
GRAVE, COBBLESTONE PAVEMENT AND WC

Location

36 Stirling Street DUNKELD, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 3, 2004

What is significant?

A grave, cobblestone pavement and water closet are located on the site of the former hotel in Stirling Street Dunkeld. The substantial double WC is built of coursed rockface bluestone rubble with dressed and rockface Grampians sandstone quoins and lintels. The internal dividing stone wall and the seats have been removed. The pavement is of mixed stones, roughly textured slightly sloping to the centre and with a central drain of dressed stones for two-thirds of its length. There are regularly spaced small mortices in the stones immediately to the north of the drain suggesting a fence or railing. The grave, cobblestone pavement and water closet are the remaining physical fabric of Gwyther's Family hotel, opened in 1863. The grave, cobblestone pavement and WC are in good condition and retain a very high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The grave, cobblestone, pavement and WC are of historic significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historical significance as the last remaining fabric of Gwyther's Family Hotel, opened in 1863, and the only two storey hotel in Dunkeld. The grave shows a previous way of life, where early burials were able to take place outside of cemeteries or church yards, and the danger and rough nature of the early township. The WC and cobblestones also give insight into the running of an early hotel site, complete with outside lavatory, and a cobbled courtyard leading to what may have been stables. All the elements of the site are of historical significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1863,
Architect/Designer	Fox, James Henry,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23542
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The WC is in poor condition but is structurally sound. The pavement is in fair condition.

Physical Description 1

The substantial double WC is built of coursed rockface bluestone rubble with dressed and rockface Grampians sandstone quoins and lintels. It is approximately 2.0m x 5.0m and 3.0m high to the ridge level. It has two door openings, one facing east and one facing west, the former surviving as a ledge and brace door, the latter covered with sheet metal. The internal dividing stone wall and the seats have been removed. The eastern compartment is rendered internally.

The pavement is of mixed stones, roughly textured slightly sloping to the centre and with a central drain of dressed stones for two-thirds of its length. The area is approximately 10.0m x 30.m. There are regularly spaced small mortices in the stones immediately to the north of the drain suggesting a fence or railing.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.19 Marketing and retail

3.22 Lodging people

Theme 8: Developing Australia's Cultural Life

8.4 Eating and drinking

Usage/Former Usage

storage

Integrity

relatively intact although only a remnant of former hotel development

Physical Description 2

James Henry Fox, architect

James Gwyther, first owner and licensee

Edwin Collins, second licensee

Charles Armytage, second (?) owner

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/>