

people place heritage

# CONTEXT

## MILDURA (FORMER SHIRE OF WALPEUP) HERITAGE STUDY STAGE 2

Final report

Volume 3 HERMES citations

4 April 2013

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.

<b>Project No.</b>	<b>Issue No.</b>	<b>Notes/description</b>	<b>Issue Date</b>	<b>Issued to</b>
1435	1	Draft report	4/5/2012	Peter Douglas
1435	2	Final report	1/8/2012	Peter Douglas
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### Recommended for HO –precincts

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

### Recommended for HO– individual places

	<b>Place</b>	<b>Address1</b>	<b>Address 2</b>
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

	<b>Place</b>	<b>Address1</b>	<b>Address 2</b>
18.	Murrayville Post Office	9 Reed Street	MURRAYVILLE
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

	<b>Place</b>	<b>Address1</b>	<b>Address 2</b>
50.	Carina Lodge	Ngallo South Road	PANITYA
51.	Panitya Oval	Mallee Highway south side	PANITYA
52.	No. 1 Bore	Panitya South Road, on the west side between Mallee Hwy and Hewitt Road	PANITYA
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
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

	<b>Place</b>	<b>Address1</b>	<b>Address 2</b>
80.	Grigg's Property	694 Walpeup Lake Road	WALPEUP

### **Recommended for VHI**

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

### **Recommended for VHR**

	<b>Place</b>	<b>Address1</b>	<b>Address 2</b>
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 **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** War Memorial, Factory/ Plant  
**Citation Date** 2012



**Recommended Heritage Protection** VHR No HI No PS Yes

## History and Historical Context

### Precinct history

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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

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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.
- Benson, C. 1935. *A Century of Victorian Methodism*. Spectator Publication Company, Melbourne.
- 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 University 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

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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

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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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

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

# 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

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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

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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)

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## 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

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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

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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).

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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**

-

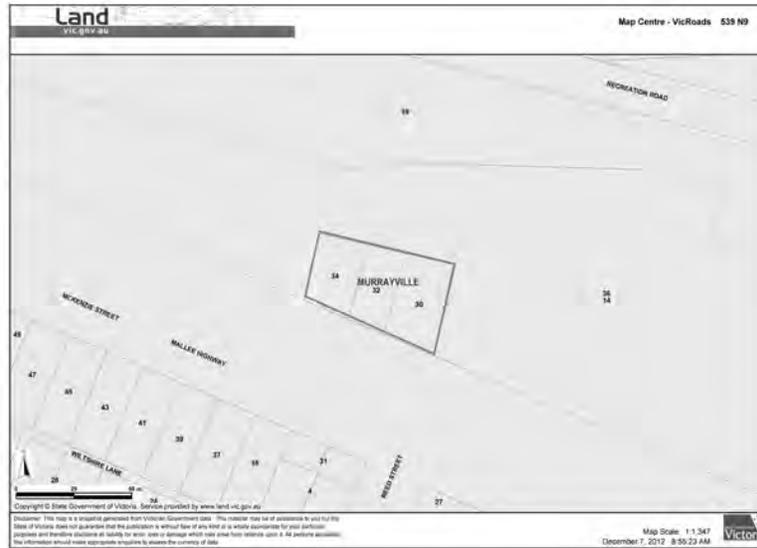
**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Murrayville Railway Housing Precinct  
**Address** 30, 32 and 34 McKenzie Street MURRAYVILLE  
**Place Type** Residential Precinct, Staff quarters  
**Citation Date** 2012



Murrayville Railway Housing Precinct

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**Recommended Heritage Protection** VHR - HI - PS -

## History and Historical Context

### Ouyen to Murrayville railway

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 (Parliamentary Standing Committee: xiv).

The railway 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 (Kenyon 1912:9).

The town and region experienced consolidated growth after the railway line from Ouyen to Murrayville opened in 1912. 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. At the time, it was the only

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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. Houses to accommodate railway workers were built at Ouyen, Murrayville, Underbool, Linga, Boinka and Torrita.

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. 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

Railways not only brought increased and easier trade, but also new people - not least among whom were the railway workers and their families who were often accommodated in 'railway houses' like those at Murrayville. Departmental Residences were generally situated adjacent to country railway station complexes, often with their frontages facing the railway line rather than the street. They were generally let to the occupant for a reasonable rental, but in some cases they were free.

Lindner notes that a Station Masters house (No.30) was built very close to the Murrayville railway station, and the first Station Master was Frank George (Lindner 2007:19). The building style and completion of the railway to Pinnaroo indicates a date of c.1915 is most likely (J. Linder, pers. comm., 2 December 2012).

Linder notes that other Station Masters included King (until the late 1920s), Anderson (until c.1924), N. Harbour, A. Williamson, Meaghers, M. Clapp, Roberston, Dunne and D. Kalms (J. Linder, pers. comm., 2 December 2012).

Allotment 27, Section 3 on which 30 McKenzie Street was gazetted the State Transport Authority on 10 July 1984 (*Transport Act 1983, Section 46*) (see Township of Murrayville, Parish of Danyo, County of Weeah Plan 1967).

Initially Departmental Residences were weatherboard clad timber framed structures but from the early 1920s the Victorian Railways adopted a new design and constructed railway houses from pre cast concrete blocks. The construction of 32 McKenzie Street indicates that it was built c.1925. Several similar houses in Ouyen Railway Terrace were also constructed at this time.

The land on which 32 McKenzie Street is located (Allotment 26, Section 3) was gazetted to the State Transport Authority on 3 October 1983 (*Transport Act 1983, Section 46*) (see Township of Murrayville, Parish of Danyo, County of Weeah Plan 1967). The construction date for 34 McKenzie Street is likely to be c.1915, based on its design.

## Sources

Context Pty Ltd, 2012, Mildura (Former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study Stage 2, Vol.1 Thematic Environmental History.

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.

Gee, N. 2005. *Victorian Railways Stations and Stopping Places: My Selection*. Train Hobby Publications, Studfield.

Kenyon, A. 1912. *The Story of the Mallee: A History of the Victorian Mallee Read before the Historical Society of Victoria*. Melbourne.

Lindner, J. 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007. A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Murrayville Liaison Committee, Mildura.

Township of Murrayville, Parish of Danyo, County of Weeah Plan 1967, Department of Lands and Survey, Melbourne 1969.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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## Description

### Physical Description

The four houses at 30-36 McKenzie Street are located between the Mallee Highway and the railway. The house at 30 McKenzie Street is an early twentieth century railway house, and was built as the Station Masters house. It is a 'T' type weatherboard clad house with a corrugated iron broad hipped roof and gabled roof, built to a standard design provided by the Public Works Department. Houses of a similar design are found at Lascelles and Woomelang in the Shire of Yarriambiack.

30 McKenzie Street has two brick chimneys with rendered caps and two terra cotta pots to each. The house has one central projecting gable to the facade. The projecting gable contains a two over two sash window and the gable infill contains timber joinery and roughcast. The projecting gable contains two decorative wooden brackets. The side entrance sits under the main roof (eastern facade). The front door appears to have timber panelling to the lower section and a 6 paned window above. A rectangular highlight window sits above the door. A small multi-paned timber window is also located in the side entrance. Two one-over-one sash windows are located further along the eastern facade. The western facade contains two one-over-one sash windows under a verandah that is incorporated under the main roof. It is in good condition and has a high integrity externally. The carport is a later addition.

32 McKenzie Street, Murrayville is constructed from concrete blocks. The house has not been painted. The corrugated iron gabled roof runs perpendicular to the street and there are two concrete brick chimneys located at the eastern side; one towards the front of the house and one at the rear. The front door and flanking windows are off centre with a skillion verandah continuing from the roofline to extend over the front door and the western window. A concrete brick balustrade, with two wooden posts, supports the verandah. All windows are timber framed and double hung with multi pane sashes. A contemporary picket fence runs along the front of the property. The eastern elevation contains one timber framed and double hung multi pane sash window, whilst the western elevation had two timber framed and double hung multi pane sash windows. A weatherboard clad extension is found at the rear.

34 McKenzie Street, Murrayville was originally a weatherboard clad residence with a half hipped corrugated iron roof. The external cladding has been replaced with aluminium siding and a new colorbond roof has replaced the galvanized iron roof cladding. A brick chimney is located along the western elevation. The house has a symmetrical facade, with the front door flanked by aluminium sliding windows which are replacements for sash windows. The verandah extends beyond the roofline at the western side to cover an enclosed weatherboard addition and around the western elevation. This has been rebuilt and now has plain posts with no verandah decoration. One original sash window is located along the eastern elevation. Two small multi paned windows are located in the enclosed section of the verandah at the western side. 34 McKenzie Street is largely intact in building form but has had a number of alterations.

36 McKenzie Street has also been assessed by Context Pty Ltd in 2012 and does not meet the threshold of local significance as its construction date is much later, it does not appear to have the same history, and its architectural value is limited.

### Recommended Management

It is recommended that 30-34 McKenzie Street form a precinct where each of the buildings is of contributory significance to the precinct. The recommended boundaries of the precinct are shown on the map below. It is recommended that this precinct be called the Murrayville Railway Housing Precinct, and be added to the schedule of the Mildura (former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study Stage 2.

## Comparative Analysis

The Railway Terrace housing precinct in Ouyen has a larger number of houses than Murrayville, as would be expected of a larger centre and in the reflection of the history of Ouyen as a railway hub. The Murrayville houses are similar to those represented in Ouyen. 32 McKenzie Street, Murrayville is of similar style and construction to the former railway staff houses (concrete brick houses at Railway Terrace) located within Railway Terrace, but is more intact. 34 McKenzie Street is similar in style to several houses in Railway Terrace Ouyen, but is somewhat less intact than these.

Railway houses at other locations along the Ouyen to Pinnaroo line were not located at either Underbool, Linga, Boinka or Torrita as part of the Mildura (former Shire of Walpeup) Heritage Study Stage 2. Other examples of railway houses are found in neighbouring local government areas of Gannawarra and Yarriambiack at:

161 and 163 Boundary Street Kerang,

3 Wychunga Street, Lascelles and 21 Gloucester Avenue, Woomelang

## Statement of Significance

### What is significant?

The former railway houses at 30-34 McKenzie Street, Murrayville are of significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

### How is it significant?

The former railway houses at 30-34 McKenzie Street, Murrayville, is of local historic and architectural significance to the Rural City of Mildura.

### Why is it significant?

The Railway Houses precinct at 30-34 McKenzie Street, Murrayville is of historic significance as it is associated with the development of the railway into the region and the subsequent opening up of the Mallee for settlement. The precinct provides tangible evidence of the importance of Murrayville in the expansion of the rail network in the north western Victoria. It demonstrates the practice of provision of employee housing by the Victorian Railways from its inception to the late twentieth century (Criterion A).

30 McKenzie Street is an excellent example of a standard Type 'T' railway house with its distinctive roof form, chimneys, porch, verandah and original window and door joinery. It is a fine example of the architectural work of the Public Works Department that provided standard plans for a range of public buildings (Criteria D, E).

32 McKenzie Street demonstrates the changing design and construction of employee housing by the Victorian Railways (when compared to the earlier weatherboard clad house at 30 McKenzie Street (Criterion A). It is an excellent example of a standard railway house of the 1920s, built in concrete block with wide overhanging gable roof, timber framed windows and balustrade. It is a fine example of the architectural work of the Public Works Department that provided standard plans for a range of public buildings. 34 McKenzie Street is a representative example of a standard railway house of the early 1900s. (Criteria D, E).

## Assessment Against Criteria

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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This precinct was assessed in accordance with the processes and guidelines outlined in the Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Heritage Significance (The Burra Charter) 1999, using the Hercon criteria.

## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	No
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

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** 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

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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**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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)

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# 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,

## HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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

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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

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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).

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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

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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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## 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

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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. Nattrass 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.

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

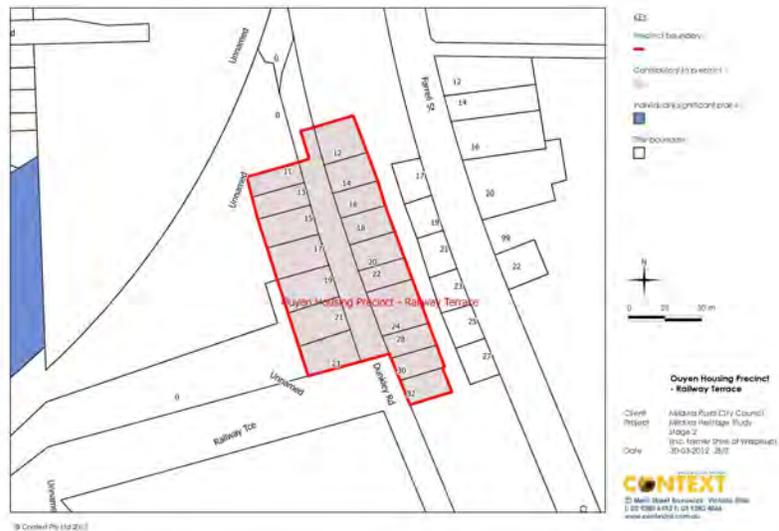
<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes Palm tree associated with 36 Pickering Street.
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## 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 **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

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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

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## 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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## 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

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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

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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

Australian Bureau of Statistics, *The Australian Wheat Industry*, 2006, Cat. No. 1301.0. Viewed 14 November 2011 [www.abs.gov.au](http://www.abs.gov.au).

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

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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.  
1918 'History of Ouyen.', *The Horsham Times* (Vic. : 1882 - 1954), 17 December, p. 5, viewed 30 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article72991257>  
1922 'Footbridge at Ouyen Station.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 23 March, p. 9, viewed 30 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article4679795>  
1936 'Bulk-handling Silos.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 20 April, p. 12, viewed 30 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article11028681>  
1937 'Tenders for Wheat Silos.', *The Horsham Times* (Vic. : 1882 - 1954), 13 August, p. 4, viewed 30 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article72592431>  
1938 'Building of Silos.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 9 July, p. 6, viewed 30 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article12435344>  
1938 'Mallee Silos.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 14 May, p. 10, viewed 30 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article11179259>  
1950 'Big Crops Quickly Fill Silos.', *Barrier Miner* (Broken Hill, NSW : 1888 - 1954), 9 January, p. 7, viewed 30 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article48613960>  
Victorian Public Records Office (PROV), Public Building Files: VPRS 7882/P/0001, 8187  
*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

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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

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

-
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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# 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

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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

Ballinger, R 2009. *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.

## 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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes Former bakehouse.
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## 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

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**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

Linder, J. 2001. *Kow Plains Revisited 1849-2001*. Kow Homestead Committee of Management, Mallee Printers, 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 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

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## 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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

- 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>.
- 1908 'Underdeveloped Victoria.', *The Argus* (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956), 27 January, p. 5, viewed 14 November, 2011, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article10673745>.
- Australian Dictionary of Biography* 2012, viewed January 31st 2012 <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/kenyon-alfred-stephen-6936>.
- Context, 2009. *Thematic Environmental History of the Rural City of Mildura*.
- 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

### 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

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## 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

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**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

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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

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## 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

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

-
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**Incorporated Plan**

-
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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

-
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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

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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

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## 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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

Yes Cypress pines
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

-
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

-
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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Limestone walls  
**Address** Mallee Highway BOINKA **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Farm fence  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**Recommended Heritage Protection** VHR No HI No PS Yes

## 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

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## 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

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**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



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**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

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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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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<b>Name</b>	Railway water reserve	
<b>Address</b>	Main Street COWANGIE	<b>Significance Level</b> Local
<b>Place Type</b>	Other - Transport - Rail,Water Supply Reservoir/ Dam	
<b>Citation Date</b>	2012	



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**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

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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

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**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

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## 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

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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## 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 University 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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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, 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.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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](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

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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

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

Yes
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

-
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**Incorporated Plan**

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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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**

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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

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**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

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## 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

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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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Danyo Site 1  
**Address** Mallee Highway MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Shop  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Shop  
**Address** 19 McKenzie Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Shop  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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**Shop** **01-Aug-2012** **10:24 AM**  
**Hermes No 184783** **Place Citation Report**

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Murrayville Post Office  
**Address** Reed Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Post Office  
**Citation Date** 2012



# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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).

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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

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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

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**Name** State Emergency Service  
**Address** 17 Reed Street MURRAYVILLE **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Law Court  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**Recommended** VHR No HI No PS Yes  
**Heritage Protection**

## 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

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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

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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.

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## 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.

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	-
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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?

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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.

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**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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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 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

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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

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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**

-

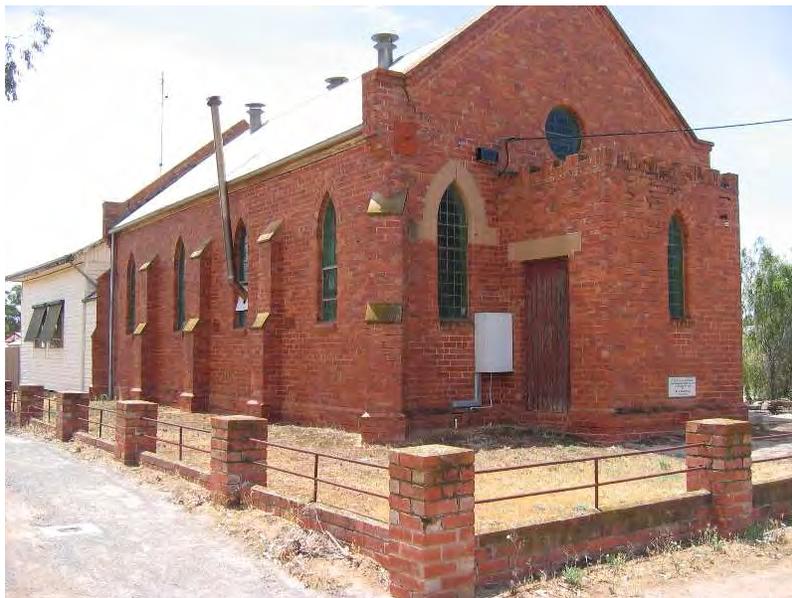
# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes Fences: on brick fence only
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## Other Recommendations

Paint controls: on brick church only

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

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**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**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Former Blacksmiths Shop  
**Address** 10 Hughes Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Blacksmith  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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.

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

#### 8.4 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

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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

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**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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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*

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*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).

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## 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

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**Name** House  
**Address** 12 Hunt Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** House  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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).

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Anglican All Saints Uniting Church  
**Address** Hunt Street, cnr Martin Avenue OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Church  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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.
- Caldwell, D. 1999. An overview of the design and construction of this A-framed Wrightian church, designed by David Caldwell and Wystan Widdows in 1960-61. In *The Church at St Thomas, Langwarrin: A Potted Construction History*. Heathmont: David Caldwell Publications.
- Moreland City Council: Local Heritage Places Review*, Context Pty Ltd, 2004.
- <http://archive.anglican.org.au/archive/images.cfm?startrow=6&BrowseCategory=43> accessed 10/1/2012.
- 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

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## 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?

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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.

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**Criterion E:** Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

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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.

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes Site not accessed so outbuilding controls ticked pending site visit.
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Ouyen Mineral Sands  
**Address** Manley Road (East side), north of Pearson Road  
OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Homestead building  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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## 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

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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

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**Name** Ayton  
**Address** 11 Mitchell Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Residence  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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*. Sunnyland 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

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## **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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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<b>Name</b>	Railway Turntables (repair site)	
<b>Address</b>	Nihill Street (south of) OUYEN	<b>Significance Level</b> Local
<b>Place Type</b>	Railway Turntable	
<b>Citation Date</b>	2012	



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**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

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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

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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.  
*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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes Palm trees
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## Other Recommendations

It is recommended tha the Palm trees only be covered by the HO.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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).

## Sources

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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- 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.
- Carroll, H. 2009. *Mallee Roots to Vanilla Slices*. Mallee Printers, Victoria.
- Heritage Matters Pty Ltd 2008. *Jaffas Down the Aisles: A Survey of Cinemas in Country Victoria*. Unpublished report prepared for Heritage Victoria, by Heritage Matters Pty Ltd, Port Fairy, Australia.
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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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes Kaffir Plum tree.
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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## 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).

## Sources

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1921 'A Warm Post Office.', *The Horsham Times* (Vic. : 1882 - 1954), 1 February, p. 7, viewed 24 January, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article72754528>.

Goad, P. and J. Willis 2012. *The Encyclopaedia of Australian Architecture*. Cambridge University Press, Melbourne, Australia.

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

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

-
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**Incorporated Plan**

-
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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

-
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## Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

1936 'A Modern Store: Interesting Particulars of Gilpin's Ouyen Building' , *Ouyen Mail* August 26, 1936.

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>.

Australian Dictionary of Biography 2012, viewed January 31st 2012 < <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/gilpin-oliver-6392>>.

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.

Perry, M. 1995. *Just a Pocket for the Money: The Story of Oliver Gilpin and his Stores*. Mansfield Newspapers Print, Molesworth, Victoria.

## 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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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## 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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Former Ouyen Court House  
**Address** 61-71 Oke Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Court House  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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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.

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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

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## 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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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



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**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

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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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Chaff, Oats and Grain Store  
**Address** 14 Oke Street (rear of) OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Unknown Item Type  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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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

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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**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** War Memorial  
**Address** Oke Street, cnr Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** War Memorial  
**Citation Date** 2012

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** House  
**Address** 1 Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** House  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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## **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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Former Doctors Residence and Surgery  
**Address** 36 Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** House  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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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

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**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**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Ouyen Tyre Service  
**Address** 8 Pickering Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Other - Commercial  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**Recommended Heritage Protection** VHR No HI No PS Yes

## History and Historical Context

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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## 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

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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

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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.

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Hotel Victoria  
**Address** 22 Rowe Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Hotel  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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).

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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

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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

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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)

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## 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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes garage & residence at rear
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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## 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

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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.

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes Cypress
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes gates
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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



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**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 Karkaroots, 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 Karkaroot, 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.

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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.

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Scotts Block  
**Address** Scott Road OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Other - Farming & Grazing  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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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)

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

Yes Eucalypts and peppercorns.
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

Yes
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

-
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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Masonic Temple  
**Address** 12 Scott Street OUYEN **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Hall Masonic  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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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

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## 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.

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## 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

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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

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## 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

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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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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.

**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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	No
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

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## 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

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**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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

Yes Memorial gates.
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** No. 1 Bore  
**Address** Panitya South Road PANITYA **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Other - Utilities - Water  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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>.

*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*.

Kenyon, A.S 1916. *The Story of the Mallee*. Melbourne.

Jocelyn Linder, personal communication, November 2008.

Linder, J (2007) *Murrayville 1910-2007*, published by the Murrayville Liasion Committee.

Nicholls, J & Angel, A (2003) *Mallee Tracks*, South Australia.

*Victorian Gazette*, Wednesday, December 19th 1910, Number 136.

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

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

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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

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**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 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**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

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## 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**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Cookes Cottage  
**Address** Cooke Road TORRITA **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Cottage  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Torrita 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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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



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**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

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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

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## 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

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**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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

No
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

-
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**Incorporated Plan**

-
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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## Other Recommendations

It is recommended that the former township of Tutye be interpreted at the site.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Tutye Cemetery  
**Address** Tyalla Road TUTYE **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Cemetery/Graveyard/Burial Ground  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Cemetery and Cemetery Gates  
**Address** Cemetery Road, off Underbool South Road  
UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Cemetery Gates/Fences  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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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

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**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

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**Name** Salt harvesting site  
**Address** Lake Becking Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes UNDERBOOL  
**Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Salt works  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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>.

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.

## 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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Tramway formation  
**Address** Lake Becking Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes UNDERBOOL  
**Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Other - Transport - Rail  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**Recommended** VHR No HI Yes PS Yes  
**Heritage Protection**

## History and Historical Context

### Place history

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Tramway formation  
Hermes No 184674

Place Citation Report

01-Aug-2012

10:40 AM

## HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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

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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>.

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>.

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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 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

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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

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Salt harvesting site  
**Address** Lake Crosby, Murray-Sunset National Park: Pink Lakes UNDERBOOL  
**Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Salt works  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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>.

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 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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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 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 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

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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

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## 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

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**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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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.

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Weatherboard Cottage (McVicars)  
**Address** 4263 Mallee Highway UNDERBOOL **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Cottage  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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## 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.  
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

- 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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

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

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**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

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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

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## 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

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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

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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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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**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**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

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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

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**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
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**Internal Alteration Controls**

No
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**Tree Controls**

No
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**Fences & Outbuildings**

Yes Shelter shed and former Torrita school.
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**Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted**

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**Incorporated Plan**

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**Aboriginal Heritage Place**

-
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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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 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 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

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Collins, of Woomelang (*The Argus* 21 March 1938).

## Sources

- Ballinger, R 2009 *Rural City Of Mildura Thematic Environmental History* for Context Pty Ltd, Melbourne, Victoria.
- Damousi, Joy, 1999. *The Labour of Loss: Mourning, Memory and Wartime Bereavement in Australia*, Cambridge University Press.
- Pole, M. 1983. The History of the Walpeup Memorial Hall, in French, D., J. Matheson, R. Sonogan, P. Clark and P. Duckworth, 1983 Mallee Arts Council, Journal No. 6.
- Inglis, K. S. 2008. *Sacred Places: War Memorials in the Australian Landscape*, Melbourne University Press.
- Lewi & Nichols, 2010. *Community, building modern Australia*, UNSW Press.
- 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*.
- Vallance, D. H., 1960. *Back to Walpeup*. Back to Walpeup Committee.

## 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

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## 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

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**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

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**Name** Sacred Heart Catholic Church  
**Address** 17 Glen Street East WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Church  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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

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## 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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

## Other Recommendations

Paint controls apply to unpainted masonry.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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.

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.

East, L.R. 1965. *Water in the Mallee*, SRWSC, 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

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

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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

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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.

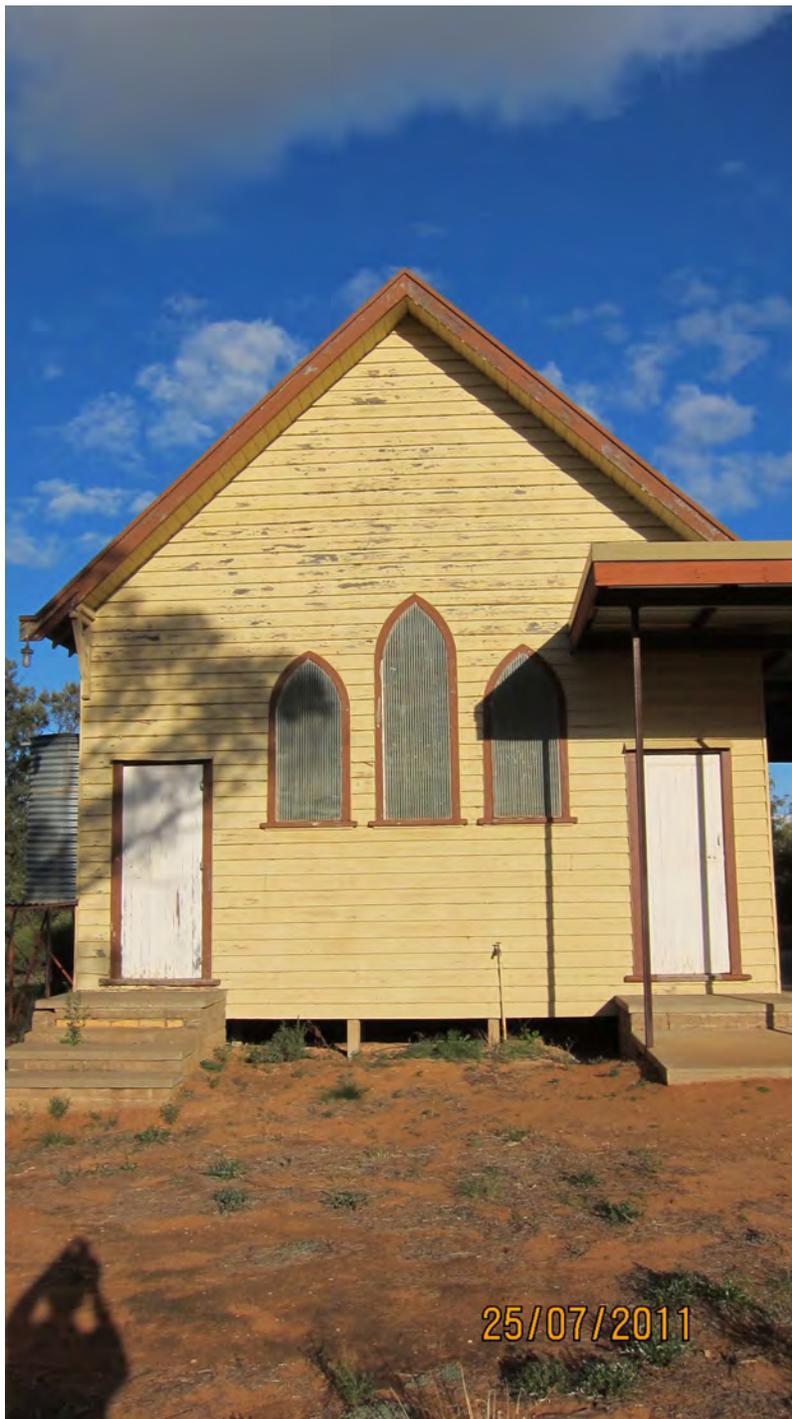
## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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<b>Name</b>	Lutheran Church		
<b>Address</b>	Kenyon Street WALPEUP	<b>Significance Level</b>	Local
<b>Place Type</b>	Church		
<b>Citation Date</b>	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 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

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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).

## Sources

1925 'SUCCESSFUL TENDERER.', *The Horsham Times* (Vic. : 1882 - 1954), 16 October, p. 6, viewed 1 May, 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.

Lindner, J. 2007. *Murrayville 1910-2007 A History of the Development of Murrayville and District*. Murrayville Liaison Committee, Mildura.

Lutheran Church of Australia, website accessed 20/2/2012

<http://www.lst.vic.lca.org.au/search/church/cong.php?EntityID=519>.

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

Nicolls, J & 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

10 COMMUNITY LIFE

10.4 Places of worship

## Description

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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## 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

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**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**

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# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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<b>Name</b>	Water Tank	
<b>Address</b>	Kenyon Street (cnr Glen Street) WALPEUP	<b>Significance Level</b> Local
<b>Place Type</b>	Water Tank	
<b>Citation Date</b>	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 Paignton 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

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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

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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.

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	No
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** McKinnons Farm House  
**Address** McKinnon Lane (cnr of Hopeton-Walpeup Road) **Significance Level** Local  
WALPEUP  
**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

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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

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## 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

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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

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**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

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**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

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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

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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).

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## 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

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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

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes Former stable and machinery shed.
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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## Sources

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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

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## 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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Lake Walpeup Reserve  
**Address** Walpeup Lake Road WALPEUP  
**Place Type** Reserve  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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

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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

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comms., November 16th 2011)

## Sources

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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 reafforested.

### 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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	No
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**Name** Griggs Property  
**Address** 694 Walpeup Lake Road WALPEUP **Significance Level** Local  
**Place Type** Farm  
**Citation Date** 2012



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**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 Paignton 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

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Griggs Property  
Hermes No 108519

Place Citation Report

01-Aug-2012

10:49 AM

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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.

**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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes Applies to stone building only.
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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



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**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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February, 2012, <http://nla.gov.au/nla.news-article47698206>

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

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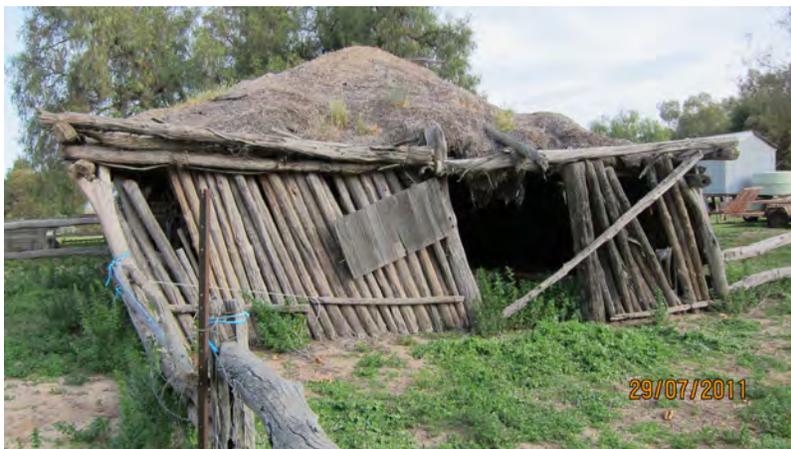
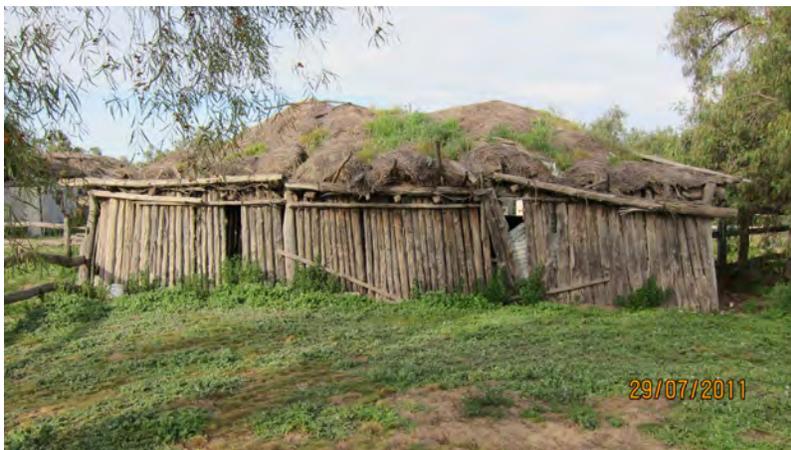
## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	-
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	-
<b>Tree Controls</b>	-
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	-
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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.

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

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4 MANAGING NATURAL RESOURCES

4.3 Grazing and raising livestock

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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## 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

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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

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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

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**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

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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

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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.

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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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

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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.

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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

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## Recommendations 2012

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	No
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	Yes
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	Yes
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-

# HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

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**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

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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

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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

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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

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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)

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## 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

<b>External Paint Controls</b>	No
<b>Internal Alteration Controls</b>	Yes
<b>Tree Controls</b>	No
<b>Fences &amp; Outbuildings</b>	-
<b>Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted</b>	-
<b>Incorporated Plan</b>	-
<b>Aboriginal Heritage Place</b>	-