
Italian Prisoners Of War Memorial



Murch 11.jpg



Murch 12.jpg

Location

Murchison-Nagambie Road, Cemetery MURCHISON, GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY

Municipality

GREATER SHEPPARTON CITY

Level of significance

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Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Hermes Number 156113

Property Number

Veterans Description for Public

Inside the cemetery on Murchison-Nagambie Road, is a memorial dedicated to Italian Prisoners of War who died while interned in the Murchison camps. The memorial comprises of a stone pedestal topped by a green metal wreath; which features a golden hand clasping a cross and a star joining the two fronds at the top and an Italian helmet at the base. On the front face of the pedestal is a map of Italy and the inscription: *"Who for the homeland spent life and more. This monument was erected by Italian prisoners of war in the Rushworth (Vic) concentration camp and transported to this Italian chapel of Murchison (Vic) on 7th September 1968 through the interest of Cavilieri Urbano A. Segafredo President and Founder of the Bendigo Section of the Italian Federation of Ex Service and War Veterans."* The memorial was moved to Murchison in 1968 from Rushworth, where it had been constructed by Italian prisoners of war.

During the Second World War, 4000 Italian, German and Japanese prisoners of war were detained at Murchison. Those who died at Murchison were buried in the local cemetery, but floods in 1956 did major damage to the graves. Luigi Gigliotti persuaded Italian families living in the Goulburn Valley to pay for the building of a mausoleum - the Ossario. He also managed to persuade the authorities to bury all the Italian prisoners of war and detainees who died in Australian prison camps in the mausoleum, which was completed in 1961.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>