

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: KOLOR WOOLSHED (Former)

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Penshurst - Warrnambool Rd PENS HurST

STUDY NUMBER: 053

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

OTHER NAME/S OF PLACE: TERRINGA WOOLSHED

PRECINCT: outside

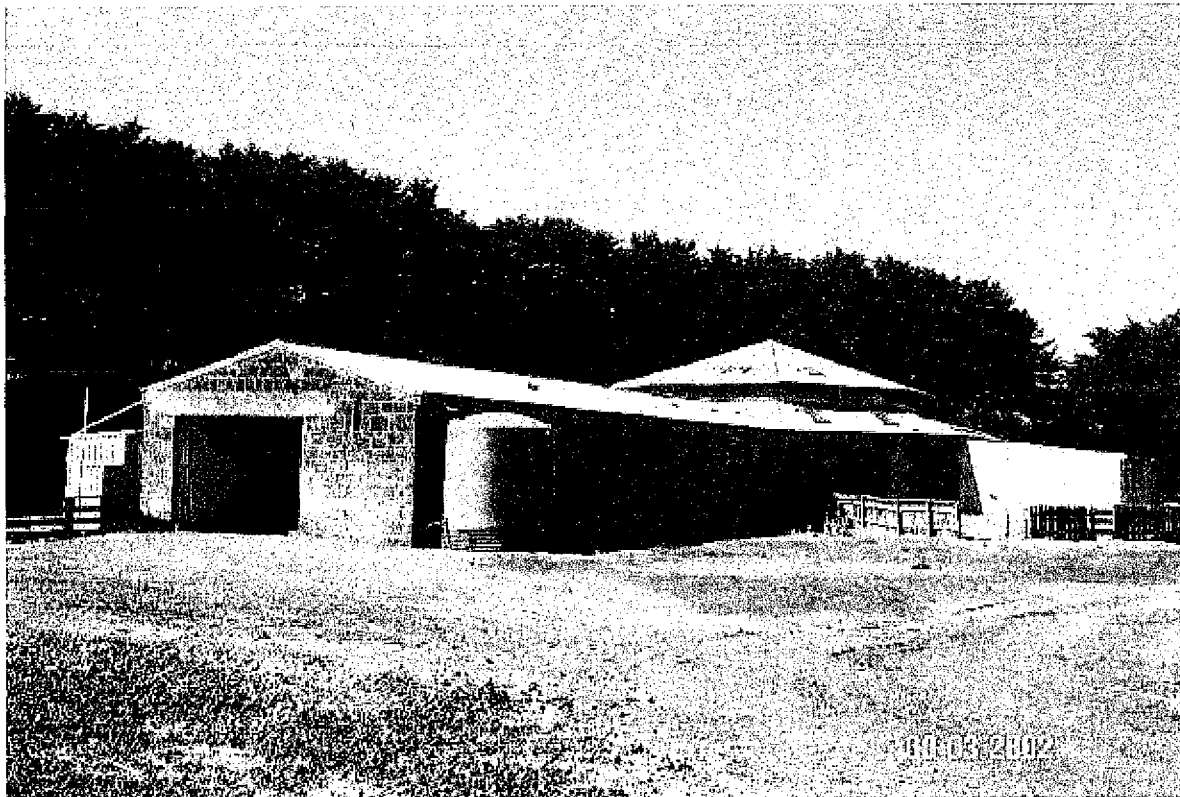
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 5 **SECTION:** 1 **PARISH:** PARISH OF PURDEET

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 475 C53; VicRoads 73 G8; off Kolor Lane close to its intersection with the Penshurst-Warrnambool Road, about six kilometres south-south-east of the township of Penshurst.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: State



Kolor Woolshed, Terringa, Penshurst

Image Date: 3/8/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the woolshed building and associated outbuildings, yards and works and an area of 10,000 square metres centred on the woolshed and shown on the plan endorsed by the Executive Director of the Heritage Council. [The exact area needs to be checked to see if it is sufficient and a plan drawn and endorsed.]

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The woolshed which was formerly part of the early squatting run, Kolor, is now associated with a nearby property, Terringa. It is located about six kilometres south of the township of Penshurst, and approximately three kilometres south of Kolor Homestead. The woolshed was constructed in 1868 of roughly bedded bluestone, with timber-framed roofs covered in corrugated iron, replaced in 1951. The design has a central core, or oculus, which is hexagonal in plan and two radiating wings. A corrugated extension has been added to the central core.

The central oculus is used as the shearing board and the wings are used as holding pens and for the processing, baling and storage of wool. The hatches for exiting sheep from the board after shearing have been filled in with bluestone. The interior framework and joinery is said to be prefabricated and meticulously detailed was constructed by the architectural firm, Reed and Barnes, Joseph Reed, the architect for the nearby Kolor Homestead being the principal architect. The woolshed continues to be used as a working shed.

HISTORY:

The land on which the former Kolor woolshed stands was first taken up in 1839 by John Cox (1813-1853) as part of the Mount Rouse run (Billis & Kenyon, 51). Cox was the son of James Cox of Clarendon near Evandale on the River Nile. Cox had whaling and mercantile interests at Port Fairy prior to arriving in the area (ibid.). The Government ejected Cox from the Mount Rouse run in April 1842 as the land was required to form an Aboriginal Protectorate under the Chief Protector of Aborigines, George Augustus Robinson.

The buildings of the Protectorate were located in a compound at the bottom of Mount Rouse, near the later intersection of Cox and Martin Streets in Penshurst. The land associated with the Protectorate however was very extensive and Robinson was responsible for Aborigines throughout the Western District. The Protectorate had failed by 1851 and tenders were invited for grazing rights on what had been the Mount Rouse run. Adolphus Sceales was successful but refused to complete the lease due to the lack of labour resulting from the gold rush. John Twomey then obtained the lease and in December 1870 the lease was cancelled. The land immediately around Mount Rouse was reserved as a public park and for a water reserve.

John Joseph Twomey was born in Meenveragh, County Cork, Ireland, and came to Port Phillip in 1843 (Grove, 236). He and son, Daniel, purchased the land on which the Kolor woolshed stands in 1862 along with almost all of the remaining land in the Parish of Purdeet (Department of Lands & Survey, 1955). The Twomey family were very influential in the area in the nineteenth Century and early twentieth century. It appears that John Twomey's son's Daniel, Edward and Timothy all took up land which was first taken up Daniel and John in the late 1850s and early 1860s. John and Daniel were in partnership on Kolor (14 300 acres), Edward held nearby Langulac (6 947 acres) and Timothy held nearby Banemore (10 829 acres) (de Serville, 491).

Some doubt has been raised as to the architects of the woolshed. However, The Warrnambool Examiner (02/06/1868) held a tender notice placed by leading architectural firm Reed and Barnes (who were responsible for the design of the Kolor Homestead, as well as other significant buildings), calling for "carpenter's, joiner's, plumber's and other works in finishing's to a wool shed at Kolor Station, Penshurst for Daniel Twomey". This evidence confirms beyond a doubt that Joseph Reed of Reed and Barnes designed the woolshed.

The property remained in the Twomey family until after World War One, when their last son was killed (Grove, 241). It appears that Kolor Homestead and Woolshed were separated onto different titles as part of the 1920s Closer Settlement Act subdivisions directed by Australian Farms Pty. Ltd. The history of ownership of the woolshed and land on which it stands, and the exact date which it became a part of the property Terringa is not known at this time.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

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Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

3.5.2 Breeding animals

Theme 5: Working

5.8 Working on the land

CONDITION:

The woolshed is in good condition.

INTEGRITY:

The main building retains a good degree of integrity although the roof has been replaced, the hatches blocked up and new openings made for large doors.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The former Kolor Woolshed is located a property named Terringa, some six kilometres south of the township of Penshurst. The land on which it stands was formerly part of John Twomey's Kolor, or Purdeet, pastoral lease, which has been annexed from the original property through closer settlement subdivision. The former Kolor woolshed was erected for Daniel Twomey in 1868 designed by Joseph Reed of leading architectural firm Reed and Barnes of Melbourne who were also responsible for the design of the Kolor Homestead. The woolshed is constructed from squared coursed basalt, quarried from nearby Mount Rouse, and the plan is arranged as a hexagonal central shearing board with a central oculus and two radiating rectangular wings with gable roofs. Kolor Woolshed still functions as originally constructed with only minor alterations and replacement of the original roofing iron being undertaken in 1951.

How is it significant?

The Kolor Woolshed is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The former Kolor Woolshed is of historical significance for its association with the Mount Rouse, Purdeet and Kolor squatting runs, some of the earliest and most important in the Western District. It is of further historical significance for its associations with important early pastoralists, the Twomey family, particularly John and Daniel Twomey who were substantial landholders in the area, and highly influential in the district. The former Kolor Woolshed is of architectural significance for its highly unusual hexagonal plan and form, and as a rare example of an architect-designed woolshed. Of further significance is the architect, Joseph Reed of important Melbourne Architectural firm, Reed and Barnes. Also important is the way in which the woolshed represents the success of the Twomey family and the booming wool industry in the 1860s.

COMPARISON:

351 Torbank Woolshed, Tobermory Lane, Penshurst

389 Batesworth Homestead Complex, Batesworth Lane, Penshurst

058 Clunie Woolshed, Glenferrie Road, Harrow

047 Winninburn Homestead and Woolshed, Heenan-Ferrier Road, Tarrenlea

295 Banemore Woolshed and Ruins, Twomey's Bridge Road, Penshurst.

ASSESSED BY: tfh

ASSESSMENT DATE:

06-Oct-01

EXISTING LISTINGS:

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HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
	Victoria and the Riverina, Part 1	1933	233-4
	Cyclopaedia of Victoria	1903	531
Department of Lands and Survey	Parish of Purdeet	1957	
Paul de Serville	Pounds and Pedigrees	1991	171, 520
R V Billis and A S Kenyon	Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip	1974	var.
Robin Grove in Jim Ellis, editor	"Kolor" in Historic Homesteads of Australia	1976	232- 241
Rodney Knight	Windows to Yesterday,	1988	15