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# KOOKABURRA CAFÉ



23285 Kookaburra Cafe  
Branxholme 0557



23285 Kookaburra cafe  
Branxholme 0709



23285 Kookaburra Cafe  
Branxholme 0556

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## Location

Brown Street Elm Street, BRANXHOLME VIC 3302 - Property No 7610

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 7, 2003

What is significant?

The Kookaburra Cafe and residence are located at the corner of Brown and Elm Streets, Branxholme and opposite the former railway station, was established in the 1920s. It was established by the Price family, who were local bakers and who also owned a guest house. It operated until the 1970s when the business had declined. The cafe was associated in particular with Mrs. Margaret Price, the wife of the baker, Joseph Richard Price. The shop is a simple timber structure with a simple verandah. The attached weatherboard house is a well detailed example of the Californian Bungalow style. The buildings are substantially intact externally and internally. They are in fair condition. The Privet hedge at the front of the residence dates from the 1920s, and is typical of the period. It is also in good condition.

How is it significant?

The Kookaburra Cafe is of historical, social and architectural significance to the township of Branxholme and to

the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The Kookaburra Cafe is of historical significance for its association with the Price family, a large and important family in the Branxholme community. Of further historical significance is the snapshot that the cafe, residence and privet hedge give of a typical small country town business and home from the 1920s. It is of social significance for demonstrating a past way of life and the shifting fortunes of those who serve a passing trade. It is of architectural significance for its relatively sophisticated use of the Californian Bungalow style.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1920,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	PRICE'S RAILWAY CAFÉ,
Hermes Number	23285
Property Number	

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## Physical Conditions

The buildings are in fair condition.

## Physical Description 1

The Kookaburra Cafe is a single storey timber shop and attached dwelling. The walls of the shop are weatherboard and the roof is corrugated iron. The gabled roof is corrugated iron and the gable is weatherboard with no signage. A verandah in front of the shop extends over the footpath. The house which is in the Californian Bungalow Style is symmetrical about the front door but has asymmetrical gables, the largest over the porch. The piers of the porch are rendered brick with some bricks exposed as decoration. The forms and materials used and the detailing of the house are modest but are all well executed. Both the exteriors and interiors of the cafe and the residence are substantially intact. The colour scheme of the house in particular may predate the Second World War. The buildings are in fair condition. There is a typical privet hedge, (*Lingustrum* sp.) outside the house on the street boundary.

## Historical Australian Themes

3 Developing local, regional and national economies

3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways

4 Building settlements, towns and cities

4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia

## Usage/Former Usage

residential

## Integrity

High degree of integrity externally and internally

## **Physical Description 2**

Joseph Richard Price, local baker  
Margaret Price, owner/operator

## **Physical Description 3**

Recreation Reserve

*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/>*