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# Blackwood House



B2588 Blackwood House

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## Location

597 Blackwood-Dunkeld Road,, PENSHURST VIC 3289 - Property No B2588

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

State

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 14, 2005

Blackwood is one of the finest nineteenth century examples of the picturesque house in Australia and a masterpiece of the architectural practice Butler and Ussher. The long single storey gabled main building gives an Australian character to a style derived principally from contemporary English works. The homestead, stable block and coach house date from 1891 when they were erected for R. B. Ritchie, and still remains in the Ritchie family. The perimeter walls of the house are constructed in bluestone. The terracotta tile roof (the tiles were imported from Bridgwater in the West of England) is punctuated by half timbered gables and clusters of tall red brick chimneys. The variety of window types displayed across the facade reflects the scale and importance of the rooms they illuminate.

Internally, the house incorporates a superb suite of principal rooms comprising reception hall, drawing room (with inglenook and an elevated bay window), dining room, study, and billiard room. The billiard room includes an elevated stage area, ensuite urinal, and gives access to the lower staircase.

The homestead is sited on a hilltop overlooking the surrounding plains with views of the Grampian Ranges and stands apart from the day-to-day farm buildings of the estate.

Classified: 03/11/1983

Hermes Number 69647

Property Number

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*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/>*