

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: GENERAL STORE AND RESIDENCE (FORMER)

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: 5787 Port Fairy-Hamilton Road BYADUK

STUDY NUMBER: 065

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: Byaduk

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: pt 4B **SECTION:** 17 **PARISH:** PARISH OF BYADUK

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 473 B; VicRoads 72H9; located on the west side of the Hamilton-Port Fairy Road at the centre of the township of Byaduk.

Hamilton/Port Fairy Road at Byaduk about 200m north of the intersection with the Byaduk-Penshurst Road.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



General Store and Residence, Port Fairy - Hamilton Road, Byaduk

Image Date: 31/01/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the former store and residence.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Byaduk general store is located on the west side of the Port – Fairy Hamilton Road, approximately six hundred metres from north of the centre of Byaduk. A complex of buildings, including the main bluestone store, the post office annex on the south side in bluestone, and the former service station make up the Byaduk Store. The store has central timber double front doors, glazed in the upper panels, but covered by timber shuttering. There are two separate nine-pane display windows. A substantial weatherboard house with timber framing is located behind and to the north of the main store. Well to the rear of the residence is a timber stable and coach house. Both the store and the service station are unoccupied.

HISTORY:

The land on which the former general store stands, being part of Section 17, Allotment 4B, was purchased from the Crown by John George Cannon in 1863. Later that year, Cannon built the first store in Byaduk, on land adjacent to the present store. The township developed following the 1860s land sales, resulting from the 'unlocking of the lands' created by the Land Selection Acts of that time. The Byaduk general store prospered, as it was located at a strategic transport node on the main route from Hamilton to Port Fairy.

According to Black (pers. comm. 2002), the early history of ownership is unclear, as early Dundas Shire rate books were destroyed by fire. Black's research suggests that John Cannon had the store from 1863 to 1872, and that ownership then passed to Charles Munt of Macarthur, who is thought to have built the bluestone store between 1872 and 1876. The Dundas Shire Rate books of 1877 show James Lindsay as owner, and John Ross as manager. Ross purchased the store the following year, acquiring ownership in 1878 on 10th November 1880. Following Ross' death in 1902, the title passed to Jane Ross, who owned the store until 1919. The Anderson family had managed the business for Jane Ross from 1915, and became owners in 1919. Their ownership continued for another 20 years, until the William Pearse purchased it in 1939, beginning the long association of the Pearse family with the Byaduk general store. Following the death of William in 1961, his son John Thomas Pearse took over, running the store until its closure in 2001. He died on 18th October 2001, and a clearing sale of the store was held on 7th November 2001.

The date of construction for the residence is not known, although it appears to date from the turn of the century.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.19 Marketing and retailing

Theme 8: Developing Australia's cultural life

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

CONDITION:

The condition of the building superficially is fair but structurally it is quite sound.

INTEGRITY:

Highly intact

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The Byaduk general store is a complex of buildings located on the west side of the Hamilton – Port Fairy Road, about 600 metres north of the centre of Byaduk. The elements of complex are a bluestone store, which is believed to have been built by the early owner, Charles Munt, between 1872 and 1876; A service station which is clad in cement sheeting over timber frames; a substantial timber residence and adjacent stables and coach house which appears to date from the late nineteenth century, or early twentieth century. The complex served

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Byaduk for over 130 years until its closure in 2001. The store had been in continual operation its construction, between 1872 and 1876, when it replaced an earlier store. The store closed in 2001, and retains a high degree of integrity. There has been no architect or builder associated with the Byaduk general store. The buildings are in good condition.

How is it significant?

The Byaduk general store is of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The store complex is historically important for continual use as a general store, which served Byaduk and the surrounding area for over 130 years. The store represents a previous way of life, in which the general store was a vital service to the community, providing a mail and telegraph service, general goods, pastoral equipment and consumables. The former general store is of further historical importance for its associations with early owners, such as John Cannon, John Ross and Charles Munt, who built the store. The long association with the well-known Pearse family of Byaduk is also of historical significance. The Pearse family held the store for the longest period of any owner, through several generations of the same family from 1939 to the store's closure in 2001.

COMPARISON:

258 - General Merchant's Store(former Gunn's Store) 100 Bell Street, Peshurst

179 - General Store and Residence, Glendinning Street, Balmoral

433 - General Store & Residence, SE cnr Scott & Barker Streets, Cavendish

ASSESSED BY: AEN

ASSESSMENT DATE:

21-Oct-03

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
Black, Ian	Personal Communication, December 2002	2002	
Black, Ian (ed.)	Early Byaduk Settlers	1994	
Department of Lands and Survey	Township of Byaduk	1937	