

DRIK DRIK VILLAGE PRECINCT



52666 drik drik precinct map



Fig Trees in Avenue of Honour, Drik Drik



Map 1 - Area to apply Heritage Overlay for Drik Drik Precinct

Location

NELSON-WINNAP ROAD, DRIK DRIK, GLENELG SHIRE

Municipality

GLENELG SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Glenelg Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The small settlement at Drik Drik on the Nelson-Winnap Road, located approximately 8kms due south of Dartmoor and 35kms north-west of Heywood, was established in the mid-1860s as a result of the subdivision of the surrounding land for selection. The land had been part of the original Glenaulin squatting run which, in the late 1850s, split into Glenaulin No. 1 and Glenaulin No. 2, later called Grunewald. The Parish Plan indicates the original road from Portland followed the Glenaulin Creek, and then turned north, just where the town began. This road has since been superseded. Many of the earliest families have the same surnames as the pioneers in the Cape Bridgewater area and there are several direct links, such as through the Lightbody family. The early community appears to have been tight-knit and self-supporting with the predominantly Wesleyan Methodists and Presbyterians selectors sharing their places of worship, the former erecting the first building. No township was planned and such small allotments as there were appear to have been ignored. Rather there was spontaneous

development in the form of the two churches, a cemetery, a school and teacher's residence, a post office and, at the turn of the century, a butter factory. The main civic improvement was the planting of a memorial avenue of *Ficus macrophylla* (Moreton Bay Figs). Graham Bucknall, a former pupil of State School 971 became Moderator of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria. J. L. Holmes, another former pupil of SS 971 became an Inspector of Schools. Perhaps because of the strong presence of Protestants, there appears to have been no pub. Few residences appear to have been built. The town has lost several important buildings which, although not large, represented important functions and sources of income. These losses and the decline of the town throughout the twentieth century are due to changed agricultural practices, redundant technologies, especially in butter manufacturing, and much improved transport and communication.

How is it Significant?

The Drik Drik precinct is of historical, social and architectural significance to the Glenelg Shire.

Why is it Significant?

The Drik Drik precinct is of historical significance as an example of the small settlements which emerged as a result of the major change in government land selection policy in the 1860s which declined with the changed circumstances in the following century. It is of social significance as a representation of self-reliance and community support, including the planting of a memorial avenue. It is of architectural significance for its collection of buildings, including the two churches and the State School.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Glenelg - Glenelg Shire Heritage Study Part One, Carlotta Kellaway, David Rhodes Mandy Jean, 2002; Glenelg - Glenelg Heritage Study Stage Two (a), Heritage Matters, 2006;
Construction dates	1840,
Hermes Number	52666
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Drik Drik is a small planned township, located on the Old Portland-Dartmoor (Winnap-Nelson) Road, which was probably a track that pre-dated the modern Portland-Dartmoor Road. The township is closely settled, with a tight precinct, all contained along the former alignment of the old road. On the east side of the road is a large area of vacant land. There are a number of archaeological sites contained within this area.

The following places are considered to be contributory to the precinct:

Memorial Avenue (*Ficus macrophylla*), Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik
 State School No.971 (Former), Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik
 Methodist Church (Former), Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik
 Uniting Church, Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik
 Buttery Factory Site, Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik
 Drik Drik Cemetery, Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik
 Site of the General Store, Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik
 Site of the Post Office, Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik
 Recreation Reserve, Winnap-Nelson Road, Drik Drik.

Historical Australian Themes

Historic Themes

4.1: Planning urban settlements

4.1.1: Selecting township sites

4.5: Making settlements to serve rural Australia

- 4.6: Remembering significant phases in the development of settlements, towns and cities
- 6.1: Forming associations, libraries and institutes for self-education
- 6.2: Establishing schools
- 6.5: Educating people in remote places

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/>