000 for a dwelling.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The house at 21 Pollock Street is a simple brick construction with an iron roof that was built in about the 1880s as an extension to and surrounding a dwelling built for the Presbyterian Church in 1854. The main section of the manse appears to comprise the original 1855 Victorian Regency style building which has a later twentieth century projecting hipped roof addition to the front. The earlier building displays all the typical features of a colonial building. These include the simplicity of style, the restrained use of detailing, coupled ionic circular verandah posts, symmetry of design regarding the placement of windows and doors, and the huge gently curved roof that sweeps down over the verandahs. There are three early chimneys located centrally and on either side of the building. The roof is of a medium pitch and is made from corrugated metal roof sheeting. The new addition projects well past the verandah and is located to one side of the front elevation. While the design is simple and is not obtrusive, it detracts from the clarity of the early colonial building. The former manse is regarded as having high architectural significance.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : YEOWARRA

Ref. No. : 153

Location : 5855 Princess Highway
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Yeowarra, located at 5855 Princess Highway, Colac, was built in 1873 for John Austin, the son of the prominent Geelong pioneer James Austin. The bluestone homestead was designed by the architects Alexander Davidson and George Henderson. Yeowarra is of historic, aesthetic and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Yeowarra is historically important as a manifestation of the success and vast disposable wealth accumulated by successful nineteenth century pastoralists. Yeowarra is aesthetically important through illustrating a fine example of the work of Alexander Davidson and George Henderson, who designed a number of western district homesteads including Barwon Park for James Austin's brother Thomas. Yeowarra is architecturally important as a major work of the partnership of Davidson and Henderson. Yeowarra and the remnant gardens are historically important as one of a small group of substantial nineteenth century residences attached to rural holdings, and for its ability to illustrate a continuum of land use in the Shire.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

Yeowarra (formerly know as Yeo) was initially included in Hugh Murray’s original run. Murray was forced to part with a portion of his original lease in the early 1840s, after severe drought and economic depression affected the newly formed Port Phillip District. The economic depression resulted in several stations changing hands. Of the 481 people who held pastoral licenses in the colony in 1840, fewer than half remained by 1845.

The Yeo Estate was formed when James Austin took over the lease from Murray in 1843. James Austin had arrived in the Port Phillip District from Van Dieman’s Land (Tasmania) with his brother Thomas in 1836. Thomas took up land near Winchelsea where he subsequently built Barwon Park. James settled on the northern shore of Corio Bay, near the future city of Geelong, where he married Rebecca Savage. The Yeowarra, or Yeo, homestead block was purchased as a pre-emptive right of 640 acres under the 1847 Orders-in-Council before the Order expired in 1861-2. The remaining section of the estate was divided into 160 acre allotments for selection. Rebecca and James had five children whilst living at Corio Bay, the last of whom was John, their only son, born in 1850. In 1853 the family moved to Somerset, England. The first section of the house was constructed for Austin’s son John in 1873 and was designed by Davidson and Henderson. Yeowarra was occupied by John Austin and his wife Ada, where their two children, Mabel and Hector, were born in 1876 and 1877.

In the 1920s the then owners, the Winter-Irvings, undertook extensions. Yeowarra is important in providing information about the shire’s early history, including early settlement patterns.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Yeowarra is located on a carefully selected site atop of a gently rising hill south of the Princes Highway. The residence is approached by a serpentine driveway lined with oak trees. The large, single storeyed coursed bluestone residence is arranged to take in views to the north and is ringed to the north side by a lawn edged with planting and trees. The residence includes service court to the rear, flanked by enclosed verandahs, leading to bedrooms, kitchen and service rooms. The picturesque front section constructed of bluestone includes returned verandah to the north and west side entry. The main west front is asymmetrically composed, with the bay windowed dining room on the west side and the drawing room behind the verandah. It has a sidefacing front door in the base of the two storeyed, gable roofed tower with its triple windows. It has unusual rounded corner detail or chafer, round toplights, and a pointed arch panel above. The roof is blue slate with a band of purple running horizontally about midway. The main section of building retains its internal floor plan and some applied decorative features. There is a notable coved ceiling in the dining room following the pitch of the roof. Ancillary agricultural buildings are located to the south and partially screened from view by topography, planting and orientation of the main residence. The north facing verandah was altered during the 1920s and the original cast iron verandah removed. It appears the wooden portion and stone wing at the rear was built by the new owners at a later date. The garden is well landscaped and is said to have been designed by Guilfoyle.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed		Altered unsympathetically		

Name of Place : POLICE LOCK-UP

Ref. No. : 154

Location : 40 Queen Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The bluestone Police Lock-Up, located in Queen Street, Colac, at the rear of the police station, was built in 1861. The Police Lock-Up is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Police Lock-Up is historically important as the oldest known extant public building in Colac, and is one of only a few remaining of its type in south western Victoria. The Police Lock-Up is also historically important for its association with the establishment of law and order, and a colonial presence, in the Shire of Colac Otway. The Police Lock-Up is of aesthetic importance as a good example of a typical 1860s government police lock-up.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Law & Order (8.2.5)

HISTORY :

Colac was policed from Pirron Yallock after European settlement commenced in the district, until in 1849 the township was proclaimed a police district. In the same year, 1849, a courthouse was built at the corner of Queen and Murray Streets. The courthouse site was abandoned in 1859 and a new one erected further along Queen Street at the Dennis Street corner.

In 1861 a 12-foot by 12-foot bluestone lock-up was also built close to the rear of the courthouse to accommodate the prisoners awaiting trial at the courthouse.

The courthouse was replaced by a third building in 1889, although the 1861 lock-up remained intact. A cream brick 1940s Moderne style police building is now located adjacent to the lock-up.

The 1861 bluestone lock-up is one of few remaining in south western Victoria. It is the oldest known building to survive in Colac, and is the oldest extant government building in the Shire of Colac Otway.

This lock-up remains today as a legacy of past law and order methods.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A solid two cell bluestone police lock-up built in 1861 to the standard government design, comprising a rectangular cell block with corrugated metal clad gable roof, high wall vents and small open window grill. The masonry work is made up of coursed stretcher bond rock faced regular sized stones with white mortar and an unusual square gable roof entrance annex to the cells. The main and only door has a metal grill gate with small slit windows to the side elevations.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH CENTRE

Ref. No. : 155

Location : 49 Queen Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The brick Maternal & Child Health Centre, located at 49 Queen Street, Colac, was constructed by the Shire of Colac in 1935. The Maternal & Child Health Centre is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Maternal & Child Health Centre is historically important through association with the devolution of welfare responsibilities to local government, particularly during the inter-war and post World War Two period. The Maternal & Child Health Centre is historically important for demonstrating the increased attention focused on the health and welfare of mothers and infants by the Shire and for association with the introduction of child welfare services into the State of Victoria. The Maternal & Child Health Centre is historically important in illustrating the extension of responsibilities assumed by local government in the mid-twentieth century. The Maternal & Child Health Centre is aesthetically important as a simple, utilitarian domestic structure of the inter-war years.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Formation of Local Government (8.1)

HISTORY :

Although infant welfare or, as they were known earlier baby health centres, were established in the early decades of the twentieth century to advise mothers and reduce mortality rates, in Victoria their formation was initially left to the voluntary sector to organise. After the First World War, as local government increasingly became involved in welfare issues, the health of mothers and babies was promoted by the State government and became the responsibility of local councils.

The Colac Shire Council first became involved in infant welfare in 1925 when it received a small government grant. The Shire ran the service from temporary premises for ten years, after which a decision was made to erect a purpose-built facility.

In 1935 the Shire bought land in Queen Street and the following year built a brick premises. The structure was 28 feet wide by 33 feet deep with a seven feet wide front verandah for the protection of prams from the weather and for play equipment. A garage annex was also built at the rear.

Shire Rate Books indicate that, by 1939, infant welfare centres were operating in the Beac, Weering and Corangamite Ridings. The infant welfare centre is still in use.

Infant welfare centres provide an indication of local government's response to welfare. However they did more than attend to the physical welfare of mothers and babies - they also provided a valuable social centre for mothers with young children.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The building is rather a severe looking single storey dark brick structure with central hipped corrugated clad roof, boxed eaves which extend over a deep front verandah supported by four polychrome brick columns. The domestic style and construction type dates the building to the mid to late 1930s. It is sited centrally on the allotment, behind a high cyclone wire fence. A large self-supporting metal signs reads 'Mothering and Child Health Centre'. A curving concrete path leads, through a sparsely landscaped front garden of clipped grass lawn and two overgrown shrubs, to the front entrance defined by a wide timber door with two timber casement windows set on either side.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : DRILL HALL

Ref. No. : 156

Location : 63-67 Queen Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber Drill Hall, located at 63-67 Queen Street, Colac, was built in 1909, and was extended after compulsory military training was introduced in 1911. The Drill Hall is historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The hall is historically important for associations with military service and attitudes to war, particularly in the first decades of the twentieth century. The Drill Hall is important for its historic associations with recruitment drives and the training of local volunteers, and those called up for compulsory training in the Australian Army since 1909. The building is historically important for its size, which indicates the numbers involved in military training in the district, and for its association the district's involvement in the Australian Armed Forces.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Law & Order (8.2.5)

HISTORY :

The Drill Hall was erected in 1909 to train recruits as part of the Commonwealth Government's commitment to establish a home service army under the British Empire United Defence Scheme. It is likely that the site for the hall was chosen because there was surplus Commonwealth land at the rear of the Post Office Reserve, which then ran through to Bromfield Street. The hall was built with a central open space for training and incorporated offices at both ends of the building.

In 1911 the Commonwealth Government introduced the first compulsory training scheme for boys. By 1915 636,000 boys had enlisted in Australia. The increased number who enlisted in the Colac district necessitated the construction of additional office space at the Drill Hall in 1915. By then the Colac Drill Hall was the mustering and training headquarters for local recruits and operated as a feeder for the 23/21 Battalion during World War I. These offices were built on the south-east corner. A few years later more space was created along the north wall, surrounding the hall's offices and storage areas.

After World War I compulsory training was greatly reduced until suspended by Prime Minister Scullin in 1929.

Conscription was introduced at the beginning of World War II and in the 1950s compulsory military training was reintroduced. During these phases, and later during Australia's involvement in the Vietnam War, the hall was utilised for combat training.

The Army Reserve has maintained an ongoing presence at the hall since 1909.

The hall has played an integral role in the Colac district's military training and involvement in military conflict.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A simple single-storey, timber frame weatherboard Army Drill Hall, which is pleasantly proportioned and detailed. The large drill hall is now surrounded by enclosed skillion verandah type additions. The double hung timber windows are regularly located around the structure, with large angled window/vent fixed in the apex of the gable. The roof is clad with corrugated metal sheeting with a central strip ventilator along the apex of the main ridge. There is a red brick and rendered chimney to the rear. The sparsity of detail, and large size of the structure makes this an attractive building, reflecting its military use. The building is substantially intact, with later additions associated with its original use.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : WESLEYAN CHURCH & HALL

Ref. No. : 157

Location : 15 Skene Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Colac Wesleyan Methodist Church and Hall, located in Skene Street, were built between 1924-6 to a design produced by the Melbourne architectural firm Eggleston. Both the church and hall were built in the Inter-War Romanesque style in red brick with terracotta roofing. The Wesleyan Methodist Church and Hall are of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Wesleyan Methodist Church and Hall are historically important in illustrating the early twentieth century beliefs in the efficacy of religious observances and the role played by church architecture in conveying messages of religion's importance. The simple, unadorned style of the Wesleyan Methodist Church and Hall are socially important in reflecting the philosophy of Methodism and its aim to create 'plain and decent' meeting houses, illustrating the Wesleyan life principles. The Colac Wesleyan Methodist Church and Hall are aesthetically important in demonstrating the good design principles of the Inter-War Romanesque style of architecture and through the prominent siting of the complex.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

In the nineteenth century Methodists were divided into three main sects, Wesleyans, Primitive Methodists and Bible Christians. These divisions of Methodism united to form the Methodist Church of Australasia in 1902. The divisions in Victoria had 1,000 churches between them in 1901, but a number of these were evidently closed or disposed of as Methodist Churches numbered 829 in 1902.

Whilst Wesleyan Methodists developed a strong hold in the Shire by establishing the Buntingdale Mission near Birregurra, they did not create a presence in Colac until 1858. Even then, they relied on a circuit minister for six years until a permanent local appointment was made.

A Wesleyan presence was established in Colac in 1859 with the erection of a small church in Church Street. This sufficed until 1874 when a larger church was built in Murray Street, nearly opposite the Commercial Hotel. There was some disquiet in the church community because of the position of the church in the main commercial street of Colac, but it was not until 1924 that the site was sold and a new church and Sunday school planned for Skene Street. While building works were going on, the Wesleyans held services at the Victoria Hall.

Searle and Wallace were the contractors for both the church and hall, which were designed by the Melbourne architectural firm Eggleston. The foundation stones for both buildings were laid in 1925. The Sunday School building was completed first, and was dedicated on 8 November 1925.

The church was opened on 20 June 1926. A feature of the church is the memorial window to the Selwood family, donated by the ten family members.

The church's original design was not completed until 1970 when two vestries were added. Work was supervised then by the architect D Williams and L Millman was the builder.

The red brick church was built to an imposing design in a prominent position on a corner block. The church is otherwise of a simple design, reflecting the principals of John Wesley who advocated 'preaching-houses' to be 'plain and decent'. It was designed to convey messages of the importance of religion, and the strength that could be gained from religious observances.

The church complex now provides information about the importance of religion in society in the nineteenth and twentieth century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The church and hall were designed by Melbourne architectural firm Eggleston in the Inter-War Romanesque style in red brick with terracotta roofing. The ornamentation is restrained in favour of overall massing to create strongly expressed shapes. A strong emphasis has been placed on the walls as a massive load-bearing envelope, highlighted by medium pitched roof. Decorative features are minimal and include the round-arched openings for the lead light windows and a decorative fleche. Two vestries were added either side of the church in 1970, and completed the original Eggleston design.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : FIRE STATION & RESIDENCE

Ref. No. : 158

Location : 26 Skene Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The brick Fire Station and attached Residence, located at 26 Skene Street, Colac, was constructed in 1923. The Fire Station and Residence is historically important for the Shire of Colac Otway. The Fire Station is historically important for demonstrating Colac ratepayer's commitment to voluntary activities. It is also historically important for demonstrating the value placed on the provision of fire fighting services in fire-prone rural areas. The attached Residence is historically important for demonstrating the commitment to family values adopted by the Country Fire Brigade. The Fire Station and Residence are architecturally important for exhibiting the principal design characteristics of the style associated with fire station design in Victoria.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Supplying Services (5.2.); Fire & Flood (5.2)

HISTORY :

A fire brigade commenced in Colac in 1887 as a loosely formed group, and operated until 1891 when the Country Fire Brigade was established. The 1890 Victorian *Fire Brigades Act* had set up two boards with similar powers and responsibilities - the Country Fire Brigade and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade. The Country Fire Brigade operated in areas beyond the ten mile metropolitan radius and was a volunteer body. The name was later changed to the Country Fire Authority to distinguish between it and the Metropolitan Fire Brigade, and reflect the voluntary nature of the former group.

The original Colac Fire Station was a small wooden building on the Market Reserve (now Memorial Square) facing Murray Street. The timber building was demolished in 1923 when Market Reserve was upgraded and converted to form Memorial Square. The Country Fire Brigade Board replaced the old timber fire station with a new brick complex constructed in Skene Street that included a fire station and adjacent residence.

The fire station included an appliance shed large enough for two vehicles side by side as well as training space at the rear. The attached residence contained three bedrooms.

The residence reflects philosophies subscribed to by the brigade, in the early decades of the twentieth century, in developing work environments conducive to families. This philosophy enabled firemen to enjoying the benefits of a home life whilst on call.

The arched front entrance to the shed was altered to accommodate larger appliances in the 1970s.

The complex was occupied and used continuously until a new fire station was constructed in another part of Colac in 1999.

The former fire station provides evidence of the community's commitment to the Shire's volunteer firemen and the Brigade, and attests the importance of a dedicated group within a high-risk bush fires area.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An early 1920s traditionally styled Fire Station with an attached red face brick residence. The juxtapositions of the two buildings of different architectural styles is slightly incongruous, the Californian Bungalow style of the residence with the Inter War Free Classical style of the fire station, as evidenced by the Palladian styled arched vehicular entrance, central round brick vent, elaborate urns placed on top of the front parapet wall, and the scalloped finish to the return side walls. The building is substantially intact, although the front entrance has been modified to accommodate larger vehicles.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : BALNAGOWAN

Ref. No. : 159

Location : 3 Stodart Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Balnagowan, located at 3 Stodart Street, Colac, was constructed in the Queen Anne style in 1891 for Alexander Ross, to a design produced by the prominent Melbourne architectural firm Oakden Addison and Kemp. Balnagowan is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Balnagowan is aesthetically important for its ability to exhibit an early example of Oakden Addison and Kemp's Queen Anne style of house design, and in demonstrating the principle design and aesthetic characteristics of the Queen Anne style. Balnagowan is important for its associations with the late nineteenth century technical innovations of the Queen Anne style, demonstrated by the comparatively new application of terracotta tiles. Balnagowan is historically important as a rare example of the employment of a renowned Melbourne architectural firm, unusual in the Shire. Balnagowan is historically important for its association with the development of the City of Colac and the Colac Otway Shire by illustrating the late nineteenth century aspirations and social values of the district's elite. Balnagowan is important for its social and cultural associations with the Ross family and subsequent usages, which demonstrate the district's changing social values in the twentieth century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

The mansion known as Balnagowan was built in 1891 for Alexander Ross, a retired grazier. It had taken three years to build, probably because of the effect the economic depression had on Ross's finances.

The Queen Anne style adopted by Ross is an early example of its type and indicative of a desire by the owner to adopt the latest fashion in house design. It reflects the social mores of the late nineteenth century and a desire to construct not only a comfortable family home, but also one that would reflect the success and social status of the owner through its architectural design and garden surrounds.

Balnagowan was sited in spacious grounds of twenty-three acres extending from Lake Colac to Murray Street, and looked out onto the lake from the spot which became known as Ross's Point, a favourite picnic destination in the early decades of the twentieth century. A series of tree plantings were nurtured to shelter the house from the prevailing winds.

On Ross's death in 1907 the property was acquired by Wallace Joyce, a local estate agent, for use as his family home. In 1914 the house was described as comprising nineteen rooms, including five reception and living rooms, and nine bedrooms.

The house and three acres were sold on Joyce's death to Ralph Williams, a dentist, in 1948. He in turn sold in 1951 to Inez and Laura Anson, who were qualified nurses. The new owners turned the mansion into a private hospital and it served this role until 1970 before becoming a function centre and accommodation house.

Most of the former grounds were later subdivided by Stewart Joyce to form the Balnagowan Avenue housing estate, reflecting Colac's post-war urban growth.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An impressive early example of a Federation Queen Anne style two-storey mansion, located in the middle of mature plantings, with outlooks over Lake Colac. The imposing home was built in 1891 with fine face red brick walls, prominent front two-storey projecting gables and hexagonal bay windows and tower with conical slate roof. The main roof dominates the design and is steeply pitched, with elaborately grouped tall chimneys decorated with strapped work and elegant terracotta chimney pots. Segmental arched windows, double hung with multi-pane upper sashes set regularly along the facades, broken up with bold decorative banding, forms an intricate part of the design concept of the style. To the side a late twentieth century brick conservatory has been built with steep terracotta mansard roof. The building is substantially intact and, although the side conservatory is obviously a later addition, it does not dominate the building.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : MOORINGARARA

Ref. No. : 160

Location : 26-34 Wallace Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The brick Victorian Georgian style house, Mooringarara, located in mature gardens at 26-34 Wallace Street, Colac, was built in 1854 for local doctor Henry Nankivell. The house was extended in 1875 and used as a medical practice, private hospital and residence. Mooringarara is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. Mooringarara is historically important as one of the earliest surviving examples of European settlement in Colac. Mooringarara is historically important for its association with the development of health care and one of Colac's earliest medical practitioners, Dr H. Nankivell. Mooringarara is historically important for its association with the establishment of Colac earliest known surviving hospital by Dr T Rae in 1875. Mooringarara is aesthetically important as a good example of a substantially intact colonial vernacular style home of hand made bricks, built in the early years of settlement of the district.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.1); Hospitals (8.2.2)

HISTORY :

This single storey house on the banks of Reservoir Creek was built, utilising hand-made bricks, for Dr Henry Nankivell in 1854. The building was primarily used as a residence although the doctor also operated his practice from the premises. Dr Nankivell died in 1859.

In 1861 Agnes, Nankivell's widow, married his colleague, Dr T Rae, and Rae took over Nankivell's practice. In 1871 a verandah was added to the front of the house.

The growth in practice by the 1870s, commensurate with Colac's growth and the professionalisation of medicine, led Dr Rae, in 1875, to erect a private hospital alongside his house. This building was linked by a corridor to the house and was operating and offering services to the sick before the Colac Hospital was opened in 1882 [site #110]. After the Colac Hospital was opened, Rae's private hospital was able to continue offering medical care by admitting midwifery cases as well as wealthier people who avoided the services usually offered to the poor in nineteenth century hospitals.

After Dr Rae's death in 1880, Agnes Rae continued to live in the house until her death in about 1914.

The house was variously owned after Mrs Rae's death until purchased in 1975 and restored by the McIntosh's.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A very good example of a typical Victorian Georgian early country homestead, as evidenced by the rectangular form, corrugated metal clad hip roof, low spreading verandah, multiply timber posts, low height, squat chimneys and French windows and doors leading onto the verandah; and its position set well back from the road in an established garden.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : WESLEYAN METHODIST PARSONAGE (fmr)

Ref. No. : 161

Location : 81 Wallace Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The two-storey stuccoed Wesleyan Methodist Parsonage building, located at 81 Wallace Street, Colac, was built in 1872 in the Victorian Georgian style. The Wesleyan Methodist Parsonage is of historic and aesthetic importance to the shire of Colac Otway. The Parsonage is historically important for its ability to demonstrate the presence of Wesleyanism in the shire, first established in the Buntingdale Mission at Birregurra in 1838. The Parsonage is historically important in demonstrating, through the austere and severe style of the building, the impecunious circumstances of Colac's nineteenth and early twentieth century Wesleyan Methodist parishioners. The Wesleyan Methodist Parsonage is aesthetically important as a good example of a two-storey stuccoed Victorian Georgian style residence.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : COLAC DAIRYING COMPANY COMPLEX

Ref. No. : 162

Location : 131 Wilson Street
Colac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Colac Dairying Company, located in Wilson Street Colac, commenced operations on the site in 1892 as a co-operative venture to manufacture butter and cheese. Extensions, additions and alterations were undertaken in 1906, 1920, 1921, 1926, 1951, 1955, and 1979. The factory closed in 1989. The Colac Dairying Company complex is historically important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Colac Dairying Company complex is historically important for its association with the Colac Dairying Company and the major role played by the company in the development of the dairy industry in the Shire. The complex is also historically important in illustrating the development of one of Colac's major secondary industries. The Colac Dairying Company complex is historically important for illustrating, through the additions and alterations to the site, the phases of growth in the dairy manufacturing industry. The complex is also rare in exhibiting, through the various extant buildings comprising the former factory, the processes involved in manufacturing dairy products, a practise which has changed radically due to improved technology and the deregulation of the dairy industry.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

HISTORY :

The Colac Dairying Company was formed in 1892 as a co-operative to manufacture butter and cheese, and was the initiative of local pastoralists and businessmen. The Colac co-operative was one of thirty-two formed after the first was set up in Cobden in 1888. All were established in response to the bonuses offered on export butter introduced by the Victorian colonial government in 1888. The co-operative operated out of a small wooden factory in Wilson Street, and at the same time creameries were opened at Coorooke [site #153], Corunnan, Warrion and Ondit, and later in 1902 at Swan Marsh [site #214] and in 1915 at Beac [site #38]. The business soon expanded, and the factory premises themselves underwent constant expansion and improvements in an effort to keep pace with the growing business. Major works were undertaken in 1906, 1920 and 1921.

In 1926 a modern brick factory complex was constructed on the site. The new factory had provision for the reception of milk, the manufacture and packaging of butter and cheese, as well as office accommodation. The main complex was added to from time to time including a new boiler room and chimney in 1951 and butter churn room in 1955. A number of out-buildings, such as trades huts, garages, produce store, office and other store areas, were also built at various times. A new laboratory and office block was built in 1979 when manufacturing operations were relocated to the company's Cororooke factory. The Colac site then became the regional headquarters for Bonlac and retained the supply store as well. Company rationalisation led to the closure of the factory site in December 1989 and the transfer of staff to Melbourne, Cororooke and Cobden.

Dairying continues to be one of Colac Otway Shire's major industries. The Colac Dairying Company played a major role in the development of the industry in the shire, and the growth of the industry is documented in the Wilson Street site.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The former Colac Dairying Company is an early twentieth century, multi-gabled brick rural industrial building, set back off the main road. The building is typical of early industrial dairy buildings in the area, identified by their sturdy load bearing construction, high red brick walls usually of about five to six metres in height, reinforced by brick piers along the gable end, a series of corrugated iron clad coupled gable roofs, with tall brick chimney, regular, almost symmetrical, placement of timber doors and casements windows around the building in a domestic style, rendered strip lintels painted white, with deep eaves. The second section at right angles to the main structure is well ventilated and top lit by a central ridge ventilator. The design includes a raised long recessed verandah with skillion styled cantilevered roof at the front used as a delivery and collection point.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically Altered unsympathetically		
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ONION DEHYDRATION FACTORY

Ref. No. : 163

Location : 20 Rossmoyne Road
Colac West



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The former Onion Dehydration Factory in Rossmoyne Road, Colac West was built in 1942 for the Commonwealth Government. The building was later used by the Colac Dairying Company for the manufacturing of rennet casein, and is now occupied by sawmillers. The Onion Dehydration Factory building is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Onion Dehydration Factory building is of historic importance for its association with one of the Shire's notable primary industries, onion growing and onion dehydration, the secondary industry associated with the production of the crop. The Onion Dehydration Factory building is historically important for its association with the Commonwealth government's efforts to supply foodstuff to the armed forces. The Onion Dehydration Factory building is historically important in demonstrating, through the high circular brick kiln-like chimney, and the large single-storey eleven-bay saw toothed roof, the various industrial usages of the complex since the 1940s.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Farming (3.6); Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

HISTORY :

Onion growing was commenced in earnest in the Shire in the 1880s after the subdivision of the Robertson Estate. The district became one of the main onion producers in Victoria and, it was claimed, more onions were grown in the Colac region than in any other part of the Commonwealth. By the mid-twentieth century nearly 65 percent of the total production of onions in the State came from the district between Lake Corangamite and Lake Colac. Onion production was assisted by the construction of a spur line to Alvie in 1922 that helped in the development and distribution of onions on a large scale in the Cororooke-Alvie-Warrion area.

The Commonwealth Government erected the onion dehydration factory at Rossmoyne in 1942 as part of the war effort to supply foodstuffs to the armed forces. The site was in the middle of an extensive area of onion growing that produced 40,000 tonnes each year between 1940 and 1948.

At the conclusion of the Second World War the Commonwealth Government closed the factory in 1949.

The Colac Dairying Company brought the building in 1950 and installed equipment for the manufacture of rennet casein. Rennet casein, made from skim milk after the cream has been extracted, was used for plastics such as buttons, imitation ivory, knife handles and penholders. The factory served in this capacity until 1975.

The building then became the Rossmoyne Arts and Crafts Centre, opened on 21 March 1979, but the centre was not a long-term success and it closed within three years.

In 1985 Eric Murnane relocated his sawmilling business to the old factory. A sawmilling business continues to occupy the site.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A very large single storey industrial complex, consisting of a series of eleven parallel bay saw toothed roof structures, with similar base units added to the end gable of the front section, terminating in a high circular brick kiln-like chimney. There are various corrugated shed outbuildings and sealed car parking area to the front. The building was erected in 1942 with asbestos cement corrugated roof sheeting built under war conditions.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : GOOD SAMARITAN CONVENT

Ref. No. : 164

Location : 725 Corangamite Lake Road
Coragulac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The red brick Good Samaritan Convent, located at 725 Corangamite Lake Road, Coragulac, was completed in 1924 to a design of the prominent ecclesiastical architect A A Fritsche. A science wing was added in 1967. The building was used as a secondary college and boarding school, and is currently used as a kindergarten and convention centre. The Good Samaritan Convent is of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Good Samaritan Convent is historically important through its relationship to the Irish Catholic settlement of the area. This denominational settlement pattern contrasts with the Scottish Presbyterian establishment to the north east, and illustrates the Shire's ethnographic and cultural origins. The Good Samaritan Convent is aesthetically important as a good example of an Inter-War mixed Gothic red brick Roman Catholic building designed by the architect A., A. Fritsche, a leading ecclesiastical designer of the early twentieth century, who is known for the dramatic three dimensional modelling of his designs. The Good Samaritan Convent is aesthetically important as a good representative example of an ecclesiastical educational building, typical of large residential institutions built in the 1920s.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ST BRENDAN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH & BELL TOWER

Ref. No. : 165

Location : 725 Corangamite Lake Road
Coragulac



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The red brick St Brendan's Catholic Church and Bell Tower, located on Corangamite Lake Road, Coragulac, was designed by Fritsche & Fritsche in 1939. The church replaced an earlier 1899 building destroyed by fire. St Brendan's Catholic Church is of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. St Brendan's Catholic Church is historically important through association with Irish Catholic and Italian settlement of the area. This ethnic settlement contrasts with the Scottish Presbyterian establishment to the north east, and assists in illustrating the Shire's ethnographic foundations. St Brendan's Catholic Church is socially important for the role it played in assisting Irish and Italian migrants to settle in the district. The Bell Tower is important as a memorial to the first parish priest, and for its association with earlier methods of communication in the district. St Brendan's Catholic Church is aesthetically important as a good example of an Inter-War Romanesque mixed Gothic red brick Roman Catholic building. St Brendan's Catholic Church is aesthetically important in demonstrating the principal design characteristics of the Fritsche & Fritsche style. St Brendan's Catholic Church is aesthetically important in illustrating the continuum of the A A Fritsche tradition, Fritsche having been responsible for introducing stark Romanesque designs into the Catholic twentieth century ecclesiastical architecture as a break from their high Gothic building tradition in Australia.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

In 1887 Irish immigrant Thomas Baker, along with a syndicate, purchased the Corunnun Estate. He subdivided the land and, through advertising, attracted Irish Catholic potato farmers from the Warrnambool and Koroit district. (Baker subsequently became a Colac Shire councillor and a Member of the Legislative Assembly for Polwarth.) In a relatively short time the population of the estate area increased from four to 400. After the First World War the last remaining pastoral runs in the district were broken up for closer and soldier settlement, including at Cororooke, Alvie, Warrion and Dreeite, further increasing the population of the area.

The first Catholic church was completed in 1899 when St Brendan's was still included in the Colac Parish. In 1918, in response to the increased numbers of Catholic parishioners in the area, St Brendan's was declared a separate Parish. By 1924 a presbytery, primary school and convent had been built.

A fire destroyed the original St Brendan's church in 1938.

The present St Brendan's church was completed in 1939. The new church was designed in the Interwar Romanesque mixed Gothic by the prominent Melbourne firm of ecclesiastic architects Fritsche & Fritsche, and was built on the foundations of the old church.

In 1937 the bronze bell, mounted on a steel tower, was erected and dedicated to the memory of Father McCarthy, parish priest from 1918 to 1935. The bell and tower were relocated to its present site to the south of the church in the mid-fifties, to make way for the construction of the school. The bell was rung three times a day for the Angelus, as well as to mark the commencement of Sunday mass.

Whilst the church originally served the predominantly Irish settlement in the surrounding communities of Coragulac, Cororooke, Pirron Yallock and others, in the 1930s Italian migrants also settled in the area.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

A landmark red brick Interwar Romanesque mixed Gothic church designed in 1939 by Fritsche & Fritsche, a leading Melbourne firm of architects, who specialised in ecclesiastic designs. The church is located on the knoll of a hill, overlooking the countryside on the site of the former 1899 Roman Catholic church, within a large Roman Catholic convent complex. The design is vigorously modelled in three dimensional form with massive load bearing walls, extensive areas of stretcher bond brick patterning, steeply pitched terracotta tiled roof, small stylised brick buttresses capped with terracotta tiles, projecting squared/octagonal porch beneath the large stained glass east circular rose window. The polygonal porch is repeated again at the ends of each crossing and by the apsidal west end of the church. There are a number of detailed Inter-War Norman or Romanesque features to the building including decorative tapestry brick medieval motifs, heavy ledged and boarded doors, and ornamental wrought ironwork. A metal open lattice bell tower stands to the south of the church. A concrete ramp for the disabled has been built at the east end of the church; however, the design is low keyed and integrates well with the sloping site.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ST DAVID'S CHURCH & HALL

Ref. No. : 166

Location : 520 Corangamite Lake Road
Cororooke



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The small local red brick St David's Church, located on Corangamite Lake Road, Cororooke, was dedicated in 1903. St David's flat roof cream brick Hall was built in the decades following the Second World War. St David's Church and Hall are historically, aesthetically and socially important to the Shire of Colac Otway. St. David's Church is of historic importance through association with the Presbyterian Scots who predominated as a denominational and national group. St David's Church and Hall are historically important in demonstrating ethnographic settlement and distribution in the district. St David's Church is aesthetically important as a good representative example of a typical early Gothic Revival church built at the beginning of the twentieth century in a remote rural area of Victoria. St David's Hall is historically and socially important in demonstrating the continued social and cultural associations of the district's parishioners in the second half of the twentieth century.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : SHOP

Ref. No. : 167

Location : 546 Cororooke Road
Cororooke



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The weatherboard Shop, located at 546 Cororooke Road, Cororooke, was built for Mary Mahoney in 1901 to service the small community that had sprung up around the Colac Dairying Company's butter factory established nearby in 1893. A bakery and general business was operated from the premises by the Boylan brothers from about 1901, until the last decades of the twentieth century. Various dwellings were built in timber on the property a section of which, in the 1930s, was used as a baby health centre. The Shop is of historic and architectural importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Shop is of historic importance through association with the dairy industry and the impact it had on settlement patterns in the Shire, especially the growth of communities and building of towns. The Shop is of historic importance through association with small trades like bakers, vital for the role they played in the provisioning of communities before transport was improved by the motor car in the second half of the twentieth century. The shop is of architectural importance as a rural country general store, which is substantially intact.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Building Towns (5.2)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : DAIRY FACTORY

Ref. No. : 168

Location : 15 Factory Road
Cororooke



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Cororooke Dairy Factory complex is a large conglomeration of steel-framed buildings set in an extensive industrial site. The factory was established on the site in 1893, and has been progressively expanded over a 100 year period. The Cororooke Dairy Factory complex is of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Cororooke Dairy Factory complex is historically important through association with the development of dairy industry in the region. The Cororooke Dairy Factory complex is socially important for association with the local community, many of whom gained their livelihood directly or indirectly from the industry. The Cororooke Dairy Factory complex demonstrates a particular way of life connected with the expansion of the Victorian dairy industry during the twentieth century. This expansion is also reflected in the context of the site by the survival of many associated factory workers houses that variously date from the early 1900s and 1920s, and the post Second World War period, along with the series of corner milk bars and shops and the close proximity to the bulk grain handling feed depot.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : FRENCHMAN'S INN

Ref. No. : 169

Location : 5 Hall Street
Cressy



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber Frenchman's Inn, in Hall Street, Cressy, was established in 1841. The current building was constructed in 1875 with additions occurring in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. The Frenchman's Inn is of aesthetic, historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Frenchman's Inn is aesthetically important as a substantially intact, early surviving wayside timber framed colonial inn, sited on the banks of the Woody Yallock Creek, in a setting which has changed little since the late Victorian era. The Frenchman's Inn is historically important in demonstrating early road routes to the Western District and the important role of publicans in providing lodging for long-distance travellers in the nineteenth century. The subsequent additions to the Frenchman's Inn are historically important in illustrating the greater population of the district, and the changes required in licensed establishments. The Frenchman's Inn is socially important in demonstrating the role played by inns and hotels in providing a social centre for the district.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Roads & Routes (4.4)

HISTORY :

The first road routes into and through the Shire after the 1830s were nothing more than ribbons of dirt across the plains, winding from one creek crossing to the next, with punts located at river crossings operated under license. Inns sprang up at river crossings, or were sited on main roads to provide accommodation for travellers.

The Frenchman's Inn survives as a remnant of this phase of the Shire's development.

The Frenchman, Jean Duverney, who erected a hotel on the banks of the Woody Yallock creek in 1841, founded the township of Cressy. The hotel was called 'Frenchman's Inn' and was strategically sited near the ford over Woody Yallock Creek, and thus able to capture passing traffic between Melbourne-Geelong and Port Fairy and Portland. Originally the hotel had no bar, and refreshments were handed through a sliding window.

The entire building was destroyed by fire in 1875. It was replaced on the same site with a larger, rectangular wooden building facing Duverney Street, rather than the creek as did the earlier hotel.

In later years, the addition of wings on both sides and a long verandah along the street frontage extended the original core.

By 1910, when the inn was licensed to Mrs Brown, it comprised 20 bedrooms, three parlours, dining room, bar, storeroom etc. Even then, with that number of rooms, it was said to be taxed in providing sufficient private sleeping areas, so people had to be lodged in tents.

Frenchman's Inn is not only able to provide information about the early road routes to the Western District, its size is also an indication of the stresses placed on accommodation in Cressy, a busy rail junction for the Geelong-Mt Gambier and Colac-Ballararat lines.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Frenchman's Inn is made up of two distinct sections. To the south is the early 1870s colonial single storey weatherboard building with corrugated iron hip roof, separate front verandah and two rear additions built at right angles to the main building. The whole complex is vernacular in design, typical of early rural structures made up of connecting pavilions, with roofs of similar height. To the north and front a larger gable ended weatherboard wing was added in the late nineteenth century with a subsequent additional smaller wing built in the 1920s or later. The original verandah extends around the later additions and half way across the front of the newest section. The earlier group of buildings is set back and partially hidden by the later development. Two mature Cyprus trees rise above the complex to the rear and may be associated with the earlier 1840s structure that faced the creek to the rear. The isolated setting of the place, perched on the edge of the wide Woody Yallock Creek, adjacent the Dalgety cattle yards and early Duverney Street commercial development, is atmospheric and forms a distinct cultural landscape. The earlier 1870s section of the building appears substantially intact with little disturbed, and it is probable that many original features may still exist including potential archaeological relics from the 1840s site. The newer wing appears to have been updated to accommodate changing business demands.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u>	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : ST ANDREW'S CHURCH & HALL

Ref. No. : 170

Location : 1 Lyons Street
Cressy



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The red brick St Andrew's Church, located at 1 Lyons Street, Cressy, was dedicated in 1913. The adjacent bluestone church Hall was built as the original church in 1862. The St. Andrew's Church and Hall are of historic, social and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. St Andrew's Church and Hall are of historic importance for their ability to demonstrate Presbyterian worship in the locality since the mid-nineteenth century. The Church and Hall are historically important for illustrating the predominantly Scottish origins of the early settlers. The Church and Hall are important for demonstrating social associations with Scottish immigrants and the role played by churches in assimilating settlers. The Hall is aesthetically important as a good representative example of an unusual, rudimentary, early Gothic church. It has quite distinctive stone masonry work, and is located in an area well known for characteristic bluestone buildings, often associated with different styles of vernacular traditions from the British Isles. St Andrew's Church is aesthetically important as a good representative example of an early twentieth century Gothic Revival church.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Religious Institutions (9.1)

HISTORY :

As early as 1859 the Presbyterian Church appointed a visiting minister to serve the area, and in 1860 a decision was made to erect a church at Cressy. Sufficient funds were collected from parishioners for a substantial stone building, which was opened on 16 March 1862. Later additions comprised a wooden porch at the front and wooden vestry to the rear.

Cressy's population doubled in the decade after 1910, following the opening of the railway from Beeac in 1911 and from Geelong in 1913. This meant the church constructed in 1862 was too small to accommodate the congregation.

The new church was a brick structure on simple lines, and was opened in March 1913. Embellishments added since include the installation of a stained glass window in 1964 and a pipe organ, which was installed in 1974. An Airforce hut was also added to the site in 1974 to provide extra accommodation.

The manse was destroyed in the 1977 bushfire and was not rebuilt. A minister is no longer attached to the parish.

St Andrew's Church and Hall are able to provide information about the migrant composition of the surrounding area, as well as the rises and falls in population levels.



1862 Bluestone Church

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The site contains three buildings, the early 1862 Presbyterian bluestone rudimentary Gothic church (now the hall), which is a charming naive structure, constructed out of coursed square pattered locally quarried bluestone. The stone masonry work is of an unusual pattered style with rough cut quoining and window label moulds, but smooth faced sills. The Gothic style is only expressed in the form of tracery in the window openings. There is a later small timber porch and wooden vestry. The second building on the site is the blue painted Royal Airforce hut of timber and asbestos corrugated roof, which has been added to the rear of the church but reads as a separate building. The third major structure is the 1913, typical Presbyterian small red brick early Gothic Revival church with contrasting cement window, door and gable dressing, with an enclosed brick porch to the north. The building is simple, almost minimal in decorative detail with a small trefoil lancet stained glass window to the east.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : POLICE LOCK-UP

Ref. No. : 171

Location : 7 Lyon Street
Cressy



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber Cressy Police Lock-up is located at 7 Lyon Street, Cressy. A Lock-up has been included on the site since 1910. The timber Cressy Police Lock-up was built to the standard government design, and prefabricated in Melbourne. The Cressy Police Lock-up is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Cressy Police Lock-up is historically important through association with the Victorian Police Force, and in demonstrating the development of codes regulating law and order in the shire. The Cressy Police Lock-up is also historically important for its capacity to demonstrate the growth of Cressy from an outlying rural district to a thriving community, brought about by the economic advantages associated with the extension of the railway in 1911. The Cressy Police Lock-up is important as a good example of a substantially intact early twentieth century weatherboard Police Lock-Up.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Law & Order (8.2.5)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : WATER TOWER

Ref. No. : 172

Location : 19 New Station Street
Cressy



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The reinforced concrete Water Tower, at 19 New Station Street at Cressy, was erected in 1962. The Water Tower is of historic, social and technological importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Water Tower is of historic importance for its association with the development of shire's service authorities and the provision of both energy and water supplies to the shire's residents. The Water Tower is historically important for associations with the earlier hardships involved in gaining supplies, which continued until the mid-twentieth century. The Water Tower is socially important as an illustration of the dependence of remote areas on water, particularly in seasons of drought. The Water Tower is technologically important as a demonstration of the achievements of the Shire's service authorities in extending supplies to rural towns.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Supplying Services (5.2)

HISTORY :

The provision of a water supply to the more remote areas of the shire was slow in developing. Many householders in these remote areas relied on tanks, wells and bores. Some were dependent on this source until the mid-twentieth century, in spite of the Colac District Water Board commencing a service to Colac in 1911.

The Colac Waterworks Trust (formerly the Colac District Water Board) began looking at providing a reticulated supply to Cressy as early as 1944, but various political and funding obstacles intervened to delay the project. Finally, in 1957, the water supply was extended to Cressy and Beeac. At the same time Cororooke, Coragulac, Alvie and Warrion also gained a reticulated water supply.

The water was conveyed by pipeline from Colac to supply Beeac and Cressy to a service basin in the Racecourse Reserve, and then by reticulation to the townships. Because of the flat terrain surrounding Cressy, the link provided for a 60 foot high water tower in reinforced concrete, with a capacity of 60,000 gallons. The tower was completed in 1962.

The tower now provides a beacon in the area, and is a reminder of the difficulties of providing services to the shire's inhabitants.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The concrete reinforced cast-insitu water tower was built by slip formwork in 1962 to the standard design of the Water Board. It is an attractive simple circular landmark structure rising 60 feet high above the locality, with a series of four window openings along the southern face beneath the circular 60,000 gallon storage tank. A small lookout hut surmounts the structure.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : DALGETY SALEYARD

Ref. No. : 173

Location : 5 Tennant Street
Cressy



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Dalgety Saleyard is located in Tennant Street, Cressy. The Dalgety Company established a presence at Cressy in 1906. The Dalgety Saleyard is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Dalgety Saleyard is aesthetically important for its setting, enclosed by a variety of different mature trees, and the maze like pattern of white timber fence holding pens, walkways and small white timber framed hut, which creates an evocative cultural landscape on the banks of the Woody Yallock Creek. The Dalgety Saleyard is an excellent example of a substantially intact early surviving sheep and cattle saleyard, now considered rare in the shire. The Dalgety Saleyard is important for its potential to demonstrate a traditional rural way of life and custom, which has now been changed by the use of modern technology and hygiene requirements. The Dalgety Saleyard is historically important for its ability to illustrate the size of livestock sales regularly conducted throughout the shire. The Dalgety Saleyard is important through association with the Dalgety Company, which contributed significantly to the growth of the shire's primary industry.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing Secondary Industries (5.3)

HISTORY :

The Dalgety Company was established in 1863 and is one of Victoria's oldest stock and station agents. Soon after its establishment the company adopted the policy of setting up branches in rural areas, proclaiming that 'if farmers could not come to Dalgety's, Dalgety's would come to them.'

The Dalgety Saleyards at Cressy date from 1906 when the firm opened a sub-branch in the Duverney-Cressy area. The firm established a presence in the area after subdivision of pastoral holdings had increased the number of small farmers. After the rail line had been extended from Beeac to Cressy in 1911 the business expanded to the extent that fortnightly sales were conducted for fat and store sheep and cattle. The saleyards were well sited close to rail routes, and even greater access was provided in 1913 after the opening of the line from Geelong.

By 1935 weekly sales were taking place in Colac, although periodic sales continued to be conducted at Cressy. The yards saw the largest sale of sheep ever in Cressy in 1957 when 30,000 sheep passed through. Modern construction materials have replaced the original yards.

The saleyards are now one of the oldest surviving in the Shire. They provide information about an aspect of an industry that played an important role in the shire's historical growth.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Dalgety Saleyard at Cressy is comprised of a large number of small timber fenced holding lots with a series of open dirt walkways in between, interwoven throughout the complex, allowing buyers to move around the pens, whilst also allowing sheep to be herded through the pens. The traditional style fencing is made up of three broad planks supported by regularly spaced timber squared posts, cross braced timber gates, all built to the same height of about 1.2 metres and lime washed white. The saleyards are situated on the banks of the Woody Yallock Creek, protected by Cypress trees to the west and a number of planted native and deciduous trees scattered through the complex. There is a small timber weatherboard hut adjacent to the road, which possibly accommodates toilets and wash rooms.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : AVENUE OF HONOUR

Ref. No. : 174

Location : Yarima Road, New Station & Lyons Streets
Cressy



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Cressy Avenue of Honour is a World War I memorial, planted on the road verges of Yarima Road, New Station and Lyons Streets, Cressy, as a major community endeavour to honour the district's volunteer servicemen. The Avenue of Honour consists of three convergent plantings (c1917) of approximately 130 trees of mixed species (predominantly *Eucalyptus* spp.), generally in poor or very poor condition and lacking visual unity or amenity typically associated with avenue plantings. The Cressy Avenue of Honour is of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Cressy Avenue of Honour is historically important through association with the commemoration of the service and sacrifice of the Cressy district's volunteers, and illustrates the scale of impact the war had on local communities. The Cressy Avenue of Honour is socially important through association with the local district and its commitment to preserve and maintain the commemoration of the district's volunteers.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Memorials & Monuments (9.3)

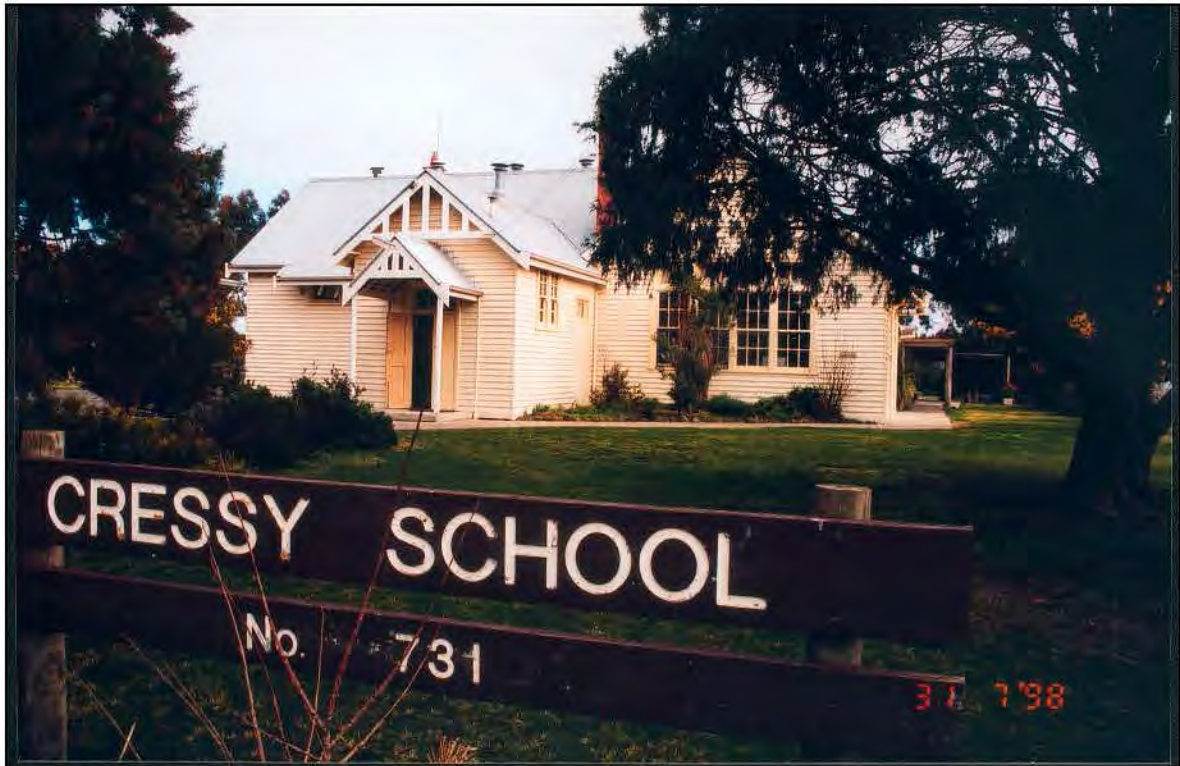
Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : PRIMARY SCHOOL #731

Ref. No. : 175

Location : Yarima Road
Cressy



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Cressy Primary School complex, located in Yarima Road, Cressy, was opened in 1912. The timber school was extended with extra classrooms in 1959, 1967 and 1983. An octagonal weatherboard shelter was also built in the school grounds, and centennial commemorative gate erected in 1938. The Cressy Primary School complex is of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Cressy Primary School is historically important for its capacity to demonstrate the growth of Cressy, from an outlying rural district to a thriving community in the early twentieth century. The Cressy Primary School timber Shelter is socially important for its ability to demonstrate the commitment of the community in the construction of the facility. The Cressy Primary School complex is socially important in demonstrating the high regard and value placed on education by the community and former pupils, illustrated in the memorial gates erected to commemorate the school's centenary and Cressy's 150th anniversary. The Cressy Primary School is important as a substantial and attractive weatherboard school building designed by the Education Department.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Schools (8.2.1)

HISTORY :

The Cressy Primary School was opened in 1912. It replaced a smaller school constructed in 1866 on what is now the site of the police station. The new school was built in response to Cressy's increased population, the result of subdivision of surrounding pastoral holdings and the extension of the railway from Beac in 1911.

A shelter shed was built for the pupils from funds raised by the school committee.

Additional facilities were provided at various times in response to the closure of outlying schools, and rising educational and community standards. Extra classrooms were added to the building in 1959 and again in 1967, an Art and Craft room was constructed in 1983, and new toilets were built in 1962.

Numbers at the Cressy Primary School have fluctuated since a school was first established in the town in 1866. The fluctuating numbers reflect the increases in the town's numbers, which particularly occurred in response to the railway and subdivision of the surrounding pastoral estates and is evident in the various additions and extensions that have been undertaken to the school.

Because of the absence of civic buildings in the town, and because of the losses caused by various bush fires, the school now operates as a valuable, non-sectarian reminder of the town's earlier heritage. Two plaques mounted on pillars at the school's entrance demonstrate the value placed in the school by the community. In 1938 'old scholars of the Cressy State School' erected commemorative gates and a plaque at the school's entrance to commemorate the town's centenary. It is probable that this site was chosen because the school was considered to be the most appropriate place to erect the commemorative plaque. This plaque, mounted on the right pillar, contains the following inscription:

1838-1938. Erected by old scholars of the Cressy State School in commemoration of Cressy's centenary

In 1988 another plaque was added to the left pillar, which contains the following inscription:

1838-1988. This plaque commemorates Cressy's 150th anniversary celebrations, November 19-20 1988.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The Cressy Primary School is a picturesque timber framed weatherboard building, designed by the Education Department in the late Federation Bungalow architectural style. The design incorporates a large simple roof form made up of series of gable roofs, with prominent timber decorative gable ends, stylised ends to the bargeboards, deep eaves, sometimes projecting over high windows. The windows are double hung timber sash with upper fanlights, multiple glazing bars. The building also has tall red brick chimneys and corrugated metal sheeting roof cladding. All the details such as the timber posts, weatherboard cladding, architraves, bargeboards, corner cover pieces are simple and plain. The school is set in large grounds with an attractive octagonal weatherboard shelter, with striking arched entry and lattice side panels. The grounds also include a memorial wrought iron gate hung on solid brick pillars. The school building is substantially intact. The later weatherboard classroom additions, built in 1959, 1967 and 1983, do not detract from the unity of the complex.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : WATCH HILL

Ref. No. : 176

Location : 3815 Corangamite Lake Road
Cundare

No photograph available

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

Access to the Watch Hill site was not gained, consequently it has not been possible to physically assess the site nor prepare a Statement of Significance.

However, available historical data provides sufficient information to indicate that the site is worthy of protection, at least until such time as a thorough assessment can be undertaken.

Historic information indicates that the Watch Hill site was one of the first post contact sites in the Shire to be settled, in c.1839. Later, the Watch Hill homestead block was taken up under a pre-emptive right following the passing of the 1862 Homestead Act. This provided the necessary security of tenure that allowed tenders to be called by the prominent Western District architects, Davidson and Henderson, to construct a bluestone house on the Watch Hill estate for John Calvert.

The Watch Hill site is of potential historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : N/A

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Improving Homes (3.5.1)

HISTORY :

Captain Joseph Stephen Pollock initially settled on the Barwon in 1837, and in 1839 he moved and settled north east of Lake Colac on 68,280 acres.

In 1842 Pollock sold the licence for his run to John Calvert who had entered into partnership with John Bell. Pollock was not unusual in giving up the land on which he had settled. Of the 481 people who held pastoral licenses in 1840, fewer than half remained by 1845. Most were victims of the 1838-1840 drought and falling sheep prices.

Calvert's partnership with his nephew John Bell was dissolved in 1850 and the run was divided into Irrewarra, Corangamite and Watch Hill. Calvert retained Irrewarra and Corangamite, and Bell took over Watch Hill. However, by the 1860s the Watch Hill run had again reverted back to John Calvert.

In 1862 the Homestead Act was passed allowing squatters to purchase 160 acres of their 'homestead' block as a pre-emptive right, at a nominal cost. This allowed Calvert to gain security by purchasing his land, and also to commission the prominent Western district architects, Davidson and Henderson, to design a house for Watch Hill. Tenders were called in February 1868.

Later the property reverted back to John Bell who managed it in association with Alexander Armstrong.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Access to the Watch Hill site was not gained, so examination of any physical evidence has not been possible.

Condition : Unknown

Integrity : Unknown

Name of Place : BLUESTONE COTTAGE

Ref. No. : 177

Location : 3840 Corangamite Lake Road
Cundare



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Bluestone Cottage, located on Corangamite Lake Road in the stony rise country, was built in about the early 1860s for Joseph Connor, on land purchased at the Crown sales in 1861. The Bluestone Cottage is historically, aesthetically and architecturally important to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Bluestone Cottage is historically important for association with the second wave of settlement in the Shire. The cottage is also historically important for association with Joseph Connor, who played a prominent political role in local government and in representing the local people in the Victorian Colonial Parliament. The Bluestone Cottage is aesthetically important for its isolated setting in the volcanic stony rise country near Lake Corangamite. The Bluestone Cottage is architecturally important in demonstrating mid-Victorian primitive construction methods and for contributing to the distinctive stone masonry tradition, for which the area is well known.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Closer Settlement (3.1)

HISTORY :

Squatters like John Calvert were part of the first wave of settlement in the Shire. Although they were the pioneers of the district, the thousands who flocked after them to the newly declared Colony of Victoria in the 1850s demanded that the land held by squatters be divided up into smaller parcels. Joseph Henry Connor was part of the second wave of settlement in the Shire.

Joseph Connor arrived in Melbourne in 1852 and, after trying his luck on the goldfields, set up as a storekeeper in Colac in 1853. In November 1861 he purchased two hundred and sixty acres of what was originally the Watch Hill run, held previously by John Calvert. Sometime soon after purchasing Connor built the bluestone cottage that now survives on Lake Corangamite Road and where his wife Jane and he raised their four sons and one daughter.

In 1861 Connor also purchased another three hundred and fifty-nine acres to the north and later, in January 1862, an additional two hundred and twenty-six acres to the north of the 'salt lake'. He also leased two hundred and twenty-six acres. Connor's land surrounded the Watch Hill pre-emptive right of six hundred and forty acres purchased by John Calvert sometime before 1862 when the New South Wales' colonial government's 1847 Order-in-Council expired.

As Connor was the fourth son of an Irish Presbyterian farmer, he initially concentrated on farming his land, but later focused on stockbreeding and became a grazier. He also devoted considerable time to politics and was an early member of the Colac Road Board and Shire Council; was Member of the Legislative Assembly at various times between 1864-1886, and a Member of the Legislative Council from 1886-1899. He was also a Geelong town councillor and Mayor.

As well as demonstrating the land use patterns of the second wave of settlers to the Shire, Connor also exemplifies the opportunities available to the colony, and the shire's, migrants in the second half of the nineteenth century.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

An early modest square blue stone vernacular cottage, with simple corrugated iron clad hip roof, closed eaves, with a tall brick chimney on the west side and the remains of an earlier chimney to the east side of the house. The cottage was built in the mid Victorian era as evidenced by its cubic form and symmetry of windows and front door, with the internal rooms laid out along a central hallway. The house faces south east with no surviving verandah, and is set several hundred metres from the roadside, isolated in a large open paddock on the crest of a low rise with extensive panoramic views of the Lake Corangamite stony rise country. The house is substantially intact, but has been vacant for some time. Some evidence of earlier brick repairs to the chimney is evident.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				

Name of Place : TENNIS PAVILION

Ref. No. : 178

Location : Beeac-Dreeite Road
Dreeite



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber framed Tennis Pavilion, built in 1938, is located on Beeac-Dreeite Road at Dreeite. The Tennis Pavilion is of historic and social importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Tennis Pavilion is historically important for its association with soldier settlement in the shire. The pavilion is also historically important for demonstrating, through the simplicity of the materials used, the style adopted and its late construction, the difficulties experienced by returned servicemen in creating farms in a harsh environment devoid of social facilities. The Tennis Pavilion is socially important for illustrating the community's efforts in establishing social amenities in the shire's remote farming areas.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Recreation (9.4)

HISTORY :

After the First World War, by 1927, more than 11,000 farms were allocated to returned soldiers in Victoria under the Commonwealth Government's Soldier Settler Scheme. Most were settled on re-purchased lands, but some were also allocated crown land that had not been previously farmed. The Closer Settlement Board purchased about 20,000 acres for returned soldiers in the Colac Otway Shire, providing over 300 farms. The scheme involved the purchase of the two remaining largest estates at Irrewarra and Dreeite in 1920.

The post World War One soldier settlement district of Dreeite was devoid of amenities after the land was subdivided and taken up as small farms.

It was noted at the time that the settlers did not join in the established activities in neighbouring areas, probably because they had enough to contend with in establishing their farms and dealing with post war trauma.

The Education Department acquired land in 1925, but a school was not built until 1927. It remained the only social focus for some time. Finally, a branch of the Country Women's Association was formed in 1935 and a church built in 1938.

In 1938 the Dreeite community also built a tennis court adjacent to the school on the Beeac-Dreeite Road. The construction of the court at this time probably reflects the beginnings of prosperity for the farming community that allowed more leisure time to pursue recreational activities. The court was built on land purchased by the community from local resident Thomas Binns and was constructed as a co-operative effort by the local community. When the adjacent Dreeite Primary School closed in 1952, following the creation of the Alvie Consolidated School, the community moved the school's pavilion to the tennis courts. A second court was added in the 1960s.

The court provided an important social focus for the community for many years and has only, in the last few years, fallen into disrepair. The land remains in the ownership of the community.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

Purpose built timber framed tennis pavilion, designed as a simple rectangular structure with corrugated iron clad ridge roof and small central gablet to the front above the double entrance, which overlooks the tennis court. There is little decorative detailing, wide bargeboards, shiplap weatherboards, square timber post dividing the opening, all painted pale blue with corrugated water tank to the rear. The timber posts to the tennis cyclone wire fence remain but the cement courts are overgrown with weeds and grass. At the rear of the tennis court is a sports oval and 1960s pavilion. The condition of the courts is fair to poor.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	Good	<u>Fair</u> - <u>Poor</u>	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>		Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed			

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : STOCKYARD & WATER TANK BASE

Ref. No. : 179

Location : Beeac-Dreeite Road
Dreeite



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Stockyard and Water Tank Base, located on the Beeac-Dreeite Road at Dreeite, were constructed by selectors in the late nineteenth century or early twentieth century. The stockyard comprises remnants of drystone walling originally forming part of a roofed stock enclosure, a timber frame shed, and timber corral fencing and a drystone base for a water tank, all surrounded by high drystone wall fencing. The Stockyard and Water Tank Base are of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Stockyard and Water Tank Base are of aesthetic importance as a representative example of structures commonly erected in the stony rises district of the Shire in the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The Stockyard and Water Tank Base are of historic importance through association with the settlement of the area by selectors, who ingeniously adopted economic means for clearing the land and building structures for their farms.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Fences & Boundaries (3.5.2)

HISTORY :

The land on which the stockyard and bluestone water tank base were constructed was made available as a result of the land acts enacted by the Victorian colonial government in the 1860s. Under the first of these acts, the 1860 *Land Sale Act*, three million acres of country lands in Victoria were surveyed into allotments of 80 to 640 acres and made available to selectors. Generally, no person could select more than 640 acres annually. The land had to be paid for outright, or half-paid and half-leased. Further areas were opened up for selection under the *Land Act* (1862) and the 1865 *Amendment Act*. Finally, in 1869, another *Land Act* opened the whole colony of Victoria for selection, including unsurveyed land.

The 1860s land acts did little at first to 'unlock the land' in the Colac Otway Shire, largely because of the loopholes and methods adopted by the squatters who actually increased their holdings. The fertile volcanic area around Colac, in the Lake Corangamite region, was practically the only part of the Shire where any subdivision was made. Many of the Shire's early settlers failed to make a success of their selections. Often the land was poor, the allotments were too small to establish a viable farm, and frequently those who selected had little or no experience as farmers. But the 1869 *Land Act* that made land available for selection in the north of the Shire fostered a degree of enterprise amongst those who took up land.

The land on which this stockyard and bluestone water tank base were constructed was initially taken up by W Sharp, but no records survive of his occupancy of the land.

Anecdotal information provided by Audrey McKenzie (nee Eldridge) suggests that the land had been taken over by Allen in 1930. According to Audrey McKenzie, Allen share-farmed the smallholding, which was being run by Audrey's father when she was born in 1930. At the time of Audrey's birth a small, timber dwelling was also on the site. This has since been demolished.

It is probable that the drystone stockyard and drystone base for the water tank were constructed more than 70 years ago. They were not unusual at the time, locals say, and provided the economic means for constructing a variety of farm facilities by utilising available material whilst at the same time clearing the land of volcanic debris and potential sites for rabbit burrows.

The stockyards show the ingenuity of the early settlers in utilising available material, whilst at the same time clearing the land of volcanic debris.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The stockyard comprises remnants of drystone walling originally forming part of a roofed stock enclosure, a timber frame shed, and timber corral fencing and possibly sheep or cattle dip and a drystone base for a water tank, all surrounded by high drystone wall fencing, set well back from the Beeac-Dreeite Road, The building stone is graded from largest boulders near the base to smaller near the top of the wall, with large flat cpestones.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

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Volume II

Name of Place : HOUSE

Ref. No. : 180

Location : 1890 Corangamite Lake Road
Dreeite



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The timber House on Corangamite Lake Road, Dreeite was built for Frank Stratton in 1928-9 on land gained in 1921 as part of the Soldier Settlement Scheme. The House is of historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The House is of historic importance through association with the Soldier Settlement Scheme, and for its ability to demonstrate the affect of the scheme on the Shire's settlement. The House is also important for illustrating the humble dwellings and simple lifestyle of the Shire's early twentieth century small farm holders. The House is aesthetically important as a good representative example of an intact early twentieth century soldier settler's farmhouse.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Soldier Settlement (3.2.3)

Name of Place : DREEITE ESTATE DINING HALL & WATER TANK

Ref. No. : 181

Location : 1995 Corangamite Lake Road
Dreeite



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The bluestone Dining Hall, Water Tank and the archaeological remains of a Woolshed, located on Corangamite Lake Road, Dreeite, was part of Lewis Calvert's Dreeite Estate. The structures were built about the early 1880s. The Dining Hall was built for the use of estate workers and included cook's quarters, and the Water Tank which formed the basis for the estate's complex watering system. The Dining Hall, Water Tank and the archaeological remains of a Woolshed are of aesthetic, historic and scientific (technological) importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Dining Hall is aesthetically important for its isolated setting in the volcanic stony rise country near Lake Corangamite; and for contributing to the distinctive stone masonry tradition, for which the area is well known. The Dining Hall is historically important for illustrating the workforce required to operate the Shire's large nineteenth century pastoral holdings. The Water Tank is of scientific (technological) importance for its ability to demonstrate the complex and ingenious methods adopted to provide water to stock and gardens in the nineteenth century. The earthworks and remnant Woolshed is important for its association with the Dreeite Estate and the Dreeite Cotswold sheep raised on the property, as well as for its archaeological potential.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Developing primary Industries (3.4)

Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : DRY STONE RABBIT WALL

Ref. No. : 182

Location : Iletts Road
Dreeite



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Dry Stone Rabbit Wall is located on the south side of Iletts Road Dreeite, extends 3 kilometres to the west from Mackenzie Road. The fence was built between the 1880s and 1890s by local stone waller Mark Jacobs for William Robertson and was designed to impede the progress of rabbits, which by then had reached plague proportions. The building stone, irregular volcanic scree, is graded from the largest boulders near the base to smaller ones near the top of the wall. The face stone provides a clean finish, and the fence is topped with slightly projecting copestones. The Dry Stone Rabbit Wall is of historic and aesthetic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Dry Stone Rabbit Wall is of historic importance in demonstrating the effects of the rabbit plague and the methods adopted to counter their spread. The Dry Stone Rabbit Wall is of historic importance in demonstrating the Shire's ethnic settlement patterns, which were predominantly Scottish in this area of the Shire. The Dry Stone Rabbit Wall is of aesthetic importance in exhibiting the good design and aesthetic characteristics of a highly skilled craft that produced this form of fencing, which played an integral role in the Shire's development.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Pests-Rabbits (6.1); Fences & Boundaries (3.5.2)

HISTORY :

In 1859 Thomas Austin of Barwon Park near Winchelsea released twenty-four wild British rabbits to provide sport for shooting parties. Because he used wild rabbits, Austin's attempt to acclimatise rabbits to Australian conditions succeeded. His rabbits multiplied and on the plains ate out the best grasses, but left the weeds; they devoured the crops and dug up the potatoes and ring-barked the fruit trees. They were especially a problem in the region of the Stony Rises which afforded easy shelter for their burrows, but difficult access for those attempting their eradication.

Fencing to counteract the rabbit plague began to be constructed in the late 1870s. Old stone walls were pulled down and re-erected in such a way as to be rabbit proof by sinking the foundations to a depth of between one and two feet, according to the nature of the soil. Mark Jacob built one such wall that survives in Iletts Road Dreeite.

Jacob immigrated from Austria to the Colony of Victoria in the 1860s when his twenties, and learnt the craft of dry stone walling whilst employed at Glen Alvie. Mark moved to Ondit in the 1880s, where he married a local girl, Elizabeth Woods, in 1891 and gained employment as a dry stone waller for the Robertsons'. One of Mark Jacob's dry stone walls survives in excellent condition in Iletts Road Dreeite as a good example of a skilled fencers

The dry stone walls built by wallers like Jacob were constructed in accordance with English, Scottish and Irish vernacular walling traditions, and now provide an indication of the ethnic composition of those who settled throughout the area where they predominate.

The dry-stone of the Dreeite area also blend the natural and cultural history of the region and contribute to its special appearance.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The dry stone wall is located on the south side of Iletts Road, commencing at the corner of Mackenzie Road and continuing along the road boundary for approximately 3 kilometres to the end of Iletts Road. The building stone, irregular volcanic scree, is graded from the largest boulders near the base to smaller ones near the top of the wall, with massive slightly projecting copstones that were intended to impede the progress of rabbits. A cross section of the wall near the gate shows that the structure consists of two walls being fitted together, with a heart filling of smaller blocks. There is a high level of finish both in terms of tightly positioned and evenly coursed stones and by careful plugging of the gaps between the stones.

<u>Condition :</u>	<u>Excellent</u>	Good	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically

Name of Place : CONSUMPTION CAIRN

Ref. No. : 183

Location : 60 Iletts Road (GR 724750768370)
Dreeite



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The Dry stone Consumption Cairn located on Iletts Road Dreeite comprises irregular volcanic scree, is graded from largest boulders near the base to smaller near the top of the cairn, and has been designed in a pyramidal shape. The Dry stone Consumption Cairn is of aesthetic and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Dry stone Consumption Cairn is of aesthetic importance in exhibiting a richness and diversity in the craft of dry stone walling. The Dry stone Consumption Cairn is of historic importance through association with the settlement of the area by selectors, who ingeniously adopted economical means of clearing the land by building structures for their farms and simultaneously reducing breeding areas for rabbits.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Pests - Rabbits (6.1); Fences & Boundaries (3.5.2)

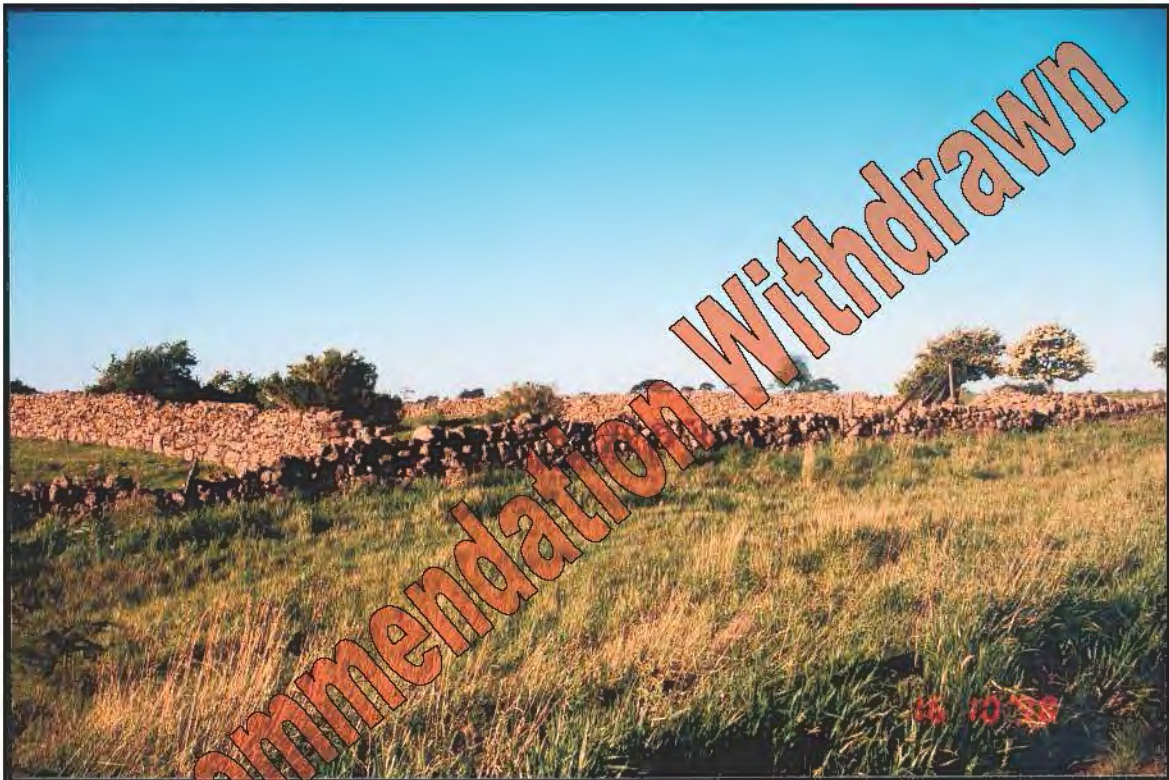
Colac Otway Heritage Study

Volume II

Name of Place : STOCKYARD (dry stone)

Ref. No. : 184

Location : 10 Illets Road (GR 724980768220)
Dreeite



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE :

The drystone Stockyard, located at 10 Illets Road, Dreeite, was built in the second half of the nineteenth century. The drystone Stockyard is of aesthetic, scientific (technical) and historic importance to the Shire of Colac Otway. The Stockyard is aesthetically important as an integral part of the lunar landscape of the Shire's volcanic scoria district, and is an evocative reminder of the skilled craftsmen who settled in the Shire. The Stockyard is of scientific (technical) importance in illustrating a skilled craft that was frequently practised in the past, but is now being replaced by technological advances and alternate construction methods. The Stockyard is historically important for association with the 1860s selection acts and the division of squatter's pastoral estates, and for demonstrating the ingenuity of small holding settlers in adapting the physical environment to their own purposes. The Stockyard is also historically important in demonstrating the affects of the 1860s land acts on the settlement of the Shire.

RECOMMENDATIONS :

RECOMMENDED LISTING : Local

The site to be retained in the Colac Otway Shire Planning Scheme (Individual Listing)

THEMES : Farming (3.6)

HISTORY :

Near the old volcanic cones, on land in the Dreeite and Warrion districts, drystone walls were carefully constructed from the plentiful supply of stones scattered around. The stones were not used exclusively for fencing, but also for house footings and to build farm out-houses like piggeries and water tank bases. They were used to build stockyards too. Besides providing cheap building materials, selectors' allotments could also be cleared and prepared for cultivation. But the work building with stone was slow and back-breaking. They were built in accordance with English, Scottish and Irish vernacular walling traditions and now serve as a link to the national backgrounds of the migrants who settled earlier in the district and the legacy and tradition they left for later settlers. The 1869 *Land Act* made land available for selection in the north of the Shire and the closer settlement policies fostered a degree of enterprise amongst those who took up land.

Christian Meehan selected 99 acres of land in Illets Road, Dreeite (allotment 25b, Parish of Cundare) in 1869. According to the mounted constable's report in 1875, Meehan was a carpenter by trade. He built a shingle roofed six-roomed weatherboard dwelling in 1869, soon after taking up his allotment. In 1872 he built a workshop on his land, and also erected a shed, a dairy and built stone walls. He also cultivated three acres of potatoes and mangels on the land he had cleared.

The 1875 Shire Rate Books, however, provide no reference to a dwelling on the land. By 1890 Meehan is also operating as a storekeeper at Warrion, perhaps to supplement the meagre returns he gained from the land.

For selectors like Meehan, who was not an experienced farmer, it was hard to survive. Large families made it even harder for those like Meehan who, according to the Births, Deaths and Marriages Index, had six children, four of whom were girls and could not be expected, at the time, to work on the land.

Because documentary evidence is not provided in historic records, and drystone structures constantly required repair, it is difficult to accurately date the construction date of the cattleyard in Illets Road, Dreeite, or any subsequent repairs carried out on the structure. The stockyard however does reveal the ingenuity of settlers, many of who came to the land with no farming experience. It also indicates their adaptability in utilising the cheap resources on the land, whilst simultaneously clearing their holdings for cultivation. The drystone of the Dreeite area also blends the natural and cultural history of the region and contributes to its special appearance.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION :

The stockyard comprises a timber frame shed, miscellaneous collection of corrugated and timber lining and timber corral fencing surrounded by high, drystone wall. The building stone is graded from largest boulders near the base to smaller near the top of the wall, with massive copestones. A cross section of the wall shows that the wall may consist of two walls being fitted together with a heart filling of smaller blocks. The condition of the drystone wall is good.

<u>Condition :</u>	Excellent	<u>Good</u>	Fair	Poor	Ruins
<u>Integrity :</u>	<u>Substantially intact</u>			Altered sympathetically	Altered unsympathetically
	Damaged/disturbed				
