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# Former Barleycorn Inn

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## Location

221 Hurd Street PORTLAND, GLENELG SHIRE

## Municipality

GLENELG SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO300

## Heritage Listing

Glenelg Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 28, 2017

Statement of significance

What is significant?

Significant elements of the Former Barleycorn Inn at 221 Hurd Street include the views of the building from Hurd Street, external features such as the original bluestone walls, brick chimneys, the vented gables and timber-framed doors and windows. Internally the bluestone and brick fireplace is of heritage significance.

How is it significant?

The building at 221 Hurd Street is of historical significance (HERCON criterion A), aesthetic significance (HERCON criterion E) and creative/technical significance (HERCON criterion F) to the Glenelg Shire.

Why is it significant?

The building is of historical significance as it provides a strong link with early housing stock in Portland and settlement of the area known as 'Double Corner', in North Portland, which was on the main road to the town. This area provided all the necessary rest stops and conveniences to travellers to and from Portland.

The building is of aesthetic significance for the way it presents a neat, simply-contrived building of distinctly early Victorian nature.

The building is of creative and technical significance for its innovative use of local materials in a remote region at an early period in Portland's history. Similar to other early buildings in Portland the Barleycorn Inn was constructed using locally available materials with a care and attention to detail which tells of the scarcity and value of building materials at the time. The building utilises bluestone which would have been quarried locally, hand-made bricks and a simple design indicative of local industry and innovation, and the potential for working with new materials in a new environment. The internal bluestone and brick walls and fireplace demonstrate early building methods which ensured that valuable materials were used and not wasted in a remote and isolated community.

## Theme

5. Building Victoria's industries and workforce 6. Building towns cities and the garden state 8. Building community life

Heritage Act Categories Registered place,

Hermes Number 201146

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

### Physical description

The Former Barleycorn Inn is located close to the street; this prominent frontage is a feature of early Victorian architecture in Portland.

The building is a simply-conceived bluestone structure. Originally it would have had four rooms, with a detached kitchen, wash house and stables. Alterations have removed the outbuildings. Original floors in the building would have been of axe-split hardwood, allowing cracks between floorboards, as evidenced by coins found by later builders beneath the original floor (Bennett 1997). The house is rendered in rough cast, the date of the rendering is not known.

Externally the roof material is not original. However the shape of the roof and its appearance lend appropriate character to the remaining features of heritage significance. The large gables are timber, as are the gable vents. Traces of the original verandah are evident. This appears to have extended the width of the building. The entrance portico was added in early 1900s (Bennett 1997). The two chimneys are of simple, unadorned red brick and bluestone construction, internal to the house.

The two large windows on the eastern elevation are evenly spaced on either side of main entrance. These side-opening casement windows and the front door are timber-framed with pointed pedimented timber frames.

Internally the bluestone walls have been stripped and the original irregular rubble bluestone walls are exposed so the detail is evident. The walls demonstrate very early construction details such as rubble courses and occasional use of brick and other materials. There is a large bluestone header and bluestone pillars above and around the original fireplace, overlying a neatly constructed red brick arch over the fireplace.

Anecdotal evidence is reported of a house fire in the 1940s, where internal timbers were damaged and replaced. An internal inspection has not been undertaken to verify this.

## Physical Conditions

Very good condition

## **Usage/Former Usage**

Current usage : Residential

Former usage: Commercial

*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/>*