

people place heritage

CONTEXT

MILDURA (FORMER SHIRE OF WALPEUP) HERITAGE STUDY STAGE 2

Vol 1 Mildura Rural City Thematic
Environmental History

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Mildura Rural City Council



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Report Register

This report register documents the development and issue of the report entitled Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History undertaken by Context Pty Ltd in accordance with our internal quality management system.

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CONVERSIONS

Weights and measures

In this work imperial units for common measurements are used until 1970 when the present metric system was introduced.

1 inch = 2.54 centimetres

1 foot = 0.30 metre

1 yard = 0.91 metre

1 chain = 20.11 metres

1 mile = 1.61 kilometres

1 ounce = 28.3 grams

1 pound = 454 grams

1 hundredweight = 50.802 kilograms

1 ton = 1.02 tonne

1 acre = 0.405 hectare

1 square mile = 2.59 kilometres

1 horsepower = 0.746 kilowatt

1 mile per hour = 1.61 kilometre per hour

Monetary Values

Before 1966, Australian currency was expressed in Pounds, Shillings and Pence (£ s. d.). The following form is used: £2 13s. 6d.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

What is significant?

White settlement of the Victorian Mallee has been largely directed by efforts to access a water supply. Difficulties in sourcing useable water and its sparse distribution across the Mallee has been the focus of social, economic and political debates about settlement of the country. Two main patterns of European settlement have resulted. In simple terms, irrigation has developed along the River Murray and dryland agriculture occupies the land systems dominated by sandy-loam soils. National parks occupy the remainder of the country, generally on areas not suited to either dryland or irrigated agriculture.

The post-contact settlement of the Rural City of Mildura is marked by four overlapping key phases.

Pastoral occupation from 1847

Squatters moved into the country of the Latji Latji, Wergaia and Wotjobaluk Aboriginal peoples from 1847 to take up vast landholdings under pastoral leases along the River Murray and in the Mallee. The height of this activity occurred in 1861. Because of a semi-arid climate and resultant lack of rainfall, by 1879 many runs had been abandoned. Dams, tanks, fence remains, cypress pine homesteads and outbuildings, cypress pine lined wells, and tanks evidence this era.

Irrigated closer settlement from 1887

Irrigated closer settlement was established by Canadian brothers George and William Chaffey on the former Mildura run in 1887. Since that time, other irrigation settlements have been developed in the Rural City along the River Murray. The layout and naming of Mildura's streets reflect the Californian influence applied by the Chaffey brothers. Mildura's Art Deco architecture exhibits the wealth brought to the community by the economic boom conditions of the 1920s and 1950s. Early irrigation infrastructure includes locks and weirs on the River Murray, pumping stations, channels and stops.

Agricultural settlement from 1901

The introduction of the 1883 *Mallee Pastoral Leases Act* was the precursor to agricultural settlement of the Mallee. Subsequent Mallee Land Acts were introduced from 1889, but agricultural settlement of the study area was directed by the *Land Act* of 1901 that divided up the Mallee Pastoral Leases upon their expiration. The Mallee farm holdings of today comprise a number of 640-acre blocks - the initial farm size allocated to settlers during the era of agricultural settlement in the early 1900s. This era of settlement is exemplified too by railway infrastructure and by the architecture of individual homes, schools, community meeting places and halls of settlements and towns. Efforts to secure a water supply are typified by public tanks, dams, ironclad catchments, channels, bores and cypress pine lined wells.

Rural reconstruction from 1948

Because of farmer debt and soil erosion issues, under the *North-West Mallee Settlement Areas Act* of 1948 a committee was appointed to oversee the acquisition of land and its reallocation. An increase in the size of holdings coupled with a guaranteed price under the 1948 *Wheat Industry Stabilization Act* ushered in a new era of wheat growing in the Mallee. In the mid 1970s, the Land Conservation Council recommended the rationalisation of public land boundaries. The Council's recommendations led to the protection of public land through the declaration of national parks in the Rural City.

Why is it significant?

The cultural landscape of the Rural City of Mildura is significant as a manifestation of the official determination to settle the isolated semi-arid northwest Mallee region of Victoria.

The pastoral occupation landscape of the Rural City is of historical significance because it provides an understanding of how early grazing activities were undertaken in a semi-arid climate.

The irrigated closer settlement landscape of the Rural City is of historical and social significance because it evidences the way in which irrigation enterprises have contributed to the economy since 1887 by utilising the Mallee country and waters of the River Murray. Associated buildings exemplify post-war growth and the increasing multiculturalism of the population.

The agricultural landscape is of historical, social and technical significance because it demonstrates the way in which agricultural enterprises have contributed to the economy since the 1880s by utilising the land and water resources of the Mallee. The landscape evidences patterns of settlement directed by a number of Land Acts and the establishment of railway and water infrastructure especially designed for Mallee conditions. Settlements evidence buildings established by isolated communities to provide basic services to their residents.

The post-World War Two rural reconstruction agricultural landscape is of historical significance because it evidences further adaptation to the Mallee's unique natural environment. Land-use patterns of the 1940s incorporated larger farm holdings. The landscapes of the national parks of the Rural City are of historical significance because they contain natural environments and archaeological and historical sites of importance. Their proclamation reflects shifting social attitudes to the conservation of land.

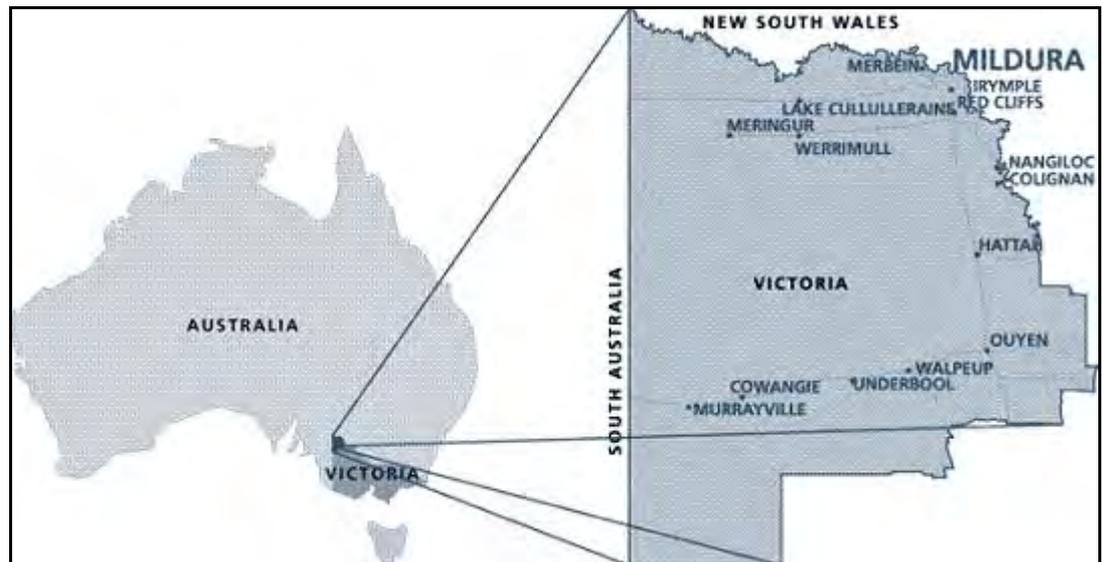
1 INTRODUCTION

The Rural City of Mildura is located in northwest Victoria. It has an area of 22,214 square kilometres stretching from Mildura in the north to Patchewollock in the south and to the South Australian border. In 2006, the Rural City supported a population of 49,815 people with 30,016 living in Mildura and adjacent areas (known as the Sunraysia district).

The study area for the purposes of preparing the thematic environmental history is the whole of the Rural City of Mildura (see Figure 1). Because the emphasis for identifying places of potential cultural significance is the former Shire of Walpeup, the history focuses on the development of settlements, townships and services in that Shire.

The thematic environmental history sets out the key themes that have influenced the historical development of the study area since first contact between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people (see Appendix One). Its objective is to explain how and why the study area looks like it does today. The thematic environmental history is concise (approximately 25,000 words) and analytical. It is not a comprehensive chronological history, or record of all the individuals, events, schools, sporting clubs, institutions etc. that may have left their mark on the study area. It aims instead to define the key themes that provide an historical explanation of the existing physical fabric and land use patterns of the study area. These themes are applied in the identification and evaluation of individual components of the study area's heritage (see Appendix Two).

Figure 1: Study Area - Rural City of Mildura



Source: Rural City of Mildura web page.

2 THE COUNTRY AND ITS FIRST PEOPLES

The Mallee, from 'Mali' a traditional Aboriginal name for the vegetation *Eucalyptus dumosa*, lies in Australia's semi-arid zone.¹ Skirted by the River Murray, it is the driest and hottest region of Victoria. As part of the Mallee, the Rural City of Mildura receives an average rainfall of 335 millimetres in the south at Ouyen and 240 millimetres at Ned's Corner.

The Mallee was laid down about 100 million years ago when a retreating sea left coarse sediments and a flat topography. As salt water flowed back into the ocean, a river that would eventually become the River Murray was formed. The highest point in the Mallee is just 70 metres above the lowest point, which is only 30 metres above sea level. Coarse sediments, from which the soil later developed, left little clay in the profile allowing water to flow into underlying aquifers. The flat landscape of the Victorian Mallee means that there is little head to drive the flow of water, either above or below the soil surface. Evaporation is very much greater than rainfall, not only on an annual basis but also on a monthly basis for most of the year. The consequence of a flat landscape, coarse sediments, and an excess of evaporation over rainfall is that no lateral drainage pattern has developed. Creeks that originate along the Great Divide terminate as they enter the Mallee. The Lake Hindmarsh-Outlet Creek-Pine Plains system is the major surface water system in the Mallee dune country. Most of the lakes within the Rural City of Mildura boundaries – Hattah Lakes, Pink Lakes and Rocket Lake – were formed primarily by saline groundwater discharge. The River Murray gains salt as it passes through the Mallee from groundwater systems. In addition, the salt that enters the Mallee via the movement of rainfall runoff has no surface path back to the sea. Hence, there are few local sources of permanent, fresh water across much of the region. Soaks, and clay pans provide sources of water in the Mallee dune country. Rock wells and bores that tap into artesian water are found mainly to the west of Pine Plains.²

The Latji Latji, Wergaia and Wotjobaluk were the first peoples to occupy the land of the present-day Rural City of Mildura.³ According to ethnographic evidence and Dreamtime stories from northwestern Victoria, Aboriginal people moved down the Wimmera River into the southern dune country of the Mallee. In the northern Mallee, the archaeological record suggests that the Raak Plains region was occupied by people from the Murray River.⁴

Aboriginal peoples' diet in the Mallee was heavily dependent on the seasonality of plant foods such as mirrong or daisy yam, fruits and seeds from plants like lignum, saltbush, pig weed and fringe lilies, starchy foods such as prairie grass and native millet, pigface fruit, wild currants, native cherries, kangaroo apple and a variety of tubers, bulbs, roots, sedges, rushes and grass grains. Along the Murray, animals such as possum, kangaroo, emu, fish, crustacean, and aquatic birds were available.⁵ But it was the availability of water that was the major influence in directing Aboriginal life.

The archaeological record challenges the idea that the resources of the Mallee were only accessed by Aboriginal people during periods of plentiful food and water. The Mallee was in fact widely occupied along the River Murray and its associated floodplain, the water corridors

¹ Historically the region has been known variously as Marlie, Marlee, Malley, and Mawley. Ian D. Clark and Toby Heydon, *Dictionary of Aboriginal Placenames of Victoria* (Victorian Aboriginal Coporation for Languages, 2002 [cited 12 September 2008]); available from <http://vaclang.ozhosting.com/search.asp>.

² Based on John W. Cooke, "European Settlement in the Victorian Mallee: A Brief Overview," *Proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria* 118, no. 2 (2006): 296, *Mallee Area Review*, (Melbourne: Land Conservation Council, 1987), 20-21.

³ Names and boundaries of Aboriginal communities are based on current Victorian Native Title applications. See "Victoria Native Title Applications, Determination Areas and Indigenous Land Use Agreements." National Native Title Tribunal, 2005.

⁴ *Mallee Area Review*, 26-7.

⁵ P. F. J. Coutts, "Aboriginal Prehistory in North Western Victoria: Special Publication of the Victorian Archaeological Survey." Melbourne: Ministry for Conservation, 1977, 6.

of the dunes, and in the drier parts of the country. Archaeological evidence records that some sites were occupied during a different climate phase when the lakes and waterholes were filled with fresh water. Between 50,000 and 25,000 years ago southeast Australia experienced moist conditions and water and food was widely available in the Mallee. Families hunted megafauna, and because the rivers were then less productive, camped on the shores of lakes, catching fish and harvesting mussels. With the onset of the glacial, the previous lush lake environments cooled, dried, and became more saline. Due to an increasingly cold, windy, and arid climate, the environmental variability of prior streams diminished and their faster coursing made them more difficult to access. As a result, some 19,000-20,000 years ago the peoples of the Mallee were isolated in small groups. With the stabilising of climate conditions at the end of the last glacial age some 14,000 years ago, ancestral rivers became more productive and riverine micro-environments more diverse. Growing densities of peoples moved between the river environments and more arid areas. With rising temperatures and increasing competition for resources due to higher populations around 7,000 years ago, a new social, demographic and biological order arose. About this time regional adaptation occurred through a major expansion into the more variable Mallee country. With increased abundance of resources due to a wetter, warmer climate over the last 2,000 years, indigenous peoples travelled further and interacted more widely.⁶

Aboriginal people adapted to the semi-arid nature of the country by following the water corridors that provided the major habitat zones for Mallee fauna. Where camps were made away from the River Murray, water was carried in bags made of possum skins and found in roots of the mallee, and natural soaks and rock pools. Wells were excavated in clay pans and soaks and covered with branches to prevent evaporation. Over this period, the physical features of the country and knowledge of food and water systems came to define language clan boundaries similar to those existing at the time of European contact.⁷ By the time Europeans arrived, the landscape was thus significantly marked by well trodden pathways, excavated wells, scar trees, crops of cultivated yams, large earthen mounds and middens, the creation of grasslands through fire stick burning, engineered channels to catch fish, and burial sites.

⁶ Based on information in Colin Pardoe, "Riverine, Biological and Cultural Evolution in Southeastern Australia," *Antiquity* 69, no. 265 (1995): 696-713. *Mallee Area Review*, 22-8, John Mulvaney and Johan Kamminga, *Prehistory of Australia* (St. Leonards: Allen and Unwin Pty. Ltd., 1999), 157.

⁷ Many local Aboriginal leaders note that the need to delineate indigenous boundaries stems from a white understanding of the world. Traditional boundaries were in fact fluid and dependent on particular activity and seasons. The defining of more formal boundaries has become necessary because of the introduction of Native Title applications.

3 EXPLORATORY, OVERLANDING AND SURVEY EXPEDITIONS

On 3 November 1829 Charles Sturt's expedition left Sydney to begin an investigation of the Lachlan-Murrumbidgee river system. In January 1830 with seven other men, Sturt rowed a whaleboat down the Murrumbidgee River to a 'broad and noble river', which he named the Murray.⁸ He described what was to become known as the Mallee from a vantage point close to where the Darling River and the River Murray meet: '[we were] hemmed in by those sandy and sterile tracts upon which the beasts of the field could obtain neither food nor water'.⁹

In 25 May 1836, Surveyor General Thomas Mitchell, in looking for a place to cross to the southern bank of the River Murray near its junction with the Murrumbidgee, described the Mallee as 'one of the most barren regions in the world. Not a spike of grass could be seen, and the soil, a loose red sand, was in most places covered with a scrub, like a thickset hedge of eucalyptus dumosa'.¹⁰ Later in July 1836, Mitchell recorded that his second in command G. W. C. Stapylton, whilst looking for the Wimmera River north from Mount Arapiles in the Port Phillip District, crossed country which 'assumed the barren character of the lower parts of the Murray' that the party had journeyed through earlier in the same year.¹¹

Edward John Eyre made an attempt to cross the Mallee in 1838. On 21 December 1837, Eyre had left from Limestone Plains in New South Wales to drive three hundred cattle to Adelaide. With six men, 'two little black boys and a black from Gundaroo named Unmallie',¹² three drays, a small flock of sheep and eight horses, after leaving Melbourne, Eyre expected to arrive in Adelaide in nine weeks. In his haste to get to there before overlanders Charles Bonney and Joseph Hawdon, Eyre made several disastrous shortcuts. In an effort to find the necessary water to get the cattle to Adelaide, Eyre determined to follow the Wimmera River, learning from local Aborigines that it emptied into a large lake. He consequently came across a large fresh water lake that he named Lake Hindmarsh. In the hope of finding the Lindsay River described by Sturt, taking Unmallie with him Eyre set off on 4 April 1838 in a northerly direction. From the elevation of a 'high sandy ridge...densely covered with the eucalyptus dumosa' Eyre saw in every direction the 'almost impenetrable scrub'. Eyre abandoned the search for the Lindsay River and retraced his steps back to Lake Hindmarsh. Eyre made one more attempt to cross the Mallee by journeying west. In discussions with a Lake Hindmarsh Aborigine, Eyre learnt that the sea to the south and the Murray River to the north both lay ten days travel away. Eyre was told that locals travelled through this place chiefly in wet weather and carried water in skin bags and collected dew from the grass.¹³ He gave up the attempt to cross the Mallee, and with reduced rations the party backtracked to the Yarrayne river (the Loddon River) and then to the Hume (the River Murray). Following this watercourse, the expedition finally arrived in Adelaide on 13 July 1838, five months after leaving Melbourne.

By 1838, financial difficulties had forced explorer Charles Sturt to join a venture for overlanding cattle to South Australia. The cattle were driven along the Murray, moved to the

⁸ The Hume was named by Hamilton Hume in 1824. The Murray was named by Charles Sturt in 1830 downstream from its junction with the Murrumbidgee. By 1836, the river had been proven to be one in the same and was named the Murray.

⁹ Charles Sturt, "Two Expeditions into the Interior of Southern Australia During the Years 1828, 1829, 1830, and 1831: With Observations on the Soil, Climate, and General Resources of the Colony of New South Wales Volume II." (London: Elder and Co., 1833), <http://setis.library.usyd.edu.au/ozlit/> (accessed 1 February 2009).

¹⁰ Major T. L. Mitchell, *Three Expeditions into the Interior of Eastern Australia, with Descriptions of the Recently Explored Region of Australia Felix, and of the Present Colony of New South Wales, 2nd Edition, Carefully Revised. Volume Two* (London: T. & W. Boone, 1839; reprint, Adelaide: Library Board of Australia, 1965), 97.

¹¹ *Ibid.*, 191.

¹² Jill Waterhouse, ed., *Autobiographical Narrative of Residence and Exploration in Australia 1832-1839 by Edward John Eyre* (London: Caliban Books, 1984), 121.

¹³ *Ibid.*, 144.

left bank at Barmah Forest and then on to Adelaide using the tracks of Hawdon and Eyre. Although in the process Sturt was able to add something to knowledge of the Murray River, the journey almost ended in disaster because of what he described as the 'dry and barren' nature of the land that was to become part of the Rural City of Mildura.

In later years, a number of surveys and expeditions were undertaken to glean more knowledge of the Mallee country. In 1845, Governor Charles La Trobe requested information on the Mallee from Captain Dana, supervisor of the Native Police. Dana, in describing his personal knowledge of the region, wrote that 'The line of the [Murray] river affords excellent feed, and is occupied by settlers who run their sheep and cattle as far back as the supply of water allows. Behind that the land, although it may be good, is of course useless.'¹⁴

Surveyor Henry Wade partially surveyed the New South Wales and South Australia border in 1847. He described the supply of water in the Mallee as almost non-existent except for 'a few native wells'.¹⁵ In 1849, with assistant-surveyor E. R. White, Wade was instructed to finish the survey. The survey party was forced to stop a number of times due to lack of funding and equipment. In 1849, White ran out of water and lost several bullocks and horses before reaching safety. The survey was finally completed in 1850. Assistant Surveyor Pritchard, engaged in a survey of the River Murray in 1850-1, mapped the Hattah Lakes.

A number of expeditions were also made into the Mallee and along the River Murray in order to collect flora and fauna specimens. Daniel Bunce travelled down the Murray Valley from Melbourne to Adelaide in 1849. In 1853, botanist Baron von Mueller travelled through the Mallee on a collecting expedition from Lake Lalbert to the River Murray and then along its course to its junction with the Darling River. Bunce and Mueller were followed in turn by Wilhelm Blandowski and Gerard Krefft who conducted a natural history survey near Mildura Station in 1857.¹⁶

In 1858, A. J. Skene Surveyor-General of Victoria reported that:

*With the exception of a narrow tract of land along the banks of the Murray which is classed as second-rate pastoral land, and a small area on the Yarriambiack Creek and around Lake Hindmarsh... this district [the Lower Murray] presents a scrubby sandy waste almost entirely destitute of fresh water and grass, and therefore unavailable to human industry.*¹⁷

In a similar vein, government statist Henry Hayter wrote in 1860 that much of the northwest of the colony was covered by 'impenetrable mallee', and that in the 'tolerably open country...cultivation has generally been looked upon as a hopeless experiment'.¹⁸

As part of his magnetic survey of Victoria, George Neumayer provided other information about the Mallee in his travels through the region from 1860 to 1862.

Although not all these explorers, overlanders and surveyors travelled into the area known today as the Rural City of Mildura (see Figure 2), their written accounts all contributed to an understanding of the Mallee as a harsh and unforgiving environment. Their expeditions are marked by a number of cairns. Sturt's route along the white cliffs of Merbein on 22 January 1830, for example, is commemorated by a stone cairn in the Chaffey reserve.

¹⁴ Cited in Alfred S. Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912* (Clayton, Victoria: Wilke and Company Limited, 1982), 12.

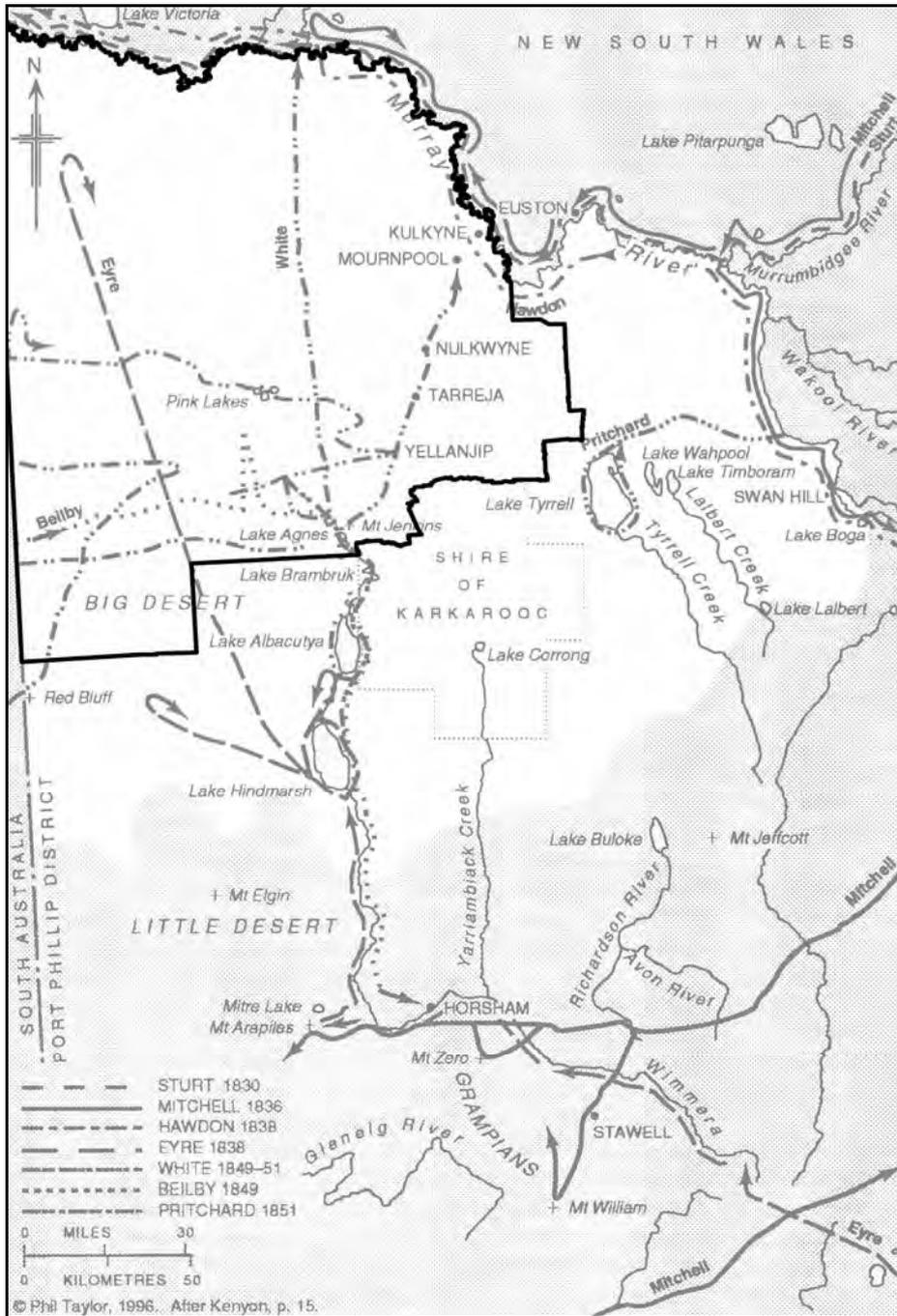
¹⁵ Cited in Ibid.

¹⁶ Ken Orchard, "Regional Botany in Mid-Nineteenth-Century Australia: Mueller's Murray River Collecting Network," *Historical Records of Australian Science* 11, no. 3 (June 1997): 389.

¹⁷ Cited in Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 85.

¹⁸ Cited in Ibid.

Figure 2: Explorer, overlander and surveyor routes within study area



Source: Phil Taylor, *Karkaroc: A Mallee Shire History, 1896-1995*, 17.

4 PASTORAL OCCUPATION

In 1837 in an effort to control the expansion of squatting into Port Phillip District, Governor Richard Bourke introduced the *Crown Lands Occupation Act* which disallowed depasturing of lands beyond the limits of location around Sydney unless they were taken up under an annual lease or licence based on a stock assessment costing £10.¹⁹ In 1839 an additional stock fee was introduced to raise revenue to establish border police to oversee the process of taking up the country. Even so, a major expansion into Port Phillip took place in the period 1838-40 when, with a sheep in 1838 worth £3, profits from the pastoral industry soared and squatters assessed the capabilities and capacity of the new country with a fair degree of independence from official control. By the mid 1840s, with most of the better-watered land claimed and stock numbers increasing due to breeding, fierce competition forced run seekers to move further afield to find fresh pastures. There remained at this time only the areas of Gippsland, the Wimmera, the Mallee, and 'the scantily watered plains in the north'.²⁰ An Order in Council passed in 1847 promised fourteen-year leases and pre-emptive rights (the right to purchase up to 640 acres of the run at £1 per acre) to those in occupation. Because of the discovery of gold, instead of the promised fourteen-year leases, yearly tenure only was approved by an Order in Council in 1850. Leases were extended to nine years under the 1862 *Land Act*.

In 1845, squatters had reached the Mallee fringe and, no doubt influenced by the pending 1847 Order in Council, began to take up extensive runs in the Mallee proper. Three main phases of pastoral occupation of the study area can be discerned. The first phase incorporated the movement of squatters along the Murrumbidgee, Wimmera and Murray Rivers to take up by 1847 eight runs that occupied the full frontage of the River Murray and Outlet Creek. The second stage of occupation was triggered by gold discoveries in 1851 after which, by 1858 150,000 people were at work on the central goldfields of the colony.²¹ To take advantage of growing goldfield markets, several backcountry runs away from the river were occupied over the years 1850-60. The imminent introduction of the 1860 *Land Act*, which allowed free selection of Crown land including that occupied by pastoral leases, shaped a third phase of occupation. From 1860 a high turnover of runs ensued, and in 1860-1 tenders were called for runs to ensure that Mallee lands were preserved for the Crown. Many of the runs in the study area taken up by 1865 were occupied in this way (see Table 1 and Figure 3); most were speculative applications and by 1865 had been forfeited.

¹⁹ The term squatter first applied to those pastoralists who took possession of land before legislature was introduced in 1836 but came to be applied more generally.

²⁰ Stephen Roberts, *History of Australian Land Settlement* (South Melbourne: Macmillan, 1968), 169.

²¹ Graeme Davison, John Hirst, and Stuart Macintyre, eds., *The Oxford Companion to Australian History* (Melbourne: Oxford University Press, 1998), 283.

Table 1: Runs taken up in study area by 1865²²

Run name	Run size & how acquired	Licensee	Year of first license
Annefield A	Subdivision Glenogie 55,930 acres	William Holland	1861
Annefield B	Subdivision Glenogie 55,930 acres	William Holland	1861
Annefield C	Subdivision Glenogie 55,930 acres	William Holland	1861
Annefield D	Subdivision Glenogie 55,930 acres	Robert Bennett for William Holland	1861
Ballochmyle	?	William Hudson	1861
Bellfield (King)	By application	Robert Bennett	1861
Bellfield East	By application	R. Bennett MLA	1861
Bellfield West	?	R. Bennett MLA	1861
Benetook	By tender 210 sq. miles	Harry Grover	1859
Blackwater	By application	John Crozier	1861
Broomhill	?	W. S. Flint	1861
Cairgains A B C D E F	62,720 acres	William Holland	1861
Campania	By application	William Strettle	1861
Capbera	?	?	?
Chaves Plains East	By application	T. A. Chave	1861
Chaves Plains West	By application	T. A. Chave	1861
Clifton Plains A	By application	John Hood	1861
Clifton Plains B	By application	John Hood	1861
Clifton Plains C	By application	John Hood	1861
Clifton Plains D	By application	John Hood	1861
Corruna	By application	T. A. Chave	1861
Cow Plains (Kow Plains)	By tender 5,720 acres	James Smith	1859
Cullulleraine	By tender 48,775 acres	Crozier & Rutherford	1855
Cullulleraine Outer	By tender 76,000 acres	John Crozier	1860
Culnine (Hawdon's Upper Run)	57,600 acres	John Hawdon jnr.	1846
Culnine Lower (Ned's Corner)	Subdivision of Culnine	Edward Meade Bagot	1857
Culnine Upper (Kulnine)	Subdivision of Culnine	John Crozier	1857

²² Information from Robert and Hugh Anderson Spreadborough, ed., *Victorian Squatters* (Ascot Vale: Red Rooster Press, 1983), 201-55. There are discrepancies in spellings of run names between Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, and Spreadborough, ed., *Victorian Squatters*. Run names as detailed in the latter source are used in this table.

Run name	Run size & how acquired	Licensee	Year of first license
and Cowra)			
Duddo	By tender 64,000 acres	George Archbold	1859
Gayfield (Kulkyne)	19,200 acres	Margaret Hutchinson	1847
Gerahmin	115,200 acres	R. R. Haverfield & James Jardine	1848
Harrow	?	John Crozier	1861
Irymple	By tender 51,000 acres	Hugh & Bushby Jamieson	1854
Jeparit	By application	Robert Bennett	1861
Keera	By tender 102,400 acres	Robert Bennett MLA	1861
Kidds Station (Carwarp)	64,000 acres	John Kidd & James Brown	1847
Lindsay Island	64,000 acres	George Tingcombe	1847
Merrigig	By tender 96,000 acres	Robert Bennett	1861
Middle Boundary	?	?	?
Mildura South (Anneville)	77,169 acres	Hugh Jamieson	1870
Moon Moon	By tender 76,000 acres	John Crozier	1860
Mournpool	20,480 acres	George Coghill	1847
Mournpool West (Anneville)	?	Albert Miller	1870
North Boundary No. 1	?	Samuel Clapham	1862
North Boundary No. 2	?	Samuel Clapham	1862
Nurnurnemal	By tender 16,000 acres	Robert R. Haverfield	1851
Ouyen	By tender 32,000 acres	Orr & Youl	1860
Paignie	By tender 64,000 acres	F. J. Byerley	1860
Pilgrimage	By application	A. Strettle	1861
Pine Plain	45,000 acres	James Maxwell Clow	1847
Pine Ridges	By tender 25,600 acres	A. Miller	1860
Pine Ridges East & West	Subdivision of Pine Ridges	J. H. Clough & Co.	?
Pines	By tender	Robert Ross Haverfield	1855
Poilya	By tender	John Crozier	1860
Poopmindi	By tender	Robert Bennett MLA	1861
Raak	By application 102,400 acres	Keene & Orr	?
Richmond	By application	W. S. Flint	1861
Rock Springs	By application	T. W. Palmer	1861
Ross Plains	By tender	Thomas Ross	1859
Salamanca	By application	T. A. Chave	1861
Salt Lakes	By tender 40,000 acres	H. C. Ellerman	1859

Run name	Run size & how acquired	Licensee	Year of first license
Sandmount	62,720 acres	W. Minifie	1861
South Boundary	?	Samuel Clapham	1862?
South Tyrell	By tender 86,400 acres	James Jardine & Robert Ross Haverfield	1848
Spectacle Plains	50,000 acres	H. C. Ellerman	?
Strathmore	By application	James Smith Lavender	1861
Strettles Plains (Strettedale)	By application	R. Gibson	1861
Sunset	By application	R. Gibson	1861
Tallarook	By tender 174,720 acres	Rob. Bennett 1860	1860
Tarackna	By tender 55,815 acres	Crozier & Rutherford	1857
Totara	By application	William Minifie	1861
Wonga Lake	Subdivision of Pine Plain	Henry C. Ellerman	1856
Woolwoola	86,000 acres	George Tingcombe	1847
Yellamgip or Yallamjip	By tender 200,000 acres	Orr & Youl	1859
Yerre Yerre (Mildura)	150,000 acres	W. Stawell	1847

The reports of survey and expedition parties contributed to a knowledge of the Mallee, but information about the isolated northwest was gathered also by enterprising squatters. In 1849, for example, squatter and explorer John Beilby made a long journey through the area. Afterwards he sent a report and sketch of the area to Governor La Trobe, and published his findings in the *Port Phillip Gazette* in November and December of that year. Others included J. M. Clow who wrote of his experience of Pine Plains station c1847 in *Letters from Victorian Pioneers* and George Everard who worked as a shepherd and itinerant stock-worker on the sheep runs of Outlet Creek in 1857-83, publishing his journal entitled *Pioneering Days* in 1892. In 1861, William Lockhart Morton made five trips into the country from his Pine Plains run and wrote of his experience in his journal published in *Once a Month* between 1884 and 1886.

By 1848 squatters had occupied the best water fontages in the Mallee. Those who had taken up the backcountry spent much of their time establishing a water supply for themselves and their livestock. Because of a lack of fresh surface water at Pine Plain station, for instance, squatter James Clow stayed only a few months. Later in 1849, Beilby came across the abandoned station and wrote of his delight in discovering a well and water trough. Finding the water in the well full of feathers, hairs and large maggots, desperate for a drink he overcame his disgust and imbibed a quart.²³ After sinking wells that produced only salt water, Henry Miller licensee of Pine Plains from 1868, excavated a series of earthen tanks. With the addition of shepherd huts and stockyards, these tanks became the focus of pastoral activity.²⁴ Some of these tanks are still in use. In 1853, James 'Piccaninny' Smith drove his sheep and cattle north from Yanac to an area of the Mallee known in local Aboriginal languages as 'Kow'. After winning the tender for 5,120 acres of the country in 1859 which he named Kow Plains station, Smith contracted George Everard to sink wells and build a trough at the homestead during the 1860s.²⁵ Two wells from which water was raised by a horse whim, and a water trough are still in existence today at Kow Plains homestead built in the late 1870s (see Figure 4). The homestead was given a UNESCO award for heritage conservation in 2003. Other evidence of this era includes tanks, cypress pine fences and tracks now made into roads. Ruins of a homestead building and a headstone remain on the Kulkynne run. Cypress pine log tanks are still in evidence at Nowingi and Timberoo.

²³ Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 31.

²⁴ Andrew C. Ward, *The Desert Blooms: An Account of the Physical Development of the City and Shire of Mildura* (n.p.: City and Shire of Mildura, 1988?), 18.

²⁵ Jocelyn Lindner, *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001* (Sea Lake: Kow Plains Homestead Committee of Management, 2001), 6, 27.

Figure 4: Cookhouse at Kow Plains homestead, Cowangie, 2011.



Source: Context.

Because of increasing squatter violence towards the Aborigines, in 1838 in an effort to ‘watch over the interest of Aborigines’ protectorate stations were established in the colony, including Franklinford situated on the upper reaches of the Loddon River. In his role of Aboriginal Protector for the north-western region of the Port Phillip District, Edward Stone Parker was responsible for the management of Franklinford. In November 1841 he noted the first visit of nearly 200 Mallee Aboriginal people (which he called ‘Mallegoondeet’) to the Loddon station. With widespread killings of Aboriginal people in reprisal for the killing of two shepherds near Lake Charm (north of Kerang) in 1845 and squatter Andrew Beveridge of Tynytynder station (north of Swan Hill) in 1846, the River Murray peoples had little reason to trust the invaders.

Land was taken up along the same watercourses that Aboriginal peoples depended upon and dams and wells were sunk in the areas of rock wells, soaks and clay pans fed by artesian water that were used by Aboriginal people. Grazing regimes mirrored traditional Aboriginal movements: in winter animals were fed and watered in the backcountry away from the River Murray, and in summer they were moved back to the river. The use and alteration of water sources impacted dramatically on indigenous populations. Ian Clark has remarked that competing needs for limited water in times of drought may have exacerbated Aboriginal-European violence.²⁶

Although the lower Murray clans were geographically isolated and the Mallee remained sparsely populated by Europeans, Aboriginal peoples were impacted on as clans from the south were forced to move northward away from their ancestral lands. Aboriginal people had the choice of attempting to live off the land, surviving on protectorates, begging, or working on sheep and cattle stations.

In 1855, Anglican Rev. Thomas Goodwin established an Aboriginal mission named Yelta on the River Murray approximately one kilometre downstream from the Darling junction. In 1858, Moravian missionaries, F. W. Spieske and Reverend F. A. Hagenauer selected land at Antwerp in the Wimmera for a mission that became known as the Ebenezer Mission. After the Central Board for the Protection of the Aborigines was formed in 1860, a number of other stations and missions were founded across the colony. Local guardians were appointed in 1862

²⁶ Ian D. Clark, *Scars in the Landscape: A Register of Massacre Sites in Western Victoria, 1803-1859*, Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Report Series (Canberra: Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, 1995), 9.

to districts in northwest Victoria 'most frequented by Aborigines' to manage depots that supplied basic provisions. Guardians in the River Murray District included Dr Benjamin Gummow at Swan Hill, squatter Hugh Jamieson at Mildura and Donald Leslie at Kulkyne.

Under the 1869 *Aborigines Act*, the Central Board Appointed to Watch Over the Interests of the Aborigines became the Board for the Protection of the Aborigines and provided for the setting up of six Aboriginal reserves. The coercive Act allowed the Governor to prescribe where and how Aborigines lived, and to take charge of orphaned and neglected children. From this year, Aboriginal people in the study area were forcibly removed to reserves in other parts of Victoria or New South Wales. At Gayfield station on the River Murray, in 1874 2,000 acres at were gazetted for a reserve that was never used for this purpose and revoked for a grazing licence in 1910. The site is now part of the Hattah-Kulkyne National Park. Other people were removed or followed their families to Coranderrk near Healesville opened in 1863, Cummeragunja near Moama, New South Wales, established in 1881, or Moonacullah near Balranald, New South Wales, founded in 1916. According to the Board for the Protection of the Aborigines, by 1884 only 844 Aborigines remained in the colony, with 250 living on reserves, mostly along the River Murray down from Swan Hill.²⁷ Following a review in 1886 of the *Aborigines Protection Act*, the concept of 'protection' was replaced with 'assimilation' and Aboriginal people of mixed descent were deemed wards of the State. This legislation remained in force until 1957. In 1901, the Mildura shire Council approved a request from the Protector of Aborigines to build four small houses on two-three acres opposite Gol Gol for winter accommodation for the station's Aborigines.²⁸

Even in the face of loss of tribal lands and forced dispersion, many Aboriginal people remained on country to work on sheep and cattle runs with their labour forming an important component of station life. Men were employed as shearers, woodcutters, shepherds, water carters, and fencers, and women as needleworkers and bark cutters. In a letter to Bishop Perry in October 1853, Hugh Jamieson who occupied Yerre-Yerre (Mildura) run wrote that Aboriginal labour was of great value to settlers on the Murray and Darling Rivers and that he employed Aborigines exclusively for shepherding.²⁹

²⁷ Lesley Scholes, *A History of the Shire of Swan Hill: Public Land, Private Profit and Settlement* (Swan Hill: Shire of Swan Hill, 1989), 26.

²⁸ Ronald Parsons, *Where the Mallee Meets the Murray: A Centenary History of the Shire of Mildura* (Irymple: Mildura Shire Council, 1990), 138.

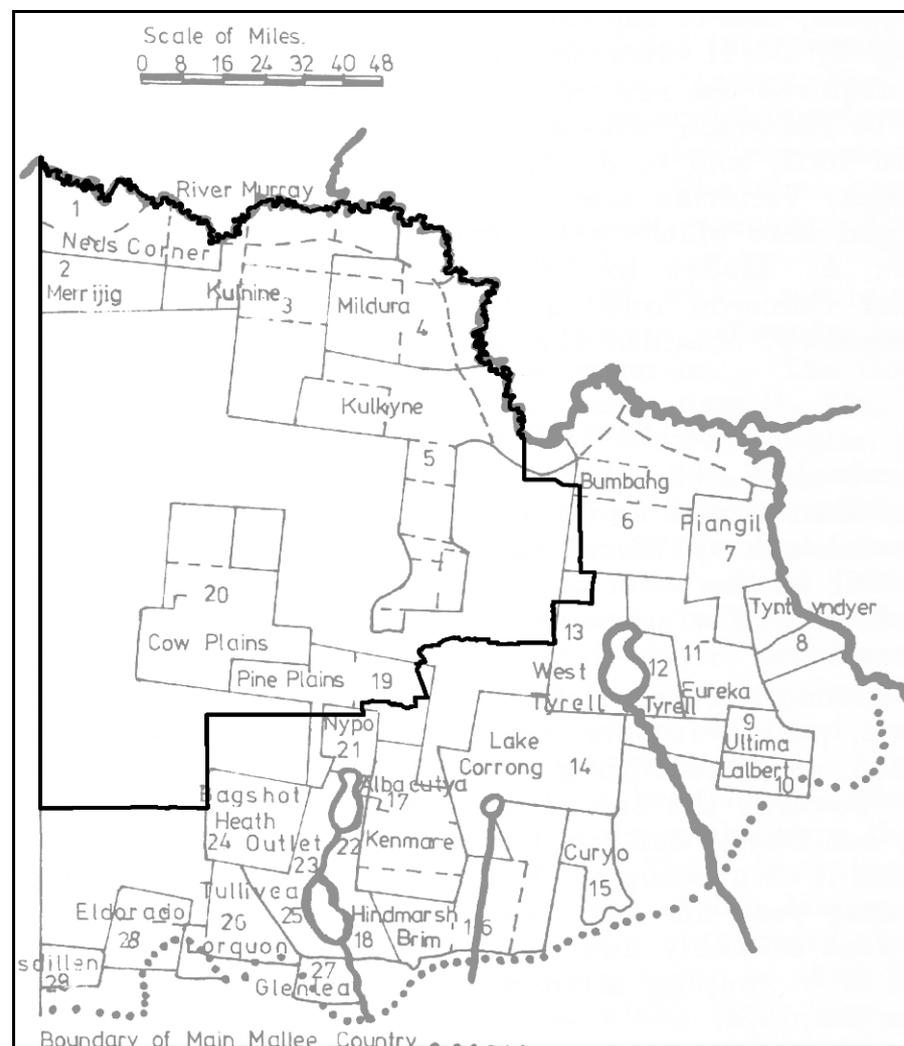
²⁹ Scholes, *A History of the Shire of Swan Hill: Public Land, Private Profit and Settlement*, 22.

5 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

5.1 Agricultural settlement of the Mallee

By 1879, rabbits and drought had substantially reduced the carrying capacity of pastoral runs. E. H. Lascelles, who had purchased the lease to Lake Corong Station in 1878, told the New South Wales Commission on the Extermination of Rabbits that the vermin had been first sighted in the area in 1866 at Morton Plains station. Because annual grazing leases were to expire in 1880 under the 1869 *Land Act*, no united action was taken to destroy the rabbits, which by 1878 were in plague proportion. As a consequence of the pending expiry of leases in 1880 and rabbit numbers, from the 1870s settlers began to abandon their Mallee runs (compare Figures 5 and 6).

Figure 5: Mallee pastoral stations in 1873 in study area



Source: Alfred S. Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 71.

In 1875, assessment had been paid on 420,000 sheep in the Mallee; by 1883 the number had been reduced to 70,000-80,000. Similarly, in 1878 1,700 bales of wool were produced; by 1882 this number had fallen to 323.³⁰ Moreover, lands minister A. L. Tucker estimated that £40,000 had been lost to the government in rents over the years 1877-82.

Witnesses involved in pastoral enterprises in the Mallee at the 1878 Royal Commission on Crown Lands demanded an extension of the tenure of their leases, low rental and compensation for improvements made at the termination of the lease. Stories of the impact of rabbits and the continuing dry years over the period 1878-1884 galvanised public sympathy. Combined with the promotion of the Mallee's irrigation potential as 'the richest land in all Australia' by the likes of MLA Hugh McColl with concern over the loss of state and local government revenue, a number of legislative attempts were made to ameliorate conditions. Encouraged by the success in South Australia of machinery such as the roller in clearing the mallee and the stump-jump plough and the stripper in the cultivation of wheat, the Victorian Mallee was chosen as the new frontier in an effort to open the region for agriculture. Because of the Mallee's nature, special legislation was formulated to settle the region. In 1883, Tucker took a large parliamentary party to Lake Hindmarsh to convince them of the importance of his proposed *Mallee Pastoral Leases Act*. The Act was passed in the same year, in effect preserving the land for the Crown for disposal in 1903.

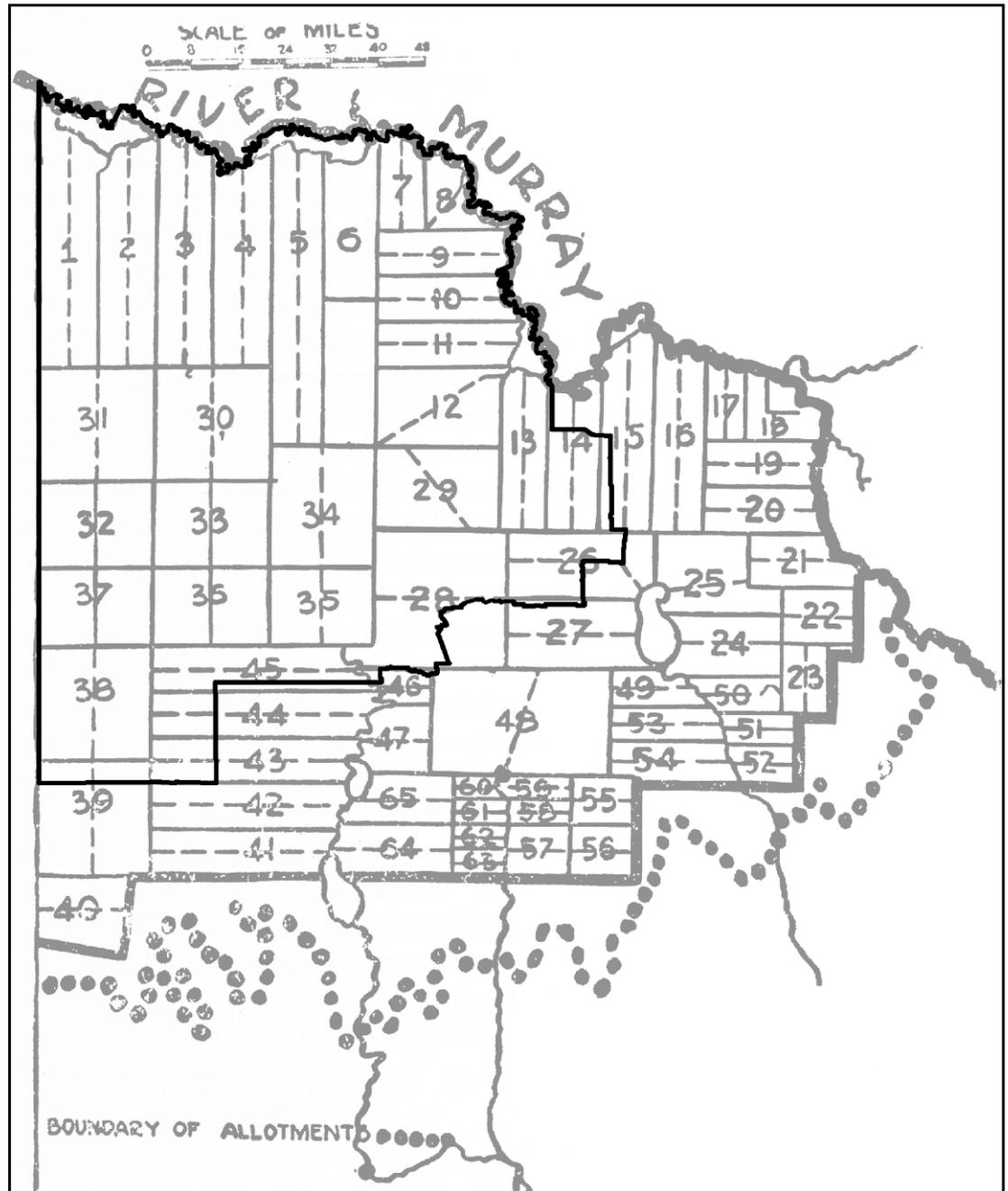
Under the *Mallee Pastoral Leases Act*, Lands Minister Walter Madden divided the Mallee into 'fringe' and 'interior' sectors. In the western 'fringe' sector, Mallee Allotments between 500-1,200 acres extending to 20,000 acres were offered. In the 'interior', land was divided into 'A' and 'B' Mallee Blocks ranging from 60 to over 500 square miles (see Figure 6). 'A' Blocks fronted all available water sources and were made available on twenty-year leases. 'B' Blocks were available on five-year leases. Blocks could be subdivided with permission from the Minister of Lands. Compensation for vermin control, and in 1885 under an amending Act, for clearing and fencing, was to be paid at the expiration of the lease. In 1885, because of the impacts of rabbits and dingoes, the government began the construction of a netting fence between the pastoral blocks and Mallee allotments. By 1891, 487,300 acres of Mallee blocks and allotments had been subdivided and disposed of by the government.³¹

In 1889, the *Mallee Act* was passed to allow the alienation of 320 acres by selection for grazing or agriculture. In 1896, the *Mallee Land Act* allowed for the selection of land to the maximum of 640 acres available either as an Agricultural Allotment that could be held freehold, or under a perpetual lease payable over 40 years. By 1901, the Mallee fringe had been settled as far as the most fertile country extended and as far as the existing railways justified.

³⁰ Ibid., 49.

³¹ Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 90-1.

Figure 6: The Mallee as subdivided under the 1883 Mallee Pastoral Leases Act in study area



Source: Alfred S. Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 76.

Subsequent Land Acts of 1901, 1911 and 1915 accompanied by the construction of railways saw the dividing up of Mallee Pastoral Leases upon their expiration. It was these Acts, particularly a section of the Land Act of 1901 (amended in 1904) that enabled Mallee lands to be purchased after a lease of 40 years, and the 1911 Act that introduced a system of selection purchase leasing over 20 or 40 years, that guided much of the agricultural settlement in the study area. Conditions under the 1911 Act required settlers to clear one-quarter of the allotment and to cultivate a crop within two years. In addition, a proportion of the existing timber on the land had to be protected or trees planted.

Farmers from South Australia and regions in the north and northwest of Victoria arrived to take up the fertile, uncropped land of the Victorian Mallee. Settlers built homes (see Figure 7) and felled and burnt the mallee.

Figure 7: Cookes' cottage, Walpeup, 2011.



Source: Context

Because the massive stumps produced new growth within a year or so, each stump with its large root system needed to be grubbed. This proved a slow, difficult and expensive task. Technology to deal with Mallee conditions was developed in South Australia. Farmers rolled a tree trunk or steam-engine boiler, pulled by horses or a bullock team, across standing scrub, snapping it off at the roots. Larger scrub was felled by hand. After leaving it to dry, it was then burnt. New shoots would develop from the root mass left in the ground. The common treatment was to scratch in a crop of long-strawed wheat, which grew between the woody masses in the soil. After establishing a crop using this process, one settler remarked that 'the shoots from the stumps are nearly as high as the crops and the reaping machine looks like a ship in a storm, as it rocks about going over the stumps'.³² The land was then tackled with the stump-jump plough, invented in 1876, on which the ploughshares would rise and tilt upon meeting an obstacle. Stump-jumping harrows and wheat-strippers were also used. The stripper was indispensable because it harvested the grain but left both wheat stalks and mallee shoots standing. After harvesting, the mallee shoots were burnt, and after three or four years, the mallee roots finally died. Mallee stumps were grubbed and stacked, and then used for a multiple of purposes - fences, construction of outbuildings, shelter for stock, and fuel for fires. It was possible to roll ten acres of mallee a day using this method at the relatively inexpensive rate of 17s. 6d. per acre. Clearing costs were thus slashed and farms brought quickly into production. In later years, steam traction engines, and then tractors, quickened the process.

Changes in farming processes increased crop yields. From the early 1900s, farmers incorporated bare fallowing in a three-year rotation. Bare fallowing, or breaking up the soil, diminished weed growth, checked evaporation through reducing water take up by weeds, and posited a dust layer over the soil. After experiments by individual farmers, the Department of Agriculture detected deficiency of phosphorous in most of Victoria's soils and advised the application of superphosphate to wheat crops to increase yields. By 1903, the application of light dressings of 'phosphatic manures' was in general use in northern and north-western

³² Tony Dingle, *The Victorians: Settling* (McMahons Point: Fairfax, Syme and Weldon Associates, 1984), 110.

Victoria.³³ Improved varieties of seed were developed through systematic crossbreeding of seed saved by farmers from plants displaying drought or rust-resistant qualities. South Australian farmers were experimenting with drought-resistant wheat varieties before William J. Farrer began crossing Indian wheats with quality Canadian baking wheats and Purple Straw wheats to produce 'Federation' variety.³⁴

The first land around Ouyen and Tiega was opened up for selection in 1904. In 1906 A. S. Kenyon was appointed as an engineer in the Department of Agriculture. His responsibilities incorporated the development of the Mallee including advice on clearing of vegetation, road construction, location of wheat silos and the provision of local water supply by wells, bores and tanks. In 1907, the Mallee Select Committee recommended the opening of 750,000 acres for settlement in the central Mallee. On the South Australian border, the parishes of Mulcra and Carina were opened in 1908 followed by the parishes of Gunamalary and Ngallo, situated further south, in 1909 where land was taken up by mostly German settlers from South Australia. After a few years many of these settlers left and farms were put for sale in 1912. In 1909, land was subdivided into allotments of 600-700 acres and thrown open as each section of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line was opened. The building of the railway was accompanied by the reservation of township sites and the construction of roads and bores and tanks to supply water. Under the 1901 *Land Act*, the costs of these works were added to the land purchase price payable over 40 years at a low interest rate. In addition, if suitable improvements were made to blocks, payment of rents was suspended for the first three years and advances made available of up to 60 percent of the value of improvements. Strong wheat yields due to good rains and high prices triggered a rush for land, particularly in the parishes of Nyang and Underbool. In 1909, 217,241 acres were settled in the Ouyen and Murrayville districts (The pattern and years of land settlement can be seen in Figure 8).

In 1910, after the responsibility for crown lands improvement in the northern Mallee was transferred to the SRWSC, Kenyon was appointed engineer-in-charge of the North-West Mallee. In this role he opened wide tracts of Mallee land to farming. In 1910, another 182,552 acres were opened along the Murrayville line, and by 1912, 735,938 acres served by the Ouyen-Murrayville railway had been subdivided and settled. This area added considerably to Victoria's wheat-fields.³⁵ In 1912, the first subdivision for agricultural settlement of 90,333 acres of the Chaffey brothers' Mildura Concession lands (which had converted to the Crown in 1911) took place. In 1913 and 1914, another 350,065 acres were surveyed and settled. A further 20,663 acres were opened near Murrayville in 1914, and by that year in Walpeup west, 2,500 people had taken up residence and were dependent on 80 bores for their water supply³⁶ (see Figure 17). A. S. Kenyon wrote in 1915 that of approximately 11,000 acres of the Victorian Mallee, the only remaining arable lands suitable for settlement measured 'a little over 300,000 acres...and those wholly between Ouyen and Carwarp'. He continued: 'There is still over 2,000,000 new acres fit for the plough in the Mallee, but their subjugation will require over 200 miles of new railway lines...The remaining 3,000,000 are too poor to serve as anything but a harbor for our native fauna'³⁷ (see Figure 8).

The *Australasian* summed up progress in the Mallee in 1916:

The first years of Mallee settlement were characterised by keen struggle, want of capital, 'scratch' methods of farming and occasional despondency. The support - moral and financial - of the business and commercial community, as well as the State, should be accorded to those

³³ "Summary of Results in the North," *Agricultural Journal of Victoria* (1903-4): 14.

³⁴ R. L. Heathcote, "Managing the Droughts? Perception of Resource Management in the Face of Drought Hazard in Australia," *Vegetation* 91 (1991): 225.

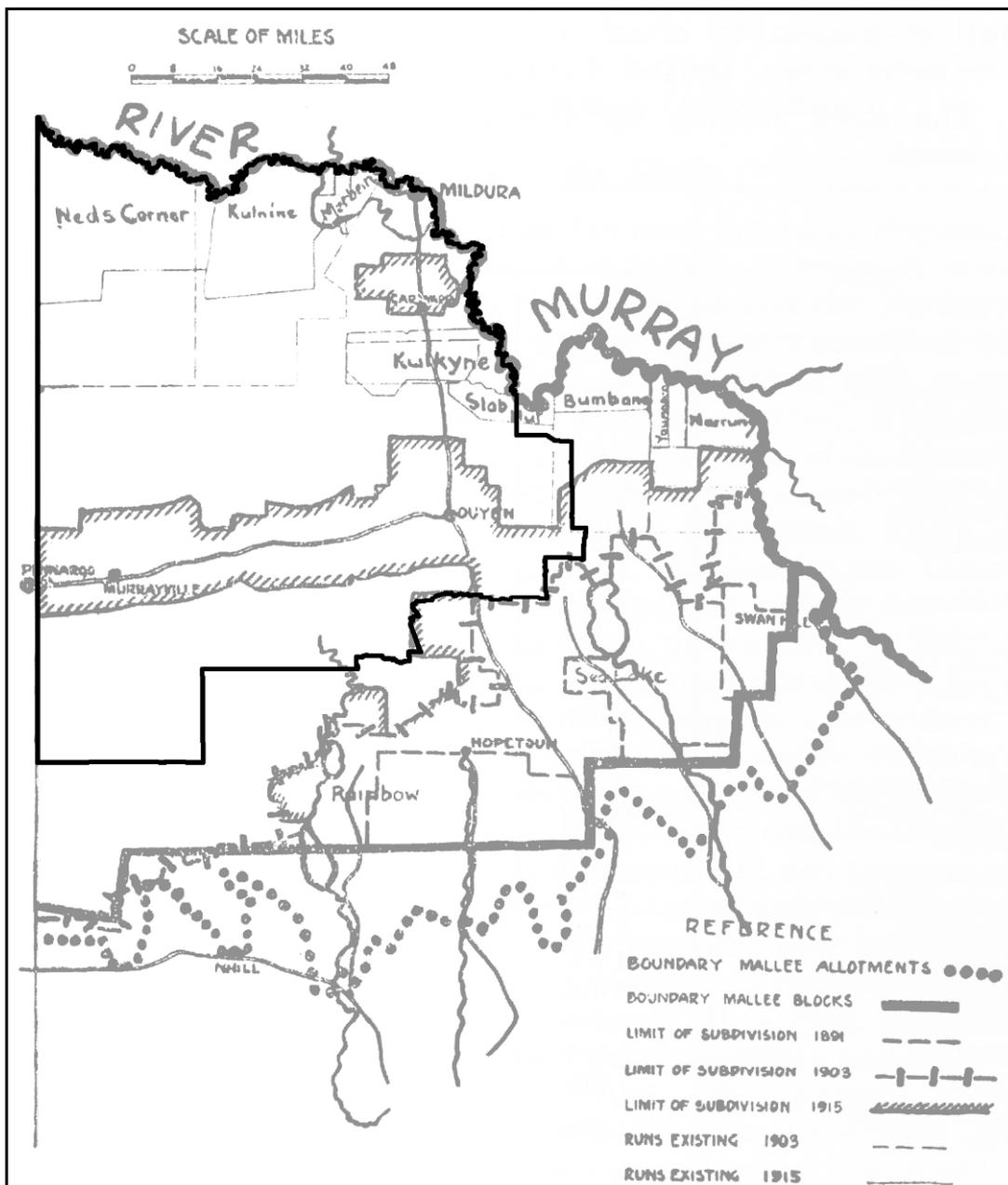
³⁵ Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 92.

³⁶ Rhona van Veldhuisen, *Pipe Dreams: A History of Water Supply in the Wimmera-Mallee* (Horsham: Wimmera Mallee Water, 2001), 101, 06.

³⁷ Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 92-3.

who, by their efforts, were attempting to transform a barren wilderness into fertile fields of grain.³⁸

Figure 8: Subdivision of the Mallee up to 1915 within study area



Source: Alfred S. Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 83.

Focus was again concentrated on the Mallee when traditional agricultural zones were challenged by ideas of scientific cultivation. Only one year after the drought year of 1915, agricultural scientist Thomas Cherry was able to report that 'Improved methods, greater facilities of transport, and increased consumption in the world's markets have enabled us to respond to the challenge of nature by the present phenomenal crop of wheat.'³⁹ Using available

³⁸ *Australasian*, 18 November, 1916

³⁹ Thomas Cherry, *Victorian Agriculture: A Textbook of the Principles and Methods Underlying the Pastoral and Agricultural Industries of South-Eastern Australia*, (Melbourne, 1916), p. xxvi.

rainfall statistics, Cherry claimed that the highest rainfall years did not necessarily correspond with the best wheat harvests, proving that 'increased production of recent years is due to improved methods'.⁴⁰ He defined three agricultural rainfall zones for Victoria: the Wheat Belt delineated by an average annual rainfall of 11-25 inches, the Closer Settlement Country (where irrigation was not needed) of an average rainfall of 25-40 inches, and the Hill Country described by an average annual rainfall of 40-75 inches. In developing these zones, Cherry applied a new interpretation to the ten-inch rainfall line, commonly accepted as the delineation of the boundary of desert. He challenged the idea of agricultural limits by arguing that experience had shown that 'with the assistance of small amounts of soluble phosphates profitable crops may be grown on less than 10 inches of winter rainfall', and that with the 'gradual advances in the numbers of stock kept on these [wheat] farms permanent agricultural settlement is likely to extend well beyond the 10-inch line of rainfall'.⁴¹

Ideas of scientific cultivation were influential in opening up more of the Mallee for settlement (see Figure 9). In 1921, the country between Mildura and Kulnine and Ned's Corner was inspected for the construction of a railway line in order to open up the land for soldier settlers. The Railway Standing Committee recommended that a route from Red Cliffs to North Millewa be surveyed. The line, argued Kenyon and the Committee, would open up 400,000 acres of country that offered excellent opportunities for settlement and production (see Figure 20).

While new methods allowed rapid colonisation, they did not guarantee settlers would be able to stay. Land suffered due to continuous cropping and methods used for clearing. The lack of surface water was the bane of the early Mallee settler. Bores more often than not yielded brackish water, thus necessitating the carting of water from often fifteen to twenty miles away. This left little time to devote to farming. Because of inadequate acreages, lack of capital, soil drift (the Mallee Research Station at Walpeup was established in 1935 to develop ways of reducing the severity of soil drift), a surplus of wheat on the world market and the economic depression of the 1930s, many settlers defaulted on their rates or simply walked off the land.⁴² In 1938, 841 farms in the Mallee reverted to the Lands Department and were then leased for grazing.⁴³

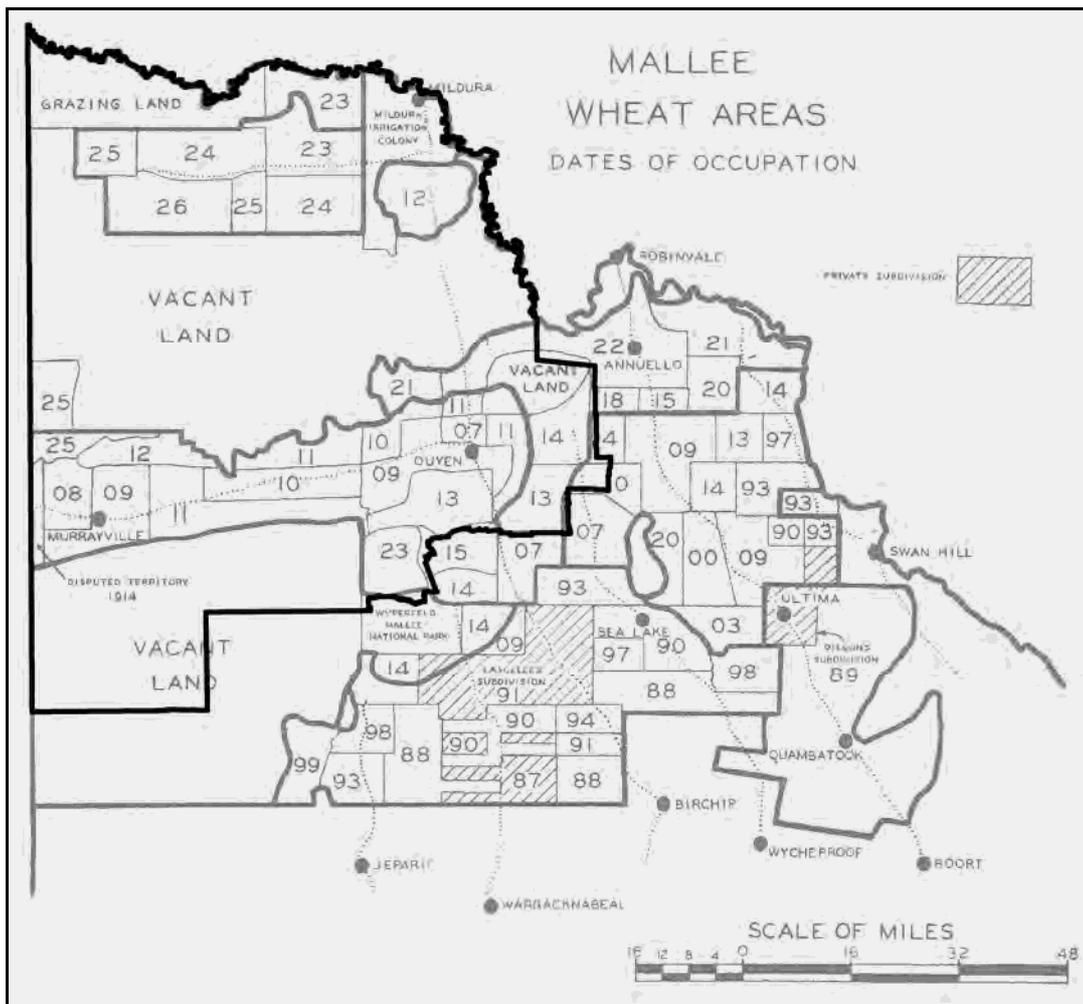
⁴⁰ Ibid., p. 31.

⁴¹ Thomas Cherry, "The Ten Inch Line of Rainfall," *The Journal of the Department of Agriculture of Victoria* (1914): 527. By 1934 wheat growing had moved even further down the rainfall gradient. In this year it was argued that the inland wheat area corresponded with the line of eight inches of average rainfall during the winter growing season. Charles Fenner, "The Murray River Basin," *Geographical Review* 24, no. 1 (1934): 91.

⁴² See J. E. Senyard, "A Mallee Farming Community in the Depression, the Walpeup Shire in Victoria 1925-35" (MA Thesis, Monash University, 1975).

⁴³ "New Land Policy." *The Age*, 18 August 1938, 12.

Figure 9: Dates of occupation of Mallee wheat farms within study area



Source: A. J. Holt, *Wheat Farms of Victoria: A Sociological Survey*, 10.

Aboriginal residents of the Rural City were forced to radically alter their lives to adapt to the new world order. In 1936, many of the district's Aboriginal people were living in 225 shacks along the bank of the River Murray. In 1939, Cummeragunga residents, on strike to highlight the living conditions of Aboriginal people, crossed the River Murray. From here, many returned to take up residence in towns and rekindle relationships with their families and ancestral homelands in Victoria.⁴⁴ In 1967, at least 500 Aborigines were living at Swan Hill and Echuca in huts beside the River Murray.⁴⁵ Unemployment and lack of educational opportunities remain major concerns for today's estimated 1,600 indigenous residents of the Rural City.⁴⁶ Support on issues of importance to local Aboriginal people is provided through the Mildura Aboriginal Corporation and the Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-operative. The Latji Latji, Wergaia and Wotjobaluk peoples have lodged Native Title Applications over land in the Rural City.

⁴⁴ Wayne Atkinson, and A. Berryman, "Aboriginal Associations," in *Report on the Murray Valley Area* (Melbourne: Land Conservation Council, 1983), 13-28.

⁴⁵ Paul Sinclair, *The Murray: The River and Its People* (Carlton South: Melbourne University Press, 2001), 213.

⁴⁶ Australian Bureau of Statistics, 'Experimental estimated resident Australian Indigenous and non-Indigenous population, Statistical Local Areas—30 June 2006'.

5.2 Closer settlement

In the cities of Australia industrialisation was seen as limiting opportunities for workers and contributing to the 1890s economic depression. Settlement in the country, a manifestation of the agrarian myth that had seeped through Australian life from first white settlement, was called on once again to ameliorate the effects of urban problems. Industrialisation had created new social and economic issues but had also produced technological innovations that gave humans increasing power over nature. Under the new closer settlement vision, agriculture was to be encouraged, wheat and dairying areas settled, railways constructed, and roads opened up so that the colony of Victoria could take its place as part of a progressive federated Australia.

The closer settlement of the Mallee was inextricably linked with the development of irrigation by the Chaffey brothers. George Chaffey (1848-1932) and William Benjamin Chaffey (1856-1926) who were born at Brockville, Ontario, Canada.⁴⁷ In May 1862, George was apprenticed as a marine engineer on Lake Ontario and in 1870-80 was a partner in his father's shipyard, designing and building shallow-draught steamers for the Great Lakes and the Ohio and Frazer Rivers in British Columbia. In 1878, George Chaffey senior moved to Riverside near Los Angeles, California, to join other Canadian families in the Santa Ana River irrigation settlement. William Benjamin, who had been in his employment at Kingston, accompanied him, and later George junior joined them. The profits from the Riverside ventures in California encouraged George and William to become partners in the new irrigation colonies on the Cucamonga Plain, named by them Etiwanda and Ontario. Planned towns, social institutes and prohibition of alcohol were features of both model settlements.

In 1885 Alfred Deakin, a minister in the Service-Berry government and chairman of a royal commission on water supply, visited the irrigation areas of California. He met George and William Chaffey, admired their skill and energy and discussed the possibilities of irrigation in Victoria. Deakin's progress report, the dispatches of two journalists, Edward Cunningham and J. L. Dow, who travelled with him, and the exaggerated tales of Stephen Cureton, a newcomer in Los Angeles who had travelled in Australia, combined to tempt George to Melbourne, where he arrived in February 1886. (Despite the later allegations of his political enemies, according to the *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Deakin never invited him to Victoria.) After a tour of the Murray Valley, Deakin assured George that the government would make available 250,000 acres of crown land on favourable terms. In April 1886, George cabled his brother William to sell their Californian interests, which he did at a fraction of their real worth, and came to Victoria.

The Chaffey brothers selected Hugh Jamieson's derelict sheep station at Mildura as the site for their first irrigation settlement. The Chaffey brothers signed an agreement with the Victorian government on 21 October 1886. A bill to validate this agreement, introduced into the Legislative Assembly by Deakin on 30 November, was violently opposed, the Chaffey brothers being termed 'cute Yankee land grabbers'. An amendment invited tenders for the 250,000 acres at Mildura. Meanwhile John Downer, premier of South Australia, offered the brothers a block of 250,000 acres in his colony which the Chaffey brothers took up in Renmark.

As no tenders were received for Mildura, on 31 May 1887 the Chaffey brothers signed an indenture with the colony of Victoria for a Concession grant of 50,000 acres on the River Murray with the right to buy 200,000 acres at £1 per acre conditional on them establishing an irrigation settlement on the 50,000 acres and making improvements to the value of £300,000 over twenty years. In September the same year, they transferred all their rights under the indenture to the firm of Chaffey Brothers Ltd; twelve months later J. F. Levien replaced Cureton as a director, taking responsibility for the company's finances. William remained at Mildura, and a younger brother Charles came from California to manage the Renmark area.

⁴⁷ This account of the Chaffey brothers' enterprise is taken from Peter Westcott, *Chaffey, George (1848-1932); Chaffey, William Benjamin (1856-1926)* (Australian National University, 2006 [cited 5 February 2009]); available from <http://www.adb.online.anu.edu.au/biogs/A070609b.htm>.

The town of Mildura was laid out and street trees planted in the style of the Chaffey's Californian irrigation colonies and an expensive sales promotion campaign was launched in Australia and Britain. By December 1890, 3,300 people were at Mildura — about half of them British migrants.

Financial dissatisfaction among the settlers due to a lack of transport for the fruit that they grew and high pumping costs associated with the loss of water from seepage and evaporation was accentuated when B. C. Harriman, who had served in the Crown Law Department, told them that the operations of the Mildura Irrigation Co. were illegal and that the subdivisions were entitled to free water. Attacks on the Chaffey's practices were carried to the Victorian parliament. The collapse of the land boom in Melbourne in 1891 and a drift of settlers away from Mildura contributed to the troubles at the settlement. Ministerial reports and a select committee failed to offer a solution.

In August 1893, Stuart Murray, engineer-in-chief of the Water Supply Department, was instructed to report on the complaints against Chaffey Brothers Ltd. He found that some were justified, and, largely on his recommendation, the Mildura Irrigation Trust was set up in September 1895 to take over the functions of the Mildura Irrigation Co. George had visited London in 1894 in an effort to save his firm by selling the ailing Renmark Concession, but failed to raise any money. On 10 December Chaffey Brothers Ltd. went into liquidation, owing £22,000 in wages to its employees and with assets of some 438,000 acres of unsold land at Mildura and Renmark. The Bank of Victoria foreclosed on the mortgages of hundreds of settlers.

State control of closer settlement was introduced through closer settlement legislation enacted in Victoria in 1898 and 1904. Large freehold estates were resumed by the Crown and subdivided into smaller holdings. Turning to New Zealand's example of compulsory acquisition of large estates, the *Closer Settlement Act* of 1904 provided for the establishment in 1905 of the Lands Purchase and Management Board to acquire land, either compulsorily or by agreement, for closer settlement. Under conditional leases, settlers were required to live on the land (in a dwelling erected by the Board if they so wished), to fence the land, destroy vermin and noxious weeds, and to make general improvements. Under this scheme, houses drawn to government plans were erected, fences built and soils graded in preparation for settlers who were given 21½ years to purchase their properties at 4½ percent interest. Advice on irrigated farming was provided by the Department of Agriculture, which took its lead from the Australian Commonwealth Bureau of Agriculture. Over ten years, the Board acquired 500,000 acres of land, 100,000 acres of which was developed by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission (SRWSC) for irrigated farming.

Closer settlement in Victoria was taken to another level when engineer Elwood Mead, Chief of the Irrigation and Drainage Investigations Bureau in the United States Department of Agriculture, was appointed SRWSC chairman in 1907. Mead made it clear that closer settlement was 'the surest way to success' and the only way to advance the public interest of the State. Mead claimed 'that a 20 and 40 acre block will give a chance to industrious men of small means to secure for themselves and their families shelter, food, a healthy comfortable living, and, in addition, saleable products at least equal in value to the wages of the skilled city worker'.⁴⁸ He issued a call to populate Victoria to reinstate it once more as the 'foremost agricultural State of the Commonwealth'. After Mead's determined push to make the SRWSC responsible for the allocation of land for closer settlement, in 1912, in addition to the planning and carrying out of irrigation schemes, another Closer Settlement Act handed full control of irrigated estates to the SRWSC for the following six years, and then permanently from 1916.

Closer settlement of the Mallee was spurred on by the pending expiration of leases in 1911. After a visit by agricultural scientist Thomas Cherry to Mildura in 1905 and with input from A. S. Kenyon, in 1907 the *Murray Settlements Act* provided for the formation of irrigation

⁴⁸ Elwood Mead, *Policy to Be Followed in Irrigation Development No. 2* (Melbourne: State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, 1909), 7.

settlements at Nyah and White Cliffs (Merbein). The closer settlement estate of 6,700 acres (5,300 acres irrigated) at White Cliffs irrigated by pump from the Murray opened in 1909. Extension of channels to the southeast were planned to allow for grazing. A pumping station was built, and in April 1909 a large steam tractor towed a trolley loaded with a fifteen-ton boiler for the pumping plant from Mildura railway station. In 1913, the pumps at White Cliffs could not deliver the promised irrigation water, yet another twenty blocks were opened in 1914.

Because of a reluctance by locals to take up irrigated blocks in estates such as that at White Cliffs, Mead reckoned some 200,000 extra settlers as necessary to secure the full benefits of irrigation in Victoria,⁴⁹ and those most likely to be open to education, he argued, were those from overseas with experience in intensive irrigation. An injection of new blood was seen as the answer. The blood, however, had to be of a particular type. 'Wanted', a promotional poster declared, '20,000,000 People for Good Old Sunny Australia...The Land of Promise. The White Man's Hope'.⁵⁰ In 1910, a delegation led by Mead and Hugh McKenzie, Minister of Lands, travelled abroad to the British Isles, Denmark, Italy, the United States and Canada to gather information and recruit settlers with irrigation experience and some capital behind them to take up closer settlement blocks. When a group of 40 American land seekers arrived in Mildura in 1912, the *Mildura Cultivator* reported that they placed a great strain on accommodation facilities. Some took up blocks, and in the same year further allotments at Yatpol, Gin Quam and Carwarp were subdivided. In 1914, the SRWSC surveyed channels to supply water to 90,000 acres between Yatpool and Carwarp to open 150 irrigated closer settlement blocks. A pumping scheme to supply the area from the River Murray at Red Cliffs was completed in 1916.

William Cattanach took over as SRWSC chairman when Mead returned to the United States in 1915 and, with the advent of World War One, continued Mead's policy of irrigated closer settlement. Through participation in the war, Australia's confidence in its role as an integral part of the British Empire was boosted. The boom economic climate fed by the assumption that prosperity would endure provided the foundation for the introduction of two new closer settlement schemes: the settlement of Australian returned servicemen, and the British Empire Migration programme.

Discharged Soldier Settlement Acts passed in the period 1917-24 in conjunction with the Closer Settlement Acts of 1915, 1918 and 1922 formed the legislative basis for Victorian soldier settlement on the land. The *Discharged Soldier Settlement Act* of 1917 provided for sustenance money to be paid during the establishment period, and for advances of up to £500 for every settler. Interest commenced at the low rate of 3½ percent for the first year, increasing ½ percent per year until the ruling rate of interest was reached. The Commonwealth and State governments shared the costs of these Concessions equally. Under the 1918 *Discharged Soldier Settlement Act*, advances of up to £1,000 were provided for and training facilities were to be established for inexperienced farmers. Seen as repaying the 'debt of honour', the soldier settlement scheme enjoyed widespread public and political support. Land was allocated for soldier settlement at Merbein in the Birdwoodton Estate located on the western alignment of the Chaffey's Mildura Concession. Following a report on the potential for a dried fruits industry by Kenyon, and under the supervision of SRWSC chairman William Cattanach, the first irrigation estate for returned soldiers was established at Red Cliffs in 1920 on 33,000 acres of the Chaffey brothers' former Concession; currants, raisins and sultanas were to be the main produce. By 1936, the settlement's vineyards supported about 670 families with another 850 persons living in the township itself.⁵¹

⁴⁹ Ibid., 14.

⁵⁰ In John Rutherford, "Interplay of American and Australian Ideas for Development of Water Projects in Northern Victoria," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 54, no. 1 (1964): 100.

⁵¹ J. M. Powell, *Watering the Garden State: Water, Land and Community in Victoria 1834-1988* (North Sydney: Allen and Unwin Australia Pty. Ltd., 1989), 181.

The *Empire Settlement Act* introduced in 1922 was based on an agreement reached at the Imperial Conference in London in 1921 whereby Britain was to supply people (where unemployment in 1921-2 measured 14 percent), and Australia the land.⁵² British civilians and ex-service personnel were to be assisted in taking up residence in the under-populated and under-developed Dominions, and in return, Australia was promised 'Imperial Preference' - a ready market for food and raw materials. Australia's future was thus ensured, Prime Minister Bruce claimed, through the combination of 'men, money and markets'. British migrants numbering 450,000 were expected in a decade. Under an agreement made between the Commonwealth and Victorian governments on 21 September 1922, 10,000 approved British migrants were to be advanced loans of up to £1,500, repayable over 36½ years, to take up farms. The State offered farms on irrigated land of between fifteen and 120 acres, and dry land of up to 640 acres. Supervision and training were to be provided to those without farming experience and farm jobs were to be found for those without capital. Settlers under this scheme, as well as local soldier settlers, were allocated land on former Millewa grazing leases in 1924 and at Red Cliffs. A large pumping scheme to provide River Murray water to 700 farms in the Millewa was established in the same year. A colony of some 50 English migrants settled near Merrinee in a locality that subsequently became known as 'Little England'. Within ten years, all but one of them had returned to England.⁵³ Without the promised expert supervision, a Royal Commission in 1925 into the program concluded that in the northwest Mallee, migrants had been placed on 'the inferior and more remote blocks'.⁵⁴ Even so, in 1927 the government investigated the further settlement of the southern portion of Millewa County to be accompanied by a railway line from Nowingi. After the construction of 24 miles of railway line and the survey of 20 blocks, the scheme was abandoned by the Closer Settlement Board in 1928. A grid of tracks in the west Millewa installed in preparation for its subdivision and a bore at Millewa South are still in evidence.

For the most part closer settlement as an active policy was wound down from 1938, however migration programs, particularly during and after World War Two, resulted in new settlers from Greece, Italy and Yugoslavia arriving in the study area to take up mostly irrigated land. From 1947, the Victorian government established migrant reception and holding centres for non-English speaking displaced persons from Europe. A holding centre, which housed up to 2,000 people at a time, operated from the former RAAF training base at Mildura over the period 1950-53. Many of these migrants provided labour for local post-war construction projects and some took up permanent residence in the district.

In 1923, a small group of Greeks had arrived in Mildura for the picking season and introduced methods of drying fruit by using carbonate of potash and olive oil. By 1927, there were approximately 30 Greek families, many of them refugees from Asia Minor, farming irrigated blocks. They formed the Workingman's Organisation of Mildura and District in 1933-4 and started a Greek school in 1939. The Greek community built a hall and church in Deakin Avenue, and another hall in Elizabeth Street after World War Two when large numbers of Greek nationals arrived in Mildura.⁵⁵

In the early 1920s, the first Italian workers arrived in the Mildura district. Italian settlement in the area grew with the World War Two immigration program.

Some of the first Yugoslavians to settle in the district arrived in 1924. By 1938, about 30 families had taken up land in Sunraysia. The Yugoslav Community Club opened in Mildura in 1937, and a hall was built in Deakin Avenue in 1939. Some members of this community

⁵² Richard Broome, *The Victorians: Arriving* (McMahons Point: Fairfax, Syme and Weldon Associates, 1984), 141.

⁵³ A. J. Holt, *Wheat Farms of Victoria: A Sociological Survey* (Melbourne: School of Agriculture, University of Melbourne, 1947), 15.

⁵⁴ Scholes, *A History of the Shire of Swan Hill: Public Land, Private Profit and Settlement*, 147.

⁵⁵ Parsons, *Where the Mallee Meets the Murray: A Centenary History of the Shire of Mildura*, 229-33.

returned home after the conclusion of World War Two, but from the late 1950s, other migrants from Yugoslavia arrived in the district.⁵⁶

In the early 1970s, Turkish people arrived in the study area to take up seasonal work in the fruit industry. The community established social clubs, and in 1984 opened a mosque.⁵⁷ Mildura continues to attract a variety of cultural groups, including more recently Tongans.

5.3 Rural reconstruction

World production of wheat reached all-time records in 1928 and 1930. The resulting surplus and low prices led to international moves to limit wheat production, including in Australia. Questions about the value of the northern Mallee country came to the fore, focusing on the issues of high transport costs and low yields. Settlers' demands for larger holdings to enable mixed farming to be taken up corresponded with a fundamental shift of government policy away from the traditional ideal of yeoman settlement as international competitive capitalism became the determining factor in land settlement. By 1933, unpaid debts of 3.6 million pounds had been written off in the wheat areas of Millewa, Tatchera, Karkaroc and Weeah.⁵⁸ With the added pressures of low wheat prices caused by the economic depression, many settlers walked off their land. Between 1933-8, the Closer Settlement Commission (CSC) evacuated 1,127 Mallee farmers and gave another 867 farmers additional land to increase the viability of their holdings. From 1933 to 1939 the Mallee region suffered a depopulation of 34 percent; by comparison the Wimmera suffered only a 5 percent loss.⁵⁹ In an effort to relieve the stress on the most affected settlers, in January 1930 260 mothers and children from the Millewa were given a seaside holiday near Melbourne paid for by donations from members of the Victorian parliament and organised by the Country Women's Association. For those unable to leave the district, the Royal Automobile Club of Victoria held a picnic for 200 local children.⁶⁰ This tradition was continued in later years through the conducting of Mallee Boys Camps at Portsea in the 1950s.

Grazing, wholesale clearing of land, and repeated years of fallowing and rabbit infestation contributed significantly to the marginality of the Mallee for growing wheat. As early as the 1880s, the effects of soil erosion had manifested. The already serious problem of soil erosion was intensified by the droughts of 1914-15 and 1929-31. Winds from the west and northwest blew across the cleared Mallee country, blowing tons of soil into the air. Large, billowing clouds blotted out the sun and brought a temporary darkness. The worst dust storms filled channels, covered railway lines and roads, blew soil away from mallee stumps leaving them isolated like weird sculptures, and swept into settlers' homes. Children found their way home from school holding onto fences or by counting the number of road crossings. Traffic, unable to negotiate soil drifts caught by road reserve vegetation, had to negotiate their way over adjoining paddocks.

The Sand-Drift Committee, set up in 1933 to investigate and report on the problem of soil erosion in the Mallee, led to the appointment of an Erosion Investigation Committee in Victoria. In 1935, the Mallee Research Station was established at Walpeup. Its charter was to improve methods of farming Mallee lands thereby reducing the severity of soil drift. The Research Station conducted a number of field days to educate farmers about erosion (see Figure 10).

⁵⁶ Ibid., 240-8.

⁵⁷ Ibid., 251-5.

⁵⁸ Ibid., 267.

⁵⁹ Scholes, *op. cit.*, p158

⁶⁰ Parsons, *Where the Mallee Meets the Murray: A Centenary History of the Shire of Mildura*, 267.

Figure 10: Agricultural field day, Mallee Research Station, 1932.



Source: Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria.

During a tour of the Mallee after being appointed to the SRWSC in 1938, farmer Harold Hanslow described the landscape:

I saw hills that had five or six feet of soil on them blown down to the lime stone, stumps standing with their roots exposed showing that up to five feet of soil had blown away. I saw miles of roads with soil drifted over them feet deep and rendered impassable to traffic... There were miles of fencing half to three parts buried in soil, to say nothing of fences completely buried and other fences erected over the top of them.⁶¹

Hanslow initiated an annual series of Soil Drift Control Competitions, which eventually led to adoption of methods of farming the Mallee country in long rotations. In 1940, the *Soil Conservation Act* was passed under which the Soil Conservation Board was set up. In 1941, eight Regional Advisory Committees were formed for the Mallee, Upper and Lower Goulburn, East Wimmera, Hume Catchment, Grampians and Central and Glenelg districts. A network of regional offices, including the Mallee Research Station at Walpeup, was established to publicise the results of soil erosion experiments by the Department of Agriculture. Mallee farmers were given superphosphate and rye seed to sow on windblown ridges in an effort to stabilise them. Because of continuing sand drifts, in 1944 the SRWSC was forced to abandon 265 miles of channels in the Carwarp and Coreena districts, and beyond Kooloonong, Annuello and Ouyen.⁶² In the same year, the Walpeup branch of the Victorian Wheat and Woolgrowers' Association convened a meeting at the Walpeup Hall to 'consider steps to arrest the alarming increase of soil erosion throughout the district'.⁶³ The Mallee Research Station at Walpeup continued to conduct trials on methods of agriculture and ways of minimising sand drift, including the stabilisation of dunes through the planting of deep-rooted perennial and salt-tolerant species, and trash-retention (the maintenance of a cover of dry pasture or crop-stubble through summer). Windbreaks were erected on some farms, and conservation tillage practices were adopted. The Research Station closed in 2008.

⁶¹ Powell, *Watering the Garden State: Water, Land and Community in Victoria 1834-1988*, 217.

⁶² van Veldhuisen, *Pipe Dreams: A History of Water Supply in the Wimmera-Mallee*, 158.

⁶³ D. H. Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969* (Pinaroo: Pinaroo Border Times, 1969?), 25.

Lewis Ronald, SRWSC chairman, was influential in establishing the need for a high-level national Reconstruction Commission to guide post-war development, an initiative supported by University of Melbourne's chair of agriculture Samuel Wadham who argued for a government-funded Institute of Agricultural Economics to examine 'production and costs, processing and marketing, land utilisation and development, rural finance and government policy, and rural sociology'.⁶⁴ Subsequently, in 1943 the Curtin Labor government established the Rural Reconstruction Commission to advise on 'the reorganisation and the rehabilitation of the rural economy'. Earlier in 1941, the Victorian government had proposed the voluntary removal of 300 settlers and the enlargement of all holdings to 2,500 acres in marginal wheat land north of a line running from Ouyen to Manangatang, but few farmers took up the offer.

The Federal Rural Reconstruction Commission defined the counties of Tatchera, Karkaroc, Weeah, and in particular, Millewa as marginal wheat land after the North-West Mallee Facts Finding Committee of 1946 reported on the deterioration of land through overstocking and erosion. Of the 1,576 original settlers in the region around Mildura, Murrayville, Piangil-Annuello and Manangatang-Ouyen, only 400 settlers remained. The Committee recommended grazing areas of 6,000-5,000 acres in the far northwest, and in the better-watered and more fertile areas, the minimum of 3,000-acre holdings. The *North-West Mallee Act*, providing for perpetual leases, was subsequently passed in 1948, and a committee appointed to oversee the acquisition of land and its reallocation. Farmers were quick to mobilise and voice their concern over the terms of the Act. However by 1951, much of the major opposition had been allayed. An increase in the size of holdings coupled with a guaranteed price under the 1948 *Wheat Industry Stabilization Act* ushered in a new era of wheat growing in the Mallee. The 1961 *North-West Mallee Act* enabled conversion of perpetual leases to purchase leases or Crown grants.

With the end of wheat quotas in 1971, over the 1970s the wheat industry enjoyed relative prosperity compared with other broad-acre industries. However, from 1982 many Mallee farms suffered a dramatic financial downturn due to ongoing drought, a fall in the on-farm price of wheat and significant rises in the costs of production and interest rates. The downturn has had flow-on effects for many Rural City communities.

The proposed extension of agricultural development into the Little Desert in the late 1960s galvanised protest from people concerned about extending human impacts on the environment. As a result, the Lands Conservation Council (LCC) was established. Because of ongoing clearing, fencing and cultivation of public land in the Mallee, in the mid 1970s the LCC recommended the rationalisation of public land boundaries. Areas for development were consolidated, principally in the parishes of Wymlet and Kia, north of Ouyen. Subsequently, regional and national parks across the Mallee were proclaimed, although some areas had been reserved in the 1920s (see Chapter 10.8 Leisure and Recreation). The rate of clearing accelerated in the mid 1980s, partly in anticipation of possible future controls on clearing freehold land. This activity brought forward the LCC's review of the Mallee published in 1987 and its recommendations led to the protection of public land through the further declaration of national parks.⁶⁵

⁶⁴ Powell, *Watering the Garden State: Water, Land and Community in Victoria 1834-1988*, 200.

⁶⁵ *Mallee Area Review*, 230.

6 WATER SUPPLY

6.1 Domestic and stock supply

In the 1890s, Mildura's domestic water supply was provided as part of the Chaffey brothers irrigation system. A steam engine and pump on the River Murray delivered water into a main pipeline in Deakin Avenue and then to a standpipe. As the water flowed into the irrigation channel system, the backpressure provided the town with water via a wrought iron reticulation system. Because there was no elevated storage, the hours of supply were limited to irrigation periods or a few hours per day. The water intake line at the River Murray was in the same area as where the paddle steamers moored so that the direct discharge of the ships' sewerage was a health hazard at times of low river flow. The First Mildura Irrigation Trust took over the town supply in 1895. In 1909, an urban water trust was established to take over supply and replaced wrought iron pipes with timber from 1911. A concrete elevated storage designed by John Monash opened in 1912. Monash also designed a water storage for W. B. Chaffey's Mildura Winery. In 1920, the Mildura Urban Water Trust was constituted an autonomous body under the *Mildura Irrigation Trust Act*. Another water tower, designed by Messrs. Scott and Furphy, was built in 1957.⁶⁶

Away from the River Murray, water was supplied by lake systems, swamps, soaks fed by springs, clay pans, wells (see Figure 11), and the building of catchment channels to augment run off into tanks sunk earlier by squatters.

Figure 11: Well at Cowangie, 2011.



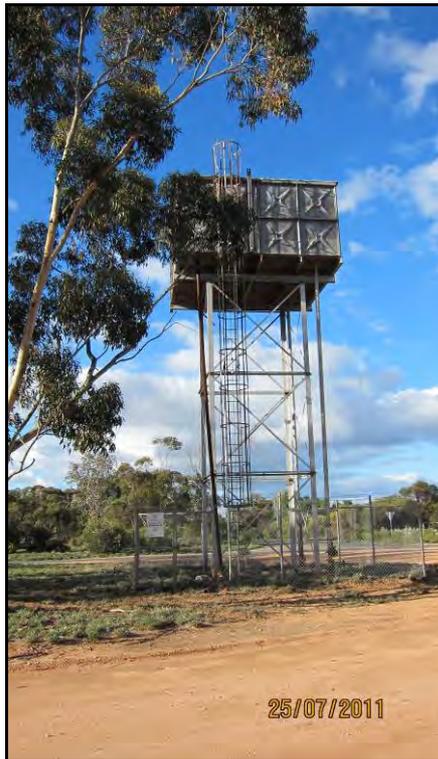
Source: Context.

The onset of dry years from 1878 encouraged the development of water supply schemes for northern Victoria. The Water Conservancy Board established in 1880 comprised George Gordon, former chief hydraulic engineer, and Alexander Black, deputy surveyor-general. Gordon and Black were instructed to firstly, 'inquire and report as to the feasibility of providing, at a reasonable expense, a supply of water to the northern plains for domestic

⁶⁶ Sydney Wells, *Paddle Steamers to Cornucopia: The Renmark-Mildura Experiment of 1887* (Berri: J. C. Iriving Printer, n.d.), 180-9.

purposes and the use of stock', and secondly 'as to irrigation'.⁶⁷ For stock and domestic use, Gordon and Black recommended the construction of weirs and dams in watercourses to direct seasonal overflows from rivers into creeks. Water was to be pumped where necessary from channels and creeks. Public tanks were to be excavated, every five to seven miles, water tanks built (see Figure 12) and swamps used as storage basins for floodwaters for use in drier seasons. In this way Gordon and Black envisaged a water supply for stock and domestic purposes brought to 'a maximum distance of about three miles to every part of the country'.⁶⁸ Their fifth report recommended the constitution of Water Trusts to oversee the construction and management of these schemes. Amongst other programs, they recommended the development of the Wimmera Scheme to supply stock and domestic water to an area of 1,750,00 acres from the Avon and Richardson Rivers in the east, the Wimmera River from Glenorchy to Lake Hindmarsh in the south and west, and the Mallee country in the north.

Figure 12: Water tank, Walpeup, 2011.



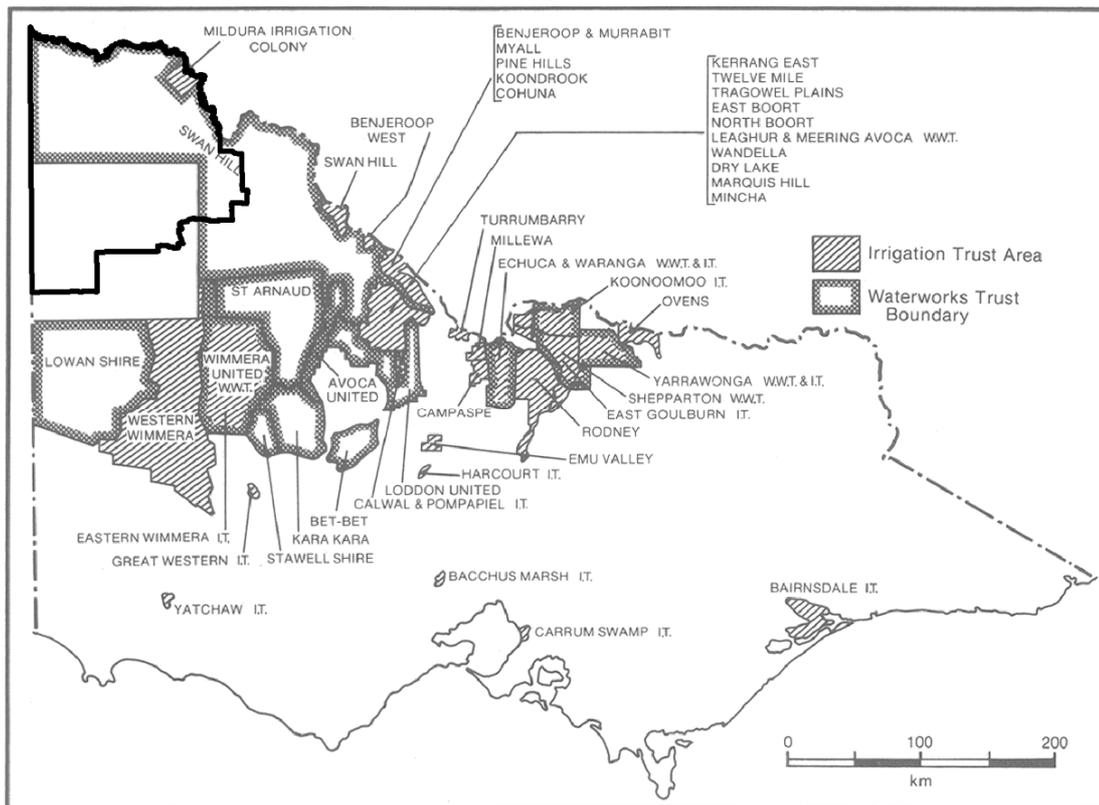
Source: Context.

The *Water Conservation Act*, introduced in 1881, incorporated the key ideas of Gordon and Black and enabled the establishment of Urban and Rural Waterworks Trusts to supply stock and domestic water. By the end of 1882, twelve Waterworks Trusts had been established, including the Swan Hill Waterworks Trust which covered much of the study area (see Figure 13).

⁶⁷ "Supply of Water to the Northern Plains: Reports of the Board Appointed to Advise on the Feasibility of Giving a Supply of Water to the Northern Plains - Part 1 Supply of Water for Domestic Purposes and Use of Stock". John Ferres, Government Printer, Melbourne, 1881, 5.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, 5, 11.

Figure 13: Irrigation and Waterworks Trust Areas 1890 within study area



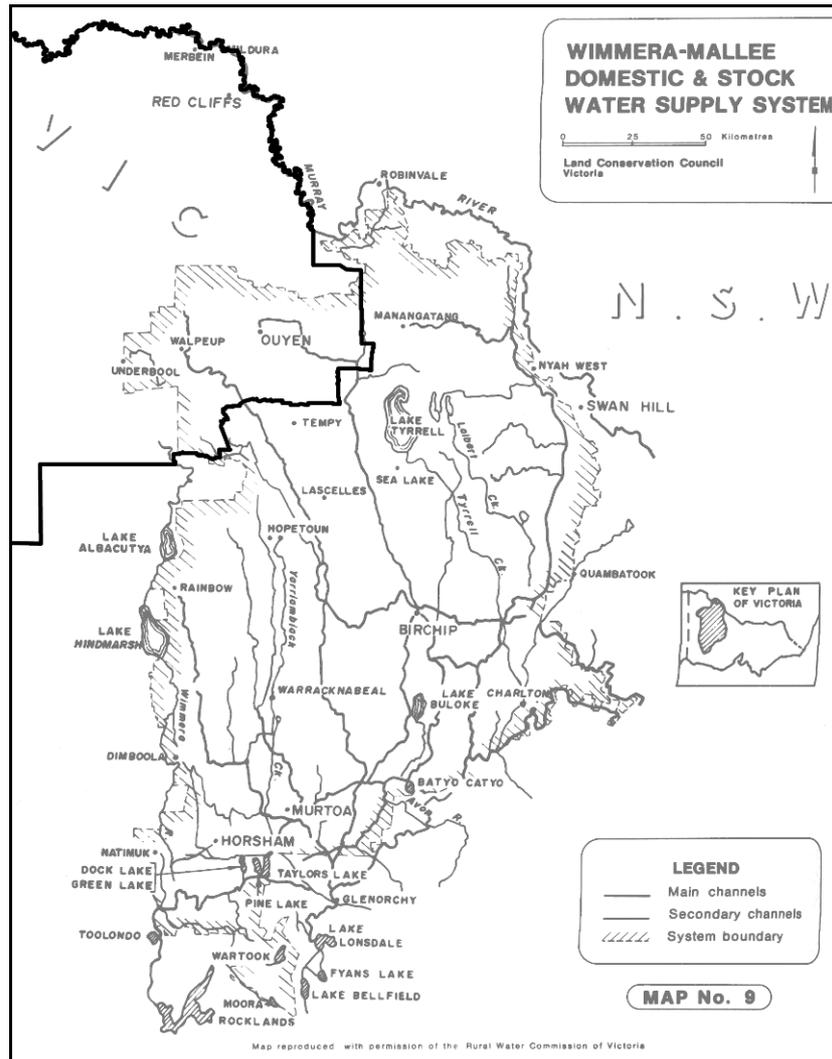
Source: J. M. Powell, *Watering the Garden State: Water, Land and Community in Victoria: 1834-1988*, 124.

Engineer J. D. Derry, who accompanied Alfred Deakin on his 1885 American tour, was instrumental in the formation of the Wimmera United Waterworks Trust. Derry devised a scheme to use the Wimmera, Yarriambiack, Dunmunkle and Richardson as distributaries. The Wartook Reservoir was completed in 1887, and a series of channels, weirs and tanks was laid out.⁶⁹ This system eventually conveyed water to the south of the study area to the country of what was to become the Shire of Walpeup (see Figure 14). In the northwest Mallee to which the Wimmera scheme could not supply water, in 1887 the Victorian Water Supply Department recommended the sinking of test bores in an effort to tap into underground water supplies. The first bore was No. 2 at Morton Plains. By 1897, efforts made to tap into artesian supplies in the Mallee were described as useless.⁷⁰

⁶⁹ Powell, *Watering the Garden State: Water, Land and Community in Victoria 1834-1988*, 170.

⁷⁰ Sir Ronald East, "Water in the Mallee," *The Victorian Historical Magazine*, no. 4 (1967): 182.

Figure 14: Wimmera-Mallee Water Supply System within study area



Source: *Mallee Area Review*. Land Conservation Council, 88.

In 1892, Chief Engineer of Water Supply Stuart Murray divided the Mallee into three water supply districts: the Wimmera District to be supplied from the Wimmera River, Lake Boga District to be supplied from an extension of the Macorna Channel, and the Murray River District to be watered from pumping from the river. Little progress was made on the projects to pump water from the River Murray and after the necessity of supplying water via trains in the dry year of 1898, government funds were made available to extend existing Wimmera channels and to excavate public tanks.

Drought conditions from 1895 and increased numbers of settlers resulted in partial failure of the Wimmera system. The Lake Lonsdale Reservoir was built to relieve the situation, but with a maze of private, Shire and Trust channels in use, uncertainty of supply remained.

In 1900, A. S. Kenyon was appointed assistant engineer in the Department of Mines and Water Supply. After the passing of the 1905 *Water Act*, in the same year recommendations for a new supply system were made by a Board incorporating Kenyon, J. M. Reed surveyor-general and C. Catani chief engineer of Public Works. Subsequently, an Act was passed to supply River Murray water to the whole Mallee frontage of the river to a width of 30 miles. A stock and domestic supply was to be provided to this country from pumping stations established at Long Lake, Nyah, Coreena, Hattah, Carwarp, Mildura, Merbein, and Walwalla. The eastern Mallee

was to be watered from the Wimmera River and the western Mallee by wells and bores (see Figure 15).⁷¹

Figure 15: Number 1 Bore, Panitya.



Source: Context, 2011

After Kenyon was appointed as an engineer in the Department of Agriculture, he devised the ironclad catchment for conserving rain for domestic and stock supplies. Under Kenyon's management in his role as SRWSC engineer-in-charge of the North-West Mallee from 1910, large catchment tanks were excavated 1910-11 as reserves against droughts. They were not for the general use of settlers who were required under the conditions of their leases to make their own provision for water. By 1910, Ouyen's water supply had been boosted by public tanks at Yellangip Plain and Boulka.⁷²

Under Kenyon's management, boring in the Mallee was recommenced. Public bores were sunk in 1910 at Boinka and Underbool, and in 1911 at Linga. Others were established in 1912 at Manpy, Daalko, Nyang, Underbool and Boinka. The bore at Boinka tapped into artesian water that rose above ground level. Water at the other bores was accessed by hand pumps, horse operated pumps, windmills, and in later years, steam driven and diesel pumps (see Figure 16). Bores were opened at Tutye, Duddo, Gongee, Boinka and Underbool in 1920. Water from these bores was often too saline for human consumption, so in 1929 farmers sunk their own bores in the parishes of Boinka, Manpy, Koonaa and Purnya. The bore established at Murrayville in the same year was connected to a deep well turbine pump, the first of its type in Australia. By 1930, the boundary of the area in which usable underground water could be accessed was well defined. Even with the establishment of bores and tanks, water trains were a feature of Mallee life until the late 1920s when the last delivered 200,000 gallons of water to Torrita in February 1928.⁷³

⁷¹ Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 106.

⁷² van Veldhuisen, *Pipe Dreams: A History of Water Supply in the Wimmera-Mallee*, 87.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, 117, 21, 35. Janet Lynch, Margaret Willsmore, and Christy Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka* (Red Cliffs: Underbool Back To Committee, 1988?), 14-15.

Figure 16: Pumping station at Hattah Railway Station.



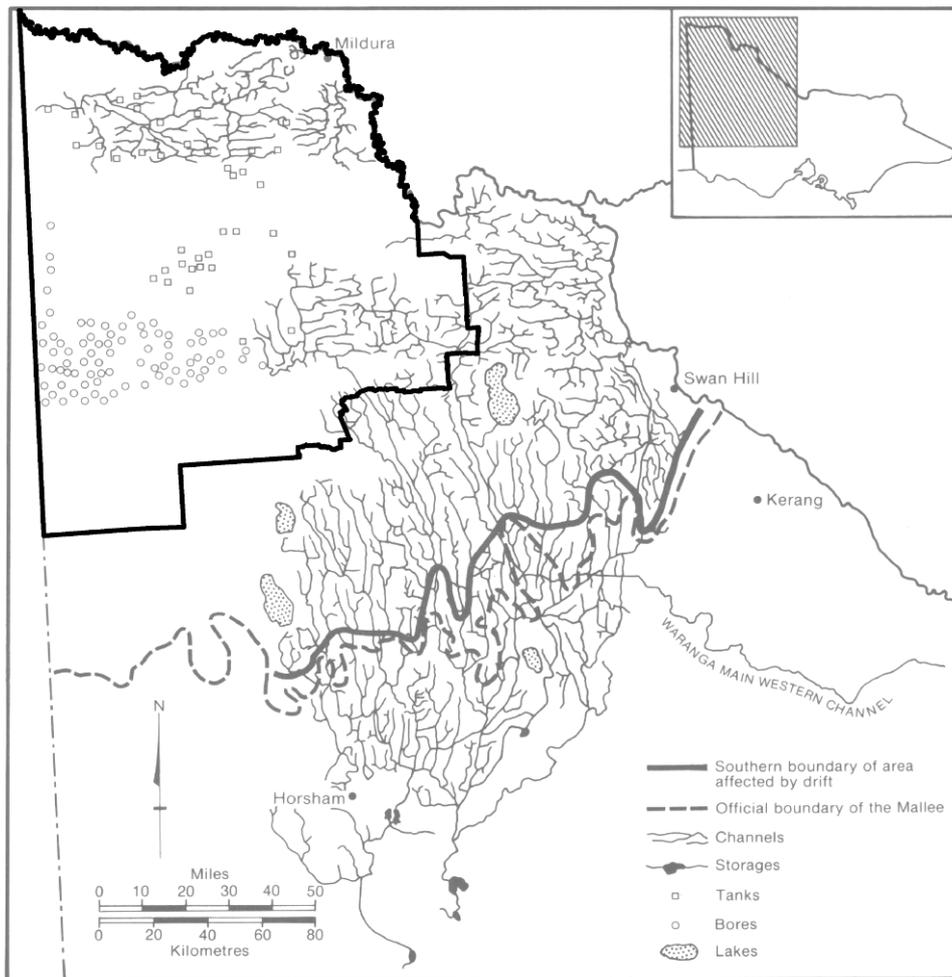
Source: Context.

By 1924, the SRWSC had established a channel system in Millewa fed by River Murray waters from Lock 9, to provide a water supply to local soldier settlers and British immigrants (see Chapter 4.3 Closer Settlement). In 1927, the Standing Committee on Railways investigated the feasibility of settling land in the south of Millewa County. To supply water to the higher parts of this area, a system of ironclad catchments, designed by Kenyon and in operation at Nowingee from 1927, was established. Rivetted or clamped sheets of corrugated iron covering up to half an acre of land caught and distributed rainwater to a concrete tank set in the ground from where the water was hand pumped. These catchments were the only water supply in the area after the program of channel construction was suspended in 1928.

Under the SRWSC, over the period 1906-1936 a three-fold expansion in the area served by the Wimmera-Mallee scheme was achieved, with the total number of people served in the region growing from 12,000 to 52,000. In 1930-1, the Wimmera Mallee Water Supply's channel system was extended to supply the Underbool township and vicinity, and to the high country adjacent to Walpeup. It was officially opened in March 1943. However, approximately 500,000 acres of wheat growing country in the Mallee, mostly between Underbool and the South Australian border, remained dependent on water supply from sub-artesian bores, with 109 of these controlled and maintained by the Commission⁷⁴ (see Figures 17 and 18).

⁷⁴ Powell, *Watering the Garden State: Water, Land and Community in Victoria 1834-1988*, 183-4.

Figure 17: Wimmera-Mallee Supply System 1933 within study area



Source: J. M. Powell, *Watering the Garden State*, 219.

By 1939, the study area had been divided into three rural waterworks districts for the supply of stock and domestic water needs administered by the SRWSC: the Walpeup West District of 239 square miles supplied by private bores and 60 public bores sunk to a depth of about 500 feet equipped with windmills, pumps and tanks; the Millewa District, incorporating Yelta and Carwarp, of 822 square miles served by an earthen channel system carrying water pumped from the Murray at Lock 9 to a main pumping station at Lake Cullulleraine and supplied also by pumping stations at Red Cliffs and Merbein; and the Wimmera-Mallee system which supplied water from the Grampians (supplemented in 1929 by water from the Goulburn River and Loddon River via the Waranga-Mallee Channel) to areas in northwest Victoria including the Underbool district.⁷⁵

⁷⁵ Everard Brown, *Irrigation and Water Supply Development in Victoria* (Melbourne: State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, 1954), 36-40.

Figure 18: Boring for water at Underbool, 1934.



Source: Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria.

As part of the SRWSC's post-war construction expansion, the security of the Wimmera-Mallee system was improved by the completion of the Rocklands Reservoir in 1953. The enlargement of carrier channels from the Wimmera headworks was undertaken in 1962. An enquiry was held in 1966-7 into the earthen water channels and storages supplying the Millewa settlement from which 95 percent of water was lost through evaporation and seepage. These had been replaced by pipelines and impervious on-farm storages by 1975.⁷⁶

In 1984, the Rural Water Commission was established to operate and maintain most of the state's water supply system, including storages and watercourses. In the same year, the Sunraysia Water Board took over responsibility for sewerage and domestic water services for Mildura, Irymple, Merbein and Red Cliffs. In 1987, Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water took over control of the Wimmera-Mallee Domestic and Stock Supply System, believed to be one of the most extensive gravitational supply systems in the world. In 1987, the scheme covered 28,500 square kilometres, supplying 20,500 farm dams on 15,760 holdings via 16,100 kilometres of open channels.

The 1989 *Water Act* enabled the permanent or temporary trading of water rights separately from the land to which it was attached. In 1992, with the establishment of the Rural Water Corporation, regions were consolidated and greater local management powers given to Regional Management Boards. Eighteen regional water authorities were created in 1994-5. Water authorities currently responsible for the study area are Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water and Lower Murray Urban and Rural Water.

In 1988, pilot projects commenced for the Wimmera Mallee Pipeline, a project that involves the construction of almost 9,000 kilometres of reticulated pipeline to replace over 16,000 kilometres of existing open channels. When the project is completed in 2010, it will supply stock and domestic water to approximately 6,000 rural customers and 36 towns across a region from the Grampians to the Murray River. The fourth stage of the project, opened in 2000, comprised the building of a pipeline from the River Murray to Ouyen. An area between Walpeup and Underbool and north of Walpeup was piped over the next few years.

⁷⁶ *Mallee Area Review*, 90.

After the establishment of olive and potato growing in the Murrayville region that utilised 2,500 megalitres a year, the Murrayville Groundwater Supply Protection Area (GSPA) was declared in 1998. A Groundwater Management Plan was developed for an area from Cowangie to the South Australian border to ensure that supplies were managed equitably and in a sustainable manner.⁷⁷ Towns in this area, including Murrayville and Cowangie, continue to draw water from groundwater bores.

6.2 Irrigation

Irrigation in the study area began with squatters who often employed Chinese gardeners who pumped water from the River Murray via windmills to small-scale vineyards, orchards and vegetable gardens. Rev. T. H. Goodwin, manager of Yelta Aboriginal Mission station in the 1850s, used irrigation to produce grapes which he subsequently dried.⁷⁸

Members of the Water Conservation Board George Gordon and Alexander Black, submitted their first report expressly on the subject of irrigation in 1882. Drawing upon the irrigation experience of India, Spain, Italy, California, and France, they cautioned against the provision of a national plan of irrigation. However, influenced by reports of the success of private irrigation and the lobbying of parliamentarian Hugh McColl and Reverend E. C. De Garis, minister at Kerang and Durham Ox, Alfred Deakin (appointed to the position of Minister for Public Works and Water Supply in 1883) proposed the amending of the 1881 *Water Conservation Act* to provide for Irrigation Trusts. Passed late in 1883, this was the first Victorian legislation to expressly provide for the construction of irrigation works. Because of a shortage of loan capital in London however, no financial support was given by the State and only two Irrigation Trusts were formed under this Act.

On 16 December 1886 another irrigation Act was passed. The initiatives of State support and private enterprise were combined. Trusts were able to borrow up to 70 percent of the gross value of the land within the Trust boundaries with capital advanced by the government at the rate of 4½ percent. Rates on irrigable lands were to be collected by Trusts to repay the interest and to provide a sinking fund of 1½ percent annually. Drawing directly from legislative practice in Colorado, which declared that all streams were public property, Deakin vested the control and management of all water resources within the colony in the Crown.

Based on this Act, in December 1886 the *Waterworks Construction Encouragement Act* was passed, paving the way for the establishment of private companies to purchase, subdivide, and sell irrigated land to others. Under this Act, an irrigation settlement at Mildura was developed by the Chaffey brothers from Canada (see Chapter 4.3 Closer Settlement). The Chaffey brothers ploughed the Mallee with traction engines and dug miles of water channel on their 50,000 acre Concession that they had subdivided into ten acre blocks. After establishing the Mildura Irrigation Company, they relied on pumping water from the River Murray controlled by a weir, and because of a lack of building materials, distributed water by means of open channels. They brought the steamer 'Eliza Jane' to Psyche Bend to be used as a pumping station while George Chaffey designed and built further pumps to augment the steamer. By 1893, water was raised from the River Murray by four high-lift pumping stations which watered 26,020 acres. The Billabong system incorporated the areas of Koorlong and Cabarita in the west and Cardross in the south. The Mildura homestead system served 1,630 acres, the Ranfurly system served 450 acres, and the Mildura township system served another 1,850 acres.⁷⁹ Excavation of the channel system commenced in 1887 and by 1896, 1,000 miles of main channels and 300 miles of subsidiary channels had been built.⁸⁰

⁷⁷ Jocelyn Lindner, *Murrayville 1910-2007* (n.p.: Murrayville Liaison Committee, 2007), 27.

⁷⁸ East, "Water in the Mallee," 231.

⁷⁹ For a detailed description of these systems see Ward, *The Desert Blooms: An Account of the Physical Development of the City and Shire of Mildura*, 35-40.

⁸⁰ *Ibid.*, 40.

After complaints from settlers, a Parliamentary Select Committee was appointed in 1892 to enquire into the cost and supply of water in Mildura. Because of the 1893 bank crash, the over-extension of financial commitments by the Chaffey family, the cessation of land sales in 1894, and the growing complaints of settlers, in 1894 the Mildura irrigation colony went into liquidation. In December 1895, an election was held for commissioners for the First Mildura Irrigation Trust, established to take over responsibility for the irrigation of the Mildura colony. On 7 March 1894, the newly appointed Turner government appointed a Royal Commission to enquire into the dire financial situation of all Victorian irrigation trust schemes. The general failure of irrigation trusts, the 1896 Royal Commission on Water Supply found, was due to human miscalculation and misadventure. Responsibility was sheeted home to the settlers, the Commissioners of the Irrigation Trusts, former Minister for Water Supply Alfred Deakin, and the employees of the Department of Water Supply. The commission's report largely blamed the Chaffey family for the troubles at Mildura, claiming that they had operated on insufficient capital and committed serious errors in planning. However the Commission recommended that loan monies be advanced to line existing channels and improve the existing pumping plant. In addition, the Concession in the indenture of 1887 was cancelled and 188,000 acres reverted to the Crown.⁸¹

After the hearing, in August 1897 George Chaffey sailed to the United States. George's son Ben stayed in Australia, building up business interests in Mildura before becoming a prominent Riverina pastoralist and well-known racehorse owner. William Benjamin Chaffey also remained in Mildura. He brought his orchard of some 200 acres into production and established the Mildura (later Mildara) Winery Pty. Ltd., which moved to Merbein in 1914. Active from 1895 in the development of marketing procedures for local fruit, he became a leading member of both the Mildura and the Australian Dried Fruits associations and was president of the latter for many years. In 1903 he was elected president of the Mildura shire Council and in 1920 first mayor of Mildura Borough. His home Rio Vista has become a cultural centre. A statue of him by Paul Montford was unveiled in Mildura in 1929.⁸²

A new Liberal government under W. H. Irvine introduced the *Water Act* of 1905 under which three major policy changes were made: all Irrigation Trusts except for Mildura were replaced by a central agency; the beds and banks of all watercourses were 'nationalised'; and a compulsory minimum annual charge was levied on each irrigation farm. Defined under the Act, land was divided into three classes and a 'water right' allocated to each irrigation holding. The annual charge was calculated as one-fifth of the unimproved capital value of the irrigated property. Parliamentary members objected that the Act prejudiced their constituents in favour of northern residents, arguing that those south of the Divide had for twenty years subsidised farmers in the 'arid districts'. However the way was paved for the establishment of extensive irrigation schemes in northern Victoria. The SRWSC was appointed on 1 May 1906 with Stuart Murray as Chairman to take control of the assets of the former Irrigation Trusts (except for the First Mildura Irrigation Trust) and responsibility for the management of future irrigation works. Elwood Mead took control of the irrigation vision when he was appointed SRWSC chairman in 1907. Under the advice of Mead, the 1909 *Water Act*, an amendment of the 1905 Act, introduced a compulsory water charge 'to make men learn how to use it properly', especially those 'decrying irrigation... who are not irrigating or paying their fair share of the cost of irrigation works'.⁸³ Irrigation settlements were subsequently established under the *Murray Settlements Act* at White Cliffs (Merbein) in 1909. In 1918, A. S. Kenyon was asked to report on land settlement for the dried fruits industry, needed for the placement of former soldiers. He recommended the development of Red Cliffs, the extension of Merbein, and the establishment of what was to become the Robinvale Irrigation District, all on the Murray River, and was placed in charge of developing the Red Cliffs District.

⁸¹ Ibid., 48.

⁸² This information has been taken from Westcott, *Chaffey, George (1948-1932)*; *Chaffey, William Benjamin (1856-1926)*.

⁸³ Mead, *Policy to Be Followed in Irrigation Development No. 2*, 4, 15.

Concerns of the effects of irrigation by Victoria and New South Wales on navigation of the Murray eventually resulted in a Royal Commission and Interstate Conference of Engineers in 1913. From as early as the 1860s, the River Murray had been the subject of inquiries and commissions relating to its use for navigation and other purposes, particularly to ensure that South Australia received guaranteed minimum flows throughout the year. The severe drought that extended from 1895 to 1902 and Federation of the Australian colonies in 1901 facilitated moves to develop joint control of River Murray waters. The situation was aggravated in 1914 and 1915 when a severe drought combined with the taking of water for irrigation resulted in the Murray ceasing to flow altogether. The water level at Psyche Bend was too low for pumping so an unauthorised temporary barrage was built across the river. Angry settlers from Merbein attempted to breach the dam until SRWSC engineer J. S. Dethridge gave instructions for another weir to be constructed at Merbein and both places be put on restrictions. Water from the river at this time was so high in salt levels that citrus orchards died.⁸⁴

The Mildura and District Research Committee was appointed in 1917 to undertake research into the fungus disease black spot which, with heavy rains in 1917, had affected local vineyards. Funded by a levy on growers, in 1918 the committee's objectives were widened to include research on the treatment of salt affected land, dipping of sultana grapes, manurial, spacing and rootstock trials with vines, and further investigation into fungus diseases. In 1919, the SRWSC offered the committee a farm site at Merbein on which to undertake experiments with the Commonwealth Advisory Council of Science and Industry subsidising the work. In the same year, the Mildura Vineyards Protection Board took over the farm site and laboratory to form the Merbein Viticultural Research Station. In 1927, the Merbein Station was redesignated the Commonwealth Research Station, Murray Irrigation Areas, and in 1967 was reconstituted the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) Division of Horticultural Research.⁸⁵

In 1917, the River Murray Waters Agreement ratified joint control of the river by Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia and the establishment of the River Murray Commission. The Commission's prime task was the regulation of the main stream of the Murray to ensure that each of the three riparian states, and especially South Australia, received their agreed shares of the Murray's water. The main provisions in the first Agreement for the regulation of the River Murray were the construction of a storage on the upper Murray, the construction of a storage at Lake Victoria, the construction of 26 weirs and locks on the Murray between Blanchetown in South Australia and Echuca in Victoria, and the construction of nine weirs and locks on the lower part of either the Darling or Murrumbidgee Rivers (the Murrumbidgee was selected). The Hume and Dartmouth Dams were built, as were 13 locks and weirs between Blanchetown and Torrumbarry, the Lake Victoria storage, the Maude and Redbank Weirs on the Murrumbidgee, and the Barrages at the Murray Mouth. No. 11 Lock and a removable weir to allow for navigation was designed by engineer J. S. Dethridge of the SRWSC and built at Mildura in 1926-8.

Away from the Murray, in 1944 Reuben Forsyth installed a Pomana pump in the Murrayville district to supply irrigation water. Irrigation from underground bores was trialled in 1959 at Pomona Experimental Farm established by Fred Bethune at Danyo near Murrayville. Eight twelve inch bores, each operated by a 150 horsepower engine, watered 2,000 acres of pastures, lucerne, fruit trees and vines. Two gauging bores recorded water levels and the interpretation of the results indicated that one acre in four in the region could be watered by the equivalent of 30 inches per year without affecting underground supplies. As a consequence, a number of farmers in the Murrayville region established small irrigation plots on their farms. The Pomana Experimental Farm closed in 1973.⁸⁶

Engineer Lewis Ronald East in his role of SRWSC chairman over the period 1936-65 affected a threefold increase of water storages and doubled the area of land irrigated in Victoria. By

⁸⁴ Wells, *Paddle Steamers to Cornucopia: The Renmark-Mildura Experiment of 1887*, 246.

⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, 205-11.

⁸⁶ Lindner, *Murrayville 1910-2007*, 26-8.

1954, 87 miles of sub-surface drains and five miles of open drains were in operation in the Red Cliffs irrigation district. By this stage, Red Cliffs comprised 31,000 acres of which 11,561 acres were irrigated via a pumping plant capable of delivering 500 acre-feet of water per day. In the same year, Merbein Irrigation Settlement comprised 10,526 acres, of which 8,432 acres were irrigated by three centrifugal pumps pumping 300 acre-feet of water per day from the River Murray.⁸⁷

The River Murray Commission investigated the construction of a dam on the River Murray at Chowilla in 1962. If built, the dam would have backed water up the River almost to Wentworth, inundating large areas of private and public land in the study area. The scheme was abandoned in favour of the Dartmouth Dam opened on the Mitta Mitta River in 1980.⁸⁸

In the early 1900s, members of the Mildura First Irrigation Trust had instigated their own program of removing saline water, which had appeared within the first few years of irrigation, by sinking bore shafts to where salty water was drained into underground sands. By the 1930s, with the support of Kenyon, irrigation farmers in the Mildura district were demanding proper drainage systems. From 1932, the SRWSC established sub-surface drainage pipes to prevent water logging and salinity at Red Cliffs, Merbein and Mildura. It was the largest Commonwealth unemployment project at the time, costing £1,100,000 (subsidised by each local orchardist who contribute £5 per acre) and employing 400 men.

However, by the 1960s ongoing related problems of soil compaction, waterlogging, salinity and soil acidity were affecting the productivity of both irrigated and dryland farming. In the late 1960s, the most significant salinity issue for horticulturalists in the Sunraysia region was the poor quality of the River Murray waters impacted on by upstream users. The River Murray Commission conducted salinity investigations in the Murray Valley, and in 1982 a further amendment of the River Murray Waters Agreement broadened the Commission's role to take account of water quality issues in its water management responsibilities. As a consequence, in the early 1980s the SRWSC commenced work on a series of salt-interception schemes on the lower reaches of the River Murray, including the Mildura-Merbein interception scheme and the Lake Hawthorne scheme at Mildura.⁸⁹ It was recognised that the River Murray Waters Agreement and the River Murray Commission were increasingly unable to meet the needs of the Basin's management and its growing resource and environmental problems and that critical issues were no longer confined within distinct jurisdictions, but extended across state boundaries. As a consequence, the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement was established in 1987.⁹⁰ In December 2008, the Murray-Darling Basin Authority assumed responsibility for the functions of the Murray-Darling Basin Commission.

In 1984, the Victorian Rural Water Commission was established to operate and maintain most of the state's water supply system, including storages and watercourses. The 1989 *Water Act* enabled the permanent or temporary trading of water rights separately from the land to which it was attached. In 1992, with the establishment of the Rural Water Corporation, regions were consolidated and greater local management powers given to Regional Management Boards. Five rural water authorities were created in 1994. Those responsible for the study are Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water and Lower Murray Urban and Rural Water, which took control of the 113-year old First Mildura Trust in 2008.

New farming methods aided by technology established to address salinity have ensured that irrigated agriculture remains an economic mainstay of the Rural City. Water tables have dropped with the continuing drought, however communities and the country itself continue to experience significant challenges because of the effects of continuing dry conditions exacerbated

⁸⁷ Brown, *Irrigation and Water Supply Development in Victoria*, 30.

⁸⁸ *Mallee Area Review*, 89.

⁸⁹ Peter Russ, *The Salt Traders: A History of Salinity in Victoria* (East Melbourne: The Department of Premier and Cabinet, 1995), 160.

⁹⁰ Based on *A Brief History of the Murray-Darling Basin Agreement*, (Murray-Darling Basin Commission, 2006 [cited 16 February 2009]); available from http://www.mdbc.gov.au/about/history_mdbc.

by hydrological patterns fundamentally altered by over 160 years of white settlement, and the trading of water rights away from the region. The current low water quality in local streams and rivers evidences the impacts of historical land and water management practices.

7 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

7.1 Tracks, roads and bridges

The first roads were laid down by Aboriginal peoples. One of the better-known tracks, known as 'the blackfellow's route', ran from Hattah Lakes to Pine Plains.⁹¹ The reputation of the Murray River Sydney to Adelaide overland route as the 'great high road of the interior' was sealed with publicity of Hawdon and Bonney's, Eyre's and Sturt's 1838 journeys. The intensive use of the River Murray track to drive stock led to hostile clashes between Aborigines and overlanders.

Later tracks overlaid Aboriginal pathways as stock and workers on Mallee sheep and cattle runs moved between the front (river) country and backcountry. Goldseekers made intensive use of the River Murray route as they travelled from Adelaide to the central Victorian goldfields from 1851.

At the request of Governor Charles La Trobe who wished to visit the Mallee to judge its 'real character', E. H. White undertook survey work from July 1851 for a road from Lake Hindmarsh to the Murray that was closely aligned to the 142nd meridian.⁹²

By 1888, regular services that combined road coach with steamer and rail travel operated to Mildura. These services comprised travel by rail to Echuca from Melbourne then steamer to Mildura; Melbourne to Kerang by rail then Cobb and Co. coach to Swan Hill on to Euston then Mildura; rail from Adelaide to Morgan then steamer to Mildura via Wentworth; and Sydney to Hay by rail then coach to Balranald then coach to Mildura. Coaches conveyed the Royal Mail and passengers direct to Mildura from Swan Hill from 1899.

Disputes over whether the Chaffey brothers or the Mildura shire council controlled roads dominated council meetings in the early 1890s. In addition, road building in the Mallee proved a challenge. Roads were surveyed, but because of shifting sandhills their actual construction often took different routes to those delineated on paper. Built on cleared land, road surfaces tended to blow away or become buried in sand. Roads that followed the natural orientation of east-west dunes were found to have fewer problems. At a meeting in Ouyen in the early 1930s to discuss the problem of sand drift, the cooperation of farmers was sought to keep roads passable.

In opening up the northern Mallee from 1910, the SRWSC cleared and grubbed over 6,000 miles of roads and made more than 200 sandhills passable by surfacing sandy ridges with local limestone.⁹³ This work included the provision of a road north from Ouyen through the Hattah sandhills to Mildura. In 1921, a local newspaper reported that a motorbike and sidecar had made history by covering the 90 miles from Ouyen to Mildura, a feat never attempted before because the road between Ouyen and Carwarp was mostly a sand track. In 1922, the Country Roads Board (CRB) commenced a comprehensive program of road works in northern Victorian shires. In 1927, a bridge over the River Murray at Mildura opened, and in 1928 a bridge connected the Victorian Calder Highway (named in 1929) to Wentworth in New South Wales. Up until this year, a punt forded the Murray opposite the busy Wentworth port at a place known as the 'Cowana' paddock.

Fourteen 'developmental' roads were declared in the Millewa in 1927. In 1928, £6,000 was provided under the Federal Roads Act to extend and metal part of the Murray Valley road (now the Sturt Highway). By 1930, the Renmark-Mildura track via Lake Cullulleraine was in regular use by motor vehicles. A track from Murrayville to Nhill was cleared in 1931. A road from Hattah through Carwarp and Yatpool to Merbein and Abbotsford Bridge was finished in

⁹¹ Based on Ibid.

⁹² Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 38.

⁹³ East, "Water in the Mallee," 193.

1930. Yet, because of poor road conditions, it was still beyond the means of the average motorist to drive from Melbourne to Mildura. With an influx of returned servicemen after World War Two, the CRB ensured that the Calder Highway was sealed from Melbourne to Ouyen to coincide with Queen Elizabeth's visit in 1954. By 1960, the Calder had been sealed all the way to Mildura.⁹⁴ After commencing the sealing and changes to the Mallee Highway from Ouyen in 1955 (first cleared in 1913), the last section between Underbool to Boinka was sealed in 1965-6 and is now used as a main Adelaide to Sydney route.

7.2 River trade

Navigation along the Murray River commenced with Aboriginal people working the river in bark canoes, a practice taken up by squatters who used the same vehicles to transport people, livestock and wool along the river.

Riverboats played a significant role in the development of the northern Mallee. In August 1850, the South Australian government promised a bonus of £4,000 to the first two iron steam boats of not less than 40 horsepower and not exceeding two feet of laden draught to navigate the Murray River to the Darling junction. In 1853, brothers William and Thomas Randell navigated their paddle steamer 'Mary Ann' from South Australia to Swan Hill, with Francis Cadell in the 'Lady Augusta' with a crew including three Aboriginal people to offer navigational advice, close at hand. Both parties subsequently competed for the river trade, and in 1859, one, or possibly both boats landed cargo at the junction of the Murray and Darling Rivers at the settlement of Wentworth.⁹⁵ Cadell was induced to form the River Murray Navigation Company by the South Australian Legislative Council to deliver goods to Victoria's burgeoning goldfields. Squatters in the study area relied on ports of entry and clearance declared under the *Customs Act* of 1857 at Cowana, Narrung, Swan Hill and Echuca for supplies of flour, sugar and tea, and to export livestock and wool. The Port of Cowana was renamed the Port of Mildura and moved to that township in 1888. New brick port offices opened for business on Orange Avenue in 1891 and a wharf was constructed in 1892. A breakdown of goods into Victoria via the River Murray in 1893 indicates that wool constituted the principal import, and that dried fruit and wood made up some of the chief exports. Over the period 1889 to 1901 the customs duties collected at Mildura increased from £73 in 1888, to £4,518 in 1899, and then declined to £2,564 in 1901.⁹⁶

The Mildura Customs House closed five days after the railway arrived in Mildura on 27 October 1903, and the Mildura port closed in 1907, however boats transporting timber continued to ply the river until the 1950s. Today some continue to operate as tourism ventures.

7.3 Railways

In 1895, the Railways Standing Committee considered the question of extending railways into the Mallee. The Mallee lines built to 1898 had 'more than paid their way' according to the Railways Commissioner giving evidence to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways investigating the connection of Mildura to the existing rail network. 'This wheat traffic from the Mallee is a traffic that the more we get the better we like it', he wrote.⁹⁷ The lobbying for a railway line between Mildura and Melbourne intensified after a line was opened to Swan Hill in 1890 and low river levels over the drought years of 1895-1902 stopped shipping on the Murray. The route of the proposed Mildura railway pre-occupied the Standing Committee until late in 1898 after the Boort line had been extended to Quambatook and was

⁹⁴ Howard Carr, *The Calder Highway Melbourne to Mildura: Opening the Victorian Inland* (n.p.: Howard A. Carr, 2006), 101-2.

⁹⁵ Wells, *Paddle Steamers to Cornucopia: The Renmark-Mildura Experiment of 1887*, 19.

⁹⁶ *Ibid.*, 269, 75-8.

⁹⁷ *Final Report from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Railways on the Question of Further Extension of Railways into the Mallee Districts*, *op. cit.*, p. xiv.

on its way to Ultima. A favoured route commenced at this point and headed northwest through the Mallee almost in a direct line with Mildura. Its advantages included traversing the settled country north of Ultima and resumed land at Waitchie. It represented the shortest route to the seaboard and also avoided what the Railways termed 'water competition'. The Committee adopted this route in its recommendations and proposed that the cost of construction not exceed £2,000 per mile and that the line be ballasted with sand and unfenced using second hand rails. In the event, however, the Mildura railway was built as an extension of the Birchip line to the west and the eastern Mallee was cut up into corridors approximately 30 miles wide with a railway running down the centre (see Figure 20). The line opened on 27 October 1903.

The construction of the Ouyen-Murrayville line, planned to open up 750,000 acres of land for settlement, commenced in 1909 in Ouyen, reached Underbool in late 1910, Linga early 1911, and Murrayville in 1912 (see Figures 19 and 20). At the time, it was the only railway line constructed ahead of settlement. The Border Railways Commission of 1910 recommended the extension of the line to connect Murrayville with Pinnaroo in South Australia. The line was subsequently built and finished in 1915. These lines were built on the 'butty gang' system wherein the Railway Construction Branch of the Board of Land and Works employed people directly to do the work. This system was to prevail from 1 January 1892 and resulted in significant economies over the previous method of calling tenders for the construction of lines in sections.⁹⁸ Houses to accommodate railway workers were built at Underbool, Linga, Boinka and Torrita.

Figure 19: Walpeup Railway Station, 1914.



Source: Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria

In 1915, A. S. Kenyon SRWSC engineer-in-charge of the North-West Mallee reported on the successful settlement of six million acres of the Mallee. Of the remaining five million acres, Kenyon estimated that only two million were 'fit for the plough' with their 'subjugation'

⁹⁸ Kenyon, *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria 18 March 1912*, 9.

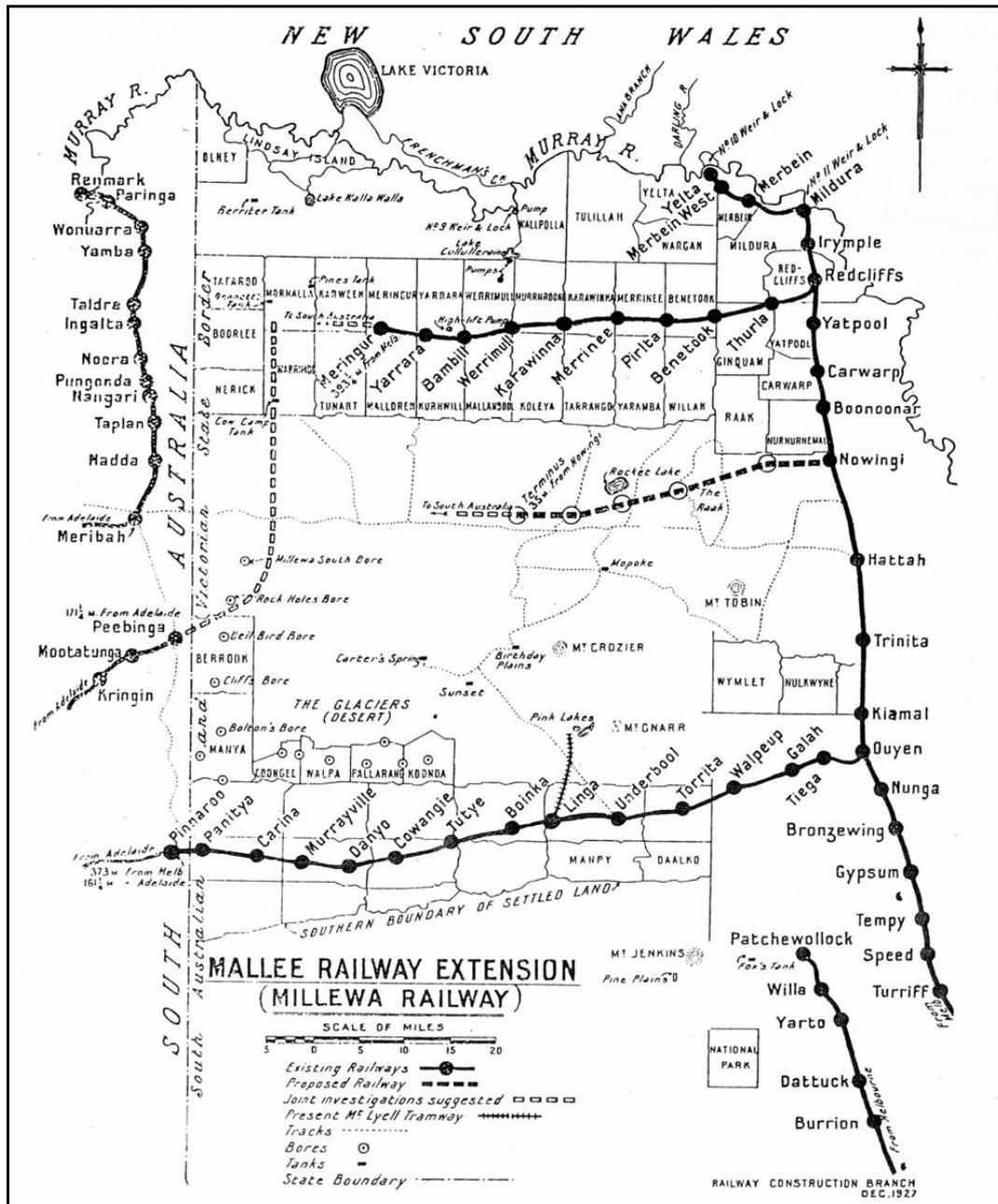
dependent on the construction of over two hundred miles of new railway lines.⁹⁹ The construction of railways thus continued. In 1919 the Nandally to Mittyack line opened and was extended to Kulwin in 1920. Lines were opened from Red Cliffs to Werrimul in 1924, Merbein to Yelta in 1925, Werrimul to Meringur in 1925, and Meringur to Morkalla in 1931 (see Figure 20).

A line from Nowingi towards Millewa South was commenced in 1928 to open up further land for settlement (see Figure 20). After 24 miles of line were constructed, the scheme was called into question and the building of the railway was abandoned later in the same year. A gypsum siding had been established near the sixteen-mile mark at Rocket Lake and in later years, the Victoria Railways dismantled the line back to the gypsum loading site and rented the line to Brunswick Plaster Mills, later CSR Ltd.¹⁰⁰ Evidence of the Nowingi-Rocket Lake railway formation remains.

⁹⁹ Ibid., 92.

¹⁰⁰ Mark Bau, *VR Timeline* (n.d. [cited 2 March 2009]); available from <http://www.victorianrailways.net/vr%20history/history.html>.

Figure 20: Mallee railways, 1927.



Source: Andrew C. Ward, *The Desert Blooms: An Account of the Physical Development of the City and Shire of Mildura*, 63.

Rail services have been reduced over time. In 1964, the Meringur to Morkalla line closed. The Mildura to Merbein and Ouyen to Pinaroo passenger services ceased to operate in 1967 and 1968 respectively. After 1971, lines were operated on an 'as required' basis. Many were declared unviable and dismantling of lines and buildings have occurred. In 1987, the Underbool railway station was demolished. The Red Cliffs to Meringur line closed in 1988. Passenger services from Melbourne to Mildura finished in 1993, although there are plans to reopen them.

7.4 Postal and telecommunications

In 1870, a mail service opened to link the Mallee runs with Swan Hill.¹⁰¹ Another early postal services was operated by Hugh O'Sullivan who lived with his parents at Albacutya Station. Hugh commenced a mail run in 1883 when he was fourteen. He rode the bullock track from Dimboola (the nearest railhead) to deliver mail to stations at Kow Plains, Pine Plains and Albacutya. Participants in the Wild Dog Mail Trail walk trekked the route of the mail run between Pine Plains and Kow Plains in April 2009.

A post and telegraph office was opened at Mildura in January 1888. The Euston-Wentworth mail run operated by the New South Wales Postal Department also delivered the Mildura mail. In December 1897, the first delivery of Melbourne mail via road to the Mildura Post Office took place.¹⁰² Post offices were established elsewhere as the Mallee country was settled under a series of Land Acts (see Table 2). Some of these, such as the Murrabit Post Office built in 1926 (see Figure 21) continue to provide postal services today.

The first telegraph wire from Mildura went to Wentworth where it joined the line to Broken Hill. In 1902, a telegraph line opened to link Hattah and Woomelang to Mildura. In 1905, the Mildura and Irymple post offices were connected by phone. By August 1911, the Railway Department had connected a telephone wire, for railway use only, from Ouyen to Murrayville. In 1914, telephone wires were connected to settlements on the route. From 1911, mails were sorted at the same stations.

The growth and demise of smaller settlements can be traced through their postal history. Table 2 details the operation dates of post offices in the former Shire of Walpeup.

¹⁰¹ Ward, *The Desert Blooms: An Account of the Physical Development of the City and Shire of Mildura*, 24.

¹⁰² Parsons, *Where the Mallee Meets the Murray: A Centenary History of the Shire of Mildura*, 115, 17.

Figure 21: Murrayville Post Office, 2011.



Source: Context.

Table 2: Post offices in the former Shire of Walpeup

Post office name	Years of operation
Boulka	1921-?
Bronzewing	1921-67
Cramerton	1924-69
Galah	1911-76
Galah North	1925-7
Gypsum Siding	1922-40
Kiamal	1917-80
Nunga	1914-67
Panitya	1916-26
Panitya East	1910-33
Sunset	1921-48
Tiega	1911-61
Timberoo and Timberoo South	1913-33
Trinita	1925-36
Wymlet	1912-63

8 GOVERNING

The border between South Australia and Victoria was to have been surveyed along the 141st meridian of longitude. However, through a series of miscalculations the line was originally positioned 3.6 kilometres further to the west. Lines of longitude were difficult to calculate in the 1850s because long distances travelled were measured off by chains which need to be gradually adjusted to compensate for the lines of longitude drawing closer together as one moves away from the equator. In surveying the Victoria-South Australia border, the two methods used to record longitude gave differing results so an average distance was chosen. To further complicate the issue, no adjustment was made to the chains to allow for the distance south of the Equator. The error in calculating the line of longitude was suspected in 1868 and confirmed in 1883. The boundary was disputed by the South Australian and Victorian governments and the matter was taken to the High Court of Australia in 1911. The issue was finally settled in 1914, when the Privy Council upheld the ruling in favour of Victoria. Because of this decision, the western boundaries of Victoria and New South Wales do not meet. The New South Wales border is set at 141° east, leaving a section of boundary between Victoria and South Australia that is undefined along the River Murray, measuring 3.6 kilometres from east to west.¹⁰³

8.1 Roads Boards

The Swan Hill Road District, based at Kerang, was proclaimed on 24 June, 1862 and covered an area of over two million acres of land which supported a population of 470. On 31 March 1863, the District's borders were enlarged, and on 28 December 1864, the western boundary was extended to take in the Mallee to the South Australian border. The Swan Hill Road District then took in 15,000 square miles, nearly one fifth of the entire colony. The Swan Hill Roads Board, amongst other duties, had the responsibility of laying out the road network, controlling thistles, grubbing tree stumps and constructing crossings over watercourses.

8.2 Municipalities

The Shire of Swan Hill, the same area of 15,000 square miles that formed the Roads Board District, was proclaimed on 14 August 1871 and, because of the town's central location by comparison with Swan Hill, continued to be based in Kerang.

Settlers in the Mildura irrigation colony formed a progress committee (later the Mildura Settlers Association) in 1888 to seek severance from the shire of Swan Hill. On 10 January 1890 the Mildura Shire was created through the severing of the northwest portion of the Lower Murray Riding. Timber council premises were opened in 1890 and a new municipal building was erected in 1902. The Shire Hall was enlarged in the same year.

To serve the specific needs of the town of Mildura, the Borough of Mildura was proclaimed on May 18, 1920 and became the City of Mildura on 28 March 1934. Parts of the Sandilong and Lake Ridings were annexed to the City on 1 October 1971.

The Shire of Walpeup, proclaimed by an Act of Parliament on 1 October 1911, covered an area of 4,233 square miles. It was created out of parts of the Shires of Mildura, Swan Hill, Lawloit, Lowan, Dimboola and Karkaroc to serve the needs of settlers who had moved to the area after land was opened up with the building of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway 1909-1912. The Shire was divided into two ridings based on the type of available water supply; bores supplied the West Riding and tanks and dams supplied the East Riding. Municipal offices were built in Ouyen in 1918 and meetings were held alternatively between Ouyen and Murrayville,

¹⁰³ *Border Histories*, (Australian Government Geoscience Australia, 2008 [cited 5 February 2009]); available from <http://www.ga.gov.au/education/geoscience-basics/dimensions/state-territory-borders.jsp#history>.

where Shire offices were built in 1917. The Walpeup Shire was divided into four ridings in 1918: Walpeup, Ouyen, Murrayville and Underbool.¹⁰⁴ Because of falling population numbers, in 1988 the Shire was again divided into two ridings.

On 20 January 1995, the Shires of Walpeup and Mildura and the City of Mildura were abolished and amalgamated to form the Rural City of Mildura.

8.3 Law and order

The Cowana Bend Police Station and Court of Petty Sessions was created as part of the Swan Hill Police District in 1858. In 1889, a Court of Petty Sessions was opened in Mildura and a courthouse opened in 1893.

The first police stations were established in tents in Ouyen in 1910 and in Murrayville in 1914. A weatherboard police station opened in Murrayville in 1915, the same year a courthouse and lock up were established (see Figure 22). Timber lock ups were in use in most of the larger settlements in the Rural City.

Figure 22: Murrayville Courthouse, 2011.



Source: Context.

¹⁰⁴ Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 13.

9 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS¹⁰⁵

First settlers built homes, outbuildings and stores of locally available materials. Early houses were built of hessian bags, mallee roots, or tin with brush roofs. In the Mallee, sleeping quarters were constructed underground and later converted to cellars. Other dwellings consisted of crude log cabins made windproof with clay, hessian-lined drop log cabins, wattle and daub constructions, and mud brick. As finances allowed, walls were lined with cardboard, pressed steel (Wunderlich), pine boarding and sheet plaster. Limestone was used in the construction of buildings in the west of the study area, many of which reflect the architecture of German settlers from South Australia (see Figure 23). The original township of Red Cliffs in 1920-22 comprised canvas structures, and settlers at Millewa in the 1920s lived in houses clad in asbestos cement sheet.¹⁰⁶

Figure 23: *Bush Nurse Cottage, Cowangie.*



Source: Context, 2011

9.1 River towns

Yelta

Part of the original Cowra lease was reserved as the township of Yelta by 1852 to serve the Aboriginal mission of the same name. Another site was chosen at a ferry crossing near the junction of the Murray and the Darling on an excised portion of the Cowana run. In 1870, the township of Yelta was proclaimed and surveyed in 1880 into 72 building lots and police, customs and hotel reserves. Overshadowed by the growth of Wentworth, the township never prospered and was absorbed as part of the Mildura colony established by the Chaffey brothers in 1886.

9.2 Agricultural towns

Cullulleraine

Cullulleraine was surveyed as a railway town when the Millewa region was opened for settlement in the 1924. Situated at Lake Cullulleraine on the Sturt Highway between Mildura

¹⁰⁵ Descriptions of some towns are based on details in

¹⁰⁶ Ward, *The Desert Blooms: An Account of the Physical Development of the City and Shire of Mildura*, 69.

& Renmark, it served the needs of over 300 workers and their families involved in the construction of channels and nearby Lock 9 on the River Murray. It was also the site of the SRWSC main pumping station to supply water to the Millewa. The Cullulleraine area today supports vineyards and almond plantations irrigated from the River Murray and dryland grain growing.¹⁰⁷

9.3 Railway towns

Boinka

Settlers arrived in the district in 1911 and camped at Campbell's tank located on what was to become the Boinka township site. The town bore was sunk in 1912 and the first store opened in a tent. Boinka township allotments were sold in 1912 and a post office opened in the same year and closed in 1975. Over the next few years, a plumber, a coffee palace, boarding houses, a draper, a butcher, a grocery, blacksmiths, a Bank of Victoria, and a saddler were established. A hall was built in 1913. In the early 1920s, a Presbyterian church was erected. The town featured a sportsground and tennis courts.¹⁰⁸

Today, the community uses the school, now the Boinka Community Centre, as a meeting place.

Cowangie

Cowangie (also named Cow Plains, Kow Plains and Copi) was surveyed on land that once formed part of Kow Plains station. The town was established on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line in 1912. In the same year, the first town buildings were constructed along the main street, Dayman Street. A general store and bakery opened in 1912. The Kow Plains Sports Club opened ca. 1913. In 1918, a Commercial Bank agency was established. A sly grog shop named the Black Bull operated in bushland to the east. A hall built in 1913 was replaced by the Cowangie Soldiers Memorial Hall in 1924. The hall has been recently refurbished and hosts a number of community events including the showing of films. The local church, built as a Methodist church in 1926, continues to be used by local parishioners.

Danyo

A railway catchment dam was constructed at Danyo in 1912 to provide water to trains on the Ouyen-Murrayville line. A post office and the Pioneer Store opened in 1912. A hall was built in 1914 and used for school, church and social events.¹⁰⁹

Linga

The Ouyen-Pinaroo railway reached Linga in 1911 and in this year a town bore was sunk. A post office opened in 1912 and closed in 1975. A school opened in 1913. A hall built in the same year was demolished in 1971. Other services provided by the township included stores, a billiard saloon, a coffee palace, a post office, a bank agency and a stock and station agency. From 1916, salt was harvested commercially from the nearby Pink Lakes and transported to the Linga Railway Station via camel teams from 1922 through to the 1940s. A narrow gauge light rail to transport salt from Lake Becking opened in 1923 but closed in 1929. Concrete wheat silos were built in 1938 and a steel silo constructed in the 1970s. Linga remains a delivery point for grain.

¹⁰⁷ History supplied by Margaret Kelly.

¹⁰⁸ Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 40-1.

¹⁰⁹ Lindner, *Murrayville 1910-2007*, 234.

Meringur

With the opening of the Millewa region in 1924, Meringur was surveyed in the same year as a railway town. A school, hall, church, theatre and various stores were established over the 1920s. In 1940, a state school, post office, church, hall and stores were in operation. In 1986, the Meringur community created the Millewa Pioneer Park, a museum that displays the lifestyles of early settlers. In addition, 500 indigenous trees have been planted, each with a plaque documenting the histories of pioneering families. The Millewa Interpretive Centre displays large boards with information on local flora and fauna.¹¹⁰

Murrayville

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named after the Premier of Victoria at the time, John Murray. By 1911, the township comprised a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber and a lime kiln. The Murrayville Institute opened in 1911. The town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen opened in 1912. In this year, the Murrayville Hotel opened. By 1916, two banks were in operation. A new post office building was erected in 1926. The Murrayville Power House was built in 1928. Bore water was supplied to the township from 1929. A number of halls served the township including the Masonic hall, the Institute hall and the privately owned Austral Hall; a public hall opened in 1957.

Murrayville is promoted as the gateway to the Victorian outback. It continues to service its hinterland's population who are involved in the farming of grain and sheep as well as the growing of olives and potatoes watered by bores.

Figure 24: McKenzie Street, Murrayville, 2011.



Source: Context.

Ouyen

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in the main business centre being established on the eastern side of that street, a low-lying area that was flood prone. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding, ca. 1910 the town's main business area relocated to higher ground at its present-day site in Oke Street. In the same year, Ouyen Primary School opened. A courthouse

¹¹⁰ History supplied by Margaret Kelly

opened in 1914 and 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site near the Temperance Hotel (built in 1910). A brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968. Over the years a series of fires destroyed many of Ouyen's buildings.

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Local History and Genealogical Centre which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Figure 25: Oke Street, Ouyen, 2011.



Source: Context.

Panitya

The sale of Panitya township allotments took place in 1910 at No. 1 Bore. Two halls were built: No. 1 (Carina) Hall located at No. 1 Bore and No. 2 Hall located at Panitya No. 2 Bore. No. 1 Hall was opened in 1911 and a school opened in the hall in 1916. The hall is believed to have closed c1945.¹¹¹

Torritya

Originally called Nyang, the town's name was changed to Torritya in 1922. The first township sales took place in 1913. One of the first businesses, a store, began operation in the railway goods shed in 1913. A school opened in 1914 in the public hall built in the same year. A government school was built in 1920 and closed in 1969. In 1979, it was moved to Walpeup Primary School. A new hall was constructed in 1935. A channel from the Wimmera Water Supply System delivered water to the township in 1930. In 1966, the Torritya Methodist Church relocated the Berriwillock church building to Torritya. The church building was opened in 1967 and moved to Ouyen in 1990.¹¹² The store and post office closed in 1979. The hall continues to be used by the Torritya community.

¹¹¹ Lindner, *Murrayville 1910-2007*, 225-7.

¹¹² Lynch, Willmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torritya, Linga, Boinka*, 77, Jill Nickolls and Ann Angel, *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee* (South Australia: Jill Nickolls and Ann Angel, n.d.), 92.

Tutye

The Tutye district was opened for selection in 1911 and in the same year the township was established on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line. A general store opened in 1914 and closed in 1970. The town housed several businesses including a blacksmith shop, boot repairer, bank agency, boarding house and telephone exchange. A school opened in the town hall in 1913. Tutye also supported a croquet club, golf club, tennis club and racecourse. In 1953-4, a processing plant for crude plaster of Paris was established.¹¹³

Figure 26: Tutye township, 2011.



Source: Context.

Underbool

Underbool was surveyed as a railway township when the line opened in 1910. Under the 1901 *Land Act*, blocks of 600-700 acres were offered for sale to be paid off over 40 years. Demand was so strong that there were reportedly ten applicants for every block offered. The first store operated from a tent in the railway yard in 1911 and a hall was erected in 1913 in which a school opened the same year. As the town grew, other buildings were erected along Cotter, Malkin and Mossop Streets. By 1920, blacksmiths, a drapery store, a bakery, a butcher, a billiard room, boarding houses, a general store, a police station, a plumber, a bush nursing hospital and a post office were in operation.¹¹⁴ A hotel was built in 1926. The Underbool Women's Section of the Victorian Farmers' Union raised money to build a meeting room, which opened as the Country Party Room in 1924. Artesian water in the district was too brackish for human consumption and water from Hattah Lakes was delivered to farmers by train until a channel delivering water from the Wimmera River came into operation in 1930. The channel fed two government dams and a swimming lake. In 1941 and 1968, the lake was converted into two town reservoirs; the first provided a reticulated water supply to the town. A swimming pool opened in 1978.¹¹⁵

Today, a hotel continues to operate at Underbool. Our Lady of the Fatima Catholic Church and the Uniting Anglican Church hold services. The township's water is now supplied by a pipeline from the River Murray.

¹¹³ Nickolls and Angel, *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, 89.

¹¹⁴ Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 29-36.

¹¹⁵ *Ibid.*, passim.

Figure 27: Underbool General Store, 2011.



Source: Context.

Walpeup

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. In 1914 a one roomed wooden building was built in Glen Street (present school site)¹¹⁶. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912. Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.¹¹⁷

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Figure 28: Mallee Highway, Walpeup, 2011.



Source: Context

¹¹⁶ *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka.*

¹¹⁷ Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*, passim.

Werrimull

Werrimull was settled in 1925 as the Millewa was settled from 1924. In 1940, the town was supported by regular train services and housed several stores, churches, hotel, bush nursing hospital, and SRWSC offices. As the population of the district declined, especially after reallocation to increase the size of farms in 1949, Werrimull survived as the main township. This was due in part to its central location and it being the home of government departments. It was also chosen as the site for a consolidated school as the smaller schools closed. Today it has the area's only school (P-12), and a preschool. It is the centre for the DSE and Parks Victoria. The hotel, post office and engineering works still operate and there are two grain receival sites. In 2009, twenty houses remained, eight of them empty.¹¹⁸

9.4 Closer settlement towns

Irymple

The Irymple irrigation settlement of 12,000 acres was surveyed as part of the Mildura settlement in 1892 around a tank on the former Irymple run. Settlers began clearing and planting the land in the same year and a public hall was built in 1893, however the economic depression stalled progress later in that year. A railway station opened in the town when the Mildura line went through in 1903. A hall opened in 1908. By 1940, Irymple comprised a post office, two state schools, three churches, a savings bank, four fruit packing factories, distillery and stores.

Merbein (White Cliffs)

Merbein, firstly known as White Cliffs, was named after the white cliffs of the River Murray where it is located. Some planting of fruit trees took place from 1894, however it was the subdivision of 120 square miles into blocks irrigated by water pumped from the Murray and opened in 1909 for closer settlement, initially for dairying, that facilitated the growth of the settlement, renamed Merbein. A railway built in 1910 linked the town with Mildura. In 1910, 60 blocks remained unsold. In 1917, Birdwoodton was established as a soldier settlement. A brick post office and St Johns Church of England were built in 1921. By 1940, 6,000 acres of fruit were under irrigation. In the same year, Merbein housed a savings bank, state school, hotel, picture theatre, hall, three churches, police station, court of petty sessions, a SRWSC office, distillery and three fruit packing factories. The area experienced a further boost with the influx of World War Two migrants. Today the Merbein district produces citrus, wine grapes and dried fruits.

Mildura

The original site for the township of Mildura was chosen by George Chaffey in 1886 on the pre-emptive right of the Mildura run. However, in August 1887 another site upstream was surveyed. Early plans indicate that Mildura's riverfront was intended for commercial use with a 'better class' residential section situated at the far end of Deakin Avenue on the former Irymple run. Most settlers though took up residence near the river, initially in tents, for the steamers were the only means of transport in and out of the isolated irrigation colony.¹¹⁹ The Chaffey's laid out Mildura using the planning principles employed in the towns of the Californian irrigation colonies where they had earlier worked (see Figure 29). Some street names were imported from California and streets lined with trees including Moreton Bay figs planted along Deakin Avenue in 1889 (replaced with peppercorn trees in 1895) and trees, including Sugar Gums, planted in 1900 in the block bounded by Eighth, Ninth, Madden and Deakin Streets. The first auction of town land was held in 1890. Work began on the Mildura Refrigerating Works in 1890 and a new school opened in Magnolia Avenue in the same year. Public

¹¹⁸ History provided by Heather Yates.

¹¹⁹ Parsons, *Where the Mallee Meets the Murray: A Centenary History of the Shire of Mildura*, 14.

Cliffs in 1923. By 1940, 12,000 acres of vines and citrus fruits were being irrigated. In the same year, the township comprised a post office, six churches, a SRWSC office, three banks, general stores, picture theatres, two state schools, police station, court house, hotel and public baths.

The settlement today has developed from its dried fruit beginnings into diverse horticulture enterprises, predominantly wine plantings.

10 INDUSTRY

Agriculture (including horticulture), along with forestry and fishing, is the largest employer in the Mallee region, employing 23 percent of the workforce.¹²⁰

10.1 Dryland agriculture

Wheat growing has been a mainstay of the Rural City's economy since 1910. In the 1920s, about forty to forty-five percent of the area sown to wheat in Victoria was in the Mallee.¹²¹ Wheat was harvested and stacked in bags at railway sidings where weighbridges were built. Mechanisation in the post-war period of World War Two, coupled with consolidation of farm holdings, resulted in vast acreages being put under cultivation. Bulk handling of wheat, introduced with the 1939-40 harvest, resulted in the building of concrete silos at railway stations across the Rural City (see Figure 30). Steel silos were erected at the same sites in the 1970s. From the 1980s, wheat bunkers have been constructed.

Figure 30: Silos at Galah, 2011.



Source: Context.

With an increase in property size as the number of farms have been reduced, the growing of broadacre crops include wheat, barley, vetch, pulses and oilseeds. In 2003-4, 765,600 tons of wheat valued at 153 million dollars was grown in the Mildura region.¹²² Structures that testify to the importance of wheat growing to the economy of the Rural City include silos which exist at most railway stations.

¹²⁰ *Mallee Region*, (Department of Primary Industries, 2009 [cited 9 March 2009]); available from <http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/dpi/nrenti.nsf/LinkView>.

¹²¹ H.J Sims & C.G. Webb *Mallee Sand to Gold: the Mallee Research Station Walpeup 1932-1982*. Victorian Department of Agriculture, Melbourne, 1982, pp.4-5

¹²² Lindner, *Murrayville 1910-2007*, 166.

The grazing of sheep is an adjunct to wheat farming in the study area. A public sheep dip was established in Murrayville in 1912.¹²³ In 1925, a company was formed at Underbool to undertake the shearing of sheep in a communal shearing shed.¹²⁴ The Co-operative shearing shed still stands today. Sheep (predominantly for wool), beef and dairy are the dominant livestock industries. Public land in the Millewa, Sunset Country and the Big Desert supports extensive grazing of sheep. In 2003, the Mallee region also contributed a third of Victoria's pork production.

10.2 Irrigated agriculture

The Mallee includes one of the most important horticultural regions in the state. With the emergence of the dried fruits industry at both Renmark and Mildura, the Mildura Raisin Trust (known as the Mildura Dried Fruits Association from 1897) and the Renmark Raisin Trust were both formed in 1895. Both organizations had the same objective of protecting growers' interests by regulating prices, setting standard terms and conditions of sale, and promoting exports. The Australian Dried Fruits Association (ADFA) was formed in 1907 as a federation of the Mildura Dried Fruits Association and the Renmark Raisin Trust, with E. C. De Garis a founding member. However, in 1923 with the influx of soldier settlers, the return to growers crashed. The crisis led to a restructuring of the ADFA with the creating of a national Board of Management to act as the association executive. The first harvest in 1924 at Red Cliffs returned 570 tons of dried fruits. The harvest by 1954 measured 16,000 tons of raisins, currants and sultanas, in addition to grapes.¹²⁵ Today, the Mildura region produces 95 percent of Australia's dried grapes.¹²⁶

Irrigation districts at Mildura, Red Cliffs, Irymple, Merbein, Nangiloc and Colignan utilise water from the River Murray and support a significant amount of the state's agriculture. A large proportion of Victoria's grapes, almonds and fruit for drying are produced in the region. A wide range of produce is grown including table grapes (in addition to wine and dried fruit), nuts (almonds and pistachios), vegetables (with notable production of asparagus, mushrooms, avocados, potatoes and carrots). Fruit includes watermelons, citrus, pome fruit and stone fruit. Producers range from smaller holdings growing traditional crops such as grapes and stone fruit to those growing vegetables under large-scale broadacre conditions. Corporate producers operate in the region and there is a recent trend for investment in horticulture by investment companies. A significant proportion of Victoria's nut production is grown in the Mallee. In 2008, an estimated 71 percent of Australia's almonds were grown in the Sunraysia region. Pistachios are also an important crop, with an estimated 41 percent of Australian pistachios grown in the region in 2003. Some of the largest plantings are at Nangiloc. Local horticultural growers produce high quality product for the fresh and processed product markets Australia-wide and internationally.¹²⁷ In recent years, potato growing using bore water has been taken up near Murrayville.

Wine making on a commercial basis began in Mildura in 1892. Today, some of the largest national wineries and many medium-sized wineries are located in the region. Victoria's dried grape industry is centred in the region and there are several olive oil producers. Large fruit and vegetable concentrate manufacturers operate in the Mallee. Irymple Citrus Products produce 30,000 tonnes of carrots annually, and export an estimated 85 percent of their product to Japan.¹²⁸

¹²³ Ibid.

¹²⁴ Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 57.

¹²⁵ Brown, *Irrigation and Water Supply Development in Victoria*, 30.

¹²⁶ As at November 2008. Figures supplied by Mildura Development Corporation.

¹²⁷ *Mallee Region*. Figures also provided by Mildura Development Corporation.

¹²⁸ Ibid.

10.3 Forest industries

The vegetation of the Rural City has been heavily harvested for timber over the years. The first white settlers harvested timber to clear the land for grazing and for use as fence posts, housing materials and fuel. The cypress pine and belah of the Mallee, particularly in the Millewa, was sought after for the construction of outbuildings and fence posts, and black box was felled for fuel, posts, poles and vine trellis material. Red gum forests have been logged extensively from the paddle-steamer, railway and gold eras, especially with the operation of quartz reef mining during the 1870s. Commercial sawmills were established along the River Murray to provide red gum to the export markets of the British colonies which were heavily engaged in railway and wharf building from the 1860s. Sleeper cutting finished in the mid 1980s. Estimates suggest that on average, a paddle steamer burnt half a tonne of fuel an hour in its boilers. Similarly, steam driven pumps for irrigation utilized massive amounts of timber. Timber from around Hattah-Kulkyne was used to feed Mildura boilers, and extensive areas of black box in the Cullulleraine region was felled to feed the boiler of the Millewa irrigation system. Mallee stumps were removed to enable cropping to take place and were sold and transported by rail to the cities for fuel for fires.

The massive demand for timber had taken a significant toll on forests by the early 1870s. From the 1920s, the SRWSC stationed foresters in the Mallee at Ouyen, Swan Hill, Nyah and Mildura in an attempt to re-forest cypress pine areas. These efforts were largely unsuccessful due to the grazing of stock and rabbits. From the 1930s, harvesting of cypress pine was mainly restricted to the removal of dead timber.¹²⁹ Merbein Sawmills, located at Yelta, harvests red gum sawlogs for housing, landscaping, furniture and fence posts.

From 1977 to 1987, 9,130 tonnes of mallee broombush was harvested, mostly in the Sunset Country, Big Desert and Wyperfield National Park areas, for use in domestic fencing, shade-house construction, ceiling panels and wind-diffusing materials.¹³⁰ Although some harvesting continues on private land, in Victoria in 1989 a complete ban was imposed on harvesting broombush from public land.

Charcoal burning took place in the study area from the earliest days of settlement through until the 1970s. Charcoal was used for blacksmithing purposes, and later to fuel the gas-producer plants of crushing batteries in gold mines. Charcoal burning enterprises, significant during the petrol-rationing of World War Two, operated in the Mallee utilising mallee stumps for fuel. Charcoal making was undertaken by Aboriginal people, local farmers, itinerant workers, internees and prisoners of war working at camps on the river by burning wood in clay-based or brick-lined pits, or metal drums, covered with corrugated iron sheets. Charcoal was produced and railed to Melbourne to be used in the production of gas as an alternative to liquid fuel, most often in gas-producing units fitted to trucks and cars. Mallee vegetation was also used for the production of eucalyptus oil. A distillery operated at Murrayville from the late 1960s through to the early 1980s. Some charcoal burning continues to take place in the Shire today.

Honey production is a present-day regional industry. Six hundred beehives are permanently operated in the Mildura region and others are brought into the region seasonally. One thousand tonnes of honey are produced in the region representing 3.2 percent of Australia's production.¹³¹

10.4 Extractive industries

Mineral sands mining is a major industry in the western Mallee. In 1974, CRA Exploration located considerable deposits of heavy mineral sand in the Parilla Sand. Minerals in these sands

¹²⁹ *Mallee Area Review*, 46.

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*, 264.

¹³¹ *Mallee Region*.

include ilmenite, leucogene, anatase, rutile, zircon, and traces of 'rare earths'.¹³² Currently, Iluka is mining the Kulwin deposit about 28 kilometres east of Ouyen and combined deposits at Woorack, Rownack and Pirro about 20 kilometres south-east of Ouyen.

Salt has been harvested in the Rural City since the early 1900s. Commercial salt-harvesting began in the Pink Lakes in 1916 using shovels and wheelbarrows, then horse-drawn scrapers and tip drays. Because of problems with sand drift and erosion, from 1922 Afghani workers used twelve teams of camels to transport salt to the railway at Linga. In 1923-4, a narrow gauge light rail was built from Linga to Lake Becking and operated until 1929, having to close because of sand drifts. Remnant formations of the line can still be seen. Itinerant workers over the Depression years of 1929-35 and World War Two internees took up work at Pink Lakes.¹³³ Trucks replaced the camels in the 1940s and harvesting continued until the Pink Lakes were declared a State Park in 1979. Evaporative salt production for both gourmet and industrial markets occurs today around Mildura and Hattah.

Figure 31: Mineral sands mining site, Ouyen, 2011.



Source: Context.

Figure 32: Camel salt team at Underbool, ca. 1905-1928.



Source: Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria.

¹³² *Mallee Area Review*, 271.

¹³³ *Ibid.*, 272. Lynch, Willmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 22.

The highly saline groundwater is the source of the Mallee's widespread gypsum deposits, which, when mixed with clay and/or sand are known locally as copi. Near Nowingi, gypsum was extracted from 1908 by open-cut mining for use in the manufacture of plasterboard, and from near Tutye for cement manufacture. In Tutye in 1953-4, Associated Plaster and Gypsum set up a processing plant for crude plaster of Paris.¹³⁴ Ramps and sidings for the unloading of gypsum are in evidence on the railway line at Cowangie.

Limestone was burnt in kilns in Murrayville in 1911. Calcrete (a hard limestone) and gravel for road construction are extracted from pits on public land in the parish of Mildura. An abandoned limestone quarry can be seen near Kow Plains homestead.

¹³⁴ Nickolls and Angel, *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, 89.

11 COMMUNITY LIFE

The history of establishing halls, churches and schools of the Rural City is typified by the moving of buildings to follow the fluctuations in population numbers. As settlements were established, permanent buildings were erected out of local materials. Community buildings in the area opened up by the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line were often constructed of limestone (for example, the Underbool Methodist church), or limestone rubble and concrete.

11.1 Health services

Early settlers in the area experienced increased risks to their health due to the remoteness of communities and lack of facilities. Beyond the everyday health issues of the community, the district experienced a number of epidemics that stretched available health care facilities to their limit. These included typhoid carried by contaminated water in the late 1880s, early 1890s, and early 1900s, and measles in 1899, and scarlet fever in 1910.

The Mildura region was initially served by the Wentworth hospital and the Lower Murray and District Hospital opened in 1860 in Swan Hill. The Lower Murray and District Hospital was established to cater for the needs of white male labourers, however patients seeking admission included Aborigines suffering from pulmonary diseases and syphilis. Most were refused treatment because they could make no financial contribution. German doctor O. L. M. Abramowski set up a medical consultancy in Mildura in 1888. A hospital for Mildura was commenced in 1891. The building opened in 1892 and 300 trees were planted in the hospital grounds in 1893. Events to raise funds for the hospital were held regularly, including in 1900 a procession of 700 Chinese. A base hospital was built in 1934.

Prior to the 1890s, few women were allowed admission to hospitals. Childbirth and the treatment of women's illnesses were carried out at home with the help of visiting bush nurses, midwives or relatives. Midwives, including Aboriginal women, and bush nurses played a vital role in providing care for settlers in the district from the days of early settlement right through until the 1950s in the more isolated towns. Midwives and nurses walked or drove buggies to reach their patients; some set up beds in their own homes. Payment for their services was often made in farm produce. Private hospitals were established in the region from the 1890s including 'Tiverton' in Ouyen.

In 1909, the Bush Nursing Centre initiative was launched to provide health services to Victoria's rural and remote communities. Centres were established in communities that could raise sufficient resources to attract and employ a nurse. In 1914, Superintendent Nurse Greer of the Victorian Bush Nursing Association presented a lecture in the Kow Plains Hall. Subsequently, at Kow Plains a nurse was appointed in 1916 and the Cowangie Bush Nursing Centre building was commenced in 1917.¹³⁵ The Underbool Bush Nursing Centre opened in 1917 in a large tent with sides boarded up to a height of six feet and with a corrugated iron roof. In 1920, a two-roomed weatherboard cottage was built and added to over the years.¹³⁶ In 1920, Freeland's farmhouse was moved to Walpeup for use as the Bush Nursing Hospital.¹³⁷

Murrayville Hospital opened in 1920, was converted to the Murrayville Bush Nursing Hospital in 1956 and enlarged in 1981. After closing in 1990, health services were provided by Mallee Track Health and Community Services. Ouyen and District Hospital was officially opened in 1929 and in 1936, a new wing and nursing quarters were completed.¹³⁸

¹³⁵ Lindner, *Murrayville 1910-2007*, 118.

¹³⁶ Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 48.

¹³⁷ Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*, 24.

¹³⁸ Phil Taylor, *Karkaroc: A Mallee Shire History, 1896-1995* (Warracknabeal: Yarriambiack Shire Council, 1996), 158, 72.

11.2 Education

During the period of first white settlement of the study area, most station homesteads were too isolated to send children to school. Some children attended boarding schools in the city; others were instructed by governesses and tutors at home. In 1872, the Victorian *Education Act* established a central public school system based on the principles of free, secular and compulsory education. Local residents, often represented by Progress Associations, petitioned the Department of Education to give approval for the opening of a school. Early school buildings were constructed of local materials. Schools were built at an average of ten miles apart so that children could walk or ride. Settlers often donated the land, provided half the cost of the school (sometimes more), and boarded the teacher, while the government paid teachers' wages, provided some equipment and the balance of school costs. Because of a lack of financial resources of many of the settler communities, schools often did not appear until some years after settlement. School buildings were used for a variety of community purposes.

Mildura Agricultural High School opened in 1913. A higher elementary school opened in Ouyen in 1929. The first Victorian Consolidated School using buildings from outlying areas was established in Murrayville in 1946. An initiative of the Chaffey brothers, from 1916 through to present day the *Mildura College Lease Act* has provided funding to local schools from rentals on land. A branch of the University of Melbourne operated at Mildura 1947-9. La Trobe University currently operates a campus at Mildura.

Figure 33: Ouyen State School No. 3615.



Source: Ouyen District History and Genealogy centre, reproduced by H. Carroll, *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*, 2009.

11.3 Halls and meeting places

Public, memorial, shire and church halls became the focus of district social life. The erection of a public or memorial hall, often through the efforts of the local progress association, stood as a measure of faith in the future of the community. Often built of timber, or only partly finished, halls required regular upkeep and often rebuilding. Torrita Hall, for instance, was built by the Murphy brothers of Walpeup in 1935. Measuring 45 feet by 25 feet, it was constructed of hardwood, pine and galvanised iron. Funds did not run to internal lining at the time. Communities came up with creative ideas on how to raise funds needed for upkeep and extensions. Additions to, and internal linings for halls were sometimes built from funds raised

though the sale of wheat harvests. In Linga, a wool exhibition in 1935 raised £38 for the hall.¹³⁹ From 1970, Linga and Underbool shared a hall built in that year.

Halls became the focus of community life and housed a variety of activities, including school classes, dances, meetings, church services, wedding receptions, drama and musical entertainments, kitchen teas, court cases, debates, horticulture shows, and film screenings. In the 1920s, community facilities were often financed in part by the holding of Queen Competitions in local halls. These competitions involved young women of the community in a round of fund-raising activities. Halls were also the focus of sadder occasions such as gatherings to commemorate the lives of servicemen who did not return, or send offs to settler families leaving the district.

11.4 Places of worship

A church was often one of the first buildings erected as the nucleus of a settlement. Prior to the erection of permanent structures services were conducted wherever shelter was available. The first pastoralists conducted services in their huts. With the arrival of clergymen to areas along the River Murray, often in small missionary boats such as the 'Etona', services were conducted as part of circuits under trees, in tents, private homes, coffee palaces, and hotels. The first Anglican service in Underbool was conducted by a lay preacher at the old Underbool bore.

Church buildings were erected in the study area as settlements grew and funds were raised for the establishment of permanent structures. Early structures were often constructed from local timber, and if finances allowed, were replaced by more substantial brick buildings in later years. Many church services in the towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville line were conducted in public halls. Lutheran services were organised by German settlers at Galah and the Walpeup Memorial Hall from 1923. A Lutheran manse was built at Walpeup in 1936. St Peters Lutheran Church was built at Murrayville 1923-4.

Figure 34: Lutheran Church, Walpeup, 2011.



Source: Context.

¹³⁹ Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 37.

During the latter half of the twentieth century because of falling congregation members, churches have consolidated. The Methodist and Presbyterian denominations amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. In many towns throughout the Rural City today church buildings have closed leaving only one denomination being represented by a single operating church, or several denominations operate from the one building.

11.5 Wars

The advent of wars impacted greatly on community life in the study area. Local residents served in the Boer war, World War One, World War Two, and the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Women played an important role during the wars both overseas and at home. Red Cross committees were formed during World War One to put together parcels of food and clothes for those serving overseas, and were instrumental in raising funds for the war effort.

Over the course of World War Two, those German and Italian residents of the study area who hadn't gained citizenship were classed 'enemy aliens'. Some were interned; others were put to work, for example, cutting wood for irrigation pumps, picking fruit and harvesting salt from Pink Lakes where a large camp was built to house them and other workers at Lake Crosbie. Local women joined the Land Army and worked alongside Italian internees on fruit blocks.

Located at the pre-war civil airfield, RAAF Base Mildura was established to provide operational training for fighter pilots in 1942.

After World War One, the Returned Sailors and Soldiers Imperial League of Australia (RSL) was established and sub-branches formed in most towns across the study area. New district meeting rooms were built in Underbool in 1962 and are still in evidence today.

Residents commemorated those who served in the wars through the erection of war memorials, memorial gates and honour rolls, and the planting of trees. In Mildura, more than one thousand residents enlisted, one of the largest per capita enlistments in the nation. One hundred died in battle and their names are recorded on plaques at the entrance to the Carnegie Library to which, in 1922, a tower was added as a war memorial.¹⁴⁰ Trees were planted in Murrayville in 1918 to honour those who had enlisted in World War One. Similarly, a row of sugar gums was planted on the highway at Danyo and in Gregory Street Ouyen, and peppercorns were established at Cowangie to commemorate local residents who had served in World War One.

Figure 35: Memorial Hall, Walpeup, 2011.



Source: Context.

¹⁴⁰ Glen Miller, Mildura and District Historical Society

11.6 Cemeteries and lone graves

Cemeteries throughout the Rural City still in use are associated with larger townships. Other cemeteries evidence the decline in population of some settlements. Elsewhere single graves testify to the deaths of early settlers who were isolated, could not afford a cemetery plot, or who died before public cemeteries were established. Three such graves exist in the Kow Plains area: one marks the death of young boy who died of diphtheria in the early 1900s; another evidences the death of a railway worker who was working on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line in 1911-12; the third is the grave of Clara Ann Walters who died when 14 days old.¹⁴¹

Records exist of less conventional ceremonies to mark the death of Indian hawkers who plied their wares to businesses and private homes across the study area. Traditional Hindu cremations were performed with the coffin packed with pounds of butter and doused with kerosene.

Figure 36: Ouyen Cemetery, 2011.



Source: Context.

11.7 Hotels and inns

Early inns in the district provided accommodation, food and alcoholic refreshment to travellers, and communities a meeting place. The first inns established in the area were along stock routes and at river crossings. A hotel, for example, was licensed at Cowana on the River Murray in 1870. De-licensing of hotels in townships in the period 1910-20 often meant the closure of the attached general store, a process impacted on again with the establishment of supermarkets in larger towns in the 1960s.

A Settlers Club opened in 1893 in Mildura and operated at premises on the corner of Eighth Street and Orange Avenue until 1993. Despite the consensus that Mildura was to be a temperance town, in August 1894 the Mildura Working Man's Club opened in Madden Avenue to provide entertainment and 'teas' to its members. In January 1895, a liquor licence was granted to the club, and even though vigorously opposed, was renewed at the turn of the century. The present site was acquired in 1908. In 1935, an upper floor was added. The club has, purportedly, the longest bar – 91.5 metres – in the world. The Mildura Club for professional gentlemen opened in 1890. Early meetings were at the Coffee Palace (later the Grand Hotel) until new premises were built at 29 Deakin Avenue. The present building, at the

¹⁴¹ Lindner, *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001*, 139-40.

corner of Deakin Avenue and Ninth Street, was erected in 1920. William Chaffey was a long-serving president of the club up until his death in 1926.¹⁴²

Figure 37: Underbool Hotel, 2011.



Source: Context.

11.8 Leisure and recreation

The Mallee and the River Murray provide diverse opportunities for recreation and leisure pursuits in the study area for both locals and tourists. These activities range from organised sports such as football and cricket played at recreation grounds, rifle range shooting, motor-cross and horse racing to more informal pursuits such as fishing, bird watching, picnicking, camping and walking.

Figure 38: Outen Park, Underbool, 2011.



Source: Context.

¹⁴² Wells, *Paddle Steamers to Cornucopia: The Renmark-Mildura Experiment of 1887*, 193-4, 98, 200.

Social gatherings on Sunday afternoons often took place on sand bars along the River Murray. Mildura's 'Floating Baths' on the River Murray were in operation by 1891. An initiative of Wally West, water was delivered via a channel from the Wimmera Mallee system to fill a natural depression north of Underbool for use as a lake and recreation area. Swimming also took place in channels. A swimming pool opened in the early 1930s in Ouyen. Public Olympic sized swimming pools were constructed across the region from the 1960s.

From the 1920s, films were shown in public halls, and in 1936, the Victory Theatre was built in Ouyen. It was later renamed the Roxy (see Figure 39).

Figure 39: Roxy Cinema, Ouyen, 2011.



Source: Context.

Sporting activities have played an important role in communities throughout the Rural City. Residents of the first settlements were quick to form sport teams and utilise available spaces until funds allowed the erection of permanent facilities or the setting aside of recreation reserves. A football line league comprised towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line. Members were transported to matches by rail-motor vehicles. Bowling, croquet, golf and tennis clubs were established from the 1920s.

A horse race club was formed in 1888 and meetings held on land owned by W. B. Chaffey and later near the Mildura run homestead. In 1914, the racecourse moved to its present location. Racecourses operated at other locations including Ouyen.

Agricultural shows commenced in Mildura in 1891.

Tourism to the area commenced in 1890 when the Melbourne to Swan Hill railway line opened. Tours were arranged for parties to travel by train to Swan Hill then by steamer to Mildura. The steamer also provided accommodation at Mildura. In December 1920, the first car service commenced when the Sunraysia Car Service conveyed passengers from Mildura to Renmark, which connected to another car to Morgan then to a train to Adelaide.¹⁴³ With the increasing popularity of the car, the formation of a Tourist Association in Mildura in 1930, and a more direct train service to Mildura established in the same year, numbers of urban dwellers began 'wintering in the north' at the end of the economic depression (see Figure 13). The district experienced the beginnings of a profitable tourist trade, and there were suggestions that Hattah Lakes be developed as a tourist resort. Over the 1950s, accommodation for tourism in Mildura received a major upgrade.

¹⁴³ Ibid.

Figure 40: Promotional poster for Mildura 1930s



Source: National Library of Australia

Natural features of the Rural City have been preserved through the proclamation of reserves and parks, including a number of national parks. In 1909, following the lead of Arthur Mattingly, a number of naturalists persuaded the government to temporarily reserve 3,900 hectares of this fast-disappearing habitat. Wyperfeld National Park was declared in 1921, and has been considerably enlarged since that time to 365,800 hectares. It is thought that the name of German origin was given to the area by German settlers.

In 1925, 4,570 acres at Pink Lakes was reserved to protect the lakes from wind blown debris. In the 1930s, the Field Naturalists' Club of Victoria and the Royal Ornithological Union lobbied for wildlife protection in the Hattah Lakes area. In 1941, 16,800 hectares was declared a sanctuary for game. In the late 1950s, the Victoria National Parks Association and the Sunraysia Field Naturalists' Club campaigned for a national park, and in 1960 the Hattah Lakes National Park of 7,200 hectares was declared. In 1980 the adjacent Kulkyne State Forest was added to form the Hattah-Kulkyne National Park of 48,000 hectares and Murray-Kulkyne Regional Park, proclaimed in 1990, of 3,530 hectares. The Hattah-Kulkyne Lakes, a system of 12 shallow lakes form park of this National Parl, these lakes are a protected Ramsar Site.

Figure 41: Hattah Lakes, 2011.



Source: Context.

The Pink Lakes State Park came into operation in 1979 and was included in the Murray-Sunset National Park declared in 1991. Measuring 633,000 hectares, it is the state's second largest national park and covers almost a third of the area of the Rural City.

The importance of the natural environment to Rural City residents was evidenced by consolidated protest from 2004 against a proposal by the Victorian Government to build a state-level Long Term Containment Facility for Industrial Waste firstly at Tiega, and secondly in state forest at Nowingi. In January 2007, the Victorian Government announced that it was abandoning its proposal.

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APPENDIX 1: RURAL CITY OF MILDURA HERITAGE STUDY THEMES

The themes for the environmental history component of the Rural City of Mildura Heritage Study have been developed with particular reference to:

- charting the historical development of the municipality,
- explaining the settlement and development patterns of the municipality (i.e. the 'environment'), and
- raising community awareness of the historical development and heritage of the area.

Themes for the Rural City's environmental history are listed as follows with relevant themes from Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes written below each in order to show the connection between the two.

1. The country and its first peoples

- 1.1 Tracing climate and topographical change
- 1.3 Understanding scientifically diverse environments
- 1.7 Appreciating and protecting Victoria's natural wonders
- 2.1 Living as Victoria's original inhabitants

2. Exploratory, overlanding and survey expeditions

- 1.5 Exploring, surveying and mapping

3. Pastoral occupation

- 1.6 Living with natural processes
- 2.1 Living as Victoria's original inhabitants
- 2.2 Adapting to diverse environments
- 2.3 Arriving in a new land
- 2.5 Maintaining distinctive cultures
- 2.7 Fighting for identity
- 4.3 Grazing and raising livestock
- 6.1 Establishing Melbourne Town, Port Phillip District
- 6.8 Living on the fringes

4. Agricultural development

4.1 Agricultural settlement of the Mallee

4.2 Closer settlement

4.3 Rural reconstruction

- 1.6 Living with natural processes
- 2.2 Adapting to diverse environments
- 2.3 Arriving in a new land
- 2.4 Migrating and making a home
- 2.5 Maintaining distinctive cultures

- 2.6 Promoting settlement
- 2.7 Fighting for identity
- 4.1 Living off the land
- 4.4 Farming
- 4.7 Transforming the land and waterways
- 6.8 Living on the fringes

5. Water supply

5.1 Domestic and stock supply

5.2 Irrigation

- 1.6 Living with natural processes
- 4.7 Transforming the land and waterways

6. Transport and communications

6.1 Tracks, roads and bridges

- 3.1 Establishing pathways
- 3.4 Linking Victorians by road in the twentieth century

6.2 River trade

- 3.2 Travelling by water
- 4.7 Transforming the land and waterways

6.3 Railways

- 3.3 Linking Victorians by rail

6.4 Postal and communications

- 3.7 Establishing and maintaining communications

7. Governing

7.1 Roads Boards

7.2 Municipalities

7.3 Law and order

- 7.1 Developing institutions of self-government and democracy
- 7.3 Maintaining law and order

8. Building towns and settlements

8.1 River towns

8.2 Agricultural towns

8.3 Railway towns

8.4 Closer settlement towns

- 6.4 Making regional centres
- 6.5 Living in country towns
- 6.6 Marking significant phases in development of Victoria's settlements, towns and cities

6.7 Making homes for Victorians

9. Industry

9.1 Dryland agriculture

9.2 Irrigated agriculture

9.3 Forest industries

9.4 Extractive industries

4.6 Exploiting other mineral, forest and water resources

4.7 Transforming the land and waterways

9.5 Advancing knowledge in science and technology

10. Community life

10.1 Health services

10.2 Education

10.3 Halls and meeting places

10.4 Places of worship

10.5 Wars

10.6 Cemeteries and lone graves

10.7 Hotels and inns

10.8 Leisure and recreation

1.7 Appreciating and protecting Victoria's natural wonders

7.4 Defending Victoria and Australia

8.1 Maintaining spiritual life

8.2 Educating people

8.3 Providing health and welfare services

8.4 Forming community organisations

8.5 Preserving traditions and commemorating

8.6 Marking the phases of life

9.1 Participating in sport and recreation

APPENDIX 2: RURAL CITY OF MILDURA HERITAGE STUDY THEMES AND RELATED PLACES

Theme	Sub theme	Place (Hermes reference)
1. The country and its first peoples		
2 Exploratory, overlanding and survey expeditions		
3. Pastoral occupation		
4. Agricultural development	4.1 Agricultural settlement of the Mallee	E. porossa (Mallee Blackbox) (108508) Lodwick's Farmhouse (111612)
	4.2 Closer settlement	Brown's Homestead (108490)
	4.3 Rural reconstruction	
5. Water supply	5.1 Domestic and stock supply	Cowangie Catchment Dam (108500) Wells, Cowangie (111423) Water Bore No. 1 (108496)
	5.2 Irrigation	
6. Transport and communications	6.1 Tracks, roads and bridges	Stock Route Road (108498) Gloster and Sons Garage (108549)
	6.2 River trade	
	6.3 Railways	
	6.4 Postal and telecommunications	Murrayville Post Office (108464) Ouyen Post Office (108477)
7. Governing	7.1 Roads Boards	Country Women's Party Rooms (108487)
	7.2 Municipalities	
	7.3 Law and order	State Emergency Service (108463) Former Ouyen Court House (108475)
8. Building towns and settlements	8.1 River towns	
	8.2 Agricultural towns	House, 20 Scott Street (108530)
	8.3 Railway towns	Railway turntables repair site (108538)
	8.4 Closer settlement towns	Ouyen Tyre Service (108470) House, 12 Hunt Street (108480) Former State Bank, Rowe Street (108481) Carina Lodge (108502)
9. Industry	9.1 Dryland agriculture	Kow Plains Homestead (108503) Brown's Homestead (108490) Co-operative Shearing Shed (108491)
	9.2 Irrigated agriculture	
	9.3 Forest industries	
	9.4 Extractive industries	Tutye bore and Site of gypsum/plasterworks (111593)

Theme	Sub theme	Place (Hermes reference)
10. Community Life	10.1 Health services	Lodden Mallee Women's Health Service (108533) Tiverton (108472)
	10.2 Education	Boinka Community Centre (108506) School site (Timberoo East) (xxxx) Ouyen Primary School (108479)
	10.3 Halls and meeting places	Masonic Lodge (108462) Foodworks and NW Express Office (108535) The Torrita Building (108476)
	10.4 Places of worship	St Teresa's Catholic Church (108543) Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church (108466) All Saints Uniting Church (108478)
	10.5 Wars	Memorial trees, Cowangie (108507) Oke Street War memorial (108531)
	10.6 Cemeteries and lone graves	Cowangie Cemetery (108499) Ouyen Cemetery (108523)
	10.7 Hotels and inns	Hotel Victoria (108482) Underbool Hotel (108460)
	10.8 Leisure and recreation	Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve (111614) Ouyen Racetrack/Blackburn Reserve (108521) Ngallo Football Ground (108501)

people place heritage

CONTEXT

MILDURA (FORMER SHIRE OF WALPEUP)

HERITAGE STUDY STAGE 2

Final report

Vol 2 Key findings and recommendations

1 August 2012

Prepared for
Mildura Rural City Council



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Report Register

This report register documents the development and issue of the report entitled *Mildura Former Shire of Walpeup Heritage Study* Stage 2 undertaken by Context Pty Ltd in accordance with our internal quality management system.

Project No.	Issue No.	Notes/description	Issue Date	Issued to
1435	1	Draft report	4/5/2012	Peter Douglas
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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose

Mildura Rural City commissioned the *Mildura (former shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study* to identify those places that reflect important aspects of the municipality's history and that are valued by local communities. It follows Heritage Victoria's standard two-stage brief for municipal heritage studies.

The former Shire of Walpeup was merged with the City and Shire of Mildura into the Mildura Rural City. The former Shire of Walpeup covered an area of 10,964 square kilometres and existed from 1911 until 1994.

The Stage 1 study developed a broad understanding of the history and heritage of Mildura Rural City including a Thematic Environmental History and the identification of places of potential post-contact cultural heritage significance within the former Shire of Walpeup. This report contains the Key Findings and Recommendations for Stage 2 of the Study.

The purpose of a heritage study is to enable the Mildura Rural City to make informed decisions, in consultation with the community and other key stakeholders, about how the heritage of Mildura Rural City is to be valued and managed for future generations.

1.2 Study brief

The Mildura (former shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study has been prepared in accordance with a standard brief prepared by Heritage Victoria. The Brief for Stage 2 sets out the following specific tasks:

- Document and assess the places of that are considered worthy of future conservation and management of their heritage values and add this information to the HERMES record.
- Review the Thematic Environmental History.
- Make recommendations for the conservation of the municipality's cultural heritage.

Mildura's current Heritage Overlay is based on a study by Andrew Ward in 1988, the *City and Shire of Mildura Conservation Study*. Of the 309 sites currently with a Heritage Overlay, the majority of these are within the urban area of Mildura.

Other relevant studies include the Land Conservation Council Review of the Victorian Mallee by Andrew Ward in 1986. The sites identified on public land were entered in to the Historic Places database kept by Department of Sustainability and Environment. These sites formed part of the initial list of places prepared in Stage 1.

1.3 Study Area

The study area for the identification of places is the former Shire of Walpeup. Townships and areas of interest include Boinka, Cowangie, Danyo, Kiamal, Kulwin, Murrayville, Ngallo, Ouyen, Panitya, Tiega, Torrita, Underbool, and Walpeup. A large part of the study area comprises National Parks, including Big Desert Wilderness Park, Murray-Sunset National Park and Wyperfeld National Park. See Study area map – Appendix 5.

1.4 Project management

Peter Douglas, Strategic Planning Co-ordinator of Mildura Rural City was manager of the project. Administration has been carried out by Jacqueline Murnane, Planning Administration Officer for the Rural City of Mildura.

Context was re-appointed to complete Stage 2 of the Study following completion of Stage 1 in 2009. Context's project manager was Dr. Sandy Blair for Stage 1 and Louise Honman for Stage 2. The Study was prepared by Context Pty Ltd with the assistance of historian Robyn Ballinger.

A Steering Committee was appointed by the Mildura Rural City Council to advise the Shire on conduct and governance of the Study. The Steering Committee comprised:

- Peter Douglas, Coordinator Strategic Planning, Mildura Rural City Council (Project Manager)
- Mark Jenkins, Manager Community Futures, Mildura Rural City Council
- Andrea Collins, Assistant Town Planner, Mildura Rural City Council
- Ian Wight, Heritage Advisor Coordinator, Heritage Victoria
- Matthew Cameron, Regional Planner, Loddon Mallee Region, DPCD

A Reference Group was appointed to assist in making connections with the community for the field survey and documentary research components. Members of the Reference Group comprise:

- Jocelyn Lindner
- Judith Antcliff,
- Teresa Scott
- Merle Pole
- Sue Willox
- Helen Stagg

1.5 Acknowledgements

The consultants gratefully acknowledge the contributions made by the Steering Committee and the Reference Group members. The project would not have been possible without the support of the members of the Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre. This excellent archive has provided much valuable information.

The consultants further acknowledge the help given by the following people:

- Members of Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre and other interested individuals who participated in the community workshops held during the study.
- Local residents Jocelyn Lindner, Teresa Scott and Merle Pole generously gave their time as guides during the fieldwork for Stage 2.
- Members of the Reference Group have freely given their time in editing individual place citations, and their efforts to improve accuracy and provide additional information is gratefully acknowledged.
- Parks Victoria staff, including Rangers Robert McNamara at Murray-Sunset National Park (NP) Dave Christian at Wyperfeld NP and Andrew Dodds at Hattah-Kulkyne NP.

2 APPROACH & METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

The terms used throughout this report are consistent with the Australia ICOMOS *Charter for Places of Cultural Heritage Significance* (the Burra Charter). A glossary of these terms and their meanings is provided at the end of this report. Heritage criteria used are the HERCON criteria as included in the *Heritage Victoria Model Consultants Brief for Heritage Studies*, July 2008.

2.2 Stage 1

The findings and outcomes arising from Stage 1 of the Study include:

- *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*, Draft Report, April 2009. This volume provides an explanation of the themes and processes or activities that have been important in shaping the study area within the larger boundaries of Mildura Rural City.
- The identification of 82 individual places and ten heritage precincts of potential heritage significance – listed under ‘Potentially Significant Places and Precincts’ (Appendix 1).
- The preliminary identification of 37 post-contact historical archaeological sites from the Victorian Heritage Inventory, DSE database – listed under ‘Archaeological Places’ (Appendix 2).
- Completed HERMES database entries to Stage 1 requirements for each place and precinct of potential significance.

Recommendations arising from Stage 1 of the Study include:

As a result of Stage 1, the following should be undertaken in Stage 2:

- 82 individual places and ten precincts should be documented and assessed
- 37 archaeological places should be investigated and those of potential cultural significance documented and assessed.
- The data on the five areas of archaeological sensitivity should be incorporated into the HERMES database and/or another policy mechanism to ensure appropriate triggers are activated for further assessment or permits
- Consultation with the community, the reference group and steering committee
- Preparation of a heritage policy and plan



1. Former Clarke's store Cowangie. Source Context 2011

2.3 Project management plan

As the first stage of the Study, a Project Management Plan was prepared (Appendix 2) and approved by the Project Manager and Steering Committee. For each stage of the project the Plan set out key tasks, responsibilities, milestones and outputs.

The approach set out in the Plan was ensured that the Study would:

- Achieve a good standard of documentation and assessment, and provide sound conservation advice to guide the ongoing management of heritage places in accordance with statutory planning controls and policies in the Mildura Rural City.
- Include an appropriate level of community consultation with property owners throughout the study.

The Plan also sets out the detailed budget and timetable for the Study. The Project Plan was reviewed on a regular basis and any variations agreed to by the Project Manager and Steering Committee.

2.4 Field Survey

The purpose of the field survey was to record the places of potential significance identified in Stage 1, documenting their setting, key elements and existing condition. The survey covered both those places listed in the Stage 1 report as 'Potentially Significant Places and Precincts' and those identified as 'Archaeological Places'.

The field survey of these two categories of place (Potentially Significant and Archaeological) was undertaken by the appropriate specialists. It soon revealed that there was some overlap between the categories, with some places of the former category actually exhibiting archaeological potential, while some of those marked as 'Archaeological' revealed none.

For the purposes of the study therefore, all places were subjected to the same research and significance assessment process in order to offer recommendations for appropriate listing. All of the places of archaeological potential were recommended for inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI).



2. Remains of tramway at Lake Crosbie. Source: Context 2011

Survey of ‘Potentially Significant Places and Precincts’

This survey work was undertaken in July and November 2009 by heritage architect Louise Honman, with the assistance of Merle Pole, Jocelyn Linder and Terri Scott of the Community Reference Group.

The location of each of the ‘Potentially Significant Places and Precincts’ was provided in the Stage 1 report as a street address. It was possible to locate and survey all but one place (81 places in total), and all of the ten precincts. The place which was not surveyed (Lodwick’s Farmhouse) was omitted due to access restrictions.

Full access was arranged to the properties where possible, and in a few cases interior inspections were undertaken. At a minimum, for each surveyed place external photographs were taken and descriptive notes made with reference to the condition of the place and any threats where relevant.

Survey of ‘Archaeological Places’

The survey of ‘Archaeological Places’ was undertaken by Ian Travers, a specialist archaeologist, with the assistance of Jocelyn Linder of the Community Reference Group.

The Stage 1 report provides limited information on the location of these mostly rural places, and many were drawn from the Mallee Area Review Study, which was undertaken in the mid-1980s (Ward 1986) and thus not accompanied by accurate mapping. However, the majority of the places are on Crown Land, and a number were located with the assistance of Parks Victoria Rangers—Robert McNamara at Murray Sunset NP, Dave Christian at Wyperfeld NP and Andrew Dodds at Hattah-Kulkyne NP.

Of 37 places on the list, 21 were located and subsequently assessed. The team visited the probable locations of a further five places which were initially recorded during the earlier study. There was no evidence of these places found, suggesting that they have been destroyed since that time. Three places could not be located, and two more (Wymlet South State School Site and Green’s Homestead) could not be accessed (the latter owing to mining operations in the area). One place (Boinka State School No. 3800, now a community centre) had already been surveyed as it featured on both lists.

For each surveyed place, descriptive notes were made and photographs and GPS coordinates taken using a hand-held unit.

2.5 Historical research

Historical research was undertaken by Aaron Paul, Ian Travers, Louise Holt and Louise Honman. This was primarily from secondary sources, many of which were available from the Ouyen History and Genealogy Centre. This was supplemented by title and rate searches for selected places. The assistance of members of the Centre in researching places was invaluable, particularly for searching the rate books.

2.6 Documentation and assessment

Places were assigned significance according to their heritage values: aesthetic, historical, technical or archaeological (known archaeological value, as opposed to archaeological potential—see below). Places of cultural heritage significance were identified using the HERCON criteria as included in the *Heritage Victoria Model Consultants Brief for Heritage Studies*, July 2008 [see Appendix 4]). Heritage Victoria notes that the thresholds for the application of significance might include state significance and local significance. In addition, places that were not found to meet the threshold of local significance could be identified as being of local interest.

The following tasks were undertaken to assess and document the places and precincts:

- Historical and/or architectural research to document the history of each place and find out which historical theme(s) it is connected to. Research was drawn from secondary sources (e.g. local histories) and primary sources (e.g. rate books, street directories, land titles, historic maps and photos etc.).
- Contextual history for each place drawn from the Thematic Environmental History. This included, as appropriate, a locality history for all places, and a thematic context.
- A comparative analysis for each place of potential architectural significance sufficient to determine its relative significance using the thresholds of local or State significance. The analysis draws on the current heritage listings (at the State and local level), comparison between places currently under assessment and the Thematic Environmental History.
- An assessment of significance in accordance with *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance* (1999) using the HERCON criteria (See Appendix E) applying the thresholds of local or State significance (Please refer to section 2.5).
- A statement of significance for each significant place and precinct. The Statement clearly and accurately describes:
 - *What* is important about the place – what elements contribute to its significance: buildings (including which phases of construction), trees, objects, views, etc.;
 - *How* it is important – in terms of its historic, aesthetic/architectural, social, technical, spiritual or other values; and
 - *Why* it is important – What historic themes does it demonstrate? Is it a good or representative example of its type? Who is it associated with? Is it valued by the community?

2.7 Hermes

Once the assessments were completed, the findings were entered into the HERMES database. For places or precincts of local significance, citations were prepared, as appropriate, for each place in a manner that is sufficient to form a sound basis for protection in the Mildura Rural City Planning Scheme in accordance with Heritage Victoria guidelines for Stage 2 studies.

Each place or precinct record includes:

- A history and description.
- Comparative analysis and statement of significance.
- Statutory recommendations, e.g. Mildura Rural City Planning Scheme, VHI, VHR or other actions.
- Management guidelines –only if appropriate and place specific
- At least two images

The HERMES place citations should ideally contain a reference to the Local Places Heritage Policy of the Mildura Rural City Planning Scheme, however this policy in its present form is limited in its application to places in the former Shire of Walpeup. Should this change as is recommended, the citations should be amended to include this. See Section 4.5 for a discussion of a Heritage Places Local Policy.

A ‘Significant’ place within a precinct has its own individual HERMES citation and statement of significance.

For those places recommended for inclusion in the Heritage Overlay, the extent of the overlay is noted: either the entire property as defined by the title boundaries, or a curtilage around the significant elements, which is described in the HERMES database and illustrated on a scaled aerial photo or precinct map.

For places that do not meet the threshold of local significance, a brief record was added to the HERMES database, noting that they have been assessed with a short explanation of why they do not require further assessment. These places are not included among the citations in Volume 3 of this report.

2.8 Consultation

Consultation in Stage 2 was sought in the following ways:

- A meeting of property owners was held in Ouyen where the purpose was to inform them of how the Study was proceeding, what the likely process and timelines would be and to invite participation.
- The Ouyen meeting was well attended by approximately 25 people and presentations by the consultants and the project manager were followed with an extended group discussion.
- All property owners have been provided with two information bulletins and copies of the citations for their property for review and comment.
- Feedback has been received from a number of property owners and members of the Reference Group have also reviewed the citations.
- The consultants have verified all feedback and modified the citation if appropriate.

2.9 Steering committee

The project has had four Steering Committee meetings, two of which were held by telephone conference, and two which were held in Ouyen. At these meetings the Steering Committee was updated on progress of the Study and any changes to the Project Plan. Copies of the draft report and citations were distributed prior to the final Steering Committee meeting.

2.10 Peer review

A peer review was held with Ian Wight and Geoff Austin of Heritage Victoria, and Peter Douglas of Mildura Rural City. Louise Holt and Louise Honman presented their findings including a description of the manner in which assessments had been made. Francis O’Neil from Heritage Victoria also had input into the peer review which ensured that the basis for

assessment was consistent with other heritage studies and several places could be recommended for State listing.

2.11 Review of the Thematic Environmental history

Robyn Ballinger was engaged to review the Thematic Environmental History in the light of the places assessed. The purpose of the review was to check the balance of historic themes with the places assessed. Additional fieldwork photos were added to further illustrate the document. The Thematic Environmental History should be further reviewed following any future heritage reviews or gap studies.

2.12 Statutory protection

One of the main purposes of the Study was to recommend the appropriate type of statutory protection for the places assessed to be of local or state significance or of archaeological significance.

For the purposes of this study, statutory protection can be achieved through inclusion of a place on one or more of the following lists/registers.

Places with an existing heritage listing

Place	Current listing	Listing No.
POW Brighton's Bridge	Heritage Overlay	HO118
Kow Plains Homestead	Heritage Overlay	HO182
Former Murrayville Consolidated School	Heritage Overlay	HO184
Murrayville Railway Station	Heritage Overlay	HO183
Hattah Kulkyne National Park	Heritage Overlay	HO17
Murrayville Goods Shed	Victorian Heritage Register	H1570
Kow Plains Homestead	Victorian Heritage Register	H0688
Former Murrayville Consolidated School	Victorian Heritage Register	H1185
Murrayville Railway Station	Victorian Heritage Register	H1580

Mildura Rural City Heritage Overlay

Places of local or State heritage significance can be protected by inclusion in the Heritage Overlay (HO) of local government planning schemes. The purpose of the HO is:

- To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- To conserve and enhance heritage places of natural or cultural significance.
- To conserve and enhance those elements which contribute to the significance of heritage places.
- To ensure that development does not adversely affect the significance of heritage places.

- To conserve specifically identified heritage places by allowing a use that would otherwise be prohibited if this will demonstrably assist with the conservation of the significance of the heritage place.

Victorian Heritage Register

The Victoria Heritage Register (VHR) was established under the *Heritage Act 1995*. The VHR contains registered places or objects, including buildings, structures and areas/precincts. Such places have been assessed as being of State Cultural Heritage Significance using assessment criteria established by the Heritage Council.

Changes to a registered place generally require a permit from Heritage Victoria, unless the works are included in permit exemptions identified in the registration for that place. Applications for a permit are made to Executive Director of Heritage Victoria.

Victorian Heritage Inventory

The Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI) is a list of archaeological sites that are subject to specific requirements under the *Heritage Act 1995*. Consent is required from the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria for any works that will impact on place listed on the VHI.

It is important to note that inclusion of a place on the VHI does not imply an assessed level of significance in the same way as does inclusion on the HO or VHR. It simply reflects that the place includes archaeological remains or sub-surface deposits, or is likely to, i.e. it has archaeological potential.

2.13 Reporting

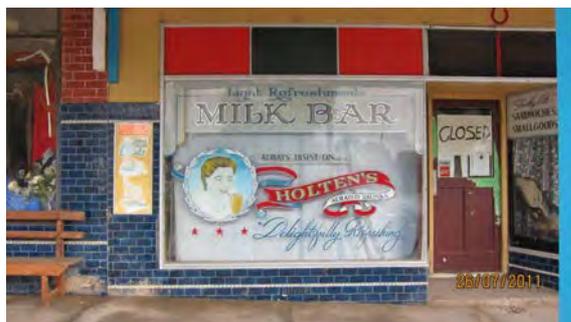
In accordance with Heritage Victoria guidelines, the Study was prepared with reference to The Australia ICOMOS *Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Heritage Significance* (the Burra Charter) and its guidelines. In addition, reference was made to the *Guidelines for Thematic Environmental Histories* in preparing the Thematic Environmental History.

2.14 Study constraints

The Mildura (former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study Stage 2 has been conducted over the period of twelve months which has allowed for the consultants to visit the study area to undertake fieldwork on two occasions.

A high proportion of places identified by the earlier study were found and recorded, although some of the archaeological places within National Parks were either not found or were no longer evident. This is to be expected given the ephemeral nature of some places and the environmental risks that they are subject to.

Where places are not visible from the road consent was sought from property owners to enter properties. In most cases this was given but where consent was withheld no visit was undertaken.



3. Holten's milkbar Reed Street Murrayville. Source: Context 2011

3 KEY FINDINGS

3.1 Introduction

The key findings of the Study are summarised below.

Table 3.1 Recommendations

Recommendation	No. of places
Victorian Heritage Inventory only	1
Victorian Heritage Register	3
Heritage Overlay (includes 8 places also recommended for VHI)	89
Researched not recommended	26
Total	119

3.2 Heritage places

Establishing significance

A series of local ‘tests’ were used to determine whether a heritage place meets the threshold of local significance to Mildura Rural City using the HERCON criteria. It is noted that a place need only meet one ‘test’ or criteria in order to meet the threshold of local significance.

Meeting more than one ‘test’ does not make the place more significant—it simply means that the place is significant for a variety of reasons. The tests are:

- The place is associated with a key theme identified in the Thematic Environmental History. The place will have a strong association with the theme and this will be clearly illustrated by the fabric when compared with other places (Criterion A).
- The place may be rare within the municipality or to a township or locality. It may contain or be a very early building/s, or be of a type that is underrepresented within Mildura Rural City (Criterion B).
- The place has potential to yield further information either through archaeological investigation or other investigation. (Criterion C)
- If it is a representative example of a place type it will usually have the typical range of features normally associated with that type – i.e. it will be a benchmark example – and it will usually have a high degree of integrity (i.e. for a precinct, a high proportion of the places will be considered to be contributory) or particular aesthetic characteristics (Criteria D or E).
- The place is an exemplar of an architectural style or represents significant technical or artistic/architectural innovation or achievement when compared to other similar places in the municipality. The places will usually have a high degree of integrity when compared to other places (Criterion F).
- The place has strong social or historic associations to an area (Criterion G) or to an individual or organisation (Criterion H) and, in particular:
 - There is continuity of use or association, meanings, or symbolic importance over a period of 25 years or more (representing transition of values beyond one generation).
 - The association has resulted in a deeper attachment that goes beyond utility value.
 - The connection between a place and a person/s or organisations is not short or incidental and may have been documented – for example in local histories, other heritage studies or reports, local oral histories etc.

Archaeological significance/value and archaeological potential

A distinction has been drawn between places of archaeological value and those of archaeological potential, as follows:

Places of archaeological value – these are places in which remains or sub-surface deposits are known to exist, or can be predicted with confidence, to which archaeological techniques could be applied to derive supplementary information that would contribute positively to the place’s significance.

For these places, this value has contributed to their assessment of local or state significance, and their archaeological nature has resulted in their nomination for inclusion on the VHI.

Places of archaeological potential – these are places at which such remains or sub-surface deposits are known but not assessed as of archaeological value (i.e. they would not yield supplementary information that would contribute positively to the place’s significance). They also include places where as yet unknown remains or sub-surface deposits of value are likely to exist.

The archaeological nature of these places has resulted in their nomination for inclusion on the VHI.

The places of archaeological value and potential in Mildura Rural City are typically early or interesting sites that relate to important historical themes in the Rural City around agricultural development and industry—particularly salt extraction. They include several places already on the Heritage Inventory where further documentation undertaken as part of this Study has allowed these places to transfer to the Heritage Overlay.

Table 3.3. Places of archaeological significance/potential

Place	Address	Recommendation
Sheep holding pen	Lot 32 Allan Road Panitya	VHI
Danyo Site 1	Off Ouyen Highway, Murrayville	VHI & HO
Ouyen Mineral Sands	East side of Manley Road, north of Pearson Road	VHI & HO
Tutye former settlement	Stock Route Road, Tutye	VHI & HO
Tutye bore and site of former gypsum plasterworks	Off Stock Route Road, Tutye	VHI & HO
Ruins at salt workings Lake Kenyon	Murray Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	VHI & HO
Tramway formation	Lake Becking Murray Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	VHI & HO
Salt harvesting site	Lake Becking Murray Sunset National Park : Pink Lakes	VHI & HO
Salt harvesting site	Lake Crosby Murray Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	VHI & HO

State significance

The Study has identified three places of state significance. These should be nominated for inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register. All are well documented however most require development of documentation in a format suited the VHR.

Table 3.2. Places of state significance

Place	Address
Gloster & Sons garage	55 Cotter Street Underbool
Ouyen High School	Cnr Fuller & Ritchie Streets Ouyen
Pine Plains (outbuildings)	Wyperfeld National Park

Local significance

In accordance with Heritage Victoria guidelines, heritage places are no longer assigned a 'grading', but are identified as being of either local or State significance. Places of local significance can include places significant to a locality. Some of the places of local significance may also be important to the whole of Mildura Rural City, however this will be established as the heritage reviews for each Area are completed.

It is important to note that:

- A place may have value to both local and State-wide communities.
- The two categories are not 'hierarchical' with one being more important than the other, rather they simply identify the community to which the place is most important.

Places of local significance are listed in Appendix 1.2.

Local interest or not significant

By comparison, places that do not meet the threshold of local significance will generally be those where:

- Historical associations are not well established or are not reflected in the fabric because of low integrity, or
- The place is common within the municipality or already well represented in the Heritage Overlay, or
- If it is a precinct, it has a high proportion of non-contributory buildings, or
- It is a typical, rather than outstanding example of an architectural style or technical achievement and there are better comparative examples in the area or municipality.
- The social or historical associations are not well established or demonstrated.

3.3 Precincts

Heritage precincts within the Mildura Rural City generally possess one or more of the following characteristics:

- They contain heritage places that, individually or as a group, illustrate important themes that were significant in the development of the Mildura Rural City.
- They have largely intact or visually cohesive streetscapes that create precincts of aesthetic or historic integrity
- They contain a high proportion of substantially intact contributory heritage places.

Changes to precincts identified in Stage 1 of the Study were made as a result of further fieldwork and assessment in Stage 2 of the Study.

These changes include:

- Combing the two Cowangie precincts into one precinct
- Enlarging Murrayville Commercial Precinct, Reed Street to include the Murrayville Hotel
- Substituting individual places 15-17 and 19 McKenzie Street instead of Murrayville McKenzie Street Precinct
- Reducing the area of Pickering Street Ouyen as a result of demolition of a place
- Reducing the area of Railway Terrace Ouyen to exclude some vacant land
- Enlarging Walpeup Commercial Precinct as far as Glen Street
- Adding a new precinct in Ouyen (Mitchell Street).

Table 3.4. Precincts of local significance

Place	Locality
Cowangie Precinct	COWANGIE
Murrayville Commercial Precinct Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE
Murrayville Precinct – Sharrock Street	MURRAYVILLE
Ouyen Housing Precinct Mitchell Street	OUYEN
Ouyen Housing Precinct Pickering Street	OUYEN
Ouyen Commercial Precinct Oke Street	OUYEN
Ouyen Housing Precinct Railway Terrace	OUYEN
Ouyen Railway Precinct Rowe Street	OUYEN
Walpeup Commercial Precinct Cregan Street	WALPEUP



4. Ouyen Railway precinct. Source: Context 2011

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 Introduction

This section considers the key recommendations of the Study that are considered to be fundamental to an effective heritage strategy for Mildura Rural City.

- Adopt the recommendations of the Mildura (former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study 2012
- Undertake a planning scheme amendment to implement key findings of the Study.
- Nominate the 3 places to the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) and the Victorian Heritage Inventory (VHI)

4.2 Adoption

On the basis of the key findings of this report we recommend that the Mildura Rural City adopts the *Mildura (Former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study 2012*.

- Volume 1–Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History
- Volume 2– Key Findings and Recommendations
- Volume 3–Citations
- Volume 4–Mapping

4.3 Planning scheme amendment

We recommend that the Mildura Rural City prepare to exhibit an amendment to the Mildura Rural City Planning Scheme to implement the findings of the *Mildura (Former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study 2012*.

Places

Add the 78 individual places and nine precincts assessed in this Study to the Heritage Schedule.

VHR recommendations

It is recommended that the Mildura Rural City nominate the three places of state significance to the Victorian Heritage Register.

VHI recommendations

Eight places are proposed for nomination for inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Inventory. Seven of these are also proposed for a Heritage Overlay.

4.4 Mapping

The following places are mapped in GIS, but no visual representation/map is given in the report as the aerial is too poor quality:

- Boinka Community Centre (former State School No 3800)
- Boinka Cemetery
- Limestone walls, Boinka
- Lone grave, Cowangie

- Railway pumping station, Hattah
- Regulator, Hattah
- Danyo Site 1 (Tutye Foundations?), Murrayville
- Bridge remnant, Ouyen
- Bugge's public tank, Ouyen
- Log Tank, Ouyen
- Ouyen Mineral Sands (OMS) – H2, Ouyen
- No. 1 bore, Panitya
- Sheep holding pen, sheepwash & bores, Panitya
- Tutye Cemetery
- McKinnon's Farm House, Walpeup

4.4 General Planning Scheme Recommendations

It is recommended that the following clauses within the Mildura Rural City Planning Scheme are updated prior to any Planning Scheme Amendment to implement the findings of this and subsequent heritage studies. This work should form part of the exhibition documentation, and be undertaken using the Victorian Planning Provisions [VPP] Practice Notes 'Writing a Municipal Strategic Statement' and 'Writing a Local Planning Policy'.

The Municipal Strategic Statement (Clauses 21.01, 21.04, 21.06)

Local Planning Policy [LPP](Clauses 21.06 and 21.08)

It is recommended that Volumes 1-4 be added to Clause 21.06 of the Mildura Planning Scheme as a Reference Document.

4.5 Mildura Planning Scheme heritage policy

As previously noted, it is proposed that the future management of the places and precincts assessed by this study (and subsequent studies) should be guided by a Heritage Places Local Policy (HPLP) at Cl. 22.08 of the Planning Scheme. This local policy would replace the current Cl. 22.08 'Heritage Precincts Policy', and reflect the broader application of the local policy to all places included in the heritage overlay (including individual places and precincts). The policy will need to be reviewed once further heritage assessments are undertaken (at the Amendment stage) to ensure it is complete and still relevant.

The advantages of managing heritage places through a Heritage Places Local Policy include:

- It will ensure consistency across heritage places for future users. Referring to the policy in the planning scheme means that planners or property owners will know that this is the same policy for all heritage places. It 'overrides' any previous policy written into earlier citations for places and precincts
- It will make it easier for council to manage heritage in the future. For example, if Council decides to make a change to the heritage policy then it only needs to be made to one document, rather than in many separate citations.

The HPLP has been reviewed and it is considered that some improvements could be made. In summary:

- Some aspects of the policy are inconsistent with the VPP Practice Note: Writing a local policy. In particular, the policy is limited only to specific policy regarding three heritage

precincts to which the heritage overlay applies. Specifically, the policy is named the ‘Heritage Precincts Policy’ and provides great detail regarding the Chaffey Avenue Precinct, the Deakin Avenue Precinct and the Lemon Avenue Precinct. However, the policy clearly states that it applies to all land to which the heritage overlay is applied

- The Policy Basis discusses details of the historical context of the three precincts listed above, rather than providing a brief explanation of the reasoning underpinning the LPP and its links with the Municipal Strategic Statement [MSS].
- The policy has only one objective, which is ‘To protect, preserve and promote individual precincts that reflect the early development of Mildura’. A broader range of policy objectives which relates to all heritage places to which the heritage overlay applies is desirable.

On this basis, a revised HPLP has been prepared, which provides guidance for both individual places and precincts—see Appendix 8.



5. Cregan Street Walpeup. Source: Context 2011

5 TOWARDS A LOCAL HERITAGE PLAN

5.1 Introduction

Conservation of places of cultural significance requires both statutory and non-statutory processes. Best practice will include a range of incentives for the conservation of cultural heritage and each place will have its own challenges and opportunities.

A heritage plan is about identifying the particular challenges and opportunities. Local communities are a great source of knowledge and expertise and tapping into this is an important part of local heritage.

This section recognises that there are ways to promote heritage at a local level that can occur alongside the listing of places on heritage registers and statutory protection.

5.2 Heritage Advisory Service

Identifying and accessing heritage programs at the federal, state and local level can assist Council and the community to achieve particular conservation outcomes.

Mildura Rural City has a heritage advisory program and a visiting heritage advisor. Prior to this Study identified heritage places tended to be clustered in the urban areas. With additional heritage places in the more remote parts of the municipality there may be a need to extend the heritage advisory service.

Extending the service to include regular visits to Ouyen and district would be advisable.

5.3 Heritage Strategy

Local heritage strategies are an excellent way for Councils to prioritise, budget and coordinate heritage programs. Local strategies aim to know, protect, support and promote heritage. Heritage Victoria promotes the use of heritage strategies as an integral part of funding for local government heritage programs.

5.4 Supporting community heritage involvement

Local history centres play very important roles in the conservation of cultural heritage and supporting the volunteers who undertake this work is vital for the retention and transmission of knowledge. Including local heritage 'champions' as part of a network of cultural heritage advisors is an important way to overcome the remoteness of parts of the Mildura Rural City.

5.5 Management of heritage places

The Study area has a number of places that are in remote areas or under challenging environmental conditions. The management of such heritage places can be particularly difficult.

The ephemeral nature of buildings, redundancy, termites and other pests are all key challenges to the conservation of places on private land. Surplus buildings are often left to deteriorate and not all places can be conserved.

Townships are small and often have an oversupply of buildings leading to vacant places. Vacancy is a threat to heritage places and finding new uses can often be a challenge where populations are small. Finding viable uses for buildings will assist in their care and maintenance.

Much of the study area is covered by National Parks under the management of Parks Victoria and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). Public land management

guidelines have been produced by the Department's Historic Places Branch and these include the following considerations for the protection of sites (DSE, 2010):

- Non-disturbance of sites
- The use of zones and buffers that take in all the elements of the landscape
- Protection of historic landscape where there is a series of connected sites or where the context is important
- Interpretation and recording, e.g. school sites where school buildings have been removed.

The Victorian Environmental Assessment Council (VEAC) provides independent and strategic advice relating to the protection and sustainable management of Victoria's environment and natural resources (replacing the Land Conservation Council).

Ruined places

Ruined places pose particular challenges for management. Some historical themes are often best represented by ruins yet they are among the most under-recognised and difficult-to-manage heritage places. In local and thematic heritage studies, it is important that heritage ruins are identified, that their significance is assessed and that they are considered for protection like any other heritage place.

It is true that including a heritage ruin on a statutory heritage register or in a local planning scheme may pose particular challenges. Owners may fear that heritage listing would require them to reconstruct the ruin back to its previous condition or completeness. (Context, 2012:8)

Solutions might include:

- Describing the place carefully so that its present condition is understood
- Including the word 'ruin' in the place name
- Defining carefully which parts of the place are significant and which are not
- Deciding on the best management approach for the place prior to listing, and including this management decision in the listing documentation
- Ensuring community expectations for a listed ruin are realistic.

Just like any other heritage place there are a range of management options for ruins that include taking no action, to full reconstruction, and for any place a combination of techniques may be appropriate.

Lone Graves and Cemeteries



6. Cemetery at Boinka. Source: Context 2011

Lone graves often have historical associations and significance to local communities. They are tangible evidence of communities that may have now largely vanished. Conserving lone graves and burial sites requires the preservation of local knowledge and the recording and monitoring of any changes to the site. Though only one lone grave has been identified in the Study, it is highly likely that others exist in the study area and that there is local knowledge of their locations.

Heritage Victoria has prepared a guide to the identification, recording and surveying techniques used for Aboriginal burial sites, much of which is applicable to non-Aboriginal graves. Graves may be marked or unmarked, however marking and interpretation is considered important to ensure the passing of knowledge through generations.

Cemeteries are generally maintained and operated under a local board of trustees. An important aspect of managing cemeteries is the maintenance of good records. Important features of the cemetery many include the layout, plantings, structures, drainage systems, graves and fencing. Sharing knowledge across different cemetery boards of trustees may assist in management of these elements.

Mallee Agricultural Research Station

The Research Station is currently leased by the Sunraysia Institute of TAFE (SuniTAFE) and forms part of their Mallee education programs, based in Ouyen. The whole campus, including the research farm, contains evidence of the changes in agriculture from European agricultural practices to practices specific to Australia's climate and conditions.

While this study has found that there are two particular structures of individual significance, the whole farm is also of scientific significance for its role in the development of agricultural practices, has social value for the community and state-wide historic value.

Managing heritage values across a range of historic, social and technical criteria at different levels of significance calls for broad involvement from both experts and community members, using a range of heritage management tools that could be developed as part of a Conservation Management Plan (CMP). It is recommended that if further changes are proposed for the Research Station that they are preceded by the preparation of a CMP.

Council--owned heritage places



7. Memorial Hall Walpeup. Source: Context 2011

There are nine places in the Study owned and managed by Mildura Rural City. It is important for Mildura Rural City to demonstrate good heritage management principles in looking after its own properties. This might include consulting with the local and associated communities when making decisions that have a significant impact on heritage places, while balancing conservation outcomes.

Table 5.1. Council-owned heritage places

Place	Address
State Emergency Service, former Courthouse	17 Reed Street Murrayville
Former Ouyen Court House	Oke Street Ouyen
The Torrita Building	Oke Street Ouyen
War Memorial	Intersection of Oke & Pickering Streets Ouyen
Torrita Public Hall	Mallee Highway Torrita
Memorial Gates, Outen Park	Cnr Malkin Ave & Monish Ave Underbool
Lake Walpeup Reserve	Off Walpeup Lake Road, Walpeup
Memorial Hall	Glen & Richardson Street Walpeup
Boinka State School No. 3800	Boinka South Road, Off Ouyen Highway Boinka

Building and Planning Approvals

Because of the level of change within some parts of the municipality, it is recommended that the Mildura Rural City recognise places with some level of significance (state or local, places on VHI) on its internal planning and building information systems. This will ensure that Council officers are alerted to any possible heritage significance should a permit application be received, particularly if a permit to demolish is sought under the Building Act. This could enable heritage advice to be obtained by the City to help the property owners develop a solution that meets their needs and respects the heritage values of the place.



8. *Ouyen Mineral Sands site. Source: Context 2011*

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GLOSSARY

Burra Charter	<p>The <i>Burra Charter</i> is the short name given to the <i>Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance</i>, which was developed by Australia ICOMOS at a meeting in 1979 in the historic South Australian mining town of Burra. It is now widely accepted as the basis for cultural heritage management in Australia.</p> <p>The Burra Charter may be applied to a wide range of places—an archaeological site, a town, building or landscape and defines various terms and identifies principles and procedures that must be observed in conservation work.</p> <p>Although the Burra Charter was drafted by heritage professionals, anyone involved in the care of heritage items and places may use it to guide conservation policy and practice.</p>
Cultural significance	<p><i>Cultural significance</i> means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations.</p> <p>Cultural significance is embodied in the <i>place</i> itself, its <i>fabric</i>, <i>setting</i>, <i>use associations</i>, <i>meanings</i>, <i>records</i>, <i>related places</i> and <i>related objects</i>. (Source: Burra Charter)</p>
Conservation	<p><i>Conservation</i> means all the processes of looking after a place so as to retain its <i>cultural significance</i>. (Source; Burra Charter)</p>
Fabric	<p><i>Fabric</i> means all of the physical material of the place. This can include buildings, structures, trees and gardens, ruins and archaeological deposits and associated objects. (Source: Burra Charter)</p>
ICOMOS	<p><i>ICOMOS</i> (International Council on Monuments and Sites) is a non-governmental professional organisation formed in 1965. ICOMOS is primarily concerned with the philosophy, terminology, methodology and techniques of cultural heritage conservation and is closely linked to UNESCO.</p>
Place	<p><i>Place</i> means site, area, land, landscape, building or other work, group of building or other work, and may include components, contents, spaces and views. (Source: Burra Charter)</p>
Post-contact	<p><i>Post-contact</i> means the period after first contact between Indigenous and non-Indigenous (sometimes referred to as 'European') individuals or communities.</p>

APPENDIX 1 SCHEDULES

Table 1.1 Recommended for VHR

	Place	Address1	Address 2
1.	Pine Plains Homestead, outbuildings	Pine Plains Road	BIG DESERT
2.	Ouyen High School	Corner of Fuller & Ritchie Streets	OUYEN
3.	A J Gloster & Sons Garage	55 Cotter Street	UNDERBOOL

Table 1.2. Recommended for HO- individual places

	Place	Address1	Address 2
1.	Bridge remnant	Gunners Track	BIG DESERT
2.	Carter's tank	Pine Plains Road	BIG DESERT
3.	Boinka Community Centre (former State School No 3800)	Boinka South Road	BOINKA
4.	Boinka Cemetery	Kelly Road	BOINKA
5.	Limestone walls	Mallee Highway	BOINKA
6.	Cowangie Cemetery	Cemetery Road	COWANGIE
7.	Railway water reserve	Main Street	COWANGIE
8.	Lone grave	Mallee Highway, east of township	COWANGIE
9.	Memorial trees WW1	Mallee Highway, Danyo	COWANGIE
10.	Wells - group of 3	Pallarang Road (west side, north of Mallee Hwy)	COWANGIE
11.	Railway pumping station	Lake Hattah	HATTAH
12.	Regulator	Lake Hattah	HATTAH
13.	Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church of Australia	Last Street	MURRAYVILLE
14.	Danyo Site 1 (Tutye Foundations?)	Mallee Hwy	MURRAYVILLE
15.	Commercial buildings (row of shops)	15-17 McKenzie Street	MURRAYVILLE
16.	Commercial building (shop)	19 McKenzie Street	MURRAYVILLE
17.	St Peter's Lutheran Church	Murrayville-Nhill Road	MURRAYVILLE
18.	Murrayville Post Office	9 Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE
19.	State Emergency Service, former Courthouse	17 Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE

	Place	Address1	Address 2
20.	Masonic Lodge	24 Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE
21.	St Therese's Catholic Church	32 Sharrock Street	MURRAYVILLE
22.	Former Presbyterian Church	21 Cooper Street	OUYEN
23.	Ouyen Cemetery	Dunkley Road	OUYEN
24.	Former Blacksmith's Shop	10 Hughes Street	OUYEN
25.	Ouyen Primary School No 3615	Hunt Street	OUYEN
26.	House	12 Hunt Street	OUYEN
27.	Anglican All Saints Uniting Church	Hunt Street (cnr Martin Avenue)	OUYEN
28.	Lodwick's Farmhouse	Lodwick Road	OUYEN
29.	Ouyen Mineral Sands (OMS) – H2	Manley Road, (East side, north of Pearson Road)	OUYEN
30.	Ayton	11 Mitchell Street	OUYEN
31.	Railway Turntables repair site	Nihill Street (south)	OUYEN
32.	Roxy Theatre	17 Oke Street	OUYEN
33.	Ouyen Post Office	31 Oke Street	OUYEN
34.	Furniture Store	38 Oke Street	OUYEN
35.	The Torrita Building	61-71 Oke Street	OUYEN
36.	Former Ouyen Court House	61-71 Oke Street	OUYEN
37.	Loddon Mallee Women's Health centre	72 Oke Street	OUYEN
38.	Chaff, Oats and Grain Store	14 Oke Street (rear of Fairy Dell Cafe)	OUYEN
39.	War Memorial	Oke Street (cnr Pickering Street)	OUYEN
40.	House (former State Savings Bank)	1 Pickering Street	OUYEN
41.	North West Post Office and Foodworks	23 - 27 Pickering Street	OUYEN
42.	Former Doctor's Residence and Surgery	36 Pickering Street	OUYEN
43.	Ouyen Tyre Service	8 Pickering Street	OUYEN
44.	Hotel Victoria	22 Rowe Street	OUYEN
45.	Ouyen RSL Memorial Club Rooms	36 Rowe Street	OUYEN
46.	Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve	Scott Road (off Patchewallock - Ouyen Road)	OUYEN
47.	Scott's Block	Scott Road	OUYEN

	Place	Address1	Address 2
48.	Masonic Temple	12 Scott Street	OUYEN
49.	Log Tank	Walpeup Lake Road (Crown land reserve)	OUYEN
50.	Carina Lodge	Ngallo South Road	PANITYYA
51.	Panitya Oval	Mallee Highway south side	PANITYYA
52.	No. 1 Bore	Panitya South Road, on the west side between Mallee Hwy and Hewitt Road	PANITYYA
53.	Bugge's public water tank	Baring Road	PATCHEWOLLOCK
54.	Cooke's Cottage	Cooke's Road	TORRITA
55.	Torrira Public Hall	Mallee Highway	TORRITA
56.	Tutye bore and site of former gypsum plasterworks	Old Stock Route Road	TUTYE
57.	Tutye (former settlement)	Stock Route Road	TUTYE
58.	Tutye Cemetery	Tyalla Road	TUTYE
59.	Cemetery and Cemetery Gates	Cemetery Road	UNDERBOOL
60.	Salt harvesting site	Lake Becking Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
61.	Tramway formation	Lake Becking Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
62.	Salt harvesting site	Lake Crosby, Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
63.	Ruins at salt workings	Lake Kenyon, Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
64.	Women's Section National Party Meeting Room	13 Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
65.	Fishlock's General Store	2 Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
66.	Uniting Anglican Church	22 Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
67.	Weatherboard Cottage (McVicars)	4263 Mallee Highway	UNDERBOOL
68.	Commercial Hotel (former) - Underbool Hotel	45 Mallee Highway (Cotter Street)	UNDERBOOL
69.	Memorial Gates	Monash Ave, Outen Park	UNDERBOOL
70.	Walpeup Primary School	14 Glen St East	WALPEUP
71.	Memorial Hall	Glen Street (cnr Richardson Street)	WALPEUP
72.	Sacred Heart Catholic Church	17 Glen Street	WALPEUP
73.	Relift pumping station	Hopetoun-Walpeup Road	WALPEUP

	Place	Address1	Address 2
74.	Lutheran Church	Kenyon Street	WALPEUP
75.	Water Tank	Kenyon Street (cnr Glen Street West)	WALPEUP
76.	McKinnon's Farm House	McKinnon Lane (cnr Hopeton-Walpeup Road)	WALPEUP
77.	Walpeup Mallee Agricultural Research Station	Meridian Road	WALPEUP
78.	Uniting and Anglican Church	Murphy's Road	WALPEUP
79.	Lake Walpeup Reserve	Walpeup Lake Road	WALPEUP
80.	Grigg's Property	694 Walpeup Lake Road	WALPEUP

Table 1.3. Recommended for HO –precincts

	Place	Locality
1.	Cowangie Precinct	COWANGIE
2.	Murrayville Commercial Precinct	MURRAYVILLE
3.	Murrayville Precinct – Sharrock Street	MURRAYVILLE
4.	Ouyen Housing Precinct Mitchell Street	OUYEN
5.	Ouyen Commercial Precinct- Oke Street	OUYEN
6.	Ouyen Housing Precinct - Pickering Street	OUYEN
7.	Ouyen Housing Precinct - Railway Terrace	OUYEN
8.	Ouyen Railway Precinct	OUYEN
9.	Walpeup Commercial Precinct- Cregan Street	WALPEUP

Table 1.4 Recommended for VHI

	Place	Address1	Address 2
1.	Sheep holding pen, sheepwash & bores	Lot 32 Allan Road	PANITYA

Table 1.5. Researched not recommended

	Place	Address1	Address 2
1.	McDonald camp site, E. porossa (Mallee blackbox)	Campbell's tank area	BOINKA
2.	Nunn's House	Nunn Road	GALAH
3.	Murrayville Uniting Church	Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE
4.	Wymlet South State School Site	Boinka Road	OUYEN
5.	Kiamal - Farm	Calder Highway	OUYEN
6.	Paingie State School Site	Piangie Road, Galah	OUYEN
7.	Timberoo East State School Site	Ouyen-Patchewallock Road and Timberoo Road	OUYEN
8.	1968 HCV Estate	Vine Court	OUYEN
9.	Danyo Weighbridge No 1175	Wirrengren Plain inlet creek – Pine Plains Run	OUYEN
10.	Public tank within timber reserve	Patchewollock-Pie Plains Road	OUYEN
11.	Conga Wonga tanks	Pine Plains Run	OUYEN
12.	Galah Railway Station and Silos		OUYEN
13.	House	22 Cooper Street	OUYEN
14.	Former Smith House	20 Scott Street	OUYEN
15.	Ouyen Hospital	Britt Street	OUYEN
16.	Ouyen Race Track and Football Ground		OUYEN
17.	Timberoo East State School site	Off Patchewallock-Ouyen Road (on	OUYEN

		Scott Road)	
18.	House	18 Williams Street	OUYEN
19.	Brown's Homestead	Brown Road near Linga - update according to info in QGIS?	UNDERBOOL
20.	House	15 Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
21.	Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church	Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
22.	House	Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
23.	Co-operative shearing shed (dem.)	Off Underbool South Road	UNDERBOOL
24.	Public bore no 91 (MA 34-2)	Junction of Dennyng East channel and Goruya West Channel	UNDERBOOL
25.	Abandoned farming equipment	Lake Kenyon, Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
26.	Stock Route Road	Stock Route Road	WALPEUP

Table 1.6. Places not located

1.	Place	Address1	Address 2
2.	Railway crossing warning sign	Danyo railway station	COWANGIE
3.	Hattah-Kulkyne Military Interment Camp	Chalka Creek Track	HATTAH
4.	Moonah Track and Wattle Track Charcoal Pits	Moorah Track and Wattle Track	HATTAH
5.	Combined water tank and crane	Lake Hattah	HATTAH
6.	Green's Homestead	Mallee Highway	KULWIN
7.	Dering high-lift pumping station and survey office	Hattah Railway Station	OUYEN
8.	Hullards iron clad catchment tank	Walpeup West waterworks district, Big Desert and Sunset Country	OUYEN
9.	Hullards iron clad catchment tank	Lot 39 or 40 Freehold adjoining Wyperfeld National Park	OUYEN
10.	Fox's Public tank	Pine Plains Run	OUYEN
11.	Bullock track	Kulkyne to Tiega and Pine Plain	UNDERBOOL
12.	Former railway refreshment rooms	Ouyen Highway	UNDERBOOL

Table 1.7 Places with existing heritage listings

Place	Current listing	Listing No.
POW Brighton's Bridge	Heritage Overlay	HO118
Kow Plains Homestead	Heritage Overlay	HO182
Former Murrayville Consolidated School	Heritage Overlay	HO184
Murrayville Railway Station	Heritage Overlay	HO183
Hattah Kulkyne National Park	Heritage Overlay	HO17
Murrayville Goods Shed	Victorian Heritage Register	H1570
Kow Plains Homestead	Victorian Heritage Register	H0688
Former Murrayville Consolidated School	Victorian Heritage Register	H1185
Murrayville Railway Station	Victorian Heritage Register	H1580

APPENDIX 2 PROJECT BRIEF

1. Introduction

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) is seeking submissions from suitably qualified and experienced consultants to prepare Stage 2 of the Mildura Heritage Study for the former Walpeup Shire.

The purpose of a heritage study is to identify, assess and document post-contact places of cultural significance within the municipality and to make recommendations for their future conservation.

This includes recommendations for statutory protection, e.g. application of the most appropriate planning control, or inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register.

A heritage study is usually divided into two stages. Heritage Victoria often refers to a separate Stage 3, which is the implementation of the heritage study recommendations.

Council has completed Stage 1 which involved the preparation of a Thematic Environmental History and the identification of all places of potential cultural significance across the study area. Stage 1 also involved an estimation of the time and resources required to undertake Stage 2 of the study brief. The thematic environmental history included the Rural City of Mildura as a whole with a focus on the former shire of Walpeup.

Stage 2, which is now to be undertaken, involves the detailed assessment of significance and documentation of those places that were identified to be of potential cultural significance in the Stage 1 survey.

The project is being commissioned by Mildura Rural City Council with assistance from Heritage Victoria.

2. Study Area/Objectives/Consultation/Outputs/Tasks/Budget

Except where updated in accordance with this brief, all is to be in accordance with the information and requirements specified in the following documents:

- o Mildura Heritage Study (Including former Walpeup Shire) Stage 1 Project Brief May 2008
- o Mildura (former Walpeup Shire) Heritage Study Volume 1: Final Stage 1 Report August 2009
- o Former Shire of Walpeup Thematic History Stage 1 Volume 2 August 2009
- o Former Shire of Walpeup Heritage Study Hermes List 3 June 2009

3. Project Management

Steering Committee for the project comprising stakeholders to the project includes representatives of Heritage Victoria, Department of Planning and Community Development and MRCC staff.

Additional Project Reference Group includes a diverse range of professional and community based representatives with experience and interest in the project.

The project will be managed by Peter Douglas - MRCC's Co-ordinator Strategic Planning (Ph: 50188419).

*Preparation of Mildura Heritage Study
Former Walpeup Shire Stage 2 - Project Brief*

Mildura Rural City Council
24 March 2011 4

MRCC will provide copies of all relevant background material that is available to it and will undertake all administrative arrangements for meetings and workshops.

MRCC will also be responsible for the establishment and management of the Project Steering Committee and Reference Group.

4. Timing

The project is a high priority for Council and it is expected that the project will conform to the milestones as follows:

Immediate: Project Commencement

December 2011: Project completion imminent within next 6 months (completion of assessment and documentation for 80% of identified heritage places)

June 2012 Satisfactory completion of project and acquittal of project funds with funding partners

MRCC believes that this is a realistic timeframe and expects that it will be met.

5. Tenders

5.1 Responding to this brief

Submission of project proposals in response to this brief are required to be received by

Council by no later than 2:00 pm on the 14 April 2011.

A response to this brief must include:

- _ Method to be used and description of tasks to be undertaken to complete the project
- _ Consultation strategy plan/approach
- _ Project timetable
- _ A fee proposal to complete the project including apportioned costs and indicative breakdown into relevant areas.

Upon completion of an acceptable Project Management Plan as agreed, the consultant shall be entitled to a starting allowance of 10% of the budget for Stage 1. Further progress payments shall be as per the agreed Project Management Plan. The client shall retain 20% of the Stage 2 study budget to be handed over upon delivery and acceptance of the final Stage 2 report.

5.2 Consultant profile, skills, previous experience

The mix of skills required will typically include:

- _ Heritage planning
- _ Facilitation of Community /Stakeholder Consultation

5.3 Evaluation Criteria

Assessment will be based on the following criteria:

- _ Appreciation of the key issues and understanding of the project brief
- _ Project methodology
- _ Demonstrated experience in projects of similar scope and content
- _ Proposed fee
- _ Creativity/flair of response to study process and considerations indicating a high quality outcome
- _ Ability to meet the project requirements and timeframe

5.4 Interviews

Preparation of Mildura Heritage Study

*Former Walpeup Shire Stage 2 - **Project Brief***

Mildura Rural City Council

24 March 2011 5

Selected consultants will be short listed to attend an interview to discuss their tender as required.

APPENDIX 3 PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN



Mildura Rural City Council

MILDURA HERITAGE STUDY – WALPEUP STAGE 2

PROJECT SCHEDULE

19 MARCH 2012

Date	Outcome	Who?
19 March 2012	Draft Citations and cover letter finalised.	Context
20 March 2012	Draft Citations Distributed for feedback to Individual Landowners Precinct Landowners Reference Group	MRCC
21 March 2012	Information Update letter distributed to other members of community	MRCC
10 April 2012	Feedback Closes – comments referred to Context	MRCC
4 May 2012	Draft report and planning recommendations provided to SC	Context
9 May 2012	Steering Committee Meeting [phone conference]	MRCC
15 May 2012	Corporate Mgt Team [CMT] Briefing MRCC	MRCC
16 May 2012	Councillor Briefing MRCC: Context Heritage Victoria Reference Group	Context
25 May 2012	Councillor issues/clarification	MRCC/Context
1 June 2012	Public Exhibition	MRCC
18 June 2012	Public Exhibition Closes – comments provided to Context	MRCC
20 July	Final Report provided to SC	Context
25 July 2012	Steering Committee Meeting [phone conference]	MRCC
31 July/7 Aug 2012	CMT Briefing MRCC	MRCC
15 August 2012	Councillor Briefing MRCC	MRCC
23 August 2012	Final Report Reported to Council Meeting	MRCC
31 August 2012	Adopted Report provided to HV	MRCC

APPENDIX 4 HERCON CRITERIA

Criteria for assessing cultural heritage significance (HERCON)
(Criteria adopted by the Heritage Council on 7 August 2008 pursuant to Sections 8(1)(c) and 8(2) of the Heritage Act 1995).

Criterion A:

Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history.

Criterion B:

Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural history.

Criterion C:

Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria's cultural history.

Criterion D:

Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects.

Criterion E:

Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F:

Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

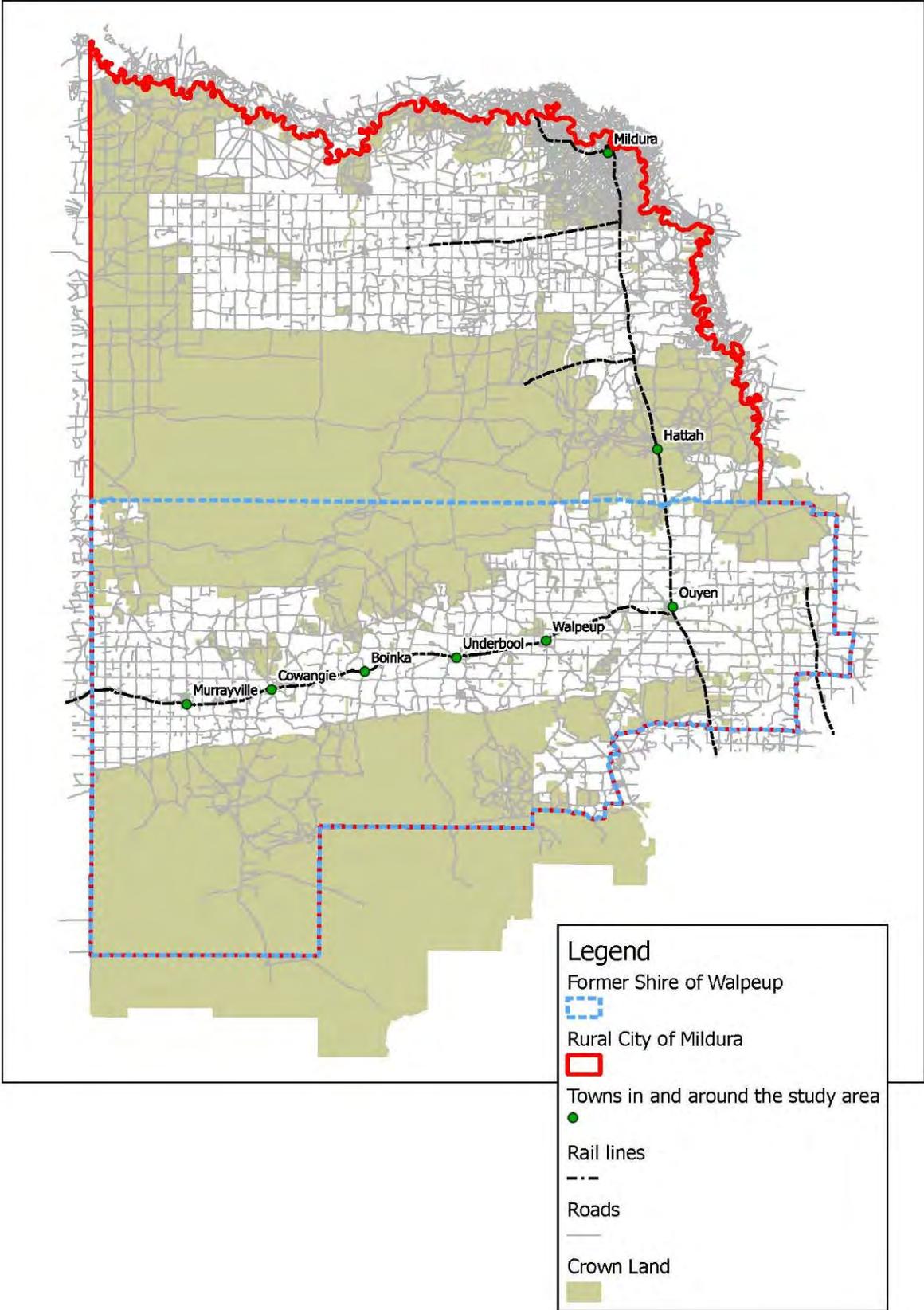
Criterion G:

Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H:

Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

APPENDIX 5 STUDY AREA MAP

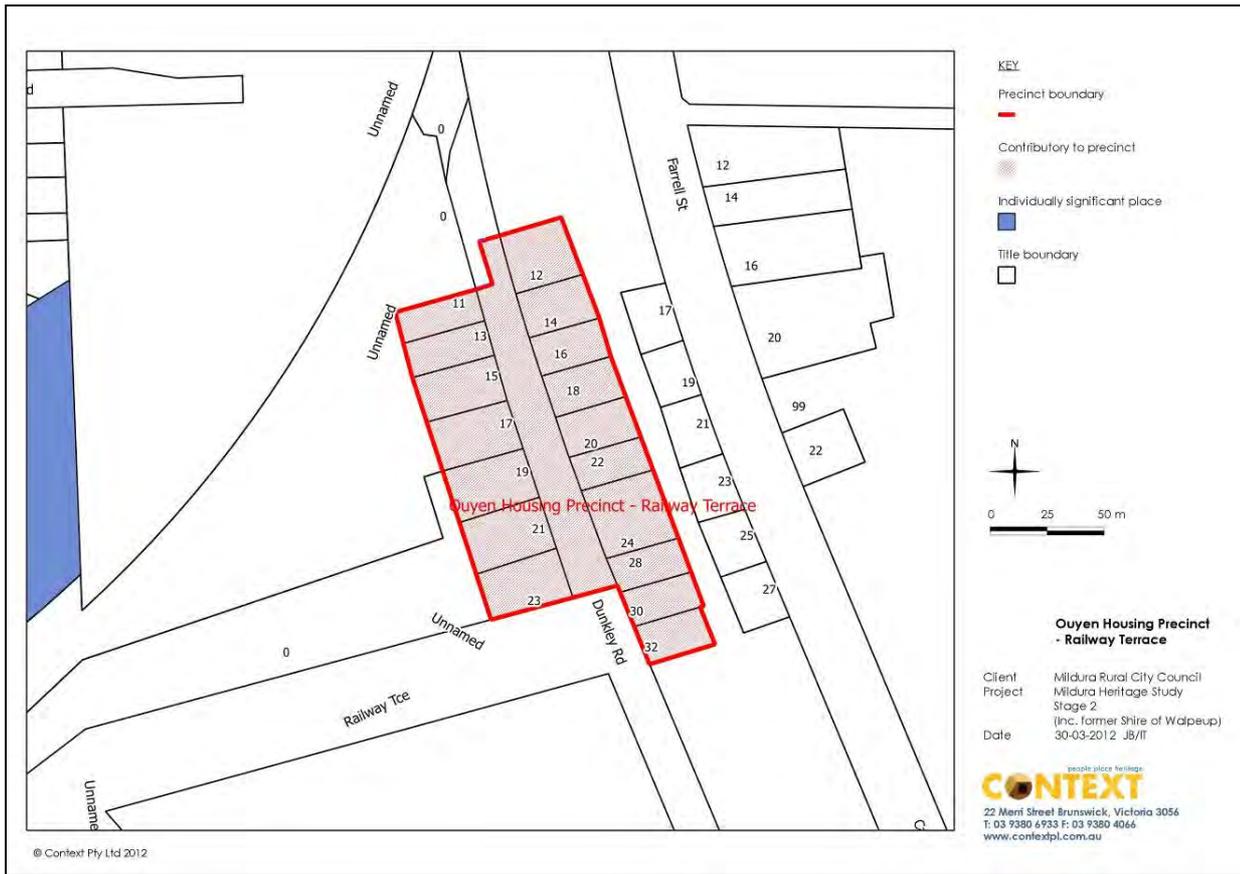


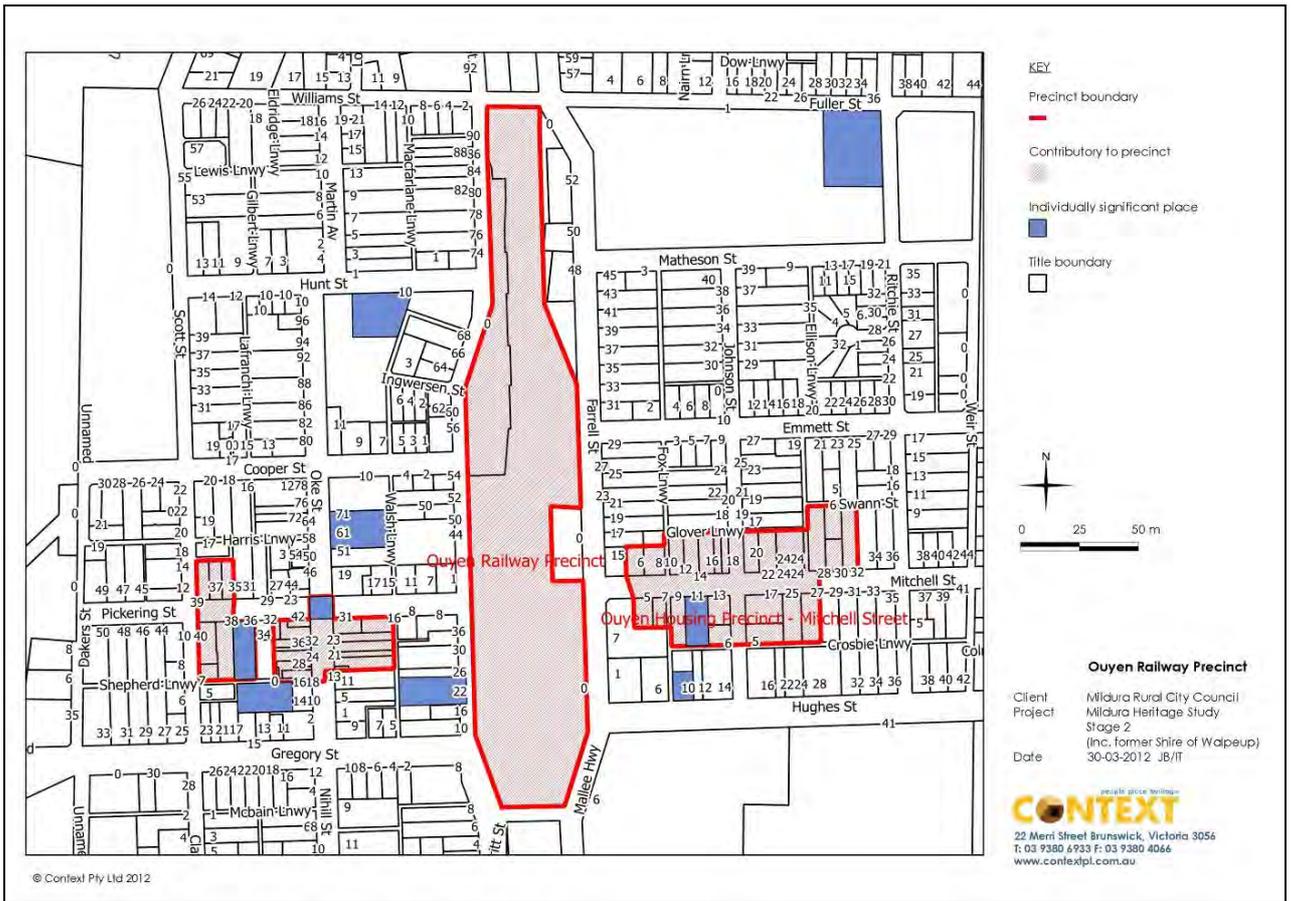
APPENDIX 6 PRECINCT MAPS





MILDURA (FORMER SHIRE OF WALPEUP) HERITAGE STUDY STAGE 2





APPENDIX 7 WORKSHOP DATA

Community Workshop participants

Community Heritage Workshop – Wednesday 5 November 2009	Community Heritage Workshop – Thursday 6 November 2009
Lloyd Thompson	Sue Willox
Mike Chaplin	Terri Scott
Julian Bowson	Alison Thorn
Frank Tucker	Jack Young & daughter
Judie Hyde	Jocelyn Lindner
Andrea Collins	Andrea Collins
Bruce McLean	Merle Pole (apology)
Ivan McKenzie	Dorothy Brown
Nathan	

Property owners workshop – July 2011
Deborah Vallance
Tony Cua
Joe Poole
Helen Chick
Colleen Gloster
Joanne Hogan
Merle Pole
Elaine Bell
Alison Thorne
Mari Hanns
A number of other people were present but did not record their names

The following places were nominated by participants at the Community Heritage Workshops. Although they were within Mildura Rural City, many were outside the study area boundaries for fieldwork, that is, the former Shire of Walpeup. Others were site types which existed throughout the study area. These sites were visited during fieldwork and included in the results where possible. Many more places were identified by community members during fieldwork.

Table 7.1. Community nominated places

Place	Address	Stage 2 findings
Swan Hill museum	Swan Hill	Outside study area
Tyntynder Homestead	Mildura	Outside study area
River bend at Boundary Bend and Merbein Pump Hill Cliffs	Mildura	Outside study area
Rio Vista	Mildura	Outside study area
St Ignatius School	Mildura	Outside study area
Chaffey Winery	Mildura	Outside study area
St Margaret's Church	Mildura	Outside study area
Carnegie Centre, collection of photos and clothes	Deakin Avenue, Mildura	Outside study area
Old limestone stone fences, homes and farm buildings	Shire of Walpeup	Places assessed include a limestone fence, a number of homes and farm buildings
All historical remain in former shire of Walpeup	Shire of Walpeup	
Water Reserves	Shire of Walpeup	Several places assessed
Grain silos throughout Mallee	Shire of Walpeup	Assessed in precincts
Native vegetation	Shire of Walpeup	Not assessed as primarily natural values
Pink Lakes salt harvesting sites	Linga and Underbool	Assessed
Pine Plains Homestead	Patchewollock	Outbuildings assessed, homestead relocated to Swan Hill.
Murrayville township	Murrayville	Assessed as a precinct
Boinka	Boinka	Several places assessed.
Kow Plains homestead	Cowangie -	Already on Heritage Overlay and VHR
Cowangie	Cowangie	Assessed as a precinct.
Ouyen streetscape of Oke Street	Ouyen	Assessed as a precinct.
Nowingi iron tank	Nowingi	Assessed
Aboriginal sites	Study area	Not assessed as outside scope of brief.
Abandoned agricultural machinery	Study area	Movable heritage only included in place descriptions but not assessed as a collection or separate from a place.
Wrecks of paddle streamers and barges	Murray River	Outside study area
Ross's Springs	South of Tutye	Not assessed
Site of primary school at Tutye	Tutye	Assessed.
Arnold's Store (now Ouyen Tyre Service)	Pickering and Rowe Streets	Assessed.
Railway Precinct, Rowe Street	Ouyen	Assessed as a precinct.
O Gilpin's Store	Oke Street, Ouyen	Assessed.
Stock Route Road	Walpeup	Assessed.
Log Tank at Pine Plains	Cowangie	Assessed.
'Big Billy' bore at Murrayville	Murrayville	Assessed.

Place	Address	Stage 2 findings
Examples of channels – they are being lost	5 K south of Underbool	Assessed as part of several places around Walpeup
Walpeup Lake	Walpeup	Assessed.
Dryland Gardens	Walpeup	Not assessed, contemporary garden.
Bush Nurse Cottage	Cowangie	Assessed as a precinct.
Shearing sheds	Shire of Walpeup	Not assessed as a series, several shearing sheds as part of farm complexes.
Mud brick buildings	Shire of Walpeup	Not assessed
640 acre farm blocks		Several places assessed.
Limestone walls	Danyo	Assessed

APPENDIX 8 PROPOSED HERITAGE PLACES LOCAL POLICY

MILDURA PLANNING SCHEME

22.08 Heritage Policy

This policy applies to all land within Heritage Overlay.

Policy Basis

Many culturally significant sites, precincts and places have been identified and documented through heritage studies of the municipality. It is recognised that these places make a strong cultural contribution to the distinctive character of the Rural City and the region and assist residents and visitors to appreciate the history of the area.

This policy:

- applies the State Planning Policy Framework provision relating to Heritage (Clause 15.11) to local circumstances
- supports and builds on the MSS objectives and strategies identified in clause 21.04, which identifies the conservation and enhancement of heritage places as a key objective.

Objectives

- To conserve the distinctive and often unique historic characteristics that contribute to the individual identity of communities within the Rural City of Mildura and to the identity of the municipality as a whole
- To ensure that the cultural significance of heritage places is not diminished by:
 - The loss of any fabric, which contributes to the significance of the heritage place or precinct
 - Inappropriate new development.
- To promote the conservation of heritage places in accordance with the principles and procedures recommended by the *Burra Charter*¹
- To encourage 'best practice' and a more consistent approach to the conservation of heritage places that is based upon a clear understanding of the reasons for their significance
- To ensure that new development is of the highest quality contemporary design and becomes a valued addition
- To conserve, manage and enhance identified places of cultural heritage significance
- To encourage the conservation and longevity of planted landscapes
- To give particular regard to the heritage values of places associated with the early development of the municipality by the Chaffey Brothers.

Policy

Definitions

The terms used in this policy are consistent with those defined by the *Burra Charter*. For the purposes of this policy, the following heritage place definitions apply:

- *Heritage Place*: A building (e.g., house, shop, factory etc), structure (e.g., memorial, bridge or tram poles), features (e.g., mine shafts and mullock heaps, street gutters and paving), private garden or public park, single tree or group of trees such as an avenue, group of buildings or sites

¹ The 'Burra Charter' is the short title given to the *Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance*, which has been widely accepted and adopted as the standard for heritage conservation practice in Australia.

(e.g. precinct), landscape, geological formation, fossil site, or habitat or other place of natural or cultural heritage significance and its associated land

- *Significant place*: A place (e.g. a building, structures, tree etc.) that has cultural heritage significance independent of its context. *Significant* places may also make a contribution to the significance of an area or precinct
- *Contributory place*: A place or feature (e.g. buildings, structures, trees etc.) that contributes to the significance of an area or precinct
- *Non-contributory place*: A place or feature (e.g. buildings, structures, trees etc.) that does not make a contribution to the significance of a Heritage Place. In some instances, a *Significant* place may be considered *Non-contributory* within a precinct. For example, an important Modernist house within a Victorian era precinct.

It is policy to:

- Conserve significant and contributory heritage places and in particular to, as appropriate:
 - support the maintenance and conservation of heritage places
 - support the restoration or reconstruction (where appropriate) of fabric where opportunities arise.
- Discourage the total demolition of Significant or Contributory heritage places unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the responsible authority that, as appropriate:
 - The place is structurally unsound and cannot feasibly be repaired without undertaking significant alterations that would diminish the integrity of the place, and
 - The proposed replacement building embodies design excellence that is complementary in form, scale and materials to the elements of primary significance, but is clearly contemporary in approach.
- Consider demolition of part of a Significant or Contributory place when it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the responsible authority that, as appropriate:
 - The demolition or removal will not adversely affect the significance of the place
 - It will assist in the long term conservation or maintenance of the place, or
 - It will support the viability of the existing use of the place or will facilitate a new use that is compatible with the on-going conservation of the building, or
- Encourage the removal of non-significant alterations or additions, particularly where this would assist in revealing the significance of the place.
- Give preference to new development including alterations or additions to existing heritage places that:
 - Creatively interprets and responds positively to the historic context provided by the heritage place
 - Is visually recessive and compatible in terms of its scale, siting, design, form and materials with the historic character and significance of the heritage place (including any associated building, trees or other significant elements)
 - Does not distort the historic evidence provided by heritage places by simply copying or reproducing historic styles or detailing
 - Responds positively to special features such as views, vistas, mature vegetation and landmark
 - Includes landscaping that will enhance the historic cultural landscape character of a heritage place
- Support the replacement of non-contributory buildings with new development that responds more positively to the historic context provided by any nearby heritage place

- Conserve historic public realm features such as basalt gutters, unmade roadside verges and mature street trees
- Give preference to subdivision that is:
 - compatible with the historic subdivision pattern found in an area, and/or
 - maintains significant fabric associated with a heritage place on a single lot.
- Give preference to advertising signs in traditional forms and locations on buildings, and that are limited in number
- Support the maintenance and management of significant trees in a manner that ensure that they will survive in good condition according to their normally expected lifespan
- Ensure that any future development, or changes in immediate environmental conditions, adjacent to a significant tree will not have a detrimental impact upon the integrity and condition of the tree
- Encourage strategic replanting programs of significant trees using the same species
- Encourage applications to include a heritage impact assessment
- Encourage applications to include a heritage management plan to guide the implementation of any proposed development, including conservation works.

Information requirements

It is policy that the following information may be required to support an application, as appropriate:

- A report prepared by a suitably qualified heritage consultant, which assesses the impact of the application upon the significance of the heritage place. This report should:
 - As part of the Site Analysis, describe the significant elements of the place having regard to the relevant heritage place citation and how these have been considered in the preparation of the application
 - If the application includes demolition, an assessment of whether the fabric is significant and, if so, provides reasons why it is to be removed
 - On the basis of the above, an assessment of how the application will affect the significance of the heritage place.

Note: It is possible that there may be significant fabric not specifically identified by an existing heritage study. Any additional fabric identified should be noted and assessed as part of the report.

- A Conservation Management Plan prepared in accordance with the *Burra Charter* for large or complex sites, or for major alteration or additions to places that are of individual significance, or for any other application that the responsible authority considers to raise significant heritage issues
- A report prepared by a suitably qualified consultant that assesses the structural condition of a heritage place and whether or not any defects can be repaired or mitigated
- An archaeological survey and assessment prepared by a suitably qualified consultant, which assesses the impact of an application upon potential archaeological deposits on the site
- A report prepared by a suitably qualified consultant, which assesses the impact of an application upon any significant tree
- Where the trees or gardens on the site have been identified as significant, a landscaping plan prepared by a suitably qualified consultant, which demonstrates how landscaping on the site will respond to the cultural landscape character and setting of the heritage place.

Decision Guidelines

It is policy that before deciding on an application the responsible authority must consider, as appropriate:

- The significance of the heritage place or precinct and whether the proposed buildings or works will adversely affect the cultural significance of the heritage place or precinct
- The significance of the tree to be pruned or removed
- Any relevant heritage impact assessment or conservation management plan
- Whether the application has responded to the relevant design suggestions in *The Heritage Overlay: Guidelines for Assessing Planning Permit Applications*
- Whether the proposed buildings or works will assist in the short or long term conservation of the place by:
 - maintaining, protecting, restoring, repairing or stabilizing significant fabric
 - supporting the continued original use of the building by enabling it to be upgraded to meet present day requirements and standards, including improved energy efficiency
 - implementing works in accordance with a Conservation Management Plan that has been prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority and any other relevant organization
 - allowing an alternative use when the original use of the building is no longer viable, or in accordance with a Conservation Management Plan
- Whether the proposed buildings or works will have an adverse effect upon a significant tree, or any tree that contributes to the setting of a heritage place or precinct.

people place heritage

CONTEXT

MILDURA (FORMER SHIRE OF WALPEUP)

HERITAGE STUDY STAGE 2

Final report

Volume 3 Hermes citations

1 August 2012

Prepared for
Mildura Rural City Council



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Report Register

This report register documents the development and issue of the report entitled *Mildura Former Shire of Walpeup Heritage Study Stage 2* undertaken by Context Pty Ltd in accordance with our internal quality management system.

Project No.	Issue No.	Notes/description	Issue Date	Issued to
1435	1	Draft report	4/5/2012	Peter Douglas
1435	2	Final report	1/8/2012	Peter Douglas

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INDEX OF PLACES

Recommended for HO –precincts

	Place	Locality
1.	Cowangie Precinct	COWANGIE
2.	Murrayville Commercial Precinct	MURRAYVILLE
3.	Murrayville Precinct – Sharrock Street	MURRAYVILLE
4.	Ouyen Housing Precinct Mitchell Street	OUYEN
5.	Ouyen Commercial Precinct- Oke Street	OUYEN
6.	Ouyen Housing Precinct - Pickering Street	OUYEN
7.	Ouyen Housing Precinct - Railway Terrace	OUYEN
8.	Ouyen Railway Precinct	OUYEN
9.	Walpeup Commercial Precinct- Cregan Street	WALPEUP

Recommended for HO– individual places

	Place	Address1	Address 2
1.	Bridge remnant	Gunners Track	BIG DESERT
2.	Carter's tank	Pine Plains Road	BIG DESERT
3.	Boinka Community Centre (former State School No 3800)	Boinka South Road	BOINKA
4.	Boinka Cemetery	Kelly Road	BOINKA
5.	Limestone walls	Mallee Highway	BOINKA
6.	Cowangie Cemetery	Cemetery Road	COWANGIE
7.	Railway water reserve	Main Street	COWANGIE
8.	Lone grave	Mallee Highway, east of township	COWANGIE
9.	Memorial trees WW1	Mallee Highway, Danyo	COWANGIE
10.	Wells - group of 3	Pallarang Road (west side, north of Mallee Hwy)	COWANGIE
11.	Railway pumping station	Lake Hattah	HATTAH
12.	Regulator	Lake Hattah	HATTAH
13.	Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church of Australia	Last Street	MURRAYVILLE
14.	Danyo Site 1 (Tutye Foundations?)	Mallee Hwy	MURRAYVILLE
15.	Commercial buildings (row of shops)	15-17 McKenzie Street	MURRAYVILLE
16.	Commercial building (shop)	19 McKenzie Street	MURRAYVILLE
17.	St Peter's Lutheran Church	Murrayville-Nhill Road	MURRAYVILLE
18.	Murrayville Post Office	9 Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE

	Place	Address1	Address 2
19.	State Emergency Service, former Courthouse	17 Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE
20.	Masonic Lodge	24 Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE
21.	St Therese's Catholic Church	32 Sharrock Street	MURRAYVILLE
22.	Former Presbyterian Church	21 Cooper Street	OUYEN
23.	Ouyen Cemetery	Dunkley Road	OUYEN
24.	Former Blacksmith's Shop	10 Hughes Street	OUYEN
25.	Ouyen Primary School No 3615	Hunt Street	OUYEN
26.	House	12 Hunt Street	OUYEN
27.	Anglican All Saints Uniting Church	Hunt Street (cnr Martin Avenue)	OUYEN
28.	Lodwick's Farmhouse	Lodwick Road	OUYEN
29.	Ouyen Mineral Sands (OMS) – H2	Manley Road, (East side, north of Pearson Road)	OUYEN
30.	Ayton	11 Mitchell Street	OUYEN
31.	Railway Turntables repair site	Nihill Street (south)	OUYEN
32.	Roxy Theatre	17 Oke Street	OUYEN
33.	Ouyen Post Office	31 Oke Street	OUYEN
34.	Furniture Store	38 Oke Street	OUYEN
35.	The Torrita Building	61-71 Oke Street	OUYEN
36.	Former Ouyen Court House	61-71 Oke Street	OUYEN
37.	Loddon Mallee Women's Health centre	72 Oke Street	OUYEN
38.	Chaff, Oats and Grain Store	14 Oke Street (rear of Fairy Dell Cafe)	OUYEN
39.	War Memorial	Oke Street (cnr Pickering Street)	OUYEN
40.	House (former State Savings Bank)	1 Pickering Street	OUYEN
41.	North West Post Office and Foodworks	23 - 27 Pickering Street	OUYEN
42.	Former Doctor's Residence and Surgery	36 Pickering Street	OUYEN
43.	Ouyen Tyre Service	8 Pickering Street	OUYEN
44.	Hotel Victoria	22 Rowe Street	OUYEN
45.	Ouyen RSL Memorial Club Rooms	36 Rowe Street	OUYEN
46.	Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve	Scott Road (off Patchewallock - Ouyen Road)	OUYEN
47.	Scott's Block	Scott Road	OUYEN
48.	Masonic Temple	12 Scott Street	OUYEN
49.	Log Tank	Walpeup Lake Road (Crown land reserve)	OUYEN
50.	Carina Lodge	Ngallo South Road	PANITYA

	Place	Address1	Address 2
51.	Panitya Oval	Mallee Highway south side	PANITYYA
52.	No. 1 Bore	Panitya South Road, on the west side between Mallee Hwy and Hewitt Road	PANITYYA
53.	Bugge's public water tank	Baring Road	PATCHEWOLLOCK
54.	Cooke's Cottage	Cooke's Road	TORRITA
55.	Torrity Public Hall	Mallee Highway	TORRITA
56.	Tutye bore and site of former gypsum plasterworks	Old Stock Route Road	TUTYE
57.	Tutye (former settlement)	Stock Route Road	TUTYE
58.	Tutye Cemetery	Tyalla Road	TUTYE
59.	Cemetery and Cemetery Gates	Cemetery Road	UNDERBOOL
60.	Salt harvesting site	Lake Becking Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
61.	Tramway formation	Lake Becking Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
62.	Salt harvesting site	Lake Crosby, Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
63.	Ruins at salt workings	Lake Kenyon, Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes	UNDERBOOL
64.	Women's Section National Party Meeting Room	13 Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
65.	Fishlock's General Store	2 Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
66.	Uniting Anglican Church	22 Malkin Avenue	UNDERBOOL
67.	Weatherboard Cottage (McVicars)	4263 Mallee Highway	UNDERBOOL
68.	Commercial Hotel (former) - Underbool Hotel	45 Mallee Highway (Cotter Street)	UNDERBOOL
69.	Memorial Gates	Monash Ave, Outen Park	UNDERBOOL
70.	Walpeup Primary School	14 Glen St East	WALPEUP
71.	Memorial Hall	Glen Street (cnr Richardson Street)	WALPEUP
72.	Sacred Heart Catholic Church	17 Glen Street	WALPEUP
73.	Relift pumping station	Hopetoun-Walpeup Road	WALPEUP
74.	Lutheran Church	Kenyon Street	WALPEUP
75.	Water Tank	Kenyon Street (cnr Glen Street West)	WALPEUP
76.	McKinnon's Farm House	McKinnon Lane (cnr Hopetoun-Walpeup Road)	WALPEUP
77.	Walpeup Mallee Agricultural Research Station	Meridian Road	WALPEUP
78.	Uniting and Anglican Church	Murphy's Road	WALPEUP
79.	Lake Walpeup Reserve	Walpeup Lake Road	WALPEUP
80.	Grigg's Property	694 Walpeup Lake Road	WALPEUP

Recommended for VHI

	Place	Address1	Address 2
1.	Sheep holding pen, sheepwash & bores	Lot 32 Allan Road	PANITYA

Recommended for VHR

	Place	Address1	Address 2
1.	Pine Plains Homestead, outbuildings	Pine Plains Road	BIG DESERT
2.	Ouyen High School	Corner of Fuller & Ritchie Streets	OUYEN
3.	A J.Gloster & Sons Garage	55 Cotter Street	UNDERBOOL

HERMES CITATIONS

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Cowangie Precinct
Address Dayman Street COWANGIE
Place Type War Memorial, Factory/ Plant
Citation Date 2012

Significance Level Local



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Precinct history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Cowangie (also named Cow Plains, Kow Plains and Copi) was surveyed on land that once formed part of Kow Plains station. The town was established on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line in 1912. In the same year, the first town buildings were constructed along the main street, Dayman Street. A general store and bakery opened in 1912. The Kow Plains Sports Club opened ca. 1913. In 1918, a Commercial Bank agency was established. A sly grog shop named the Black Bull operated in bushland to the east. A hall built in 1913 was replaced by the Cowangie Soldiers Memorial Hall in 1924. The hall has been recently refurbished and hosts a number of community events including the showing of films. The local church, built as a Methodist church in 1926, continues to be used by local parishioners. (Thematic Environmental History 2009:57)

The Cowangie Precinct consists of allotments 4, 5 and 6 of section 1 of the original township survey, and extends across Dayman Street to include the memorial pepper trees, gypsum ramps, and grain silos.

The bakehouse site on allotment 6 is that of the first bakehouse in 1913, when it was run as Hawkins baker. Subsequent bakers included Burton in 1924-6, William Taylor in 1930-32, and Harry Turnbull from 1944 (Lindner 1989:76). During Turnbull's ownership he added an extra room, so that he could serve light refreshments (J. Lindner, pers. comm 2012).

The bush nurses cottage on allotment 5 was the headquarters in 1916-23 of the Bush Nurse. In the 1930s, Katie Wills took it over as a hairdresser and cook (Lindner 1989:76).

The Uniting Church on allotment 4 was originally the Methodist Church, opened on 31 October 1926 by Rev. Colonel Holden. It was built by Mr Else at a cost of £300. Soon after a small rubble stone building was constructed at the back of the church. This was known as the 'Blue Room'. It was added as a missionary residence at a cost of £16. This building was later converted, with a iron structure added to use for guild meetings and as a Sunday school (Lindner 1989:100-101).

Methodism was a Christian sect originating in England from the teachings of Wesley, born out of a concern in the early nineteenth century that the established church 'had little of no desire for the salvation of the masses' (Benson 1935:8).

As a form of 'social Christianity', it emphasised missionary work among the poor, workers, and remote or overseas communities. It was a powerful force in educating the working class and evangelising its moral code. travelling preachers and lay helpers drawn from its own ranks thus quickly multiplied and chapels were erected in centres of population using funds raised from its congregations. The Home Mission, established in 1875 to spread Methodism throughout the remote communities of the British Empire, trained and deployed 'home missionaries' who were the 'shock-troops' of the church (Benson 1935:171). Their activity made Methodism, despite its youth, a strong presence in the colonies and the dominions, and Methodists regularly ranked among the main religious groups in new Victorian settler communities. In 1921, 941 or 17% of the Shire of Walpeup's population of 5473 were Methodists (Australian Census 1921).

Gypsum is a common mineral found in evaporative lake deposits, and an ingredient in plaster. Gypsum was shovelled into horse carts in the 1920s in a fairly small scale localised operation, however this industry took off on a larger scale in 1936-7 under Max Johnson. During this phase of the industry's development, gypsum from north of Cowangie was washed at a nearby plant, and sent away by rail. The two ramps at Cowangie rail yards were built in 1987 (Lindner 1989:83).

The Cowangie Township Commercial Precinct also consists of allotments 12 and 13 of Section 1, and allotments 1,2 and 18 of section 2 of the original town survey.

Allotment 12, section 1, was purchased by W.J.Kelly, who built a private residence on the site. This was then taken over by Dahl and Kruses's Murrayville District Farmers Co-operative, which ran a shop there. By the 1920s this shop was run by Matt Cooper (Lindner 1989:79).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Allotment 13, section 1, was purchased by J. Bauer, who was one of the few original purchasers to actually take up occupancy on the land he had purchased. Bauer operated a café and store on the site. In 1936 this was taken over by Harry Taverner, who ran it as a general store to 1974 (Lindner 1989:79).

Allotment 1, section 2, was the site of the original 1912 post office. This was demolished in the 1960s for the present structure. On allotment 1b, the Bank of Victoria opened a branch on 1 July 1918. Mr Alday was the manager 1919-1924, and was also auditor of the nearby hall. On allotment 2, section 2, T. Walker established a billiard room and confectionery shop in 1915 (Lindner 1989:80).

The Cowangie Memorial Hall is located on the site of the first hall built in 1913. In 1920, a public meeting determined to build a new hall as a memorial for the Great War 1914-18. This hall was erected in 1924, built by Mr Clay for £194. It opened on 6 December 1924. The hall has been the location of social activities such as the annual ball, and the focus of continuous community use and improvement. In 1948 a supper room was added (Lindner 1989:86-87).

The scars and losses of war were all the greater during the Great War of 1914-18 because the bodies of the dead remained interred in the field of war, some unidentified or undiscovered. Families thus often had no body to mourn nor opportunities to travel to such distant graveyards. This absence, combined with the high casualty rate, contributed to the general movement to memorialise the dead in the landscape through any number of war memorials, of which living and individual trees were a powerful statement of the individual lives of the soldiers in the landscape. (Inglis, 2008; Damousi, 1999) The positioning and form of such memorials was a difficult and sometimes controversial task, all the more so because the trauma and loss of the Great War was unprecedented both in casualties and in the public desire to commemorate it. Avenues of Honour consisting of sugar gums or other types of trees were common across Victoria and Australia, and individual trees would often bear the names of individual soldiers who served or died in the war.

Sources

- Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.
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- Damousi, J., 1999. *The Labour of Loss: Mourning, Memory and Wartime Bereavement in Australia*, Cambridge University Press.
- Lindner, J. 2001. *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001. Kows Plains Homestead Committee of Management , Mallee Printers Pty Ltd, Victoria.*
- Inglis, K. S. 2008. *Sacred Places: War Memorials in the Australian Landscape*, Melbourne Univeristy Press.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

- 8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS
8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Memorial peppertrees (1914-18 War) along Dayman St. Cowangie Uniting Church 1926 and missionaries room. Bush Nurse cottage. Bakers Oven (former bakery) 1912-1952. Railway line, gypsum ramp, grain silos.
2012:

The township of Cowangie is situated to the south of the Mallee Highway and comprises a number of buildings located

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

along Dayman Street that runs parallel to the railway line. The grain silos and railway dominate the approach to the township which is laid out along Dayman, Irving and Lewis Streets.

Cowangie retains the elements of a town with its street layout, exotic trees and buildings representing commercial enterprise and community life. The township retains quite a large proportion of its buildings and planted landscape.

Dayman Street has a row of peppercorn trees planted as a memorial avenue, stretching westwards from Lewis Street and forming a boundary between the industrial railway line and the buildings of the township. Each tree has a name plaque. The grain silos and railway sidings are typical of each of the settlements along the railway line, however Cowangie also has two large ramps built for the loading of gypsum in 1987.

The Uniting Church of 1926 is a fine example of an Inter-war arts and crafts design featuring with a gambrel roof and use of timber shingles, weatherboard and fibre cement sheet cladding. The entry porch has fine widow and door details as does the main space of the church which is lit from multi-paned timber arch-headed windows. Behind the church is a rubble stone and corrugated iron building, known as the 'Blue Room', this potentially pre-dates the church.

The Bush Nurse cottage is a double-fronted coursed rubble limestone residence. The quoining to windows and the corners are in red brick and a wide verandah extends across the frontage. The cottage has been restored and has a garden setting with almond trees and a low cyclone wire fence. A timber water closet is located in the garden. This was originally situated in the back lane. No known relocation date is known.

The F. Metters & Co. baker's oven is the remains of a larger structure that once housed the Cowangie bakery from 1912. Most of the building has been demolished (ca. 1960) and the remains have been covered by a separate roof in order to preserve the brickwork. This cover was erected by the Kow Plains Committee of Management in 2002, when they also restored the oven. A chimney remains detached from the oven structure and it is possible that there are archaeological remains from the footings of the larger building. A 1920s photograph shows the bakery as a shop with verandah fronting Dayman Street.

Clarke's general store at the corner of Dayman and Lewis Streets is a large masonry building with splayed corner. It is a landmark building for the township. Dating from 1912 it represents the earliest stage of development in Cowangie and is a fine example of a commercial building. Of particular interest are the original timber framed windows. The former Commercial Bank in Dayman Street features a typical design (a similar one is also in Walpeup). It features a central pair of doors flanked by small windows and a verandah across the facade, A verandah was once supported on timber posts however these have been replaced with steel supports. The former bank is now used as a residence and has a large garden with some established exotic trees that are unusual in the Mallee context.

The Soldiers Memorial Hall from 1924 is located in Irving Street and has been clad with metal facing and the windows have been replaced. A modern semi-circular porch has been placed over the front door and a ramp added, however the hall still has the typical gable roofed form of other halls in the study area.

Previous Statement Significance

The Cowangie historic precinct is of potential historic and social significance as a reminder of the range of industrial and social activities of the early township and its community. The memorial pepper trees reflect the influence of war on the Mallee and commemorates those who went to war from the local community. The gypsum loading ramps reflect the importance of the local industry which was established in the 1920s and operated into the 1980s.

Comparative Analysis

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Cowangie Township Precinct has retained a number of buildings and landscape elements that contribute to the understanding of the place. Unlike Tutye which has all but vanished, Cowangie has commercial, public and religious buildings still in use. The larger settlements of Murrayville and Underbool have larger town street grids but Cowangie is the best surviving examples of the smaller townships that developed alongside the railway sidings.

Torrta Hall is a more intact example of a public hall than the Cowangie Soldier's Memorial Hall and both Murrayville and Underbool have a range of churches that compare with Cowangie Uniting Church in architectural design. Clarke's general store is one of the finest examples of commercial building in the study area.

However Cowangie, of all the small settlements alone seems to have survived a number of threats to its existence and has conserved a number of its buildings.

Statement of Significance

What is significant

The Cowangie township including both sides of Dayman Street including Lewis Street and the railway siding is significant. The elements of the precinct include:

- . WWI Memorial peppercorn trees *Schinus Molle*, Dayman Street
- . Gypsum ramps (1987), grain silos and railway line
- . Grain silos (1939)
- . Uniting Church, Dayman Street, 1926
- . Bush Nurse cottage, Dayman Street, 1918
- . Bakers Oven, Dayman Street 1912
- . Clarkes corner store, Dayman and Lewis Streets, 1912
- . Former Commercial Bank of Sydney, Dayman Street, 1918 and trees
- . Soldier's Memorial Hall, Lewis Street 1924

All the elements are contributory except for the Uniting Church, Dayman Street, and Clarkes general store which are of individual significance.

How is it significant?

Cowangie Precinct is of historical, aesthetic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Historically Cowangie Precinct is able to demonstrate in its remaining buildings, infrastructure and plantings, its development from railway siding servicing the wheat and gypsum industries to township with associated commercial and public buildings. The loading ramps, although built in 1987 show the evolution of the gypsum industry and the grain silos

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

are typical landmarks of the Mallee landscape and well as demonstrating the region's main activity of grain production. The row of peppercorn trees, each with individual plaques are an extensive and rare remaining memorial avenue.

Clarke's General Store, the bakers oven (remains of the Cowangie bakery) and the former Commercial Bank demonstrate the former importance of the town's commercial activities as a centre for the surrounding farm population. The Bush Nurse cottage, Uniting Church and Soldier's Memorial Hall represent the cultural and civic institutions that were (and still are) able to be maintained, despite (or because of) the isolation of the township. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically the peppercorn trees contribute to the setting of the town. The Uniting Church of 1926 is a fine and intact example of an Inter-war church, and Clarke's general store is an excellent and intact example of a pre-World War I commercial building that is also a landmark corner building. (Criterion E)

The Cowangie bakery site has the archaeological potential to show the former extent of the shop and residence. (Criterion C)

Overall the Cowangie Precinct demonstrates the important features of a small Mallee settlement, and in its partially abandoned and partially inhabited state shows the struggle and resilience of the Mallee settlers. The baker's oven, Bush Nurse cottage and church are socially significant as demonstrated in the interpretative information provided, and the on-going use of the Uniting Church as a place of worship. (Criterion G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes Applies to avenue of memorial peppercorn trees.
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Murrayville Commercial Prec. Reed St
Address Reed Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Commercial Precinct
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named after the Premier of Victoria at the time, John Murray. By 1911, the township comprised a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber and a lime kiln. The Murrayville Institute opened in 1911.

The town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen opened in 1912. In this year, the Murrayville Hotel opened. By 1916, two banks were in operation. A new post office building was erected in 1926. The Murrayville Power House was built in 1928. Bore water was supplied to the township from 1929. A number of halls served the township including the Masonic hall, the Institute hall and the privately owned Austral Hall; a public hall opened in 1957.

Murrayville is promoted as the gateway to the Victorian outback. It continues to service its hinterland's population who are involved in the farming of grain and sheep as well as the growing of olives and potatoes watered by bores.

Precinct history

The Murrayville Commercial Precinct along Reed Street and the McKenzie Street corner, comprises the southwest side of section 3, which was offered for sale by auction on the 16th June 1910 (Lindner 2007:38). The precinct contains allotments 11, 12, 13 and 14 of Section 3. Numbers 31 McKenzie Street, 4 and 6 Reed Street are on the original allotment 11 sold to E.Siemering; numbers 8 & 10 Reed Street on allotment 12 sold to T. Reed, 12 & 14 Reed Street on allotment 13 sold to H.T.Baldock, and 16 & 18 Reed Street on allotment 13 that sold to H.J.H.Pahl. This was the first sale of town allotments in Murrayville (Lindner 2007:37-40). McKenzie Street was named after Mr McKenzie MLA who as Minister of Lands toured the region in 1910 promising conveniences and infrastructure for settlers.

By 1912, P. Reed was already operating a billiard saloon on allotment 12. In 1922 this was also recorded as a barbers, and billiard room.

In 1912, H.T.Baldock, the original owner of allotment 13 was operating a shop on the site, and in 1914 W.Smith and C.George were shop owners and fruiterer. Carl Dahl was owner by 1919, and by 1927 the owners were Siemering-Dahl Kruse & Schmidt's Murrayville District Farmers Cooperative.

The Commercial Bank of Australia was recorded as the owner of allotment 11 in the 1919 rate book. In 1917 it was reported that :

[t]he Commercial Bank of Australia was about to erect accommodation and an up-t-date premises on the vacant block opposite the Murrayville Hotel. The plan provides for 5 rooms including an office about 20ft x 17ft. Comfortable living rooms, stables etc. and a neatly designed front which will furnish a welcome addition to local buildings and doubtless will be appreciated by customers and Manager - Mr W.J. Kelly. (Lindner 2007:51)

Allotments 1 and 2 were purchased by D. & H. McLean and M.H.Whitfield respectively, and by 1914 a hotel was established on the site, owned by J.B.Curtain. In the *Pinnaroo Border Times* on 22 March 1912, tenders were advertised for architect John Beeb of Bull Street, Bendigo, to build hotel and stabling at Murrayville:

The plans and specifications [...] provide for a substantial wood and iron building consisting of a bar (16x15 feet), billiard room (24x18 feet), dining room (25x16 feet), office (24 x 12 feet), three parlours, commercial room (16 x 12 feet) and 18 bedrooms with kitchen pantry and all conveniences. At the back a large stable and loose boxes [...] The Hotel building will be erected on the corner block recently acquired will have a veranda the whole length of side and front. The bar is places on the corner and the private entrance facing the railway. Lighting and ventilation are amply provided for. The buildings are being erected by Mr A. Mueller.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The foundations of this original building were set in bluestone to prevent white ant infestation (Lindner 2007:65-66). Mr Curtain departed Murrayville in 1918, and in that year the Licensing Court sat in Murrayville to determine which of the town's two operating hotels - Murrayville and the Victoria, would win the license. The Murrayville was successful, and the new owner Mr Robert Nicholas built a two story building with 50 rooms on the site.

Allotment 14 was similarly developed as a commercial property by E. Siemering, W. Kruse, and Carl Dahl in succession, until returning to the Siemering family in 1940. This block of Reed Street shops seems to have been in its early history by some of the significant German families to establish the township of Murrayville. The precinct also contains some of the early shops of the township, including the site of H.T.Baldock's general store, advertised in 1911 as supplier of 'all lines of groceries and drapery and all necessary requirements for the man on the land' (Lindner 2007:42). As a source of credit, entertainment, and provisions, the commercial heart of Murrayville was central to the development of the surrounding farms as well as the township itself.

The extant buildings appear to be the earliest brick shops and commercial buildings erected in Reed Street during the Great War or in the Interwar period as Murrayville became an established country town. It is likely that the shops were largely constructed as a group around 1916-1920. In the early 1920s a 240 volt electricity plant was installed west of the Co-operative store at 16 Reed Street, which supplied electricity to three shops and a freezer. This plant, a Delco, operated until the township supply started in 1929 (Lindner 2007:79).

Source

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.
Lindner, J. 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007. A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Murrayville Liaison Committee, Mildura.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

The Murrayville Commercial Precinct, Reed Street, is associated with the theme of Building towns and settlements, particularly the railway towns (Thematic Environmental History 8.3; VHT 6.5).

The precinct is also locally significant for its association with the historic themes of Marketing and retailing, and Banking and finance (VHT 5.3, 5.5) in Murrayville. (HERCON Criterion A & D)

Description

Physical Description

2009: The Murrayville Commercial Precinct on the west side of Reed Street includes the former Commercial Bank of Australia, Wingate's Garage, Wellspring (former bakery) former Wally's Deli, Op shop (former billiards saloon, barber shop, Brosnan cafe) Commonwealth Bank (former grocery shop) shops, including the former Farmers' Cooperative, and newsagent.

2012:

The Murrayville Commercial Precinct (Reed Street) comprises commercial buildings to the west side of the street between McKenzie Street (Mallee Highway) and Gray Street. On the opposite side of Reed Street is the two storey Murrayville Hotel and the Pioneer Park (once the site of the Victoria Hotel - now demolished). The Reed Street Precinct is characterised by attached single storey buildings with wide verandahs. The former Commercial Bank of Australia and Wingate's Garage are exceptions to the continuous streetscape but between 8 and 20 Reed Street the shopfronts present a continuous and highly intact commercial streetscape. The red brick shops are characterised by parapets of varying shapes

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with advertising signage. Some parapets have sheet metal cladding over a timber frame.

The two storey Murrayville Hotel addresses the corner of Reed and McKenzie Streets and has a two storey verandah that has been rebuilt in a different manner from the original, although the remainder of the building is relatively intact.

The verandahs of the Reed Street shops extend to the full width of the pavement and are all of a consistent profile with timber verandah posts. Of particular interest is the number of original shopfront windows and tiled frontages that have been retained. The newsagent at No.18 has a particularly fine example of a timber framed shopfront with advertising signage that would date to the 1940s, if not before. This shop also retains glass and timber partitions behind the shopfront windows. More fine examples of signage are on the Deli at No 8 - formerly Holten's soft drinks. The former Commercial Bank of Australia and attached residence is a fine example of Inter-war commercial architecture with moulded and shaped parapets, and it addresses its corner location in an expressive manner.

Opposite the shops in Reed Street is Pioneer Park that contains an interpretative plaque for the Victoria Hotel. Reed Street also contains interpretative plaques for the memorial tree avenues that have been removed in the area. These record the names of servicemen for whom the trees were originally planted.

Previous Statement Significance

The Murrayville Commercial Precinct on the west side of Reed Street is of potential historic and social significance as a good example of early twentieth century commercial activities in a typical Mallee railway town including banking, shops, bakery, billiard saloon, farmer's cooperative. The precinct is still operating with new commercial uses and is a focus for the local community of Murrayville as well as visitors to the town. (Criterion A, D, G)

Comparative Analysis

Reed Street is a particularly intact commercial streetscape and is notable for its lack of non-contributory buildings. Both Oke and Rowe Streets in Ouyen comprise buildings of the same period with some outstanding examples, but both streets are less intact than Reed Street. McKenzie Street Murrayville is also less intact and has a number of non-contributory elements. Cregan Street Walpeup is comparable in size but has less buildings remaining. Reed Street when compared with other commercial precincts is highly intact and contains no non-contributory elements.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Murrayville Commercial Precinct Reed Street comprising buildings between 31 McKenzie Street and 2-20 Reed Street built between 1916 and 1931 is significant.

Places of historical and architectural significance in the precinct include:

- former Commercial Bank (1917) building at 31 McKenzie Street;
- Murrayville Hotel (1918) at 27-29 McKenzie Street;
- (1931) shop, former bakery and former Holten's soft drink business (1949-1994) at 8 Reed Street;
- (c.1927) shop, site of the original billiard saloon run by T.Reed, formerly Brosnan's Cafe (1927), barber's shop (1935)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

and Central Café (1939) at 10 Reed Street;

- shop (c.1916-1920), former grocery store at 12 Reed Street;

- shop (c1916-1920), formerly Mr Wohlers gift shop, at 14 Reed Street;

- shop (1916), formerly Siemerlings mutual store and Murrayville District Farmers Cooperative, at 16 Reed Street and

- shop (1916), formerly Kruse & Dahl's store, at 18 Reed Street.

All buildings are contributory to the precinct.

How is it significant?

The Murrayville Commercial Precinct, Reed Street, is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Murrayville Commercial Precinct, Reed Street, is historically significant as an early group of intact commercial places associated with the development of retail and commerce in Murrayville, and the development of settlements in the region. It is an intact group of buildings representing the growth and development of a country town during the Great War and Interwar periods. (Criterion A)

Reed Street contains a coherent and consistent row of individual shops that are of similar architectural design featuring parapets, original shopfronts and verandahs. Notable features include shopfront windows of timber or metal frames, advertising signage on windows and tiled stallboards. There is a high degree of consistency in building materials and architectural style, reflecting the relatively short period in which the street was developed (1916-1931). The former Commercial Bank of Australia and attached residence and the Murrayville Hotel provide landmark corner buildings to the precinct. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

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Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

It is recommended that the Murrayville Commercial Precinct Reed Street be added to the Heritage Overlay (HO). The extent of the HO should include all of the properties at Nos..29- 31 McKenzie Street and 2-20 Reed Street.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Murrayville Precinct Sharrock St
Address Sharrock Street & Gray Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Unknown Item Type
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Precinct history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named in honour of John Murray, Victorian premier at the time, and was established concurrent with the development of the planned Ouyen-Kow Plains railway line, which was first recommended by a parliamentary committee in 1908 and reached Murrayville on 25 June 1912. By 1911, the township included a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber, and a lime kiln (Thematic Environmental History 2009:58; Lindner 2007:15).

The properties on Sharrock Street are allotments 11, 12, 13 and 14 on the eastern side of Section 2, which was the second section to sell at Murrayville, on 7 December 1912. The original purchasers of allotments 11 (2 Sharrock Street) was H. Whitfield.

Allotment 12, 13 & 14 (4, 6 & 8 Sharrock Street) were purchased by J. McWaters and Mrs Schneider (Lindner 2007:44). The 1912-1919 rate books indicate that no one occupied these sections of land (J. Lindner, pers comm. 2012).

The Peers Garage was erected on allotment 11 Sharrock Street in 1938 (Lindner 2010:16; 73). Lindner notes that Mr Peers used the surrounding allotments to dump machine parts, old earthmoving equipment and other associated rubbish. The present Peers Motors Australia Pty Ltd, located on allotment 10, is owned by Peter Peers' nephew. The workshop at the corner of Sharrock Street and Milde Lane houses old lathes and machinery, all still in working order, that were used by Peter Peers.

Peter Peers was born in 1911. He spent his early years growing up in Duddo and then moved to Melbourne where he attended Ivanhoe Grammar (Lindner 2001:53). After leaving school he attended the Working Men's College (RMIT) where he studied engineering. In 1927 Peter returned to Duddo and set up an engineering service. In 1937 he moved his engineering business into Murrayville and with his brother, Nelson, they combined and operated their two businesses. A new purpose built garage was built in 1938 and here Peter designed, patented and manufactured the Turning Box Power-Take-Off for farm machinery and sold the Licence to Manufacturer to Horwood Bagshaw. During the war, Peter also designed the Suction Gas power plant for cars, trucks and tractors (Lindner 2001:53).

The small stone building was thought to have been built from stone as it was the only material readily available (as noted by Lindner, pers comm. 2012). Lindner notes that Peer Garage owner, Mr Peers, used the shed for the storage of timber, iron and pipe (Lindner, pers comm. 2012).

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Small industrial precinct . Possible Cornish influence, red brick quoining and stone walls, rubble. 1870s SA connection. Elements include the former hardware shop.

2012: The Murrayville Precinct (Sharrock Street) comprises buildings at the corner of McKenzie and Sharrock Streets . Important elements include the early parts of Peers Motors, two timber sheds and the former Walker's hardware shop. All elements are contributory to the precinct.

The corner sites at 2 Sharrock Street and 8 Gray Street are non-contributory, however part of No. 2 and all of 4 and 6

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Sharrock Street contain two large timber sheds built like large barns, and a smaller stone building. The large timber sheds are gable roofed structures with weatherboard cladding and a variety of door and window openings. Part of one of the sheds has been altered to provide a shopfront. Some other windows and doors have been altered and the cladding is in poor condition. It appears that the sheds are no longer in active use.

In the centre of the block is a large stone and brick store. This building has been extended at one end, however there is original brick quoining to the window and door openings, and the remains of some window and door joinery . The walls are of rubble limestone with red brick corners, and the roof, originally hipped has been altered to a gable at one end. The precinct is characterized by machinery and artefacts that remain scattered throughout the site.

The workshop at the rear of 2 Sharrock Street is a gable roofed corrugated iron structure.

Previous Statement Significance

Precinct represents industrial and transport related activities once common in isolated towns of the Victorian Mallee but now rare or uncommon. It is likely to be of historic significance, rarity value, also may be archaeological remains.(Criterion A, B, C)

Comparative Analysis

The Murrayville Precinct (Sharrock Street) is the only one of the Mallee townships in the study area to contain such a collection of buildings related to local industry. A large stone barn is located on Griggs property off Walpeup Lake Road, Walpeup, and Murrayville contains some other stone shops and 11-17 McKenzie Street. These are comparable to the former Walker's grain store in design and architectural features. Other industrial sites include Gloster's garage in Underbool which is potentially of State significance for its rabbit chillers.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Murrayville Precinct - Sharrock Street, contains buildings comprising part of 2, all of 4 and 6 Sharrock Street is significant.

How is it significant?

The Murrayville Precinct - Sharrock Street is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Historically the Murrayville Precinct - Sharrock Street is associated with the transport and agricultural supply industries once common in the isolated towns of the Mallee. The site has an on-going association with the motor industry.

Architecturally the buildings within the Murrayville Precinct - Sharrock Street are unusual in their large size, design and construction. Their barn-like shapes, timber planked doors and windows demonstrating a variety of uses are particularly evocative of rural industry in small towns. Their timber construction, although in poor condition is representative of the types of buildings common in the Mallee but now declining in number. The stone former hardware shop is principally of interest for its use of local stone and brick and its (mainly) original form. (Criteria B, D & E).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The site is potentially of archaeological interest for the artefacts that are scattered throughout and may contribute to an understanding of the industries and activities that have taken place. (Criterion C)

The workshop fronting Sharrock Street and Milde Lane is considered to be significant by the community for its collection of machinery and lathes. (Criterion G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

Yes

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Housing Prec. Mitchell Street
Address Mitchell Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Residential Precinct
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Precinct history

Mitchell Street is located on the east side of the railway line away from the main centre of the town of Ouyen. Prior to moving to higher ground on the west side of the railway the town grew along Farrell Street until flooding caused the move to Oke Street.

The Ouyen Housing Precinct, Mitchell Street, comprises allotments 1, 16,17,18 and 19 within section 4, allotments 7,8,9,10 and 11 within section 5, allotments 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 within section 6 and allotments 1,2,3,15,16,17,18,19 and 20 within section 7 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923).

Within section 4, allotment 1 was purchased by S. Risbey on December 19th 1906, with allotment 16 purchased by L.Mitchell on December 5th 1911. Allotments 17 and 17 were purchased by M. Grace on December 5th 1911 and allotment 19 purchased on December 5th 1911 by S.G. Grace (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923).

Within section 5, allotment 7 was purchased by A.B. Carter on December 19th 1906. Allotment 8 was purchased by W. Farrell on April 6th 1910. Also on April 6th 1910 allotment 9 was purchased by J.J Dwyer, allotment 10 purchased by T. Griffin and allotment 11 by J.Murnane (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923).

Within section 6, allotment 1 was purchased by W.E.Greatz on March 30th 1911. Allotments 2 and 5 were purchased by E.Nitschke on March 30th 1911, allotments 3 and 4 on J.G.Nitschke on March 30th 2011, allotment 6 by J.Swann on October 22nd 1920, allotment 7 by E.Braddon on October 22nd 1920 and allotment 8 by E.M.Watson on November 8th 1921 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923).

Within section 7, allotments 1, 2, 3, and 20 were still listed as unoccupied on the 1923 Township of Ouyen Parish Plan (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). Allotment 15 was purchased by W.V. Charles on November 12th 1917 with allotment 16 by L. Farrell, allotment 17 by L.Leitch and allotment 18 by J.Swann on the same day. Allotment 19 was recorded as being purchased by G.A Gill on December 19th 1923 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural

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City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.
Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.
Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923, Department of Lands Survey, Melbourne 16.10.1923.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

6 BUILDING TOWNS

6.7 Building homes for Victorians

Description

Physical Description

Mitchell Street provides a snapshot of early twentieth century housing in a range of styles including Victorian, Federation and Bungalow style houses on both sides of the street between Farrell and Ritchie Streets.

The street contains some key buildings such as Ayton and No.11 (assessed as an individual place) and No. 25 which is a high roofed Federation house with verandah all around, and in original condition. Nos 16-18 are an unusual pair of matching Federation brick houses and Nos.6 & 28 are good examples of the Bungalow style. Mitchell Street has a representative range of housing types located together between 6 & 32 on the north side and between 5 & 25 on the south side. There are only two non-contributory places, at 12 & 24 and several vacant sites.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Ouyen Housing Precinct - Mitchell Street on both sides including 6-32 and 5-25 is significant. All places are contributory apart from 11 which is significant, and 12 & 24 which are non-contributory.

How is it significant?

Ouyen Housing Precinct - Mitchell Street is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Mitchell Street through the development of housing from demonstrates the development of housing in Ouyen from c.1910 until c.1930, corresponding to a period of growth and consolidation of the town . (Criterion A)

The range of housing styles in Mitchell Street are good representative examples of late Victorian, Federation gable front, and Bungalow styles. Building materials are consistent in their use of either weatherboard cladding or red brick. (Criterion D). Key buildings include the decorative Federation House Ayton at No. 11 and the high roofed house at No.25. No 6 is a representative and intact timber Bungalow and 16-18 are an unusual pair of small red brick Federation houses. (Criterion E)

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Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Commercial Prec. Oke Street
Address Oke Street (east and west sides from intersection with Pickering Street) OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Commercial Precinct
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Precinct history

The Ouyen Commercial Precinct comprises allotments 1 and 2 within Section 8 and allotments 9, 10 and 11 within Section 1. The Ouyen War Memorial situated at the Oke Street and Pickering Street intersection is also part of this precinct. Within Section 8 both allotments were purchased by W. Sheeny and another in March 1911. Within Section 1, allotment 9 was purchased by CWLT of Australia in May 1921, allotment 10 was purchased by T. Griffin in February 1909, and allotment 11 purchased by T. Arthur in March 1911.

By late 1911, allotment 11, Section 1 had been purchased by Hugh Ingwersen. During 1936 Mr Ingwersen contracted Mr Lancashire to design and build the Victory Theatre. Inspired by the design of a Queensland tropical style theatre, the building specifically suited the Mallee heat. The theatre had a wooden floor and had seating for up to three hundred and fifty patrons. Further architectural details included semi open lattice walls and internal roll up blinds to let in cool breezes and canite lining on the interior to help the sound quality (Carroll 2009:130). The theatre was operated by Jim Nulty (Heritage Matters Pty. Ltd 2008:14).

In 1954 the Victory Theatre was renamed and became The Roxy. The Roxy Theatre closed in 1971. In November 2007 it reopened and the gala opening featured appearances by Bill Hunter and Geoff Paine (Webb 2007).

In 1955 the current building that is located immediately north of The Roxy Theatre was built. The proprietors were C. Horne and Co. Plumbing and Hardware. From 1966 the building was occupied by a variety of different owners - G. and A. Koutsonikos Newsagent (until 1987), The Paper Shop, B. and J. Pearson (until 1994), the Ouyen Newsagency (until 1999), Antiques and Second Hand store (from 2003 until 2005) and Bargain Box Fabrics (Carroll 2009:198)

Allotment 10, section 1, was initially purchased by T. Griffin in February 1909 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923 Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). In the 1920s, number 23a Oke Street was reported to have been occupied by J. Swann, Commission Agent. From 1936 Volk's Pies, Pasties, Fish and Chips were located in 23a Oke Street and in 1956 Lindsay Zilm had opened Ovenden's For Everything Electrical. In 1969 Dikkos Children's Ware ran from 23a, with M. Outen's Hand Craft and Plant Shop operating at the location from 1982 to 1984 (Carroll 2009:197). From 1919 to 1929,

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the Bluebird Café operated from 23b Oke Street, after which time Mrs Robb's Drapery and Bon Ton Refreshment Rooms had been established. From 1930 to 1934 J. Walsh's Tailoring Store was located in 23b Oke Street, followed by J. Walsh's Hygienic Dry Cleaning (1936-1939) (Carroll 2009:189).

In 1917 boot maker and repairer Mr F. Cutland was listed as proprietor of 23c Oke Street. Halls Boot Emporium ran from the premises in 1920, after which the site housed Clay's Shoe Store (from 1922 to 1939). During the 1940s Ouyen Shoe Store was located at 23c Oke Street and then during the 1950s D.S. and A.I Telford were listed as the proprietors (Carroll 2009:197).

By 1963 the Ouyen Shoe Store (A. and B. Harmer) was reported to have been located at 23b and 23c Oke Street. From 1982, J.F and L.A Oglethorpe opened their Shoe and Clothing Shop, followed by Ouyen's Footwear and Fashion and In Style Footwear and Fashion.

In 1919 the Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd was constructed on the northern side of allotment 10 (27 Oke Street). In the early 1940s the bank closed and in 1943 A.F. Floyds Cycle Repair Shop operated from this site. During the 1950s Nutley's Picture Office had been established on site and in 1951 J. Patterson's Ouyen Pharmacy was operating from the premises. By 1993 B. Richards was noted to be the proprietor, followed by W. Beadle (Ouyen Pharmacy) in 2003 (Carroll 2009:197).

Allotment 9, section 1 was purchased by CWLT of Australia in May 1921 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). In 1922 the new red brick, arts and crafts style, Post Office and Telephone Exchange was built (Carroll 2009:189).

The Ouyen Commercial Precinct also includes the Ouyen War Memorial. It is located at the Oke and Pickering streets intersection. The War Memorial was constructed in early 1929 and on Wednesday, August 21st 1929, the memorial was unveiled (Carroll 2009:83).

Allotments 1 and 2 within section 8 were purchased by W. Sheeny and another in March 1911 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). By the 1920s a barber, billiard room and tobacco store were located onsite (42a), whilst Lovegrove Brothers and Joe Walsh Men's and Boy's Drapery and Tailor were located at 42b. Later, the site became home to F.J. Palmers Men's and Boy's Wear (1958), then Clarke's Drapery (1965-1987), Ouyen Mensland Wilton and Clarke (1987-1990), Wilton's Mensland (1990-1997), A. and D. Vallance (1997-1998) and Bargain Basement Gifts (Carroll 2009:196).

Matt Watt established Quandong Café Fish Shop (38-40 Oke Street) in 1920. From early 1922 the Central Motor Garage was recorded to be situated on site, and then by late 1922 A.W. Gloster and A.P. Smallwood were listed as the proprietors (Carroll 2009:189). Over the following years the buildings had fallen into a state of disrepair, and was demolished in the early 1930s. The Horsham Times, in 1929, noted that Mr O.Gilpin purchased Mr E.H. Smith's vacant property on Oke street for £3000.00 and by 1936 O.Gilpin's Ouyen store was built. This, the Horsham Times notes, was one of the most important business sales in Ouyen (The Horsham Times 7:1929).

Noted to be the most magnificent of its time, the buildings dwarfed all other stores in Ouyen - its floor space measuring 6318 square feet, with a frontage of 63 feet and depth of 100 feet. It was also noted to have had a majestically high ceiling, some 29 feet high. Skylights, Oregon timber beams and not one interior supporting column gave the space an open and light feeling (Carroll 2009:117, Perry 1995:89). At the time it was described as 'O. Gilpin's splendid emporium' and was noted to be the 'largest and best that the firm has yet erected' (Perry 1995:89). By 1936 there were 94 O.Gilpin stores located all over Victoria. Further afield there were 25 stores in southern and western New South Wales, South Australia (at Mount Gambier, Millicent and Renmark) and Tasmania (at Devonport and Ulverstone).

All O.Gilpin stores were managed by women and were strictly 'cash only'. Furthermore, O.Gilpin had a fleet of 20 motor trucks with trailers which ensured prompt delivery of purchased items. At the time, these were Australia's largest

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

privately owed diesel fleet (Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012). The store had two entrances both marked with 'O. Gilpin' inlaid marble slabs and was noted in the *Ouyen Mail* (26 August 1936) to have been constructed from '4.5 tons of corrugated iron (for the roof), have a 5.5 tons steel verandah, have used 800 bags of cement, 60,000 bricks, and 739 square feet of glass (for the shop frontage)'.

With O. Gilpin's death in 1942 all O. Gilpin's stores were purchased by Foy and Sons. By 1951 some of these stores were purchased by G.J Coles and Co. In 1944 Foy and Gibson were listed as the proprietors of the former O.Gilpin store at 38-40 Oke Street, and by 1952 the property housed E. Williams Central Drapery. Since 1964 the occupancy of the buildings has changed many hands: from Trimble's Shopping Centre (until 1969), C. Horne and C. (from 1969-1974), A. J. and S. L. Horne Clothing (from 1974-1982), Clarke's Furniture R.D. Jardine (from 1982-1986), Geary's Furniture Store (from 1986 - 1997), Ouyen Furniture A. and D. Vallance (1997-1999) and Country Clothing and Furniture (1999-current) (Carroll 2009:196).

Numbers 36 and 34 Oke Street were developed as joint commercial properties. The blocks, located mid way along allotment 1, within section 8, were built in the early 1900s. In 1919 the two building were listed as belonging to W.J. Clarke, 'Ouyen Butchery' (number 34 Oke Street) and Grocery E.M. Madder, 'The Red Store' (number 36 Oke Street) (Carroll 2009:189).

Over the years, businesses trading from number 34 Oke Street included D.S. Telford in 1923; Matchett and Pye, in 1925; W.J. Clarke from 1933 to 1943, M. O'Callaghan, from 1943 to 1947; Jardine's Butcher Shop, 1947; Wilton Brothers Butchers, from 1947-1984; Jones Butchery from 1984-1998; Desert Edge Flowers and Gifts, from 1998-2004; Real Estate Gordon Agencies from 2006-2009 and Women's Health Loddon Mallee from 2009.

In 1920 the proprietor of number 36 Oke Street was listed as I.J. Dean. By 1921 Loveridge and Sons were trading from this property and established The Red Shop (Pole 2006:0189). In 1950 Clarke's Cash Store for Groceries and Drapery was located at number 36, after which time proprietors included Serv-Wel Grocery, run by Noblet and Clarke (1966-1976); Serv-Wel Grocery and Haberdashery, run by Hickmott and Vine (1976-1978); Serv-Wel Grocery and Haberdashery, run by R.T. and S.M. Mitchell (1978-1986); Michell's Fabrics and Haberdashery (1986-1987); Pins and Needles B. and P. Vine (1987-2003); Ouyen and District Plumbing Services (2003-2004); Ouyen Mechanical (2004-2009) and Iluka (from 2009) (Carroll 2009:195-196).

Fryers Building, on the southern section of allotment 1, section 8, was built in the early 1920s. From this time until 1932, Mr A.G. Fryer was the proprietor of number 18a and ran the property as a Chevrolet and Buick dealership. L. Parks, Solicitor, was the proprietor in 1932 until 1934, followed by T.I. Cairns Dental Surgeon (1934); Cook Dentist (1934-1952); Walter and Victor Volk 'Volk's Pies' (1952-1984); Craft Shop and 'Yum Yum House' (from 1986-1988); Yum Yum Takeaway and D. and M Gniel. 'Milkos Pie Shop' (1988-1995); Mallee Tourism Association (1995-2002) and Imika Hair and Beauty. (Carroll 2009:195)

In 1927 C. Fryers Music Shop was located at 18b Oke Street. In 1930 it was noted that F.T. Bullock Chian Street Grocers was trading from the premises. By 1931 Miss E. Petchell Dressmaker and Costumier was located at this site. In 1976 Ouyen Hair and Beauty were listed as proprietors and in 2002 Imika Hair and Beauty were trading from the premises (Carroll 2009:195).

Places of further possible significance, that are yet part of this precinct include allotment 12 within section 9. It was purchased by B. Oke and another on March 30th 1911.

The southern end of allotment 12, situated on the corner of Oke and Pickering streets appears to have remained vacant and utilised as a carnival site until the 1940s (Carroll 2009:192). On August 20th 1946 Carroll notes that the ANZ bank was built at 44 Oke Street (Carroll 2009:196). The proprietors of number 46 Oke Street, situated within allotment 12 and north of number 44 Oke Street included B. Emmett Hat and Corn Store (1920-1931) and Ben Oke's Fancy Goods Store

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

and Newsagency (1931 until it burnt down in 1941). During the 1970s the State Electricity Commission of Victoria was based at this location and by 1999 the Mallee Vocational Education Centre opened. Currently the premises are occupied by the Mallee Education and Employment Centre.

Trading from number 50-52 Oke Street during the early 1900s was E. Williams' Ladies Drapery House. In 1955 the ANZ bank was located within these premises and by 1967 Merv Clarke's Furniture were recorded as the proprietors. Further proprietors included Cherries Ladies Fashion (from 1986 - 1998), a second hand furniture store, an Assembly of God church. Currently the building is home to Storage and Display Mallee Building and Electrical Supplies (Carroll 2009:192,196).

Sources

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

- 8.2 Agricultural towns
- 8.3 Railway towns
- 8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Interwar shopping strip, single storey, intact shop fronts with verandahs or cantelivered awnings over footpath, glass shop fronts with lead glass panels, pressed metal under awnings. Row of shops on both sides on Oke Street from War memorial at the Pickering Street intersection. Small group of shops, on the west side Gilpin furniture is the key element. East side includes the Roxy Theatre.

2012:

This precinct comprises the central commercial area of Ouyen. It comprises the section of Oke Street that contains most of the retail premises, the Post Office and Roxy Theatre. Most of the buildings date from the early twentieth century and are attached. The corner of Oke and Pickering Streets is the central intersection of Ouyen at the middle of which is placed the stone obelisk war memorial.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The west side extends from Shepherds Laneway to Pickering Street including nos. 16-42 Oke Street. On the west side Bargain Basement at no.42, Gilpins Furniture at 38-40 and two joined shops (34.36) all feature decorative parapets of typical Inter-war design. Gilpin's store built in 1936 is the largest and most intact commercial premises in Ouyen and is a key part of the streetscape.

The west side of the street is characterized by both post supported and cantilevered verandahs and the decorative parapets. The Mallee Bakery is a modern brick building that provides a break in the continuity of the west side, the other side of which are three attached Inter-war shops with original shopfronts of blue tiling beneath the shopfront windows. These shops at nos 16-24 all feature recessed splayed entrances with metal framed windows, timber doors with arched tops and cantilevered verandahs. One of the parapets features a type of garland render decoration.

The east side extends from the Roxy Theatre at No.17 to the Post Office at No. 31 Oke Street and between these two buildings are three attached shops. The east side of Oke Street comprises the art deco styled Roxy Theatre of 1936 which is set back from the street frontage forming a forecourt. This building features a stylish facade of masonry attached to a galvanized iron 'shed' at the rear. It has been recently renovated but retains its unique art deco appearance. Three shops of contrasting Inter-war design including the single-fronted Bargain Box Fabrics the hip and gable roofed In Style Footwear and Fashion, and the masonry and render fronted Ouyen Pharmacy. The pharmacy at No.25-27 is a fine example of an art deco parapet with arched central section. The Inter-war arts and crafts Post Office of 1922 completes the east side of Oke Street.

Recent changes to the streetscape include paving, kerbing and seating, pergolas and landscaping outside the Post Office. The street has a median strip with young trees planted.

The commercial precinct in Ouyen provide a well preserved range of buildings from the Inter-war period with some exceptional examples including the Roxy Theatre, Gilpin's Furniture Store and the Post Office.

Previous Statement Significance

The Ouyen Commercial Precinct is of potential historic, architectural and social significance as a good example of an inter war shopping strip incorporating the range of commercial, retail and recreational activities and buildings once common in small country towns. The Roxy theatre and the former O Gilpin Furniture store are likely to be significant in their own right as individual items and may have rarity value as highly intact examples. (Criteria A, B, D, E, G)

Comparative Analysis

The commercial centre of Ouyen is one of the best preserved group of retail buildings notable for its intactness to the early period of development. Other commercial precincts include Reed Street in Murrayville which is comparable in integrity. The smaller settlements of Walpeup and the largely abandoned Cowangie have less intact precincts. Underbool is also less intact in terms of commercial buildings representative of its early development. McKenzie Street in Murrayville has some fine attached shops, however Ouyen as the largest settlement in the study area is the largest, and with Reed Street Murrayville, the best preserved commercial area.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Ouyen Street Commercial Precinct in Oke Street which comprises buildings predominantly between the 1920 and

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

1940 is significant. The precinct includes Nos. 16-42 and 17-31 Oke Street and includes the War Memorial in the roadway at the corner of Pickering and Oke Streets.

All places are contributory apart from:

Non-contributory place - Mallee Bakery 26-28 Oke Street

Places of individual significance include the War Memorial, Roxy Cinema and 38-40 Oke Street.

How is it significant?

The Ouyen Commercial precinct (Oke Street) is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Ouyen Commercial Precinct (Oke Street) is significant as the largest commercial area and as one that is highly evocative of the Inter-war period of development in the Mallee. It was at this time that settlements such as Ouyen lessened some of the harshness and isolation of Mallee life on the farm blocks. The development of the commercial centre parallels the establishment of the surrounding farmland once the initial take up of land from 1913. The Post Office, War Memorial and Roxy Theatre are representative of civic life. (Criterion A)

Ouyen Commercial Precinct (Oke Street) comprises a fine group of Inter-war shops with representative features of the period including original metal framed shopfront windows, tiled stall boards, cantilevered and post supported verandahs and decorative parapets. There is a high degree of integrity in the contributory buildings and the places of individual significance have some exceptional architectural features. The art deco Roxy Theatre of 1936 is a rare example of its type and Gilpin's Furniture store contains fine decorative windows and entrances. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

It is recommended that the Ouyen Commercial Precinct (Oke Street) in Ouyen be added to the Heritage Overlay. The extent of the HO should include all the properties on the accompanying map

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Housing Prec. Pickering Street
Address Pickering Street (Oke Street to Scott Street) OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Residential Precinct
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Precinct history

Pickering Street, at the centre of Ouyen's main shopping area, was named in honour of 'Dick' Henry Warren Pickering (Pole 2006:83).

The Ouyen Housing Precinct, Pickering Street, comprises allotment 4, 5 and 6 within section 8 (southern side of Pickering street) and allotments 7,8 and 9 within section 9 (northern side of Pickering street).

Katherine Oke purchased allotment 5 of section 8 in the township of Ouyen on March 13th 1911. On December 23rd 1919 Albert Thorne, medical practitioner, purchased the estate (LV:V03675,F888: Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). Dr Thomas Victor Nihill, medical practitioner, purchased number 36 Pickering Street on April 9th 1947. He worked and resided in this building (Carroll 2009:193). Dr Nihill died on December 3rd 1959. The property was transferred to Edward Mallee Tobin and Patrick Nihill and then to Monica Florence Nihill on July 4th 1961(LV:V08059,F641; Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923).

Section 8, allotment 5 was purchased by Mr K. Oke on March 30th 1911 and it was on this site that Nurse Oke established the 'Private Tiverton Hospital' in a double fronted timber house with verandah and brick chimneys (Carroll 2009:22 and 188; Pole 2006:80). The first birth in the private hospital occurred on June 12th 1911. There arose much debate in Ouyen about the Tiverton Private Hospital, as during this time, there was no Public Hospital and patients had to pay for medical assistance at the Tiverton. In 1927 Dr Thorne offered to sell the Tiverton to the Ouyen Hospital Committee, this, he said, would be 'one way of getting the hospital out of private ownership and open to all' (Carroll 2009:88).

Within section 8, allotment 6 was purchased by W. Natrass and others on March 30th 1911 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). Within section 9, allotment 7 was purchased by K. Oke on October 27th 1915, allotment 8 by E.A. Laidlaw on October 27th 1915, and allotment 9 by K. Oke on October 27th 1915. Three weatherboard houses are located within these 3 allotments.

Sources

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HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

- 8.2 Agricultural towns
- 8.3 Railway towns
- 8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Uniform precinct of weatherboard houses, one red brick. Typical of early 20C interwar period in country towns. Streetscape of mainly weatherboard in garden settings.

This is a small residential precinct in Pickering Street from the corner of Scott Street comprising houses from the early twentieth century and Inter-war period. It includes three houses at 35-39 and two houses at 36-38 Pickering Street. No.35 is a good example of a Federation timber house with gable front and return verandah. No. 37 is a transitional house with both Victorian double fronted form, a high hipped roof and Federation verandah with gablet. No. 39 is an Inter-war bungalow with hipped roof and gable front together with unusual double column verandah posts with diagonal infill detail.

On the south side of Pickering Street, No. 36 is a fine arts and crafts bungalow with early wire fencing, brick gateposts and palm tree. No. 38 is a double fronted Victorian styled timber house with return verandah and picket fencing. It has been restored and painted in appropriate colours. Features of the precinct on the south side of Pickering Street include the low wire or picket fencing and the palm tree (TYPE?). No. 40 on the corner of Pickering and Scott Street is a more modern house.

Together these houses form a particularly intact representation of house styles from the early years of settlement. Tiverton at No. 38, built in 1911 is particularly early in terms of Ouyen's settlement, and the later houses are excellent examples of their type.

Previous Statement Significance

The Ouyen Housing precinct in Pickering Street is a good example of a group of interwar housing in a small country town of the period. It has potential historical significance. (Criterion A, D)

Comparative Analysis

Pickering Street is comparable to Mitchell Street Ouyen which also comprises houses of a similar type and is a larger precinct.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Ouyen Housing Precinct (Pickering Street) comprising five houses from 36-38 and 35-39 demonstrating several housing styles from the early twentieth century is significant. All houses are contributory apart from No.36 which is of individual significance. The palm tree and fencing at No. 36 is of significance.

How is it significant?

Ouyen Housing Precinct (Pickering Street) is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

It is historically significant as a representative example of a residential area that provides tangible evidence of the early development of Ouyen in the early twentieth century and Inter-war periods. Both 36 and 38 are associated with medical activities as the house of Dr. Nihill and the Tiverton private hospital that preceded the establishment of the Ouyen Hospital. (Criterion A) Architecturally, Pickering Street has buildings relating to two important stylistic periods in Ouyen. The early twentieth century is represented by Tiverton at No.38 and No.39, whilst the Inter-war period of bungalows is represented by 37 and 35 and the outstanding example at No.36. Together the group of houses form an intact group.

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes Palm tree associated with 36 Pickering Street.
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

It is recommended that the Ouyen Housing Precinct (Pickering Street) is added to the Heritage Overlay (HO). The extent of the HO should include all the properties as shown on the accompanying map.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Housing Prec. Railway Terrace
Address Railway Terrace OUYEN
Place Type Residential Precinct
Citation Date 2012

Significance Level Local



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Precinct history

With the railway came railway workers, including train examiners, firemen, charge men, carpenters, signal men, gangers, guards, train inspectors, station porters, road foremen, shunters and linemen. As the number of married railway workers grew the Department was required to provide housing for them (Pole 2006:86). As such, Ouyen's Railway Terrace became home to the Victorian Railway Departmental Residences village. It was located at the 'junction point of the main line to Mildura and the branch out line from Ouyen to Pinnaroo' (Pole 2006:86).

By 1921 there were a total of eight employee residences situated along Railway Terrace. Pole notes that the earliest known record of occupancy at Railway Terrace was by W.H. Gibbons, a Station Reporter, and acting Station Master W. O'Connell. A further five houses were built between 1925 and 1927 and these were constructed from concrete blocks which were moulded on site with coal ash from steam trains used in the cement mixture (Pole 2006:86). In total, seventeen cottages, of mixed style and material, were built as part of the Victorian Railway Departmental Residences village along Railway Terrace. Further Railway Residences were built in Rowe Street, Farrell Street and Martin Avenue.

During the 1920s -1930s many considered Railway Terrace to be the prestigious part of town, as the houses had well maintained gardens with two palm trees planted at the front of each home (Pole 2006:86). In 1966 a fire destroyed one house and badly damaged another. These two houses were replaced by Phelan kit homes. During the 1980s the houses along Railway Terrace were sold and all are now privately owned (Pole 2006:87).

Sources

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Pole, M. 2006. *Who Were They? The Naming of Ouyen's Streets and Parks*. Sunnyland Press, Mildura, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.3 Railway towns

Description

Physical Description

2012: Small subdivision adjacent to railway line for workers and families. 17 cottages of mixed style and materials, each original had two palm trees in the front. Photograph of No.17. Station master lived at No 12. Several remaining palm trees and garden elements.

2012:

This is a residential precinct comprising employee houses developed by the Victorian Railways Department. Developed from 1903 through to 1927 it comprised 17 houses of which 16 remain. The houses are from 11- 23 and 12-32 Railway Terrace with vacant land at 24-26. The houses fall into three stylistic groups that appear to correspond to development c.1910, c.1920 and c.1930. Nos.16-18 are built from concrete blocks made locally. One house shows the sandy coloured blocks to advantage, however the other has been painted.

The precinct is situated adjacent to the railway at the southern part of Ouyen and is distinct from the other housing areas. The earliest houses in the precinct are of timber construction with gabled roofs and simply detailed verandahs. Cladding is a combination of weatherboard and vertical strapping to gables. Nos 11-13 correspond to this type. Houses built in the 1920s are of a double fronted hipped roof design with verandah decorated with simple timber brackets. Verandahs return along one side and each house has a tall red brick chimney. Nos. 12-14 are good examples of this type. Later houses built in the 1930s include bungalows with wide porches.

Nos.19-23 and 20-22 are included in this type. Nos. 30-32 are different bungalow and built of masonry. Some vacant land has a disused railway signal as an artefact. The precinct is characterized by low fences, many of which are the same cyclone wire, and gardens that surround the houses. Earlier versions of cyclone wire fences with timber top rails are also evident. Palm trees remain in front of one of the houses but it is unlikely that it was one planted by the Victorian Railways that tended to plant the *Phoenix Canariensis* as a favourite species. Examples of these palms are found on the Railway Turntable site in Nihill Road Ouyen. The houses are relatively intact and together form a distinct housing area strongly linked to the railway.

Previous Statement Significance

The Ouyen Housing Precinct on Railway Terrace is potentially significant as a good example of housing provided adjacent to railway line for railway workers and families. (Criterion A, D)

Comparative Analysis

Railway Terrace is one of two railway related precincts in Ouyen. The other is the centrally located Rowe Street which contains a large number of railway related infrastructure and building.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Railway Terrace Ouyen which comprises houses from c.1910 to 1940 including Nos. 11-23 and 12-32 (and including the vacant land at 24-26) is significant. Key elements are the historical thematic links with the railway and the way this is represented by different housing types over a thirty year period.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

How is it significant?

The Ouyen Housing Precinct (Railway Terrace) is of local historical and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Railway Terrace is historically significant as a large and largely intact area of housing built for Victorian Railway employees over a thirty year period. The area reflects the importance of the railway to the economic development of Ouyen and the Mallee. Ouyen was home to a large number of railway workers and the development of the Railway Village provided accommodation for married employees. (Criterion A)

Railway Terrace provides an extensive grouping of representative railway housing from different periods of development. As a separate housing area the precinct is distinct from other residential development and contains several examples of standard designs employed by the Victorian Railways Department from c.1910 to c.1930, the houses are characterized by their single storey designs, hip and gable roof forms, verandahs of timber construction and building materials including weatherboard and concrete block. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

It is recommended that the Ouyen Housing Precinct (Railway Terrace) be added to the Heritage Overlay. The extent of the HO should include all of the properties at nos. 11-23 and 12-32 as indicated on the accompanying map.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Railway Prec. Rowe Street
Address Rowe Street (adjacent to railway lines) OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Rail Transport Precinct
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The Mallee railway was built in 1898, after the Railways Standing Committee considered the benefit in running lines into the area, namely for the transportation of wheat (Ballinger 2009:50). Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Precinct history

The Ouyen Railway precinct is situated between Rowe and Farrell Street. The precinct contains a range of features reflecting its uses including extant railway lines, station, sheds, turntable, footbridge, grain silos, railway houses, and a railway workingman's hall.

Railway and line - The Mallee railway was built in 1898, after the Railways Standing Committee considered the benefit in running lines into the area, namely for the transportation of wheat (Ballinger 2009:50). The Mildura Railway line officially opened in 1903. With this, up to 750,000 acres of land were opened up for settlement. In 1909 the township of Ouyen was established.

In 1903 the Ouyen line opened for construction traffic. No facilities were provided and the station was unmanned. The rail yard at this stage consisted of six through roads and a number of dead end sidings. By 1909 there was a 'man in charge' and in 1913 a 53' turn table, station buildings and a goods shed were constructed (Victorian Signalling Histories: Ouyen 2001:1).

Footbridge - The footbridge over the railway was built from the Station, near Mitchell Street, across the yards and onto the bottom end of Pickering Street (Carroll 2009:67). The site for the construction of the bridge was chosen as it suited the layout of the station (The Argus 1922:9). Initially the Railway Commission called for the bridge to be located further south along Rowe Street, but many complained about this, as it would have lead directly into the entrance to the Victoria Hotel (Carroll 2009:67).

Grain Silos - The planned installation of grain silos at Ouyen, along the Ouyen - Murrayville rail line, was first reported in 1936. On April 20th, the Argus stated that 'a start would be made with the erection of terminals within two months. Silos would be erected in stabilised wheat areas... the Ouyen - Murrayville line was included in that category' (Argus 1936:12).

In 1937, a call for tenders in the construction of Victoria's grain silos was published in the Argus, stating that tenders

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

would include alternative designs of steel and reinforced concrete construction (Argus 1937:4).

By May 1938, the Argus included an article to which Mr C Henderson, farmers representative on the Grain Elevators Board, stated that contractors would begin to erect the first of the silos within the Ouyen district. It also further noted that 'the shortage of steel was causing delay but they hoped to have 40 silos completed in time for the next harvest ... and that the Ouyen silo would be erected on the site of the present wheat stacks' (Argus1938:10).

By late 1938, delays in the construction of all Walpeup Shire silos lead to wide spread dismay with the Grain Elevation Board. The Argus reported that all delays were related to the shortage of steel (Argus 1938:6), and to combat the problems related the lack of wheat storage, Mr C Henderson, farmers representative on the Grain Elevators Board, advised 'all farmers in the area to buy bags' (Argus 1938:6).

In 1950, the Barrier Miner reported that wheat crops in the Mallee were so large that the silos were being filled quicker than the railways could transport the wheat (Barrier Miner 1950:7). In Ouyen, it was reported that this bumper crop would be the areas fourth successive good harvest (Barrier Miner 1950:7).

Institute Building - In March 1935 W.E. Elliott, Flinders Street Station Builders, Melbourne submitted an application to the Office of Chief Engineers of Way and Works for the construction of a Victorian Railways Institute building, adjoining the railway station at Ouyen (PROV:VPRS 7882/P/0001, 8187). In May 1935 building plans were approved, but for a few amendments. Constructed between 1935 and August 1936, the VR Institute Building at Ouyen had a street frontage of 130feet and a depth of 193 Feet. The walls were H.W. weatherboard, with the faces of the gables sheeted with asbestos cement, the roof was corrugated iron and the kitchen chimney was constructed from machine made bricks (PROV:VPRS 7882/P/0001, 8187).

In August 1936, chief architect H. Sutcliff, from the Department of Victorian Railways inspected the Institute building and in December 1937 the building was registered as a public building, of timber, fibro sheeting and galvanised iron. The registration fee was 1 pound.

Railway houses - With the railway came railway workers, including train examiners, firemen, charge men, carpenters, signal men, gangers, guards, train inspectors, station porters, road foremen, shunters and linemen. As the number of married railway workers grew the Department was required to provide housing for them (Pole 2006:86). As such, Ouyen's Railway Terrace became home to the Victorian Railway Departmental Residences village. It was located at the 'junction point of the main line to Mildura and the branch out line from Ouyen to Pinnaroo' (Pole 2006:86).

By 1921 there were a total of eight employee residences situated along Railway Terrace. Pole notes that the earliest known record of occupancy at Railway Terrace was by W.H. Gibbons, a Station Reporter, and acting Station Master W. O'Connell. A further five houses were built between 1925 and 1927 and these were constructed from concrete blocks which were moulded on site (Pole 2006:86). In total, seventeen cottages, of mixed style and material, were built as part of the Victorian Railway Departmental Residences village along Railway Terrace. Further Railway Residences were built in Rowe Street, Farrell Street and Martin Avenue.

During the 1920s -1930s many considered Railway Terrace to be the prestigious part of town, as the houses had well maintained gardens with two palm trees planted at the front of each home (Pole 2006:86). In 1966 a fire destroyed one house and badly damaged another. These two houses were replaced by Phelan kit homes. During the 1980s the houses along Railway Terrance were sold and all are now privately owned (Pole 2006:87).

Sources

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Victorian Signalling Histories: Ouyen No 54, Version 1.0, November 2002

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.3 Railway towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Still in use. Grain silos along the railway line are a landmark of the Mallee. Part of the railway precinct including station, sheds, line, footbridge, silos and hall. Possibly also signal box (as noted in Andrew Ward study).
2012:

The Ouyen Railway Precinct (Rowe Street) forms the central part of Ouyen as the railway divides the town into two distinct sides. It combines railway structures for both grain and other freight, as well as passenger facilities, now not in use since the closure of the passenger rail service to Mildura. The large area includes concrete and steel grain silos, tracks, an elevated footbridge, passenger station, Victorian Railways Institute hall, goods shed, switch room, gardens and several other small buildings associated with railway functions.

The railway dominates the town of Ouyen and occupies a large area of land. All of the features are consistent with the development of the railway from 1903 until the 1970s. The largest structures are those for bulk wheat handling and the silos dominate the skyline.

The station on the east side of the tracks is a timber single storey gabled roof building with cantilevered verandah supported on large curved steel beams. It has had a number of alterations to the side facing Farrell Street. The Victorian Railways Institute hall is more intact and is a typical 1920s style hall. These were built as social clubs for railway employees. It has a domestically designed front with recessed doorway and timber sash windows. This is attached to a larger hall behind where social occasions could be held. A palm tree (*Phoenix Canariensis*) is adjacent to the hall, reflecting the Victorian Railways taste in plantings from the 1920s.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

A goods shed of corrugated iron is situated on the west side and is a typical design of steel structure with wide overhanging eaves supported on steel brackets. An steel footbridge is constructed over the tracks allowing mid block pedestrian access from Rowe Street to Farrell Street. The precinct also features a large memorial gardens planted with peppercorn trees (*Schinus Molle*) and these form a part of Ferguson Park.

The Railway Precinct including all the features extends between Williams/Fuller Streets to Gregory/Hughes Streets in the south and includes an area of Vic Grain land. Rowe street also comprises a group of houses displaying representative early twentieth century characteristics extending from 56-66 and 74-90. These houses comprise some similar residences to those in Railway Terrace.

Previous Statement Significance

The Ouyen Railway precinct between Rowe and Farrell Street is of potential historical significance as a demonstration of the importance of the railway for transport to and from the Mallee towns of this isolated region. The precinct contains a range of features reflecting its uses including extant railway line, station, sheds, grain silos and a railway workingman's hall. There may be archaeological evidence of other former features. (Criterion A, C, D).

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Ouyen Railway Precinct developed from 1903 when the railway reached Ouyen. It contains a number of elements of railway associated infrastructure and buildings developed throughout the 1920s - 1990s. Key elements are the concrete grain silos of 1937, tracks, elevated footbridge from 1922, station and goods shed c.1913, switching shed, Victorian Railways Institute hall c.1922, peppercorn trees etc.

How is it significant?

The Ouyen Railway Precinct is of local historical, architectural and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Ouyen Railway Precinct is the largest and most comprehensive collection of railway buildings and infrastructure in the study area. The development of the railway, both freight and passenger has underpinned the Mallee and Ouyen and is strategically placed at the junction of the western line to Pinnaroo and the northern line to Mildura. The precinct contains a large number of structures for passenger and freight rail services and for the entertainment and social activities of railway workers. The houses along Rowe Street from 56-66 and 74-94 also are associated with the development of the railway (Criterion A).

The precinct is a central landmark and focal point to the town, and each of the buildings are representative of the railway buildings of their period. The goods shed, station footbridge and hall form a comprehensive and representative group of passenger related buildings. The grain silos are a dominant landmark in the townscape and are representative of many other grain sidings throughout the study area. The trees and green parkland of the memorial gardens are aesthetically significant for the collection of peppercorn trees which link the railway with Rowe Street. The palm tree adjacent to the hall is representative of 1920s railway planting and is significant (Criteria D & E).

Assessment Against Criteria

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Walpeup Commercial Prec. Mallee Highway
Address Mallee Highway WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Commercial Precinct
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Precinct history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

This precinct comprises the historic commercial core of Walpeup, including sites of the former Commercial Bank, Walpeup general stores, shops and the Poole & Jackson Garage. The most important period of commercial development for the township of Walpeup was in the second to third decades of the twentieth century.

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909 by Ben Oke. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1914. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912. Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on (*Thematic Environmental History* 2009:60).

The *Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. :1848 - 1956) reports that "Mr J. K. Finnin, who has been a member of the staff of the Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney at Ouyen for seven years, has been promoted to the position of manager and will take charge of the Walpeup branch."

Sources

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Elements include Store, Commercial Bank (Commerical Banking Company of Sydney Ltd), Walpeup General Store, butchers shop, Poole and Jackson garage.

2012:

The township of Walpeup extends along the south side of the Mallee Highway. The Ouyen-Murrayville railway line runs parallel to the highway and the commercial buildings of Cregan Street (Mallee Highway) between Murphy and Glen Street, overlook these main transport corridors.

Cregan Street still retains several houses and commercial buildings from the earliest development of Walpeup. These include the 1918 Matchett's store at 13-15 Cregan Street, and the 1918 Bank of Victoria. Other buildings include the three other stores, Poole and Jackson's garage and several houses. Cregan Street is characterized by some particularly intact early twentieth century commercial buildings built to the front boundary line, with verandahs and parapets. 23 Cregan Street is a timber store with the original arrangement of central door and windows, a timber parapet and verandah.

The former Bank of Victoria is an excellent example of its type, also with verandah, facade and parapet intact. The Walpeup General Store at 19 Cregan Street has less of its original features remaining but the verandah is consistent with other, more intact buildings. The double frontage of Matchett's Store is a key building within the precinct. Its brick and

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

render construction is typical of the early twentieth century and the curved parapet is a distinctive part of the architecture. The facade is symmetrically arranged either side of a central door, flanked by sash windows. The timber verandah features simple decorative brackets. The general store at 9 Cregan Street has been altered through the addition of a brick frontage, a modern verandah and windows, as has 23 Cregan Street.

This residence and shop features the bakery at the rear of the site. The timber and brick outbuilding at the rear of the shop and residence is said to have been used as a bakehouse. It comprises three parts including a gable roof timber section, face brick skillion roof, and finally a timber framed and corrugated iron clad extension. Of particular interest is the remains of a large brick chimney which forms part of the middle section of the building.

The street frontage is varied by several houses, generally set back with gardens in front. The houses are typical of the period 1910 -1920 and include features of the style such as intersecting hip and gable roofs and verandahs.

The wide verandahs and are a key element of the precinct and Nos. 19, 21, and 13-15 are particularly intact examples of commercial buildings of the early twentieth century. These are enhanced by the former bakery and residence at no.23 and the house at No.17.

Previous Statement Significance

The Walpeup Commercial Precinct is of potential historical significance as a good example of the range of commercial activities, some increasingly rare in Inter-war Mallee towns (Criterion A, B, D).

Comparative Analysis

Cregan Street is one of several commercial precincts within the study area that are able to demonstrate the settlement of the remote region. It is comparable with Reed and McKenzie Streets in Murrayville and with Dayman Street in Cowangie.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Cregan Street Walpeup which comprises commercial buildings and houses developed between 1911 and c.1920, from nos. 9-23 including the outbuilding formerly used as a bakehouse at the rear of No.23, is significant. All of the buildings are contributory to the precinct. Key elements that contribute to the significance of the precinct are the consistent setbacks and form of the commercial buildings and the street verandahs.

How is it significant?

Cregan Street Walpeup is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura .

Why is it significant?

Cregan Street Walpeup is a representative example of a commercial area that provides tangible evidence of the development of Walpeup in the early twentieth century (Criterion A).

Cregan Street is notable for its examples of commercial buildings that are largely intact and evocative of their time, including a bank, shops and residences. The consistency of building form and the presence of several street verandahs provide a cohesive setting to the street. Some individual buildings are expressive of their former use such as the former

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Bank of Victoria which displays a typical form and facade (which is also demonstrated in Cowangie). Matchett's store is a fine example of commercial architecture. The former bakehouse provides evidence of local industry through its chimney and remaining brick and timber structure detached from the main building. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes Former bakehouse.
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

It is recommended that the Walpeup Commercial Precinct (Cregan Street) is added to the Heritage Overlay (HO). The extent of the HO should include all the properties as defined by the map.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name	Bridge remnant	
Address	Gunners Track BIG DESERT	Significance Level Local
Place Type	Road Bridge	
Citation Date	2012	



Recommended Heritage Protection **VHR** No **HI** No **PS** Yes

History and Historical Context

Place history

Surveyor E.R.White who assisted in the survey of the then South Australian/New South Wales border of the Mallee in 1849 was later commissioned to survey a line road from the Lower Mallee to the Upper Wimmera districts. He surveyed a route along Outlet Creek, between Lakes Agnes and Wirrengren, in 1851 (Linder 2001:122; Ward 1986:n.p).

Sources

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Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

3 CONNECTING VICTORIANS

3.1 Establishing pathways

Description

Physical Description

The bridge over Outlet Creek to the Wirrengren Plain was constructed from pairs of vertical box tree trunks levelled and arranged to support cross members between their forked tops. These in turn supported longitudinal beams on which a decking of cypress pine logs was laid.

The bridge has mostly collapsed, but several of the box trunks remain *in situ*. Much of the bridge decking lies where it fell except in the centre of the creek where it has probably been washed away by periodic flooding.

The site is marked by a small Parks sign which records it as Historical Site 2966. This is presumably a reference to an internal Parks register.

Archaeological Potential

No

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The remains of the bridge over outlet creek are significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic, technical and archaeological significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Why is it significant?

The site is of historic significance in that it represents the pastoralist's era, and as an important remnant of the Kulkyne - Pine Plains Track. It is of archaeological significance in that it contains extant features and archaeological deposits which could provide information relating to its use and consequent role in the local area.

It is technically significant as an interesting example of early outback bridge construction.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Carters tank
Address Pine Plains Road BIG DESERT **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Water Tank
Citation Date 2012





Recommended Heritage Protection **VHR** No **HI** No **PS** Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The opening up of the Mallee coincided with the extension of the Victorian railway network in all directions. In 1880 23 new lines were constructed and with the Octopus Act of 1884, Act No. 821, an additional 66 new lines were opened (Ward 1986: n.p). The extension of the rail network opened up the area to squatters and the development of runs and access to water became a concern. 'Native' wells, soaks and other catchments were developed and log tanks, iron tanks and excavated earth tanks were constructed (Broadford Courier and Reedy Creek Times 1904:5; Ward 1986: n.p).

The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was formed in 1910. The successor of the Victorian Water Supply

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Department, the Commission undertook the development of artesian bore supplies, catchment tanks and channel construction. With Alfred S. Kenyon appointed as engineer in charge, the Commission 'devised a method of water supply to meet [the] needs, arising from that sub-region's particular characteristics' (Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012; Ward 1986: n.p). Ward notes that the development included the construction of bores to tap known sources of artesian water, catchment tanks, artificial catchments, channel water supplies and pipeline water supplies (Ward1986: n.p).

Along with the sinking of bores, the construction of large earth catchment tanks was requested by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission in areas where underground water was not found. By 1914 the Commission had put down 123 tanks. In areas where natural water catchments could not be constructed, namely due to the nature of the soil, 'ironclad catchments' were installed. Ironclad catchments, the term developed by Kenyon, were made from 'flat galvanised iron sheets laid on sloping ground and then turned up and clipped together' (Ward 1986: n.p). An average tank could 65,000 gallons (Kenyon 1919: n.p). The first iron clad tank was constructed near Nowingi.

Domestic and stock water supply

The following is taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:35-39):

Away from the River Murray, water in the area of the Mallee that was to become the Rural City of Mildura was supplied by lake systems, swamps, soaks fed by springs, clay pans and the building of catchment channels to augment run off into tanks sunk earlier by squatters.

Engineer J. D. Derry, who accompanied Alfred Deakin on his 1885 American tour was instrumental in the formation of the Wimmera United Waterworks Trust. Derry devised a scheme to use the Wimmera, Yarriambiack, Dunmunkle and Richardson as distributaries. The Wartook Reservoir was completed in 1887, and a series of channels, weirs and tanks was laid out. This system eventually conveyed water to the south of the study area to the country of what was to become the Shire of Walpeup. In the northwest Mallee to which the Wimmera scheme could not supply water, in 1887 the Victorian Water Supply Department recommended the sinking of test bores in an effort to tap into underground water supplies. The first bore was No. 2 at Morton Plains. By 1897, efforts made to tap into artesian supplies in the Mallee were described as useless.

Public bores were sunk in 1910 at Boinka and Underbool, and in 1911 at Linga. Others were established in 1912 at Manpy, Daalko, Nyang, Underbool and Boinka. The bore at Boinka tapped into artesian water that rose above ground level. Water at the other bores was accessed by hand pumps, horse operated pumps and windmills. Bores were opened at Tutye, Duddo, Gongee, Boinka and Underbool in 1920. Water from these bores was often too saline for human consumption, so in 1929 farmers sunk their own bores in the parishes of Boinka, Manpy, Koona and Purnya. The bore established at Murrayville in the same year was connected to a deep well turbine pump, the first of its type in Australia. By 1930, the boundary of the area in which usable underground water could be accessed was well defined. Even with the establishment of bores and tanks, water trains were a feature of Mallee life until the late 1920s when the last delivered 200,000 gallons of water to Torrita in February 1928.

Under the SRWSC, over the period 1906-1936 a three-fold expansion in the area served by the Wimmera-Mallee scheme was achieved, with the total number of people served in the region growing from 12,000 to 52,000. In 1930-1, the Wimmera Mallee Water Supply's channel system was extended to supply the Underbool township and vicinity, and to the high country adjacent to Walpeup. It was officially opened in March 1943. However, approximately 500,000 acres of wheat growing country in the Mallee, mostly between Underbool and the South Australian border, remained dependent on water supply from sub-artesian bores, with 109 of these controlled and maintained by the Commission.

Place history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Ward (1986) notes that Carter's Tanks were constructed in 1887. Named after the Carter brothers the earth tanks have long been associated with Pine Plains Run. Pine Plains Run was registered on August 23rd 1847 to James Maxwell Clow. Lack of water for his stock resulted in James selling the station to Melbourne merchant, Andrew Russell Esquire in April 1848. Ironically, a huge flood devastated the area in 1853, forcing Russell to sell the land. In 1855, Henry Clarence Ellermen acquired the run. By this stage Pine Plains had been divided into two stations - Pine Plains and Wonga Lake. On October 12th 1869 Henry Miller took over Pine Plains Station. Known as the 'King of Victoria - for not even a merchant or journalist dare squeak without his permission', Henry Miller famously turned out hardy and enduring horses from the Station.

In 1887 the station was sold to W.C. Carter and by 1901 the land was taken over by the National Bank. Failing to sell at auction that same year, it remained abandoned until 1905 when John Poulton of Cambacanya took control of it, as well as the rights for Wonga Lake run. The Poulton's owned Pine Plains for seventeen years, and in that time they connected Cambacanya and Pine Plains with a single-strand telephone line.

Owen Hugh O'Sullivan and Michael Kelley took ownership of the station in 1917. Over the next sixty years, the ownership of Pine Plains Run changed hands several times, yet it remained within the O'Sullivan family; from Owen O'Sullivan to Jack and Frank O'Sullivan (his sons) in 1949, with Jack becoming sole owner in 1964, and then to Jack's sons Brian and Tim O'Sullivan in 1983. The O'Sullivan family continue to reside on the station.

Sources

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 MANAGING RESOURCES

4.6 Managing water

Description

Physical Description

The 'tank' actually comprises two large basins, joined end to end, the northern of which is slightly bigger at c.160m in length compared to c.130m for the southern. Both are vaguely trapezoidal in plan, tapering from c.120m in width along their shared side to c.80m.

The basins are defined by substantial earth embankments which are mostly under grass and overgrown with scrub, although both still retain some water at the lowest extents.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Archaeological Potential

No

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The earth basins known as 'Carter's Tank' are significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Carter's Tank is of historic significance as a good example of these large structures which were constructed, with substantial effort, to ensure water supply for agriculture in a historically dry region.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No
No
No
No
-
-
-

Internal Alteration Controls

Tree Controls

Fences & Outbuildings

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

Incorporated Plan

Aboriginal Heritage Place

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Boinka Community Centre (former State School No 3800)
Address Boinka South Road BOINKA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type School - State (public)
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Settlers arrived in the district in 1911 including Murdock McDonald who, as one of the first settlers at Boinka camped on his allocated block at Campbell's tank. The campsite was under a stand of *Eucalyptus Porosa* (Mallee Black-box).The

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

town bore was sunk in 1912 and the first store opened in a tent. Boinka township allotments were sold in 1912 and a post office opened in the same year and closed in 1975. Over the next few years, a plumber, a coffee palace, boarding houses, a draper, a butcher, a grocery, blacksmiths, a Bank of Victoria, and a saddler were established. A hall was built in 1913. In the early 1920s, a Presbyterian church was erected. The town featured a sportsground and tennis courts (Linder 2007:234).

Education

This is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:70):

During the period of first white settlement of the Rural City of Mildura, most station homesteads were too isolated to send children to school. Some children attended boarding schools in the city; others were instructed by governesses and tutors at home. In 1872, the Victorian Education Act established a central public school system based on the principles of free, secular and compulsory education. Local residents, often represented by Progress Associations, petitioned the Department of Education to give approval for the opening of a school. Early school buildings were constructed of local materials. Schools were built at an average of ten miles apart so that children could walk or ride. Settlers often donated the land, provided half the cost of the school (sometimes more), and boarded the teacher, while the government paid teachers' wages, provided some equipment and the balance of school costs. Because of a lack of financial resources of many of the settler communities, schools often did not appear until some years after settlement. School buildings were used for a variety of community purposes.

Mildura Agricultural High School opened in 1913. A high school opened in Ouyen in 1929. The first Victorian Consolidated School using buildings from outlying areas was established in Murrayville in 1946. An initiative of the Chaffey brothers, from 1916 through to present day the Mildura College Lease Act has provided funding to local schools from rentals on land. A branch of the University of Melbourne operated at Mildura 1947-9. La Trobe University currently operates a campus at Mildura.

Place History

Boinka State School No.3800 opened on 14 July 1913, following representation from 13 parents to the District Inspector Hurley. The first lessons were held in an old coffee palace, a pine and canvas building with an iron roof. Head Teacher Robert Currie had 23 pupils, and 34 pupils by 1913 when the school moved to the public hall, a building 50x25 feet. The present (1973) school is a single room 30x20 feet; the residence was purchased from C. Walton in 1950 (Blake 1973:357).

Today, the school is now used by the community for meetings and functions, and houses memorabilia of the district.

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.

Blake, L. 1973. *From Vision to Realisation: a centenary history of state education in Victoria*. Victorian Education Department, Melbourne.

Lindner, *Murrayville 1910-2007*, in Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.

Wood, V. 1994. *Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Ouyen-Murrayville and Ouyen-Hopetoun-Curyo-Patchewollock Telecom*. Report prepared for Telecom Australia, Report Number: 12.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

8 COMMUNITY LIFE

8.2 Educating people

8.4 Forming community organisations

Description

Physical Description

2009:

Weatherboard building with corrugated iron roof, cladding over weatherboard in 1979. Interiors intact including blackboards. Site elements include the school, weather shed, toilet/store room, tin shed and a horse paddock.

2012:

The Boinka State School, now the Community Centre for the settlement of Boinka is a one room timber school of typical Public Works Department design for its period of construction (1913). It features a hipped roof with exposed rafters forming the eaves, a porch with timber detailing and timber framed, multi-paned sash windows. The wall cladding is of vertical profile 'board and batten' sheet cladding - likely to be of fibre cement composition. There is also a galvanized iron water tank on a timber stand and two small shelter sheds. The extensive site is largely devoid of vegetation apart from grasses, although the setting is of typical Mallee bushland.

Archaeological Potential

No

Comparative Analysis

2012:

No other school buildings were surveyed as part of the Study. Most schools have been removed or demolished from their original locations and the sites of schools are commemorated by plaques.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Boinka State School at Boinka South Road Boinka built in 1913 by the Public Works Department now used as a gun club and to house district memorabilia, is significant.

How is it significant?

The former Boinka State School is of local historical, social, aesthetic and rarity significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The former Boinka State School is a rare example of a one room Mallee school dating from the earliest period of farm settlement in 1913. It represents the only school surveyed in the small townships of the study area - the former Shire of Walpeup. (Criteria A & B) Boinka demonstrates a typical Public Works Department design for one room schools and is still fairly intact, retaining its modest timber architectural detailing of the porch, windows and exposed rafter ends to the eaves. (Criterion E). It now serves an important community function in the township of Boinka and is cared for by the local community. (Criterion G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Boinka Cemetery
Address Kelly Road BOINKA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Cemetery/Graveyard/Burial Ground
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Settlers arrived in the district in 1911 including Murdock McDonald who, as one of the first settlers at Boinka camped on his allocated block at Campbell's tank. The campsite was under a stand of *Eucalyptus Porosa* (Mallee Black-box). The town bore was sunk in 1912 and the first store opened in a tent. Boinka township allotments were sold in 1912 and a post

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

office opened in the same year and closed in 1975. Over the next few years, a plumber, a coffee palace, boarding houses, a draper, a butcher, a grocery, blacksmiths, a Bank of Victoria, and a saddler were established. A hall was built in 1913. In the early 1920s, a Presbyterian church was erected. The town featured a sportsground and tennis courts (Linder 2007:234).

Place history

The Boinka Cemetery was first noted on July 14th 1916 in meeting minutes for the Boinka Cemetery Trust. Trust members noted at this time included Chairman, Mr. W. I. Moroney; Secretary/Treasurer, Mr. T. C Muir; Section, M. Walton; Trustees - Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Jenkins, Mr. Walker and Mrs. Kelly (Lindner 2001:141). Noted in these minutes were burial charge rates - ten shillings for land for a single grave (8'X4'), fifteen shillings for land 8'X8' and one pound for grave sinking (see *Victorian Gazette* 1920: Number 157).

By March 1918 funds were obtained for fencing. A dance was also held within this year to raise money for the 'improvement fund' (Lindner 2001:141). By 1919 a fence was erected around the cemetery, with permission granted from the forest ranger for 100 posts to be cut. At this time 28 sugar gums and pines were also planted.

By 1923 grave sites and pathways were marked and during 1925 galvanized iron plate numbers noted grave locations. Wire netting to enclose the cemetery was also added at this time (see *Victorian Gazette* 1982: Number 130).

The earliest recorded burial at Boinka is of Lois Irene Harrop (1916).

Sources

Lindner, J. 2001. *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001*. Kow Plains Homestead Committee of Management, Mallee Printers Pty Ltd, Victoria.

Nicholls, J & Angel, A. 2003. *Mallee Tracks*, South Australia.

Victorian Gazette, Wednesday, August 4th 1920, Number 157.

Victorian Gazette, Wednesday, December 22nd 1982, Number 130.

Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. *Mallee Area Review: Study of Historic Sites*. Report prepared for Land Conservation Council, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

-

8 COMMUNITY LIFE

8.6 Marking the phases of life

Description

Physical Description

1986: From Ward, Andrew C. & Associates, 1986, *Mallee Area Review - Study of Historic Sites*, for Land Conservation Council.

A small cemetery with graves laid out on either side of a central accessway. The earliest burial belongs to Lois Irene Harrop (1916). A Sunshine H.V. McKay gate marks the entrance.

2012:

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The cemetery is set within bushland north-west of the small settlement of Boinka.

Boinka is a small cemetery with graves laid out on either side of a central access way. The earliest graves belong to the McKinnon (1922) and McDonald (1923) Families. Most of the graves date from c.1940. The H.V.KcKay gate noted previously as marking the entrance to the cemetery has been replaced with one of cyclone wire.

A pair of Cypress pines *Callitris Preissi* are located either side of the central driveway forming a dominant feature of the landscape together with several other pines. Elsewhere the vegetation is of grasses and Mallee scrub as is the surrounding vegetation of the cemetery.

The graves are made predominantly of concrete with cyclone wire panels used as railings for some of the older graves.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Previous Statement Significance

Potential historic and social significance as a reminder of the settlement of Boinka and its community. A small cemetery with graves laid out on either side of a central accessway. The earliest graves belong to the McKinnon (1922) and McDonald (1923) families. A Sunshine H.V. McKay gate marks the entrance. (Source Andrew Ward, Mallee Area Review, LCC 1986)

Comparative Analysis

Cowangie and Tutye cemeteries

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Boinka Cemetery as established in 1916 and developed largely before 1925 is significant.

How is it significant?

Boinka Cemetery is of local historic social and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Boinka is representative of the small rural cemeteries located throughout the Mallee. It has historic value as a record of the people who have lived in the district and social value for the community and for current and future people with an association to the district or its people. (Criteria A & G)

The layout, fencing and plantings of Cypress pines (*Callitris Preissi*) have aesthetic value in demarcating a sacred place from the surrounding bushland. (Criterion E)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

Yes Cypress pines

Fences & Outbuildings

-

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Limestone walls
Address Mallee Highway BOINKA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Farm fence
Citation Date 2012



Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Place History

Limestone is very prevalent throughout the district and many houses were constructed from it. However, this is the only known fence in the area. This fence was built ca. 1920 by the then land holder, M. O. Kelly. Usually stones were picked before the sowing of crops (then piled into heaps), but in this instance Mr M.O. Kelly made use of the stone to build a fence (Linder, Linder, McIntosh and Etherton 1988).

Sources

Jocelyn Lindner, Tom Linder, May McIntosh and Irene Etherton 1988. Kow Plains and beyond, 1849-1988 : a history of the area encompassed by the Tutye and District Combined School Sports Association.

Description

Physical Description

The limestone wall is situated on the Mallee Highway at the 72 kilometre marker and is constructed with local stone to a height of approximately 1.0 metre. It extends for several hundred metres along the forntage of the property named Kinnersley. It is constructed using a dry stone walling technique.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Statement of Significance

The limestone wall is believed to be the only one in the district. It is potentially of local significance for its historic and aesthetic values. Further work is required to determine the significance of this structure.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	No
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Cowangie Cemetery
Address Cemetery Road, just south of Mallee Hwy on the east side COWANGIE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Cemetery/Graveyard/Burial Ground
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Cowangie (also named Cow Plains, Kow Plains and Copi) was surveyed on land that once formed part of Kow Plains station. The town was established on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line in 1912. In the same year, the first town

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

buildings were constructed along the main street, Dayman Street. A general store and bakery opened in 1912. The Kow Plains Sports Club opened ca. 1913. In 1918, a Commercial Bank agency was established. A sly grog shop named the Black Bull operated in bushland to the east. A hall built in 1913 was replaced by the Cowangie Soldiers Memorial Hall in 1924. The hall has been recently refurbished and hosts a number of community events including the showing of films. The local church, built as a Methodist church in 1926, continues to be used by local parishioners.

Place history

Prior to the formal reservation of cemeteries it was not uncommon for burials to take place on family farming properties. This practice continued even after the establishment of formal cemeteries, as many could not afford to pay the expenses of a formal burial (see for example Lindner 2001:140).

Deaths in the community rapidly encouraged demands for dedicated local cemeteries to bury and commemorate the dead. Cowangie Cemetery is mentioned in an 1914 issue of the Pinnaroo Border Times - with minutes to the monthly meeting stating that work had been undertaken in connection with the cemetery at Kow Plains (Linder 2001:143).

Lindner notes that in 1968 the fences around the cemetery were repaired from drought relief funds. Sometime later, the Murrayville Lions Club erected a new brick entrance wall and a gate (Lindner 2001:143). In 1996 a new fence was erected around the perimeter and 200 trees were planted.

Refer to Lindner 2001 (pages 143-145) for a detailed list of burials.

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.

Lindner, J. 2001. *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001*. Kow Plains Homestead Committee of Management, Mallee Printers Pty Ltd, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.6 Cemeteries and lone graves

Description

Physical Description

2009: Cemetery reserve circa 1912 with early burials and more recent burials. Still in use.
2012:

Cowangie cemetery is a relatively large and well maintained cemetery reserve still in use. It has a cream brick entrance wall and steel gates, new pavilion and water tank. It comprises graves from early settlement in 1912 through to present times. An unusual brick grave is a contrast with most others of typical concrete and stone. The cemetery contains little evidence of early plantings and has a variety of smaller trees set in mown grass.

Archaeological Potential

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Yes

Previous Statement Significance

2009: Cowangie Cemetery is of potential historic and social significance as an early cemetery circa 1912 associated with the Cowangie township that is still in use.

Comparative Analysis

Cowangie, Boinka and Tutye all have cemeteries that are still operating. Linga had a site set aside but it was never developed. Cowangie is the biggest of the three.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Cowangie Cemetery established c. 1912 and still in use, is significant.

How is it significant?

Cowangie Cemetery is of local historic social significance to the Rural City of Mildura

Why is it significant?

Cowangie is representative of the small rural cemeteries located throughout the Mallee. It has historic value as a record of the people who have lived in the district and social value for the community and for current and future people with an association to the district or its people. (Criteria A & G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Railway water reserve
Address Main Street COWANGIE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Other - Transport - Rail, Water Supply Reservoir/ Dam
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Thematic context

The location of water sources was influential in the development of Victoria's railway lines, for steam locomotives were dependent on water to replenish their supplies (Context 2007:10). As a result, many railway stations were installed with tanks, bores, pumps and reserves.

Place history

The railway water reserve at Cowangie was built in 1912. Ward notes that the Cowangie reserve was a large catch earth tank with chutes channelling water into the tank, with one chute built from limestone with cement rendered lining. Ward notes that the Cowangie water reserve is a reminder of the infrastructure required to maintain steam locomotive hauled trains (Ward 1986:n.p.).

Sources

Context, 2007. *Victorian Water Supply Heritage Study, Thematic Environmental History* (Vol.1). Prepared for Heritage Victoria.

Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

3.3 Linking Victorians by rail

Description

Physical Description

The water reserve at Cowangie is a large rectangular basin formed by substantial earth embankments orientated north east south west. Water appears to have entered the basin via depressions at its northern and western corners and a constructed channel in its south eastern bank. This channel, which was built of limestone blocks rendered with thick concrete, has deteriorated badly, probably as a result of the erosion of the surrounding embankment, and it is now largely fragmentary apart from its uppermost portion.

At the southern corner of the basin is a large rectangular concrete engine block with six protruding bolts. This probably held a pumping engine which directed water south east from the reserve to the railway line.

The reserve is now dry and, whilst the embankments remain largely bare, the bottom of the basin is under thick grass.

Archaeological Potential

No

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The railway water reserve at Cowangie is significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historic significance in that it represents a major component of the infrastructure constructed to maintain the steam locomotives which were vital to the economy of the area.

It is technically significant in that it demonstrates how the need for water was met in a region in which water was a limited resource.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name	Lone grave	
Address	Mallee Highway, east of township COWANGIE	Significance Level Local
Place Type	Isolated Grave/Burial Site	
Citation Date	2012	





Recommended VHR No HI Yes PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Cowangie (also named Cow Plains, Kow Plains and Copi) was surveyed on land that once formed part of Kow Plains station. The town was established on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line in 1912. In the same year, the first town buildings were constructed along the main street, Dayman Street. A general store and bakery opened in 1912. The Kow Plains Sports Club opened ca. 1913. In 1918, a Commercial Bank agency was established. A sly grog shop named the Black Bull operated in bushland to the east. A hall built in 1913 was replaced by the Cowangie Soldiers Memorial Hall in 1924. The hall has been recently refurbished and hosts a number of community events including the showing of films. The local church, built as a Methodist church in 1926, continues to be used by local parishioners.

Place history

There are three known 'lone graves' within the Cowangie area, and these are associated with deaths that occurred before the opening of the Cowangie cemetery. The lone grave, situated along the Mallee highway, some 2.5km east of Cowangie, is thought to be that of a railway worker who died whilst working on the lines construction sometime between 1911-1912 (Lindner 2001:139).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.
Lindner, J. 2001. *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001*, Kow Plains Homestead Committee of Management, Mallee Printers Pty Ltd, Victoria.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.6 Cemeteries and lone graves

Description

Physical Description

2009: Grave marked as unknown railway worker.
2012: The grave is marked with a limestone monument and a cypress pine log enclosure. The ceramic plaque reads 'Site of Grave, Railway Worker, Name Unknown 1913'.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Previous Statement Significance

2009: The lone grave near Cowangie is of potential historic significance as evidence of the life of railway workers in the isolated and harsh Mallee conditions. (Criterion A)

Comparative Analysis

The lone grave at the side of the Mallee Highway at Cowangie is one of three lone graves in the study area but the only one located in the 2011 study.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The lone grave 2.5 km east of Cowangie at the side of the Mallee Highway dating from 1913 is significant.

How is it significant?

The lone grave is of local historic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The lone grave represents a practice of burial prior to the gazettal of cemetery reserves. It is a poignant reminder of the harsh and isolated conditions that people endured in the settlement of the Mallee and during the construction of the railway. (Criterion A)

Assessment Against Criteria

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Memorial trees WW1
Address Mallee Highway, near Danyo South Road COWANGIE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Planting groups
Citation Date 2012





**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Cowangie (also named Cow Plains, Kow Plains and Copi) was surveyed on land that once formed part of Kow Plains station. The town was established on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line in 1912. In the same year, the first town buildings were constructed along the main street, Dayman Street. A general store and bakery opened in 1912. The Kow Plains Sports Club opened ca. 1913. In 1918, a Commercial Bank agency was established. A sly grog shop named the Black Bull operated in bushland to the east. A hall built in 1913 was replaced by the Cowangie Soldiers Memorial Hall in 1924. The hall has been recently refurbished and hosts a number of community events including the showing of films. The local church, built as a Methodist church in 1926, continues to be used by local parishioners.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Place history

The scars and losses of war were all the greater during the Great War of 1914-18 because the bodies of the dead remained interred in the field of war, some unidentified or undiscovered. Families thus often had no body to mourn nor opportunities to travel to such distant graveyards. This absence, combined with the high casualty rate, contributed to the general movement to memorialise the dead in the landscape through any number of war memorials, of which living and individual trees were a powerful statement of the individual lives of the soldiers in the landscape. (Inglis 2008; Damousi 1999) The positioning and form of such memorials was a difficult and sometimes controversial task, all the more so because the trauma and loss of the Great War was unprecedented both in casualties and in the public desire to commemorate it. Avenues of Honour consisting of sugar gums or other types of trees were common across Victoria and Australia, and individual trees would often bear the names of individual soldiers who served or died in the war.

As a mark of respect for World War One returned soldiers a row of sugar gums *Eucalyptus Cladocalyx* were planted on each side of the highway (now the Mallee Highway) from the railway crossing west to the entrance to the Cowangie railway station (Lindner 2001:124). Wooden tree guards were erected around each tree. Attached to each was a brass plate inscribed with the name of the persons in whose honour the tree was planted.

Many plantings have been removed and interpretative plaques have been erected in Murrayville to commemorate both the plantings and the names associated with them. An honour roll containing the names from the trees has also been transcribed and this is kept at the Murrayville History Centre.

Sources

- Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.
Lindner, J. 2001. *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001. Kows Plains Homestead Committee of Management*, Mallee Printers Pty Ltd, Victoria.
Inglis, K. S. 2008. *Sacred Places: War Memorials in the Australian Landscape*, Melbourne Univeristy Press.
Damousi, Joy. 1999. *The Labour of Loss: Mourning, Memory and Wartime Bereavement in Australia*, Cambridge University Press.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.5 Wars

Description

Physical Description

2009: *Eucalyptus cladocalyx* (sugar gums) planted to commemorate WW1 servicemen. Line of 9 trees on south side of highway.

2012:

A line of nine sugar gums *Eucalyptus Cladocalyx* remain on the south side of the highway are the remains of the War Memorial avenue. The trees are approximately 10-15m in height. The names plaques are no longer with the trees. Sugar gums are not common in Mallee vegetation communities and their presence along the highway signifies a deliberate

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

planting.

Previous Statement Significance

The line of 9 memorial Sugar Gums along the Mallee Highway are likely to be of historic and social significance as memorials to soldiers from the local area who served in WW1.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The War Memorial plantings of sugar gums *Eucalyptus Cladocalyx* on the south side of the Mallee Highway near the corner of Danyo South Road are significant.

How is it significant?

The War Memorial Plantings are of local historical, social, rarity and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The War Memorial avenue plantings are of historical significance in memorializing the lives of local servicemen and women through living reminders in the landscape. (Criterion A) The planting at Cowangie is a rare reminder of such avenues that are now largely memorialised and interpreted in the streets of Murrayville. (Criteria B & G). The nine sugar gums form a distinctive feature in the landscape, standing out from the surrounding farmland and Mallee bush. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Wells - group of 3
Address Pallarang Road (west side), north of Mallee Hwy
Significance Level Local
COWANGIE
Place Type Well
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

Maker / Builder No information held

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The opening up of the Mallee coincided with the extension of the Victorian railway network in all directions. In 1880 23 new lines were constructed and with the Octopus Act of 1884, Act No. 821, an additional 66 new lines were opened (Ward 1986: n.p). The extension of the rail network opened up the area to squatters and the development of runs and access to water became a concern.

Typical of the time, early settlers dug wells to ensure a supply of water for the needs of stock, grain and household usage. In the Mallee area, wells were sunk into limestone as these often provided fresh water (Rowan and Downes 1963). Ward (1986) and Context (2007:2) note that settlers relied on local Aboriginal knowledge of the area to determine the sinking of wells. 'Native' wells, soaks and other catchments were developed and log tanks, iron tanks and excavated earth tanks were constructed (Broadford Courier and Reedy Creek Times 1904:5: Ward 1986: n.p).

The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was formed in 1910. The successor of the Victorian Water Supply Department, this Commission undertook the development of artesian bore supplies, catchment tanks and channel construction with Alfred S. Kenyon appointed as engineer in charge (Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012; Ward 1986: n.p). Ward notes that the Commission 'devised a method of water supply to meet [the] needs, arising from that sub-region's particular characteristics' and was made up of bores to tap known sources of artesian water, catchment tanks, artificial catchments, channel water supplies and pipeline water supplies (Ward 1986: n.p).

Between 1911 and 1913 several exploratory lines of bores were put down in the Walpeup region and by 1915 there were 79 bores supplying water to 2500 persons between Underbool and the South Australian boarder (Ward 1986: n.p). Boring ceased in 1930 by which time 109 bores has been sunk. Typical elements found at each bore included a windmill, commonly manufactured by Alston, Comet or Southern Cross; a tank stand, of angle iron; a tank, or corrugated iron; a stang pick with stopcock; a trough and an earth tank (Ward1986: n.p).

Domestic and stock water supply

The following is taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:35-39):

Away from the River Murray, water in the area of the Mallee that was to become the Rural City of Mildura was supplied by lake systems, swamps, soaks fed by springs, clay pans and the building of catchment channels to augment run off into tanks sunk earlier by squatters.

Engineer J. D. Derry, who accompanied Alfred Deakin on his 1885 American tour was instrumental in the formation of the Wimmera United Waterworks Trust. Derry devised a scheme to use the Wimmera, Yarriambiack, Dunmunkle and Richardson as distributaries. The Wartook Reservoir was completed in 1887, and a series of channels, weirs and tanks was laid out. This system eventually conveyed water to the south of the study area to the country of what was to become the Shire of Walpeup. In the northwest Mallee to which the Wimmera scheme could not supply water, in 1887 the Victorian Water Supply Department recommended the sinking of test bores in an effort to tap into underground water supplies. The first bore was No. 2 at Morton Plains. By 1897, efforts made to tap into artesian supplies in the Mallee were described as useless.

Public bores were sunk in 1910 at Boinka and Underbool, and in 1911 at Linga. Others were established in 1912 at Manpy, Daalko, Nyang, Underbool and Boinka. The bore at Boinka tapped into artesian water that rose above ground level. Water at the other bores was accessed by hand pumps, horse operated pumps and windmills. Bores were opened at Tutye, Duddo, Gongee, Boinka and Underbool in 1920. Water from these bores was often too saline for human consumption, so in 1929 farmers sunk their own bores in the parishes of Boinka, Manpy, Koona and Purnya. The bore established at Murrayville in the same year was connected to a deep well turbine pump, the first of its type in Australia.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

By 1930, the boundary of the area in which usable underground water could be accessed was well defined. Even with the establishment of bores and tanks, water trains were a feature of Mallee life until the late 1920s when the last delivered 200,000 gallons of water to Torrita in February 1928.

Under the SRWSC, over the period 1906-1936 a three-fold expansion in the area served by the Wimmera-Mallee scheme was achieved, with the total number of people served in the region growing from 12,000 to 52,000. In 1930-1, the Wimmera Mallee Water Supply's channel system was extended to supply the Underbool township and vicinity, and to the high country adjacent to Walpeup. It was officially opened in March 1943. However, approximately 500,000 acres of wheat growing country in the Mallee, mostly between Underbool and the South Australian border, remained dependent on water supply from sub-artesian bores, with 109 of these controlled and maintained by the Commission.

Place history

The Cowangie wells, a group of three well dug into the limestone plain at Cowangie appear to be hand dug, predating organised government water supplies into the area. Wells were sunk through a layer of sand and until limestone was reached, as ' the water in the upper strata is rather too salty for live stock until they become used to it, but that which is obtained after boring through the limestone is very fresh and scarcely distinguishable from rain water (Cow Plains Exhibition 2012: 8).

Lindner notes that the reference to the sinking of wells into limestone can be found in *Pioneering Days: Journal of Geroge Everard*.

Sources

1904 'Land Available for Settlers.', *The Broadford Courier and Reedy Creek Times* (Broadford, Vic. : 1893 - 1916), 28 October, p. 5, viewed 1 February 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article59198449>.

Australian Dictionary of Biography, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/kenyon-alfred-stephen-6936>, viewed 31 January 2012.

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.

Context, 2007. *Victorian Water Supply Heritage Study, Thematic Environmental History* (Vol.1). Report prepared for Heritage Victoria.

Cow Plains Exhibition 2012, viewed February 1st 2012 <
http://home.vicnet.net.au/~ndhs/memories_of_nhill.htm>.

Kenyon, A.S, 1916. *The Story of the Mallee*. Melbourne.

Rowan J.N and B.G. Downes, 1963. *Study of the Land in North Western Victoria*. Report prepared for the Soil Conservation Society.

Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. *Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site*. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

5 WATER SUPPLY

5.1 Domestic and stock supply

Description

Physical Description

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Three wells dug vertically into the limestone plain at Cowangie are located north of the Mallee Highway along the Pallarang Road. The wells are approximately 5-6 metres deep and 1.5 metre in diameter and have been fenced. They are apparently some of a much larger number in the Cowangie region, although the others have not been surveyed.

Archaeological Potential

No

Previous Statement Significance

2009: Homestead wells from the 1860s. There are about 20 in the Cowangie region. Through limestone to 16-20' (ref. Kenyon)

The group of 3 wells are of potential significance as an example of early water infrastructure that enable the Mallee to be settled for dryland farming. (Criterion A, D)

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The three wells dug into limestone off Pallarang Road approx. 500m north of the Mallee Highway are significant.

How is it significant?

The limestone wells are of local historic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The wells dug approximately 5 metres into limestone represent one of several different ways of maintaining a water supply for the needs of stock, grain and household usage. It is thought that the wells represent an appropriation of Aboriginal knowledge of natural wells, soaks and other catchments which were an initial form of water collection prior to the advent of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. (Criterion A)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Railway pumping station
Address Lake Hattah HATTAH **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Railway Machinery & Objects, Water Pump House/Pumping Station
Citation Date 2012





**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Thematic context

The Mallee railway was built in 1898, after the Railways Standing Committee considered the benefit in running lines into the area, namely for the transportation of wheat (Ballinger 2009:50). In 1903 the Mildura line opened, running as far as Hattah. In 1908 a steam powered pumping station was built at Hattah Railway Station by the Victorian Railways Department.

Pumping stations were part of the irrigation infrastructure of the region. While the Wimmera-Mallee system, like most township supply systems relied predominantly on gravity to distribute water, a number of pumping stations were built to

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

bring water to land above the level or reach of the gravitational system. Between 1913 and 1947 over twelve pumping stations were constructed. The original pumps, powered by steam and introduced by the Chaffey Brothers in the 1880s were still in use in the 1930s, but were converted to electric power when Mildura was connected to the State electricity grid (Context 2007:40). The original installations were powered by steam, converted to diesel and finally to electricity.

Place history

The pumping station at Lake Hattah ensured adequate water supply for the settlement and for the steam locomotives arriving into and departing out of railway station (Ward 1986:n.p). The pumping station, concrete basin, with 70,000 gallons capacity, and tank storage, with 150,000 gallons, were constructed in the early 1900s (Mildura Cultivator 1917:7). In the 1940s a fire destroyed the original pumping station and in 1944 it was replaced with a timber framed, corrugated iron clad structure. A Lister Ajax type A6, series E, force pump diesel engine, a Kelly and Lewis centrifugal pump, and a Ronaldson Brothers and Tippett Pty Ltd (Ballarat) 5HP, 800 RPM type CF diesel engine with fuel tank were installed by H MacArthur (Ward 1986:n.p).

Sources |

1917 'The Mildura Cultivator.', *The Mildura Cultivator* (Vic. : 1888 - 1920), 1 August, p. 7, viewed 7 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article74805701>

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.

Context, 2007. *Victorian Water Supply Heritage Study, Thematic Environmental History* (Vol.1). Prepared for Heritage Victoria.

Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

3.3 Linking Victorians by rail

4.6 Exploiting water resources

Description

Physical Description

The pump is housed in a timber framed corrugated iron shed with corrugated iron skillion roof. The shed is accessed through a simple wooden door on its northern side, and it has small wooden casement windows in each end wall. The equipment around the shed was also screened by a tall corrugated metal fence supported on wooden posts on its northern and western sides.

A long 100mm gauge metal suction pipe is supported out into the lake on a wooden pier. Water was drawn along this pipe into a small tank in the shed by the action of an Ajax type A6, Series E, force pump rope driven by a Lister diesel engine. The water was then forced along an outlet pipe travelling west towards the railway station.

A sign on the side of the structure records that it was restored by the Friends of Hattah with funding from Parks Victoria. It appears to have been damaged since that time, perhaps by vandalism, although a modern flood marker post erected next to it indicates that the site is now subject to flooding and this may be responsible.

Archaeological Potential

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

No

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The railway pumping station at Lake Hattah is significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic, social and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historic significance in that it represents a major component of the infrastructure constructed to maintain the steam locomotives which were vital to the economy of the area.

It is technically significant as a comparatively large example of a large diesel powered railway pumping station.

The pump is of social significance as a focus for the restoration efforts of the local friends group.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Lake Hattah Regulator
Address Lake Hattah HATTAH **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Water Pump House/Pumping Station
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Thematic context

The Mallee railway was built in 1898, after the Railways Standing Committee considered the benefit in running lines into the area, namely for the transportation of wheat (Ballinger 2009:50). In 1903 the Mildura line opened, running as far as Hattah and in 1908 a steam powered pumping station was built at Hattah Railway Station by the Victorian Railways. The pumping station ensured adequate water supply for the settlement and for the steam locomotives arriving into and departing out of Hattah railway station (Ward 1986:n.p).

Place history

According to Ward, the regulator at Lake Hattah was constructed in conjunction with the railway pumping station and built in 1908 by the Victorian Railways Department (Ward 1986:n.p).

Sources

1917 'The Mildura Cultivator.', *The Mildura Cultivator* (Vic. : 1888 - 1920), 1 August, p. 7, viewed 7 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article74805701>.

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.

Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Description

Physical Description

The regulator is positioned across a narrow neck in the lake and consists of two concrete abutments separated by two concrete ribs, the whole now crossed by a wooden walkway and surrounded with metal safety fencing as part of a walking track.

The upstream ends of the three concrete ribs and the insides of the abutments support brackets, which Ward records as holding wooden planks which were used in various combinations to regulate or restrict the flow through the three artificial channels. A pile of metal plates observed next to the regulator would appear to have replaced the planks since that time.

Archaeological Potential

No

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The regulator at Lake Hattah is significant.

How is it significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The site is of local historic and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historic significance in that it represents part of the infrastructure constructed to maintain the steam locomotives which were vital to the economy of the area.

It is technically significant as an example of the methods adopted to ensure that sufficient water could be supplied to the railway, via the Hattah railway pumping station.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes Applies to regulator structure.

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

This information is provided for guidance only and does not supersede official documents, particularly the planning scheme. Planning controls should be verified by checking the relevant municipal planning scheme.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church of Australia
Address Cnr of Reed and Last streets MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Church
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Locality history

The original Diocese of Bendigo which includes the Mallee was created under The New Dioceses Act 1901 of the Synod of the Diocese of Melbourne. It comprised the central part of Victoria, north of the Great Dividing Range. The Diocese of St Arnaud, created by the Diocese of Ballarat and comprising the northern part of that Diocese, came into being in 1926. On 1st January 1977, the two Dioceses amalgamated to form the present Diocese of Bendigo which comprises broadly that part of Victoria north of the Great Dividing Range and west of the Goulburn River (Bendigo Anglican Diocese).

Places of worship

The following is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71-72):

A church was often one of the first buildings erected as the nucleus of a settlement. Prior to the erection of permanent structures services were conducted wherever shelter was available. The first pastoralists conducted services in their huts. With the arrival of clergymen to areas along the River Murray, often in small missionary boats such as the 'Etona', services were conducted as part of circuits under trees, in tents, private homes, coffee palaces, and hotels. The first Anglican service in Underbool was conducted by a lay preacher at the old Underbool bore.

Church buildings were erected in the Rural City of Mildura as settlements grew and funds were raised for the establishment of permanent structures. Early structures were often constructed from local timber, and if finances allowed, were replaced by more substantial brick buildings in later years.

Many church services in the towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville line were conducted in public halls. Lutheran services were organised by German settlers at Galah and the Walpeup Memorial Hall from 1923. A Lutheran manse was built at Walpeup in 1936. St Peters Lutheran Church was built at Murrayvilley 1923-4. During the latter half of the twentieth century because of falling congregation members, churches have consolidated. The Methodist and Presbyterian denominations amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. In many towns throughout the Rural City today church buildings have closed leaving only one denomination being represented by a single operating church, or several denominations operate from the one building.

Place history

The inaugural service of the Murrayville and district Anglican church took place in 1913, conducted by Rev.Downton of Ouyen, followed in 1915 by Rev.Crawford in and the Rev.Walter Withers in 1916. The Sunday rounds of services included Ngallo, Underbool. Welshman's Plains, Boinka , Cowangie North, Tutye and Linga. (Lindner 2007:135)

The first Murrayville Anglican Church stood on the corner of Reed Street. It was a corrugated unlined building, despite efforts to line the building in 1917. The present St John the Baptist Anglican Church sits at the same location, and was built at the bequest of Charles Porter Last. The foundation stone was laid on March 25th 1929 and the red brick building was dedicated on August 11th 1929 (Lindner 2007:136).

Sources

Context, 2009. *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.

History of Bendigo Anglican Church, <http://www.bendigoanglican.org.au/history/index.html> , accessed 18/2/2012.

Lindner, J. 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007. A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Murrayville Liaison Committee, Mildura.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.4 Places of worship

Description

Physical Description

2009: Red brick church, corrugated iron roof.

2012: St John the Baptist Anglican Church designed in 1929 is situated on the corner of Last and Reed Streets at a high point in the town of Murrayville. The site comprises a face brick Inter War church and a prefabricated fibro cement sheet outbuilding.

The church is an interesting example of the Arts and Crafts revival style comprising a steeply pitched corrugated iron roof beneath which the masonry is laid angled with the roof slope. The brick detailing is unusual and skilled in its execution of a 'frame' to the front elevation bordered with a string course of clinker bricks. A rendered ventilator at the apex provides a decorative focus to the facade. Directly beneath this is a tripartite lancet window of diamond leaded glass. The side porch with equally steeply pitched roof and overhanging eaves line has a pair of angled buttresses forming the entry. At the rear of the church the roofline breaks into an asymmetrical form that meets an intersecting gable. The side walls have lancet windows set within brick pilasters. Cream brick bands highlight the entry door and the front window. Plain brickwork used in innovative ways and a dynamic form responding to the scale of the enclosed spaces are the main decorative and formal elements of this unusual and skilled Arts and Crafts revival church.

Previous Statement Significance

The Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church of Australia is of potential historical and social significance as a good example of a twentieth century church in the Mallee township of Murrayville. It continued to be used by the local community for church services. (Criteria A, G)

Comparative Analysis

Of all the churches in the study area Saint John the Baptist is the most architecturally diverse in its use of the Arts and Crafts revival style. All of the other churches surveyed as part of this study are the more typical Gothic Revival architectural style.

Churches built at a similar time but of a more conservative design than Saint John the Baptist include:

St Peter's Lutheran Church Murrayville (1923)

Walpeup Catholic Church (1921)

Uniting Anglican Church Underbool (1925)

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church built in 1929 at the corner of Reed and Last Streets Murrayville is significant. The outbuilding is not significant.

How is it significant?

Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church of 1926 is part of the story of consolidation and growth of the Murrayville township, in particular the provision of civic and community buildings. As part of the Diocese of Bendigo, Murrayville has provided Anglican ministers to the district and the church is still in use. (Criterion A & G)

Saint John the Baptist Anglican Church displays some fine Arts and Crafts Revival features in its form and brick detailing. This is evident in the decorative brickwork of the front gable, the steeply pitched roofline with overhanging eaves and angled buttresses. The design is notable for its use of dynamic and asymmetrical form at the rear, its side porch, and the excellent decorative design of its brickwork. (Criterion D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Danyo Site 1
Address Mallee Highway MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Shop
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Tutye was proclaimed a township in 1920 (Victorian Government Gazette, Dec 01, 1920 Issue 214 Page 3583). This proclamation was partly rescinded twice, on November 8th and December 20th 1922, to exclude areas on the edges of the township as it became evident that the town would be smaller than first envisaged. A government Pound had already been established at Tutye on 30yj September 1914 (Government Gazette, Issue 150, Page 4502), closed in 1926, and re-opened on 13th April 1928 (Government Gazette, Issue 53, Page 1192). Settlement in the area dated to the earlier date of 1912, when the first allotments were purchased (Lindner 1998:128).

Place history

This site was previously recorded by Wood in 1994. See Victorian Heritage Inventory No: 7127-0001.

In 1994 Wood noted that the Danyo Site 1 comprised a ruin with stone wall and water tank amidst a scatter of bricks. According to local historian Jocelyn Linder (Linder 2001:122) the site represents the remains of a shop that was burnt in the 1970s.

Sources

Lindner, J. 1998 *Kow Plains and beyond, 1849-1988*, Cowangie, Tutye, Boinka Back-to Committee, Ouyen.

Linder, J. 2001. *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001*. Kow Homestead Committee of Management, Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Wood, V. 1994. *Archaeological Survey of the Proposed Ouyen-Murrayville and Ouyen-Hopetoun-Curyo-Patchewollock Telecom*. Report prepared for Telecom Australia, Report Number: 12.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

5.3 Marketing and retailing

Description

Physical Description

The site is located to the north west of the junction of Danyo Road North with the Mallee Highway. The site, which measures approximately 35m by 25m, is centred around the ruin of a large rectangular structure facing onto the Mallee Highway, from which it is set back approximately 50m.

The outline of the structure is traced in limestone edging blocks beneath a dense scatter of bricks, stone and sheets of galvanised corrugated iron representing the fabric of the building. A stone threshold is positioned in the centre of the southern wall, to the north of which two brick chimney bases can be discerned to either side of what was probably a central hallway. At the northern edge of the building, two sections of limestone rubble walls flank steps down into a rectangular drystone lined underground cellar. These wall sections, which are one storey in height, are concrete rendered on the inside but also at their northern ends and across the tops, suggesting that the walls and cellar were both external. This conclusion is supported by a low revetment wall with a concrete lip which extends out in perpendicular fashion from the west wall section. The wall may represent part of a subterranean tank or other such feature which perhaps also included a timber railway sleeper observed slightly to its north.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The standing wall sections were flanked by water tanks with raised limestone pedestals. Only the pedestal of the eastern tank remains, but the superstructure of the extant western tank looks to be constructed of rendered brick or stone.

To the north of the half-cellar, a pine tree stands over the remains of a collapsed wooden structure and a series of substantial posts linked with chicken wire. Comparison with the 1994 VHI site card shows that these have collapsed since 1994. Other features of the site include what appears to be another rectangular underground cellar to the west of the southern front of the building. This is of similar size to that to the north and is also lined with drystone, but it was overgrown at the time of survey and no evidence of access steps was visible. A large mass of chicken wire supported on posts and small tree trunks which lies to the east of the main structure probably represents a chicken coop or other stock enclosure.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The ruined residential/commercial complex comprising 'Danyo Site 1' is significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic and archaeological significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site contains extant features and archaeological deposits relating to a shop or probable early 20th century date in the now largely depopulated agricultural settlement of Danyo. It is thus representative of previous historic settlement of locales which are now abandoned.

It has a high potential to yield archaeological information on contemporary construction methods and the subsistence activities of the local population.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Row of shops
Address 15-17 McKenzie Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Shop
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named in honour of John Murray, Victorian premier at the time, and was established concurrent with the development of the planned Ouyen-Kow Plains railway line, which was first recommended by a parliamentary committee in 1908 and reached Murrayville on 25 June 1912. By 1911, the township included a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber, and a lime kiln (Thematic Environmental History 2009:58; Lindner 2007:15).

McKenzie Street was named after Mr McKenzie MLA who as Minister of Lands toured the region in 1910 promising conveniences and infrastructure for settlers.

Place history

Allotments 7 and 8 were purchased at the second sale of town blocks on December 7 1911 by E. Mott and J.O. Storzaker & McKail respectively. Previous to this purchase, J.O. Storzaker operated as a saddler and harness maker, setting up business in a temporary premises at section 3 allotment 5 in July 1911 (J. Lindner, pers comm. April 2012). In late December of the same year it was reported that J.O. Storzaker had moved to section 2 allotment 8 (Lindner 2007:42). By July 1914 J.O. Storzaker was reported to have been contemplating the building of a stone shop on the site (Lindner 2001:42).

Lindner notes that the buildings at 11-17 McKenzie street were constructed in 1926, noting that local resident Mr Peter Peers remembers their construction (J. Lindner, pers comm. April 2012).

The stone buildings operated as a general store selling fruit, vegetables, confectionary, clothing and hardware between 1922-1930, while the building beside it functioned as an entertainment centre and ball room where Saturday night dances were held (Lindner 2007:73). By 1940 both allotments 7 and 8 were owned by the Bendigo Building Society from whom P.R and N.A Peers purchased the buildings in 1940 (Lindner 2007:43; J. Lindner, pers comm. April 2012).

The buildings located at 11-13 McKenzie Street have been demolished and those at 15-17 have had their appearance changed, with two of the three original stucco parapets removed and replaced with corrugated sheeting.

Sources

Context, 2009. *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.

Lindner, J. 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007. A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Murrayville Liaison Committee, Mildura.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

5.3 Marketing and retailing

Description

Physical Description

The row of buildings at 15-17 McKenzie Street are built of local limestone and brick. The four attached commercial buildings are different in layout and in the form of the parapets, however they use the same palette of materials and

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

reflect the same design characteristics. The buildings feature a combination of face and painted brick, and stucco with distinctive circular motifs to the parapets. The buildings display differences in the arrangement and pattern of their doors and windows.

Most of the windows are original timber framed multi-paned designs and the doors are of solid timber boarding. Above the doors are fanlights of transfer-patterned glass in a blue and black geometric pattern. It is possible that the glass is much older than the buildings themselves and may have come from another building.

The parapets feature a combination of stucco and face brick and are each subtly different shape and detail but together form an interesting and dynamic pattern to the street. A post supported timber verandah structure links all of the buildings together. They are highly intact although there is damage to stucco and nos. 15-17 and are unable to be accessed due to some issues with falling masonry.

Recommended Management

A current demolition application exists for 15-17 McKenzie Street. Demolition of half of this group of building would have a serious impact on the significance of this place and should be considered carefully.

Comparative Analysis

There are some fine examples of Inter-war shops in Ouyen , most notably Gilpins at 34-36 Oke Street. Nos 8 and 18 Reed Street Murrayville are also highly intact commercial buildings however 15-17 McKenzie Street is the largest and most intact group of commercial buildings in the study area.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The attached buildings at 15-17 McKenzie Street Murrayville built around 1912 and of limestone, brick and stucco are significant.

How is it significant?

15-17 McKenzie Street is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

15-17 McKenzie Street is representative of the early development of Murrayville in the period prior to and immediately after World War 1. The attached buildings are representative of a number of shops built for and by local merchants to supply the needs of the township and the surrounding farmland in the period after the establishment of the Ouyen to Pinnaroo railway line as it reached Murrayville in 1912. Originally used as a saddlery by J.O Stirzacker and later a café and general produce store in the 1920s. (Criterion A)

Architecturally 15-17 McKenzie Street are unique in the study area. The group of buildings are notable for their early date of construction and their use of red brick, limestone and stucco. Important features include the design of timber framed windows, solid timber doors and patterned glass to the fanlights. Only one parapet remains, it has a highly distinctive design featuring brick piers and detail set in stucco. (Criterion E)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Although two original parapets have been removed, as they were in a state of disrepair, the one remaining parapet is in good condition. The post-supported verandah is an important feature extending the full length of the frontages. Numbers 11-13, which formed part of this group have been demolished.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Shop
Address 19 McKenzie Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Shop
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named in honour of John Murray, Victorian premier at the time, and was established concurrent with the development of the planned Ouyen-Kow Plains railway line, which was first recommended by a parliamentary committee in 1908 and reached Murrayville on 25 June 1912. By 1911, the township included a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber, and a lime kiln (Thematic Environmental History 2009:58; Lindner 2007:15).

McKenzie Street was named after Mr McKenzie MLA who as Minister of Lands toured the region in 1910 promising conveniences and infrastructure for settlers.

Place history

Allotment 6 (number 19 McKenzie Street) was purchased by J. Bauer, who operated a shop continuously to 1919. Bauer's shop was reportedly a fruit and vegetable store. According to the *Pinnaroo Border Times* 'the opening of Joseph Bauer's store - fruit, vegetables, stationery, tobacco, smokers requirements and liquid refreshments took place on the 20 June 1917'. By 1922 Mueller & Schmidt established a butcher on the site, and by 1927 this was known as the Murrayville Meat Supply. In 1969 the shop operated as HJ Crane Butchers, in 1986 as Doug Box Butcher and since 1991 as Cobb & Co Take Away (interpretative plaque).

Sources

Shop 01-Aug-2012 10:24 AM
Hermes No 184783 Place Citation Report

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Context, 2009. *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.

Lindner, J. 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007. A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Murrayville Liaison Committee, Mildura.

Description

Physical Description

19 McKenzie Street is an unusual brick and stone commercial building with an elaborate parapet design. The facade is now painted however it was originally face stone with red brick quoining and detailing. A small part of unpainted stone remains just above the verandah. The windows and doors have been replaced and the verandah has been rebuilt however the remainder of the shop is relatively intact. It is an unusual design and may reflect some German architectural characteristics of the first owners and occupiers in the design of the very high parapet. The sides are of rubble limestone with a red brick flat roofed extension at the rear. This has a square chimney that has been constructed in progressively larger stepped form in the rear corner. The top of the chimney is quite elaborately corbelled.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The stone and brick shop built by Joseph Bauer in 1917 at 19 McKenzie Street Murrayville is significant.

How is it significant?

19 McKenzie Street Murrayville is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

19 McKenzie Street is representative of the early development of Murrayville in the period including and immediately after World War 1. It is one of a number of shops built for and by local merchants to supply the needs of the township and the surrounding farmland in the period after the establishment of the Ouyen to Pinnaroo railway line as it reached Murrayville in 1912. Originally a fruit and vegetable store, it has continued to be occupied for many years by a variety of butchers. (Criterion A)

19 McKenzie Street is a highly unusual commercial building with architectural features that are not found elsewhere in Murrayville or other towns in the study area. It is distinguished by its rubble limestone and brick construction and its high and ornate parapet (now painted). The rear of the building is unusual for its decorative chimney. Its unusual design may reflect some influences of European buildings as remembered by the settlers to the area, many of which had German names. (Criterion E)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name St Peters Lutheran Church
Address 9 Murrayville-Nhill Road MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Church
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

The first sale of Murrayville township Allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named after the Premier of Victoria at the time, John Murray. By 1911, the township comprised a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber and a lime kiln. The Murrayville Institute opened in 1911.

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The town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen opened in 1912. In this year, the Murrayville Hotel opened. By 1916, two banks were in operation. A new post office building was erected in 1926. The Murrayville Power House was built in 1928. Bore water was supplied to the township from 1929. A number of halls served the township including the Masonic hall, the Institute hall and the privately owned Austral Hall; a public hall opened in 1957.

Murrayville is promoted as the gateway to the Victorian outback. It continues to service its hinterland's population who are involved in the farming of grain and sheep as well as the growing of olives and potatoes watered by bores.

Places of worship

The following is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71-72):

A church was often one of the first buildings erected as the nucleus of a settlement. Prior to the erection of permanent structures services were conducted wherever shelter was available. The first pastoralists conducted services in their huts. With the arrival of clergymen to areas along the River Murray, often in small missionary boats such as the 'Etona', services were conducted as part of circuits under trees, in tents, private homes, coffee palaces, and hotels. The first Anglican service in Underbool was conducted by a lay preacher at the old Underbool bore.

Church buildings were erected in the Rural City of Mildura as settlements grew and funds were raised for the establishment of permanent structures. Early structures were often constructed from local timber, and if finances allowed, were replaced by more substantial brick buildings in later years.

Many church services in the towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville line were conducted in public halls. Lutheran services were organised by Lutheran settlers (of German descent) at Galah in the Walpeup Memorial Hall from 1923. A Lutheran manse was built at Walpeup in 1936. St Peter's Lutheran Church was built at Murrayville in 1923-4. During the latter half of the twentieth century because of falling congregation members, churches have consolidated. The Methodist and Presbyterian denominations amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. In many towns throughout the Rural City today church buildings have closed leaving only one denomination being represented by a single operating church, or several denominations operate from the one building.

The first Lutheran service in Murrayville took place on February 27th 1910, under a Mallee tree, on property owned Mr Carl E. Schultz. Paster J.H.S Heidenreick officiated and about twenty people were in attendance (Lindner 2007:136). Three months later the service was held in a shed. Later that year Mr Schultz built a specially constructed stone building for the purpose of conducting 'divine service therein, until such time when it would be possible to build a church' (Lindner 2007:136). These services lead to the foundation of the St Peter's Lutheran congregation on June 11th 1911.

Place history

On November 6th 1921 an acre of land situated on the outskirts of the Murrayville township was purchased with the idea of building a church. A church building fund was started in 1923 and by April 1st 1923 a total of £242 had been taken. Paster Hass, F. Auricht, R. Mann, J.A. Sieber, F. Schultz and C.A Schultz were elected to assist with the preparation of the building, and tradesman G. Kraenenbuehl assisted with specifications. St Peter's Lutheran Church was constructed with limestone walls and brick corners and buttresses. The accepted tender was £366.00.

St Peter's foundation stone was laid on December 2nd 1923. Until the dedication of St Peter's, which took place on July 13th 1924, the Shultz homestead was still used for service. The total cost associated with the construction of St Peter's is unknown, but after the 1924 dedication there was still a debt of £435.00. Alterations and additions to St Peter's have taken place over the years - some of which have included the construction of fence around the entire property and the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

installation of a new altar and pulpit drapes (Lindner 2007:137).

A compiled list of St Peter's pastors, up until 2007 include; Pastor P.H. Hass (1920-1930); Pastor K. Gielow (1930-1933); Pastor C.J. Pfitzner -(1934-1941); Pastor E.L. Lienert (1941-1951); Pastor L.Luhrs (1951-1958); Pastor L.P.Graetz (1958-1965); Pastor J.N.B. Renner (1966-1972); Pastor Footner (1972-1983); Pastor A. Gierus (1983-1992); Pastor Stuart Traeger (1993-1996); Pastor Greg Graham (1997-2002) and Pastor Joel Pukallus (2003-2007).

The Murrayville Lutheran Congregations of St Peter's and St Paul's amalgamated on February 13th 1967.

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne. Context, 2009. *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.

Lindner, J. 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007. A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Murrayville Liaison Committee, Mildura.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.4 Places of worship

Description

Physical Description

St Peter's Lutheran Church is an Inter war gothic revival church with a castellated porch. The main part of the church is designed with a pitched roof and limestone walls. At the gable ends the limestone reaches until the height of the bottom chord of the roof trusses, with the gable end clad with pressed metal. St Peter's displays typical features of the style with lancet windows and buttresses to the front and side elevations. Brickwork to the buttresses and quoining has been painted. The flat roofed porch has a castellated parapet. Of particular interest in the design is the half octagon sanctuary at the rear. This small structure is designed as a faceted bay capped with a pointed roof. The flat roofed vestry is attached to one side. Some of the windows are quite elaborate in their geometrical designed leaded and coloured glass patterns.

The site is surrounded by a variety of pine trees. Other buildings on the site include a concrete block toilet and hall of contemporary construction date.

Previous Statement Significance

St Peter's Lutheran Church is a small late nineteenth century gothic revival church built of stone with brick quoining. The porch has a castellated parapet. St Peter's will have historic, social and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

St Peters is the only Lutheran Church purpose built for the Lutheran community. In Walpeup the Lutheran Church was built as a Methodist church and later adopted by the Lutherans. St Peters is one of a number of Inter-war Gothic Revival churches including:

Walpeup Catholic Church (1921)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Uniting Anglican Church Underbool (1925)

It was built at a similar time to the Arts and Crafts revival church of Saint John the Baptist Murrayville (1926).

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

St Peters Lutheran Church at Murrayville at Nhill Road Murrayville built in 1923 is significant.

How is it significant?

St Peters Lutheran Church is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

St Peter's Lutheran Church is a tangible reminder of the history of Lutheran settlers in the area, many of whom came to the Mallee from South Australia. St Peters, built in 1923 is part of the story of consolidation and growth of the Murrayville township, in particular the provision of civic and community buildings. (Criteria A & G)

St Peters is the only purpose built Lutheran Church in the study area. It reflects a building tradition common in South Australia, using limestone with brick dressings. It is a representative example of an Inter-war Gothic Revival church with buttressed walls and lancet windows. Its distinguishing features include the flat roofed porch with castellated parapet, leaded and coloured glass windows with geometric designs, and the use of local stone. The half octagon sanctuary is notable for its turret roof and faceted form. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

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Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Murrayville Post Office
Address Reed Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Post Office
Citation Date 2012



HERITAGE CITATION REPORT



**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Act was developed and passed in 1902. The Postmaster General's Department (PMD) was subsequently established and it controlled all post offices (Australia Post 2007:3).

By the early 1900s, one hundred new settlers had arrived into the Murrayville area. With new settlement, there came a call for an increased and regular mail services between Murrayville, Cowangie and the surrounding areas. Up until the early 1920s, mail was sent to South Australia twice a week and there was no independent Post Office in Murrayville; the first postal service operated from a shop owned by Mr W. James in McKenzie Street. The Pinnaroo Boarder Times noted on October 15th 1915 that the 'Murrayville Post office was removed from old site in James store to new premises of that extensive firm situated in Reed Street, directly opposite the Victoria Hotel'.

Place history

Plans for the building of the Murrayville Post Office started in early June 1926, with excavations and foundations being erected at the corner of Reed Street and Gray Streets. The first Post Mistress was Miss Mary Fairy, with others including Mr Fred James, Mr Paterson, G. Hole, L. Bergmeier, Alf Tavener and Joy and Richard Kalms. It was also home to the manual Telephone Exchange up until 1974, where telephonists were employed 24 hours a day to provide a continuous service.

Like many post offices, this building was designed and constructed by the Commonwealth Department of Works (Department of Infrastructure 1998: 107; Goad and Willis 2012:552).

The building is now unoccupied since the relocation of the Post Office to 23 McKenzie Street.

Sources

Australian Post 2007. Heritage Strategy: Australian Post Heritage Places. Corporate Infrastructure Services Division, Australian Post. Accessed 24 January 2012 from <http://auspost.com.au/about-us/heritage-strategy.html>.
Department of Infrastructure 1998. Public Buildings in Victoria: Construction Materials, Methods and Styles. Heritage Assets Branch, Building Services Agency, Department of Infrastructure, August 1998.
Goad, P. and J. Willis 2012. *The Encyclopaedia of Australian Architecture*. Cambridge University Press, Melbourne, Australia.
Pinnaroo Boarder Times, October 15th 1915.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

6 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS
6.4 Postal and Telecommunications

Description

Physical Description

The Murrayville Post Office is a standard design by the Public Works Department and executed in the Mediterranean Inter War style. The design influences are those of John Smith Murdoch and Horace Mackennal or Oakeshott and Henderson (NSW).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The Post Office is set back from the street corner creating a generous footpath area to the front and side. The building corner is accentuated with a concave curve in the masonry wall, a feature that is a stylistic contrast to the remainder of the building. The terra-cotta tiled roof is designed with intersecting hip forms and closed-in eaves lined horizontally. The masonry walls are rendered with a stone-coloured cement render, lined to resemble ashlar blocks of approximately 300mm in height. The banks of timber windows are set within masonry 'frames' and the entrance is located to one side, leading to a strong asymmetrical composition.

Of particular interest is the manner in which the deeply recessed porch contains booths for telephones and access to mail boxes. The use of panelled timber glazed doors with brass push-plates and terra cotta tiled paving is a particular feature of this building. The entrance steps are of bluestone with an elegant wrought iron handrail. Other fine metalwork is in the copper rainwater head and guttering, and the door hardware. The Murrayville Post Office is highly intact and in good condition.

Previous Statement Significance

2009: The Murrayville Post Office appears to be of post war construction and is of masonry with a terra cotta tile roof. The form of the building is representative of post offices designed by the Public Works Department. The Post office is likely to have historic, social and aesthetic values.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Murrayville Post Office at the corner of Reed and Gray Streets, designed and built by the Public Works Department in 1926 is significant.

How is it significant?

Murrayville Post office is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Historically Post Offices are important indicators of town settlement. The growth and demise of smaller settlements can be traced through their postal history in the former Shire of Walpeup. The 1926 Post Office represents the third site in Murrayville for this important civic function, and the first purpose built Post Office. (Criterion A)

Architecturally the Ouyen Post Office is a representative example of an Inter-war Public Works design with stylistic intentions towards the Mediterranean as demonstrated by the terra-cotta tiled hipped roof, recessed porch and rendered wall finish. The Post Office displays fine quality architectural detailing in metal balustrading, bluestone steps, timber-framed glazed doors, brass door furniture, and copper rainwater goods. It is highly intact, retaining its telephone booths and mail boxes. The Murrayville Post Office is a particularly fine example of an Inter-war post office with a high degree of integrity and craftsmanship in building. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

Yes

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name State Emergency Service
Address 17 Reed Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Law Court
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named after the Premier of Victoria at the time, John Murray. By 1911, the township comprised a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber and a lime kiln. The Murrayville Institute opened in 1911.

The town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen opened in 1912. In this year, the Murrayville Hotel opened. By 1916, two banks were in operation. A new post office building was erected in 1926. The Murrayville Power House was built in 1928. Bore water was supplied to the township from 1929. A number of halls served the township including the Masonic hall, the Institute hall and the privately owned Austral Hall; a public hall opened in 1957.

Murrayville is promoted as the gateway to the Victorian outback. It continues to service its hinterland's population who are involved in the farming of grain and sheep as well as the growing of olives and potatoes watered by bores.

Thematic context

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

From federation the Public Works Branch was responsible for the design and construction of all Commonwealth public buildings in Australia, for example court buildings, public buildings, defence buildings and Commonwealth offices (Kilby 1987:1; Department of Infrastructure 1998:1).

Place history

Designed by architect S. E. Bindley and built in 1914, the Murrayville Court House was the most remote of all Victorian court houses (Challinger 2001:141). Designed in Federation Arts and Crafts style its construction cost £519.00. In 1983 the Court closed and the building was taken over by the State Emergency Service. It is now clad in compressed fibreboard.

SE Bindley, Architect

Architect S. E. Bindley was born in 1842, Birmingham, England. In 1873 Bindley was employed as an architect for the Victorian Public Works Department and within this role he came to design many public buildings in Victoria. Within the city of Melbourne, Bindley's best known works include the Melbourne Crown Law Offices (1892-3) and the Records Office (1900-04). Further afield, in the North-Western district, Bindley became known as a prolific court house designer (see for example Nhill in 1888, Boort in 1890, Melton in 1892 and Rainbow in 1915). One of Bindley's last works for the Victorian Public Works Department was the Royal Park Psychiatric Hospital. Constructed between 1906 and 1916 this building is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register (see H2062).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne

Challinger, M. 2001. *Historic Court Houses of Victoria*. Palisade Press.

Department of Infrastructure 1998. *Public Buildings in Victoria: Construction Materials, Methods and Styles*. Heritage Assets Branch, Building Services Agency, Department of Infrastructure, August 1998.

Goad, P. and J. Willis 2012. *The Encyclopaedia of Australian Architecture*. Cambridge University Press, Melbourne, Australia.

Kilby, J. 1987. *Public Buildings in Victoria 1901-1932: An Overview*. Research Report, Faculty of Architecture and Planning, Parkville, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

7 GOVERNING

7.3 Law and Order

Description

Physical Description

2009:

Cited from DSE Court House and Buildings and Sites Datasheet

This group shares the Arts and Crafts influence with hipped roof and overhanging eaves, protecting the multi-paned highlight windows to the court room. Built mainly in timber with corrugated iron roofs, some had a side verandah with decorative timber fretwork. Compressed fibre board cladding applied in 1991.

A timber framed Edwardian weatherboard building, L shaped on plan, having a small verandah with fretted brackets to

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

square timber posts. The dutch gabled roof and multi-paned double hung windows are characterised elements. The word 'courthouse' is contained within a decorated timber frame on the street elevation (Andrew Ward Study).

See also Ward, Andrew C. & Associates, 1986, *Mallee Area Review - Study of Historic Sites, for Land Conservation Council*

The Murrayville Courthouse was designed by Public Works Department architect S. E. Bindley in the Federation Arts and Crafts style and built in 1914.

The Courthouse is now used for the State Emergency Service (SES) but its exterior has been conserved and there are few external alterations.

The design features a jerkin-head hipped roof with transverse gables, roof ventilators and a plain face red brick chimney. The entrance is located from a verandah via double doors, whilst a separate magistrate's entrance is situated at the end of the verandah. The windows have 12 pane sashes and the verandah, although newly constructed, has been rebuilt to match the original design. A timber plaque with ornate lettering reading 'Courthouse' faces the street elevation.

The Courthouse is typical of the refined design and detailing of the Public Works Department in the nineteenth and early part of the 20th century. The interior was not investigated so it is not known how much of the original Court fittings and fixtures remain. It is a key public building in Reed Street.

The site comprises several buildings including a corrugated iron Nissan hut now used for the ambulance headquarters, and several pre-fabricated sheds which are not of interest.

Previous Statement Significance

The former Court House at Murrayville is a timber building with intersecting gable roofs. The form of the building is recognizable as representative of the designs by the Public Works Department and it is likely to have been constructed between the wars. The former Court House (now State Emergency Service) will have historic, social and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

Ouyen Courthouse is a bigger and more elaborate example of a Federation Arts and Crafts styled courthouse. Unlike Murrayville it features the central large courtroom and raised roof lit with clerestory windows. Both Ouyen and Murrayville Courthouses are excellent examples of the work of S.E Bindley of the Victorian Public Works Department.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Murrayville Courthouse (now State Emergency Service) built in 1914 by architect S.E.Bindley for the Public works Department is significant. Other buildings on the site including a sheds and a garage are not significant.

How is it significant?

The former Murrayville Courthouse is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Why is it significant?

The Murrayville Courthouse demonstrates the design and construction services provided by the Public Works Department to regional towns in the early twentieth century. Its construction corresponds to a key period in the development of community and civic life in Murrayville as represented in a number of religious, commercial and public buildings. (Criterion A)

Murrayville Courthouse, together with that of Ouyen, is an excellent example of the high quality government buildings designed by architect S.E.Bindley who distinguished himself with several large commissions in Melbourne. Architecturally the Murrayville Courthouse is an excellent example of a small rural courthouse built in the Federation Arts and Crafts style and displaying the roof forms, window detailing, verandahs and timber detailing typical of the period. (Criteria D & E).

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	-
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Masonic Lodge
Address 24 Reed Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Hall Masonic
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The first sale of Murrayville township Allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named after the Premier of Victoria at the time, John Murray. By 1911, the township comprised a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber and a lime kiln. The Murrayville Institute opened in 1911. The

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen opened in 1912. In this year, the Murrayville Hotel opened. By 1916, two banks were in operation. A new post office building was erected in 1926. The Murrayville Power House was built in 1928. Bore water was supplied to the township from 1929. A number of halls served the township including the Masonic hall, the Institute hall and the privately owned Austral Hall; a public hall opened in 1957 (*Thematic Environmental History* 2009:58).

Thematic context

The Freemasons, since their establishment in 1717, have historically been 'a secular fraternal organisation, traditionally open only to men' committed to a 'system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols' (MacNulty 2006:9). The Freemasons of the British Empire and the English speaking world were characteristically non-political, secular but deistic, and committed to self-improvement and mutual aid. The Freemasons spread throughout the British Empire, forming local groups associated with parent groups, called lodges, building 'temples' and holding closed ritualistic meetings that gave them a reputation as a 'secret society', though their involvement in public life and their prominent members were well known. Their organisation was 'one of the first global institutional networks' (Harland-Jacobs 2007:10), and their involvement in civic and communal ritual made them an important agent in the cultural life of the empire:

Everywhere one went in the empire, one could witness Freemasons marching in processions, occupying prominent places in official ceremonies to greet and farewell imperial officials, and observing milestones in the life of the monarch. (Harland-Jacobs 2007:14)

The Freemasons shared common rituals and symbols which illustrated a common moral code. The fraternity also formed strong male bonds and 'used rituals to create a sense of community and blood ties' which were particularly important in colonising remote areas of the empire. The first recorded Masonic activity in Victoria was less than five years after the founding of Melbourne, at a public meeting on 23rd December 1839 (Cumming 1992:48). By 1920, there were 232 lodges in Victoria belonging to the Independent Grand Lodges (Harland-Jacobs 2007:244).

Place history

The Murrayville Lodge No. 366, was founded in July 1919. Before then, local Masons were members of the Pinnaroo Lodge No.64 based in South Australia (Odgers 1987:24). The first meeting moved that allotment 13 of section 5, opposite the Mechanics Institute in Sharrock Street, should be purchased for the erection of a hall, however, by 1922, members were still considering 'ways and means of getting a Temple built' (Odgers 1987:24). In 1923, plans for the building were presented, drawn up by C.A. Chamberlain and estimated to cost £500. At this meeting, the block of land next to the 'Mallee Harvester' printing office in Reed Street was offered by W.H.Kruse and C.Dahl (Odgers 1987:25).

The last meeting of the Murrayville Masonic Lodge was held on 9 February 2001. The building is now privately owned and used as a residence, with the chairs that were donated having been returned to family members (Murrayville 1910-2007).

Sources

Cumming, Grahame H., 1992. *Foundations of freemasonry in Australia*, West Pennant Hills, NSW.

Goad, P. and J. Willis 2012. *The Encyclopaedia of Australian Architecture*. Cambridge University Press, Melbourne, Australia.

Harland-Jacobs, Jessica L. 2007. *Builders of Empire: Freemasons and British imperialism 1717-1927*, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.

Lindner, J. 2007. Murrayville 1910-2007. A History of the Development of Murrayville and District. Murrayville Liason Committee, Mildura.

MacNulty, W. K., 2006. *Freemasonry: symbols, secrets, significance*, Thames & Hudson, London.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Odgers, C. 1987. 100 years of Freemasonry in north-west Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.3 Halls and meeting places

Description

Physical Description

2009: Temple, masonry structure.
2012:

Freemasonry is a system of morality veiled in allegory, illustrated by symbols and organized in lodges. Many Masonic lodges were designed by architects who were freemasons. Freemasonry was popular in both rural and metropolitan locations resulting in most towns having a Masonic temple (aka Lodge) by the 1930s. Symbolism in the lodges varied, but most were freestanding, symmetrical in plan and elevation, exhibiting a harmony of proportions based on an understanding of sacred geometry. Clerestory or lantern windows were always used in the lodge rooms. Symbols of Classical derivation were used to decorate interior and exterior surfaces and this continued up until the 1960s in various forms, until Modern architecture tended to reform this tradition (Goad & Willis ed. 2012:432-3).

The Murrayville Masonic Lodge is a classically styled hall with parapet and porch. The building features a cement render and rough cast finish over masonry and has smooth render detailing to the lower walls, architraves and the parapet. The side windows are set at a high level as is the custom with Masonic halls and there are no windows to the front elevation. The parapet features three recessed panels and a pediment above. Reed Street contains many of the public buildings of Murrayville and the Masonic Lodge is a key landmark in the street, in good condition and has high degree of integrity.

Previous Statement Significance

The Masonic Lodge is designed in a classical style with symmetrical composition, a porch and triangular parapet featuring the masonic symbol. It appears to have been built between the wars and is of masonry construction with a render finish. It is likely to have historical, social and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

Ouyen Masonic Temple is a red brick hall with a pair of unusual niches to the front elevation. Both buildings feature a decorative parapet to the front and a relatively plain hall.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Masonic Lodge at 24 Reed Street Murrayville designed by C.A. Chamberlain and built in 1923 is significant.

How is it significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The Masonic Lodge is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Murrayville experienced a growth in civic and community life in the early twentieth century when the town developed its commercial centre in Reed Street. The Murrayville Lodge corresponds to a growth in the formation of Lodges throughout rural Victoria by 1920. (Criterion A)

Murrayville Masonic Lodge is a representative example of the Classical style conforming to the architectural tradition of symmetry, with a temple front and porch supported on columns, high level windows, and pedimented parapet. The combination of roughcast and smooth render is representative of typical building materials used in Inter-war building. It is a landmark building in Reed Street. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name St Thereses Catholic Church
Address 32 Sharrock Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Church
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named after the Premier of Victoria at the time, John Murray. By 1911, the township comprised a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber and a lime kiln. The Murrayville Institute opened in 1911.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen opened in 1912. In this year, the Murrayville Hotel opened. By 1916, two banks were in operation. A new post office building was erected in 1926. The Murrayville Power House was built in 1928. Bore water was supplied to the township from 1929. A number of halls served the township including the Masonic hall, the Institute hall and the privately owned Austral Hall; a public hall opened in 1957.

Murrayville is promoted as the gateway to the Victorian outback. It continues to service its hinterland's population who are involved in the farming of grain and sheep as well as the growing of olives and potatoes watered by bores.

Places of worship

The following is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71-72):

A church was often one of the first buildings erected as the nucleus of a settlement. Prior to the erection of permanent structures services were conducted wherever shelter was available. The first pastoralists conducted services in their huts. With the arrival of clergymen to areas along the River Murray, often in small missionary boats such as the 'Etona', services were conducted as part of circuits under trees, in tents, private homes, coffee palaces, and hotels. The first Anglican service in Underbool was conducted by a lay preacher at the old Underbool bore.

Church buildings were erected in the Rural City of Mildura as settlements grew and funds were raised for the establishment of permanent structures. Early structures were often constructed from local timber, and if finances allowed, were replaced by more substantial brick buildings in later years.

Many church services in the towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville line were conducted in public halls. Lutheran services were organised by German settlers at Galah and the Walpeup Memorial Hall from 1923. A Lutheran manse was built at Walpeup in 1936. St Peters Lutheran Church was built at Murrayville 1923-4. During the latter half of the twentieth century because of falling congregation members, churches have consolidated. The Methodist and Presbyterian denominations amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. In many towns throughout the Rural City today church buildings have closed leaving only one denomination being represented by a single operating church, or several denominations operate from the one building.

Place history

Not until 1937 did Murrayville have its only Catholic church building. Until then, services were held within a number of buildings in and around Murrayville, from Curtain's Murrayville Hotel, the Mechanics Institute, Mr O'Shannessy's residence and finally the Shire Hall.

In March 1921 the Murrayville Sports Club set up a fund to aid the construction of the Murrayville Roman Catholic Church building. Funds to build the church were raised mainly by proceeds from social functions with the Murrayville Catholic Ball being the social highlight of the year (Lindner 2007:138). The popularity of such social events ensured that St Therese's Catholic Church opened free from debt.

St Theresa's was opened on 30 January 1938 (50th year commemoration plaque). It is now no longer in use.

The building is almost identical to the former Methodist Church in Murphy Street Walpeup, erected in 1937, and this was designed by Gardner Construction Firm Pty Ltd and cost £200. It is highly likely that the same firm erected St Theresa's.

Sources

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.
Context, 2009. *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.
Lindner, J. 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007. A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Murrayville Liaison Committee, Mildura.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.4 Places of worship

Description

Physical Description

St Therese is a simple church of prefabricated design featuring a single space. The church has fibro cement sheeting to the walls and features a gable roof with six pane steel framed windows, each shaped with a pointed arch. The glass is diamond leaded with margins with a stylised trefoil design at the top. The wall cladding is fixed between joining strips of pressed steel that have a distinctive profile. The site is fenced with cyclone wire fixed to timber posts and a cyclone wire gate opens to a concrete path.

Previous Statement Significance

St Teresa's was constructed in 1937 and is of an unusually primitive design. It is potentially of historical and social significance. (Criterion A, B, G).

Comparative Analysis

St Therese Catholic Church may be of interest as one of two churches that offer a simple construction system. St Therese Catholic Church is an identical church to the Walpeup Uniting and Anglican Church which demonstrates the same construction system, although the windows are of a different design and appear to be original.

Other Catholic churches include:

St. Joseph's - Ouyen (modern church)
Sacred Heart - Glen Street Walpeup (1923)
Our Lady of Fatima - Underbool (1958)

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

St Therese's Catholic Church at 32 Sharrock Street Murrayville is significant

How is it significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

St Theresa's is of local historic, social and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

St Theresa's Catholic Church is a tangible reminder of the history of the Catholic faith in Murrayville. Erected in 1938 the simple church is a reminder of the struggle to establish congregations and church buildings in the Mallee. (Criterion A & G)

St Theresa's is an identical design to that of the Walpeup Anglican Uniting church and appears to be built to a standard design for rural and remote areas by Gardner Construction Firm Pty Ltd. (Criterion D & F)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Former Presbyterian Church
Address 21 Cooper Street OUYEN
Place Type Church
Citation Date 2012

Significance Level Local





Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Prior to the construction of permanent church buildings, religious services were conducted wherever shelter was available; under trees, in tents, at private homes, coffee palaces and hotels (Ballinger 2009:71). As settlements grew and

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

funds were raised permanent churches were established. Ballinger notes that early structures were often constructed from local timber and then replaced with brick buildings when finances became available (Ballinger 2009:71).

Place history

The first Presbyterian service was held in Ouyen in 1906 and by 1911 the first minister, Rev. J.H. Harvey was appointed. By 1920 the manse had been erected, for a total cost of £500 with a further £300 donated for the construction of a brick church on the adjoining block. In March 1922 Constable WJ Davie Esq. was selected to formally lay the foundation stone of the new brick church, but he was called away for duty and the stone was laid by Mr Mahood (Carroll 2009:62, 72).

The Methodist Church (built in 1913) attached to the Presbyterian Church was relocated to this site from the corner of Pickering and Scott Street in 1964. In 1958 the building became the worship centre for the Joint Parish (the combined Methodist and Presbyterians congregations) (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Carroll notes that this church was one of Ouyen's first permanent churches (Carroll 2009:62).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.4 Places of worship

Description

Physical Description

2009: A group of church buildings including a red brick church (foundation stone WJ Davie Esq March 1922), church hall which has been rendered and converted to a dwelling. Elements include no surviving landscape features except a possible curved path to the entrance of the Church.

2012:

The former Presbyterian Church at 21 Cooper Street, Ouyen, is a brick building of 1922. It is accompanied by a low brick fence, and a rendered brick hall at the rear of the site, to the right-hand-side of the church.

The 1922 church is a Gothic Revival building of red brick and modest in size. The front gable is parapeted with corbelled ends. There is a small, circular window at the base of the gable. Below it is a central castellated front porch, with a ledged entrance door on its side. Windows have a lancet form. They are filled with small panes of tinted glass. Most have brick arches, but those on the facade, flanking the porch, have cement render dressings. The modest brick buttresses, on the corners and between windows on the side elevations, also have render dressings. The roof is clad in corrugated metal and retains round metal ventilators, situated on either side of the ridge.

The brick walls of the church are suffering some movement, as indicated by cracking, but is otherwise in good condition.

There is a later weatherboard extension to the rear of the church, dating from the 1950s or later. It is sympathetically

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

linked to the church via a lower link. The entire building has been converted to use as a private residence.

In front of the 1922 church, and along the Scott Street boundary, is a low brick fence with a simple mild steel balustrade set into it. The bricks are similar to those used in the church, and the fence appears to be contemporary with it.

Set back further on the east side of the site is a rendered church hall, which has been linked by a series of extensions to the c1950s addition behind the church. The hall itself has a transverse gable roof, which retains short-sheet corrugated iron and two round metal roof ventilators. Like the church, it has lancet windows, and a standard ledged door, but is otherwise much simpler in details.

Previous Statement Significance

This church is representative of a number of churches throughout Mildura Rural City and displays the characteristic porch with castellated parapet. It is built of face red brick and the gothic revival windows are outlined in cementrender. It will have social, historic and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

The church and hall at 21 Cooper Street form a rare grouping of two religious buildings together on the one site. All other church sites in the study area have one main building only. Although timber hall may have been relocated to this site, the grouping of the buildings in an 'L' shape is unusual. There are a number of examples of 1920s Gothic Revival churches in Walpeup, Underbool and Murrayville.

Most of the church buildings in the study area date from the 1920s and are of three broad types including Gothic Revival, Arts and Crafts Revival and the "austerity" model.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Glen Street Walpeup is also of red brick with the castellated porch. This feature is also used on St Peter's Lutheran Church, Nhill Road Murrayville and the Cooper Street Church fits with these examples. As it has been converted to a house it is likely to be less intact internally than those which are still functioning as churches.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Presbyterian Church at 21 Cooper Street, Ouyen, to the extent of the 1922 fabric, as well as the rendered hall at the rear of the site and brick fence along the corner boundary.

The timber addition at the rear of the church, linking it to the hall, is not significant.

How is it significant?

The former Presbyterian Church and hall are of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former Presbyterian Church and hall are of historical significance as tangible evidence of the early involvement of the Presbyterians in the life of Ouyen, as the first service was held in 1906, just three years after the settlement was established. The hall, formally the Methodist Church (moved from the corner of Pickering and Scott Street in 1964), was built in 1913. (Criterion A)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The church is of architectural significance as a representative example of a substantial interwar Gothic Revival church, built in brick with a characteristic castellated entrance porch and parapeted gable. It is complimented by the matching brick boundary fence. (Criteria D, E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes Fences: on brick fence only
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

Paint controls: on brick church only

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Cemetery
Address Dunkley Road OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Cemetery/Graveyard/Burial Ground
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

The Ouyen cemetery grounds were first consecrated in early 1910 (*Progress League Meeting, Ouyen, January 20th 1911*), but it was not until late 1910 that moves were made to open the cemetery. In 1911 discussions arose when Mr Oke pointed out that graves should be laid out in sections and the main drive and footways be defined as 'if graves were dug indiscriminately it would cause trouble later on when the grounds were being laid out and they may possibly be compelled to have some of the bodies exhumed (*Progress League Meeting, Ouyen, January 20th 1911*).

In May 1911 the Ouyen Cemetery Committee was formed, with representatives from Catholic, Church of England, Presbyterian and Methodist denominations. The first meeting of the Cemetery Trust was held on June 21st 1911 (*Progress League Meeting, Ouyen, January 20th 1911*). At this meeting it was decided that the entire grounds would be fenced in with wire netting and the ground was then further cut into sections with the four denominations taking a section of the area. The Presbyterian section was allotted the north-east portion, the Church of England in the north-west portion, the Roman Catholic section being based at the south-east and the Methodists taking the south-east section (Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre 2011).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne
Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre, Ouyen cemetery notes, viewed November 2011.

Progress League Meeting, Ouyen, January 20th 1911, accessed from the Local History Resources Centre, Ouyen, accessed November 3rd 2011.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.6 Cemeteries and lone graves

Description

Physical Description

2009: Cemetery still in use, containing graves of pioneer families. Elements include headstones from early period, layout, plantings (sparse but both exotic and natives).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

2012: The Ouyen Cemetery comprises a central wide gravelled roadway leading to a small pavilion that is a focus of the view. This is of recent construction and consists of a small lock up shed under wide eaves supported on timber posts and some timber slatted seats. On each side of the roadway the graves are arranged, however there is little vegetation between the burial sections. The entrance gates are of brick pillars with wrought iron decoration and of contemporary design. The cemetery is situated in cleared land surrounded by Mallee bushland. Planted vegetation is largely that of shrubs and small native and exotic trees. Some of the earlier graves have stone or concrete surrounds with elaborate headstones. One grave has a winged angel sculpture set within cast iron railings, however most are of more modest design.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Previous Statement Significance

The Ouyen Cemetery is of potential historic and social significance as a good example of an early twentieth century cemetery in a Victorian Mallee country town that has continued to be used up to 2009. (Criterion A, D, G)

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Ouyen cemetery grounds first consecrated in 1910 and established in 1911 are significant.

How is it significant?

The Ouyen cemetery is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Ouyen Cemetery is a representative example of a medium-size rural cemeteries located throughout the Mallee. It has historic value as a record of the people who have lived in the district and social value for the community and for current and future people with an association to the district or its people. (Criteria A & G)

The layout with central pathway and areas for each denomination, gates and fencing have aesthetic value in demarcating a sacred place from the surrounding bushland. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Former Blacksmiths Shop
Address 10 Hughes Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Blacksmith
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Hughes Street was named after William Thomas Hughes, who came to Ouyen in 1909. William purchased Ouyen's first General Store.

Place history

The former blacksmith's shop on Hughes street was opened in 1909 by Albert Ayton, an English builder, and Arthur Hatfield (Carroll 2009:20). Initially working as blacksmiths, wheelwrights and builders, Ayton and Hatfield commenced undertaking business from the premises on Hughes street in 1913. It has been suggested that Albert Ayton built the premises on Hughes Street, as well as Ayton House at 11 Mitchell Street (M. Pole, 2012 per. comm., February 15th). Albert Ayton became a prominent builder in Ouyen and was active in civic affairs including the Ouyen Hospital Committee of Management in 1930. Arthur Hatfield settled on a block in Woorinen after his discharge from the army in 1919 (Pole, 2006:15).

Sources

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Large g. iron shed

2012:

The former Ayton and Hatfield blacksmiths shop, coachbuilders and hardware merchants in Hughes Street comprises part of the former building that was on this site. The left hand part operating as the shoeing forge is now demolished and the right hand part is much altered having had the window and door removed, however the distinctive curved parapet shape of the building is still visible today. A skillion roofed extension has been built to one side at a later date and a gable

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

roofed building now stands on the site of the demolished building. The remainder of the large site is vacant.

The former blacksmith's shop has a distinctive curved parapet facade form and is built as a large open shed with gable roof and skillion extension at the rear. The wall cladding is horizontal corrugated iron in small sheets on the sides of the building and flattened iron sheets to the front facade. The doors are sheet metal with louvres at the top and appear to have had a sliding mechanism. The window has been removed.

Recommended Management

The building would benefit from some restoration of the facade should circumstances permit.

Previous Statement Significance

The former Blacksmith's shop in Hughes Street Ouyen is of potential historical significance as a demonstration of the importance of providing such functions and services locally in an isolated Mallee town such as Ouyen. There may also be archaeological remains at the site. Criterion A, C.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Ayton & Hatfield blacksmith's shop at Hughes Street Ouyen built c.1913 to the extent of the pre-1920 fabric and excluding the extension at the side and rear is significant.

How is it significant?

The former blacksmith's shop is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former Ayton & Hatfield's blacksmith shop is associated with Albert Ayton an active businessman and builder in Ouyen from 1909 until the 1930s. The former workshop represents a rare early commercial building situated on the east side of the railway track prior to Ouyen's main centre being relocated to higher ground on Oke Street. (Criterion A)

The building represents half of what was a large frontage to Hughes Street and represents a rare early workshop and store from pre 1920. Although altered by the replacement of a window the curved parapet form is a distinguishing feature. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Primary School No 3615
Address 10 Hunt Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type School - State (public)
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Education

This is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:70):

During the period of first white settlement of the Rural City of Mildura, most station homesteads were too isolated to send children to school. Some children attended boarding schools in the city; others were instructed by governesses and tutors at home. In 1872, the Victorian Education Act established a central public school system based on the principles of free, secular and compulsory education. Local residents, often represented by Progress Associations, petitioned the Department of Education to give approval for the opening of a school. Early school buildings were constructed of local materials. Schools were built at an average of ten miles apart so that children could walk or ride. Settlers often donated the land, provided half the cost of the school (sometimes more), and boarded the teacher, while the government paid teachers' wages, provided some equipment and the balance of school costs. Because of a lack of financial resources of many of the settler communities, schools often did not appear until some years after settlement. School buildings were used for a variety of community purposes.

Mildura Agricultural High School opened in 1913. A high school opened in Ouyen in 1929. The first Victorian Consolidated School using buildings from outlying areas was established in Murrayville in 1946. An initiative of the Chaffey brothers, from 1916 through to present day the Mildura College Lease Act has provided funding to local schools from rentals on land. A branch of the University of Melbourne operated at Mildura 1947-9. La Trobe University currently operates a campus at Mildura.

Place history

According to the official history of the school, *From Tales and Times* (1989) '[w]hen a school was first opened in Ouyen, in 1909, it became a State School with the number 3615.' The school has had two sites but retained its number across both. The first school opened in the privately owned Farrell's Hall, in Farrell Street. This building also served as a public hall and church. The Education Department paid 7-10/- per year in rent. The school was the result of representation by the Progress Association (then called the Ouyen Progress League). The first head teacher was Charles A. Rowell in August 1909-December 1910 (Ouyen Primary School 1989:13).

In 1911 Edgar Williams became head teacher. The Ouyen Mail reported on 3 February 1911:

'Mr Williams met a number of parents at the school. Many of the disadvantages under which work was carried out were pointed out and particular attention was directed to the very poor accommodation provided. Mr Williams mentioned that

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

the Progress League had already taken action on this matter and he hoped that the parents would do their utmost to push the movement along." (Ouyen Primary School 1989:13)

Parents organised a petition, and on the 17th February 1911 tenders were invited for the erection of a school building. Specifications were a classroom 26 feet 6 inches by 21 feet, walls 13 feet high. The ceiling was to be coved and the walls lined, with provision also for a hall and cloak room (entrance hall). Mr A. E. Shillingdaw won the tender with the lowest bid, of £321/10/-. However the specifications were determined by the teacher to be too small as it would hold only 50 children. The building was increased in size to accommodate 90 children, and the contract price increased to £450 (Ouyen Primary School 1989:20).

The building was completed on 11 August 1911. The Ouyen Mail reported: "The weather was poor but the building comfortably filled at a concert. Tickets were sold and Mr Oke, the chairman, presided. The sum of £11 was raised for school funds. The building was described as large and airy and the fittings thoroughly up to date" (Ouyen Primary School 1989:20). On 22 September 1911, the move from Farrell Street to Hunt Street was completed and teaching began. The first classroom was in 1989 the library building, where instruction continued for 78 years.

In 1960 new flooring was laid down (p.21). Fifty years of dust also led to a ceiling collapse. Trees were planted and wire netting used as fencing in 1914. (p.21) Continuous limestone filling was needed in the swampy area around the railway station.

"Year after year, on Arbor Day, trees were planted by the children in the grounds of the school, later in the grounds of the HES, and in many places around the township. . many of these did not survive" (Ouyen Primary School 1989:21).

Fifty five trees were destroyed in 1920, but in the same year another 60 were planted "mainly in the plantation area south of the buildings, where native pines had been preserved". In 1926 the Ouyen Primary school won the Australian Natives Association prize for the best school garden.

In 1921 water supply connected to the school. In 1922 the third fence was erected to end wandering stock problem. An asphalt tennis court also added where the netball courts were in 1989. By 1931, the five classrooms that in the main building were in place, and there was an office, cloakrooms and a staff room (Ouyen Primary School 1989:22).

A single line of pepper trees and eucalypts bordered the northern and western boundaries of the first school reserve in 1932 - some of these were still standing in 1989. A fourth fence erected in 1936, and another 100 trees planted on Arbor Day.

The first of the rural schools brought in was Galah in 1950. This building went to Galah from Timberoo South in 1932-1947. In 1950 it was placed west of the main school and later served as the music room. (Ouyen Primary School 1989:23)

Turriff West School (1923) was brought to Ouyen in 1976 to serve as the Art Room. In 1952 Ouyen state school enrolment was 231 (Ouyen Primary School 1989:24); when St Joseph's school opened in 1953, attendance fell to 182; enrolment was at its highest of 298 under head teacher Bearn (1950s-60s). In 1972-5 the large 'open classroom' and new staff room were added.

Teacher Richard Vine was one of the 146 Australian teachers killed in WW1 (Ouyen Primary School 1989:31). In 1912 the first teacher's residence was built. There were ultimately three teacher residences in total in Cooper Street. In 1925 tenders were called for the erection of a residence in the Ouyen State School grounds. It was intended for the District Inspector, W.J. Elijah. It later became a teacher's house in 1942 (Ouyen State School 1989:33). The Entrance Gates, comprising brick pillars and wrought iron were erected in 1955 (Ouyen Primary School 1989:39).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.
Blake, L. 1973. *From Vision to Realisation: a centenary history of state education in Victoria*. Victorian Education Department, Melbourne.
Context (2009), *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.
Ouyen Primary School, 1989. *Tales and Times of Ouyen Primary School, 1909-1989*.
Ouyen Local History Resource Centre 1989. *What Happened to all the Schools*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.2 Schools

Description

Physical Description

2009: Weatherboard school building with iron roof. Six pane sash windows. Appears to be standard school design. School building possibly relocated second building Manangatang East 4306. Landscaped grounds, playground areas. Native shrubs, trees.
2012:

Ouyen State School No 3615 of 1911, now part of the Ouyen P12 College, is a modest weatherboard building facing Hunt Street that has been extended many times in its history.

The surviving 1911 core of the school has a gabled hip and highset, six-pane fixed windows. It appears that the entrance porch, a smaller structure also with a gabled hip roof seen in a 1913 photo (Ouyen Local History Resource Centre 1989:39), has been removed, but it may have been concealed within a later extension (or even moved to another position).

The 1911 schoolhouse has been extended sympathetically. It is now flanked by two smaller gabled and hipped roof pavilions with six-over-six sash windows. These three sections are linked by a long hipped roof 'spine', which also has six-over-six windows (with three-light highlights). All these later extensions appear to date from the interwar period, with exposed rafters, multilight windows and tall brick chimneys.

Also on site is the former Manangatang East School No 4306; one of many rural schoolhouses moved here over the years. It is a one-room timber schoolhouse with a gable front and gabled porch on the right-hand-side of the facade. It is very simple in detail with timber cladding, exposed rafter end, a ledged door, and multilight sash and fixed windows.

There are also portable classrooms and metal clad sheds which are more recent in date.

Previous Statement Significance

Ouyen Primary School is a representative example of a Public works designed timber school of the early twentieth century. It is possibly composed of several schools amalgamated on to the one site. One part of the building has the nameplate from Manangatang over the doorway. The primary school will have social, historic and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

The consolidation of primary schools has provided primary schools in the region has provided the larger centres with a large number of small one room schools to add to their sites. Both Ouyen and Walpeup have school buildings drawn from other townships . Ouyen PS (1911) was established earlier than Walpeup PS (1914) but they have similarities in design, being standard school buildings developed by the Public Works Department. Walpeup PS is also assessed to be of local significance to that community. The former Murrayville Consolidated School which is State listed (VHR1185) was constructed in 1943 from five relocated district timber schools. It's significance lies both in its architecture and its demonstration of the consolidated school educational philosophy.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Ouyen State School No 3615 to the extent of its 1911 fabric as well as 1920s additions and former Manangatang East State School No 4306, 10 Hunt Street, Ouyen.

How is it significant?

The former Ouyen State School No 3615 and the former Manangatang East State School No 4306 are of local historical, architectural and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former Ouyen State School No 3615 is of historic significance as one of the oldest buildings in Ouyen. While the settlement was first established in 1903, as a consequence of frequent flooding the entire township was relocated around 1910 to its present site, with the school opening in 1911. (Criteria A & B). The former Manangatang East State School No 4306 demonstrates the common practice of moving school buildings as a result of population shifts in rural areas and consolidation of schools (Criterion A).

The former Ouyen State School No 3615 is of architectural significance as a representative example of a typical Public Works Department design for a small town schoolhouse of the early 20th century, with details such as a gabled hip roof and high-set, multipane windows. The former Manangatang East State School No 4306 is representative of a typical one-room rural schoolhouse, with a gabled roof, gabled entrance porch and simple details. (Criterion D)

The former Ouyen State School No 3615 is of social significance as a place with strong associations with the Ouyen community through its use as a school from 1911 to the present day. (Criterion G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or

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environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes Applies to Manangatang East State School No 4306

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name House
Address 12 Hunt Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type House
Citation Date 2012



Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Hunt Street was named in honour of John Henry Hunt. Mr Hunt was one of Ouyen's earliest pioneers, successful farmer and businessman (Pole 2006:53).

Place history

Charles Henry Roberts, an Ouyen storekeeper, purchased allotment 10 of section 10 for £102 on October 9th 1918 (LV:V4251,F164; Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). Mary Ellen McIntyre purchased the property on January 15th 1920 and on September 3rd 1928 the titles indicate that Charles Henry Roberts purchased the estate (LV:V4251,F164). On August 11th 1970 Joan Winifred Martin, a married woman of Footscray, purchased the property and on May 9th 1973 Noel Kenneth Morrish, a contractor, and Ronda Doris Morris were listed as joint proprietors (LV:V8844,F809).

Sources

Land Victoria (LV), Certificate of Title, LV:V4251,F164

Land Victoria (LV), Certificate of Title, LV:V8844,F809

Pole, M. 2006. *Who Were They? The Naming of Ouyen's Streets and Parks*. Sunnyland Press, Mildura, Victoria.

Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923, Department of Lands Survey, Melbourne 16.10.1923

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Interwar California bungalow style, possibly rendered with timber decorative trim. Landscape elements include the mature garden setting with palms and eucalyptus trees.

2012:

The house at 12 Hunt Street, Ouyen, is an attic style house with a wide and dominating front gable. It is set within a mature garden featuring a palm tree and Mahogany gum.

The ground floor walls appear to be rough-cast rendered masonry, and the gable front is lightweight fibro sheeting with cover battens imitating half timbering. It has a return verandah which sits beneath the roof, sheltering two bow windows and an elaborate front door on the facade. The bow windows comprise four segmentally arched casements beneath coloured glass highlights. The front door has a ledged lower half and segmentally arched leadlight above with a narrow bracketed shelf. The two sidelight panels mirror the door in narrower proportions. Above the door and sidelights are three segmentally arched leadlights. While the Art Nouveau inspired leadlights and proportions of the door and its surrounds are that of the Federation era (roughly 1900-15), the bracketed shelf at the middle of the door (and sidelights) is typical of 1920s decoration, suggesting that the doorway is transitional. This fits with the approximate built date of 1918-20.

The apex of the front gable is filled with a triangular panel of pressed metal shingles, which is jettied to be flush with the bargeboard. Below it are two narrow vertical panels of the same pressed metal, above a wide band of this pressed metal

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which suggests the presence of a recessed balcony or a row of three windows in this location (since fill in).

The verandah appears to have been altered several times. It is supported on an arcade with segmental arches with keystones at their centre. The details are quite flat, and the transition from the gable roof is clumsy, suggesting that the arches are a later replacement. The arches rest on even less accomplished concrete piers, which are far too wide and devoid of any detail - these may be yet another phase of alteration. The concrete balustrades and newels to the front steps are a similarly clunky attempt at classical design.

The roof has been clad in dark metal tiles in recent years, and long skillion-roof dormers added to the two sides.

Recommended Management

12 Hunt Street would benefit from restoration of the original verandah design and roof cladding should the situation arise.

Previous Statement Significance

12 Hunt Street is a substantial residence set in a mature garden of palms and eucalypts. It appears that the original Federation house is concealed beneath additions that include the second storey gable and a wide verandah probably built about 1930-40. The design of the second storey is unusual and is probably the result of later additions to an earlier brick and render house.

Comparative Analysis

12 Hunt Street is unique in the study area, there being very few two storey buildings and no other two storey houses. It is also an early and very substantial house in Ouyen, which was largely developed after this time.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The house at 12 Hunt Street, Ouyen, to the extent of its original (c1918-20) fabric.

How is it significant?

12 Hunt Street is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

12 Hunt Street is a highly unusual house in the Ouyen context. It appears to predate the 1920s period that was the predominant period of housing development in Ouyen. The use of rendered masonry, bow windows and Art Nouveau inspired glazing is distinctive. The roofline of the tall and wide gable incorporating an upper floor is representative of some of the early bungalows prior to 1920 in metropolitan locations but rare in the study area.

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Anglican All Saints Uniting Church
Address Hunt Street, cnr Martin Avenue OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Church
Citation Date 2012



Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The original Diocese of Bendigo which includes the Mallee was created under The New Dioceses Act 1901 of the Synod of the Diocese of Melbourne. It comprised the central part of Victoria, north of the Great Dividing Range. The Diocese of St Arnaud, created by the Diocese of Ballarat and comprising the northern part of that Diocese, came into being in 1926. On 1st January 1977, the two Dioceses amalgamated to form the present Diocese of Bendigo which comprises broadly that part of Victoria north of the Great Dividing Range and west of the Goulburn River (Bendigo Anglican Diocese).

Prior to the construction of permanent church buildings, religious services were conducted wherever shelter was available; under trees, in tents, at private homes, coffee palaces and hotels (Ballinger 2009:71). As settlements grew and funds were raised permanent churches were established. Ballinger notes that early structures were often constructed from local timber and then replaced with brick buildings when finances became available (Ballinger 2009:71).

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

The Anglican All Saints Uniting Church was designed by architect Wystan Widdows of Melbourne and built by Graham Pearce of Ouyen (Adamson and Pearce). Costing a little over £9000 the church was consecrated by the Lord Bishop of St Arnaud at 10am on Saturday, November 4th 1958 (foundation stone).

Wystan Widdows, Architect

Wystan Widdows (1912-1982), English born architect became a leading architect of church buildings in Melbourne and designed over thirty Anglican churches between 1952 and his retirement in 1968. From 1958 to 1966 Widdows set up a private practice with David Caldwell. Together they specialised in church architecture, particularly for the Anglican Church.

Widdows earlier churches, designed before Caldwell joined him, are conservative in style, similar to those of Louis Williams or Cyril Kelly. These spartan brick buildings, in a loosely Gothic or Romanesque style, are typified by St Luke's, Vermont and St Alban's, Coburg West. With Caldwell's involvement came the influence of Frank Lloyd Wright, which Caldwell 'cheerfully acknowledged' in his own work. This was most notably realised in their design for the Church of St Thomas at Langwarrin (1963), a bold A-framed building with battered stone walls and a jagged roofline. It can also be seen in the similarly A-framed Church of All Souls at Edenhope (1966) and in the Church of All Saints in Ballarat Road, Footscray North (1965). (Heritage Alliance, 2007:42)

Sources

- Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.
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- Heritage Alliance, 2007, City of Bayside Inter-War and Post War Heritage Study
- <http://www.bendigoanglican.org.au/history/index.html> , accessed 18/2/2012.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.4 Places of worship

Description

Physical Description

Church with tower built with external skin of Mt Gambier free stone (limestone). Narrow windows, deep eaves to cope with the hot environment. Simple and functional style. Landscape elements include trees, shrubs, mostly natives.
2012:

The Church of All Saints is a modern church of Mount Gambier stone built in a conservative style with external masonry piers articulating the tall, plain walls between which are set narrow rectangular windows. The dominant feature of the building is the bell tower of plain stone with square pierced detailing. Designed in 1958 prior to the partnership of Wystan Widdows and David Caldwell, it represents one of the more conservative designs by this architectural practice.

The church was built with an external veneer of Mt Gambier stone, with its interior walls framed in timber and covered with plaster sheet and boarding. Furthermore, the structure was designed to have projecting four foot eaves, which were noted to give the building protection from the Mallee sun. The whole building was further insulated with aluminium foil and the roof was covered in sheet aluminium. The internal panelled walls were designed so that if extra space was required, they could be removed.

Previous Statement Significance

The Anglican Church is a modern building constructed of Mt Gambier limestone blocks. The walls have external piers that articulate the wall surfaces between the windows. The most dominant feature is the tall, rectangular bell tower. This is decorated with hollow blocks. The siting on a slight rise gives a dominating presence to the church. It will have historical, social and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

All Saints Anglican Church represents the only post-war building assessed in this study.

Other churches by Wystan Widdows include St Stephens Anglican Church Highett (1967); St Francis in the Fields Mooroolbark (1962); St Peter-by-the-Lake, Paynesville, Gippsland, Victoria (1961) and St James Anglican Church Kilsyth.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Church of All Saint, at the corner of Hunt and Martin Streets Ouyen, was designed by architect Wystan Widdows and built in 1958 is significant.

How is it significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The Church of All Saints is of local historical, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

All Saints Anglican Church is a tangible reminder of the post-war aspirations of the Ouyen community for buildings to support community life. It represents an on-going place of worship after the joining of the Anglican and Uniting denominations in the Mallee. (Criteria A & G)

All Saints is a representative example of the work of church architect Wystan Widdows who designed over 30 Anglican churches in practice with David Caldwell and alone between 1952 and 1968. The more conservative partner of the practice, Widdows specialized in the relatively spartan modern translation of loose Gothic forms, exemplified by All Saints. The bell tower is notable for its height and pierced stone detailing. The use of Mount Gambier stone reflects common building practice during the 1950s but its plain walls give a pleasant monumental effect to the building. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Lodwicks Farmhouse
Address Lodwick Road OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Homestead Complex
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

Built sometime during 1918, the land selected on which Lodwick's Farmhouse was built was done so based on its suitability for dam construction. The farmhouse was built with a wooden framework onto which weatherboard walls were attached. The house had a corrugated iron roof and brick chimneys.

The house contained a separate laundry and toilet, underground cellar and an outside wash house. A picket fence surrounded the property and the garden included pomegranate, bougainvillea, athol, mulberry and roses (Pole, 2012 per. comm, February 15th).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
4.1 Agricultural settlement of the Mallee

Description

Physical Description

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Grandson, Philip Grayling, still lives on the property. Elements include the:

Farmhouse - weatherboard, detached laundry block, orchard in front of house, picket fence, farm machinery adjacent to house

Barn -

Sheds -

Farm Dam

Tanks

Channel - entering and leaving the property

Driveway - lined with mature Eucalyptus

Farm setting including wheat paddocks and Mallee (Murray Pine).

Previous Statement Significance

Lodwick's Farmhouse is of potential historic significance as a good example of an early farm settlement in the Mallee. (Criterion A, C, D)

Statement of Significance

This place could not be accessed as part of the *Rural City of Mildura (former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study Stage 2* by Context in 2011. A site visit is required to assess the place. It is considered to be of local historical and architectural significance. This citation is incomplete and further research is required.

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes Site not accessed so outbuilding controls ticked pending site visit.
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Mineral Sands
Address Manley Road (East side), north of Pearson Road
OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Homestead building
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

The sale of allotments coincided with the building of permanent structures in Ouyen. Ouyen Mining Sands (OMS) is a pioneer house site, one of the first in this part of the Ouyen district.

Place history

According to oral history taken in 2003 when the VHI site card was prepared, the house used to belong to the parents in-law of Mrs Pat Pearson who came to the district from Bendigo sometime between 1911 and 1920, at which time they built the house and associated structures. The mud brick house comprised three bedrooms and a living room with a tin chimney. The corrugated iron shed (a later addition) was the kitchen, and beside it was the garage/workshop. There used to be a walk through veranda from the house to the kitchen/bathroom. Pat's father in law built the house - making the mud bricks himself. Pat and her husband lived in the house themselves but then abandoned it in the 1940s.

Informant was Gary Marley who bought the property in 1986, at which time the house was still standing.

Sources

- Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.
- Pole, M. 2006. *Who Were They? The Naming of Ouyen's Streets and Parks*. Sunnyland Press, Mildura, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

2 PEOPLING VICTORIA

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

2.4 Arriving in a new land

Description

Physical Description

The site is located approximately 600m east of Burnell Road. It comprises the remains of an early homestead set amongst trees and now adjoined by a modern agricultural compound comprising a series of large metal sheds.

All that now remains of the house which formed the central feature of the site is a galvanised metal chimney stack at the end of a low earth mound amid a scatter of timber rafters, iron roofing fragments and other artefacts including door handles. The mound is composed of the deteriorated mud bricks of which the house was constructed - it is possible to distinguish individual bricks in a photograph accompanying the 2003 VHI site card, but the fabric would appear to have deteriorated further since then.

Two posts stand immediately to the south west of the house site. These could be telegraph poles but may simply represent the remains of a washing line.

An underground cellar lies approximately 5m to the south east of the house site. This is of fairly standard design for the period, comprising a rectangular depression measuring 4 x 4.5m in area and approximately 1.5m in depth beneath a gable roof construction of milled red gum timbers which stands c.1.35m above the ground. This structure, which was entered at its north end, nearest the house, is still standing but in fairly poor condition.

A square area containing the house, posts and cellar was recorded in 2003 as being surrounded by a 'discontinuous mesh fence'. This would appear to have been cleared since then, as would the workshop constructed of mud, rubble and wooden posts which sat c. 25m to the north east of the house site, beyond the fence.

Approximately 25m to the north of the house, the kitchen/bathroom structure still survives in reasonably good condition. Raised on wooden stumps, the structure, which measures approximately 5m by 10m and is constructed in metal sheeting across a wooden frame with a hipped roof clad in corrugated metal. It has a single wooden sash window on its eastern end and a set of double doors in its northern face, and this alignment of the structure in relation to the house, together with the relatively new appearance of its stumps, suggest that it has been moved. It is currently used for storage.

Assorted domestic and farm artefacts are scattered across the site, with rubbish dumps to the south beyond a row of cactuses. A scatter of bricks and wooden panels beneath a peppercorn tree to the east of the house may indicate the site of another structure.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The homestead site 'Ouyen Mineral Sands (OMS), H2' is significant.

How is it significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The site is of historic, technical (architectural) and archaeological significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site is historically significant as one of the earliest settlement sites in the Ouyen district.

It is architecturally significant in that its extant features represent good examples of structures which are characteristic to contemporary settlements in the region.

It is archaeologically significant in that it contains undisturbed deposits relating to its early 20th century domestic occupation and which will provide information on construction methods at that time.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ayton
Address 11 Mitchell Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Residence
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Mitchell Street was named after William Jacob Dingle Mitchell, the first bank manager for the Bank of Victoria in Ouyen (Pole 2006:75).

Place history

Joseph Jeremiah Dwyer, a Woomelang farmer, purchased allotment 9, section 5 in the township of Ouyen for £26 on April 6th 1910 (LV:V3642,F331; Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). The titles then indicate that on July 2nd 1913 Elizabeth Ann Laidlow of Ouyen, a married woman, took over ownership (LV:V3642,F331). On January 9th 1916 the titles indicate that Albert Ayton, an Ouyen Contractor, purchased the estate. The Shire of Walpeup Rate Books indicate that a house was built at 11 Mitchell street between 1916-1917 (RB 1916/17:467). Furthermore, Pole suggests that 'Ayton' was built by Mr Albert Ayton after 1915, sometime after his marriage to Fanny Hughes (M. Pole, pers. comm., 2011; Pole 2006:15).

Lester Barratt purchased the estate on January 2nd 1924 and by July 10th 1928 the estate had been sold and purchased by George Barratt, a farmer from St Arnaud (LV:V04810:973). On July 10th 1928 George Barratt, a St Arnaud farmer, purchased the property. Charles Ryan, of Hughes Street, Blacksmith, and Francis Murray 'James Nulty', picture theatre proprietor, purchased Ayton on October 29th 1948. On Nulty's death in 1967, the property was granted to Ethel, Eric and Leonard Nulty. On October 30th 1973 Wallace David Griffiths, a salesman, and Claudia Griffiths purchased the property. On February 20th 1978 Ayton was purchased by Neville Heeps, mail contractor, and Colleen Heeps.

Sources

Shire of Walpeup, Rate Books, 1916-1917.

Land Victoria (LV), Certificate of Title, LV:V3642,F331.

Land Victoria (LV), Certificate of Title, LV:V04810,973.

Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923, Department of Lands Survey, Melbourne 16.10.1923. Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.

Pole, M. 2006. *Who Were They? The Naming of Ouyen's Streets and Parks*. Sunnlyland Press, Mildura, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 COMMUNITY LIFE

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

Ayton is a large timber Federation villa with a high level of intact detail. In keeping with standard Federation domestic design, there is a diagonal emphasis to the plan, expressed by gabled pavilions at the corners of the verandah above corner bay windows, as well as a return verandah sheltered beneath the main roofline. Its architectural expression and level of detail are more typical of metropolitan houses of this era, and uncommon for the Mallee region.

The house has a gabled hip roof, with vents at either end of the ridge which runs parallel to the street, as well as a number of projecting gabled bays. The return verandah is contained under the main sweep of the eaves. The roof is still clad in medium-length corrugated iron sheets (presumably original). The chimney has ornate strapwork details (overpainted).

The corner verandah pavilions, on either side of the facade, have jettied roughcast gables with a round louvered vent above scalloped timber shingles. Their sides are clad with ripple iron with timber cover straps. The bargeboards have an incised tulip design at either end. The gables rest on curved timber brackets with a simple cut-out floral design. The projecting gabled bay on the east elevation of the house has a similar jettied gable with round vent, tulip bargeboards, and the eaves are supported on similar floral brackets. Below it is a casement window with an elaborate timber hood.

The house is clad in weatherboards; plain on the upper part of the walls with notched boards (to look like shingles) to the dado area. The windows of the corner bays are timber casements with six-light highlights.

The verandah is reached by central steps and surrounded by a timber balustrade with diagonal bracing. The verandah posts are turned timber and would have originally had timber corner brackets and possibly a fretwork frieze.

The front entrance is at the centre of the facade is set within an impressive arched niche. The door has sidelights (above panelling) and highlights. The door has nine lights in the top third. The entrance is situated between two roundel windows, which have floral leadlights, as do the door sidelights and highlights.

Apart from the removal of the verandah details, the western side of the verandah has been infilled with fibro cladding, and there is later pergola at the rear of the east side elevation. Apart from these alterations, the house is highly intact.

Previous Statement Significance

Ayton has an unusual plan that includes a diagonally placed window bay at each side of a double fronted weatherboard house. The house is otherwise typical of the period, but includes two circular windows symmetrically placed about the front door. It is a transitional style that includes elements of the Victorian symmetry and of the Federation diagonal planning of window bays. Ayton has particular aesthetic values for this reason.

Comparative Analysis

Ayton is a rare example of a Federation house in the study area and is unusually decorative when compared with other examples, most of which are simplified transitional designs leaning more towards the bungalow tradition. Ayton is the best example of this style of architecture in the study area.

Statement of Significance

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

What is significant?

Ayton, 11 Mitchell Street, Ouyen, a substantial Federation timber house, believed to have been constructed c1916 by owner Albert Ayton, a builder who had emigrated from England.

The pergola and front fence are not significant.

How is it significant?

Ayton is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Ayton is of historic significance as one of the earliest surviving dwellings to be built after the location of Ouyen changed around 1910. (Criterion B)

Ayton is of architectural significance as a substantial and intact Federation timber villa. While it exhibits characteristics representative of the Federation style, such as a diagonal emphasis, and verandah beneath the main roofline, the architectural expression and level of detail are more typical of metropolitan houses of this era, and uncommon for the Mallee region. (Criteria E & B)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name	Railway Turntables (repair site)	
Address	Nihill Street (south of) OUYEN	Significance Level Local
Place Type	Railway Turntable	
Citation Date	2012	



Recommended Heritage Protection **VHR** No **HI** No **PS** Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

The construction of the Ouyen-Murrayville line, planned to open up 750,000 acres of land for settlement, commenced in Ouyen, reached Underbool in late 1910, Linga early 1911, and Murrayville in 1912. At the time, it was the only railway line constructed ahead of settlement. The Border Railways Commission of 1910 recommended the extension of the line to connect Murrayville with Pinnaroo in South Australia. The line was subsequently built and finished in 1915.

These lines were built on the 'butty gang' system wherein the Railway Construction Branch of the Board of Land and Works employed people directly to do the work. This system was to prevail from 1 January 1892 and resulted in significant economies over the previous method of calling tenders for the construction of lines in sections. Ninety eight houses to accommodate railway workers were built at Underbool, Linga, Boinka and Torrita (Context 2009:51).

Place history

In 1903 the Ouyen line opened for construction traffic. No facilities were provided and the station was unmanned. The rail yard at this stage consisted of six through roads and a number of dead end sidings. By 1909 there was a 'man in charge' and in 1913 a 53' turn table, station buildings and a goods shed were constructed (Victorian Signalling Histories: Ouyen 2001:1).

During the 1920s, Ouyen had become the most important junction for all rail activity in the north western corner of the state (Carroll 209:78). In 1925 the 53' train turntable at Ouyen was replaced with a 70' turntable. Originally installed at Woomelang, this larger turntable was dismantled and moved to Ouyen to meet the increasing demands in the moving of huge quantities of bagged wheat (*Camperdown Chronicle* 1926:3; *The Ouyen Mail* 1925:2).

Early photographs (ca. 1920) show the installation of the 70' railway turntables at Ouyen. These photos also show evidence of railway landscaping, with young palm trees running alongside the railway line and turntable (see photos in Carroll 2009:77).

The growing strategic importance of Ouyen's railway and station, along with the huge volume of haulage it was moving, contributed to the station being upgraded to 3rd class in 1925. The large area of land was used as a place for the repair of railway infrastructure and a number of buildings were used for this purpose, now all demolished.

Sources

1926 'Cobden.', *Camperdown Chronicle* (Vic. : 1877 - 1954), 1 July, p. 3, viewed 20 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article24010030>.

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.
Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.
The Ouyen Mail, 21st July, 1926.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.3 Railway towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Turntable, dam railway, palm trees, footings of buildings, archaeological site.
2012:

The site to the southern end of Nihill Road is marked by disturbed ground and landforms with the remains of building footings. Groupings of palm trees are scattered throughout the site. The former engine turntable consisted of a circular embankment with railway track suspended across its diameter. There is nothing to be seen of this once distinctive landform, and all tracks have been removed from the site.

The remains of concrete footings have been broken up and remain on site, most of them covered with earth. The palm trees which appear to have been planted in the 1920s or 30s are a distinctive feature of the site and reflect a common species of *Phoenix Canariensis* often planted by the Victorian Railways. The site is disturbed and now used as a dumping ground, and there is a line of peppercorn trees (*Schinus Molle*) separating Nihill Street from this area.

The extent of ground disturbance and dumping indicates that the site has a low potential for archaeological remains apart from concrete footings which are also disturbed. There may be some ability of the site to demonstrate the former locations of buildings through the location of concrete footings, however the best evidence is found in historical photographs.

Recommended Management

This site would benefit from some interpretation in order to explain its former use and appearance through the use of historic photographs.

Previous Statement Significance

The Railway Turntables (repair site) is of potential historical significance as evidence of the importance of the railway as a transport and communication link to and from the isolated Mallee town of Ouyen. Repairs were undertaken locally where possible to keep the railway operating. (Criterion A, B, C)

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The railway turntable site associated with the Ouyen to Murrayville (and later to Pinnaroo) railway line constructed in stages from 1909, including the palm trees is significant.

How is it significant?

The railway turntable site is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The railway turntable site demonstrates the importance of Ouyen as a major rail junction and place of work for a large number of railway personnel engaged in the repair and maintenance of railway infrastructure and the operation of freight transport vital to the agricultural industries of the region. (Criterion A)

The palm trees (*Phoenix Canariensis*) are widely associated with plantings by the Victorian Railways and these form the only distinctive feature of the site following the removal of the turntable and the railway sheds. (Criterion A & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes Palm trees
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

It is recommended tha the Palm trees only be covered by the HO.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Roxy Theatre
Address 17 Oke Street OUYEN
Place Type Theatre
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS -

Maker / Builder No information held

History and Historical Context

Thematic History

The Mallee and the River Murray provide diverse opportunities for recreation and leisure pursuits in the study area for both locals and tourists. These activities ranged from organised sports such as football and cricket played at recreation grounds, rifle range shooting, motor-cross and horse racing to more informal pursuits such as fishing, bird watching,

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

picnicking, camping and walking.

Social gatherings on Sunday afternoons often took place on sand bars along the River Murray. Mildura's 'Floating Baths' on the River Murray were in operation by 1891. An initiative of Wally West, water was delivered via a channel from the Wimmera Mallee system to fill a natural depression north of Underbool for use as a lake and recreation area. Swimming also took place in channels. A swimming pool opened in the early 1930s in Ouyen. Public Olympic sized swimming pools were constructed across the region from the 1960s.

Large commercial cinemas started to be built in rural towns from the 1920s, with an increase in popularity from 1929 when the 'talkies' were introduced. Throughout the Mallee and Wimmera cinemas and town halls were built, providing entertainment for the sparse populations. From the 1920s, films were shown in public halls and purpose built cinemas, and in 1936, the Victory Theatre was built in Ouyen. It was later renamed the Roxy Theatre.

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place History

Allotment 11, Section 1 had been purchased by Hugh Ingwersen by 1911 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923).

During 1936 Mr Ingwersen contracted Mr Lancashire to design and build the Victory Theatre. Inspired by the design of Queensland tropical style theatres, the building suited the Mallee heat. The theatre had a wooden floor and had seating for up to three hundred patrons. Further architectural details included semi open lattice walls and internal roll up blinds to let in cool breezes and canite lining on the interior to help the sound quality (Carroll 2009:130). The theatre was also used as a dance hall. The theatre was operated by Jim Nulty, who with his family, were noted to be the most successful small scale exhibitors of films in rural Victoria (Heritage Matters Pty. Ltd 2008:14).

In 1954 the Victory Theatre was renamed The Roxy. The Roxy Theatre closed in 1971. In November 2007 it reopened after restoration work and the gala opening featured appearances by Bill Hunter and Geoff Paine (Webb 2007).

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- 1929 'Land value in Ouyen.', *The Horsham Times* (Vic. : 1882 - 1954), 2 August, p. 7, viewed 24 January, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article72670108>.
- 1936, 'A Modern Store: Interesting Particulars of Gilpin's Ouyen Building', *The Ouyen Mail*, August 26 1936.

Description

Physical Description

2012:

The art deco styled Roxy Theatre of 1936 is set back from the street frontage forming a forecourt. This building features a stylish facade of masonry attached to a galvanized iron 'shed' at the rear. It has been recently renovated but retains its unique art deco appearance. The facade is dominated by a masonry 'tower' with ticket window. The main entrance has glazed doors with clerestorey windows above. An extension to the side now houses the Tourist Information office. The cinema has openable timber shutters to the side walls allowing these to be opened on hot nights to allow the breeze through. The seating has been replaced and the interior and exterior refurbished.

A large and particularly fine specimen of a Kaffir Plum tree is located in close proximity to the theatre

Recommended Management

2012:

Tree controls

Comparative Analysis

There are no other comparable buildings in the study area as the Ozone in Mildura (1938) is now demolished.

Twenty rural cinemas were identified as potentially of state significance by Heritage Matters. (2008), this list included the following places in the Wimmera and Mallee area: the Rex in Charlton, the Horsham Theatre, the Regent Warracknabeal, the former Memorial and Town Hall, Boort ,the Mechanics Institute Murtoa and the Roxy, Robinvale.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The Roxy Theatre built in 1936 as the Victory Theatre , at 17 Oke Street, Ouyen, is significant. The Kaffir Plum tree at the rear is also significant.

How is it significant?

The Roxy Theatre is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Roxy Theatre is of historic significance as it was the first permanent theatre in Ouyen. The construction of the Roxy Theatre also represents the development of civic life and social entertainment within the Mallee. (Criterion A)

The Roxy Theatre is thought to be the only tropical-style inspired theatre in Southern Australia, its design inspired by a trip to far north Queensland by the building contractor. (Criterion C)

The Roxy Theatre, of 1836, is of aesthetic significance as it is a rare example of an Art Deco theatre within the Mallee, with the building featuring a stylish facade of masonry attached to a galvanized iron 'shed' at the rear. Although it has been recently renovated, it retains its unique art deco appearance. The Kaffir plum tree is a large, well formed and rare tree for the locality. (Criterion E)

The Roxy Theatre is of social significance for it is associated with cinema, a popular form of social entertainment in the twentieth century. It has provided entertainment to the people of Ouyen and the surrounding Mallee country for over 40 years. (Criterion G)

The Roxy Theatre is associated with local building contractor and wood and building supply store owner Mr E. Lancashire. Mr Lancashire has been noted to have built 23-37 Pickering Street (Carroll 2009:190; M. Pole, 2012 pers. comm., February 15). The Roxy Theatre is also associated with the Nutley family - noted to be the most successful small scale film exhibitors in rural Victoria. (Criterion H)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes Kaffir Plum tree.
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name	Ouyen Post Office	
Address	31 Oke Street OUYEN	Significance Level Local
Place Type	Post Office	
Citation Date	2012	



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Thematic context

The Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Act was developed and passed in 1902. The Postmaster General's Department (PMD) was subsequently established and it controlled all post offices in Australia (Australia Post 2007:3).

Place history

In 1870 with the first mail service linked Mallee runs with Swan Hill and in Ouyen the first 'improvised' post office opened in the early 1900s (Ward 1988:24). Initially run from the Coffee Palace (Farrell street) it was relocated to a small residential property at Number 1 Oke street in 1916. During the early 1920's it was reported that Ouyen desperately needed a purpose built post office, as the summer heat caused the glass windows at Number 1 Oke street to reach 120 degrees Fahrenheit (The Horsham Times 1921:7).

In 1922, the new post office and telephone exchange was built on the corner of Oke and Pickering streets. Like many post offices, this Ouyen building was designed and constructed by the Public Works Department (Department of Infrastructure 1998: 107; Goad and Willis 2012:552).

Architects working for the Victorian Public Works Department included S.E. Bindley, J. T. Kellecher and A.J. MacDonald. Goad and Willis note that architecturally, Victorian post office designs by the PWD were 'bold and accomplished, incorporating the round arches of the free Romanesque with several bold bungalow-styled post offices using round arches and low silhouettes' (Goad and Willis 2012:552).

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Ward, A. 1988. *The Desert Blooms: An Account of the Physical Development of the City and Shire of Mildura*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

6 TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

6.4 Postal and telecommunications

Description

Physical Description

The Post Office in Ouyen is situated at the main intersection at the corner of Oke and Pickering Streets. The building is an Interwar Free Romanesque styled building of face red brick. Built in 1922 it has the intersecting pitched roof forms of a bungalow combined with the round arched window of the Free Romanesque style as the dominant feature of the Oke Street frontage. The face red brick is highlighted with a vertical soldier course of brickwork at the sill level also defining the large semi-circular arch of the window. The side elevation is of plain red brick with a pair of timber framed sash windows. Alterations have been made to the entrance with the addition of a timber pergola and paving.

Previous Statement Significance

The Ouyen Post Office occupies an important intersection in the town centre and addresses the corner with a composition of two building wings. The Oke Street elevation is dominated by a large arched window divided into small panes of glass. The brickwork is detailed with slight variations in colour and the insertion of brick on edge to give horizontal banding. The Post Office will have social, historical and aesthetic values.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Ouyen Post Office at 31 Oke Street, designed and built by the Public Works Department in 1922 is significant. Later changes to the building including to the entrance and the pergola are not significant.

How is it significant?

Ouyen Post office is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Historically Post Offices are important indicators of town settlement. The growth and demise of smaller settlements can be traced through their postal history in the former Shire of Walpeup. The 1922 Post Office represents the third site in Ouyen for this important civic function, and the first purpose built Post Office. (Criterion A)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Architecturally the Ouyen Post Office is a representative example of an Inter-war Public Works design with stylistic intentions towards the Free Romanesque as demonstrated by the large semi-circular, arch-headed window facing Oke Street. Other significant features include the use of brick details such as soldier coursing evident in the face red brick walls and the low pitched intersecting hipped roofs. The Post Office is a landmark corner building in the Ouyen Commercial Precinct (Oke Street). (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name	Furniture Store	
Address	38 Oke Street OUYEN	Significance Level Local
Place Type	Shop	
Citation Date	2012	



Recommended Heritage Protection **VHR No HI No PS Yes**

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

Matt Watt established Quandong Café Fish Shop (38-40 Oke Street) in 1920. From early 1922 the Central Motor Garage was recorded to be situated on site, and then by late 1922 A.W. Gloster and A.P. Smallwood were listed as the proprietors (Carroll 2009:189). Over the following years the buildings had fallen into a state of disrepair, and were demolished. The Horsham Times, in 1929, noted that Mr O. Gilpin purchased Mr E.H. Smith's vacant property on Oke Street for £3,000 and by 1936 O. Gilpin's Ouyen store was built. This, the Horsham Times notes, was one of the most important business sales in Ouyen (The Horsham Times August 7th, 1929).

Noted to be the most magnificent of its time, the buildings dwarfed all other stores in Ouyen - its floor space measuring 6318 square feet, with a frontage of 63 feet and depth of 100 feet. It was also noted to have had a majestically high ceiling, some 29 feet high. Skylights, Oregon timber beams and not one interior supporting column gave the space an open and light feeling (Carroll 2009:117, Perry 1995:89). At the time it was described as 'O. Gilpin's splendid emporium' and was noted to be the 'largest and best that the firm has yet erected' (Perry 1995:89). By 1936 there were 94 O. Gilpin stores located all over Victoria. Further afield there were 25 stores in southern and western New South Wales, South Australia (at Mount Gambier, Millicent and Renmark) and Tasmania (at Devonport and Ulverstone).

All O. Gilpin stores were managed by women and were strictly 'cash only'. Furthermore, O. Gilpin had a fleet of 20 motor trucks with trailers which ensured prompt delivery of purchased items. At the time, these were Australia's largest privately owned diesel fleet (Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012). The store had two entrances both marked with 'O. Gilpin' inlaid marble slabs and was noted in the *Ouyen Mail* (26 August 1936) to have been constructed from '4.5 tons of corrugated iron (for the roof), have a 5.5 tons steel verandah, have used 800 bags of cement, 60,000 bricks, and 739 square feet of glass (for the shop frontage)'.

With O. Gilpin's death in 1942 all O. Gilpin's stores were purchased by Foy and Sons. By 1951 some of these stores

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

were purchased by G.J Coles and Co. In 1944 Foy and Gibson were listed as the proprietors of the former O.Gilpin store at 38-40 Oke Street, and by 1952 the property housed E. Williams Central Drapery. Since 1964 the occupancy of the buildings has changed many hands: from Trimble's Shopping Centre (until 1969), C. Horne (from 1969-1974), A. J. and S. L. Horne Clothing (from 1974-1982), Clarke's Furniture R.D. Jardine (from 1982-1986), Geary's Furniture Store (from 1986 - 1997), Ouyen Furniture A. and D. Vallance (1997-1999) and Country Clothing and Furniture (1999-current) (Carroll 2009:196).

Sources

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

The former O. Gilpin Store, 38-40 Oke Street, Ouyen, is the largest and finest commercial building in Oke Street. It has a striking rendered parapet, with a cyma recta (S-curve) motif at each side of a rectangular section. This same motif is repeated as an arch at the centre of the parapet (creating a field for painted signage) and in the decorative highlight panels to the shopfronts. The door also have an arched motif. In its decorative qualities, the store was a bit retardaire for its 1936 date, but is a very fine example of its type nonetheless.

Below the parapet is a cantilevered steel verandah with a very wide fascia, bordered by rivets. The soffit retains pressed-metal cladding with a metal egg and dart cornice moulding, as well as two original light fittings.

The shop retains its original shopfront, which has two generously proportioned recessed entries with the words 'O GILPIN' inlaid in the white marble entry thresholds. The paired timber doors have textured glass panels at the top, leaving large glazed panels below. The doors appear to retain their original warm brown stained finish. There are numerous metal-framed showcases sitting above red tiled stallboards, including a narrow freestanding one at the centre of the north entry. There is a continuous band of highlights with copper frames. Above each entry is a clear arched panel (like the parapet motif), with frosted leadlights above and on either side. The leadlights are embellished with rose and classical garland insets in coloured glass.

The store is highly intact. The only alteration noted is the removal of the small tiles from the floors of the two recessed entries (their imprint is still visible).

Previous Statement Significance

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

O Gilpin's furniture store is a good example of a retail premises from the 1920s. The frontage included several indented doorways and the window glazing, tiles and pressed metal soffit of the verandah are all intact. The name of the store O.Gilpin is set into the step, incised into white marble. The upper level glazing to the shopfronts is of decorative glass. The verandah and parapet are also intact. This store is an excellent example of between the wars retailing and retains much of its original detailing. Reunions of the 'O Gilpin Girls' who once worked in the store indicate potential social value to former workers at the store and possibly the local community who it served. The furniture store is of potential social and historic significance.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former O. Gilpin Store, 38-40 Oke Street, Ouyen, a large single-storey shop which is highly intact and retains its decorative parapet, cantilevered verandah and elaborate shop windows and display cases, to the extent of its 1936 fabric.

How is it significant?

The former O.Gilpin Store is of local historic, architectural and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former O. Gilpin Store is of historic significance as the largest store in Ouyen of the interwar period and part of O. Gilpin's extensive Australian chain of stores that spread across Victoria to New South Wales and Tasmania. (Criterion A)

The former O. Gilpin Store is of architectural and aesthetic significance as a fine representative example of an intact interwar store. It was the most magnificent in Ouyen when built, with a huge floor area free of columns and a high ceiling, providing a feeling of openness. It is also significant for its high level of intactness and the retention of high-quality decorative elements such as leadlight highlights set in copper frames, freestanding display cases, red tiled stallboards, original doors with their original stained finish, and pressed metal to the verandah soffit. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name The Torrita Building
Address 61-71 Oke Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Commercial Office/Building
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

Originally constructed in Berriwillock, 109km south east of Ouyen, the Berriwillock Presbyterian Church, was built in 1908 for less than £200. Later the building was moved to Torrita (38km west of Ouyen) and given to the Torrita Methodist Congregation. The church was used from 1967 and closed in July 1986 (North West Express 1986). In July 1990 the Torrita building was moved to Ouyen. The building is located behind the Ouyen History Resource Centre (originally the Ouyen Court House) and used for community events (Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre, notes viewed 2011; M. Pole, 2011 per. comm., 2 December).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne 1986, Torrita Uniting Guild Closing Service. North West Express July 24th 1986.

Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre, Torrita building notes, viewed November 2011.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.3 Halls and meeting places

Description

Physical Description

2009: Originally built in Berriwillock in 1908 for 200 pounds as the Prebyterian Church. Given to the Torrita Methodist Congregation in 1966. Dismantled, moved and reassembled in Torrita. Served as church for the next 22 years (1967 - 1989) given to the shire of Walpeup and moved to Ouyen in July 1990. Restored and now in public use. Set in landscape of both exotic and eucalyptus trees.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

2012:

The Torrita Building (originally the Berriwillock Presbyterian Church, then the Torrita Methodist Church), Oke Street, Ouyen, is a typical early 20th-century weatherboard church building. It is currently located behind the former Ouyen Courthouse.

It has a short-sheet corrugated-iron roof with two round metal ventilators on the ridge. It has a gable front with a pointed-arch vent at the apex. At the centre of the facade is a gable-fronted entrance porch with a timber finial. The porch has a lancet window on its face and is entered via a pointed-arch ledged door with decorative strap hinges.

There are three pointed-arch windows on each side, which have leaded diamond panes.

At the rear is a skillion section with a two-over-two sash window which may indicate an early date.

There is a modern though sympathetic timber ramp at the front entrance.

Previous Statement Significance

The Torrita Building was formerly a church built in Berriwillock, then transported to Torrita when it was used for the Methodist congregation. It was moved to the present site in Ouyen in 1990. The Torrita Building is a representative timber gothic revival church. The diamond patterned leaded glass windows are notable. The Torrita Building will have social, historic and aesthetic values for several communities.

Comparative Analysis

The Gothic Revival forms the largest group of church buildings, although relatively few are built of timber. The most comparable example is St Peter's Lutheran Church in Walpeup which is also assessed to be of local significance. St Peter's has particularly fine windows whereas the Torrita Building exhibits the more common feature of diamond leaded glass.

Later Gothic Revival churches dating from the 1920s were built in masonry (either brick or limestone and brick). The Torrita Room is an early and representative building when compared with others.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Berriwillock Presbyterian Church (then the Torrita Methodist Church, now known as the Torrita Building), 71 Oke Street, Ouyen, to the extent of its 1908 fabric.

How is it significant?

The former Berriwillock Presbyterian Church is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former Berriwillock Presbyterian Church is of historic significance as a relatively early building for the municipality and for demonstrating the common practice of moving public buildings, such as churches and schools, in rural areas reflecting population shifts and a frugal approach to redundant buildings. (Criterion A)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The former Berriwillock Presbyterian Church is of architectural significance as a representative example of a typical early 20th-century weatherboard church with simple Gothic Revival details such as pointed-arch windows. (Criterion D)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Former Ouyen Court House
Address 61-71 Oke Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Court House
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes
Designer / Architect Bindley, Samuel Ebden
Maker / Builder Unknown

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Thematic context

From federation the Public Works Department was responsible for the design and construction of all Commonwealth public buildings in Australia. Such buildings included court buildings, public buildings, defence buildings and Commonwealth offices (Kilby 1987:1; Department of Infrastructure 1998:1). In Victoria, court buildings were constructed by the Public Works Department or rented by the Crown Land Department (Department of Infrastructure 1998:36).

Place history

Ouyen's court building was designed by architect Samuel Edward Bindley in 1914 and built by contractors Smethurst and Dale for £1190.00 (Challinger 2001:20). In December 1914 the Ouyen Mail noted that 'Mr Don congratulated his honour Judge Wineke on being the first to preside in the new courthouse ... Judge Wineke responded by saying that 'he felt pleased at being the first to occupy the bench in the new edifice' (Ouyen Mail 1914).

The building is somewhat typical of a Federation Arts and Crafts design. The original design consisted of a weatherboard five room building, with small windows, high roofs, overhang wide eaves and the Tobin tube passive ventilation system. The weatherboards were originally stained or creosoted and the windows and roughcast render picked out in a light colour (Museums Victoria). Inside the court room, timber string moulds define the dado height and the line of the highlight sills.

The design was noted as suiting the towns hot summer climate (see Carroll 2009:35) and complemented the already constructed police station and lockup (built during 1913). In 1986 toilets were added and in 1989 the court transferred from the building. Currently the structure houses Ouyen's History Resource Centre.

SE Bindley, Architect

Architect S. E Bindley was born in 1842, Birmingham, England. In 1873 Bindley was employed as an architect for the Victorian Public Works Department and within this role he came to design many public buildings in Victoria. Within the city of Melbourne, Bindley's best known works include the Melbourne Crown Law Offices (1892-3) and the Records Office (1900-04). Further afield, in the North-Western district, Bindley became known as a prolific court house designer (see for example Nhill in 1888, Boort in 1890, Melton in 1982 and Rainbow in 1915).

One of Bindley's last works for the Victorian Public Works Department was the Royal Park Psychiatric Hospital. Constructed between 1906 and 1916 this building is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register (see H2062).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne

Challinger, M. 2001. *Historic Court Houses of Victoria*. Palisade Press.

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Department of Infrastructure 1998. *Public Buildings in Victoria: Construction Materials, Methods and Styles*. Heritage Assets Branch, Building Services Agency, Department of Infrastructure, August 1998.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Goad, P. and J. Willis 2012. *The Encyclopaedia of Australian Architecture*. Cambridge University Press, Melbourne, Australia.

Kilby, J. 1987. *Public Buildings in Victoria 1901-1932: An Overview*. Research Report, Faculty of Architecture and Planning, Parkville, Victoria.

Museums Victoria, postcard 'Greetings from Ouyen, Xmas 1916', Reg. No MM2728.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

7 GOVERNING

7.3 Law and order

Description

Physical Description

2009: Weatherboard courthouse building with iron roof. Relocated church sits behind the former courthouse, the former is now used as a community hall. Landscaped setting - exotics and natives, trees, shrubs and garden beds.

2012:

The former Ouyen Court House, Oke Street, Ouyen, is a medium-sized timber building of 1914, typical of the Public Works Department's designs of this era, showing an Arts and Craft stylistic influence. It is set in a landscaped park, adjacent to other public buildings in Oke Street.

The internal volumes of the building are expressed externally. The hip roof central courtroom space is one-and-a-half-storeys high and sits above an array of single-storey wings - most of them containing a single room - jutting out from it on three sides, creating a lively asymmetrical massing.

The courtroom is lit solely by clerestory windows just beneath the eaves, set in a band of roughcast render. The rest of the building is clad in weatherboards, with details picked out in vertical boards. These run just below the sills of the courtroom clerestory windows, dividing the roughcast from the weatherboards, and at ground-floor sill height on the facade.

The single-storey wing of the facade, set below the courtroom, has a decorative jerkin-head roof, while the other single-storey volumes have mainly hip roofs. All roofs are clad in medium-length corrugated iron sheets, have round metal ventilators near the ridge line, and exposed rafter ends. The building retains three chimneys which have straight rendered shafts and corbelled red brick tops.

Along with numerous roof forms, the window types differentiate the internal spaces. The clerestory windows to the courtroom are square with three vertical panes. Those below the front jerkin-head gable, which is centred below the courtroom, are a bank of three windows with segmentally arched casements. To the right of these windows are a small two-over-two double-hung sash, and then a six-over-six double hung sash window. There are more six-over-six windows on the south side of the building. The north side has only clerestory windows to the courtroom section, and a six-over-six window to the single-storey rear wing.

The interior is highly intact and retains original joinery fittings including the magistrate's bench, witness box and gallery seating in the courtroom.

There is a modern toilet block at the rear and pergola walkway on the side.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The building is in excellent condition.

Previous Statement Significance

The Ouyen Court House (now the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc.) is a particularly fine example of a rural court house designed by the Public Works Department. It was built in 1914, designed by Public Works Department architect Samuel Bindley and constructed by Smethurst and Dale. Ouyen was first proclaimed a court of Petty Sessions in 1912 and was used until 1927. From then until the 1950s the building was used as a residence. It is notable for its architectural composition, detailing of weatherboard and rough cast finish. It will have social, historic and aesthetic values.

Oldest remaining public building in Ouyen district. Ouyen proclaimed a place for holding court of petty sessions 31 January 1912 and visited from Mildura until 1927. From 1927 - 1950s bachelor clerks resided at the courthouse. The courthouse was used until the 1980s.

Larger than most courthouses in the Federation series, well suited to Ouyen's hot climate with small windows, high roof areas and wide eaves. Designed by Bindley and built by Smethurst and Dale at cost of 1,190 pounds, it represented the culmination of federation period timber tradition in courthouse design.

Comparative Analysis

Ouyen Courthouse is a bigger and more elaborate example of a Federation Arts and Crafts styled courthouse than the Murrayville Courthouse, designed in the same year by the same architect. Unlike Murrayville it features the central large courtroom and raised roof lit with clerestory windows. Both Ouyen and Murrayville Courthouses are excellent examples of the work of S.E Bindley of the Victorian Public Works Department.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Ouyen Courthouse (now the Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre Inc) designed by architect S.E. Bindley in 1914 for the Public Works Department and constructed by contractors Smethurst & Dale is significant. The interior fittings and fixtures built as part of the court function are also significant.

How is it significant?

The former Ouyen Courthouse is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Ouyen Courthouse is of historic significance by demonstrating the design and construction services provided by the Public Works Department to many regional towns in the early twentieth century. It was one of the first community and civic buildings to be constructed in Ouyen after the move c1910 to a new site. (Criterion A)

Ouyen Courthouse, together with that of Murrayville, is an excellent example of the high quality government buildings designed by architect S.E. Bindley who distinguished himself with several large commissions in Melbourne. Architecturally the Ouyen Courthouse is an excellent example of a large and elaborate rural courthouse with external expression of the courtroom with its raised roof and clerestory windows. It was built in the Federation Arts and Crafts style, and displays the roof forms, window detailing, and timber detailing typical of the period. The interior retains much of its original built-in furniture including magistrate's bench, witness box and gallery seating designed and built as part of the original structure. (Criteria D & E)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	Yes
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Lodden Mallee Womens Health Centre
Address 72 Oke Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Other - Health Services,Restaurant (food outlet)
Citation Date 2012



Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

The Ouyen Township Parish Plans indicate that allotment 1, 2 and 3, section 9 was first purchased by J. O'Keefe on March 30th 1911 (Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). Number 72 Oke Street is located within allotment 1.

Pole notes that in 1920 the proprietor of number 72 Oke street was Mrs A. Cootes. Mrs Cootes ran Camile Café from 1920 until 1947 (M. Pole, 2012 per. comm., February 15th).

Between 1947 and 1949 Mr D.E. Emmet was listed as proprietor and ran Ecstasy Creations Fashions from the site. Further proprietors included Eldridge's Children's Wear (1949 to 1953); Dentist (1950s to 1989); Opportunity Shop (from 1989 to 1993); Mallee Remedial Centre (from 1993-1997) and the Loddon Mallee Women's Health Centre (from 1997-2009) (Carroll 2009:195). The building is now unoccupied and is the proposed site for extensions to the supermarket.

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne
Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.
Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923, Department of Lands Survey, Melbourne 16.10.1923.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.1 Health services

Description

Physical Description

2009: Weatherboard building on Main Street, former shop and hall. Iron roof. Now women's health clinic.
2012:

The former shop and residence at 72 Oke Street, Ouyen, is a small gable-fronted weatherboard building which sits at the front of its block, with a verandah extending over the footpath.

It is quite plain in detail, with a rectangular louvered vent at the peak of the gable, plain bargeboards, and a skillion verandah roof (which retains short-sheet roofing iron).

The commercial section of the building is restricted to the right-hand-side of the building. There is a timber-framed shop window with highlights with two panes to the front and a third aside the recessed entry. The shop entrance retains its original door below a highlight window.

The other half of the facade features a bank of three domestic-sized windows. They are partially covered with signage, but appear to be double-hung sashes. The residence is entered from the south side of the house, beneath a timber verandah. Access to this area is via a decorative metal gate with mild-steel ornament, of the type popular in the 'teens and

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

early 1920s. Beside it are two timber fence posts with curved tops. Another section of an early picket fence (with pointed pickets) survives next to the shopfront.

The building appears to be quite intact, apart from replacement of the verandah posts with plain timber posts. The building is in good condition, but requires repainting.

Comparative Analysis

The former Camile Café is an unusual building in Oke Street and in the study area. The most comparable places in terms of date of construction (pre 1920) are the former timber Banks of Victoria in Dayman Street Cowangie and Cregan Street Walpeup. Both Cregan and Dayman Streets are assessed to be of local significance as part of precincts. Commercial buildings pre 1920 are quite rare in the study area. 72 Oke Street has an unusual form with the gable facing the street, and the different window types are unique.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Camile Cafe and residence, 72 Oke Street, Ouyen, a modest weatherboard building with a shop window and recessed shop entrance to one half of the facade and a residence, entered from the side, in the other half, to the extent of its c1920 fabric.

How is it significant?

The former Camile Cafe and residence is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former Camile Cafe and residence is of historic significance as one of the earliest commercial buildings in Oke Street. (Criterion B)

The former Camile Cafe and residence is of architectural significance by providing a clear illustration of the early 20th-century custom of business owners residing in the same building of their shop or café, which is demonstrated by the contrast between the shop and residential windows on the facade. (Criterion D)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Chaff, Oats and Grain Store
Address 14 Oke Street (rear of) OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Unknown Item Type
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

During the 1930s Alfred Ellis Loveridge established a produce and timber store near The Red Store in Oke Street (Pole 2006:66; M. Pole, 2012 per. comm., February 15th). Produce sold at the store included Waratah steel posts, plain and barbed wire, cornsacks and lamp and power kerosene. Oats, wheat and chaff were bought and sold at the store (Pole 2006:66).

Albert Loveridge also established The Red Store in Oke Street in 1921. Following his discharge from the army in 1919 Loveridge made Ouyen his home and place of business and contributed to civic life through his championing of Labour politics through standing for Federal Parliament in 1943. His community interests extended to the Masonic Lodge, the Ouyen Brass Band, Australian Natives Association, the RSL and numerous sporting interests. (Carroll 2009:189; Pole 2006: 66-68).

The Fairy Dell café (14 Oke street) behind which the Chaff, Oats and Grain store is located, presumably took its name from the original Ingwersen's Fairy Dell Café' (c.a 1911) at number 15 Oke Street (Carroll 2009:187).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Pole, M. 2006. *Who Were They? The Naming of Ouyen's Streets and Parks*. Sunnyland Press, Mildura, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES

4.4 Farming

5 BUILDING INDUSTRIES AND WORKFORCE

5.1 Processing raw materials

Description

Physical Description

2009: Shed, saw toothed roof, narrow horizontal ripple iron construction, faded signage advertising iron and wire, chaff, oats and grain. Intact detailing. In open paddock at back of Fairy Dell cafe, Oke Street.

2012:

The store at the rear of the Fairy Dell café in Oke Street is an unusual building of corrugated iron with a sawtooth roof profile. It is located at the rear of the main street and set some distance back from the rear of the café.

The timber framed and corrugated iron clad structure has a floor level set above the ground on stumps and accessed via a short ladder. The structure has a timber floor. Consisting of two spaces, this is reflected in the unusual roof form and two

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

wide entrances, one with timber doors and one with a metal framed and corrugated iron clad door. Small wall ventilators built of timber are set high above each door and these are finished with architraves and sill timber mouldings. Of particular interest are the galvanized iron roof plumbing details of folded and cut sheet metal attached to the corners of the gutter. Intricate sheet metal work is often seen on the small conical cappings to tanks and other rain water goods and this building reflects that tradition.

The signs that are painted onto the wall, reading Iron & wire, chaff, oats and grain are an important feature of the building. The store is a particularly fine and unusual design, enriched with some fine metalwork detailing and the signs that give an indication of the original or an earlier use of the building. It is now in fair condition although not entirely secure against the weather. Although the building is utilitarian storage building it is a fine example of a vernacular structure onto which much care has been applied on the design and detailing.

Recommended Management

It is recommended that repair and maintenance be carried out to conserve this building should circumstances permit.

Previous Statement Significance

Potentially of historical significance as an unusual and increasingly rare vernacular building of high integrity with remaining detailing and signage indicating a range of uses in an important rural town of the Mallee. There may be archaeological remains at the site. (Criterion A,B, C)

Comparative Analysis

The store is a more intact example of a small business premises than Ayton & Hatfields former blacksmith's shop in Hughes Street which has also been assessed for this study. Both of these buildings demonstrate early business in Ouyen in the 1920s and 30s. Architecturally the chaff, oats and grain store is without direct comparison due to its unusual form and fine galvanized detailing.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former chaff, oats and grain store established c.1930 by Albert Ellis Loveridge at 10-12 Oke Street at the rear of the Fairy Dell Café is significant.

How is it significant?

The store is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The chaff, oats and grain store is associated with prominent citizen and businessman Albert Ellis Loveridge. As proprietor of two businesses Loveridge was a community leader in Ouyen and stood for Federal Parliament in 1943. (Criterion A)

The building is a distinctive and unusual design featuring the sawtooth roof profile and original [but faded] lettering and

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

signage. It has a high standard of detailing of many of its iron features including the roof plumbing and folded sheet metal decoration. It is an exemplary vernacular structure and is highly intact. The signage is an integral part of its character and significance. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

Yes

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

No

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name War Memorial
Address Oke Street, cnr Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type War Memorial
Citation Date 2012





Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The scars and losses of war were all the greater during the Great War because the bodies of the dead remained interred in the field of war, some unidentified or undiscovered. Families thus often had no body to mourn nor opportunities to travel to such distant graveyards. This absence, combined with the high casualty rate, contributed to the general movement to memorialise the dead in the landscape through any number of war memorials (Inglis, 2008; Damousi, 1999).

The positioning and form of such memorials was a difficult and sometimes controversial task, all the more so because the trauma and loss of the Great War was unprecedented both in casualties and in the public desire to commemorate it. The most common form of memorial in Australia were obelisks - for every cross raised as a memorial, Australians raised at least ten obelisks, sometimes adorned with digger figures. Diggers on pedestals were second only to obelisks as memorials (Inglis 2008:160-161). Like the obelisk memorial, column memorials have both spiritual and secular significance. Their upright form 'spoke of the upright character of the men ... for their actions and noble deeds should take them like its column heavenward and upward' (Inglis 2008:153).

Place history

In April 1926 the first War Memorial committee was formed in Ouyen. The committee was chaired by Ben Oke and arose from public discussion concerning the need for a memorial to acknowledge the Ouyen men that gave their lives in the Great War. Amid much discussion concerning the proposed site of the memorial, the committee finally decided to locate it at the intersection of Oke and Pickering streets. In July 1928 Mr Arnold travelled to Melbourne, and a contract for construction of the Ouyen War Memorial was signed. It was estimated to cost £250 (Argus 1929).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

By mid 1929 the Ouyen War Memorial had been constructed, and on Wednesday, August 23rd 1929, the first ceremony took place at the site. Several hundred people attended the unveiling. Ben Oke opened the formalities after which the National Anthem was played. Colonel E. Harris offered the main address and officially unveiled Ouyen's tribute to the fallen (Carroll 2009:83; Argus 1929).

Sources

1929 'Ouyen War Memorial.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 23 August, p. 16, viewed 30 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article4031950>.

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Inglis, K. S. 2008. *Sacred Places: War Memorials in the Australian Landscape*, Melbourne Univeristy Press.

Damousi, J. 1999. *The Labour of Loss: Mourning, Memory and Wartime Bereavement in Australia*, Cambridge University Press.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.5 Wars

Description

Physical Description

2009: Brick base, masonry/granite columns. Marble name plates on 3 sides. 1914-18 war; 1939-45 War and one name from the Vietnam Conflict 1962 - 1973. Elements include the war memorial - plinth and column, urn on top, surrounding brick paving and low garden on the traffic island at major intersection.

2012:

The war memorial of 1929 sits at the centre of Ouyen's main intersection, Oke and Pickering streets, thereby providing it with unquestioned landmark status in town.

The memorial is in the form of a column with an urn at the top, executed in a cool grey granite with warmer grey accents. It sits on a rusticated sandstone plinth. The quality of the stonemasonry is very high.

There are brown marble plaques on three sides of the plinth, two of which recognise those who died in the 'Great War' (WWI), and a third with the names of those lost in WWII and the Vietnam Conflict. Just below the column is a bronze wreath, attached to the sandstone, with engraved dates (1914-1918) below it.

While the memorial remains in its original location, it has been raised up on recent cream brick steps in the middle of a modern roundabout.

Previous Statement Significance

Erected in memory of Ouyen district men who gave their lives in the great war and subsequent conflicts. It has importance for its association with events of national importance. Criterion A, D, G)

Comparative Analysis

Throughout the remote parts of the study area war memorials have taken the form of avenues of sugar gums (Danyo, Tutye), peppercorn trees (Cowangie), civic buildings (Walpeup Memorial Hall 1923) or entrance gates (Outen Park, Underbool). The Ouyen War Memorial is unique in the study area.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Ouyen War Memorial at the intersection of Oke and Pickering streets, Ouyen, erected in 1929, as well as the later plaques commemorating local participants in World War Two and the Vietnam Conflict.

The roundabout and cream-brick plinth are not significant.

How is it significant?

The Ouyen War Memorial is of local historical, aesthetic and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Ouyen War Memorial is of historic significance as one of a series of memorials erected across Victoria after World War One that provides tangible evidence of the impact of that conflict on local communities. (Criteria A & D)

The Ouyen War Memorial is of aesthetic significance as a local landmark in a prominent spot which marks the centre of town, and also for the fine quality materials and stonemasonry skills evident in its execution. (Criterion E)

The Ouyen War Memorial is of social significance as a place that has strong and enduring associations with the Ouyen community and remains the focus of Remembrance Day commemorations. This enduring connection is demonstrated by the memorials to other conflicts that have been added to the memorial over time. (Criterion G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name House
Address 1 Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type House
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

The State Bank of Victoria was established by 1912 when the Savings Banks Act (No.2365) provided for all Banks then operating under the Savings Banks Acts to be collectively named The State Savings Bank of Victoria (Public Records Office 2011). The bank then embarked on a building programme marked by the distinctive and often uniform or standard design of its branches across Victoria. The stature and number of a town's banks was often an important marker of its status as a regional centre for commerce. The availability of credit was a vital lifeline to isolated farming communities who were subject to the fluctuations of the seasons and natural cycles of abundance and scarcity.

Place history

On 9 February 1924 the *Argus* reported that architects Sydney Smith, Ogg, and Serpell invited tenders 'for the erection of new Bank Premise at Ouyen, for the Commissioner of the State Saving Bank of Victoria'. The bank was built in 1926.

The former State Savings Bank at the corner of Rowe and Pickering streets was designed by architects Sydney Smith and Charles A. Ogg. Prominent from the late 19th and early 20th century, the pair designed several branches of the State Savings Bank (Moonee Ponds 1905 and Yarraville 1909, for example) as well as hotels, commercial and office buildings all with 'asymmetrical red-brick facades with various combinations of bay, arched and circular window forms and render, wrought iron and terracotta detailing' (Goad & Willis 2012:677). C.E. Serpell partnered Smith and Ogg in 1921, by which time they were designing classical State Savings Banks (Gardenvale 1921), and in 1933 the firm was awarded the 1933 RVIA Street Architecture Medal for their design of the Port Authority Building in Market Street (1929-31). Smith and Ogg both died in the early 1930s (Goad & Willis 2012:676).

The *Argus* reported on Saturday 7 December 1929 that deposits at the Ouyen branch of the State Savings Bank amount to £50,739, with a total of 1,557 depositors. The Launceston *Examiner* reported on 17 June 1930 that "Mrs. Ball, wife of the manager of the Ouyen branch of the State Savings Bank was found on the railway line near Ouyen station to-day. Mrs. Ball had been struck by a train, and a note found in her apron pocket indicated that she had committed suicide."

The *Argus* reported on Wednesday 9 March 1949 the engagement of "Nancy, only child of Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Hopkinson, State Savings Bank, Ouyen, to Kenneth Esmond, youngest son of Mrs. J. E. Herbertson and the late Mr. J. F. Ingram, Geelong."

Sources

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Goad P. & J. Willis, 2012. *Encyclopaedia of Australian Architecture*, Cambridge University Press.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Substantial 2 storey brick house with shuttered windows in a garden setting.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

2012:

The former State Savings Bank is a landmark building on the north-west corner of Pickering and Rowe streets, Ouyen. It is a two-storey building with a single-storey rear wing along Rowe Street. The building was designed in a domestically scaled Georgian Revival style, in red brick (running bond) with render dressings to the plinth, cornice frieze and window surrounds. The roof is pyramidal, clad in corrugated iron and has a corbelled chimney. The eaves are quite wide and are distinguished by elegant modillions.

The facade, which faces Pickering Street, is divided into three bays with very distinct treatments of the ground-level banking floor and the upper-level residence. The bank was entered via a door on the west side of the facade, with two windows to the right of it. The doorway is sheltered by a classical entablature resting on volute scrolled corbels. Its fanlight has very fine timber mullions in a Chippendale-inspired design. This same fanlight is seen above all ground floor windows. These windows have a large, fixed-pane window below, and a classical lugged architrave (that is, one with 'ears' at the top corners). There are two such windows on the Rowe Street elevation.

The upper storey of the facade has a recessed balcony in the centre with Doric pilasters in antis. The steel balcony rail has a similar Chippendale design to the fanlights. Flanking the balcony are two 15-over-15 sash windows with louvered timber shutters - another characteristic detail of the domestic Georgian Revival. There are another two such windows on the Row Street elevation.

At the rear of the Rowe Street elevation are two small, high-set windows with simple rendered lintels, which appear to relate to an internal stair. Here the two-storey section of the bank transitions to a single-storey rear wing with a hipped roof. It also has simple windows, single-pane sashes with straight lintels, indicative of the lower level of pretention seen fit for the bank manager's kitchen and laundry. The other side of this wing has a long verandah resting on classical columns.

While the bank has been converted for use as a private residence, little or no external change has been required, so the building has a very high integrity apart from the replacement of the front door.

Previous Statement Significance

The former State bank is a particularly fine example of the Georgian Revival style built 1926. The two storey building would include a banking chamber below and residence above. There is a single storey wing also. The face brick walls are decorated with cement render reveals to the windows on the ground floor level. The upper floor windows are more domestic in design and scale. The wide eaves are decorated with corbels and the porch is finely detailed with pilasters and decorative wrought iron railings in the Georgian Revival styling. The fanlights to the ground floor windows are detailed with similar motifs. The building design is similar to the work of William Hardy Wilson in NSW. There will be historic and particular aesthetic values attached to this building.

Comparative Analysis

Other banks are examples of the former Bank of Victoria (1918) of which there are an example each in Walpeup and Cowangie. These are timber buildings of simple Victorian design unlike 1 Pickering Street. Ouyen High School is the only other example of a Georgian Revival building, making the former State Savings Bank a unique place.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The former State Savings Bank, 1 Pickering Street, Ouyen, to the extent of the 1926 fabric.

How is it significant?

The former State Savings Bank is of local historical, architectural and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Banks are a sign of the status of a town and the former State Savings Bank is of historical significance as tangible evidence of the development of Ouyen as a major district centre in the 1920s. The bank is also significant as the work of major early 20th-century architectural practice Smith, Ogg & Serpell. (Criteria A & H)

The former State Savings Bank is of architectural significance as a very elegant, accomplished and intact Georgian Revival design with very fine details, such as Chippendale-inspired fanlights to ground-floor windows and doors as well as a similar first-floor balcony balustrade, and scrolled modillions beneath the wide eaves. (Criterion F)

The former State Savings Bank is of aesthetic significance as a prominent landmark in the Ouyen commercial district, creating a gateway to Pickering Street together with the former Arnold's Model Store across the street. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name North West Post Office and Foodworks
Address 23-27 Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Shop
Citation Date 2012





**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Since the Shire of Mildura was established in 1887, Victoria's north-west has been serviced by a variety of newspapers. The *North West Express* has been in circulation since 1918, and was previously called the *Ouyen and North West Express*, *Mallee Harvester* and *Underbool Mirror*. The *North West Express'* circulation ranged from Ouyen, to Mildura in the north to Patchewollock in the south, Murrayville in the west and Manangatang in the east (Mildura and District Genealogical Society 2010).

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

It has been suggested that the buildings at 23-27 Pickering street were built by local building contractor Mr E. Lancashire in 1924 (Carroll 2009:190; M. Pole, 2012 per. comm., February 15th). Mr Lancashire also built the Roxy Cinema, at 17 Oke Street. He also owned a wood yard and building supply yard (see Argus 1928:14; 1929:15) and possibly built, or supplied material, for many of the buildings constructed in Ouyen during the 1920s (M. Pole, 2012 per. comm., February 15th).

Number 23, known as 'Lancashire House', was the office for E. M. Tobin Barrister and Solicitor and E. Lancashire Grocery, Timber and General hardware store in 1929. In 1946 G. Clissold and Son's 'Melray Store' was located in the premises, as well as baker, R.C Taylor. In 1967 Ouyen Foodland D and N.F Wormald were located at 23 Pickering Street, followed by Ouyen Supermarket H. and F. Casey (1978), Goodfellows D. Marshall (1982), Rite way Supermarket (1987), and Ouyen AUR Food Rite Supermarket (2003-2006) (Carroll 2009:199). Foodworks is currently located within 23 Pickering street.

In 1924 The Ouyen Mail was located at 27 Pickering street and in 1925 The Mallee Newspapers Ltd were listed proprietors. Carroll notes that in 1942 The Ouyen Mail printing office amalgamated with the Mallee Newspapers Pty Ltd and the office became the 'North West Express Printing Office (Carroll 2009:193). Currently the North West Express Office is located at 27 Pickering street.

Sources

1928 'Display Advertising.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 4 September, p. 14, viewed 15 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article3954534>

1929 'Display Advertising.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 5 December, p. 15, viewed 15 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article4054576>

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria
Mildura and District Genealogical Society 2010, viewed January 31st 2012 <
<http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~ausmdgs/newspapers.htm>>

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.3 Halls and meeting places

Description

Physical Description

2009: Large painted brick hall or theatre. Hall facing Pickering Street. Attached shop front office.
2012:

This is a pair of two brick commercial buildings at 23 and 27 Pickering Street, Oke, which were built together and have in common curved parapet forms.

23 Pickering Street, which currently houses a Foodworks store, once housed two small shops, whose recessed entries survive. One door is six-panelled, the other is a more recent pair of glazed timber doors. The four shop windows have metal frames (overpainted) and highlights with small leaded panes. The window and entry bays are divided by simple pilasters, lending a classical influence. The entire building is finished in a smooth render, with delicate mouldings along the cornice line and around the top edge of the large and distinctive semi-circular arched parapet. The arch terminates with an Art Nouveau-influenced scroll. It appears that the roof behind the parapet has a matching barrel-vault form.

The shop windows have been covered with internal signage. A modern flat-roof extension has been made to the east side of the building, effectively doubling its size.

27 Pickering Street, which houses the office of the *North West Express* newspaper, has a red brick facade (overpainted) with rendered pilasters to the corners and framing the shop window and narrow recessed entry. The front door is six-panelled with a highlight. Although the door appears to be quite old fashioned for the period of the building, a similar door is at no.23. The front window is metal framed (overpainted) with similar highlights to those at No 23. The parapet sits above a rendered cornice moulding. It is only half the width of the facade and features an arch between two small piers. The roof is gable-fronted (concealed behind the parapet), and has at least one round metal roof ventilator, which may indicate a former public use for the building.

Previous Statement Significance

The Foodworks and NW Express Office are of potential social and historic significance as reflecting the early history and community life in a remote Mallee country town. Further historical research is required to document the history of the community hall and newspaper office.

Comparative Analysis

The former Ouyen Memorial RSL rooms is similar to that of the former Lancashire House at 23-27 Pickering Street. Both buildings have a number of other similarities in the simple 1920s parapet detailing with curved profile. Both buildings have had changes to their facades but still retain enough evidence of their stylistic origins.

Matchett's Store in Cregan Street Walpeup, and some shops in Reed Street in Murrayville also provide good examples of interwar shops.

Statement of Significance

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

What is significant?

The former Lancashire House, 23-27 Pickering Street, Ouyen, a pair of single-storey brick commercial buildings, to the extent of their c1924 fabric.

The eastern half of No 23 (currently Foodworks) is not significant.

How is it significant?

The former Lancashire House is of local historical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The pair of buildings are of historic significance by illustrating the major development in Ouyen that took place in the 1920s. No 27 is also significant for its associations for nearly twenty years with local newspaper the *North West Express* which has served the region since 1918. (Criterion A)

The pair of buildings are of architectural significance as a representative of 1920s commercial architecture. No 23 is distinguished by the Art Nouveau scroll detail to its large semi-circular parapet and the barrel-vaulted iron roof behind it. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Former Doctors Residence and Surgery
Address 36 Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type House
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

On March 13th 1911 the Ballarat Diocesan Trustees purchased allotment 4 of section 8 in the township of Ouyen for £50 (LV:V04039,F719: Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923). On April 14th 1920 Albert Robert Thorne, medical practitioner, purchased the estate and built a red brick residence (Pole 2006:102). On July 21st the same year the estate was purchased by Katherine Oke (LV:V04039,F719). The titles note that Thomas Victor Nihill, medical practitioner, purchased the estate on December 31st 1942. On December 3rd 1959, Thomas Victor Nihill died and probate to his will, the estate was granted to Edward Mallee Tobin, solicitor, and John Patrick Nihill, garage employee (LV:V04039,F719). Monica Florence Nihill, widow, took ownership of 36 Pickering street on July 4th 1961 (LV:V04039,F719).

Pole suggests that Mr Ayton built the former doctor's residence and surgery at 36 Pickering street (Pole, 2012 per. comm., February 15th). Arriving into Ouyen early in 1910, Ayton was noted to be 'a very good tradesman ...having built many of the older houses in Ouyen' (see per comm., Frances (nee Ayton) Ayton in Pole 2005:15).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.
Land Victoria (LV), Certificate of Title, LV: V04039,F719.

Pole, M. 2006. Who Were They? The Naming of Ouyen's Streets and Parks. Sunnyland Press, Mildura, Victoria.
Township of Ouyen Parish Plan 1923, Department of Lands Survey, Melbourne 16.10.1923.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Red Brick interwar Spanish bungalow. Elements include both house and garden (containing large palm tree on the western boundary).

2012:

The former doctor's residence and surgery of c1920 at 36 Pickering Street, Ouyen, is a substantial California Bungalow. It is constructed of red brick with yellow-brown cement dressings (unpainted). It sits behind a generous front yard, traversed by a curved path from the east side, with a mature Canary Island Palm at the west corner of the house. Next to it are tall, unpainted roughcast-rendered gateposts with red brick tops, possibly indicating the original entrance location.

The house has a long transverse gable roof with a dentillated brick chimney and a wide projecting gabled bay on the west side of the facade. This bay is well detailed with half timbering to the gable, a triangular eaves bracket on one side, and shingled hoods to the two pairs of nine-over-one sash windows. One hood extends upwards to the verge. This pair of windows has a box frame, resting on brick corbels. The other pair is set into the wall above an unpainted cement sill. A continuous band of unpainted render crosses this part of the house at window lintel level.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

A verandah stretches across the other part of the facade, with a brick arch marking the entry. The arch has heavy roughcast buttresses. The verandah roof is nearly flat and has decorative rafter ends.

The front verandah has been infilled with a timber sleepout, but this appears to be reversible. The roof has recently been replaced with red Colourbond, and the timber shingles to the window hoods also replaced recently. The woven wire front fence and matching gate are new, but appropriate in style to the house.

The house is very well maintained. The bases of the gateposts need patching of the roughcast render.

Previous Statement Significance

The house at 36 Pickering Street is a good example of a substantial early twentieth century house. Of red brick, the house has a well detailed chimney and a brick arched verandah. The palm tree is a notable addition to the garden. This house will have historic and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

Private houses make up a small number of the places in this study, and nearly all are located in Ouyen. 36 Pickering Street is the best example of an interwar bungalow in the study area because of its integrity and distinctive design.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former doctor's residence and surgery, 36 Pickering Street, Ouyen, a brick California Bungalow, to the extent of its c1920 fabric, as well as the mature Canary Island Palm in the front garden and rendered gate posts.

The enclosure of the front verandah is not significant.

How is it significant?

The former doctor's residence and surgery is of local historical, architectural and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former doctor's residence and surgery is of historic significance as a highly representative example of Ouyen's 1920s residential development. (Criterion A)

The former doctor's residence and surgery is of architectural and aesthetic significance as an excellent example of a 1920s California Bungalow which is highly intact and retains details such as a buttressed verandah arch, and timber shingled hoods above windows, and one that retains its garden setting complete with Canary Island palm and roughcast rendered gate posts. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

Yes

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

Yes Canary Island Palm

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes Gate posts

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

Yes

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen Tyre Service
Address 8 Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Other - Commercial
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Place history

Edwin Harry 'Ted' Arnold came to Ouyen in 1913 and purchased the Hughes General Store, on the corner of Hughes and Farrell streets. Fires destroyed this building, along with many in Farrell Street in 1923. Relocating across the railway line, Ted opened up Arnold's Model Store on the corner of Rowe and Pickering streets soon after.

It has been suggested that the Ouyen Type Service was built ca. 1924 by local building contractor Mr E. Lancashire (M. Pole, pers. comm., 2012) Mr Lancashire owned a wood yard and building supply yard and possibly built many of the brick buildings in Ouyen during the late 1910s to early 1920s.

'Dad employed twelve people in his Model Store, three of whom were family. He was the biggest employer of labour in Ouyen. Dad had a power plant at his store. In fact, the whole complex was big and probably too ambitious for the times. In the big front window of the shop was an electric train which went continuously; with stations, signal, tunnels, the lot, and it was a great source of satisfaction to young folk' (Pole 2006:11).

The 1929 Great Depression affected many business owners and farmers across the Mallee. The Arnold's, like many business owners in Ouyen, had granted farmers credit, hoping that when the depression ended, they would be able to repay their debts. These 'better times' never eventuated. Arnold's Model Store closed soon after, sometime in 1937 (Pole 2006:12).

After the closure of Arnold's Model Store, a number of business traded from the Rowe and Pickering street building: Bruce Johnston's corner store and second hand furniture and auctioneer (from 1938 to 1947); Britt's Garage (from 1947 to 1949); S.A. & W.D. Healy Garage (from 1949 to 1967); Washington Motors (from 1967 to 1970); W.K. Gniel Motors (from 1970 to 1983); Ouyen Tyre Power (from 1983 to 1987); Ouyen Tyre Service, K.&S. Barry (from 1987 to 1996); G.&J. Barnes (from 1996-2007); S. Ovenden (from 2007).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Pole, M. 2006. *Who Were They? The Naming of Ouyen's Streets and Parks*. Sunnyland Press, Mildura, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.1 River towns

Description

Physical Description

The former Arnold's Model Store, now Ouyen Tyre Service, is a large commercial building situated on Pickering Street at the south-west corner with Rowe Street.

While only single-storey in height, its bulk is almost doubled by a high parapet along the two street frontages. The two parapets each have a triangular pediment at the centre, above a flat cornice band with brick dentils. The two parapets are bracketed by pairs of truncated 'pilasters' at either end, subdividing the parapets into three sections, each with a recessed panel for painted signage. While the Pickering Street frontage is about three times as long as that facing Rowe Street, all of the same parapet details are seen on the Rowe St elevation just in a compressed format.

An original recessed shop entry survives on Rowe Street. The floor is paved with red and black tessellated tiles with red brick edging. There is a pair of glazed timber entry doors beneath a highlight (overpainted).

There are numerous banks of four square highlight windows along both facades, which were once located above a simple timber verandah and provided additional light to the interior. (Many have since been overpainted.) Three metal-framed shop windows survive on the Pickering Street elevation, and another on Rowe Street.

Another two shop windows have been completely bricked over, as has the original central entrance on Pickering Street. Other alterations include the rendering of the shopfront level (which may have been tiled originally), removal of the verandah, and the overpainting of the bricks in unsympathetic corporate colours.

Previous Statement Significance

Ouyen Tyre Service was formerly Arnold's model Store. The building has been altered substantially and has been painted in corporate colours which disguises its origins. The window openings of the original store are just visible. Conservation guidelines are needed for this place. It will have historic and social values, and aesthetic values could be recovered through conservation measures.

Comparative Analysis

The 1920s provide a number of examples of commercial buildings in Ouyen, Murrayville, Underbool and Walpeup . The row of shops at 11-17 McKenzie Street Murrayville (1922-1930) are a particularly fine row, as is Matchett's Store, Cregan Street Walpeup (1918) and Fishlocks General Store (1926) Cotter Street Underbool. In Ouyen Gilpins Furniture Store (ca.1936) at 34-36 Oke Street is the most intact and decorative of all the commercial buildings of this Inter-war period. A number of small and large commercial buildings in the study area retain elements of their shop front windows and other decorative features, and by comparison Arnold's is less intact, however it is considered that there is enough

building fabric remaining to reconstruct the former appearance of this large landmark building.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Arnold's Model Store, on the south-west corner of Pickering and Rowe streets, Ouyen, to the extent of the 1920s fabric. It was constructed for Ted Arnold, who was one of the biggest Ouyen employers during the 1920s.

How is it significant?

The former Arnold's Model Store is of local historic, aesthetic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former Arnold's Model Store is of historical significance as a tangible illustration of the prosperity of Ouyen during the 1920s, when many of the major buildings in town were constructed, which can be seen in its large scale. (Criterion A)

The former Arnold's Model Store is of aesthetic significance as a prominent landmark in the Ouyen commercial district, creating a gateway to Pickering Street together with the former State Savings Bank across the street. (Criterion E)

The former Arnold's Model Store is of architectural significance as a representative example of a substantial 1920s commercial building with decorative parapets facing Rowe and Pickering streets, a surviving recessed entry to Rowe Street, as well as display windows and highlights along both elevations. (Criterion D)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Hotel Victoria
Address 22 Rowe Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Hotel
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Hotels and inns

The following is an extract from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:73):

Early inns in the district provided accommodation, food and alcoholic refreshment to travellers, and communities a meeting place. The first inns established in the area were along stock routes and at river crossings. A hotel, for example, was licensed at Cowanna on the River Murray in 1870. De-licensing of hotels in townships in the period 1910-20 often meant the closure of the attached general store, a process impacted on again with the establishment of supermarkets in larger towns in the 1960s.

A Settlers Club opened in 1893 in Mildura and operated at premises on the corner of Eighth Street and Orange Avenue until 1993. Despite the consensus that Mildura was to be a temperance town, in August 1894 the Mildura Working Man's Club opened in Madden Avenue to provide entertainment and 'teas' to its members. In January 1895, a liquor licence was granted to the club, and even though vigorously opposed, was renewed at the turn of the century. The present site was acquired in 1908. In 1935, an upper floor was added. The club has, purportedly, the longest bar - 91.5 metres - in the world. The Mildura Club for professional gentlemen opened in 1890. Early meetings were at the Coffee Palace (later the Grand Hotel) until new premises were built at 29 Deakin Avenue. The present building, at the corner of Deakin Avenue and Ninth Street, was erected in 1920. William Chaffey was a long-serving president of the club up until his death in 1926.

Place history

In March 1919 the Ouyen City Council approved a request by Mrs Emily Kate Busset to build a new hotel in Rowe Street, Ouyen. Conceived in partnership with Councillor George Dickson Brown, the hotel nearly didn't eventuate, as a dispute broke out between the two over building plans and progress. Finally, the court granted the required liquor license and at 3pm on Saturday December 20th 1919 the Hotel Victoria opened.

Built in the Federation style, the scale of the hotel was grander than anything built before it. At the hotel's official opening, the structure comprised forty-eight rooms, two dining rooms, six bathrooms, a parlour, reading and writing rooms and a parking garage for hire cars (Carroll 2009:58, and Opie 1975:5).

The majestic two story hotel was the first hotel in Ouyen to legally sell liquor, with 'a wide range of beers, stouts and spirits ... available to bona fide travellers after 6pm' (Carroll 2009:58). Despite the efforts of the Temperance supporters, who did not believe in the consumption of alcohol, the hotel gained popularity and went from strength to strength - leaving the Temperance Hotel, the Ouyen Hotel and the Coffee Palace feeling the brunt of dwindling patronage.

In December 1920 the hotel's license was transferred to Mr. James Joseph Parker for £16,000 and was recorded to be the largest property transaction in the Mallee. By March 1922 the hotel had expanded. The extensions were designed by architect I. G. Anderson and contracted to Mr H. Brown, and included fifteen extra bedrooms, along with two bathrooms and a private bar, all built in brick (Herald 1939). In 1922, the Hotel Victoria introduced another 'first' into Ouyen - the newly developed 'sewerage system'. The sewerage system, designed by Montgomerie Neislon, Professor of Hygiene from Turin, radically changed the manner in which sewerage was managed, with the Victorian Sewerage Board noting the system 'to be the simplest, smallest, least expensive and most efficient' (Carroll 2009:62).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

In 1926 the directors of the Mallee Hotels Ltd spent approximately £10,000 improving the Hotel's facilities. In addition to the construction of two lock up shops and a brick garage, the bar was extended (with the walls having a mosaic dado). The hotel frontage was also extended by 30 to 40 feet (The Ouyen Mail, April 21st 1926).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.

Context, 2009. *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Opie, W.B. 1975. *Back to Ouyen, June 9/16, 1975*. Back to Ouyen Committee, Victoria.

Herald, 30th August 1939 (RVIA Press Cuttings, 1939).

The Ouyen Mail, April 21st 1926.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.7 Hotels and inns

Description

Physical Description

2009: 2 storey red brick hotel with iron lace decorated verandahs. Set adjacent to the railway line.

2012:

Hotel Victoria, 22 Rowe Street, Ouyen, is a very large two-storey brick commercial building with a double-height verandah across the entire facade.

The southern seven bays comprise the original extent of the hotel of 1919, with the four northern bays added c1930. As the building in its original form had a verandah, these elements could be reused for the extension, allowing the verandah details of the four new bays to precisely match those of the original.

Apart from the verandah with its chamfered posts, geometric cast-iron verandah friezes and brackets, and the Victorian-style upper-level cast-iron balustrade, the parapet is the main decorative feature. It is red brick with render dressings and signage panels. At either end is a small curved bay flanked by small piers. Below it is a round louvered vent with a render keystone. The centre of the parapet is marked by a rendered bay with a curved top with the words 'Hotel Victoria' on either side. At its centre is a round louvered vent with four keystones. (NB: This vent would have originally been the end bay of the hotel, prior to the extension.)

The bar is located in the three central bays of the ground floor, with large windows beneath a row of three highlights. The south end of the ground floor, and the upper floor, has domestic two-over-two sash windows. There is a vehicular entrance through the ground floor at the north end of the building. A cellar door and grating survives on the footpath.

Most of the ground floor has a green tile dado, with black and white accents near the top. They contrast with the bright red glaze of terracotta columns and wall tiles to the lounge entrance. This recessed entry has a wealth of tile colours and patterns: speckled grey to the plinth, red to the body, with bands of multicoloured geometric tiles near the top. The lounge doors also appear to be original. The double doors are timber framed with an S-curve at the bottom, and brass hardware.

The hotel is highly intact and in good condition. The only changes noted are the new bottle shop entrance at the north end. The interior retains some features from the works carried out in 1926 including glazed doors with etched glass to the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

dining room, and a main staircase of polished timber. The upper floors were not accessed.

Behind the hotel, at the north end, is a simple garage, clad in corrugated iron, and a small residence of the interwar period. It has red brick walls and a gabled hip roof clad in corrugated iron. The small front porch, which faces Rowe Street, has a hip roof and brick piers. There is an external chimney with a soldier course at the top.

Previous Statement Significance

Hotel Victoria is a prominent part of the streetscape and comprises a large Federation style hotel notable for its two storey verandah and decorative brick and render parapet. (the verandah has possibly been rebuilt?) The design makes use of circular motifs on the parapet, and includes panels of render for advertising signs. The hotel is flanked either side by single storey commercial buildings.

The Hotel Victoria is of potential historic and architectural significance as a substantial commercial building serving the early Mallee town of Ouyen (Criterion A, D, E.).

Comparative Analysis

Of the three hotels assessed as part of this study, the Hotel Victoria is the largest and most intact. Although all have been built c.1920 and reflect similar two storey form and styling, both Murrayville and Underbool hotels have had significant changes to their verandahs and Underbool has been damaged by fire. The Hotel Victoria is also the most decorative with the distinctive and colourful tiling around the entry doors.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Hotel Victoria, 22 Rowe Street, Ouyen, a very large two-storey brick Edwardian hotel with a double-height verandah across the entire facade, to the extent of its 1919 fabric as well as the matching c1930 extension on the north side. Elements of the interior dating to the c.1926 refurbishment are significant.

The small interwar brick residence at the rear of the hotel and the iron-clad garage are also significant.

How is it significant?

Hotel Victoria is of local historical, architectural, aesthetic and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Hotel Victoria is of historic and social significance as the first licensed hotel to open in Ouyen, whose popularity is demonstrated by a near doubling of its size in the 1930s. It has been an important centre of community for over 90 years. (Criteria A & G)

Hotel Victoria is of architectural significance as an example of a transitional building with a Federation style verandah with chamfered timber posts and cast-iron friezes and brackets which emulate timber, combined with a parapet demonstrating a classical influence which became popular in the 1920s. The residence at the rear is a representative example of a simple c1930 brick house. (Criterion D)

Hotel Victoria is of aesthetic significance as a landmark building by its size and prominent location and is highly intact, retaining original joinery details, a green tiled dado, and red-glazed terracotta columns and tiles to the lounge entrance. Elements of the interior including the etched glass doors and the main staircase are also of significance. (Criterion E)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	Yes
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes garage & residence at rear
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen RSL Memorial Club Rooms
Address 36 Rowe Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Other - Community Facilities
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Thematic context

The Returned Service League (RSL) was formed in June 1916 by troops returning from World War 1. The League was formed to care for the sick, wounded and needy among those who had served and provided pensions, medical attention, homes and suitable employment for ex-service men and women and their dependants (The Returned Service League n.d). The first Victorian RSL Sub-Branches were created in 1917-1918 (Returned and Services League of Australia (Victorian Branch) 2009:4).

Place history

The Ouyen RSL sub branch was formed in 1920, with Jim Clarke as first President. In 1925 Loveridge and McCraw were appointed to represent the Branch on the Memorial Committee (Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre 2011).

By the late 1940s the Ouyen community still felt the effects of the war and returned service men and women relied on the RSL for support. To combat the need for more space, in 1948 the RSL purchased two former business premises in Rowe Street and knocked the wall down between them -creating one large clubroom (Carroll 2009:153). The clubroom opened October 15th 1955 (Carroll 2009:193).

The buildings purchased by the RSL in 1948 included J.H. Hutchinson Ladies and Gents Tailor and Mercer (32a Rowe street) and The Ouyen and North West Express Pty Ltd Offices (32b Rowe street) (Carroll 2009:153; Ouyen History Resource Centre 2011). Title records indicate Ivy Margaret Hutchinson purchased 32a Rowe street on March 4th 1920 and 32b Rowe street on July 8th 1924 (LV:V3618,F952). By July 1925 The Ouyen Express Proprietary Limited were registered as proprietors of number 32b (LV:V3618,F952).

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.

Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.

Land Victoria (LV), Certificate of Title, LV: V3618,F952.

Ouyen District History and Genealogy Centre, Returned Service League note, viewed November 2011.

The Returned Service League n.d. *The Formation of the RSL*, viewed January 31st 2012

<<http://www.rslvic.com.au/>>.

Returned and Services League of Australia (Victorian Branch) 2009, *Productivity Commission Issue Paper RSL Submission*, March 2009.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.3 Halls and meeting places

Description

Physical Description

2009: Red brick hall and club rooms facing Rowe Street.
2012:

The former Ouyen RSL Memorial Club Rooms, 36 Rowe Street, Ouyen, were housed in a pair of 1920s brick shops.

The shop building is quite simple in form. It has a decorative parapet (overpainted) with brick piers, a central arch, and brick dentils along the top. It has a suspended verandah across the two shops (which has lost its cladding). It appears that the two shops were both entered via a central doorway. On either side was a large shop window with four-pane highlights. The stallboards and window surrounds have dark red glazed tiles. There is a faded painted sign on the north side wall, which read 'Ouyen Express'.

A number of alterations were made in converting the shops into an RSL hall. The plate-glass shop windows were removed and replaced with tapestry-brick infill. The doorway was also infilled and a painted sign put on it. The name of the venue was also painted on the signage panels of the parapet. On the south side of the building, there is an entrance porch with clinker brick piers and an arched parapet, echoing that of the facade, which is covered in timber shingles. A brick gatepost was built with a decorative mild steel gate, and an Italian Cypress planted. The doors and porch appear to date from the 1920s however the fence probably dates from the 1940s.

The building requires urgent maintenance, particularly to repair and reclad the verandah.

Physical Condition

Canterlevered awning is in poor condition, lost covering. The red brick club rooms facing Rowe Street are in good condition.

Previous Statement Significance

The Ouyen RSL Memorial Club rooms are of likely historical and social significance as demonstrating the close connection with world wars one and two through high levels of service in the armed forces and the importance of soldier settler schemes in agricultural settlement of the Victorian Mallee. (Criterion A, D, G)

Comparative Analysis

The former Ouyen Memorial RSL rooms is similar to that of the former Lancashire House at 23-27 Pickering Street. Both buildings have a number of other similarities in the simple 1920s parapet detailing with curved profile. Both buildings have had changes to their facades but still retain enough evidence of their stylistic origins.

Matchett's Store in Cregan Street Walpeup, and some shops in Reed Street in Murrayville also provide good examples of

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

interwar shops. Both of these buildings have been assessed to be of local significance as part of precincts.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Ouyen RSL Memorial Club Rooms, 36 Rowe Street, Ouyen, housed in a pair of 1920s brick shops. The c1940s pedestrian gates and Italian Cypress are also of significance.

How is it significant?

The former Ouyen RSL Memorial Club Rooms are of local historical, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former Ouyen RSL Memorial Club Rooms are of historical and social significance as tangible evidence of the important role that the Returned Servicemen's League played following the two world wars, particularly in the Mallee due to the Soldier Settlement schemes and the high levels of enlistment from these areas. The RSL served as a community centre for the men (and women) who had served from 1948 until the early 1960s, and despite a variety of uses since then, the RSL signage on the parapet has been retained. (Criteria A & G)

The pair of brick shops, later converted by the RSL, are of architectural significance as a representative example of simple 1920s commercial buildings with a rear residence. (Criterion D)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes Cypress
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes gates
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve
Address Scott Road (off Patchewallock - Ouyen Road) OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Flora species site or area
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Place history

Timberoo - Reserve for the Growth and Preservation of Timber, in addition to and adjoining the land temporarily reserved therefore by Order of the 13th January 1913, also excepted from occupation for residence or business [etc] allotment 31, County of Karkaroccs, Parish of Timberoo. (Government Gazette, Issue 72, Page 2160).

The Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve was established on May 5th 1979. It is a nature conservation reserve of 1229.1ha and is managed by Parks Victoria (D.Christian 2012 per. comm., February 20th).

Historically the Timberoo Lake (later called the Walpeup Lake) filled with the annual winter channel flow was a popular camping and recreation site. When Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water - GWM completed installing pipelines throughout the region filling of the lake was no longer viable and so it has remained dry since, despite a local committee installing a catchment area which has proved to be unsuccessful (D.Christian, Parks Victoria, 2012 per. comm., February 20th).

Sanctuary for Native Game established 1 August 1928:

Parish of Timberoo, County of Karkaroc, containing 3,998 acres, more or less, being allotments 21,24,25,29,30, and 31 in the said Parish, and known as the Timberoo Timber Reserve (Government Gazette Issue 106, Page 2079).

Sources

Context. 2007. *Victorian Water Supply Heritage Study, Volume 1: Thematic Environmental History*. Report prepared for Heritage Victoria.

Nickolls, J. and A. Angel, 2002, *Mallee Tracks, A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*. Van Gastle Printing, South Australia.

Victorian Government Gazette, Feb 05, 1964 Issue 9 Page 294. Parks, gardens, reserves, etc.: Appointments, Walpeup Lake.

Department of Sustainability and Environment, Wyperfeld Head Ranger, D.Christian pers. comm, 20 February 2012.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.8 Leisure and recreation

Description

Physical Description

The Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve is an area of high plant diversity. The Reserve contains fine examples of the threatened semi arid woodland species Slender Cypress Pine (*Callitris gracillis*), and Buloke (*Allocasuarina luemannii*) along with associated plant assemblages.

The Lake area is an artificially created horseshoe basin formed with a peninsula from which the area could be enjoyed as a recreational place for swimming and boating. Since the water pipeline has replaced the open irrigation channels, Walpeup Lake is no longer filled with water and the lake bed is becoming reafforested. The remains of an irrigation channel crosses the Reserve.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

There are the archaeological remains of a Forester's settlement including scattered artefacts, remnants of fence line and railings, stumps etc. The house has been moved to Ouyen. (Pers.comm. Terry Scott).

Plant species found within Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve include: Hakea Wattle (*Aracid hakeoides*), Buloke (*Allocasuarina luehmannii*) Buloke Mistletoe (*Amyema linophylla subsp. orientale*), Capeweed (*Arctotheca calendula*), Baldder Stalbush (*Atriplex vesicaria*), Smilax Australis (*Austral sarsaparilla*), Bristly Wallaby-grass (*Austrodanthonia setacea*), Feathr Spear-grass (*Austrostipa elegantissima*), Rough Spear-grass (*Austrostipa scabra*), Slender Cypress-pine (*Callitris grailis supsp. murrayensis*), Pigface (*Carpobrotus spp.*), Oil Mallee (*Eucalyptus oleosa supsp. aleosa*), Grey Mallee (*Eucalyptus socialis*), Minnie Daisy (*Minuria leptophylla*), Stork's Bill (*Pelargonium spp.*), Weeping Pittosorum (*Pittosporum angustifloium*), Pussy Tails (*Plilotus spp.*), Woody Cassie (*Senna form taxon 'petiolaris'*) and New Holland Daisy (*Vittandine spp.*) (sourced from D.Christian, Parks Victoria, 2012 per. comm., 20 February).

Previous Statement Significance

Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve of of potential historical significance as a former timber reserve where settlers could cut pine for farm fences. (Criteria A, C)

Statement of Significance

Walpeup Lake and the Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve encompass heritage and biodiversity values. Within the Timberoo forest are the remains of open irrigation channels that demonstrate aspects of the Wimmera Mallee Domestic and Stock Water Supply System, and their redundancy once the Northern Pipeline was built. The area also contains a reconstructed log tank (also assessed as part of this study) and house, fence line, stumps, and timber railings for the Forester appointed to look after the timber resources of the Reserve.

Walpeup Lake encompasses historic and social heritage values for its former role as part of the Wimmera Mallee Domestic and Stock Water Supply System and for its recreational value to the community as a place for camping, boating and picnics.

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Scotts Block
Address Scott Road OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Other - Farming & Grazing
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Place history

One of the original 640 acre blocks, Scott's Block was purchased by Richard and Katherine Scott in 1910. The original farmhouse was destroyed by fire and its location is unknown. The second house was built soon after and would have been of typical design, with central passage and out buildings (T Scott, pers. comm., 21 February 2012).

Scott's Block is the site of the second homestead.

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria

Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 29-36.

Nicolls Jand Angel, A 2003 *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, South Australia.

T Scott, pers. comm., 21 February 2012.

Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

4.1 Agricultural settlement of the Mallee

Description

Physical Description

2009: Original 640 acre block purchased by the Scott Family with ruined house site, cellar, farm machinery, woolshed. Windbreak planting of Eucalyptus Cactus hedge. Wheat paddocks.

2012:

The farm site of the former farmhouse and associated structures known as 'Scott's block' is situated away from the road and accessed through farmland. Once arriving at the site it is marked by a shearing shed of timber construction with galvanized cladding. Peppercorn trees (*Schinus Molle*), prickly pear and a windbreak of eucalypts mark the farm area. An

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

underground cellar dug into the earth and constructed of timber poles remains, however the homestead has been demolished.

The cellar is largely intact, consisting of a rectangular pit lined with timber poles set into the earth, and roofed with sloping poles attached to a ridge. It is likely that the roof was also plastered with earth to seal gaps between the timbers. The cellars were designed to use the stabilising temperature of the earth to keep food cool.

Only two of these cellars were identified during fieldwork for the study but it is likely that there are additional ones remaining throughout the area.

Other structures on the site are a shearing shed and a wheel from a type of farm machinery, with home made interpretative sign.

Recommended Management

It is recommended that the half cellar be conserved through stabilisation of the timbers, and that the structure be photographically recorded.

Previous Statement Significance

Original 640 acre block purchased by the Scott Family with ruined house site, cellar, farm machinery, woolshed. Windbreak planting of Eucalyptus. Cactus hedge. Wheat paddocks.

Scott's block is of potential historical and archaeological significance as an early farm block which demonstrated the pattern of agricultural settlement of the Mallee. (Criterion A, B, C).

Comparative Analysis

Cooke's Cottage has a similar underground cellar and also retains the homestead and other outbuildings. It is considered to be a more complete example of an early farm complex.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

A part of Scott's Block comprising a house site, half cellar, farm machinery, woolshed and plantings of eucalypts and peppercorns is significant.

How is it significant?

Scott's block is of local historical, aesthetic and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Scott's block is one of the original 640 acre blocks purchased in 1910 by Richard and Catherine Scott and still owned by the Scott family. It represents one of the earliest closer settlement blocks in the Walpeup district. (Criterion A)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Scott's block is significant for the plantings and buildings that define the homestead site including a woolshed (built at a later date) and an underground half cellar of timber construction. (Criterion E) The half cellar is of technical significance for its vernacular construction system of poles and earth. (Criterion F) The plantings of eucalypts and peppercorns define the site in the landscape of open paddocks.

The site has potential archeological significance as the site of an earlier homestead. (Criterion C)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

Yes Eucalypts and peppercorns.

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Masonic Temple
Address 12 Scott Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Hall Masonic
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Thematic context

The Freemasons, since their establishment in 1717, have historically been 'a secular fraternal organisation, traditionally open only to men' committed to a 'system of morality, veiled in allegory and illustrated by symbols' (MacNulty 2006:9). The Freemasons of the British Empire and the English speaking world were characteristically non-political, secular but deistic, and committed to self-improvement and mutual aid. The Freemasons spread throughout the British Empire and the world made their organisation 'one of the first global institutional networks' (Harland-Jacobs 2007:10), and their involvement in civic and communal ritual made them an important agent in the cultural life of the empire:

Everywhere one went in the empire, one could witness Freemasons marching in processions, occupying prominent places in official ceremonies to greet and farewell imperial officials, and observing milestones in the life of the monarch. (Harland-Jacobs 2007:14)

The Freemasons shared common rituals and symbols which illustrated a common moral code. The fraternity also formed strong male bonds and 'used rituals to create a sense of community and blood ties' which were particularly important in colonising remote areas of the empire. The first recorded Masonic activity in Victoria was less than five years after the founding of Melbourne, at a public meeting on 23 December 1839 (Cumming 1992:48). By 1920, there were 232 lodges in Victoria belonging to the Independent Grand Lodges (Harland-Jacobs 2007:244).

Place history

The Ouyen Masonic Temple, No. 249 (also referred to as a lodge or hall), is the second oldest of the Temples in Northwest Victoria, second to its sponsor the Mildura Temple. It was founded on 2 June 1919 (Odgers 1987:12). These early meetings were held in the Shire Hall, until the petrol gas lamp exploded and damaged the hall in 1922. In 1923, the trustees of the lodge took out a title to a new site to enable the building of a new Masonic Temple. In 1987 the lodge had 60 members, and a register of 515 members throughout its history to that year (Odgers 1987:13).

Sources

MacNulty, W. K 2006. *Freemasonry: symbols, secrets, significance*, Thames & Hudson, London.

Harland-Jacobs, J. L. 2007. *Builders of Empire: Freemasons and British imperialism 1717-1927*, University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Cumming, G H. 1992. *Foundations of freemasonry in Australia*, West Pennant Hills, NSW.

Odgers, C. 1987. *One hundred years of Freemasonry in north-west Victoria*, Mildura, Vic : C. Odgers.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.3 Halls and meeting places

Description

Physical Description

Freemasonry is a system of morality veiled in allegory, illustrated by symbols and organized in lodges. Many Masonic lodges were designed by architects who were freemasons. Freemasonry was popular in both rural and metropolitan locations resulting in most towns having a Masonic temple by the 1930s. Symbolism in the lodges varied, but most were freestanding, symmetrical in plan and elevation, exhibiting a harmony of proportions based on an understanding of sacred geometry. Clerestory or lantern windows were always used in the lodge rooms. Symbols of classical derivation were used to decorate interior and exterior surfaces and this continued up until the 1960s in various forms, until Modern architecture tended to reform this tradition. (Goad & Willis ed. 2012:432-3)

The Masonic Temple is a landmark building located on the north-west corner of Pickering and Scott streets. It is a single-storey red brick building with a gabled hip roof clad in corrugated steel. In design it is fairly typical of an interwar Masonic lodge, with small, highset windows along the side elevations - to retain privacy for the rituals carried out inside, and a classically inspired facade.

The facade, which faces Scott Street, has a flat rendered parapet with raised lettering reading 'Masonic Temple'. Below it, the architectural details are limited to two windows of domestic size and proportion with blind arches above them, and a moulded stringcourse at lintel height. The window arches are filled with a cast-cement shell design, which is both unusual and well detailed.

There is a later brick extension at the rear, which is lower in height and has a skillion roof.

The two front windows have been boarded over. The building was standing empty in 2011, with one window broken. There has been some outward movement of the facade, as evidenced by repointed cracks and a tie rod.

Sources

Philip Goad and Julie Willis (ed.), 2012, *Encyclopaedia of Australian Architecture*

Comparative Analysis

A Masonic temple (1923) Reed Street, Murrayville is the only other example in the study area, and it is a red brick hall with neo-Classical front. Both buildings feature a decorative parapet and a relatively plain hall, following the Masonic tradition. Murrayville has also been assessed to be of local significance.

Statement of Significance

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

What is significant?

The Ouyen Masonic Temple, 12 Scott Street, Ouyen, to the extent of its 1920s fabric.

The skillion addition at the rear is not significant.

How is it significant?

The Ouyen Masonic Temple is of local historical, architectural, aesthetic and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Ouyen Masonic Temple is of historic significance as the home of the second lodge to be formed in North-west Victoria (in 1919), following the Mildura Lodge. The present building of 1923, provides tangible evidence of the development of Ouyen as a major district centre in the 1920s, as well as demonstrating the strength of the Masonic movement in Victoria in the first decades of the 20th century. (Criterion A)

The Ouyen Masonic Temple is of architectural significance as a representative example of an interwar Masonic temple with simple classical details, including an unusual and finely executed shell motif to the front windows. Its use is expressed in the high-set windows, which kept the inner chamber private. (Criterion D)

The Ouyen Masonic Temple is of aesthetic significance as a substantial brick building which is a visual landmark in Ouyen, situated at the corner of Scott and Pickering streets. (Criterion E)

The Ouyen Masonic Temple is of social significance as the centre of the local Masonic community from the 1920s until its recent closure. (Criterion G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Log Tank
Address Walpeup Lake Road (Crown land reserve) OUYEN **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Unknown Item Type
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was formed in 1910. The successor of the Victorian Water Supply Department, the Commission undertook the development of artesian bore supplies, catchment tanks and channel construction. With Alfred S. Kenyon appointed as engineer in charge, the Commission 'devised a method of water supply

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

to meet [the] needs, arising from that sub-region's particular characteristics' (Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012; Ward 1986: n.p). Ward notes that the development included the construction of bores to tap known sources of artesian water, catchment tanks, artificial catchments, channel water supplies and pipeline water supplies (Ward 1986: n.p).

The construction of large earth catchment tanks was requested by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission in areas where underground water was not found. These, the Commission noted, were only to be used as reserves against drought. By 1914 the Commission had put down 123 tanks. In areas where natural water catchments could not be constructed, namely due to the nature of the soil, 'ironclad catchments' were installed. Ironclad catchments, the term developed by Kenyon, were made from 'flat galvanised iron sheets laid on sloping ground and then turned up and clipped together' (Ward 1986: n.p). An average tank was to hold 65,000 gallons (Kenyon 1919: n.p). The first iron clad tank was constructed near Nowingi.

Pine log wells were developed within the Mallee (like the one at Timberoo). These were common as iron and other lining materials were expensive and hard to get. Timber log tanks remained in use from the 1870s until the 1930s. The timber of the native Murray Pine or Slender Cypress Pine (*Callitris Preisii*) is strong, straight and naturally termite resistant. Settlers cut logs into lengths of five feet (1.5m) to line the sandy walls of their wells which were often around 15 feet (5m) deep. Horse powered whims were built to raise the heavy buckets of water. This water was used for filling troughs for sheep and cattle. The troughs were also often made from pine trunks cut in half lengthwise and hollowed out (Timberoo Reserve Interpretative plaque Parks Victoria).

Place history

The log tank at Timberoo is located within the Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve. The Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve was established on May 5th 1979. It is a nature conservation reserve of 1229.1ha and is managed by Parks Victoria (D.Christian 2012 per. comm., February 20th). The Reserve contains fine examples of the threatened semi arid woodland species Slender Cypress Pine (*Callitris gracillis*), and Buloke (*Allocasuarina luemannii*) along with associated plant assemblages.

The pine log tank area and the now dry lake was formerly filled by the defunct Wimmera Mallee channel system. The tank was restored in the early 90's by the then committee of management. Historically the Timberoo Lake (later called the Walpeup Lake) filled with the annual winter channel flow was a popular camping and recreation site. When Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water - GWM completed installing pipelines throughout the region filling of the lake was no longer viable and so it has remained dry since, despite a local committee of installing a catchment area which has proved to be unsuccessful (D.Christian 2012 per. comm., February 20th).

The construction date of the log tank at Timberoo is unknown.

Sources

1904 'Land Available for Settlers.', *The Broadford Courier and Reedy Creek Times* (Broadford, Vic. : 1893 - 1916), 28 October, p. 5, viewed 1 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article59198449>.

Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012, viewed January 31st 2012 <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/kenyon-alfred-stephen-6936>.

Kenyon, A.S 1916. *The Story of the Mallee*. Melbourne.

Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. *Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site*. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

5 WATER SUPPLY

5.1 Domestic and stock supply

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Description

Physical Description

2009: Natural soak, wetlands nearby. Pine log well around 5 metres deep provided public water. Settlers built horse whims to raise the heavy buckets of water from the deep wells. Remained in use 1870s to 1930s.

Ranger (Lands Dept) Hut site. Occupied by ranger Ted Coburn, wife and children (Source: Irene Scott).
2012:

The log tank at Timberoo Forest Reserve is one of a large number of such tanks that existed throughout the Mallee. This tank has been substantially rebuilt with Murray Pine logs in the traditional manner and has an interpretative plaque at the site.

Archaeological Potential

No

Previous Statement Significance

The log tank in the Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve is of potential historic significance as a public water supply enabling the settlement of the Timberoo area of the Mallee. (Criterion A, C)

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The log tank (Timberoo water well), substantially rebuilt built in the Timberoo Forest Reserve is significant.

How is it significant?

The Timberoo water well is of local historic and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Timberoo water wells constructed of Mallee pine logs (*Callitris Preisii*) represent an economical use of local resources to store water from the 1870s to the 1930s. Timber log tanks remained in use from the pastoral settlement of the 1870s until the closer settlement of the 1930s. They represent a local technology adapted to the circumstances where materials were often in short supply and expensive. The tanks provided stock water, contributing to the development of agriculture in the Mallee. (Criterion A)

Timberoo water well is a representative example of a log tank, although the logs have been largely replaced. The interpretative plaque assists in understanding the manner in which water was raised to the surface by horse powered whims raising heavy buckets. (Criteria D & F)

Assessment Against Criteria

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

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Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Carina Lodge
Address Carina South Road PANITYA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Residence
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Place history

Original owners of Carina Lodge were the Englers but the property is now owned by the Schroeder family including Ron and Bev Schroeder, Mark Schroeder and Kara Lea. It was built c. 1908 when the land was first opened up for selection. It has been used in recent years as a restaurant and many local families have fond memories of functions at the house and in

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

the garden (Lindner, L. per comms.)

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS & SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

The homestead complex at Carina Lodge comprises a red brick house and outbuilding within a fenced garden setting. Beyond the driveway are farm sheds of contemporary construction. The house is set back a long way from the Ngallo South Road but faces it across a recently planted grove of olive trees. The garden is bordered with a low cyclone wire fence and has a boundary to the driveway of shrubs and trees including a row of sugar gums and a large palm tree to the front of the house. Carina Lodge was built c. 1908 and is designed with a projecting gable front and return verandah. The style is typical of late Victorian and Federation houses in urban areas but is unusual in remote rural areas, particularly as a brick house.

A joint in the brickwork indicates where the house has been extended in matching design, including the roofline, and a verandah has been added to two sides of the house. There is a well detailed brick chimney with corbelling to the top. The front elevation features paired double hung arch headed sash windows and modern glazed doors. The verandah has been replaced with a concrete deck and new timber posts. Unusually the house features a cellar accessed via steps from the side verandah. A modern carport has been added to the rear of the house.

Recommended Management

Carina Lodge would benefit from replacement of the front door if circumstances permit.

Previous Statement Significance

Carina Lodge is of potential historic significance as an early private residence on a rural block. It required further research on the history of the property.

Comparative Analysis

McKinnon's farmhouse on the Walpeup-Hopetoun Road is a similar substantial masonry farmhouse although it is in a much poorer condition than Carina Lodge.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The farmhouse Carina Lodge built c.1908 for the Engler family and its garden setting at Ngallo South Road, Panitya is significant to the extent of the c.1908 fabric, and the outbuilding. The attached carport at the rear of the house is not

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

significant.

How is it significant?

Carina Lodge built c.1908 for the Engler family, Ngallo South Road, Panitya is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Carina Lodge is an unusual brick Federation house featuring a gable front and return verandah and chimney with corbelling. The cellar is a notable feature of the house and one that has not been identified in any other properties. The garden is of significance for the mature palm tree.

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

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Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	No
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Panitya Oval, Home of the Ngallo Football Ground
Address Mallee Highway PANITYA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Football Ground
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS No

History and Historical Context

Thematic History

The Mallee and the River Murray provide diverse opportunities for recreation and leisure pursuits in the study area for both locals and tourists. These activities ranged from organised sports such as football and cricket played at recreation grounds, rifle range shooting, motor-cross and horse racing to more informal pursuits such as fishing, bird watching, picnicking, camping and walking.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Social gatherings on Sunday afternoons often took place on sand bars along the River Murray. Mildura's 'Floating Baths' on the River Murray were in operation by 1891. An initiative of Wally West, water was delivered via a channel from the Wimmera Mallee system to fill a natural depression north of Underbool for use as a lake and recreation area. Swimming also took place in channels. A swimming pool opened in the early 1930s in Ouyen. Public Olympic sized swimming pools were constructed across the region from the 1960s.

Sporting activities have played an important role in communities throughout the Rural City. Residents of the first settlements were quick to form sport teams and utilise available spaces until funds allowed the erection of permanent facilities or the setting aside of recreation reserves. A football line league comprised towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville railway line. Members were transported to matches by rail-motor vehicles. Bowling, croquet, golf and tennis clubs were established from the 1920s.

Locality History

The settlement of the Murrayville district began from the South Australian border in 1908 when the parishes of Mulcra and Carina were opened up for section, comprising 48 allotments - 40,000 acres gazette (530 applicants with the whole area allotted). These were followed by parts of the Parishes of Gunamalary and Ngallo in 1909.

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named after the Premier of Victoria at the time, John Murray. By 1911, the township comprised a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber and a lime kiln. The Murrayville Institute opened in 1911.

The town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen opened in 1912. In this year, the Murrayville Hotel opened. By 1916, two banks were in operation. A new post office building was erected in 1926. The Murrayville Power House was built in 1928. Bore water was supplied to the township from 1929. A number of halls served the township including the Masonic hall, the Institute hall and the privately owned Austral Hall; a public hall opened in 1957.

Place History

The sale of 8 half acre town blocks in Panitya took place at No. 1 Bore Panitya on June 16 1910. Panitya oval is in the Parish of Carina.

When land between the South Australian and Victorian border was being opened up during the early 1900s, sport became a very important social event for the new and developing communities. Football teams were formed very early on, and games were played between the 'border boys' from as early as 1908 (Oakley 1985:7). Football, as noted by Oakley, was 'all the rage . and in order to be in the fashion, we have formed a club and a match has been arranged with Pinnaroo for Saturday next to be played here, where we hope to have a large attendance of spectators from the surrounding district' (Oakley 1985:7).

In March 1956 the Club bought the changing room shed at a clearing sale in Cowangie for \$175, whereby it was promptly dismantled, numbered, moved and the reconstructed on the grounds at Panitya Oval. Oakley notes that 'a wonderful team effort amongst the supports of the Club resulted in "fine" changing rooms being erected' (Oakley 1985:25).

In June 1956 a new "lock up" afternoon tea shed was constructed. It was built from timber, (purchased for £11-9-3) and iron (purchased from Eudunda Farmers for \$12-15-p). A concrete floor was later added, as was a fuel stove, tank and a cabinet purchased from a clearing sale. With the sale of the Panitya Hall in 1958 for £387-5-9, the total was given to the Recreation Ground Committee. These funds were used to improve the oval facilities, for example the scrub was cleared so that cars could park around the oval (Oakley 1985:28).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Memorial gates were erected in 1959, in the memory of players and supports that had served in both wars. The gates cost \$130-11-8. Shower rooms were installed in the 1960s as well as a playground, with swings and a slippery dip. In 1962 a new scoreboard was erected on the eastern side of the ground and by 1964 new toilet blocks were built.

In 1985 The Ngallo Cub celebrated 75 years and in 2010 the Panitya oval came to life again for the centenary celebrations. The Mildura City Councils supported the locals in preparing the oval and its facilities for the centenary.

Sources

Ballinger, R., 2009. Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.

Lindner, J., 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007 - A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Published by the Murrayville Liaison Committee, Victoria.

Oakley, A., 1985. *75 Years of the Red and Blues: A History of the Ngallo Football Club, 1910-1985*. Pinnaroo, South Australia, Ngallo 75th Year Celebrations Committee.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.8 Leisure and recreation

Description

Physical Description

2009: Home of the Ngallo Football Club. Elements include memorial gates 'lest we forget', fenced football oval, sheds, planted trees. Also sign on fence at entrance 'Home of Ngallo Football Club - Ngallo Demons'

2012:

The Ngallo football ground is a recreation reserve with memorial entrance gates built of brick and wrought iron arch decoration with Lest We Forget . There is a commemorative plaque for the one hundredth year of the Ngallo Demons dedicated in 2010. The football sheds are corrugated iron open sided structures. Of particular interest are the two colourful painted signs, one for the Ngallo Demons and the other for the Pinnaroo tennis, netball and football club.
2012:

The entrance to the football ground is flanked by memorial gates comprising brick pillars, wrought iron gates and a wrought iron archway reading 'Lest We Forget'. Several corrugated iron sheds contain memorabilia in bright colours and graphics denoting the local football clubs. The football oval is partially encircled by vegetation, but otherwise the area is largely cleared.

Recommended Management

2012:

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

No other controls

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Previous Statement Significance

The Ngallo Football Ground is of potential historic and social value as an example of an early to mid twentieth century recreational pastime that was very popular on the Mallee family farms. (Criterion A, G)

Comparative Analysis

Blackburn Reserve in Ouyen is a more built up recreation reserve with many facilities, mostly of contemporary origin. No other recreation grounds formed part of the study area.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Panitya Oval, Home of the Ngallo Football Ground, at Panitya, is significant.

How is it significant?

The Panitya Oval, Home of the Ngallo Football Ground, is of local historic and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Panitya oval is of historic significance as it is where the first recreational activities, namely football, within the Parish took place. The Panitya Oval also represents the development of social entertainment and sporting facilities within the Mallee. The oval has provided entertainment, namely the watching and playing of football, to the people of Panitya and the surrounding Mallee country for over 100 years. (Criterion A)

The Memorial Gates at Panitya Oval are of historic significance, for they were built as a reminder of those that served in the wars. (Criterion A)

The Panitya Oval is of significance as it is the only remaining example of a recreational facility which was the center of social activities for small Mallee towns that are no more- Linga, Boinka, Tutye, Duddo, Danyo and Cowangie to name a few. (Criterion B)

The Panitya Oval has social significance as it is highly valued by the community and it holds strong social associations. Since settlement, community groups, and most recently the Panitya Social Committee, have raised funds to erect buildings and maintain the oval, demonstrating their connection to this place. (Criterion G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes Memorial gates.

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name No. 1 Bore
Address Panitya South Road PANITYA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Other - Utilities - Water
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

The first sale of Murrayville township allotments was held in 1910, the second in 1911, and the third in 1913. The town was named after the Premier of Victoria at the time, John Murray. By 1911, the township comprised a number of stores, a blacksmith and wheelwright, a coffee palace, plumber and a lime kiln. The Murrayville Institute opened in 1911.

The town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen opened in 1912. In this year, the Murrayville Hotel opened. By 1916, two banks were in operation. A new post office building was erected in 1926. The Murrayville Power House was built in 1928. Bore water was supplied to the township from 1929. A number of halls served the township including the Masonic hall, the Institute hall and the privately owned Austral Hall; a public hall opened in 1957.

Murrayville is promoted as the gateway to the Victorian outback. It continues to service its hinterland's population who are involved in the farming of grain and sheep as well as the growing of olives and potatoes watered by bores.

Domestic and stock water supply

The following is taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:35-39):

Away from the River Murray, water in the area of the Mallee that was to become the Rural City of Mildura was supplied by lake systems, swamps, soaks fed by springs, clay pans and the building of catchment channels to augment run off into tanks sunk earlier by squatters.

Engineer J. D. Derry, who accompanied Alfred Deakin on his 1885 American tour was instrumental in the formation of the Wimmera United Waterworks Trust. Derry devised a scheme to use the Wimmera, Yarriambiack, Dunmunkle and Richardson as distributaries. The Wartook Reservoir was completed in 1887, and a series of channels, weirs and tanks was laid out. This system eventually conveyed water to the south of the study area to the country of what was to become the Shire of Walpeup. In the northwest Mallee to which the Wimmera scheme could not supply water, in 1887 the Victorian Water Supply Department recommended the sinking of test bores in an effort to tap into underground water supplies. The first bore was No. 2 at Morton Plains. By 1897, efforts made to tap into artesian supplies in the Mallee were described as useless.

Public bores were sunk in 1910 at Boinka and Underbool, and in 1911 at Linga. Others were established in 1912 at Manpy, Daalko, Nyang, Underbool and Boinka. The bore at Boinka tapped into artesian water that rose above ground level. Water at the other bores was accessed by hand pumps, horse operated pumps and windmills. Bores were opened at Tutye, Duddo, Gongee, Boinka and Underbool in 1920. Water from these bores was often too saline for human consumption, so in 1929 farmers sunk their own bores in the parishes of Boinka, Manpy, Koona and Purnya. The bore established at Murrayville in the same year was connected to a deep well turbine pump, the first of its type in Australia. By 1930, the boundary of the area in which usable underground water could be accessed was well defined. Even with the establishment of bores and tanks, water trains were a feature of Mallee life until the late 1920s when the last delivered 200,000 gallons of water to Torrita in February 1928.

Under the SRWSC, over the period 1906-1936 a three-fold expansion in the area served by the Wimmera-Mallee scheme was achieved, with the total number of people served in the region growing from 12,000 to 52,000. In 1930-1, the Wimmera Mallee Water Supply's channel system was extended to supply the Underbool township and vicinity, and to the high country adjacent to Walpeup. It was officially opened in March 1943. However, approximately 500,000 acres of wheat growing country in the Mallee, mostly between Underbool and the South Australian border, remained dependent

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

on water supply from sub-artesian bores, with 109 of these controlled and maintained by the Commission.

Place history

The No. 1 Bore at Murrayville was sunk in May 1908 on the western boundary of the Parish of Carina. Water was struck at 245 feet (Lindner 2007:22 and 224; Kenyon 1916:22). On 16 July 1910 the sale of eight half acre town blocks took place at No. 1 Bore (where now the remains of the town of Panitya lie). On the same day 22 town blocks were sold in Murrayville. The development of Murrayville and Panitya began soon after (see 'Sale by Auction' image below). Both Murrayville and Panitya were gazetted on December 19th 1910 (*Victorian Gazette 1910:136*).

The Adelaide Advertiser noted that parcels of land at Panitya and Murrayville were 'the first Government land to be sold by auction at such a great distance from Melbourne (The Adelaide Advertiser 1910:11).

At Murrayville's centenary celebrations a plaque was erected at the site of this bore showing the first Murrayville and Panitya town blocks sold on 16 July 1910.

Sources

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Adelaide Advertiser.

Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012, viewed January 31st 2012 <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/kenyon-alfred-stephen-6936>. Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne. Context (2009), *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.

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Jocelyn Linder, personal communication, November 2008.

Linder, J (2007) *Murrayville 1910-2007*, published by the Murrayville Liasion Committee.

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

5 WATER SUPPLY

5.1 Domestic and stock supply

Description

Physical Description

2009: Shallow artesian water bore and windmill. One of many such bores along the Pinnaroo Ouyen railway line. Elements include tank, stand pipe, bore, windmill on flat ground alongside bore.

2012: The bore at Panitya South Road consists of an elevated galvanized iron tank on a metal stand, a stand pipe and an interpretative plaque. The tank is in a relatively poor condition.

Previous Statement Significance

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The development of the unsettled Mallee is closely associated with technical advances of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission established in 1910. Shallow artesian water bores made the Pinnaroo to Ouyen Corridor possible, augmented during the 1920s and 1930s by the development of specialised water catchment structures such as iron clad tanks.

Criterion A, C

Comparative Analysis

No.1 bore is one of a large number of bores sunk between 1911 and 1930 but is significant as an early example. As it was sunk three years earlier than the majority of bores, it may have been experimental, however this has not been conclusively determined.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The No.1 bore at Panitya South Road sunk in 1908 near the corner of the Mallee Highway Panitya is significant.

How is it significant?

The No.1 bore is of local historic and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

No.1 bore at Panitya is an early and representative example of a large number of bores sunk largely between 1911 and 1930 by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission to secure artesian water for the settler farmers of the Mallee. The successful sinking of the bore enabled the first sale of town allotments in Murrayville and Panitya, enabling the subsequent development of the townships. No.1 bore, along with the extensive exploration and infrastructure for water collection and supply was associated with the engineer Alfred S. Kenyon. (Criterion A & H)

No.1 bore contains typical elements found at each bore including a windmill, commonly manufactured by Alston, Comet or Southern Cross; a tank stand, of angle iron and a tank, of corrugated iron. It represents a significant engineering achievement by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission who devised a method of boring to tap known sources of artesian water appropriate to the region's characteristics. (Criterion F).

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Bugges public water tank
Address Baring Road PATCHEWOLLOCK **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Water Tank
Citation Date 2012





Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The opening up of the Mallee coincided with the extension of the Victorian railway network in all directions. In 1880 23 new lines were constructed and with the Octopus Act of 1884, Act No. 821, an additional 66 new lines were opened (Ward 1986: n.p). The extension of the rail network opened up the area to squatters and the development of runs and access to water became a concern. 'Native' wells, soaks and other catchments were developed and log tanks, iron tanks and excavated earth tanks were constructed (Broadford Courier and Reedy Creek Times 1904:5; Ward 1986: n.p).

The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was formed in 1910. The successor of the Victorian Water Supply

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Department, the Commission undertook the development of artesian bore supplies, catchment tanks and channel construction. With Alfred S. Kenyon appointed as engineer in charge, the Commission 'devised a method of water supply to meet [the] needs, arising from that sub-region's particular characteristics' (Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012; Ward 1986: n.p). Ward notes that the development included the construction of bores to tap known sources of artesian water, catchment tanks, artificial catchments, channel water supplies and pipeline water supplies (Ward 1986: n.p).

Along with the sinking of bores, the construction of large earth catchment tanks was requested by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission in areas where underground water was not found. By 1914 the Commission had put down 123 tanks. In areas where natural water catchments could not be constructed, namely due to the nature of the soil, 'ironclad catchments' were installed. Ironclad catchments, the term developed by Kenyon, were made from 'flat galvanised iron sheets laid on sloping ground and then turned up and clipped together' (Ward 1986: n.p).

Domestic and stock water supply

The following is taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:35-39):

Away from the River Murray, water in the area of the Mallee that was to become the Rural City of Mildura was supplied by lake systems, swamps, soaks fed by springs, clay pans and the building of catchment channels to augment run off into tanks sunk earlier by squatters.

Engineer J. D. Derry, who accompanied Alfred Deakin on his 1885 American tour was instrumental in the formation of the Wimmera United Waterworks Trust. Derry devised a scheme to use the Wimmera, Yarriambiack, Dunmunkle and Richardson as distributaries. The Wartook Reservoir was completed in 1887, and a series of channels, weirs and tanks was laid out. This system eventually conveyed water to the south of the study area to the country of what was to become the Shire of Walpeup. In the northwest Mallee to which the Wimmera scheme could not supply water, in 1887 the Victorian Water Supply Department recommended the sinking of test bores in an effort to tap into underground water supplies. The first bore was No. 2 at Morton Plains. By 1897, efforts made to tap into artesian supplies in the Mallee were described as useless.

Public bores were sunk in 1910 at Boinka and Underbool, and in 1911 at Linga. Others were established in 1912 at Manpy, Daalko, Nyang, Underbool and Boinka. The bore at Boinka tapped into artesian water that rose above ground level. Water at the other bores was accessed by hand pumps, horse operated pumps and windmills. Bores were opened at Tutye, Duddo, Gongee, Boinka and Underbool in 1920. Water from these bores was often too saline for human consumption, so in 1929 farmers sunk their own bores in the parishes of Boinka, Manpy, Koonaa and Purnya. The bore established at Murrayville in the same year was connected to a deep well turbine pump, the first of its type in Australia. By 1930, the boundary of the area in which usable underground water could be accessed was well defined. Even with the establishment of bores and tanks, water trains were a feature of Mallee life until the late 1920s when the last delivered 200,000 gallons of water to Torrita in February 1928.

Under the SRWSC, over the period 1906-1936 a three-fold expansion in the area served by the Wimmera-Mallee scheme was achieved, with the total number of people served in the region growing from 12,000 to 52,000. In 1930-1, the Wimmera Mallee Water Supply's channel system was extended to supply the Underbool township and vicinity, and to the high country adjacent to Walpeup. It was officially opened in March 1943. However, approximately 500,000 acres of wheat growing country in the Mallee, mostly between Underbool and the South Australian border, remained dependent on water supply from sub-artesian bores, with 109 of these controlled and maintained by the Commission.

Place history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Bugge's Public Tank was constructed by the former State Rivers and Water Supply Commission (Ward 1986:n.p).

Sources

1904 'Land Available for Settlers.', *The Broadford Courier and Reedy Creek Times* (Broadford, Vic. : 1893 - 1916), 28 October, p. 5, viewed 1 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article59198449>.
Context, 2009. *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.
Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. *Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site*. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES

4.6 Managing water resources

Description

Physical Description

A large basin defined by substantial earth embankments, although somewhat smaller than the agricultural examples located nearby on the Pine Plains Run in what is now Wyperfeld National Park. The tank, which lies directly to the south of Patchewollock-Baring Road is approximately 80m east west by c.70m north south.

The earth embankments are continuous on all sides, the only inlet into the basin being a concrete channel at its south west corner. This upstream end of this feature is tied into the surrounding ground level by two small wing walls and is obviously designed to catch flow from a wide gully in this direction. It appears to have been cast in a mould and is in good condition although erosion means that in places it sits proud of the surrounding ground and, being unsupported, it is therefore at risk of collapse. Ward (1986) records two such 'chutes' at this tank, but only one was observed during the recent survey.

A wooden gauge pole stands next to the concrete inlet channel, and a concrete engine block with six protruding bolts and an adjoined concrete plinth lies at the north western corner of the tank. This appears to have the initials 'J.N.' and the date '1944' carved into it.

Although the embankments are largely bare, a number of semi-mature trees and bushes attest to long term disuse, although lush green grass at the bottom of the basin suggest that the tank had held water recently.

Archaeological Potential

No

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Bugge's Public Tank is significant.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Bugge's Public Tank is of historic significance as a good example of the public tanks provided by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission on which early settlers relied for their water supply.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Cookes Cottage
Address Cooke Road TORRITA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Cottage
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria
Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 29-36.
Nicolls Jand Angel, A 2003 *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, South Australia
Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

6.5 Living in Country towns

Description

Physical Description

Cooke's cottage and associated outbuildings are associated with the establishment of one of the first farm blocks dating to c.1911. The complex of buildings is situated on a small rise away from the current farmhouse. The group comprises a small galvanized iron cottage, two outbuildings of vertical Murray Pine slabs and a half cellar dug into the ground.

The setting includes Mallee bushland and some peppercorn trees. The cottage is built with two rooms under a gable roof with a kitchen and bathroom at the rear under a skillion roof. There are three distinctive chimneys of sheet metal, each set on brick bases with round flues. The windows are timber multi-paned sashes and the door has 4 panels. The timber frame is clad externally with horizontal galvanized iron and internally with a combination of materials including pressed metal, hessian, wallpaper and timber lining boards. The wall structure of upright poles used as studs is visible as wall linings are removed to some walls. Interior features such as a timber fire surround and cast iron oven remain.

No other settler's cottages of this first period of settlement have been identified in the study, and it is rare to find one surviving, let alone in as good a condition as Cooke's. The building has been maintained and furnished by the Cooke family.

The flat roofed outbuildings are simple lean-to structures with pole uprights and vertical slab cladding. The half cellar consists of a rectangular pit lined with timber poles set into the earth, and roofed with sloping poles attached to a ridge. It is likely that the roof was also plastered with earth to seal gaps between the timbers. The cellars were designed to use the

stabilizing temperature of the earth to keep food cool.

The site contains some machinery and other artefacts including a jinker cart stored in one of the outbuildings.

Comparative Analysis

The whole setting of Cookes cottage and the outbuildings form a rare group that have not been identified elsewhere in the study area. The stables and machinery shed at the Mallee Research Station are larger examples of the Murray Pine slab buildings. The half cellar is very similar to that on Scott's Block. As a group, Cooke's cottage is a rare example of a farm complex dating from the first settlement in the area.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Cooke's cottage dating from 1911, the setting and outbuildings comprising, half cellar and collection of farm machinery and household artefacts is significant.

How is it significant?

Cooke's cottage is of local historical, technical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Cooke's cottage and associated outbuildings including the two Murray Pine sheds, the half cellar, objects and collections are an extremely rare group of farm buildings demonstrating the first phase of settlement related to opening up the Mallee for farming from c.1911. (Criteria A & B)

The group of buildings comprising the timber frame and galvanized iron clad cottage, the two Murray Pine slab outbuildings and the timber-lined half cellar demonstrate vernacular building techniques and design distinctive to the Mallee. The cottage demonstrates in its interior, the successive layers of comfort in the form of linings, hessian and wallpapers applied to the original rudimentary house. The collection of household and farm artefacts contribute to the understanding of the house and farm as it was once occupied (Criteria D & E).

The chimneys formed of sheet metal and the timber slab construction of the outbuildings are notable for their demonstration of vernacular building traditions (Criterion F).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Torrity Public Hall
Address Mallee Highway TORRITA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Hall Public
Citation Date 2012





**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The siding here was originally called Nyang. Official post office was originally established in the Torrita store. School opened in 1914 in the original public hall. A government school was later built in 1920. The channel system brought water to Torrita in 1930. The damaged public hall was sold in 1928 with the present hall being built in 1935. (Mallee Tracks 2002:92)

Halls and meeting places

The following is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71):

Public, memorial, shire and church halls became the focus of district social life. The erection of a public or memorial hall, often through the efforts of the local progress association, stood as a measure of faith in the future of the community. Often built of timber, or only partly finished, halls required regular upkeep and often rebuilding. Torrita Hall, for instance, was built by the Murphy brothers of Walpeup in 1935. Measuring 45 feet by 25 feet, it was constructed of hardwood, pine and galvanised iron. Funds did not run to internal lining at the time. Communities came up with creative ideas on how to raise funds needed for upkeep and extensions. Additions to, and internal linings for halls were sometimes built from funds raised through the sale of wheat harvests. In Linga, a wool exhibition in 1935 raised £38 for the hall. From 1970, Linga and Underbool shared a hall built in that year.

Halls became the focus of community life and housed a variety of activities, including school classes, dances, meetings, church services, wedding receptions, drama and musical entertainments, kitchen teas, court cases, debates, horticulture shows, and film screenings. In the 1920s, community facilities were often financed in part by the holding of Queen Competitions in local halls. These competitions involved young women of the community in a round of fund-raising activities. Halls were also the focus of sadder occasions such as gatherings to commemorate the lives of servicemen who did not return, or send offs to settler families leaving the district.

Place history

The Torrita Hall was built by the Murphy brothers of Walpeup in 1935 at a cost of £210. It was constructed of hardwood, with pine floors and corrugated iron exterior walls, measuring 45 by 25 feet.

Many a happy night was spent in the hall during Saturday night dances, kitchen teas, 21st birthday parties, meetings and church services (Back to Underbool Committee 1988:26).

The *Ouyen and North West Express* greeted the news of the hall's opening with fanfare, declaring that 'to decide to erect a hall these times in the Mallee needs courage and enterprise. To open it free of debt at a time of depression is surely a masterly and unique achievement!' (Elliot 1994:42). Some two hundred people attended the opening of the hall, including representatives from around the district, including from Underbool, Walpeup and Ouyen (Elliot 1994:42). The new hall replaced a number of other buildings that served as public halls since the first in 1914-1920. The Torrita school building (1920) and the building known as the White House erected by J.Pryse also functioned as halls with their use facilitated by the Torrita Hall committee throughout this period (Elliot 1994:43). A supper room was erected in 1938, and an Honour Roll added in 1950. The hall was a particular venue used by the Torrita Social Club (Elliot 1994:44).

Sources

Back to Underbool Committee, 1988. *Vision Realised*. Underbool.
Brown, Dorothy, personal communication, November 2008.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Context (2009), *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.

Elliot, M. 1994. *Early Memories unfolded: district history of Torrita, Saalko, Kattyong West, Gnarr*, Torrita Reunion Committee, Torrita.

Nickolls, J and A. Angle. 2002. *Mallee Tracks. A wanderer's guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*. Van Gastle Printing, South Australia.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10. COMMUNITY LIFE

10.3 Halls and meeting places

Description

Physical Description

2009: See Ward, Andrew C. & Associates, 1986, *Mallee Area Review - Study of Historic Sites*, for Land Conservation Council -

A timber framed ripple iron clad building with Dutch gabled roof lined with corrugated iron and roof ventilators. The doors, windows, fascias and barges are the only timber elements. Roof and wall ventilators are expressed as part of the design. A murray pine hitching rail is located alongside.

Small corrugated iron hall. SB Fieldwork 2008

2012:

The Torrita Hall built in 1935 and added to in 1938 is located on the Mallee Highway and is a prominent feature of this small settlement. To the rear of the building are tennis courts and other recreational facilities. A separate concrete masonry toilet block is also located on site.

The hall has a symmetrical front elevation with centrally placed paired timber doors flanked by unusual fabricated sheet metal light shields. A sign above the door notes the name and date of establishment of the hall. The roof is designed as a cut-off gable and the interior is lit from a row of three six pane sash windows on each side elevation. External architraves are simply detailed painted timber that provides an elegant detail to the structure.

There is a skillion roofed addition to the rear of the hall and an elevated water tank is situated to one side of the building. Roof ventilators with conical caps pierce the corrugated metal roof. The wall cladding is in unpainted horizontally placed small pitch iron (ripple iron or mini-orb) and this gives the walls a delicate texture where the individual sheets of iron can be read at the joints. The interior contains an honour roll and corrugated iron linings.

Previous Statement Significance

Likely to have historical and social value as a community meeting place in an isolated farming settlement. *Criterion A, G*

Comparative Analysis

The Soldier's Memorial Hall built in 1924 in Lewis Street Cowangie has lost some of its integrity through alterations, and Torrita is a better example of an Inter-war public hall.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Torrita Public Hall situated on the Mallee Highway at Torrita and built in 1935 is significant. The toilet block and the tennis courts associated with the Public Reserve are not significant

How is it significant?

Torrita Public Hall is of local historic, social and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Torrita Public Hall represents an investment in community and civic life which was particularly difficult to achieve at a time of economic hardship and depression during the 1930s. The hall has added to community and social life of Torrita and district and still provides this function. (Criteria A & G)

Torrita Hall is a landmark building on the Mallee Highway providing the focal point of the township, and is a rare example of a public hall that has not been altered. The hall has a high integrity of form and materials demonstrated by the unpainted, small-pitch corrugated-iron cladding, sash windows, symmetrical front elevation, timber doors and signage. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Tutye bore and site of former gypsum plasterworks
Address Old Stock Route Road TUTYE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Other - Mining & Mineral Processing
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Tutye was proclaimed a township in 1920 (Victorian Government Gazette, Dec 01, 1920 Issue 214 Page 3583). This proclamation was partly rescinded twice on 8 November and 20 December 1922 to exclude areas on the edges of the township as it became evident that the town would be smaller than first envisaged. A government pound had already been

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

established at Tutye on 30 September 1914 (Government Gazette, Issue 150, Page 4502), closed in 1926, and re-opened on 13 April 1928 (Government Gazette, Issue 53, Page 1192). Settlement in the area dated to the earlier date of 1912, when the first allotments were purchased (Lindner 1988:128). Distinctive landmarks of Tutye were the Tutye Post Office (1920), General Store (1912), the Tutye Hall (1913), and the Tutye Silos (1968).

Place history

The highly saline groundwater is the source of the Mallee's widespread gypsum deposits, which, when mixed with clay and/or sand are known locally as copi. Near Nowingi, gypsum was extracted from 1908 by open cut mining for use in the manufacture of plasterboard, and from near Tutye for cement manufacture. In Tutye in 1953-4, Associated Plaster and Gypsum set up a processing plant for crude plaster of Paris. (Context 2009:67)

The Tutye Gypsum Factory commenced trading in 1954 on a site near the hall owned by George Casterly, trading under the name Australian Plaster Industries (A.P.I) (Lindner 1988). Gypsum was brought through Tutye by rail in 1953-1956, and the local industry planned for a minor industrial boom around the industry. However, only two houses of the anticipated 50 were ever constructed. Plaster of Paris was the factory's main product. A cookhouse was also built near the factory, which operated for three years (Lindner 1988).

Gypsum is a soft, translucent sulfate mineral composed of calcium sulfate dihydrate, with the chemical formula $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. In the nineteenth and twentieth century it was used as fertilizer and soil conditioner, and was also a major ingredient in plaster for Plaster of Paris.

Sources

Lindner, J. 1998 *Kow Plains and beyond, 1849-1988*, Cowangie, Tutye, Boinka Back-to Committee, Ouyen.
Victorian Government Gazette, 1914. September 30, 1914. Issue 150, Page 4502.
Victorian Government Gazette, 1920. December 01, 1920. Issue 214 Page 3583.
Victorian Government Gazette, 1948. April 13, 1948. Issue 53, Page 1192.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

9 INDUSTRY
9.4 Extractive Industries

Description

Physical Description

2009: Bore is 300-350 feet to artesian water. Used as town bore. The gypsum plaster works operated in the 1950s. Site now owned by Boral.
2012:

The Tutye bore and site of the former gypsum works comprises extensive footing and scattered building remains across a cleared area adjacent to the Tutye township site. Of particular interest are a range of building materials scattered across the former industrial site including metal artefacts, quadrant shaped bricks, in situ concrete dwarf walls, and the footings and base brickwork of two circular brick structures (chimneys?). This site would be particularly well suited to interpretation given the extent of building remains.

The structures associated with the bore are a modern elevated water tank and steel clad shed.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Recommended Management

It is recommended that the former township of Tutye be interpreted at the site.

Previous Statement Significance

The Tutye bore and site of the former gypsum plaster works is of potential historical significance as a remnant of the early water infrastructure and mineral processing industry. (Criterion A, C)

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The archaeological remains of the Tutye Gypsum Factory dating from 1954, adjacent to the former township of Tutye is significant.

How is it significant?

The remains of the former Tutye Gypsum Factory is of local historic and archaeological significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The archaeological remains of the Tutye Gypsum Factory represents an important link in the long history of gypsum extraction and processing since its inception in the Nowingi area in 1908. The factory represents a relatively short-lived attempt of vertical integration within the industry whereby processing near the site of extraction provided employment in the region. (Criterion A)

The site is significant for the extensive archaeological remains of the Australian Plaster Industries factory dating from 1954, comprising footings, floor slabs, base walls, unattached building materials and the base of a round chimney. (Criterion C)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Tutye (former settlement)
Address Stock Route Road TUTYE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Historic Landscape
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Place history

Tutye was proclaimed a township in 1920 (Victorian Government Gazette, Dec 01, 1920 Issue 214 Page 3583). This proclamation was partly rescinded twice on 8 November and 20 December 1922 to exclude areas on the edges of the township as it became evident that the town would be smaller than first envisaged. A government pound had already been

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

established at Tutye on 30 September 1914 (Government Gazette, Issue 150, Page 4502), closed in 1926, and re-opened on 13 April 1928 (Government Gazette, Issue 53, Page 1192). Settlement in the area dated to the earlier date of 1912, when the first allotments were purchased (Lindner 1988:128). Distinctive landmarks of Tutye were the Tutye Post Office (1920), General Store (1912), the Tutye Hall (1913), and the Tutye Silos (1968).

The Tutye Gypsum Factory commenced trading in 1954 on a site near the hall owned by George Casterly, trading under the name Australian Plaster Industries (A.P.I) (Lindner 1988). Gypsum was brought through Tutye by rail in 1953-1956, and the local industry planned for a minor industrial boom around the industry. However, only two houses of the anticipated 50 were ever constructed. Plaster of Paris was the factory's main product (Lindner 1988).

Sources

Lindner, J. 1998 *Kow Plains and Beyond, 1849-1988*, Cowangie, Tutye, Boinka Back-to Committee, Ouyen.
Victorian Government Gazette, 1914. September 30, 1914. Issue 150, Page 4502.
Victorian Government Gazette, 1920. December 01, 1920. Issue 214 Page 3583.
Victorian Government Gazette, 1948. April 13, 1948. Issue 53, Page 1192.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: Town Ruins

2012:

Tutye township site comprises a railway siding as do the other townships along the Mallee Highway. A single concrete grain silo and a row of sugar gums marks the township site. Modern galvanized iron grain stores have been added in the vicinity of the silo. Across to the other side of the Stock Route Road is the remains of a house, the only remaining standing structure from the small township of Tutye. The walls comprise rubble stone and brick with a temporary roof over to protect them. A concrete low-walled structure stands nearby. The purpose of this structure is unknown. The bushland now reclaiming the township site contains the remains of former buildings scattered throughout, and there is a large refuse tip, formerly the Government Pound.

The sugar gum row (*Eucalyptus Cladocalyx*) lines the Stock Route Road adjacent to the silo and this is one of a number of World War 1 memorial plantings, many of which have been removed. Tutye is now remembered in historical photographs, documents and maps that recall its past.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Previous Statement Significance

Site of former settlement of Tutye is likely to have historical and archaeological significance (Criterion A, C)

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former settlement of Tutye located on the Stock Route Road and defined by the grain silos of 1968, a row of *Eucalyptus Cladoclayx* and the remains of a two structures and scattered artefacts is significant.

How is it significant?

The former township of Tutye is of local historic and archaeological significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Tutye represents a Mallee theme of ambitious and optimistic township establishment followed by the struggle to survive, and ultimately the failure to continue. The row of sugar gums (*Eucalyptus Cladoclayx*) a rare World War 1 memorial avenue. (Criteria A & B) The grain silos and associated infrastructure are typical of other settlements along the Ouyen to Pinnaroo railway line. The former township of Tutye has archaeological remains of buildings and artefacts that have the potential to yield information about former structures and the lives of people once living there. (Criterion C)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

It is recommended that the former township of Tutye be interpreted at the site.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Tutye Cemetery
Address Tyalla Road TUTYE **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Cemetery/Graveyard/Burial Ground
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Tutye was proclaimed a township in 1920 (Victorian Government Gazette, Dec 01, 1920 Issue 214 Page 3583). This proclamation was partly rescinded twice on 8 November and 20 December 1922 to exclude areas on the edges of the township as it became evident that the town would be smaller than first envisaged. A government pound had already been

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

established at Tutye on 30 September 1914 (Government Gazette, Issue 150, Page 4502), closed in 1926, and re-opened on 13 April 1928 (Government Gazette, Issue 53, Page 1192). Settlement in the area dated to the earlier date of 1912, when the first allotments were purchased (Lindner 1988:128). Distinctive landmarks of Tutye were the Tutye Post Office (1920), General Store (1912), the Tutye Hall (1913), and the Tutye Silos (1968).

Place history

The first recorded burial at Tutye cemetery was in 1915. A fire in 1934 destroyed all cemetery records (Lindner 2001:146). Among the earliest internees of the cemetery were Roland Hendy, who died in 1915 aged just 16 years, and Mrs Agnes McLeod, who died in 1916 aged 33 years.

Sources

Lindner, J. 2001. *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001*. Kow Plains Homestead Committee of Management, Mallee Printers Pty Ltd, Victoria.

Victorian Government Gazette, 1914. September 30, 1914. Issue 150, Page 4502.

Victorian Government Gazette, 1920. December 01, 1920. Issue 214 Page 3583.

Victorian Government Gazette, 1948. April 13, 1948. Issue 53, Page 1192.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.6 Cemeteries and lone graves

Description

Physical Description

2009: Two graves outside fence, including first burial (Rolly Hendy?). Twenty six graves within the fence. Cemetery refenced in 1970s, some plantings.

2012:

The cemetery at Tutye is set within a cleared piece of Mallee bushland with a cyclone wire fence bordering the land set aside for burials. A pair of modern metal gates have been added to the front entrance, however there is an older cyclone wire gate at the rear. The small cemetery apparently contains around 26 burials with a further 2 located outside the designated area. The early graves dating from c.1915 are of concrete with stone headstone and one has cast iron railings. There are some plantings of small plants around the graves and shrubs near the entrance gates but the area is predominantly open with ground cover plantings only. The cemetery is still in use.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Previous Statement Significance

Cemetery operating c1914 (still in use) under Tutye Cemetery Trust. The Tutye Cemetery is of potential historical interest and social significance to the local community. (Criteria A, G)

Comparative Analysis

Cowangie and Boinka cemeteries.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Tutye Cemetery at established in 1915 is significant.

How is it significant?

Tutye Cemetery is of local historic and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Tutye is representative of the small rural cemeteries located throughout the Mallee. It has historic value as a record of the people who have lived in the district and social value for the community and for current and future people with an association to the district or its people. (Criteria A & G)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Cemetery and Cemetery Gates
Address Cemetery Road, off Underbool South Road
Significance Level Local
Place Type Cemetery Gates/Fences
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Underbool was surveyed as a railway township when the line opened in 1910. Under the 1901 Land Act, blocks of 600-700 acres were offered for sale to be paid off over 40 years. Demand was so strong that there were reportedly ten applicants for every block offered. The first store operated from a tent in the railway yard in 1911 and a hall was erected

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

in 1913 in which a school opened the same year. As the town grew, other buildings were erected along Cotter, Malkin and Mossop Streets. By 1920, blacksmiths, a drapery store, a bakery, a butcher, a billiard room, boarding houses, a general store, a police station, a plumber, a bush nursing hospital and a post office were in operation (A Vision Realised 1988:29-36). A hotel was built in 1926. The Underbool Women's Section of the Victorian Farmers' Union raised money to build a meeting room which opened as the Country Party Room in 1924. Artesian water in the district was too brackish for human consumption and water from Hattah Lakes was delivered to farmers by train until a channel delivering water from the Wimmera River came into operation in 1930. The channel fed two government dams and a swimming lake. In 1941 and 1968, the lake was converted into two town reservoirs; the first provided a reticulated water supply to the town. A swimming pool opened in 1978. (A Vision Realised 1988; 29-36)

Today, a hotel continues to operate at Underbool. Our Lady of the Fatima Catholic Church and the Uniting Church hold services. The township's water is now supplied by a pipeline from the River Murray.

Place history

The first meeting of the cemetery trust was held on 11 November 1922 (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:156). The first entry into the Underbool Cemetery record book in 1923 was of four year old Francis Edward Stone, of a pioneer family at Daalko south of Torrita (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:24). A caretaker was appointed in 1936. In 1972 the cemetery was connected to the town water supply, and in 1993 a public meeting decided to establish a lawn section with bronze plaques as memorials (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:156). Cast iron gates donated by the Farnsworth Family were restored in 1994. These gates were relcoated from a public garden in Melbourne. A cairnis located inside the cemetery grounds stands as a memorial to those buried beyond the current fence line and before the keeping of records (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:158).

Sources

A Vision Realised 1988

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.

Underbool Centenary Committee 2011 *Embracing Our Mallee Heritage 1911-2011*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.6 Cemeteries and lone graves

Description

Physical Description

The Underbool cemetery is situated in a cleared area surrounded by Mallee bush. The cemetery is laid out with a central gravel pathway and divided into sections for the various denominations. Most of the boundary fencing is wire apart from the frontage which has a metal palisade fence. Part of this is a modern aluminium picket fence however some gates and a small section of fencing are of cast iron and of typical nineteenth century design.

A shelter in a rotunda form is of recent construction, and there are seats of wrought iron in a distinctive design. A secondary entrance to the cemetery is flanked by large pines and there is a particularly large shade tree Weeping Pittosporum (*Pittosporum Phillyreoides*). Scattered Mallee eucalypts are planted throughout the cemetery. The parking area is planted with a row of exotic flowering deciduous trees in 'standard' form.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Older graves are of granite or concrete construction whilst headstones predominate in the lawn area between clipped variegated shrubs. The cemetery is well maintained and in use.

The cairn was not seen during fieldwork- the main entrance to the cemetery is on the north side and the south side was not investigated.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Previous Statement Significance

The cemetery has potential historic and social significance for its association with the settlement of Underbool and its community.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Underbool cemetery in Cemetery Road Underbool including the memorial gates is of significance.

How is it significant?

The Underbool cemetery and gates are of local historic and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura

Why is it significant?

The Underbool cemetery has historical and social values for the community since its establishment in 1922. It has been upgraded and maintained throughout that time with additions to the fencing, and a shelter rotunda. (Criteria A&G)

The cast iron gates have historical, social and aesthetic significance for their association with the Farnsworth family and their provenance from the Botanic Gardens Melbourne. (Criteria A,E,& G)

The area has historic and social significance for the unidentified burials that took place prior to the establishment of the cemetery, and marked with a cairn for commemoration. The Underbool Cemetery has historic and social values for the community since establishment in January 1913. (Criteria A & G)

The indigenous and exotic trees and shrubs both immediately outside the cemetery entrance and within the fenceline are of local interest and contribute to the setting of the place. The parking area is planted with a row of deciduous London Plane trees in standard form.(Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Salt harvesting site
Address Lake Becking Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes UNDERBOOL
Significance Level Local
Place Type Salt works
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Place History

The Pink Lakes, which are so called because of the red algae which thrive in the saline conditions, have attracted naturalists and scientists from far and wide. In 1936 Lake Becking was named after Dutch botanist and microbiologist Baas Becking who visited the lake as part of his research in the early 1930s.

The salinity derives from the flow of salty underground water into the lakes in winter, which subsequent evaporation during the summer months reduces to a crust of salt. For much of the 20th century, this one inch layer of fresh pure salt was mined between November and April, the hottest part of the year, with as much as 500 tons of salt being collected a day resulting in yearly yields of up to 10,000 tons from Lakes Crosbie, Becking and Kenyon at its peak.

For millennia people have used salt for a wide variety of purposes, including to season or preserve food or treat hides. Its agricultural and industrial uses continue to include the manufacture of stock licks for cattle and sheep, the manufacture of pesticides, fungicides and weedkillers, and the production of drugs and plastics. Salt yields very pure caustic soda for soap products, chlorine and hydrochloric acid used in the metal and food industries.

The existence of 'some salt lakes' was reported in 1851 by surveyor Edward White, and in 1861 colonist and grazier William Morton estimated that 'there cannot be less than 500,000 tons of salt in this lake [Lake Kenyon]' (Back to Underbool Committee 1988:22). The outbreak of World War 1 in 1914 increased the demand for salt, and in 1916 Ebenezer Jones, the store keeper at Underbool, seized the opportunity to begin harvesting salt from Lake Crosbie. This expanded into a large scale commercial enterprise with the Sailor Salt Company Pty Ltd becoming incorporated in 1922, employing itinerant workers and local farmers who took up the seasonal work, and salt harvesting at Lake Becking began in that year. With the onset of the Second World War and increase in demand saw the salt used in the manufacture of cartridges, and in 1943 an agreement was reached with Ebenezer Jones to supply salt to the eastern states under the National Security Regulations. In 1947 Imperial Chemical Industries took over all the leases of Pink Lakes and modern mechanisation was introduced.

Salt extraction was initially undertaken entirely by hand - salt being shovelled from the surface of the lake into wheelbarrows and then carted along roadways constructed of closely arranged horizontal wooden planks known as 'corduroys' to the shore. Here it was broken up and loaded into sacks weighing up to 180 pounds (more than 60kg) for transport, or collected in massive stockpiles for future shipment. These stockpiles became so hard that they often had to be blown up with gelignite to liberate blocks of salt which could then be crushed.

In 1920 scarifiers were introduced to break up the salt crust and horse-drawn scrapers were employed to drag it out. Improvements in the 1940s included salt crushers and washers and a belt conveyor to load bags of salt onto trucks, and when Imperial Chemical Industries took over the leases in 1947 these were supplemented by rubber-tyred tractors, graders, a specifically designed salt harvesting machine and a mechanical loader. This equipment further simplified operations and sped up the harvesting process although, as Parks Victoria Ranger Bob McNamara recalls, after a while none of the vehicles had brakes as they were eaten away by the salt.

Initially, horse and bullock teams were employed to pull wagons loaded with bagged salt to the Linga and Underbool railway sidings, a journey which required two days (Ballinger 2009:67). From 1922 this was cut to a day with the introduction of camel teams and their Afghan drivers from Broken Hill by Wally Gye. The camels lived on the surrounding grasses and other vegetation, stripping the nearby trees as high as they could reach, and teams of 15 to 20 animals could trek from the lakes to Underbool every second day (Back to Underbool Committee 1988:22; Portland

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Guardian 1923:4).

A tram line from Lake Becking to Linga was opened in 1924, but this was plagued with difficulties and closed in 1926, after which camels continued as the fastest and most reliable transport until 1935 when improved road conditions meant that trucks became the most efficient means of transport to the railway.

In the 1920s and 30s the salt workers brought their families to Pink Lakes and built small houses and out buildings around the lakes, and the Great Depression brought many itinerant workers to the salt works who lived in tents. The saline nature of the lakes made the water undrinkable, and potable water had to be carted long distance by horse and dray. Meat and bread had to be bought in Linga or Underbool, but families kept cows and poultry in an effort to minimise their dependence on this link. Pink Lakes school, which was built near the western side of Lake Hardy, opened to 13 students in 1934, but as transport links improved the population subsequently declined and the school closed in 1941.

During the Second World War up to twenty Italian internees worked on the lakes and accommodation provided for them and other workers in a small township at Lake Crosbie (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:18-19). This was located near to the underground house of 'Otto the cook' (Parks Victoria interpretation panel at the site). Parks Victoria Ranger Rob McNamara's father lived with Otto (whose full name was apparently Otto Stahn) for two years (Bob McNamara pers. comm.).

Ward (1986) notes that in 1961 Cheetham Salt Pty Ltd obtained a seven year lease to harvest at Lake Becking, after which work ceased. The surviving salt stockpiles at Lake Becking were constructed during this final period. Mining continued beyond 1968 at Lake Crosbie, with the lease being granted on a year by year basis.

Pink Lakes was declared a state park in 1979 at which point salt harvesting ended, with the remaining salt stock-piles and assortment of rusting equipment being abandoned. Pink Lakes was then incorporated into Murray Sunset National Park in 1991.

Sources

1923 'Country News.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 5 September, p. 11, viewed 6 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1986035>.

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Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 MANAGING RESOURCES

4.6 Exploiting mineral resources

Description

Physical Description

The site, which is located on the south eastern side of Lake Becking, contains physical evidence relating to the mining of

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

salt from at least the 1920s.

Several 'corduroys' extend from the shore into the lake along its southern and eastern edges. These features comprise roughly cut horizontal timbers laid tightly together to provide a solid roadway along which harvested salt was carried to the shore. Parts of the corduroys are extant and in reasonable condition, having essentially been preserved by the saline conditions, whilst others have become overgrown with salt bush or buried in the sand at the lake edge. One long example on the lake's eastern edge has a small branch corduroy extending north in perpendicular fashion from its shoreward end, and this probably links to a loading area.

Two salt stockpiles lie on the southern side of the lake. The southern example is a large rectangular formation whilst the northern is a smaller fragment of a larger pile which has been eaten into as salt was removed for shipment, presumably during the winter or at other times when exaction did not meet demand. Both appear to have been left exactly as they were when the works were abandoned on the creation of the State Park in 1979.

Four upstanding posts, with bolt fixtures at their tops, are arranged in a square on the eastern side of the lake near to the terminus of the tramway. These probably represent a mounting for some kind of processing or loading equipment, although its exact nature is not clear. Further to the north, a series of large concrete blocks with metal fixtures and a scatter of artefacts are all that remains of a workshop which served the workings at Lake Becking and was next to the salt bagging area (Bob McNamara, pers. comm.). A series of wells are also apparently located around the eastern side of the lake, although these were not located during the site visit (Bob McNamara, pers. comm.).

Approximately 200m to the east of Lake Becking, at the top of a rise overlooking it, are a series of concrete pads which comprise the sites of possibly five houses (from conversations between Lofty and Snow Kline, who worked at the lake from the 1930s, and Bob McNamara). Apparently these were erected in the early 1950s and pulled down by the end of that decade. It was apparently one of these houses that is recorded on the interpretation panels at Lake Crosbie as having burnt down killing the two children of 'Anwar the Afghan', one of the camel train operators at the works, who are buried in Underbool cemetery.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The salt harvesting site at Lake Becking is significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historic significance in that it represents the site of salt workings at Lake Becking, which was a major industry in the Pink Lakes for much of the 20th century.

It is technically significant in that it demonstrates the methods employed to extract salt, perhaps from as early as the late 1910s, and for the domestic arrangements of the people working at the works and their families.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Tramway formation
Address Lake Becking Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes UNDERBOOL
Significance Level Local
Place Type Other - Transport - Rail
Citation Date 2012



Recommended VHR No HI Yes PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Place history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The Pink Lakes, which are so called because of the red algae which thrive in the saline conditions, have attracted naturalists and scientists from far and wide. This salinity derives from the flow of salty underground water into the lakes in winter, which subsequent evaporation during the summer months reduces to a crust of salt. For much of the 20th century, this one inch layer of fresh pure salt was mined between November and April, the hottest part of the year, with as much as 500 tons of salt being collected a day resulting in yearly yields of up to 10,000 tons from Lakes Crosbie, Becking and Kenyon at its peak.

For millennia people have used salt for a wide variety of purposes, including to season or preserve food or treat hides. Its agricultural and industrial uses continue to include the manufacture of stock licks for cattle and sheep, the manufacture of pesticides, fungicides and weedkillers, and the production of drugs and plastics. Salt yields very pure caustic soda for soap products, chlorine and hydrochloric acid used in the metal and food industries.

The existence of 'some salt lakes' was reported in 1851 by surveyor Edward White, and in 1861 colonist and grazier William Morton estimated that 'there cannot be less than 500,000 tons of salt in this lake [Lake Kenyon]' (Back to Underbool Committee 1988:22). The outbreak of World War 1 in 1914 increased the demand for salt, and in 1916 Ebenezer Jones, the store keeper at Underbool, seized the opportunity to begin harvesting salt from Lake Crosbie. This expanded into a large scale commercial enterprise with the Sailor Salt Company Pty Ltd becoming incorporated in 1922, employing itinerant workers and local farmers who took up the seasonal work, and salt harvesting at Lake Becking began in that year. With the onset of the Second World War and increase in demand saw the salt used in the manufacture of cartridges, and in 1943 an agreement was reached with Ebenezer Jones to supply salt to the eastern states under the National Security Regulations. In 1947 Imperial Chemical Industries took over all the leases of Pink Lakes and modern mechanisation was introduced.

Salt extraction was initially undertaken entirely by hand - salt being shovelled from the surface of the lake into wheelbarrows and then carted along roadways constructed of closely arranged horizontal wooden planks known as 'corduroys' to the shore. Here it was broken up and loaded into sacks weighing up to 180 pounds (more than 60kg) for transport, or collected in massive stockpiles for future shipment. These stockpiles became so hard that they often had to be blown up with gelignite to liberate blocks of salt which could then be crushed.

In 1920 scarifiers were introduced to break up the salt crust and horse-drawn scrapers were employed to drag it out. Improvements in the 1940s included salt crushers and washers and a belt conveyor to load bags of salt onto trucks, and when Imperial Chemical Industries took over the leases in 1947 rubber-tired tractors, graders, a specifically designed salt harvesting machine and a mechanical loader further simplified operations and sped up the harvesting process.

Initially, horse and bullock teams were employed to pull wagons loaded with bagged salt to the Linga and Underbool railway sidings, a journey which required two days (Ballinger 2009:67). From 1922 this was cut to a day with the introduction of camel teams and their Afghan drivers from Broken Hill by Wally Gye. The camels lived on the surrounding grasses and other vegetation, stripping the nearby trees as high as they could reach, and teams of 15 to 20 animals could trek from the lakes to Underbool every second day (Back to Underbool Committee 1988:22; Portland Guardian 1923:4).

Following its incorporation in 1922, the Sailor Salt Company Pty Ltd constructed a tramline between Lake Becking and a rail siding at Linga station which opened in 1924 (Argus 1923:11; Ward 1986:n.p.). The tramway formation commenced at the north western side of the lake and then ran around to its southernmost point, past the salt stockpiles, before heading south to Linga (Ward 1986:n.p.). With the development of this line, up to 150 tons of salt could be transported every day.

The tramline was beset with difficulties from the off. The tram's engine caught fire on its first trip when salt bush blew on to the track and ignited, the line was frequently buried under wind blown sand and the engine would have to be hauled

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

over high ridges (Parks Victoria interpretation panel at the site). The tramline and cars were sold in 1926 as scrap metal, after which camels continued as the fastest and most reliable transport until 1935 when improved road conditions meant that trucks became the most efficient means of transport to the railway.

In the 1920s and 30s the salt workers brought their families to Pink Lakes and built small houses and out buildings around the lakes, and the Great Depression brought many itinerant workers to the salt works who lived in tents. The saline nature of the lakes made the water undrinkable, and potable water had to be carted long distance by horse and dray. Meat and bread had to be bought in Linga or Underbool, but families kept cows and poultry in an effort to minimise their dependence on this link. Pink Lakes school, which was built near the western side of Lake Hardy, opened to 13 students in 1934, but as transport links improved the population subsequently declined and the school closed in 1941.

During the Second World War up to twenty Italian internees worked on the lakes and accommodation provided for them and other workers in a small township at Lake Crosbie (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:18-19). This was located near to the underground house of 'Otto the cook' (Parks Victoria interpretation panel at the site). Parks Victoria Ranger Rob McNamara's father lived with Otto (whose full name was apparently Otto Stahn) for two years (Bob McNamara pers. comm.).

Salt mining continued until 1979 when Pink Lakes was declared a state park, and the remaining salt stock-piles and assortment of rusting equipment were abandoned. Pink Lakes was then incorporated into Murray Sunset National Park in 1991.

Sources

1923 'Country News.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 5 September, p. 11, viewed 6 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1986035>.

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 MANAGING RESOURCES

4.6 Exploiting mineral resources

Description

Physical Description

The tramway tracks having been taken up and sold for scrap, the major surviving element of the tramway is the earth embankment on which it was constructed, and the slight cutting into the slope at the southern end of Lake Becking which allowed the track to climb around to its east. The embankment survives to different degrees, surviving in quite strong relief as it runs south past Lake Crosbie, but having been more eroded along the eastern side of Lake Becking where it coincides with a footpath.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Dog spikes and some remnants of track bed can be observed in places along the course of the line, but the only other evidence of the tramway is a surviving bogie from one of the tramway wagons which has been positioned on the route of the tramway together with an interpretation panel.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The tramway formation between Lake Becking and Linga is significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic and technological significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site represents the course of the tramway constructed, as an alternative to haulage by horse, bullock or camel, by the Sailor Salt Company Pty Ltd to transport salt from Lake Becking to the railway at Linga. Although little of the fabric remains, the formation formed by the cuttings and embankments preserves a high level of integrity. It is thus of historic significance for its role in the salt extraction industry of the Pink Lakes area.

Although beset with difficulties and short lived, the tramway is of technical significance in that it represents a novel solution to the problem of long and arduous transport links. Its adoption and failure both reflect general trends towards mechanisation in the Mallee and the associated difficulties.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Salt harvesting site
Address Lake Crosby, Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes UNDERBOOL
Significance Level Local
Place Type Salt works
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Place history

The Pink Lakes, which are so called because of the red algae which thrive in the saline conditions, have attracted naturalists and scientists from far and wide. This salinity derives from the flow of salty underground water into the lakes in winter, which subsequent evaporation during the summer months reduces to a crust of salt. For much of the 20th century, this one inch layer of fresh pure salt was mined between November and April, the hottest part of the year, with as much as 500 tons of salt being collected a day resulting in yearly yields of up to 10,000 tons from Lakes Crosbie, Becking and Kenyon at its peak.

For millennia people have used salt for a wide variety of purposes, including to season or preserve food or treat hides. Its agricultural and industrial continue to include the manufacture of stock licks for cattle and sheep, the manufacture of pesticides, fungicides and weedkillers, and the production of drugs and plastics. Salt yields very pure caustic soda for soap products, chlorine and hydrochloric acid used in the metal and food industries.

The existence of 'some salt lakes' was reported in 1851 by surveyor Edward White, and in 1861 colonist and grazier William Morton estimated that 'there cannot be less than 500,000 tons of salt in this lake [Lake Kenyon]' (Back to Underbool Committee 1988:22). The outbreak of World War 1 in 1914 increased the demand for salt, and in 1916 Ebenezer Jones, the store keeper at Underbool, seized the opportunity to begin harvesting salt from Lake Crosbie. This expanded into a large scale commercial enterprise with the Sailor Salt Company Pty Ltd becoming incorporated in 1922, employing itinerant workers and local farmers who took up the seasonal work, and salt harvesting at Lake Becking began in that year. With the onset of the Second World War and increase in demand saw the salt used in the manufacture of cartridges, and in 1943 an agreement was reached with Ebenezer Jones to supply salt to the eastern states under the National Security Regulations. In 1947 Imperial Chemical Industries took over all the leases of Pink Lakes and modern mechanisation was introduced.

Salt extraction was initially undertaken entirely by hand - salt being shovelled from the surface of the lake into wheelbarrows and then carted along roadways constructed of closely arranged horizontal wooden planks known as 'corduroys' to the shore. Here it was broken up and loaded into sacks weighing up to 180 pounds (more than 60kg) for transport, or collected in massive stockpiles for future shipment. These stockpiles became so hard that they often had to be blown up with gelignite to liberate blocks of salt which could then be crushed.

In 1920 scarifiers were introduced to break up the salt crust and horse-drawn scrapers were employed to drag it out. Improvements in the 1940s included salt crushers and washers and a belt conveyor to load bags of salt onto trucks, and when Imperial Chemical Industries took over the leases in 1947 rubber-tyred tractors, graders, a specifically designed salt harvesting machine and a mechanical loader further simplified operations and sped up the harvesting process.

Initially, horse and bullock teams were employed to pull wagons loaded with bagged salt to the Linga and Underbool railway sidings, a journey which required two days (Ballinger 2009:67). From 1922 this was cut to a day with the introduction of camel teams and their Afghan drivers from Broken Hill by Wally Gye. The camels lived on the surrounding grasses and other vegetation, stripping the nearby trees as high as they could reach, and teams of 15 to 20 animals could trek from the lakes to Underbool every second day (Back to Underbool Committee 1988:22; Portland Guardian 1923:4).

A tram line from Lake Becking to Linga was opened in 1924, but this was plagued with difficulties and closed in 1926, after which camels continued as the fastest and most reliable transport until 1935 when improved road conditions meant

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

that trucks became the most efficient means of transport to the railway.

In the 1920s and 30s the salt workers brought their families to Pink Lakes and built small houses and out buildings around the lakes, and the Great Depression brought many itinerant workers to the salt works who lived in tents. The saline nature of the lakes made the water undrinkable, and potable water had to be carted long distance by horse and dray. Meat and bread had to be bought in Linga or Underbool, but families kept cows and poultry in an effort to minimise their dependence on this link. Pink Lakes school, which was built near the western side of Lake Hardy, opened to 13 students in 1934, but as transport links improved the population subsequently declined and the school closed in 1941.

During the Second World War up to twenty Italian internees worked on the lakes and accommodation provided for them and other workers in a small settlement at Lake Crosbie (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:18-19). This was located near to the underground house of 'Otto the cook' (Parks Victoria interpretation panel at the site) - Parks Victoria Ranger Rob McNamara's father lived with Otto (whose full name was apparently Otto Stahn) for two years (Bob McNamara pers. comm.). This was Otto's second house, the first also being underground at the south east corner of Lake Kenyon where it is marked by an interpretation panel.

Apparently, the settlement at Lake Crosbie comprised two rows of dormitory buildings, with a row of tents between, which were connected by gypsum paths. The dormitories comprised pre-fabricated buildings on concrete pads in masonite or asbestos with shallow corrugated metal gable roofs (Bob McNamara pers. comm.).

From 1939 into the 1940s the lease to harvest salt from Lake Crosbie, formally know as Gye's and Wooding's lake, was held by E. Johnes of the Union Salt Works. From 1961 Cheetham Salt Pty Ltd obtained a seven year lease on Lake Becking and Lake Crosbie and, whilst harvesting ceased at the former in 1968, it continued with annual extensions until 1971 at Lake Crosbie. Ward states that the salt stockpiles at Lake Crosbie were constructed in the late 1960s (Ward 1986:n.p), although apparently parts of these stockpiles date to the 1930s (Bob McNamara, Parks Victoria Ranger, pers. comm.).

Pink Lakes was declared a state park in 1979 at which point salt harvesting ended, with the remaining salt stock-piles and assortment of rusting equipment being abandoned. Pink Lakes was then incorporated into Murray Sunset National Park in 1991.

Sources

1923 'Country News.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 5 September, p. 11, viewed 6 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1986035>.

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Description

Physical Description

The site, which is located on the north eastern side of Lake Crosbie, contains physical evidence relating to the mining of salt from at least the 1930s and perhaps from its beginnings at the Pink Lakes in 1916.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The most obvious salt-related features at the site are the two Salt stockpiles along the eastern side of the access road. According to Bob McNamara, the Parks Victoria Ranger, these actually represent three stages of activity; the darker portion at the western side of the southern stockpile date to the 1930s, whilst the remainder of that pile and the pile to the north are each the result of more recent extraction undertaken in the 1970s. Both of the recent piles have been eaten into as salt was removed for shipment, presumably during the winter or at other times when exaction did not meet demand, and they appear to have been left exactly as they were when the works were abandoned on the creation of the State Park in 1979.

Together with an interpretation panel describing salt working at the site, several pieces of equipment relating to the extraction process are now positioned in the bight into the larger southern stockpile. These include two scarifiers, a large horse-drawn scraper and a conveyor for loading sacks onto trucks. There is also a single axle from one of the wagons for the salt tramway which used to run west of Lake Crosbie from Lake Becking to Linga. Apparently a number of similar items have been stolen from the site in recent years.

Several 'corduroys' extend from the shore into the lake along its north eastern edge. These features comprise roughly cut horizontal timbers laid tightly together to provide a solid roadway along which harvested salt was carried to the shore. Parts of the corduroys are extant and in reasonable condition, having essentially been preserved by the saline conditions, whilst others have become overgrown with salt bush or buried in the sand at the lake edge.

A track runs approximately 300m north east from the edge of the lake, crossing the access road and passing between the northern salt stockpile and a row of trees to its north, before turning north west and running for a further c.100m. This latter section of road runs through the site of the Second World War salt worker settlement. There is no evidence of the row of tents which ran along its north eastern side (Bob McNamara, pers. comm.) and also little to indicate the presence of the dormitory buildings which were constructed on concrete pads, but concrete foundations and an engine block survive at the eastern corner of the road, and the concrete footings of a washhouse survive at its western end.

Beyond what appears to have been the western end of the road the ground rises to the north east, and the remains of Otto Stahn's house can be seen beneath mature trees dug into the slope. This was apparently his second house (Bob McNamara, pers. comm.), his first being at the eastern side of Lake Kenyon where it is marked by an interpretation panel.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The salt harvesting site at Lake Crosbie is significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic, technical and social significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historic significance in that it represents the site of salt workings at Lake Crosbie, which was a major industry in the Pink Lakes for much of the 20th century.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

It is technically significant in that it demonstrates the methods employed to extract salt, perhaps from as early as the late 1910s, and for the domestic arrangements of the people working at the works and their families.

It is socially significant in that it provides an insight into the methods employed to utilise people interned during the Second World War. Lake Crosbie is also of social significance in that it appears to have been the site of the last salt working activity in the Pink Lakes, and this is an industry which may have involved many local people who still live in the area.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ruins at salt workings
Address Lake Kenyon, Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Lake/ Pond
Citation Date 2012





**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI Yes PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Place history

The Pink Lakes, which are so called because of the red algae which thrive in the saline conditions, have attracted naturalists and scientists from far and wide. In 1936 Lake Becking was named after Dutch botanist and microbiologist Baas Becking who visited the lake as part of his research in the early 1930s.

The salinity derives from the flow of salty underground water into the lakes in winter, which subsequent evaporation during the summer months reduces to a crust of salt. For much of the 20th century, this one inch layer of fresh pure salt was mined between November and April, the hottest part of the year, with as much as 500 tons of salt being collected a

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

day resulting in yearly yields of up to 10,000 tons from Lakes Crosbie, Becking and Kenyon at its peak.

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Initially, horse and bullock teams were employed to pull wagons loaded with bagged salt to the Linga and Underbool railway sidings, a journey which required two days (Ballinger 2009:67). From 1922 this was cut to a day with the introduction of camel teams and their Afghan drivers from Broken Hill by Wally Gye. The camels lived on the surrounding grasses and other vegetation, stripping the nearby trees as high as they could reach, and teams of 15 to 20 animals could trek from the lakes to Underbool every second day (Back to Underbool Committee 1988:22; Portland Guardian 1923:4).

A tram line from Lake Becking to Linga was opened in 1924, but this was plagued with difficulties and closed in 1926, after which camels continued as the fastest and most reliable transport until 1935 when improved road conditions meant that trucks became the most efficient means of transport to the railway.

In the 1920s and 30s the salt workers brought their families to Pink Lakes and built small houses and out buildings around the lakes, and the Great Depression brought many itinerant workers to the salt works who lived in tents. The saline nature of the lakes made the water undrinkable, and potable water had to be carted long distance by horse and dray. Meat and bread had to be bought in Linga or Underbool, but families kept cows and poultry in an effort to minimise their dependence on this link. Pink Lakes school, which was built near the western side of Lake Hardy, opened to 13 students in 1934, but as transport links improved the population subsequently declined and the school closed in 1941.

During the Second World War up to twenty Italian internees worked on the lakes and accommodation provided for them

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

and other workers in a small township at Lake Crosbie (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:18-19). This was located near to the underground house of 'Otto the cook' (Parks Victoria interpretation panel at the site). Parks Victoria Ranger Rob McNamara's father lived with Otto (whose full name was apparently Otto Stahn) for two years (Bob McNamara pers. comm.). This was apparently his second house, his first being at the eastern side of Lake Kenyon where it is marked by an interpretation panel.

Pink Lakes was declared a state park in 1979 at which point salt harvesting ended, with the remaining salt stock-piles and assortment of rusting equipment being abandoned. Pink Lakes was then incorporated into Murray Sunset National Park in 1991.

Sources

1923 'Country News.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 5 September, p. 11, viewed 6 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article1986035>.

1923 'General News.', *Portland Guardian* (Vic. : 1876 - 1953), 16 August, p. 4 Edition: EVENING., viewed 6 February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article64103122>

Ballinger, R. 2009. *Rural City of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*. Unpublished report prepared for the Rural City of Mildura, August 2009, by Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne Australia.

Underbool Centenary Committee, 2011, *Embracing our Mallee heritage*, Mallee Printers, Sea Lake.

Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Description

Physical Description

The salt working areas at Lake Kenyon appear to have been at the west and east ends, as evidenced by the position of 'corduroys' extending from the shore into the lake in these areas. These features comprise roughly cut horizontal timbers laid tightly together to provide a solid roadway along which harvested salt was carried to the shore. Parts of the corduroys are extant and in reasonable condition, having essentially been preserved by the saline conditions, whilst others have become overgrown with salt bush or buried in the sand at the lake edge.

An interpretation board marks the site of Otto Stahn's first house which now comprises a roughly rectangular area of disturbed ground with no other physical evidence apart from a few metal fragments and a section of telephone line affixed to a nearby tree. Otto is recorded as 'the cook', and this presumable relates to the settlement established for Italian internees at Lake Crosbie during the Second World War as it was there that Otto subsequently moved (Rob McNamara, Parks Victoria Ranger, pers. comm.).

Adjacent to the site of the house is the site of a workshop associated with the salt works, of which a depression, probably representing a mechanics pit, and a concrete engine block. A large piece of metal equipment, comprising a square frame with a stanchion, perhaps for attaching a horse harness, which is of unclear purpose stands next to the workshop site.

Further to the north is the site of the Kline homestead - Lofty and Snow Kline worked at the salt works, as their father had before them, from the 1930s (Rob McNamara, pers. comm.). The site comprises a series of mortared brick footings - probably representing the footings of a building, together with a concrete foundation, amidst a scatter of metal fragments and other domestic artefacts.

Archaeological Potential

Yes

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The ruins associated with the salt workings at Lake Kenyon are significant.

How is it significant?

The site is of local historic and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historic significance in that it represents the site of salt workings at Lake Kenyon, which was a major industry in the Pink Lakes for much of the 20th century.

It is technically significant in that it demonstrates the methods employed to extract salt, perhaps from as early as the late 1910s, and for the domestic arrangements of the people working at the works and their families.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Womens Section National Party Meeting Room
Address 13 Malkin Avenue UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Hall, Club/Hall, Social
Citation Date 2012





**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Various forms of country based political organisation forms have been an important political, social and economic influence in the history of the Rural City of Mildura. Chief among these were the Country Party and Victorian Farmers Union (VFU), and their more contemporary manifestations the National Party and National Farmers Federation. The Country Party in Victoria had its origins in the activism and agrarian radicalism of the Victorian Farmers Union (VFU), which drew support in the Mallee from farmers hard hit by the 1914 drought (Taylor, 1997:136). The Country Party was a membership based party with local membership exercising a high degree of influence over party elites (Costar & Woodward 1985:98). In Victoria the Country Party, though emerging in concert with other state and national division of the party, was also unique in that there was an 'absence of a strong grazier element, and the existence of an influential group of Mallee wheat farmers who were not ideologically predisposed to a conservative view of politics' (Costar & Woodward 1985:100). It was in the Mallee therefore that in 1926-30 the Country Progressives led by Albert Dunstan split from the national party for a period. Before farmers established a political organisation of their own, many of the regional areas were early strongholds of the labour movement and Labor Party. The VFU distinguished itself not only by its militant agrarianism but by its anti-socialism, by which it contrasted itself to Labor. Branches were established across northwest Victoria throughout 1917-1921, and rapidly became a mass movement standing candidates for parliament. The Country Party was formally established nationally in 1920 and enjoyed a mass membership including local branches. The Country Party and the Country Women's Association became not only political but also important social and economic organisations, providing forums and spaces for community meetings, social activities and opportunities for community and political activism.

The state electorate of Mildura returned a Country Progressive member in 1927, Albert Allnutt, who remained MP through to 1945 sitting as a Country Party member in 1930-45, and as a Country Independent in 1945 before a period of Labor representation in 1945-7 (VEC 2011). Federally, the seat of Mallee, established in 1947, returned a Country Party representative Winton Turnbull. The party in its various forms has held the seat ever since (AEC 2011).

One of the finest examples of the pioneering Women's endeavours remaining in Underbool today is Victoria's only National Party meeting room (Embracing Our Mallee Heritage2011).

The Women's Section of the then Victorian Farmer's Union began in Underbool on August 6, 1921 with a membership of 27. Mrs. W. Jackson was inaugural President and Mrs J. Helyar, Secretary. The need for a Club Room soon became apparent. By October 1921, plans began in earnest for a room to be built. Fund raising and canvassing for funds began. It was a proud day in 1924 when the Limestone concrete room was completed on land purchased at a public auction. Furnishings were either donated or purchased at local auctions (Embracing Our Mallee Heritage2011).

Over the years the Group showed a keen interest in district and current affairs. Prior to the formation of the Mother's Club, much support was given to the school. Christmas Trees were annual events and prizes were donated to scholars. Better seating for pupils was sought along with improved teacher accommodation. Junior members (Country Bees) always supported the Children's Hospital (Embracing Our Mallee Heritage2011).

As early as 1925, North West District Council meetings were held and delegates also journeyed to Conferences in Ballarat.

Items of interest from early Minute Books include "That better conditions for the selling of cream is required or a Butter factory be built in Ouyen or along the line" and "That the local butcher be requested to observe the Pure Foods Act as it applies to the wrapping of meat" (Embracing Our Mallee Heritage 2011). The State President observed during a visit to the area in 1923 "That women of the district lived with no conveniences at all and very little comfort". She was duly made to apologise and retract the statement (Embracing Our Mallee Heritage 2011).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

In 1931, the Women's section also responded to a series of articles in the *Argus* on the 'tragic' conditions in the Mallee (Torpey 1986:270). V.M.Jones, the secretary, defended 'conditions at Underbool', in particular the 'state of the children':

As a general rule, although the outlook is bad, the Mallee people are battling with smiling faces, content to do their very best. They reap very real pleasure by helping one another, and are beginning to realise that their hardships will help make better citizens. (Argus, 8 May 1931)

Over the years the Women's Section had two name changes from Victorian Farmers' Union to Country Party and finally National Party.

Foundation members were Mesdames A. Anderson, W.Jackson, J.Helyar, W. Gullett, H.Amos, C. Brown, W. Clifford, A. McVicar, J. Rowan, A. Kilpatrick, W. Ballantyne, G. Willoughby, S. Smith, W. & H. Mossop, C. Darrington, T. a'Beckett, M. & A. Jackson, W. & H. Jones. Mrs Bessie Walters held the position of Secretary for 33 years in the period 1934 to 1967 (Embracing Our Mallee Heritage 2011).

Sources

Costar, B., & Woodward, D., 1985. *Country to National: Australian rural politics and beyond*, Allen & Unwin, Sydney.

Embracing Our Mallee Heritage 2011. *The Underbool and District National Party Womens Branch Rooms*.

Taylor, P, *Karkaroc, A Mallee Shire History 1896-1995*, Yarriambiack Shire Council, Warracknabeal.

Torpey, D. 1986. *The Way it Was: A history of the Mallee*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

7. GOVERNING

7.1 Roads Boards

10. COMMUNITY LIFE

10.3 Halls and meeting places

Description

Physical Description

2009: One room, brick building (containing meeting room).

2012: The Women's Section National Party Meeting Rooms in Malkin Avenue Underbool is located in a residential area of early Underbool. The small limestone and render building with gabled roof, chimney and rough cast walls sits within a large site on which there are also several flowering gums. The building displays typical features of its 1920s origins in the windows and strapped sheet cladding to the gable ends which overhang the walls. Alterations include the metal screen to the window but otherwise this unpretentious building has a high level of integrity including an early colour scheme.

Previous Statement Significance

Likely to have historic and social value as a meeting place for Country Women's Party in isolated Victorian Mallee town of Underbool (*Criterion A, G*).

Comparative Analysis

The building could be compared to similar kinds of structures erected by the Country Women's Association, however this building does not seem to have been owned or directly associated with the CWA, but with a political party, the Country/National party, which makes it unusual.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Women's Section National Party Meeting Room in Malkin Avenue Underbool built in 1924 is significant.

How is it significant?

The Women's Section National Party Meeting Room is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Underbool and District Women's Section National Party Meeting Room is historically significant for its association with the Victorian Historic Theme of Struggling for political rights. It is important not only as a representation of the political movement among farmers and the Country Party, but also as an expression of the rights of women and their involvement and struggle for rights within this broader political movement. The Room demonstrates how critical the involvement and representation of women's interests were in the success of the Country Party movement in the region, and in rural Victoria generally. As a purpose built room for women in an Australian political party, the building may also be rare on a state and national level. (Criterion A & B)

The small limestone and render building demonstrates typical features of the Inter-war period which include the gable roof with overhanging eaves, timber framed windows and strapped cement sheet gable end cladding. The use of local limestone as the main construction material is of interest. (Criterion D)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Fishlocks General Store
Address 2 Malkin Avenue UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Shop
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Underbool was surveyed as a railway township when the line opened in 1910. Under the 1901 Land Act, blocks of 600-700 acres were offered for sale to be paid off over 40 years. Demand was so strong that there were reportedly ten applicants for every block offered. The first store operated from a tent in the railway yard in 1911 and a hall was erected in 1913 in which a school opened the same year. As the town grew, other buildings were erected along Cotter, Malkin

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

and Mossop Streets. By 1920, blacksmiths, a drapery store, a bakery, a butcher, a billiard room, boarding houses, a general store, a police station, a plumber, a bush nursing hospital and a post office were in operation (A Vision Realised 1988:29-36). A hotel was built in 1926. The Underbool Women's Section of the Victorian Farmers' Union raised money to build a meeting room which opened as the Country Party Room in 1924. Artesian water in the district was too brackish for human consumption and water from Hattah Lakes was delivered to farmers by train until a channel delivering water from the Wimmera River came into operation in 1930. The channel fed two government dams and a swimming lake. In 1941 and 1968, the lake was converted into two town reservoirs; the first provided a reticulated water supply to the town. A swimming pool opened in 1978 (A Vision Realised 1988: 29-36).

Today, a hotel continues to operate at Underbool. Our Lady of the Fatima Catholic Church and the Uniting Anglican Church hold services. The township's water is now supplied by a pipeline from the River Murray.

Place history

The Fishlocks General Store was formerly the Underbool General Store, established in 1912 by Ebenezer Jones (Jones 1982). Jones started selling fruit and vegetables at their place of arrival, the train station, in 1912, and soon opened the first store operated out of a tin shed on the corner of Cotter Street and Malkin Avenue. In 1916 a store was erected further along Cotter Street and included a residence at the rear. In 1920 Ebenezer was joined at the shop by his brother Henry, and the business became known as Henry Jones & Co, with the family resident in the rooms behind the shop. Supplies were brought in from Melbourne and Ballarat (Jones 1982). Ebenezer Jones purchased the corner block of the current brick store from the Department of Lands for £175, and a new store was built there in 1926. The new store commenced trading in 1927. Various members of the Jones family ran the store continuously until 1973 (Jones 1982).

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.
Jones, EJ, 1982, 'Sixty One Years of Store-Keeping by Underbool Family' in *Mallee Arts Council Journal*.
A Vision Realised. 1998
Embracing Out Mallee Heritage 2011. *The Underbool and District National Party Womens Branch Rooms*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009: General store on main road, covered verandahs and verandah posts.
2012:

Fishlock's General Store is a large masonry commercial building located at the corner of the Mallee Highway (Cotter Street) and Malkin Street. It has a double fronted facade to Malkin Street whilst the rear elevation comprises a sawtooth roof and various openings for unloading of goods. A verandah supported on square timber posts extends for the full length of Malkin Avenue.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The shopfront entrances are recessed and there is one set of original panelled timber doors remaining. All the shopfront windows appear to be intact with their original timber frames, and these are set above brick stallboards with curved bricks. The highlight windows have been painted but are otherwise intact. The parapet has pilasters defining each shopfront and a horizontal string course. Some advertising signs remain on the parapet and above the doors. Fishlock's General Store is currently unoccupied. Alterations to the building include the painting of the red brick masonry walls and parapet and the addition of a fascia sign to Cotter Street. The site contains some peppercorn trees (*Schinus Molle*) which appear to be of a contemporary age with the building.

Previous Statement Significance

Associated with the establishment of Victorian Mallee closer settlement towns along the Ouyen to Pinaroo Railway.
Criterion A

Comparative Analysis

Underbool contains less of its Inter-war commercial buildings than does Murrayville and Fishlock's General Store is a rare example. McKenzie Street and Reed Street in Murrayville have a number of comparable commercial buildings and the distinctive limestone shops at 11-17 McKenzie Street provide are architecturally more flamboyant. The former Gilpin's Furniture Store in Oke Street Ouyen is a particularly elaborate building when compared with Fishlock's.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Fishlock's general store, formerly Henry Jones & Co, constructed in 1926 by Ebenezer Jones is significant. The peppercorn trees (*Schinus Molle*) are significant as part of the setting.

How is it significant?

Fishlock's General Store is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Fishlock's General Store represents the culmination of a commercial undertaking begun by Ebenezer Jones in 1912 by selling produce from the train station, and later establishing a combination commercial and residential premises in Cotter Street. The current large store demonstrates the growth and success of the enterprise from 1913 to 1973 when the Jones family were no longer involved with the business. (Criterion A)

Fishlock's General Store is a landmark building in Underbool and is a fine and relatively intact example of an Inter-war commercial building, a type that is not well represented in Underbool. The features of the building including the original shop-front windows, doors, recessed shop entry and overall form with parapet and signage is significant as a demonstration of Inter-war commercial building. The peppercorn trees add to the setting of the building. (Criteria B, D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	Yes
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Uniting Church
Address 22 Malkin Avenue West UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Church
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

The Underbool Uniting Church was originally the local Methodist Church. Methodism was a Christian sect originating in England from the teachings of Wesley, born out of a concern in the early nineteenth century that the established church 'had little of no desire for the salvation of the masses' (Benson 1935:8). As a form of 'social Christianity', it emphasised

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

missionary work among the poor, workers, and remote or overseas communities. It was a powerful force in educating the working class and evangelising its moral code. Travelling preachers and lay helpers drawn from its own ranks thus quickly multiplied and chapels were erected in centres of population using funds raised from its congregations. The Home Mission, established in 1875 to spread Methodism throughout the remote communities of the British Empire, trained and deployed 'home missionaries' who were the 'shock-troops' of the church (Benson 1935:171). Their activity made Methodism, despite its youth, a strong presence in the colonies and the dominions, and Methodists regularly ranked among the main religious groups in new Victorian settler communities. In 1921, 941 or 17% of the Shire of Walpeup's population of 5473 were Methodists (Australian Census 1921).

The Underbool district was declared a Methodist Home Mission Station in 1912, and the first services were held in a shop until the first hall was finished. This first Home Missioner was from England. He came to minister to the Methodist community in Underbool and district in 1913 (Underbool Centenary Committee 2010:129).

Places of worship

The following is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71-72):

A church was often one of the first buildings erected as the nucleus of a settlement. Prior to the erection of permanent structures services were conducted wherever shelter was available. The first pastoralists conducted services in their huts. With the arrival of clergymen to areas along the River Murray, often in small missionary boats such as the 'Etona', services were conducted as part of circuits under trees, in tents, private homes, coffee palaces, and hotels.

Church buildings were erected in the Rural City of Mildura as settlements grew and funds were raised for the establishment of permanent structures. Early structures were often constructed from local timber, and if finances allowed, were replaced by more substantial brick buildings in later years.

Many church services in the towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville line were conducted in public halls. Lutheran services were organised by German settlers at Galah and the Walpeup Memorial Hall from 1923. A Lutheran manse was built at Walpeup in 1936. St Peters Lutheran Church was built at Murrayville 1923-4. During the latter half of the twentieth century because of falling congregation members, churches have consolidated. The Methodist, Congregational and Presbyterian denominations amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. In many towns throughout the Rural City today church buildings have closed leaving only one denomination being represented by a single operating church, or several denominations operate from the one building.

Place history

The first parsonage was a stone building, built in 1923. Another was built in 1957 (Back to Underbool 1988:78). The trust for the Methodist Church was formed in 1922, with trustees Henry Jones, Fred Smith, John Renkin and Andrew Kilpatrick. The church was built in 1925, costing over £800, by builders Kennet and Daniell of Adelaide (Back to Underbool 1988:78; Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:129). The foundation stone was laid on 29 August 1925, and opened on 15 November that year to 'great rejoicing'. The bell was the gift of a church at Sebastopol to Mrs Iddles as a tribute to the memory of her father Richard Odgers. Through 1913 to 1969, 32 ministers were stationed at Underbool.

The stone building in Malkin Avenue was erected by Mr and Mrs Henry Jones. They were one of the first Methodist church families in Underbool and had the stone house built at a similar time to the building of the Methodist Church (N. Wandel, pers comm., July 2012).

A Sunday School was built in 1954, though Sunday school classes ran 1912-2000 (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:129). The Ladies Guild was a major support for the church, with a sewing circle and annual flower show contributing towards the church building fund (Back to Underbool 1988:78).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The joining together of the Anglican and Uniting churches in the Mallee has been a pragmatic response to the sparseness of the population.

Sources

Back to Underbool Committee, 1988, *Vision realised*, Underbool.

Benson, C.I., 1935. *A Century of Victorian Methodism*, Spectator Publishing, Melbourne.

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.

Underbool Centenary Committee, 2011, *Embracing our Mallee heritage*, Mallee Printers, Sea Lake.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.4 Places of worship

Description

Physical Description

The Uniting Church is an interwar church designed in the Gothic Revival style and displaying typical features of the style. The walls are of local coursed limestone set between red brick quoining. The pointed arch headed windows are set in brick reveals and the timber window frames have simple diamond leaded glass. A projecting front porch into which the foundation stone is set echoes the form of the main body of the church. The stone walls have been built only to roof springing height and above this is the gable end walls are clad in strapped fibro cement sheet. A contemporary grey brick structure has been built at the rear of the church, together with freestanding concrete block toilets, however, these alterations are not visible from Malkin Avenue.

Previous Statement Significance

The Uniting church at Underbool was constructed in 1925 of stone with brick quoining, with some lightweight cladding to the upper walls. It is likely to have historical, social and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

Most of the churches in the study area are of the small rural Gothic Revival style. St Peters Lutheran Church, Nhill Road Murrayville (1923) is built of similar limestone and brick and has some atypical features in the castellated porch and the canted bay of the sanctuary. The Lutheran church in Kenyon Street Walpeup is a timber version of the same style. Both churches have large alterations and extensions.

Sacred Heart Catholic Church Walpeup (1921) provides a comparative styled church in masonry whilst Saint John the Baptist Church in Murrayville is the most architecturally striking of the group.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The Uniting Church in Malkin Avenue Underbool built in 1925 as a Methodist church is significant. The extension at the rear and the toilet block are not significant.

How is it significant?

The Uniting Church Underbool is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Uniting Church of 1925 is part of the story of consolidation and growth of the Underbool township, in particular the provision of civic and community buildings. Methodism in the Underbool district from 1912 was part of a strong tradition of that denomination amongst rural communities in Victoria, promoted by the 'home mission' movement whose aim was to spread Methodism throughout the colonies. As a still functioning church building, the Uniting church has social value for the community in the past, present and future and reflect the joining together for worship of the Anglican and Uniting Church congregations. (Criterion A & G)

The Uniting Church is a representative example of the small rural Gothic Revival style with pitched roof and lancet windows which are typical features of the style. It is distinctive in the use of limestone with brick dressings, a design influence common in South Australia and appearing in the western Mallee towns where local limestone is available. (Criterion D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Weatherboard Cottage (McVicars)
Address 4263 Mallee Highway UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Cottage
Citation Date 2012



Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Underbool was surveyed as a railway township when the line opened in 1910. Under the 1901 Land Act, blocks of 600-700 acres were offered for sale to be paid off over 40 years. Demand was so strong that there were reportedly ten applicants for every block offered. The first store operated from a tent in the railway yard in 1911 and a hall was erected in 1913 in which a school opened the same year. As the town grew, other buildings were erected along Cotter, Malkin and Mossop Streets. By 1920, blacksmiths, a drapery store, a bakery, a butcher, a billiard room, boarding houses, a general store, a police station, a plumber, a bush nursing hospital and a post office were in operation (Lynch 1988:29-36). A hotel was built in 1926. The Underbool Women's Section of the Victorian Farmers' Union raised money to build a meeting room which opened as the Country Party Room in 1924. Artesian water in the district was too brackish for human consumption and water from Hattah Lakes was delivered to farmers by train until a channel delivering water from the Wimmera River came into operation in 1930. The channel fed two government dams and a swimming lake. In 1941 and 1968, the lake was converted into two town reservoirs; the first provided a reticulated water supply to the town. A swimming pool opened in 1978.(Lynch 1988 29-36)

Today, a hotel continues to operate at Underbool. Our Lady of the Fatima Catholic Church and the Uniting Anglican Church hold services. The township's water is now supplied by a pipeline from the River Murray.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Place history

The McVicar family were among the first pioneers to select land in the Mallee. A.H. McVicar arrived at Underbool with his son Archie in 1911, selecting a block, No.41 in the Parish of Nyang. He sowed his first main crop in 1914, By 1915, when Archie enlisted in the army, McVicar's wife and family came to Underbool, with the tin shanty replaced by a cottage (Back to Underbool 1988; Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:87).

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria
Back to Underbool Committee, 1988, *Vision realised*, Underbool.
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Underbool Centenary Committee 2011 *Embracing Our Mallee Heritage 1911-2011*

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

- 4 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
- 4.1 Agricultural settlement of the Mallee
- 4.2 Closer settlement

Description

Physical Description

McVicars farm complex comprising a weatherboard house, corrugated iron detached outbuilding, modern farm shed and remnant garden is located close to the Mallee Highway to the east of Underbool. Unusually the farm buildings are visible from the street whereas most farmhouses are situated a long way back from the road frontage. The historic photo shows a house of similar integrity (although much poorer condition). The house is typical of an early twentieth century design with a double frontage, hipped roof and curved bull-nosed verandah with simple timber fretwork that is typical of the era. Window hoods protect rooms from the direct sun and there is a metal chimney at the rear with detached flue. A brick chimney with corbelled detailing provides another feature of the house design. The corrugated iron outbuilding appears to have been used as a cookhouse and is a gable roofed building with central door and flanking windows. A large amount of farm machinery is scattered around the site together with building materials that have become detached from their structures. The buildings are set within a cleared area with a backdrop of Mallee bush and are in a deteriorated and fragile condition. A large corrugated iron shearing shed is of modern construction.

Recommended Management

As the place is in a ruinous state recording and interpretation is needed to conserve the heritage values of this place. Stabilisation of the structure, or at least the retention of material on site until it can be recorded is recommended.

Previous Statement Significance

Early closer settlement farm block on the Ouyen to Pinaroo railway (*Criterion A*).

Comparative Analysis

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Although McVicars is a representative place there are relatively few rural buildings of this age and integrity remaining in the study area as they are vulnerable to a number of environmental threats. This is the only example of a typical farm complex of the early period of settlement before 1920.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

McVicars farm house, detached cookhouse and their setting at 4263 Mallee Highway is of significance.

How is it significant?

McVicars farm is of local historic and architectural and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

McVicar's farm is of interest for its ability to demonstrate the life lived on a Mallee block at a time when the land was first opened up for selection. The property provides a snapshot of the typical Mallee farm and the spartan conditions under which families lived and worked to make a living on the land. The buildings comprising the weatherboard house and detached cookhouse are representative examples of the buildings of the region and the period in which they were constructed. (Criteria A & D)

McVicar's farm complex is unusual in its setting close to the road and has potential for interpretation. (Criterion C)

The sheet metal fireplace and flue at the rear of the house is of interest for its ingenuity in using available materials and designing within material constraints. (Criterion F)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

This information is provided for guidance only and does not supersede official documents, particularly the planning scheme. Planning controls should be verified by checking the relevant municipal planning scheme.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Commercial Hotel (former Underbool Hotel)
Address 45 Mallee Highway (AKA Cotter Street)
UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Hotel
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Underbool was surveyed as a railway township when the line opened in 1910. Under the 1901 Land Act, blocks of 600-700 acres were offered for sale to be paid off over 40 years. Demand was so strong that there were reportedly ten applicants for every block offered. The first store operated from a tent in the railway yard in 1911 and a hall was erected

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

in 1913 in which a school opened the same year. As the town grew, other buildings were erected along Cotter, Malkin and Mossop Streets. By 1920, blacksmiths, a drapery store, a bakery, a butcher, a billiard room, boarding houses, a general store, a police station, a plumber, a bush nursing hospital and a post office were in operation (Lynch 1988:29-36). A hotel was built in 1926. The Underbool Women's Section of the Victorian Farmers' Union raised money to build a meeting room which opened as the Country Party Room in 1924. Artesian water in the district was too brackish for human consumption and water from Hattah Lakes was delivered to farmers by train until a channel delivering water from the Wimmera River came into operation in 1930. The channel fed two government dams and a swimming lake. In 1941 and 1968, the lake was converted into two town reservoirs; the first provided a reticulated water supply to the town. A swimming pool opened in 1978.(Lynch 1988 29-36)

Today, a hotel continues to operate at Underbool. Our Lady of the Fatima Catholic Church and the Uniting Anglican Church hold services. The township's water is now supplied by a pipeline from the River Murray.

Hotels and inns

The following is an extract from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:73):

Early inns in the district provided accommodation, food and alcoholic refreshment to travellers, and communities a meeting place. The first inns established in the area were along stock routes and at river crossings. A hotel, for example, was licensed at Cowanna on the River Murray in 1870. De-licensing of hotels in townships in the period 1910-20 often meant the closure of the attached general store, a process impacted on again with the establishment of supermarkets in larger towns in the 1960s.

A Settlers Club opened in 1893 in Mildura and operated at premises on the corner of Eighth Street and Orange Avenue until 1993. Despite the consensus that Mildura was to be a temperance town, in August 1894 the Mildura Working Man's Club opened in Madden Avenue to provide entertainment and 'teas' to its members. In January 1895, a liquor licence was granted to the club, and even though vigorously opposed, was renewed at the turn of the century. The present site was acquired in 1908. In 1935, an upper floor was added. The club has, purportedly, had the longest bar - 91.5 metres - in the world (which was removed in 1995). The Mildura Club for professional gentlemen opened in 1890. Early meetings were at the Coffee Palace (later the Grand Hotel) until new premises were built at 29 Deakin Avenue. The present building, at the corner of Deakin Avenue and Ninth Street, was erected in 1920. William Chaffey was a long-serving president of the club up until his death in 1926.

Place history

The Commercial Hotel, Underbool, was erected in 1925-6 on land purchased by A.W.Jones in 1923-4 (Back to Underbool 1988:35). The Licensing Authority at Swan Hill issued a conditional certificate on 30 May to the 'Commercial Hotel, Underbool'. On 26 October 1925 the license was granted to A.W.Jones. Jones had previously held the license for the refreshment room at the Underbool Station, so the hotel was a significant expansion of his business. The original hotel comprised 17 bedrooms and dining room seating for 30 people. There were also 11 sleepouts at the rear of the building. The Licensing Authority approved alterations to the hotel on 4 February 1935, 1 August 1941, 15 Jun 1948, 15 March 1949 and 22 March 1954. These alterations included the addition and later removal of a first floor balcony (Back to Underbool 1988:62). The hotel became better known simply as 'Underbool Hotel'. The licence of Underbool Hotel, Underbool was transferred from Eliza B Young to Kevin M Hanily in 1940 (Argus 16 January 1940). Other licencees included Eleanor Maude White, William Roderick Pearson and Vernon Stanley Lipsett among others.

The Underbool Hotel served as both a social and commercial centre of the township. Besides providing food, drink, accommodation and spaces for socialising throughout its history, the hotel also served as the site for important commercial events such as the sale of lands in the district (Argus, 22 January 1937; 18 January 1947).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Sources

Back to Underbool Committee, 1988, *Vision realised*, Underbool.

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.

Underbool Centenary Committee 2011 *Embracing Our Mallee Heritage 1911-2011*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.7 Hotels and inns

Description

Physical Description

The Commercial Hotel Underbool is located at the eastern end of Underbool and is a two storey landmark with its wide double columned verandah that returns around the corner. Earlier photographs show that the verandah was originally two storey in part, however elements of the upper storey have been removed. This feature gives the hotel simple Inter-war classical styling. The hotel is of red face brickwork with simple rendered cornice. It has been designed with a splayed corner with entry to the bar through the original half glazed doors. A second entry to the residential and dining room part of the hotel has been changed with the replacement of the double doors although the side and fanlight still remains. A key feature of the design is the verandah supported on paired concrete columns sitting on concrete footings. The hotel retains much of its original window joinery, original chimneys and roof form. At the time of inspection works to the rear yard were under way.

Recommended Management

This place would benefit from the following conservation actions should the opportunity arise:

- Replacement of the doors to the residential wing with appropriate half glazed ones

- Reconstruction of the first floor verandah

This place would benefit from the following conservation actions should the opportunity arise:

- Replacement of the doors to the residential wing with appropriate half glazed ones

- Reconstruction of the first floor verandah, according to 1926 evidence.

Previous Statement Significance

Likely to have social value as a place where the local community meets for socialising and recreation in an isolated Victorian Mallee town (*Criterion G*).

Comparative Analysis

West of Ouyen only two hotels were identified in the study area, including Underbool and Murrayville Hotel. Murrayville is a similar 1920s building (although it has a more conservative style) for its construction date. Murrayville

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

has also undergone a number of alterations to the verandah as has Underbool.

Victoria Hotel Ouyen is the largest and most intact hotel in the study area and has some rare decorative features.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Underbool Hotel Cotter Street Underbool built in 1925-6 for licensee A.W.Jones is significant.

How is it significant?

The Underbool Hotel is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Underbool Hotel built in 1925-6 is part of the story of growth consolidation of the town during the 1920s when many buildings for civic and community life were established. This period is represented by the majority of commercial and civic buildings in Underbool. The establishment of the hotel improved the facilities or the consumption of alcohol which previously was the railway station refreshment rooms, also operated by Jones. (Criterion A)

The Underbool Hotel is of social significance as an important meeting place for the local community and as the site of many social and community events, (Criterion G)

The Underbool Hotel as the only two storey structure in the town is a landmark building. It is a well designed building of Inter-war neo classical styling as demonstrated in the double columns to the verandah (now compromised by the removal of the upper level verandah). The glazed double entry doors and side panels were an important feature of the hotel facade to Cotter Street (in 2011 the doors were not in evidence). Despite alterations to the building the overall form, roof, chimneys, face red brick walls and most of the windows are intact. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Memorial Gates
Address Monash Avenue, Outen Park UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Gate
Citation Date 2012





**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Underbool was surveyed as a railway township when the line opened in 1910. Under the 1901 Land Act, blocks of 600-700 acres were offered for sale to be paid off over 40 years. Demand was so strong that there were reportedly ten applicants for every block offered. The first store operated from a tent in the railway yard in 1911 and a hall was erected in 1913 in which a school opened the same year. As the town grew, other buildings were erected along Cotter, Malkin and Mossop Streets. By 1920, blacksmiths, a drapery store, a bakery, a butcher, a billiard room, boarding houses, a general store, a police station, a plumber, a bush nursing hospital and a post office were in operation (Lynch 1988:29-36). A hotel was built in 1926. The Underbool Women's Section of the Victorian Farmers' Union raised money to build a meeting room which opened as the Country Party Room in 1924. Artesian water in the district was too brackish for human consumption and water from Hattah Lakes was delivered to farmers by train until a channel delivering water from the Wimmera River came into operation in 1930. The channel fed two government dams and a swimming lake. In 1941 and 1968, the lake was converted into two town reservoirs; the first provided a reticulated water supply to the town. A swimming pool opened in 1978.(Lynch 1988 29-36)

Today, a hotel continues to operate at Underbool. Our Lady of the Fatima Catholic Church and the Uniting Anglican Church hold services. The township's water is now supplied by a pipeline from the River Murray.

Place History

Malkin Avenue was named after Frederick Malkin, the first settler to arrive in Underbool in 1910 (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:26) Outen Park was named after the only son of James and Georgina Outen of Underbool, Roy Outen, who served in the First World War. The nineteen year old was killed in battle in France on 19 July 1916 at Fromelles. He was the first native of Underbool killed in the war of 1914-18 (Underbool Centenary Committee 2011:29).

The Memorial Gates to Outen Park were replaced [date] and the pillars were inscribed with the names of those local men who were killed in the two World Wars.

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.
Lynch, J, 2011. *The Underbool and District National Party Womens Branch Rooms*.
Underbool Centenary Committee 2011 *Embracing Our Mallee Heritage 1911-2011*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10. COMMUNITY LIFE
10.5 Wars

Description

Physical Description

2009: Sugar gums at entrance.
2012:

The memorial gates to Outen Park are a landmark feature in Malkin Street which divides around the central reserve. The

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

gates and pair of sugar gums *Eucalyptus Cladocalyx* form a focus to the street. The rough cast rendered pillars have plaques to WWI on the left and WW2 on the right. Each of the plaques is inscribed with names of those who died in the conflicts, including R Outen after whom the park and entrance gates are named. The gate is of decorative cyclone wire mesh and the arch with lettering is of wrought iron set between new square hollow section posts. The park contains a playground and swimming pool.

Previous Statement Significance

Likely to have social significance as community memorial to local soldiers killed in World Wars 1 & 2 (*Criterion G*)

Comparative Analysis

Outen Park is the earliest example of memorial gates in the study area although there are others at the Ngallo football ground and at Blackburn Park in Ouyen. Both of these are later examples and Outen Park provides the greatest physical evidence of memorialisation.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The memorial pillar and gates and pair of sugar gums (*Eucalyptus Cladocalyx*) at Outen Park Underbool erected in XX are significant.

How is it significant?

The gates and trees at the entrance to Outen Park are of local historic and aesthetic significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Outen Park gates are part of the tradition of honouring those who served and died in World Wars. The park and the gates commemorate the first soldier from Underbool to die in World War 1, Roy Outen. The two sugar gums are historically significant as they represent the custom of planting sugar gums as memorial avenues throughout the Mallee, many of which have now been removed. (*Criterion A*)

The memorial gates, sugar gums and archway to Outen Park are a landmark feature in Malkin Avenue, providing a focal point to the street. The pillars of rough-cast render are representative 1920s styled features, as are the cyclone wire gates. (*Criterion E*)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

Yes Pair of sugar gums either side of gates.

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes Gates and pillars, memorial plaques.

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Walpeup Primary School
Address 14 Glen Street WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type School - State (public)
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is this highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Education

This is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:70):

During the period of first white settlement of the Rural City of Mildura, most station homesteads were too isolated to send children to school. Some children attended boarding schools in the city; others were instructed by governesses and tutors at home. In 1872, the Victorian Education Act established a central public school system based on the principles of free, secular and compulsory education. Local residents, often represented by Progress Associations, petitioned the Department of Education to give approval for the opening of a school. Early school buildings were constructed of local materials. Schools were built at an average of ten miles apart so that children could walk or ride. Settlers often donated the land, provided half the cost of the school (sometimes more), and boarded the teacher, while the government paid teachers' wages, provided some equipment and the balance of school costs. Because of a lack of financial resources of many of the settler communities, schools often did not appear until some years after settlement. School buildings were used for a variety of community purposes.

Mildura Agricultural High School opened in 1913. A high school opened in Ouyen in 1929. The first Victorian Consolidated School using buildings from outlying areas was established in Murrayville in 1946. An initiative of the Chaffey brothers, from 1916 through to present day the Mildura College Lease Act has provided funding to local schools from rentals on land. A branch of the University of Melbourne operated at Mildura 1947-9. La Trobe University currently operates a campus at Mildura.

Winston Lamb points out that "[o]ne of the most striking features of the collected histories of Mallee schools is the number of occasions on which buildings were moved from one site to another. Schools opened and closed with remarkable frequency; indeed of the 378 schools established in the Region in the century, only 100 still continue to function [in 1973]. The reasons are not hard to find, for they relate closely to the topography of the area, the availability of transport and water, and the legislation which was implemented to open very marginal districts for closer settlement" (Blake 1973:307).

Walpeup district was opened for selection in 1901. By 1911 a school was needed; the first lessons being at the Johns' home northeast of the township. In 1912 lessons were conducted in the public hall near the Fire Brigade Hall. In 1914 a one room wooden school was built on Glen Street [the site of the present school] and a second room was added to the building in 1927 (Blake 1973:353-4). A one room school was moved from Torrita to Walpeup in 1978 and now acts as the art room. (OLHRC,1989,64)

Place history

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first school in Walleup operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912. Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on (*Thematic Environmental History* 2009:60).

Historic associations include a visit in 1916 by the Governor General. Former pupils include Hon. William Borthwick, formerly a Minister of Water Supply, and JA Cole, former Director of Primary Education taught at Walpeup from 1835-38. (OLHRC, 1989, 75)

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.

Blake, L. 1973. *From Vision to Realisation: a centenary history of state education in Victoria*. Victorian Education Department, Melbourne.

Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 29-36.

Nicolls Jand Angel, A 2003 *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, South Australia.

Ouyen Local History Resource Centre, *What Happened to all the Schools?*, 1989.

Vallance, 1969, *Back to Walpeup*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.2 Schools

Description

Physical Description

2009: Early weatherboard standard type school buildings, now used as a residence?

2012:

The Walpeup primary school is located at the corner of Glen and Richardson Streets. The school is comprised of three timber buildings and a toilet block of recent construction. The original one room school building of 1914 remains and has been incorporated into a larger structure of 1927 that forms the main building for the school. The gable roof, gable end louvre vent decoration are visible on elevation, whilst an additional classroom and hallway has been added to this structure. The two brick chimneys reflect the age of parts of the structure, one of which is red brick with a corbelled top, and one of which is of plain construction and of darker brick.

A second building on the site is the one room school from Torrita, now known as the Torrita Room. It comprises a one room hipped roof building with a recessed corner porch. A large shelter shed comprises the third building of the primary school. This is partly open sided and has a hipped roof supported on timber posts across the front. The building has been refurbished and much of the weatherboards and roofing have been replaced. Children's paintings adorn the back wall.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The site has a number of improvements in seating, play areas, paving and landscaping. Shade shelters have been placed over the some of the areas.

Previous Statement Significance

The Walpeup Primary School is of potential historical and social significance as a good example of an early school building that served the local community of the Mallee town of Walpeup. (Criterion A, G)

Comparative Analysis

Primary schools in the Mallee have all but disappeared from the smaller settlements and Walpeup and Ouyen are the best examples of primary schools comprising the earliest remaining school buildings.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Walpeup Primary School comprising the 1914 building with additions in 1927, the former Torrita School, now the Torrita Room and the shelter shed is significant.

How is it significant?

Walpeup Primary School is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The original school building erected on the site in 1914 with extensions in 1927 is one of few primary schools to survive the consolidation of so many one room schools, once located in tiny settlements. The Torrita room demonstrates the common practice of moving school buildings as a result of population shifts in rural areas and consolidation of schools. Walpeup has a connection with the visit of the Governor-General and Governor to the region in 1916, as well as with the education of a former Minister of Water Supply, Hon. William Borthwick. A former teacher from 1935-38, JA Cole later became a Director of Primary Education. (Criteria A & H)

The 1914 building with additions in 1927, the Torrita Room and the shelter shed are representative examples of timber school buildings, retaining their form and exterior appearance with brick chimneys, weatherboard cladding, some windows and louvres to the gables. (Criterion D)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes Shelter shed and former Torrita school.

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Memorial Hall
Address Glen Street (cnr Richardson Street) WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Hall Public,Other - Collections
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS No

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Halls and meeting places

This is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71):

Public, memorial, shire and church halls became the focus of district social life. The erection of a public or memorial hall, often through the efforts of the local progress association, stood as a measure of faith in the future of the community. Often built of timber, or only partly finished, halls required regular upkeep and often rebuilding. Torrita Hall, for instance, was built by the Murphy brothers of Walpeup in 1935. Measuring 45 feet by 25 feet, it was constructed of hardwood, pine and galvanised iron. Funds did not run to internal lining at the time. Communities came up with creative ideas on how to raise funds needed for upkeep and extensions. Additions to, and internal linings for halls were sometimes built from funds raised though the sale of wheat harvests. In Linga, a wool exhibition in 1935 raised £38 for the hall. From 1970, Linga and Underbool shared a hall built in that year.

Halls became the focus of community life and housed a variety of activities, including school classes, dances, meetings, church services, wedding receptions, drama and musical entertainments, kitchen teas, court cases, debates, horticulture shows, and film screenings. In the 1920s, community facilities were often financed in part by the holding of Queen Competitions in local halls. These competitions involved young women of the community in a round of fund-raising activities. Halls were also the focus of sadder occasions such as gatherings to commemorate the lives of servicemen who did not return, or send offs to settler families leaving the district.

Place history

The Memorial Hall at Walpeup was built by Mr Southgate in 1923. The bricks for the halls arrived by train and were carted by horse and dray from the Railway Station. After the hall's construction Mr Southgate suggested to the committee that the top half of the brick exterior have rough plaster applied, this he suggested 'would improve the halls appearance' (Pole 1983). Due to limited finance, the committee voted against the idea, yet when Mr Southgate offered to rough plaster the walls free of charge the committee were in favour.

Walpeup Memorial Hall was built in 1923 to fill both this need and as a memorial to the sacrifices of the Great War of 1914-18. The land and building cost £2,225, and opened with a 'grand opening' on 12 September 1923 (Back to Walpeup 1969:26). The building was governed by a committee and assisted by a Ladies' Auxiliary. Its many social events included plays, musical events and entertainments organised by the Walpeup Young People's Social Club. Fund raising events included those such as a euchre party and dance In aid of the Walpeup Memorial Hall, which realised a profit of £11 in January 1934 (*The Argus* 5 January 1934). Social events included not only the public, but also personal, such as a kitchen tea held in the Walpeup Memorial Hall by Miss Ivy-Vallance of Walpeup to mark her impending marriage to Mr.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Collins, of Woomelang (*The Argus* 21 March 1938).

Sources

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

- 10 COMMUNITY LIFE
- 10.3 Halls and meeting places

Description

Physical Description

2009: Red brick building with rendered sections. Elements including: hall, welcome home banner, tapestry 'Walpeup 1989' and avenue of sugar gums on Glen Street.

2012:

The Walpeup Memorial Hall is an Inter-war neoclassical building with a symmetrical facade. The main decorative features are the pediment and parapet which features classically derived ornament in stucco. A pair of double-hung sash windows flank each side of the central doorway. The hall is built from red face brick in stretcher bond but the upper parts of the side walls are finished with rough cast render between piers of red brick. There is an extension to the rear in weatherboard with a skillion roof.

In 1946 stays were put across both side walls as they were falling inwards. The roof was also repaired. A ticket box was added to the hall in 1948, along with turnstiles at the two front gates. In 1952 a tank and stand were brought to the hall. An annex was added to the supper room in 1953 for £99 10/-, and by 1955 electricity came to the hall. In 1957 the hall was replastered and repainted in 1958. The floor was replaced with jarrah timber in 1964 and a new toilet block and store room were added in 1968. During this year the summer room annex was also extended to the full length of the supper room (Pole, 1983:). A concrete ramp has been constructed at the front of the hall but otherwise it has few external alterations.

The hall contains a collection relating to the history of Walpeup and district. Of particular note is a tapestry 'Walpeup 1989' and a dramatic Welcome Home banner for troops returning from World War I.

Most of the public buildings in Walpeup are in Glen Street which also has a row of sugar gums used as street plantings. Lawn and shrubs provide most of the setting to the hall apart from a paved forecourt in the front.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Previous Statement Significance

The Memorial Hall was constructed in 1923 to honour the servicemen and women of the Great War (1914-1918). It is designed in the classical style and constructed of face red brick with a rendered parapet. The side walls comprise a rough cast render finish to the upper walls and red brick to the lower walls. The Welcome Home Banner and tapestry entitled 'Walpeup 1989' are also likely to be significant in their own right. The Memorial Hall will have social, historical and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

Walpeup Memorial Hall and Torrita Hall (1935) provide the best examples of public halls. Both are intact examples although of very different architecture. Torrita is a galvanized iron clad structure of timber frame whereas Walpeup is a solid masonry building. They are both more intact than the Cowangie Soldier's Memorial Hall of 1924.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Memorial Hall at the corner of Glen and Richardson Streets Walpeup built in 1923 is significant. The significance extends to the interior and the documentary collection, community tapestry and Welcome Home banner.

How is it significant?

The Memorial Hall is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Memorial Hall represents the commemoration of World War I through the provision of much-needed community infrastructure in the period immediately following 1918. For the Ouyen to Murrayville district this coincided with the establishment of settled farming, the building of townships and the provision of civic and religious buildings. The Welcome Home banner created to welcome home troops in 1918 is an integral part of the historic significance of the place. The hall was used for numerous social and civic purposes and was the focus of public life in Walpeup. (Criterion A)

The Memorial Hall continues to be a centre for community life through the collection and storage of documentary records relating to the history of Walpeup and district, and the creation of a community tapestry now hanging in the hall. (Criterion G)

The Memorial Hall is a representative example of an Inter-war neo-classical building displaying the typical features of symmetrical composition and classically derived ornamentation to the pediment and parapet. The hall features face red brick and rough-cast render on the side walls to create variety in texture and colour. Interior repairs and alterations have not diminished the integrity of the Memorial Hall. (Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

Yes
Yes
No
No
-
-
-

Internal Alteration Controls

Tree Controls

Fences & Outbuildings

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

Incorporated Plan

Aboriginal Heritage Place

Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Sacred Heart Catholic Church
Address 17 Glen Street East WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Church
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is this highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Places of worship

The following is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71-72):

A church was often one of the first buildings erected as the nucleus of a settlement. Prior to the erection of permanent structures services were conducted wherever shelter was available. The first pastoralists conducted services in their huts. With the arrival of clergymen to areas along the River Murray, often in small missionary boats such as the 'Etona', services were conducted as part of circuits under trees, in tents, private homes, coffee palaces, and hotels. The first Anglican service in Underbool was conducted by a lay preacher at the old Underbool bore.

Church buildings were erected in the Rural City of Mildura as settlements grew and funds were raised for the establishment of permanent structures. Early structures were often constructed from local timber, and if finances allowed, were replaced by more substantial brick buildings in later years.

Many church services in the towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville line were conducted in public halls. Lutheran services were organised by German settlers at Galah and the Walpeup Memorial Hall from 1923. A Lutheran manse was built at Walpeup in 1936. St Peters Lutheran Church was built at Murrayville 1923-4. During the latter half of the twentieth century because of falling congregation members, churches have consolidated. The Methodist and Presbyterian denominations amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. In many towns throughout the Rural City today church buildings have closed leaving only one denomination being represented by a single operating church, or several denominations operate from the one building.

Place history

The Walpeup Roman Catholic community worshipped three or four times a year in the Parish Hall until 1921. In that year, the church was constructed. Walpeup was part of the Ouyen Parish, with priests based in Ouyen (Back to Walpeup 1969:31). The church was opened by Dr Foley, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Ballarat on Tuesday 20 September 1921, and cost £2,000 (*The Argus* 22 December 1921). The Mallee area comes under the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Ballarat which comprises 125 Mass communities belonging to 52 parishes in the western half of Victoria.

Sources

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Nicolls Jand Angel, A 2003 *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, South Australia

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Vallance, DH, *Back to Walpeup 1969*

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.4 Places of worship

Description

Physical Description

Glen Street is a dual carriageway road leading from the Mallee Highway to the Walpeup South Road and forms the major cross street for Walpeup. At the top of the small rise is the Catholic Church within a roughly cleared area surrounded by Mallee bushland. The church is an Inter-war gothic revival church built of face red brick. The church features a porch with castellated parapet and a sanctuary that is placed perpendicular to the nave.

The church includes simple brick detailing to the gables, stepped piers as buttresses and paired lancet windows. The apex of the gables includes terra cotta finials in the form of a cross. The windows are highlighted by shaped brickwork forming pointed arches. The front elevation features diamond leaded windows arranged in threes to the porch and high in the gable. Some basket weave decorative brickwork is at the top of the gable. There have been minimal changes to the exterior and the church has a high level of integrity.

Previous Statement Significance

The Catholic Church was constructed in 1921 and is built of red brick. The porch has a castellated parapet. Of some note are the diagonal leaded windows that are arranged in threes, and of two different designs. The interior is of interest. It will have social, historic and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

There are several other churches in the study area built in the 1920s. These include:

- . St John the Baptist, Murrayville (1929)
- . St Peter's Lutheran Church Murrayville (1923)
- . Uniting Anglican Church Underbool (1925)

Of these churches St John the Baptist is the most architecturally adventurous, as an Arts and Crafts Revival building. The others are all simply executed Gothic Revival buildings which are similar to Sacred Heart Catholic Church.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Glen Street Walpeup built in 1921 is significant.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

How is it significant?

Sacred Heart Catholic Church is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Sacred Heart Catholic Church of 1921 demonstrates the consolidation of the township of Walpeup during the 1920s when most of the civic and commercial buildings were established. As a still functioning church building, Sacred Heart Catholic church has social value for the community in the past, present and future. (Criterion A & G)

Sacred Heart Catholic Church is a representative example of the small Inter-war Gothic Revival style church with pitched roof and triple lancet windows which are typical features of the style. The church is distinguished by the porch with castellated parapet, diamond leaded glass windows, basket weave brick detailing and terra cotta finials.(Criteria D & E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Relift pumping station
Address Hopetoun-Walpeup Road WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Water Pump House/Pumping Station
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is this highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Thematic context

Away from the River Murray, water in the area of the Mallee that was to become the Rural City of Mildura was supplied by lake systems, swamps, soaks fed by springs, clay pans and the building of catchment channels to augment run off into tanks sunk earlier by squatters. (Ballinger 2009:35)

Re-lift pumping stations were part of the irrigation infrastructure of the region. While the Wimmera-Mallee system, like most township supply systems, relied predominantly on gravity to distribute water a number of pumping stations were built to bring water to land above the level or reach of the gravitational system. Between 1913 and 1947 over twelve pumping stations were constructed. The original pumps, powered by steam, introduced by the Chaffey Bros. in the 1880s were still in use in the 1930s, but were converted to electric power when Mildura was connected to the State electricity grid after World War II (Context 2007:40). The original installations were powered by steam, converted to diesel and finally to electricity.

'In 1924 it was decided to take a gravitational channel from Patchewollock through 12 miles of very sandy country partly by gravitation, partly by pumping, to areas in the vicinity of Walpeup, which were outside the limits of useable bore water' (East 1965:40).

Place history

Constructed in 1931 the Walpeup Pumping Station pumped water from Dennyning Channel and was built to supply water to the areas north and north west of Walpeup. The station supplied water to 92km of channel and filled 161 dams as well as water to the Walpeup town storages. When built, the station was 'powered by two Ronaldson Tippet 65-62 h.p crude oil engines. These ran at 230 r.p.m. These in turn drove 2 6" diameter Kelly and Lewis Centrifugal pumps' (Ouyen Local History Resources Centre, information held within Water Supply - Domestic and Stock Supply - Channel).

The other 12 pumping stations in the Mallee included those at Millewa, Eureka, and Cannie, serving in total 1,428 square miles. Of these, only those at Coreena and Carwarp were also re-lift pumps (East 1965:40).

In 1957 a larger Blackstone diesel engine replaced the original engines. With this new engine, the stations pump output increased by 20%. Sometime between late 1966 and early 1967 the diesel engines and pumps were replaced by two Thompson 8" and 10" pumps and two electric motors of 100 and 50 h.p.

The Re-lift pumping station is on the Torrita channel, which formed one of the four main channel branches in the area - the Nyang branch supplying Underbool and surrounding areas on the north and south, the Torrita Branch supplying Torrita, Nyang Central Channel supplying south of Torrita, and the Gnarr Channel supplying north of Torrita (Back to

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Underbool 1988:16). The channel system was surveyed in 1926 by Surveyor Gus Horner, and contractors were employed to build the channels with farmers doing 'piece work'. The channel system was mostly gravitational, however, sections such as this required a re-lift pump. Channel water reached Underbool in 1930 (Back to Underbool 1988:15).

Largest gravitational irrigation system to bring water from the Grampians to the Mallee region.

The channels were replaced by the Northern Mallee water pipeline in 1999. Most of the channels have since been filled to allow more broad acre farming, and it is only in selected areas around the pumping station and in the Timberoo Forest Reserve that there are unfilled channels.

Sources

Back to Underbool Committee, 1988, *Vision realised*, Underbool.

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Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

5 WATER SUPPLY

5.1 Domestic and stock supply

Description

Physical Description

2009: See Ward, Andrew C. & Associates, 1986, *Mallee Area Review - Study of Historic Sites, for Land Conservation Council*.

A corrugated iron, steel and timber framed, gable roofed building on concrete slab fed by Torrita Channel off the Denning main channel.

2012:

Walpeup township is located at a high point in the elevation of the Mallee area and the water flowing by gravity along the irrigation channels needed pumping to reach the township. The pumping station and associated length of channel, pumps and equipment are an evocative reminder of the irrigation system prior to the pipeline replacing all of the open channels.

The pump house is a steel and timber framed corrugated iron clad structure with a clear span single space inside that housed the pumping equipment. There is an interesting steel truss construction system that spans the internal space. Large concrete plinths remain however the pumps have been removed. One set of pumps are on display in the public reserve in Walpeup.

The main building of symmetrical gable roofed form has an extension to the side with a skillion roof. Windows and doors are of timber construction and the cladding is horizontally laid corrugated galvanized iron. The interior is unlined,

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

exposing the framing but comprises the sumps and mountings of the pumps and engines in the concrete floor. Windows are eight pane sashes with fixed hopper type ventilation.

A remnant of the irrigation channel extends approximately one kilometre from the pumping station and part of the piping system into the pump house and sump pits still remain. It is possible to gain an understanding of the irrigation system from the elements remaining at the Walpeup re-lift pumping station.

Previous Statement Significance

See Ward, Andrew C. & Associates, 1986, *Mallee Area Review - Study of Historic Sites, for Land Conservation Council*.

A corrugated iron, steel and timber framed, gable roofed building on concrete slab fed by Torrita Channel off the Dennyning main channel.

The re-lift pumping station is of potential historical significance as a rare example of water infrastructure required to bring water to Walpeup, the highest point of the Victorian Mallee. (Criterion A, B, C).

Comparative Analysis

Walpeup was one of twelve pumping stations built in the region. It is not known how many still exist.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Walpeup Pumping Station, constructed in 1931, built to pump water from Dennyning Channel and associated length of channel, pumps (now relocated to Walpeup public reserve) and remaining pumping equipment are of significance.

How is it significant?

The Walpeup re-lift pumping station is of local historic, technical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Walpeup re-lift pumping station was one of twelve pumping stations built between 1913 and 1947 to bring water to land above the level or reach of the gravitational system. Walpeup is one of only three re-lift stations, including Coreena and Carwarp, to operate the same way. Pumping stations were a vital part of the irrigation infrastructure of the region which relied on water being delivered by gravity from the Grampians water storages. The Walpeup pumping station provided water to flow to the Dennyng Channel (an offshoot of the Torrita channel on which the pumping station is based) to the Walpeup region, enabling farming and development of the township. (Criterion A)

Engines and pumps at the Walpeup Pumping Station comprised representative examples of the original steam powered pump installations introduced to the Mildura region by the Chaffey Bros. in the 1880s, converted to diesel and finally to electricity when Mildura was connected to the State electricity grid after World War II. The pumping station continued to improve its capacity through the introduction of a diesel Blackstone engine in 1957, later replaced in 1967 with two Thompson pumps and two electric motors. (Criterion F)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The main galvanized iron building, including the interior sumps and engine mountings, and a section of the irrigation channel contribute to an understanding of the irrigation system as a whole. (Criterion D)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	Yes
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name	Lutheran Church		
Address	Kenyon Street WALPEUP	Significance Level	Local
Place Type	Church		
Citation Date	2012		





**Recommended
Heritage Protection**

VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Places of worship

The following is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71-72):

A church was often one of the first buildings erected as the nucleus of a settlement. Prior to the erection of permanent structures services were conducted wherever shelter was available. The first pastoralists conducted services in their huts. With the arrival of clergymen to areas along the River Murray, often in small missionary boats such as the 'Etona',

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

services were conducted as part of circuits under trees, in tents, private homes, coffee palaces, and hotels. The first Anglican service in Underbool was conducted by a lay preacher at the old Underbool bore.

Church buildings were erected in the Rural City of Mildura as settlements grew and funds were raised for the establishment of permanent structures. Early structures were often constructed from local timber, and if finances allowed, were replaced by more substantial brick buildings in later years.

Many church services in the towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville line were conducted in public halls. Lutheran services were organised by German settlers at Galah and the Walpeup Memorial Hall from 1923. A Lutheran manse was built at Walpeup in 1936. St Peters Lutheran Church was built at Murrayville 1923-4. During the latter half of the twentieth century because of falling congregation members, churches have consolidated. The Methodist and Presbyterian denominations amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. In many towns throughout the Rural City today church buildings have closed leaving only one denomination being represented by a single operating church, or several denominations operate from the one building.

Place history

The Walpeup Lutheran community was visiting in its early days by visiting ministers in the old hall at Galah. However from 1923, services were held in the Walpeup Memorial Hall, and the town came under the pastoral care of the parish of Hopetoun, from whence Pastor C. Jaensch visited. A manse was built in 1936 and a local parish formed under H. Noack including Boinka, Linga, Underbool, Walpeup and Ouyen (Back to Walpeup,1969:30).

St Peter's Lutheran Church was relocated to Walpeup in 1973 from Green Lake (Stawell side of Horsham) (M. Pole, pers comm, 2012). The NE Express notes that 'the building was a gift to the local congregation from the former Green Lake congregation which disbanded last year (NE Express 1973). Of interest, the tender to construct the Green Lake Lutheran Church was won by Mr B. McCullen of Horsham in 1925 (Horsham Times 1925:6).

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Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.4 Places of worship

Description

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Physical Description

St Peter's Lutheran Church is a Gothic Revival church of a single gable roof form with attached porch. Of timber construction with weatherboard wall cladding and a corrugated iron roof, one of the distinguishing features is the windows. These are designed with pointed arch heads and feature glazing bars that accentuate their Gothic shape resembling their design origins in stone tracery. Over the top of the external doors there are fanlights of matching design. The existing colour scheme picks out the window details with contrasting colours of white and tan, and shows them to advantage.

A brick hall has been added as a separate building to one side of the church and the two buildings are joined with a roof and concrete floor slab. A row of pine trees borders the site and provides a secluded setting to the church.

Previous Statement Significance

The Lutheran Church is designed in the gothic revival style. Of particular note are the windows that have curved glazing bars to the top of the sashes. The church will have social, historic and aesthetic values.

Comparative Analysis

Other Lutheran churches in the study area include St Peters Lutheran Church Murrayville (1923-4) which is a purpose built Lutheran Church of limestone and brick. A similar timber church is the Torrita Uniting Church -now the Torrita Room, Oke Street Ouyen, also assessed as part of this study.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

St Peter Lutheran Church at 16 Kenyon Street.

How is it significant?

St Peter Lutheran Church is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura. The extension built in the 1960s is not significant.

Why is it significant?

[Historical significance to be determined]

St Peter's Lutheran Church is a representative timber Gothic Revival church. Notable architectural features of this church include the curved glazing bars of the multi-paned windows and fanlights over the doors (Criteria D & E).

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

No

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Water Tank
Address Kenyon Street (cnr Glen Street) WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Water Tank
Citation Date 2012





Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paigie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Domestic and stock water supply

The following is taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:35-39):

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Away from the River Murray, water in the area of the Mallee that was to become the Rural City of Mildura was supplied by lake systems, swamps, soaks fed by springs, clay pans and the building of catchment channels to augment run off into tanks sunk earlier by squatters.

Engineer J. D. Derry, who accompanied Alfred Deakin on his 1885 American tour was instrumental in the formation of the Wimmera United Waterworks Trust. Derry devised a scheme to use the Wimmera, Yarriambiack, Dunmunkle and Richardson as distributaries. The Wartook Reservoir was completed in 1887, and a series of channels, weirs and tanks was laid out. This system eventually conveyed water to the south of the study area to the country of what was to become the Shire of Walpeup. In the northwest Mallee to which the Wimmera scheme could not supply water, in 1887 the Victorian Water Supply Department recommended the sinking of test bores in an effort to tap into underground water supplies. The first bore was No. 2 at Morton Plains. By 1897, efforts made to tap into artesian supplies in the Mallee were described as useless.

Public bores were sunk in 1910 at Boinka and Underbool, and in 1911 at Linga. Others were established in 1912 at Manpy, Daalko, Nyang, Underbool and Boinka. The bore at Boinka tapped into artesian water that rose above ground level. Water at the other bores was accessed by hand pumps, horse operated pumps and windmills. Bores were opened at Tutye, Duddo, Gongee, Boinka and Underbool in 1920. Water from these bores was often too saline for human consumption, so in 1929 farmers sunk their own bores in the parishes of Boinka, Manpy, Koonaa and Purnya. The bore established at Murrayville in the same year was connected to a deep well turbine pump, the first of its type in Australia. By 1930, the boundary of the area in which usable underground water could be accessed was well defined. Even with the establishment of bores and tanks, water trains were a feature of Mallee life until the late 1920s when the last delivered 200,000 gallons of water to Torrita in February 1928.

Under the SRWSC, over the period 1906-1936 a three-fold expansion in the area served by the Wimmera-Mallee scheme was achieved, with the total number of people served in the region growing from 12,000 to 52,000. In 1930-1, the Wimmera Mallee Water Supply's channel system was extended to supply the Underbool township and vicinity, and to the high country adjacent to Walpeup. It was officially opened in March 1943. However, approximately 500,000 acres of wheat growing country in the Mallee, mostly between Underbool and the South Australian border, remained dependent on water supply from sub-artesian bores, with 109 of these controlled and maintained by the Commission.

Additional historical material is needed on the domestic water supply system for Walpeup as the tank is part of the town water supply, not agricultural water. **Sources**

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.
Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 29-36.
Nicolls Jand Angel, A 2003 *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, South Australia
Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

5 WATER SUPPLY

5.1 Domestic and stock supply

Description

Physical Description

2009: Water tank on elevated stand.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

2012:

The elevated water tank at the corner of Kenyon and Glen Streets Walpeup is a square steel structure set on an elevated steel frame. From this position at the top of the hill, the tank is designed to provide sufficient water pressure for the town. The elevated square tank is a standard design consisting of reinforced steel plates, and is found in a number of rural towns throughout Victoria.

Previous Statement Significance

The water tank at Kenyon and Glenn Streets Walpeup is of potential historical significance as part of the water infrastructure that enabled the settlement of the Mallee. (Criterion A, D)

Comparative Analysis

No other water tanks of this type were identified as part of the study.

Statement of Significance

This citation is incomplete as additional historical material is required to support its recommendation. The water tank is potentially of historical, technical and aesthetic significance as representative of a type of water tank with landmark qualities.

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	No
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name McKinnons Farm House
Address McKinnon Lane (cnr of Hopeton-Walpeup Road) WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Homestead Complex
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Place history

The McKinnon's farmhouse is situated approximately 10km south of Walpeup. The property was named Tulloch Gorum, after Scottish family ties (McKinnon, 2012 pers. comm., February 20). The McKinnons were of Scottish background and were considered 'gentry' in the region.

Alexander McKinnon, know as Sandy McKinnon, first came to the Mallee from St Arnaud in 1912. Sandy built the first farmhouse at Tulloch Gorum from pine posts cut from the property. The four room house had a corrugated iron roof, hessian bag covered floor, front veranda and a wash house towards to rear of the property (McKinnon, 2012 pers. comm., February 20).

In 1927 Sandy built the second family home. Constructed in front of the original farmhouse, the second house and outbuildings were constructed from local material, namely limestone, pine and cement reinforced with barbed wire. A 10 foot verandah surrounded the entire house, which had three large bedrooms, a formal lounge room, a dining room, kitchen and bathroom (McKinnon, 2012 pers. comm., February 20).

McKinnon notes that the farmhouse had walls that were 15 inches thick with a corrugated iron roof. There was a wash house and toilet off the back veranda. Furthermore, the house had leadlight doors, a large ornate fireplace and a lattice trimmed front veranda (McKinnon, 2012 pers. comm., February 20).

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.
Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 29-36.
Nicolls Jand Angel, A 2003 *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, South Australia.
Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
4.2 Closer settlement

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Description

Physical Description

2009: Ruined house, cement block. Meat house, shearing shed.
2012:

The former McKinnon property is visible from the Hopetoun Walpeup Road and accessed a short distance up McKinnon's Lane and through a pair of HV McKay steel gates. The ruins of the McKinnons farmhouse are a rare feature in the landscape, and upon closer inspection, the ruins of other buildings and the garden layout are also evident on the site. The former McKinnon's farm is atypical for the area, and is unlike other farm blocks that have more modest dwellings.

As the largest ruin on site the house is substantial and consists of almost complete walls with no roof. Some remnants of a timber door and window joinery remain but most timber is decayed or has been removed. The walls are built from rubble limestone and are plastered both sides. A rough-cast render is used to the exterior and the interior has been smoothly plastered. The house is substantial in size comprising a central double fronted section projecting forward of other rooms. A return verandah was once a feature of the house and evidence for it can be seen in markings on the walls and the base of a terrace.

Windows and doors were ornamented but smooth plaster architraves, and the major windows were large triple light sash windows. The house is large for the region and employs many stylistic elements of late nineteenth century urban houses.

There is evidence of a garden laid out with some formality in front of the house. Two gate posts of stone with rendered finish and elaborate cappings remain as markers of a former fence line.

To the rear and side of the house is an outbuilding built of small stones set in earth and reinforced with various types of metal including strapping and barbed wire. This ruinous building appears to have had some function associated with the house such as a cool store or meat house.

A timber outbuilding is situated a small distance from the house as is a machinery shed and shearing shed. The remains of a driveway planted with sugar gums leads to the house. McKinnons was once a very elaborate and large house with some architectural style.

Recommended Management

The ruins of McKinnon's farm house and outbuildings are at risk of deterioration as the top of the walls are exposed to the weather and the mortar between the limestone erodes away, eventually causing collapse of the wall structure. Photographic documentation is recommended to record the remaining evidence of this place.

Previous Statement Significance

McKinnon's Farm consisting of the ruined house, meat house and shearing shed is of potential historic significance as a good example of the early agricultural settlement of the Mallee (Criterion A, C, D).

Comparative Analysis

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Another large stone structure is Grigg's barn at 694 Yellangip Connection Road Walpeup, however this building was used as a farm building and has not been rendered. Ouyen has some interesting bungalow houses of the 1920s including 36 Pickering Street, 20 Scott Street and 22 Cooper Street, all of which have been assessed for this study. There are no other houses that are similar to McKinnon's in rural locations that have been identified.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The remains of McKinnon's house and garden, formerly known as Tulloch Gorum off Hopetoun-Walpeup Road built in 1927 for Alexander McKinnon, is significant. The site also contains several outbuildings of significance related to the farm house.

How is it significant?

McKinnon's or (Tulloch Gorum) is of local historic, technical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

McKinnon's farmhouse is associated with Alexander McKinnon, a farmer of Scottish descent who came to the Mallee from St Arnaud in 1912. The present house represents a significant increase in prosperity following the construction of an original pine four room dwelling. (Criterion A)

McKinnon's farm represents a rare farm house complex with the remnants of a garden layout. Unlike most farmhouses in the study area, McKinnon's is a substantial masonry dwelling with some architectural features including a double return verandah that is still evident in the footings. The house plan represents a typical four room and central hall layout and the interior [although now in a ruinous state] had fireplaces and decorative internal joinery. The use of the smooth rendered rubble stone is uncommon in the Walpeup district. (Criteria B & E) The house is significant for the use of vernacular building techniques including the use of barbed wire as re-inforcement in the limestone. (Criterion F)

The outbuildings including the wash house and store, and the timber shed adds to the ability to understand the place as a substantial farm house complex. The setting provides evidence of a driveway, and rendered and capped fence posts mark the entry to a former garden in front of the house. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

No

Internal Alteration Controls

No

Tree Controls

No

Fences & Outbuildings

Yes

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Walpeup Mallee Agricultural Research Station
Address Meridian Road WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Unknown Item Type
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Thematic context

The Mallee region is a major agricultural region in Victoria, Australia, producing nearly half of Victoria's wheat, much of its barley and its oats, rye, peas and lupins. Yet this agricultural bounty defied the expectations of the earliest explorers and was made possible only through technological advances not only in methods and machinery but also in the very variety and genetic strains of crops (Sims 1982:1-15). Average wheat yields of bushels per acre had been rapidly declining since the middle of the nineteenth century as European farming methods exhausted the fertility of the soil, and it was only in the early twentieth century that agricultural advances began to increase yields and with them the economic viability of wheat farming in the region and around Australia (Dingle 1984:112). In this 'agricultural revolution', the Walpeup Mallee Agricultural Research Station played a significant role.

Place history

The Walpeup Mallee Agricultural Research Station was established by the State Government in 1932, on 1,928 acres, as a centre for research into wheat growing and other agricultural challenges in the Mallee District (Newell 1961:2; Vallance 1969:15; Sims 1982). The project had its inception in the 1920s, as further settlement by farmers into the Mallee region highlighted the problems associated with dry land farming in Mallee conditions unsuited to traditional agricultural methods. The proposal for an experimental farm was approved by the government in 1927, but debate over its appropriate location delayed its foundation. Lobbying for the farm included a public meeting at Walpeup to advance the town's claims (Sims 1982:30).

The Walpeup site was ultimately chosen because of its central location in the Mallee, its representative climatic conditions, its virgin soil comprising the main five types common to the region, and the pre-existence of experimental plots in the vicinity (Vallance 1969:15). The 1928 acres of Crown Land was selected outside of Walpeup township on land originally gazetted as a water catchment. Additional property was added in 1947. In 1935, the station ran the Better Farming Train which toured the north west Mallee, stopping at stations along the Ouyen to Pinnaroo line, and north to Carwarp on the Millewa line. A mobile unit also toured the Mallee in the 1950s (Sims 1982:114-5).

The first harvest and Agricultural Field Day was held in 1932, and immediately became one of the major agricultural events in the area. A Manager's residence and a workman's cottage were constructed in 1934 (Vallance 1969:16). By 1969, the station comprised eight houses, a staff hostel, office, laboratory, glass house and other outbuildings.

Among the achievements of the station were the breeding of 'Insignia' wheat, which from 1959 became the most popular wheat in Australia (Vallance 1969:17). Insignia wheat was credited with putting 'millions of dollars into farmers' pockets' (Simson 1982:151). The farm's work with medic pastures, electric fencing, and methods for controlling erosion were also notable (Simson 1982:151-159). The Walpeup station was among those to advise farmers and publicise the

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

results of erosion control experiments following the landmark Soil Conservation Act which set up the Soil Conservation Board in 1940 (Dingle 1984:245).

The Mallee Research Station closed on December 25th 2009, after operating for more than 75 years (Weekly Times Now 2010). This was greeted with dismay in the farming community, and its closure was felt strongly. In 2010 Sunraysia TAFE took lease of the site, using it for educational purposes and also managing its use by public and private institutions for research and development (Australian Broadcasting Corporation Rural Report 2011).

Sources

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- Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 29-36.
- Newell J.W. 1961. Soils of the Mallee Research Station, Walpeup, Victoria. Technical Bulletin No. 13, Department of Agriculture, Victoria.
- Nicolls, J and Angel, A 2003 *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, South Australia
- Sims, H.J. 1969. Mallee sand to gold: the Mallee Research Station, Walpeup 1932-82, Department of Agriculture (Victoria), Melbourne.
- Vallance, *Back to Walpeup*.
- Weekly Times Now, January 7th 2009. *Walpeup Research Station Closes*. Accessed February 2nd 2012 http://www.weeklytimesnow.com.au/article/2010/01/07/146821_national-news.html.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

- 4 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
- 4.1 Agricultural settlement of the Mallee

Description

Physical Description

The Mallee Agricultural Research Station comprises farmland of nearly 2000 acres and a large number of buildings and infrastructure dating from 1933 onwards. Buildings comprise a main office built at the entrance to the complex c. 1980. This building apparently replaced the original limestone research station of 1933. Other buildings comprise residences and hostel accommodation for staff and students, mostly dating from the 1960s, and a large number of farm related buildings.

Two buildings remain that date from the first phase of development of the station in the 1930s—a machinery shed and stables. Both these buildings are constructed of vernacular building techniques using Murray Pine. The machinery shed is a large open sided shed with vertical timber planks to the end walls and a structure of unshaped poles used with bracing and lateral tie beams. The rafters are also of round poles but roofing battens are of sawn timber. The structural timbers are notched and held together with wire. Bottom plates are of double timber planks pegged and wired, with the vertical cladding resting on top. The floors are of earth with the main structural poles set in directly to the ground.

Murray pine is an excellent local construction timber, being largely rot and pest-resistant and was widely used for construction of farm buildings and some early residences in the Mallee. Its use for the Mallee Research Station may also be seen as a sentimental one as the timber became scarcer and vernacular building traditions were superseded by other

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

types of building with a less regional character. Both the machinery shed and the stables exhibit similar construction systems, although the machinery shed is more intact. The stables have been altered through the addition of some galvanized iron partition walls and new roof structure timbers. Both buildings have new galvanized iron roofs and guttering but otherwise are relatively intact.

Previous Statement Significance

The Walpeup Mallee Agricultural Research Station is of potential historical significance as an experimental research farm set up to advance knowledge of dryland agricultural under Mallee conditions. (Criterion A, D)

Comparative Analysis

The study of the former Shire of Walpeup has found few other examples of local pine construction. The buildings comprising the Kow Plains Homestead (1879) are also built of pine but in a different construction system of drop logs between vertical posts. The house, stable and cookhouse are much earlier buildings than those at the Mallee Research Station, but have largely been reconstructed using similar techniques. Pine Plains homestead has been demolished however a few timber outbuildings remain.

The Mallee Research Station is an early example of State Government intervention to provide research into a wide variety of Victorian agriculture.

Other research stations include

- . DPI Tatura was established in 1937 and is involved in research for a variety of agricultural industries.
- . Ellinbank (Gippsland) established in the 1950s has a long history of generating research that is used by Australia's dairy farmers.
- . Mildura also established in the 1950s has an important role in citrus, dried grape, table grape and wine grape research, and has significantly contributed to the establishment and success of these industries in Victoria.
- . Grains Innovation Park Horsham was established in the 1960s to breed wheat for Victoria; by the 1980s the breeding programs had expanded to include wheat, barley, canola, field peas, lentils and chick peas.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The stables and machinery sheds at the Mallee Research Station, Meridian Road Walpeup are significant.

How is it significant?

The stables and machinery sheds are of local historical, social, architectural and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The Walpeup Mallee Agricultural Research Station established by the State Government in 1932 as a centre for research

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

into wheat growing and other agriculture in the Mallee is historically significant as one of the earliest of its type. One of a number of agricultural research stations established around the state in different regions to provide pure and applied research to assist farmers, the Mallee Research Station operated from 1932 until its closure in 2009. Notable achievements include the breeding of Insignia wheat, research into medic pastures, electric fencing and erosion control, preceding the establishment of the Soil Conservation Board in 1940. It was the site of agricultural field days which were major district events. (Criterion A)

The research station is socially significant to the local farming community who lobbied strongly to keep it open when closure was threatened. (Criterion G)

The stables and machinery shed are the last two remaining buildings dating from the establishment of the Research Station in 1933. At the time of establishment of the research station the construction of these building represented a conscious effort to keep alive vernacular building techniques of importance to the region. (Criterion E)

These two buildings are of architectural technical significance for their demonstration of vernacular building techniques and use of Murray Pine vertical slab cladding. The supporting poles and roof structures are of particular interest, as is the manner in which the bottom plates are pinned to the ground with timber pegs. (Criterion F)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes Former stable and machinery shed.
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Uniting and Anglican Church
Address Murphy's Road WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Church
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Places of worship

The following is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:71-72):

A church was often one of the first buildings erected as the nucleus of a settlement. Prior to the erection of permanent structures services were conducted wherever shelter was available. The first pastoralists conducted services in their huts. With the arrival of clergymen to areas along the River Murray, often in small missionary boats such as the 'Etona', services were conducted as part of circuits under trees, in tents, private homes, coffee palaces, and hotels. The first Anglican service in Underbool was conducted by a lay preacher at the old Underbool bore.

Church buildings were erected in the Rural City of Mildura as settlements grew and funds were raised for the establishment of permanent structures. Early structures were often constructed from local timber, and if finances allowed, were replaced by more substantial brick buildings in later years.

Many church services in the towns on the Ouyen-Murrayville line were conducted in public halls. Lutheran services were organised by German settlers at Galah and the Walpeup Memorial Hall from 1923. A Lutheran manse was built at Walpeup in 1936. St Peter's Lutheran Church was built at Murrayville 1923-4. During the latter half of the twentieth century because of falling congregation members, churches have consolidated. The Methodist and Presbyterian denominations amalgamated to form the Uniting Church in 1977. In many towns throughout the Rural City today church buildings have closed leaving only one denomination being represented by a single operating church, or several denominations operate from the one building.

Place history

On 21 February 1914 a plot of land was purchased in Walpeup for the building of a Methodist Church. Up until the building of the church, in 1937, Methodist services were held in a farmer's hall. The building was designed by Gardner Construction Firm Pty Ltd and cost £200. This cost included a carpenter, who with the help of the community constructed the building in three weeks.

Power was connected to the Methodist Church in 1957 when the Shire of Walpeup extended the service to Underbool. In 1958 the Methodist community purchased an electronic organ and in 1986 a kitchenette was added.

The Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational denominations joined in 1977 to become the Uniting Church and in 1994 the Anglican and Uniting Churches in the study area joined to become the Central Mallee Co-operative parish (Underbool Centenary, 2011:132).

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.
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Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE
10.4 Places of Worship

Description

Physical Description

The township of Walpeup lies on the southern side of the Mallee Highway. The Uniting and Anglican Church in Murphy's Road Walpeup is situated on the eastern end of the township adjacent to the public reserve. The setting is secluded with the small church set in a clearing surrounded by a narrow border of bushland, beyond which is the cleared and cropped land. A row of cypress pines border one side of the site. Fencing is post and wire and the gates are cyclone wire.

The Walpeup Uniting and Anglican Church is a simple building of gable roof form with fibro-cement sheeting to the walls with six-pane steel-framed windows, each shaped with a pointed arch. The wall cladding is fixed between joining strips of pressed steel that have a distinctive profile. The site is fenced with cyclone wire fixed to timber posts and a cyclone wire gate opens to a concrete path.

Previous Statement Significance

The Uniting and Anglican Church is of potential social significance to the local community. (Criteria G)

Comparative Analysis

St Theresa's Catholic Church Murrayville, also assessed as part of this study is an identical building to the Walpeup Uniting and Anglican Church, demonstrating the same construction system although with different windows. They are almost certainly built by the same contractor Gardner Construction Firm Pty Ltd.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Uniting and Anglican (formerly Methodist) church erected in Murphy's Road Walpeup in 1937 is of significance.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

How is it significant?

The Uniting and Anglican church is of local historic, social and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The church represents the long-held aspirations and endeavours of the Walpeup Methodist community for a church since the purchase of land for that purpose in 1914. The church embodies changes from the Methodist to the Uniting Church and more recently to the Central Mallee Co-operative parish. (Criterion A) The building represents a focal place in community life for past, present and future generations.(Criterion G)

The church is architecturally significant as a response to the imperative of economical construction in rural and remote areas and uses a lightweight cladding system and industrial windows to achieve economy. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Lake Walpeup Reserve
Address Walpeup Lake Road WALPEUP
Place Type Reserve
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR No HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Dennyning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paignie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Thematic context

Starting in 1887 an extensive system of channels was built to bring Grampians water into parts of the Mallee. Walpeup Lakes was part of this system. (Context 2007:23; Nickolls and Angel 2002:220). This system was engineered by the Wimmera-Mallee Domestic and Stock Water Supply System.

The scheme can be traced to the 1850s when the Wilson Brothers of Longerenong 'constructed weirs on the Wimmera River to divert water for domestic and stock use' (Context 2007:23). Further settlement in the region in the late 1880s and 1890s placed further demands on the water supply, and this led to the construction of many new channels.

At completion, the system covered 28,500 square kilometres and supplied water to over 20 thousand farm dams and domestic water to 51 towns.

Place history

Historically the Walpeup Lake (originally called Timberoo Lake) filled with the annual winter channel flow, was a popular camping and recreation site. When Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water - GWM completed installing pipelines throughout the region filling of the lake was no longer viable and so it has remained dry since, despite a local committee installing a catchment area which has proved to be unsuccessful (D.Christian 2012 per. comm., February 20th).

The Walpeup Lake is located in the Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve. The Reserve was established on May 5th 1979 and is managed by Parks Victoria. It is a nature conservation reserve of 1229.1ha (D.Christian 2012 per. comm., February 20th). The Reserve contains fine examples of the threatened semi arid woodland species Slender Cypress Pine (*Callitris gracillis*), and Buloke *Allocasuarina luemannii*) along with associated plant assemblages

The land was described as 'part of the Reserved Forest in the Parish of Timberoo, County of Karkaroc, known as 'Walpeup Lake Reserve'

In 1964 the Reserve was administered by a Committee of Management whose members were R.W. Wakefield, N.J.Vallance, R.H.Mean, C.F. Corbett, D.H.Vallance, M.E.Alcock, L.E.B.Schubert, L.L.Murphy, H.B. Ingle, J.A.Rose, B.T.Sheahan, E.C.Symes, and E.C.Walton.

Resident, Mrs M. Pole notes that 'we used to love going down to the lake for a picnic on a hot summers evening. The kids had a ball playing in the water and meeting up with friends. Walpeup Primary School had overnight camps there and we had Church picnics. It was just so handy and such a great spot to cool off, relax and have some fun' (M. Pole pers

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

comms., November 16th 2011)

Sources

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.
Context. 2007. *Victorian Water Supply Heritage Study, Volume 1: Thematic Environmental History*. Report prepared for Heritage Victoria.
Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka, 29-36.
Nickolls, J. and A. Angel, 2002, *Mallee Tracks, A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*. Van Gastle Printing, South Australia.
D.Christian 2012, Parks Victoria, Wyperfeld Head Ranger, pers. comm., February 20.
Vallance, Back to Walpeup 1969.
Victorian Government Gazette, Feb 05, 1964 Issue 9 Page 294. Parks, gardens, reserves, etc.: Appointments, Walpeup Lake.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

5 WATER RESERVE

5.1 Domestic and stock supply

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.8 Leisure and recreation

Description

Physical Description

2009: Lake Walpeup was manmade with the excess from water channels stored there. Elements include: water channels, Walpeup Lake, willows on the lake edge.
2012:

Walpeup Lake occupies a small part of the Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve. The Reserve is situated between the Ouyen- Patchewallock Road and Walpeup Lake Road with Pidgeon Tank Road bisecting it. The Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve contains some areas of open irrigation channel (not in use) and extensive areas of Slender Cypress Pine (*Callitris gracillis*), and Buloke *Allocasuarina luemannii*) along with associated plant assemblages

The Lake area is an artificially created horseshoe basin formed with a peninsula from which the area could be enjoyed as a recreational place for swimming and boating. Since the water pipeline has replaced the open irrigation channels, Walpeup Lake is no longer filled with water and the lake bed is becoming reforested.

Previous Statement Significance

Lake Walpeup and reserve is of potential historic and social significance as a favourite recreational, picnic and camping spot for the local community over several generations. The Lake is made from the storage of excess water from the irrigation channels and is an important part of the water infrastructure that provided for agricultural settlement of the Mallee. There may be archaeological remains associated with the reserve and its long use (Criterion A, C, G).

Statement of Significance

Walpeup Lake and the Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve encompass heritage and biodiversity values. Within the Timberoo forest are the remains of open irrigation channels that demonstrate aspects of the Wimmera Mallee Domestic and Stock Water Supply System, and their redundancy once the Northern Pipeline was built. The area also contains the archaeological remains of a log tank (also assessed as part of this study) and house, fence line, stumps, and timber railings for the Forestor appointed to look after the timber resources

Walpeup Lake encompasses historic and social heritage values for its former role as part of the Wimmera Mallee Domestic and Stock Water Supply System and for its recreational value to the community as a place for camping, boating and picnics.

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Griggs Property
Address 694 Walpeup Lake Road WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Farm
Citation Date 2012



Recommended VHR No HI No PS Yes
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Walpeup is the highest point in the Victorian Mallee at 104 metres above sea level. The Denning Channel extended to Walpeup in the late 1920s but as early as the mid 1930s public discussions centered on problems with silt, weeds, drift sand and evaporation.

The first store in Walpeup opened in 1909. The first school operated from a private home in 1911 and was transferred to the Little White Hall in 1912. A one-roomed school building opened in 1913. A post office was established with the opening of the Ouyen-Murrayville railway in 1912.

Matchett's brick store opened in 1918 and was also used as the post office. A Bank of Victoria opened in 1918. The Walpeup Memorial Hall opened in 1923 and a reticulated water supply was provided to the town in 1935. A Catholic church opened in 1921. From 1935, the town provided services to employees working at the Mallee Research Station. In 1935, the Paigie State School building was moved to Walpeup for use as a Presbyterian church. In 1937, a Methodist church opened. In 1955, electricity was switched on.

Today, the Walpeup Memorial Hall houses a large collection of historic photographs including photographs of locals who enlisted in World War One and Two, a welcome home banner from World War One and a hand-sewn community mural tapestry created in 1989. The town also features a dryland garden.

Sources

Griggs Property
Hermes No 108519

Place Citation Report

01-Aug-2012

10:49 AM

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria
Lynch, Willsmore, and Brown, *A Vision Realised 1988: District History of Underbool, Torrita, Linga, Boinka*, 29-36.
Nicolls Jand Angel, A 2003 *Mallee Tracks: A Wanderer's Guide to the South Australian and Victorian Mallee*, South Australia
Vallance, *Back to Walpeup 1969*

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
4.2 Closer settlement

Description

Physical Description

2009: Limestone shed on farming property
2012:

A large limestone barn with a 'T' shaped plan is located on an elevated section of Grigg's property. The building is partly enclosed and partly open sided and used as a machinery shed. It is built of local random rubble limestone set in 'mud' mortar the colour of the local red earth. The extensive size of this structure and its construction of stone is rare in this part of the study area. Towards Cowangie limestone is more common as a building material due to its local extraction, but this is rare in the Walpeup district.

A series of simple openings without windows or doors are set into the walls. Where one opening has been widened bricks have been used to form the edges of the door, although the original window openings are surrounded by the same rubble stone.

The roof structure appears to have been replaced with sawn rafters and corrugated iron. There are other machinery sheds on the property however these are of a later and fairly standard steel construction. A row of peppercorn trees is located to one side of the barn. The setting has the remains of a house and garage but the stone barn is the key element of the property.

Recommended Management

The barn would benefit from a conservation approach that maintains the stonework with repairs as necessary.

Previous Statement Significance

Potential historical significance as a remnant of early farming in the Mallee region. There may be archaeological remains. Criterion A, B, C.

Comparative Analysis

No other buildings of this type were identified in the study area.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The stone barn at 694 Yellangip Connection Road Walpeup is of significance.

How is it significant?

The stone barn is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Historic significance to be determined.

The limestone barn at 694 Yellangip Connection Road Walpeup is a rare example of a stone farm building. It is an exceptionally large and well preserved structure and unusual in the Walpeup district. (Criterion B)

The barn is a fine example of a stone farm building, and a distinctive element in the landscape despite some alterations to the roof structure and the widening of a door opening. (Criterion E)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

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Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes Applies to stone building only.
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Sheep holding pen, sheepwash and bores
Address Lot 32 Allan Road PANITYA **Significance Level** Local
Place Type Sheep Dip/Sheep Wash,Bore
Citation Date 2012



Recommended VHR No HI Yes PS No
Heritage Protection

History and Historical Context

Locality history

While wheat growing has been instrumental in the development of the Mallee 'the Mallee grew about 45% of all Victorian wheat during the 1920s' pastoral occupation including the grazing of sheep has also been significant (Ballinger 2009:64; Sims and Webb 1982:4-5). In 1912 a public sheep dip was established in Murrayville and by 1925 a co-operative shearing shed was built in Underbool (Ballinger 2009:64 and see Lynch, Willsmore and Brown 1988:57).

Place history

The sheep holding pen, sheepwash and bores at Murray-Sunset are located on lots 31 and 32. These lots were occupied by the Smith family (Mott and 'Curly') until 1934, these being Curly's block. Ward notes that it is likely that the features date from their occupancy (Ward 1986:n.p).

Sources

1944 'What is Happening in Your Home State.', *Army News* (Darwin, NT : 1941 - 1946), 30 July, p. 2, viewed 7

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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Bardwell, S. 1980. *Interim report on history of Hattah-Kulkyne National Park and Murray-Kulkyne Park*. National Parks Service.

Department of Primary Industry 2011. Working in the Forest. Accessed February 7th 2012 from <
<http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/about-us/publications/library/virtual-exhibition/working-forest>>

Paganoni A. 2007. *The Pastoral Care of Italians in Australia: Memory and Prophecy*. Connor Court Publishing, Ballan, Victoria.

Ward, A. and Associates, 1986. Mallee Area Review, Study of Historic Site. Report for the *Land Conservation Council*, Victoria.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

4 MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES

4.3 Grazing and raising livestock

Description

Physical Description

The site of the school comprises a triangular patch of land defined by the Ouyen-Patchewollock Road running north east to south west, and Pidgeon Tank Road running west. The site, which is to the south west of the junction of these two routes, is surrounded by sugar gums and other eucalypts.

The site is covered in grassy tussocks, but a slightly raised area is discernable in the centre of the site. This area, which is set back from the road and now overgrown with small trees and bushes, probably represents the site of the school building. No artefactual material or other evidence of the school was observed, and the site may have been bulldozed since the school building was removed.

In common with many of the former school sites in the area, the Timberoo East school site is commemorated by a sign, although it is not clear by what organisation this was erected.

Archaeological Potential

No

Statement of Significance

This place has been assessed by Context Pty Ltd in 2011 as part of the *Former Shire of Walpeup Heritage Study Stage 2* and is assessed as below the threshold of local significance.

It is recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory.

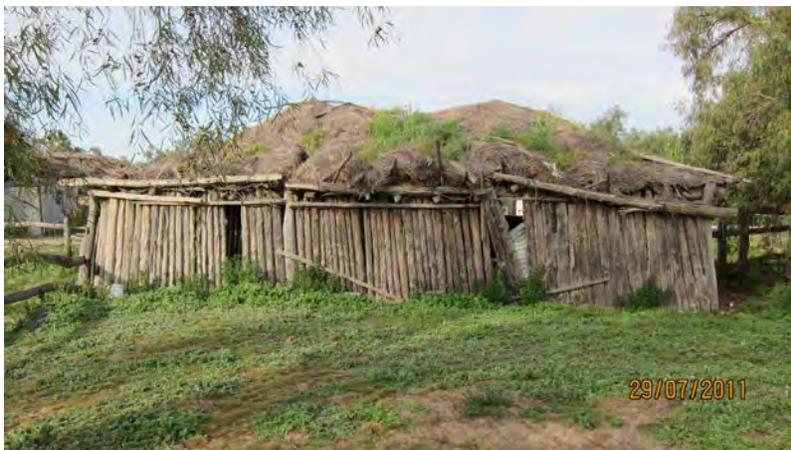
HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	-
Internal Alteration Controls	-
Tree Controls	-
Fences & Outbuildings	-
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Pine Plains Homestead
Address Pine Plains Road BIG DESERT **Significance Level** State
Place Type Homestead Complex
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR Yes HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Place history

Pine Plain Run was registered on August 23rd 1847 to James Maxwell Clow. Lack of water for his stock resulted in James selling the station to Melbourne merchant, Andrew Russell Esquire in April 1848. Ironically, a huge flood devastated the area in 1853, forcing Russell to sell the land. In 1855, Henry Clarence Ellermen acquired the run. By this

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

stage Pine Plains had been divided into two stations - Pine Plains and Wonga Lake. On October 12th 1869 Henry Miller took over Pine Plains Station. Known as the 'King of Victoria - for not even a merchant or journalist dare squeak without his permission', Henry Miller famously turned out hardy and enduring horses from the Station.

In 1880 Wonga Lake and another station, Nypo, reverted to the Crown, prior to the Mallee Pastoral Leases Act of 1885 when leases were auctioned.

In 1887 the station was sold to W.C. Carter and by 1901 the land was taken over by the National Bank. Failing to sell at auction that same year, it remained abandoned until 1905 when John Poulton of Cambacanya took control of it, as well as the rights for Wonga Lake run. The Poulton's owned Pine Plains for seventeen years, and in that time they connected Cambacanya and Pine Plains with a single-strand telephone line.

Owen Hugh O'Sullivan and Michael Kelley took ownership of the station in 1917. Over the next sixty years, the ownership of Pine Plains Run changed hands several times, yet it remained within the O'Sullivan family; from Owen O'Sullivan to Jack and Frank O'Sullivan (his sons) in 1949, with Jack becoming sole owner in 1964, and then to Jack's sons Brian and Tim O'Sullivan in 1983. The O'Sullivan family continue to reside on the station.

In 1921 16,000 acres were permanently reserved for Wyperfeld National Park with Pine Plains as freehold land. Management of Pine Plains has been run through a Committee of Management and in 1993 grazing was phased out. 172 hectares remains as part of the Pine Plains freehold area. (Context Pty Ltd a & Kellaway, 1995:pp8-14)

The homestead complex, which includes farm buildings constructed using nineteenth century farm building techniques typical of the region, was built for the O'Sullivan family (Pine Plain lessees), over a long period from the 1920s until recent times. The site originally contained the nineteenth century Pine Plains homestead, which was associated with a run opened by James Maxwell Clow in the 1840s.(1) There may also have been earlier outbuildings. The complex is located on 172 hectares of freehold land in five small Crown Allotments A, B, C, D and E, Parish of Conga Wonga.(2) Information about the construction dates of the complex was provided by the present owner, Brian O'Sullivan and from files of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.(3) The O'Sullivan's first occupied the run from 1915, but were based in Rainbow until 1933.(6) The earliest buildings were constructed for Brian O'Sullivan's grandfather, Hughie O'Sullivan, a Rainbow butcher, between 1920 and 1930. Hughie died in 1929. A number of structures were built for his son Owen Lewis O'Sullivan (lessee from 1938) from the 1930s to the 1950s. Other buildings in the complex (including the present homes of Brian and Tim O'Sullivan) were constructed in the 1960s, 1970s and most recently in the 1980s and 1990s.

Sources

1908 'Underdeveloped Victoria.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 27 January, p. 5, viewed 14 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article10673745>

Context and C. Kellaway, 1995. *Analysis of Historic Places; Wyperfeld National Park*. Report prepared for DCNR Hopetoun.

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Relevant Historical Australian Themes

xx

4 MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES

4.3 Grazing and raising livestock

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

2 PEOPLING VICTORIA

2.4 Arriving in a new land

Description

Physical Description

2009:

Thatch Roof Outbuildings - Box pole framed structures with ridge beams supported in forks of poles and rafters and wall panels of cypress pine (from Ward, Andrew C. & Associates, 1986, *Mallee Area Review - Study of Historic Sites*, for Land Conservation Council.)

Everard's Grave - The grave of Joseph Everard, itinerant worker, who was buried here in 1867. A recent timber rail enclosure and inscription has been provided in lieu of the original (from Ward, Andrew C. & Associates, 1986, *Mallee Area Review - Study of Historic Sites*, for Land Conservation Council).

There are likely to be other features of historical importance and field work and research is required. The homestead is on private property - owned by the O'Sullivan's.

2012: Pine Plains Homestead complex is situated in the northern part Wyperfeld National Park between the dry lake bed of the Wirrengren Plain and Lake Agnes. The site of Pine Plains homestead is situated on a small rise looking over the lake bed. The Pine Plains freehold area is wholly contained within the Wyperfeld National Park boundaries.

A number of farm structures are located in the vicinity of the contemporary Pine Plains homestead. These include vernacular forked pole shelters with thatched roofing. Several of these remain within the farm compound that also includes fencing and yards. The shelters include a large collection of farm vehicles and artefacts. The construction includes vertical pine poles as cladding and the use of unshaped poles for rafters with grass or reed thatching for the roofs. Several of the buildings are in poor condition and close to collapse. The animal shelters contain timber feed troughs fashioned from timber.

The Pine Plains complex includes (in date order): -

-Storage shed and workshop. Bush pole construction with thatched roof. Built c1920 for Brian O'Sullivan's grandfather, Hughie O'Sullivan.

- Stable. Single building. Bush pole construction with thatched roof. c1928-1930. Possibly also built for Hughie O'Sullivan.

- Shearing Shed. Original part built 1930s for Brian's father, Owen Lewis O'Sullivan. Additions have been made to the structure ever since.

- Old Chaff house. The original structure fell down and was replaced by Brian's father, about 45 years ago, c1950.

- Cattle yards. Bush pole construction. These yards replaced earlier yards in the 1950s. The western side was replaced a few years ago in the 1980s.

Old green timber house with iron roof (next to peppercorn tree). This house was moved to the site from Patchewollock about 1957. Brian's parents reputedly lived there and later, his Uncle Mo. An earlier home (c1939) was burned down in

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

1956. The family butchering business operated from Rainbow until about 1933.(4)

- Double stables. Constructed using bush poles and with thatched roofs, this pair of stables was built in 1964 and 1965. The dates of construction are on the pair of feed troughs.

- Brian O'Sullivan's house. Cedar weatherboard and stone with a galvanised iron roof, c1966.

- Tim O'Sullivan's house. Cement brick. 1970s? Built on the side of the original Pine Plains Homestead, (see 1901 photo)(5) which was taken to the Pioneer Settlement at Swan Hill.

-Pig Sty. About 1990. - Machinery Shed. Date of construction unknown (Context 1995).

Other sites in the Pine Plains freehold area include

. Joseph Everard Grave

. Whim and well site

. Conga Wonga Tank

. Carters Tank

Recommended Management

Management recommendations are contained in Context Pty Ltd and Carlotta Kellaway, 1995, *Analysis of Historic Places Wyperfeld National Park*.

Previous Statement Significance

Pine Plains Homestead is of potential historical significance as a rare intact example of thatch roof outbuildings associated with the early pastoral settlement of the Victorian Mallee region. There may also be archaeological evidence of former features of the property. (Criterion A, B, C).

See also Ward, Andrew C. & Associates, 1986, *Mallee Area Review - Study of Historic Sites*, for Land Conservation Council.

Comparative Analysis

Pine Plains and Kow Plains are rare examples of early pastoral leaseholdings that retain a large number of sites, buildings and archaeological remains. Kow Plains is of State significance and Pine Plains is of equivalent historic value, particularly through links in their early pastoral activities. Like Kow Plains, Pine Plains comprises the most extensive documentary record of building techniques in the farm structures.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

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The Pine Plains homestead complex located on 172 hectares of freehold land 'Pine Plains' within Wyperfeld National Park is significant. The farm buildings noted below are those associated with the homestead complex.

Pine Plains homestead complex comprising:

- . Pig sty
- . Double stables
- . Storage shed and workshop
- . Stables
- . Shearing shed and yards
- . Machinery shed
- . Pine Plains homestead site

Places outside the homestead complex include:

- . Joseph Everard Grave Local
- . Whim and well site Local
- . Conga Wonga Tank Regional
- . Carters Tank Regional

Compiled from Context, 1995:pp37-41

How is it significant?

Pine Plains Homestead complex is of State historic, technical and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

Historically Pine Plains is one of the earliest pastoral leases in the Mallee, with J.M Clow occupying the Pine Plains in 1847. Together with Cow (Kow) Plains it represents one of the earliest pastoral leaseholdings the Mallee. It is initially associated with J.M.Clow from 1847, followed by Andrew Russell, Henry Ellerman, and Henry Miller. Pine Plains is associated with all of the historical events resulting from a division of the land into Pine Plains and Wonga Lake properties, the retention of freehold when other leaseholds were returned to the Crown in 1880. Ownership of Pine Plains since 1917 has been in the O'Sullivan family. It is the only leasehold contained within the Wyperfeld National Park, created in 1921 and retains a significant record of pastoral uses within its boundaries. (Criteria A & B)

The farm buildings and structures associated with the homestead complex represent an extraordinary and extensive record of traditional Mallee building techniques. Comprising a number of structures of bush poles with thatched roofs, the buildings and structures such as cattle yards display remote and regional vernacular construction. They represent a continuation of building techniques begun in the mid nineteenth century and continued as a way of life throughout the

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twentieth century during the ownership of the O'Sullivan family. The homestead complex is an extensive and rare group of traditional Mallee buildings which are architecturally and technically significant for the traditions they demonstrate. Pine Plains and the homestead complex also contains the sites of former structures, including the homestead. (Criteria C,D,E & F)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls

-

Internal Alteration Controls

-

Tree Controls

-

Fences & Outbuildings

-

Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted

-

Incorporated Plan

-

Aboriginal Heritage Place

-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name Ouyen High School
Address Corner of Fuller & Ritchie Streets OUYEN **Significance Level** State
Place Type School - State (public)
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR Yes HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality History

Ouyen was established as a settlement when the Mildura railway line opened in 1903. The location of the line on the western side of Farrell Street (the Calder Highway) resulted in township buildings being erected on the eastern side of

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

that street. Ouyen grew in size with the sale of township allotments in 1908 and commencement of the construction of the Murrayville railway line. As a consequence of repeated flooding and inadequate drainage, businesses relocated to higher ground, namely Oke Street. During the early 1900s, Ouyen Primary School opened.

A courthouse opened in 1914 and in 1915 the township supported a population of 400. The Victoria Hotel opened in 1918 on a site occupied by the Temperance Hotel built in 1910. A Church of England building was relocated to its present site in 1920, and a brick Presbyterian church was built in 1922. A hospital and a higher elementary school opened in 1929. A community club was established in 1959 and in the same year a new Church of All Saints was built. A housing commission estate was built in 1968.

Over the years a series of fires in Ouyen resulted in the moving of businesses and the construction of new premises, see for example the relocation of Arnold's Model Store (M.Pole, pers comm. April 2012).

Today, the commercial centre of Ouyen in Oke Street includes a Rural City of Mildura Service Centre and the Ouyen District History and Genealogical Centre Inc. which houses a collection of books and historical records in the former courthouse.

Education

This is an extract taken from the *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura* (2009:70):

During the period of first white settlement of the Rural City of Mildura, most station homesteads were too isolated to send children to school. Some children attended boarding schools in the city; others were instructed by governesses and tutors at home. In 1872, the Victorian Education Act established a central public school system based on the principles of free, secular and compulsory education. Local residents, often represented by Progress Associations, petitioned the Department of Education to give approval for the opening of a school. Early school buildings were constructed of local materials. Schools were built at an average of ten miles apart so that children could walk or ride. Settlers often donated the land, provided half the cost of the school (sometimes more), and boarded the teacher, while the government paid teachers' wages, provided some equipment and the balance of school costs. Because of a lack of financial resources of many of the settler communities, schools often did not appear until some years after settlement. School buildings were used for a variety of community purposes.

Mildura Agricultural High School opened in 1913. A high school opened in Ouyen in 1929. The first Victorian Consolidated School using buildings from outlying areas was established in Murrayville in 1946. An initiative of the Chaffey brothers, from 1916 through to present day the Mildura College Lease Act has provided funding to local schools from rentals on land. A branch of the University of Melbourne operated at Mildura 1947-9. La Trobe University currently operates a campus at Mildura.

From the *Argus* 1 November 1934:

"Welcome to "New Wheat Lands" A "diggers' " address of welcome, delivered on a dais docked in ripe wheat, was a departure from the normal procedure, at Ouyen, where the temperature was "80 degrees in the train." Sergeant A. E. Loveridge welcoming the Duke "to the new wheat lands of the Mallee" on behalf of the returned soldiers of the district said, in reference to the important part played by returned men in the settlement of the area about Ouyen, "handicapped by physical disabilities and unkind seasons, the returned soldier settlers have proved themselves Empire builders in peace no less than in war,"

Speaking clearly, and with complete self-possession, Mavis Johnstone, a pupil of the Ouyen Higher Elementary School, said:- "We are proud to think that you and our children are members of the greatest Empire in the world." Conspicuous among the returned soldiers was one 0ft. 24in. in height, and weighing more than 21 stone. His Royal Highness

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personally thanked the engine crew which was changed at Ouyen."

The *Argus* reported on the 28 July 1932, Protests in the Country against High School charges at Ouyen, where a public meeting voiced "Strong criticism of the Government's proposal to make charges for pupils attending higher elementary schools"(Blake 1973:414).

Ouyen High School replaces the Higher Elementary School established in 1928. The High School opened in 1952 with a staff of five and enrolment of 125. The original Mt Gambier sandstone building which enclosed a courtyard on three sides was extended in 1953 [.] In 1955 the old smithy was converted into an arts and crafts centre. In 1968 when enrolment had reached 260 and the staff had increased to fourteen, a new wing was completed with room for mechanical drawing, woodwork and metalwork.' (Blake 1973:414). A cafeteria opened in 1953, and a garden was landscaped in 1956.

Sources

Ballinger, R. 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History*, Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne.

Blake, L. 1973. *From Vision to Realisation: a centenary history of state education in Victoria*. Victorian Education Department, Melbourne.

Context (2009), *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.
The Argus.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.2 Schools

Description

Physical Description

2009: Mt Gambier freestone (limestone) complex of single storey school buildings. Landscaped grounds, mostly native shrubs and trees.

2012:

Ouyen High School, formerly the Higher Elementary School, comprises a large stone 1928 school building, a later stone wing built shortly afterward, and a small [interwar/postwar?] timber schoolhouse moved from Pine Plains, as well as postwar extensions and buildings.

The 1928 school is an impressive Georgian Revival building of fine Mt Gambier limestone ashlar. It is single storey and has a U-shaped plan, forming a courtyard on the north side. It is set within landscape grounds of palms and other exotic vegetation.

The formal entrance portico, on the centre of the south elevation, is very finely crafted in limestone in what can be described as a free classical manner, which may exhibit an influence from interwar architecture in California. It has two pairs of Tuscan columns in antis (that is, set within the walls) below a stepped and curved parapet. There are carved scrolls on either side of the parapet. Situated below the parapet is a projecting rooflet, no bigger than a cornice but terminating within the portico, which rests on simple modillions. This detail suggests a Spanish Mission influence. The entrance is also marked by a copper fleche terminating in a classical round dome.

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The roof of the 1928 school is clad in variegated Marseille terracotta tiles, typical of the interwar period. End walls have an external chimney with a simple corbel at the top. Windows are tall, with a six-pane highlight and six-over-six sashes with projecting limestone sills. Doors have three panels below six large lights, and are accompanied by similar sidelights and highlights.

The courtyard elevations are expressed in a more informal manner than the external faces. They are shaded by a verandah which is continuous with the tile roof. The verandah is supported on simple square timber posts with knife-blade brackets, showing influence of the Arts & Crafts domestic style.

A new wing was built just north of the 1928 building, along the Fuller Street boundary. It is very similar in detail, construction and quality to the original school and appears to have been built shortly afterward. Also of Mt Gambier limestone, the Fuller Street elevation has numerous closely spaced six-over-six windows with six-pane highlights. There is an external chimney at the west end. The south elevation, which faces into the schoolyard, has the same type of verandah with the same timber brackets as the 1928 school.

On the west side of this building, also on Fuller Street, is a small timber schoolhouse, reportedly moved from Pine Plains. It is clad in weatherboard with a very low gabled roof. The six-over-six sash windows are clustered in banks of three on the main elevations. At the rear is a skillion addition.

Previous Statement Significance

Ouyen High School is an unusual and distinctive building of a non-standard school design. It has little resemblance to Public Works Department designed schools either in its choice of Mt Gambier stone or the Georgian Revival design. The school is set within landscaped grounds of palms and other exotic vegetation. The design of single storey wings with terracotta tile roofs is dominated by the entrance porch with doric columns. The High School has particular aesthetic values as well as social and historic values.

Comparative Analysis

Ouyen High School is one of two secondary schools in the study area. The former Murrayville Consolidated School which is State listed (VHR1185) was constructed in 1943 from five relocated district timber schools (Murrayville 1926, Rusbridge 1922, Goongee 1928, Manya 1929 and Manya North 1930) as a unified building. The buildings were arranged in an "E" plan form to a design prepared under the direction of Percy Everett, Chief Architect of the Public Works Department.

By comparison Ouyen is a purpose designed school of a highly refined design built with architectural delight and with careful intent in both functional planning and attention to the climate. Ouyen High School and the former State Savings Bank, 1 Pickering Street Ouyen designed by Sydney Smith, Ogg and Serpell in 1924 are two excellent examples of buildings in the Georgian Revival style.

Swan Hill Secondary College (HO115) built in 1927-28 is a similar model of school planning and has some similarities although it is more stripped Neo-classical in styling. It has been rebuilt following a fire in 1987 and would therefore be less intact than Ouyen.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The former Ouyen Higher Elementary School, at the south-west corner of Fuller and Ritchie streets, Ouyen, to the extent

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

of the Gambier limestone wings built in 1928, as well as the former Pine Plains schoolhouse.

How is it significant?

The former Ouyen Higher Elementary School is of local historical, architectural and social significance and the former Pine Plains school house is of local historical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The former Ouyen Higher Elementary School, built in 1928 and expanded with a matching wing shortly afterward, is of historical significance as a tangible illustration of the prosperity of Ouyen during the 1920s, in its large scale, the use of stone, and particularly its high architectural quality. The Spanish Mission influenced entrance portico and the landscaped grounds reflect the links between the Mildura area and California. (Criterion A)

The former Ouyen Higher Elementary School, built in 1928 and expanded with a matching wing, is of architectural significance as an unusual and distinctive school building of non-standard design. The use of both Mt Gambier limestone and the Georgian Revival style were uncommon for Public Works Department designs of the interwar era. (Criterion E)

The former Ouyen Higher Elementary School is of social significance as a place with strong associations with the Ouyen community through its use as a school from the late 1920s to the present day. (Criterion G)

The former Pine Plains schoolhouse is of historical significance by demonstrating the common practice of moving school buildings as a result of population shifts in rural areas and consolidation of schools. (Criterion A)

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate, have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history.

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

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Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	Yes
Internal Alteration Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	Yes
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	Yes
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name A.J.Gloster and Sons Garage
Address 55 Cotter Street (Mallee Highway), near Mossop Street UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** State
Place Type Other - Commercial
Citation Date 2012



Recommended Heritage Protection VHR Yes HI No PS Yes

History and Historical Context

Locality history

Underbool was surveyed as a railway township when the line opened in 1910. Under the 1901 Land Act, blocks of 600-700 acres were offered for sale to be paid off over 40 years. Demand was so strong that there were reportedly ten

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

applicants for every block offered. The first store operated from a tent in the railway yard in 1911 and a hall was erected in 1913 in which a school opened the same year. As the town grew, other buildings were erected along Cotter, Malkin and Mossop Streets. By 1920, blacksmiths, a drapery store, a bakery, a butcher, a billiard room, boarding houses, a general store, a police station, a plumber, a bush nursing hospital and a post office were in operation (Lynch 1988:29-36). A hotel was built in 1926. The Underbool Women's Section of the Victorian Farmers' Union raised money to build a meeting room which opened as the Country Party Room in 1924. Artesian water in the district was too brackish for human consumption and water from Hattah Lakes was delivered to farmers by train until a channel delivering water from the Wimmera River came into operation in 1930. The channel fed two government dams and a swimming lake. In 1941 and 1968, the lake was converted into two town reservoirs; the first provided a reticulated water supply to the town. A swimming pool opened in 1978.(Lynch 1988 29-36)

Today, a hotel continues to operate at Underbool. Our Lady of the Fatima Catholic Church and the Uniting Anglican Church hold services. The township's water is now supplied by a pipeline from the River Murray.

Place history

A.J.Gloster and Sons Garage at Underbool has been closely associated with the introduction of many of the major technological advances and developments in the history of the township. Its founder A. J. (Joe) Gloster was a major commercial figure in the town and the business was the town's longest running enterprise.

Selected dates for Gloster & Sons business (*Back to Underbool*, 1988)

1925 - Gloster & Sons business established

1926 - Gloster & Sons introduced first motor transport of salt to railhead, which eventually replaced the camel trains.

1927 - Gloster & Sons appointed a General Motors dealer, selling first 1927 Chevrolet

1933 - Gloster & Sons commenced town electricity supply

1934 - Gloster & Sons commenced town freezing works

1937 - Gloster & Sons introduced the Lanz-Bulldog tractor

1944-64 - Gloster & Sons pumped water from reservoir to town supply

1945 - Gloster & Sons began Underbool to Ouyen school bus service

The following history is from the Australian Heritage Database Place ID 17065 and amended by the current owner in 2011.

A.J.Gloster bought out Ron Edwards' automotive repair and carrying business in 1925. This site was across the road from the current site in a small building at the rear of the hotel. Around 1930 Gloster bought the larger property (ie the present site) across the road, formerly Pole's Chaffstore and expanded the automotive repair and carrying business. Sometime between 1925 and 1930 Joe (A.J) purchased a Brockway truck from Ronaldson & Tippett and began a carrying business. Water, wheat and goods of any description were carried and Gloster began competing with the camel trains trucking salt from the nearby salt lakes. This in fact became a major part of the business for many years. He also ran a highly profitable hire car business. In 1927 Gloster obtained a GM dealership and began supplying sales, car service and repairs. The GMH dealership has one of the longest histories in the state. In 1933 engines were obtained to supply

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Underbool with power.

Gloster wired every building in the town for no charge on the successful assumption that once people had experienced electric lighting they would become a customer. Glosters supplied power until the local shire council forcibly intervened in 1964 and assumed control.

Freezing works began operations in 1934 and rabbit chilling and freezing was a major part of the operations for many years, especially during the depression years. Glosters then began a school bus service to Ouyen in 1945 and then sales of Holden cars began three years later. Car repairs, welding and service on Lanz-bulldog tractors have continued to the present. The firm was begun by A J Gloster in 1925 (he died in 1981) and his sons Ken and Ray joined in 1944 and 1948. Ray's two sons, Robert and Doug, joined Joe in 1968 and 1978, and Robert's wife Colleen joined the business in 1984. The business is now a four generation family firm since Robert's son Cameron joined in 1994.

Sources

Australian Heritage Database record: Place ID 17065.

Back to Underbool Committee, 1988, *Vision realised*, Underbool.

Ballinger, R 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.

Lynch, J, 2011. *The Underbool and District National Party Womens Branch Rooms*.

Relevant Historical Australian Themes

6. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

6.1 Tracks, roads and bridges

9. INDUSTRY

9.1 Dryland Agriculture

8 BUILDING TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS

8.4 Closer settlement towns

Description

Physical Description

2009:

Cited from the Register of the National Estate - Place ID 17065

A J Gloster bought out Ron Edwards' carrying business in 1925. This site was across the road from the current site in a small building at the rear of the hotel. Around 1930 Gloster bought the larger property (ie the present site) across the road, formerly Pole's Chaffstore and expanded the carrying business. Water, wheat and goods of any description were carried and Gloster began competing with the camel trains trucking salt from the nearby salt pans. This in fact became a major part of the business for many years. He also ran a highly profitable hire car business. In 1927 Gloster obtained a GM dealership and began car service and repairs. The GM dealership has one of the longest histories in the state. In 1933 engines were obtained to supply Underbool with power. Gloster wired every building in the town for no charge on the successful assumption that once people had experienced electric lighting they would become a customer. Glosters supplied power until the local shire council forcibly intervened in 1964 and assumed control. Freezing works began operations in 1934 and rabbit chilling and freezing was a major part of the operations for many years, especially during the depression years. Glosters then began a school bus service to Ouyen in 1945 and then sales of Holden cars began

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

three years later. Car repairs, welding and service on Lanz-bulldog tractors have continued to the present. The firm was begun by A J Gloster in 1925 (he died in 1981) and his sons Ken and Ray joined in 1944 and 1948. Ray's two sons, Robert and Doug, joined in 1968 and 1978, and Robert's wife Colleen joined the business in 1984. The business is now a four generation family firm since Robert's son Cameron joined the business in 1994.

Gloster's Garage consists of a variety of adjoining buildings under one roof but with varying roof lines and wall composition. Most walls are either of corrugated iron or cement sheeting, however the rabbit chilling area is of Murray Pine. The roof is of corrugated iron. The eastern section of the building has vertical corrugated iron walls and a high ridge roof line and is used as a workshop and garage. The office section on the west of the dividing wall has cement sheeting walls and a lower sloping roof. At the rear of the garage in a section behind the office is the power plant, now no longer used but fully operational. Attached to the back of the building but entered from the rear is the rabbit chilling sections and freezing works. There are several semi-detached outbuildings as well.

2012:

The following description is from the Australian Heritage Database Place ID 17065:

Gloster's Garage consists of a variety of adjoining buildings under one roof but with varying roof lines and wall composition. Most walls are either of corrugated iron or cement sheeting, however the rabbit chilling area is of Murray Pine. The roof is of corrugated iron. The eastern section of the building has vertical corrugated iron walls and a high ridge roof line and is used as a workshop and garage. The office section on the west of the dividing wall has cement sheeting walls and a lower sloping roof. At the rear of the garage in a section behind the office is the power plant, now no longer used but fully operational. Attached to the back of the building but entered from the rear is the rabbit chilling sections and freezing works. There are several semi-detached outbuildings as well.

Gloster's garage comprises a building of several different parts and types of construction. Originally built as a grain and hay shed by Steve Pole, the building has adapted and grown to accommodate a wide range of uses.

The site comprises a collection of machinery relating to the rabbit chilling and freezing works, and the electricity generation equipment for Underbool. Although much of the original building has been clad in steel decking, elements of the original timber framing, claddings and sign writing are visible in the interior.

The section of the building with the gable facing the street comprises much of the original building evident in photographs from the 1940s however the skillion roofed addition containing office space has been constructed recently. At the rear an open roofed area comprises three insulated timber rooms with refrigeration equipment for rabbit chilling was built by A.J.Gloster. These rooms are highly insulated with timber clad doors of large thickness. The timber cladding of the walls and doors contains pencil jottings from the operation of the works showing the quantities of rabbits, prices and who brought them in for chilling.

Previous Statement Significance

Cited from the Register of the National Estate - Place ID 17065

This early twentieth century group of buildings which are simply constructed in the vernacular is a representative example of a small town industrial centre (Criteria D2).

The powerhouse was one of the last private electricity suppliers in the state, it retains much of its machinery in working order and is one of two left in The Mallee district. The associated freezing, chilling and ice works is in good condition and is also a good example of a now scarce industrial site, having been used particularly during the depression for rabbit chilling, the plant also reflects an industry and lifestyle now passed (Criterion B.2 and A.4).

Physical Description

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

2009: Originally Steve Pole's grain and hay shed, then Gloster & Sons swapped sites to move from Mossop Street (to Cotter Street on the main road).

Elements include: Gloster and Sons garage; timber section at the rear where rabbit freezing works were (in time of Steve Pole's grain and hay shed).

Comparative Analysis

There is apparently one other rabbit freezing works in the Mallee however this has not been located as part of this Study. Gloster & Sons garage is a particularly complete record of an important family enterprise in Underbool containing machinery and equipment of unparalleled significance.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

Gloster & Sons Garage built originally as a grain and hay shed for Steve Pole and later adapted and extended by A.J Gloster from 1930, including the rabbit chillers, freezing and ice works, and equipment for generating electricity is significant.

How is it significant?

Gloster & Sons garage is of State historic and technical significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

Why is it significant?

The advent of the motorcar was also a highly significant event in the development of the Mallee region. The Mallee's remote location and harsh environment meant that the motorcar enjoyed numerous advantages over horse drawn transportation and facilitated the more rapid and effective settlement and economic development of the region. As a core hub of local industry and service infrastructure, the site is significant for its association with the Victorian Historic Themes of 6.4 Making regional centres, and 6.5 Living in country towns.

The complex of buildings and equipment demonstrating the full range of business activities undertaken by Gloster's gives an extremely rare and complete picture of a family business operating from the mid 1920s to the present day. The site comprises buildings and equipment for the generation of electricity from 1933, a freezing works from 1934, water pumping from 1944 and motor transport from 1925 until the present time. (Criterion A)

The rabbit chillers are a rare example of a response to the Great Depression and the export of rabbit meat provided much needed economic activity and exchange from rural to urban areas. The graffiti on the doors of the chillers is an exceptional interpretative element of the structures. (Criteria A & B)

The site is technically significant for the retention of most of the machinery and equipment that were used for generating electricity and refrigeration from the 1930s. The building is significant for the manner in which the original hay and grain store is visible in the main structure, and for the series of additions, that have taken place to accommodate changes in the business. The refrigerators for rabbits show skill and ingenuity in their construction of the heavily insulated timber doors and purpose built refrigeration equipment. (Criterion F)

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Assessment Against Criteria

In assessing the heritage significance of these places, the common criteria which were adopted at the 1998 Conference on Heritage (HERCON) and which are based on the longstanding, and much used, Australian Heritage Commission criteria for the Register of the National Estate have been used.

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history.

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Criterion H: Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history.

Recommendations 2012

External Paint Controls	No
Internal Alteration Controls	Yes
Tree Controls	No
Fences & Outbuildings	-
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

people place heritage

CONTEXT

MILDURA (FORMER SHIRE OF WALPEUP)

HERITAGE STUDY STAGE 2

Final report

Volume 4 Mapping

1 August 2012



Prepared for
Mildura Rural City Council

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Report Register

This report register documents the development and issue of the report entitled *Mildura Former Shire of Walpeup Heritage Study Stage 2* undertaken by Context Pty Ltd in accordance with our internal quality management system.

Project No.	Issue No.	Notes/description	Issue Date	Issued to
1435	1	Draft report	4/5/2012	Peter Douglas
1435	2	Final report	1/8/2012	Peter Douglas

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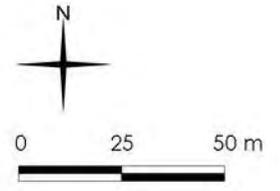
PRECINCT MAPS	1
INDIVIDUALLY SIGNIFICANT PLACE MAPS	2

PRECINCT MAPS



KEY

- Precinct boundary 
- Contributory to precinct 
- Title boundary 



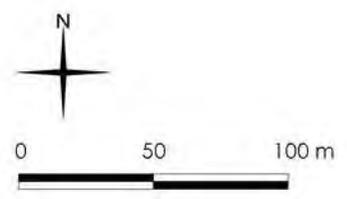
**Cowangie Precinct
Dayman Street**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 30-03-2012 JB/IT

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



- KEY**
- Precinct boundary
 - Contributory to precinct
 - Existing Heritage Overlay
 - Title boundary



Murrayville Commercial Precinct

Murrayville Precinct - Sharrock St

Murrayville Commercial Precinct & Murrayville Precinct - Sharrock Street

Client: Mildura Rural City Council
 Project: Mildura Heritage Study Stage 2 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date: 31-07-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



KEY

Precinct boundary



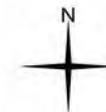
Contributory to precinct



Individually significant place



Title boundary



0 25 50 m



**Ouyen Housing Precinct
- Mitchell Street**

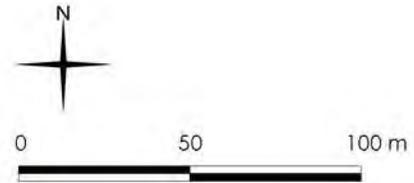
Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 30-03-2012 JB/IT



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



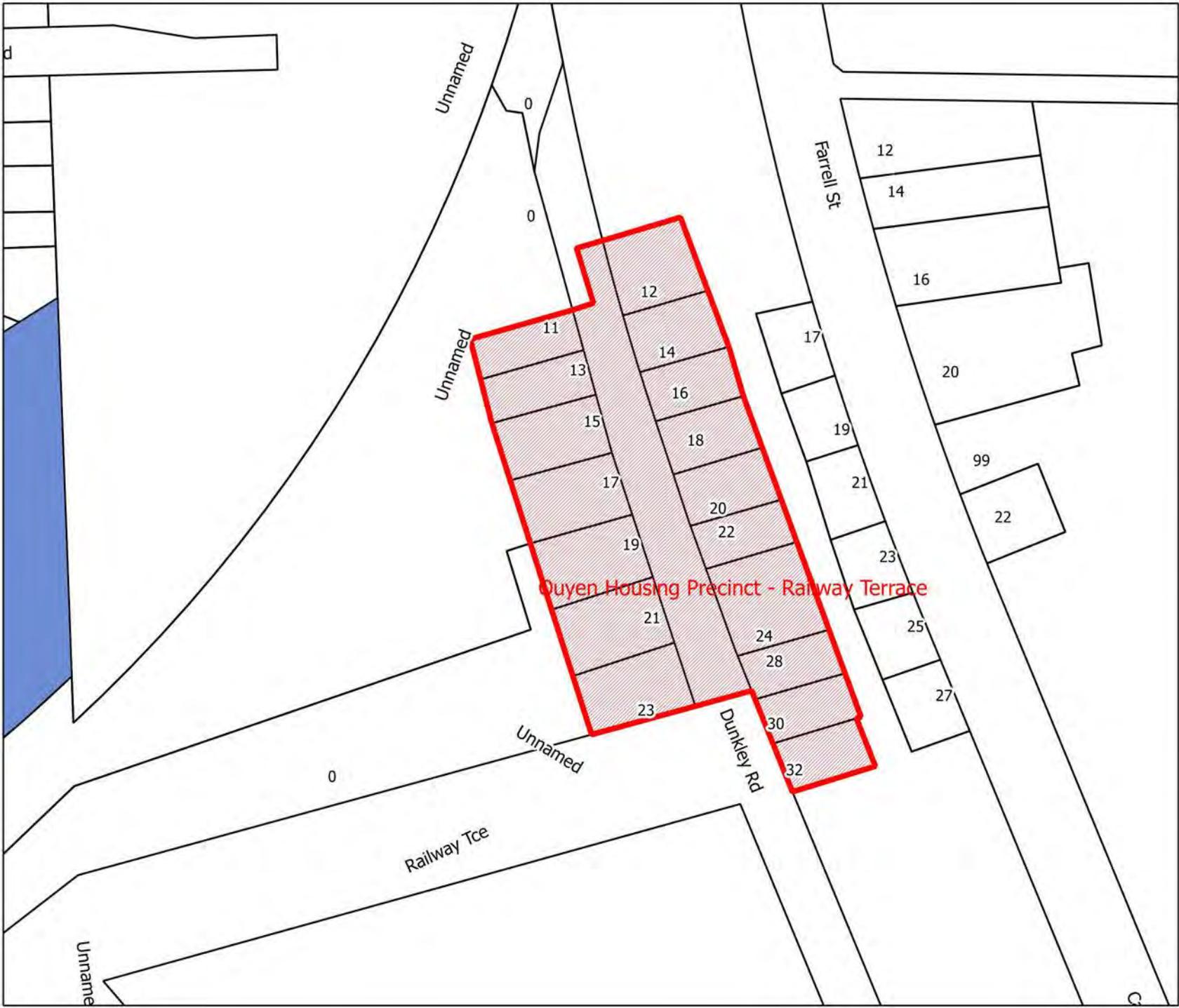
- KEY**
- Precinct boundary
 - Contributory to precinct
 - Individually significant place
 - Title boundary



**Ouyen Housing Precinct -
Pickering Street
&
Ouyen Commercial Precinct**

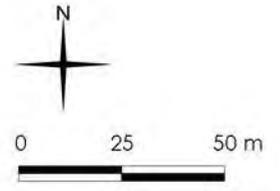
Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 31-07-2012 JB

CONTEXT
people place heritage
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



KEY

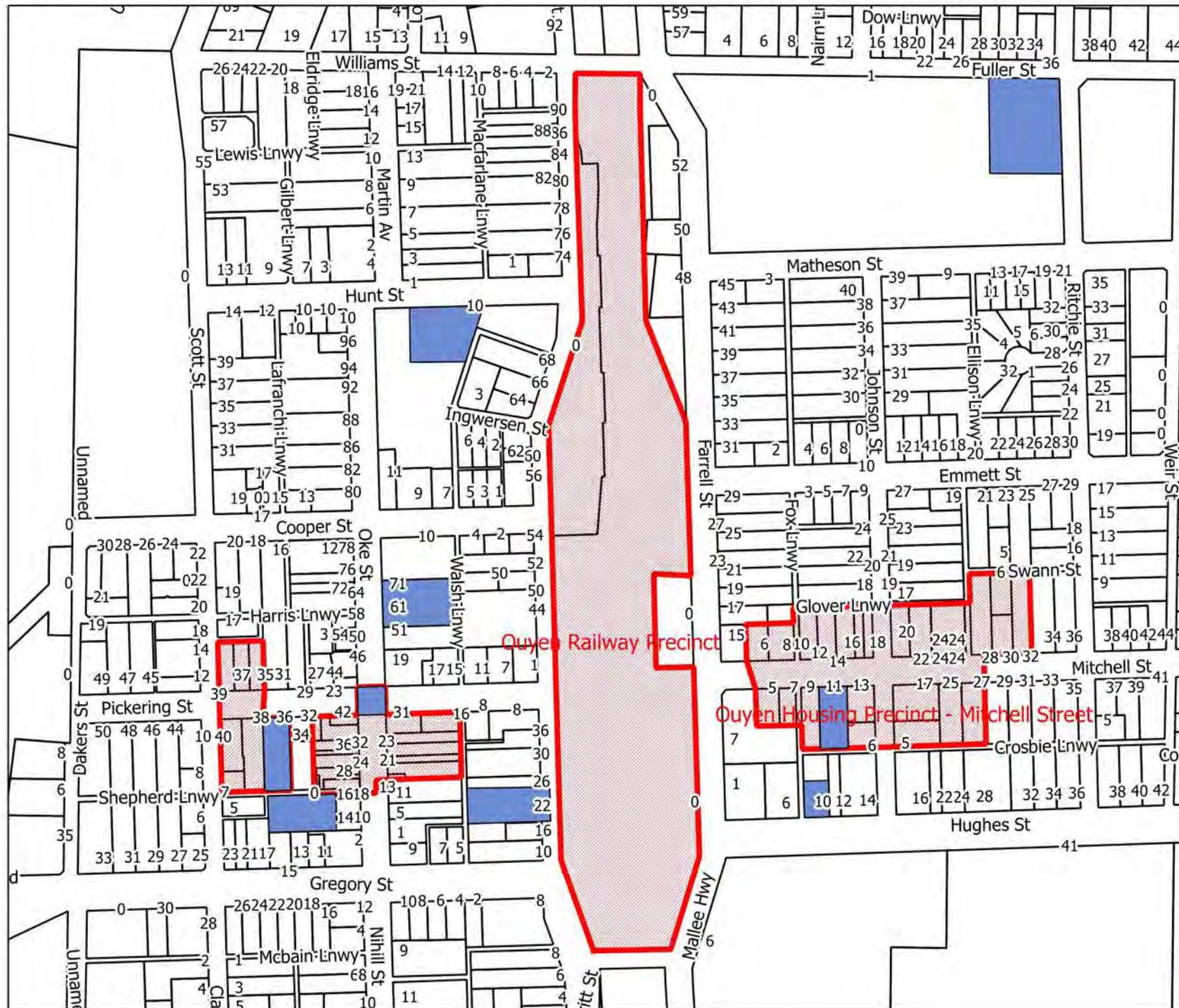
- Precinct boundary
- Contributory to precinct
- Individually significant place
- Title boundary



Ouyen Housing Precinct - Railway Terrace

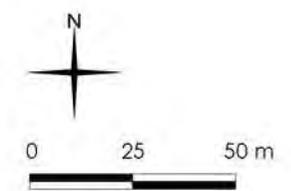
Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 30-03-2012 JB/IT

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



KEY

- Precinct boundary —
- Contributory to precinct
- Individually significant place
- Title boundary



Ouyen Railway Precinct

Ouyen Housing Precinct - Mitchell Street

Ouyen Railway Precinct

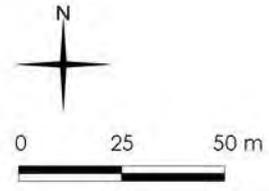
Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 30-03-2012 JB/IT

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



KEY

- Precinct boundary 
- Contributory to precinct 
- Individually significant place 
- Title boundary 



Walpeup Commercial Precinct - Cregan Street

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study Stage 2 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 30-03-2012 JB/IT

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au

INDIVIDUALLY SIGNIFICANT PLACE MAPS

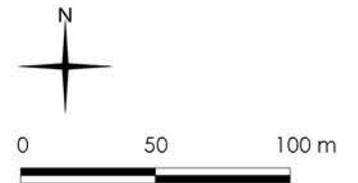


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Bridge remnant
Gunners Track,
Big Desert**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 31-07-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

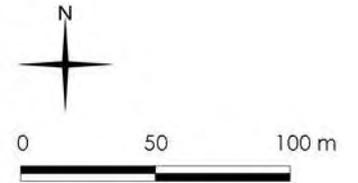


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Carter's Tank
Pine Plains Road,
Big Desert**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 31-07-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

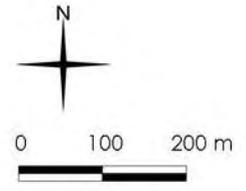


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Pine Plains Homestead
Pine Plains Road,
Big Desert**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 31-07-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au

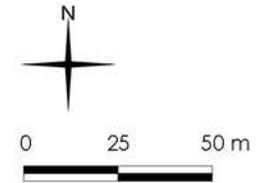


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



Cowangie Cemetery
Cemetery Road, Cowangie

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 03-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

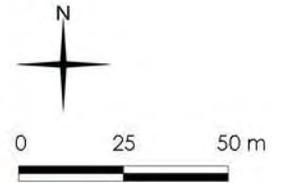


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Railway Water Reserve
Mallee Highway,
Cowangie**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 03-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

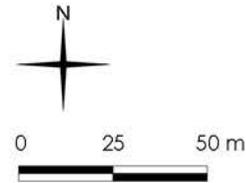


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Group of 3 Wells
Pallarang Road, Cowangie**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 03-05-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

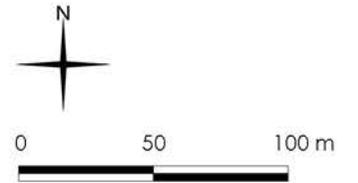


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Danyo Site 1
Mallee Hwy, Murrayville**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 31-07-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

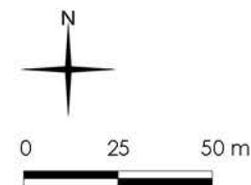


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**St Peter's Lutheran Church
9 Murrayville-Nhill Road,
Murrayville**

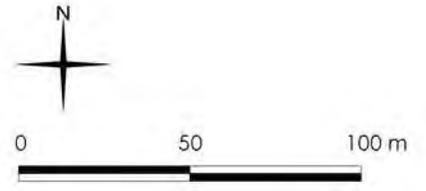
Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 03-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



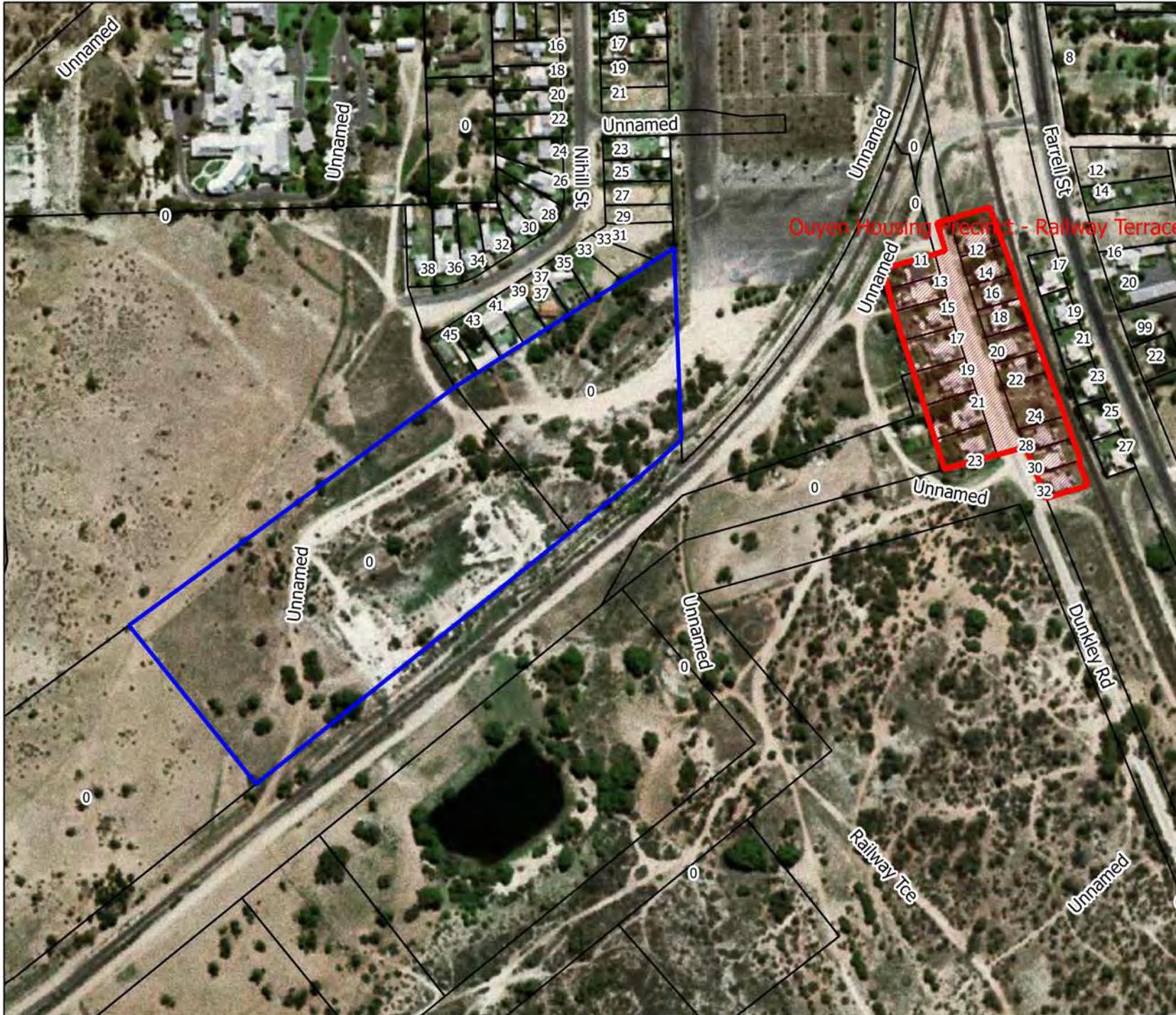
- KEY**
- Individually significant place
 - Precinct boundary
 - Contributory to precinct
 - Title boundary



**Township of Ouyen
Individually significant
places**

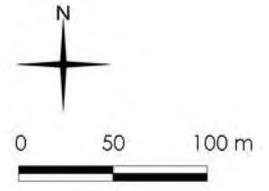
Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 31-07-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



KEY

- Individually significant place □
- Precinct boundary —
- Contributory to precinct
- Title boundary



Railway turntables repair site
South of Nihill Street, Ouyen

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 04-05-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au

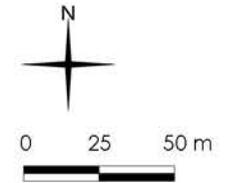


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Ouyen Cemetery
Dunkley Road, Ouyen**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 04-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

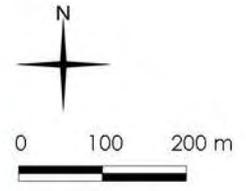


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Scott's Block
South of Scott Road, Ouyen**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 31-07-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

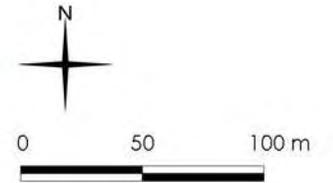


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Panitya Oval
Mallee Hwy, Panitya**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 31-07-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au

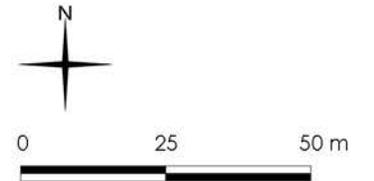


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



Carina Lodge
Ngallo South Road, Panitya

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 04-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

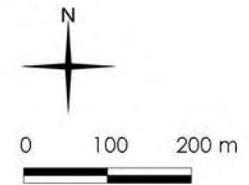


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Cooke's Cottage
Cooke Road, Torrita**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 31-07-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT

22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

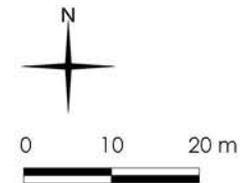


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Torrita Public Hall
Mallee Highway, Torrita**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 04-05-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT

22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au



KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



Tutye bore and site of former gypsum plasterworks (east) & Tutye Former Settlement (west), Tutye

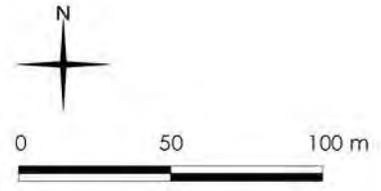
Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study Stage 2 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 04-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au



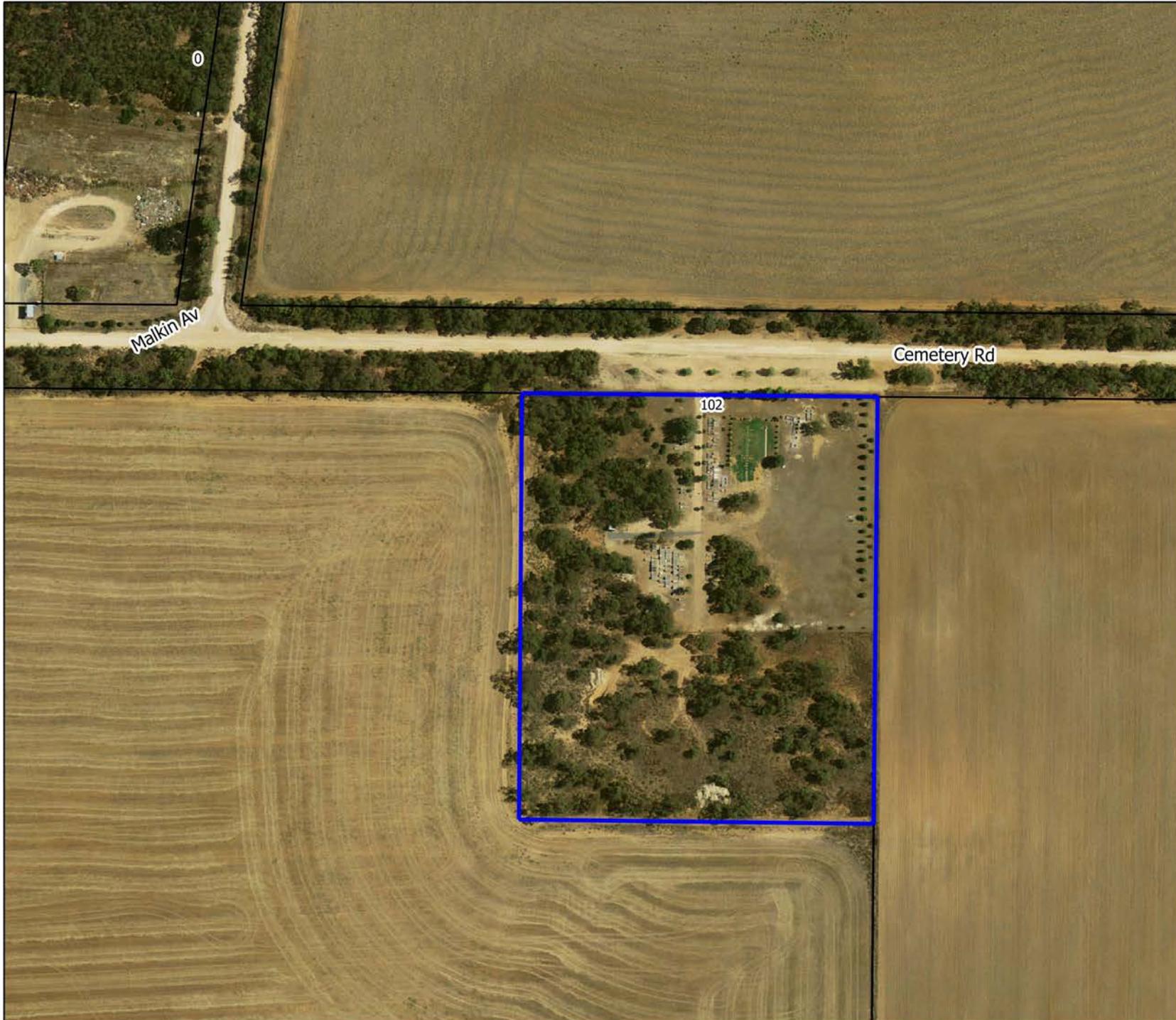
- KEY**
- Individually significant place
 - Title boundary



**Township of Underbool
Individually significant
places**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 31-07-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au

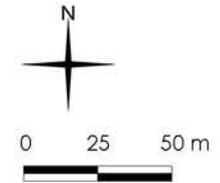


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



Cemetery and cemetery gates
102 Cemetery Road,
Underbool

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 04-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

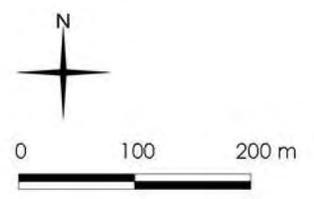


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**Ruins at salt workings, Lake Kenyon
Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes, Underbool**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 04-05-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au



KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes, Underbool Individually significant places

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study Stage 2 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 04-05-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au

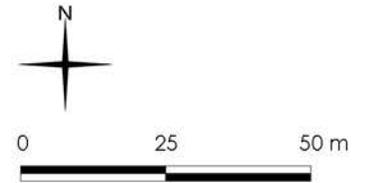


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



**McVicar's weatherboard
cottage**
**4263 Mallee Highway,
Underbool**

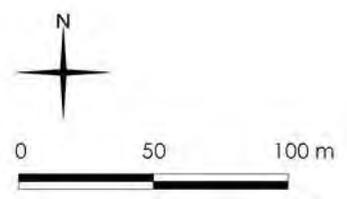
Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 04-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au



- KEY**
- Individually significant place
 - Precinct boundary
 - Contributory to precinct
 - Title boundary



**Township of Walpeup
Individually significant
places**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study
 Stage 2
 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 31-07-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
 www.contextpl.com.au

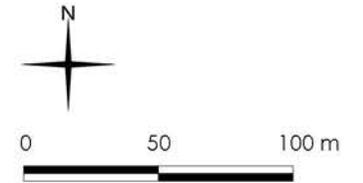


KEY

Individually significant place



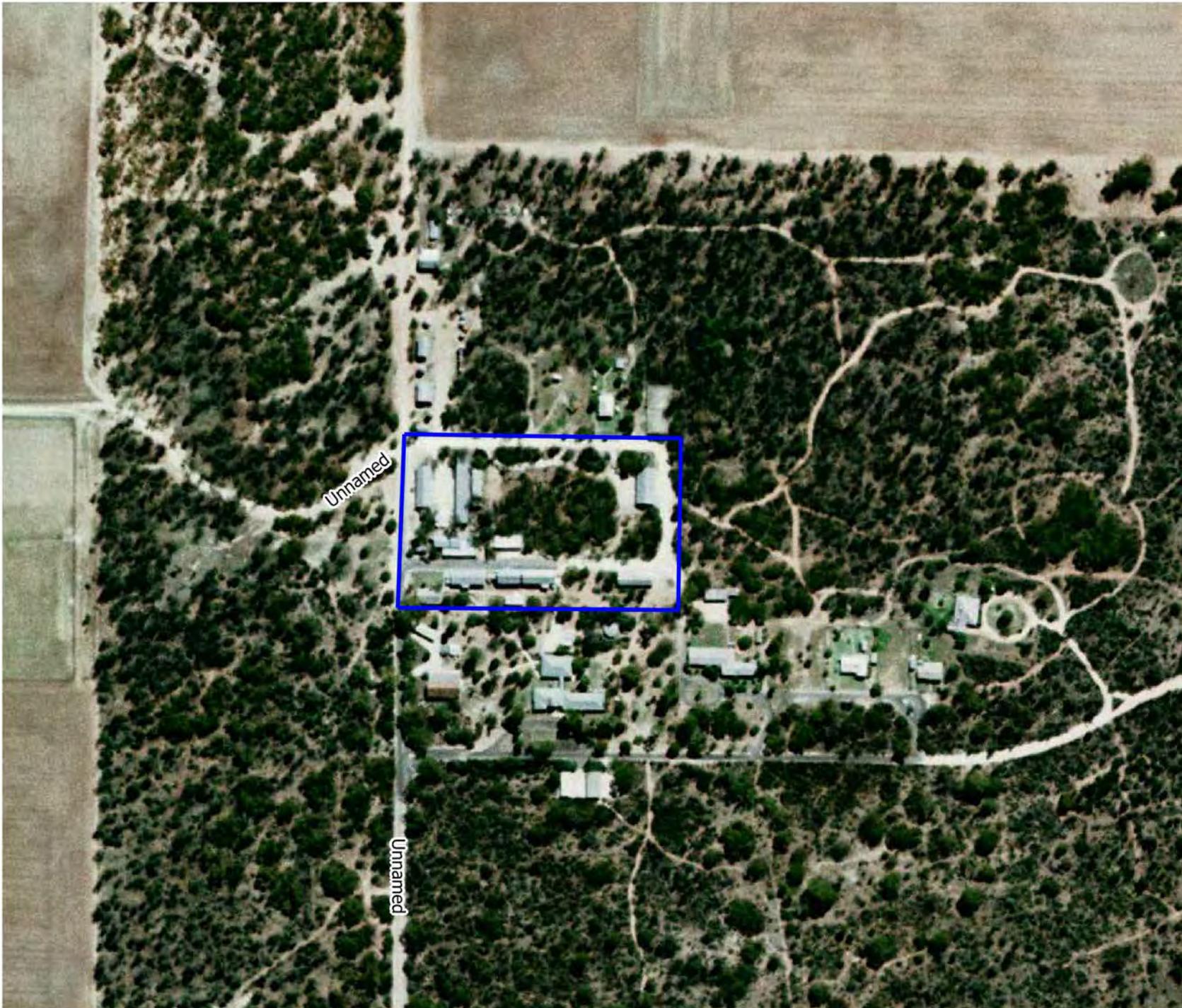
Title boundary



**Reliff Pumping Station
Hopetoun-Walpeup Road,
Walpeup**

Client	Mildura Rural City Council
Project	Mildura Heritage Study Stage 2 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date	31-07-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
 22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

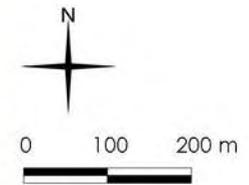


KEY

Individually significant place



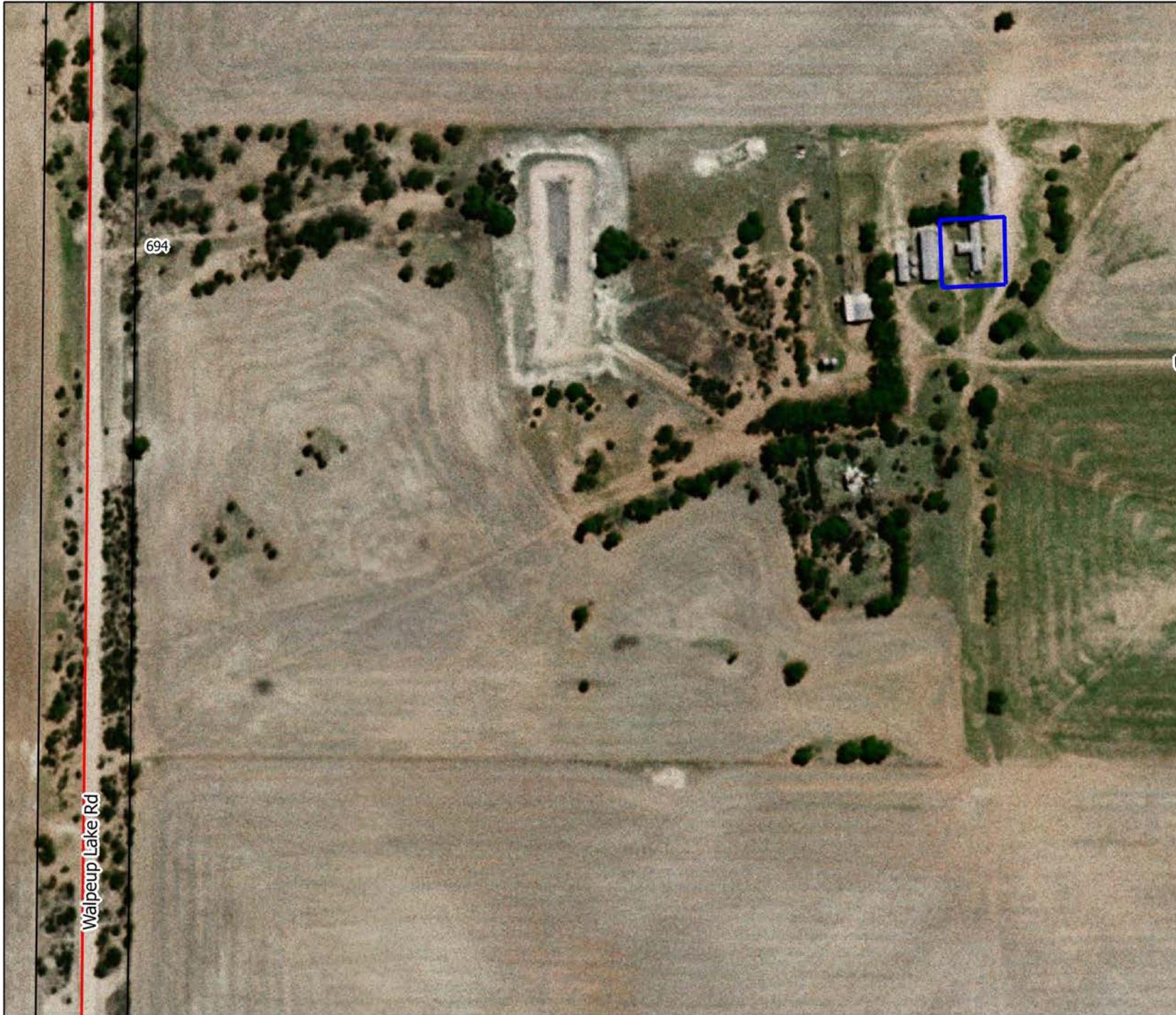
Title boundary



**Walpeup Mallee Agricultural
Research Centre
Meridian Road, Walpeup**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 31-07-2012 JB

people place heritage
CONTEXT
22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

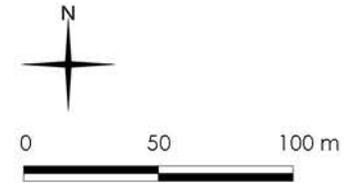


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary

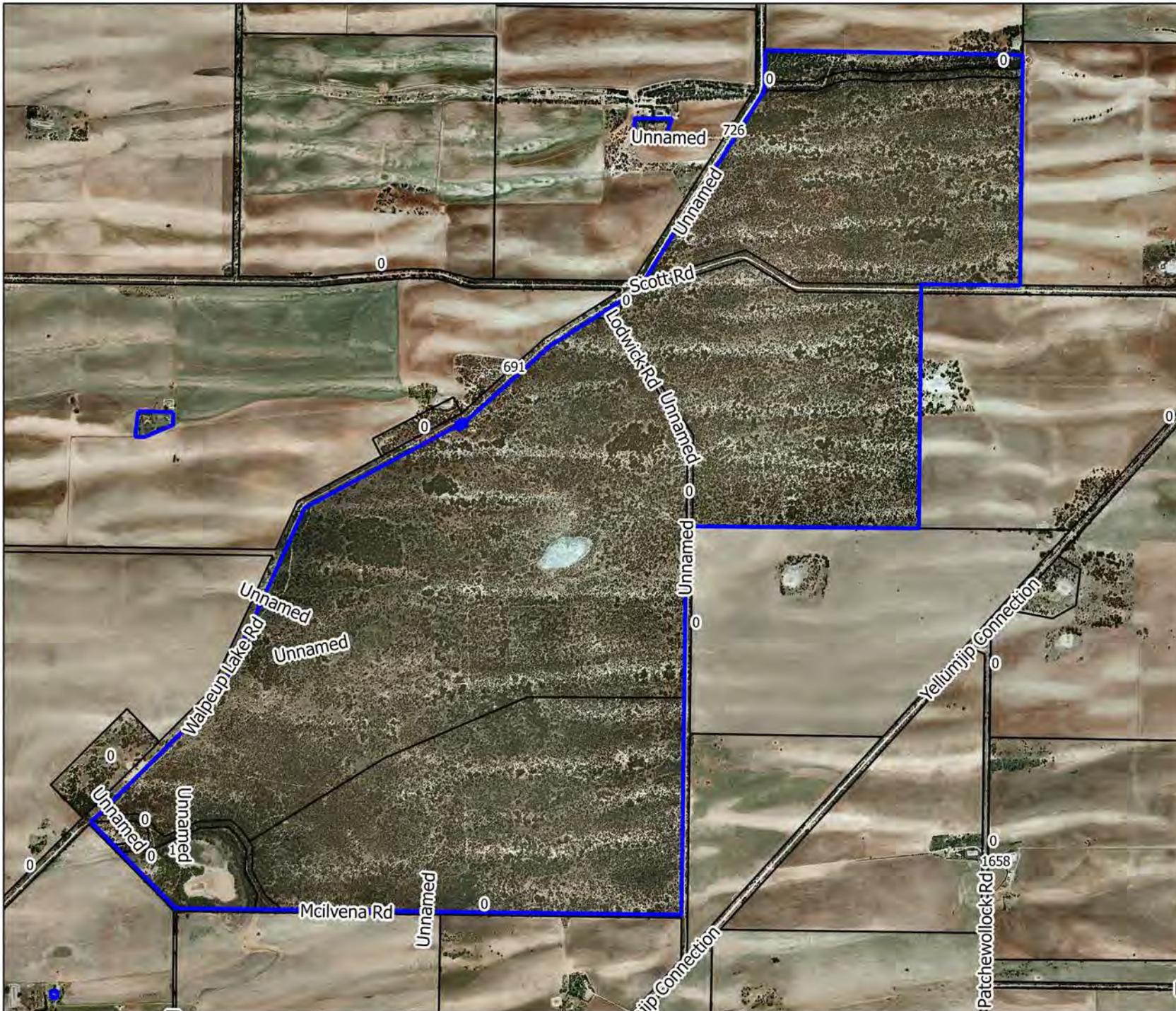


**Grigg's Property
694 Walpeup Lake Road,
Walpeup**

Client Mildura Rural City Council
Project Mildura Heritage Study
Stage 2
(Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
Date 04-05-2012 JB



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T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
www.contextpl.com.au

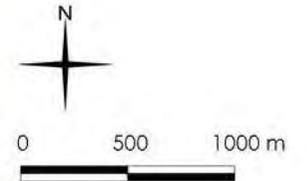


KEY

Individually significant place



Title boundary



Timberoo Flora and Fauna Reserve & Lake Walpeup Reserve, Walpeup

Client Mildura Rural City Council
 Project Mildura Heritage Study Stage 2 (Inc. former Shire of Walpeup)
 Date 04-05-2012 JB



22 Merri Street Brunswick, Victoria 3056
 T: 03 9380 6933 F: 03 9380 4066
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