

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** MAJOR MITCHELL MONUMENT

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Coleraine-Edenhope Road HARROW

**STUDY NUMBER:** 100

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

**PRECINCT:** outside

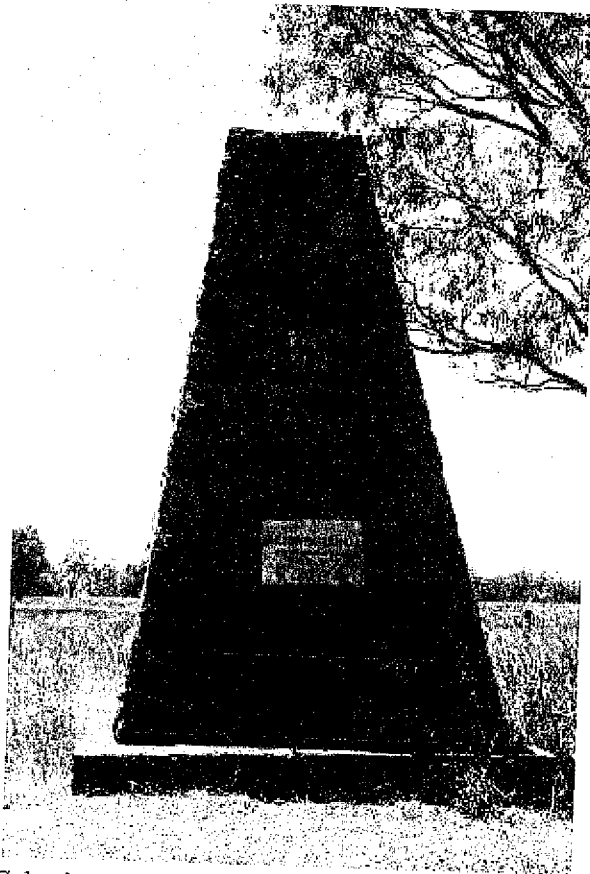
**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**PARISH:** PARISH OF MURYRTYM

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 347 E, VicRoads 54 B5, located on the Coleraine-Edenhope Road, 3km south of the Bridge across the Glenelg River and 400 metres south of Green's Lane.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Major Mitchell Monument, Coleraine - Edenhope Road, Harrow.

**Image Date:** 20/05/02

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the structure and its immediate surrounds

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** MAJOR MITCHELL MONUMENT

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Coleraine-Edenhope Road HARROW

**STUDY NUMBER:** 100

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The memorial is constructed from local stone, laid in rough courses and takes the common form of a tapering cairn which is 4.5m high and 2.3m square at the base. The cairn is set on a plinth which is 2.6m square. The top of the cairn is slightly tapered. There is a white marble plaque which marks Mitchell's passage between what are now the townships of Harrow and Balmoral.

## HISTORY:

Major Mitchell passed nearby this place at the beginning of August 1836, following the Glenelg River downstream. He stated in his journal "The country on its banks was, as far as I could see, the finest imaginable, either for sheep and cattle or for cultivation".

The exact date of erection of the monument is not known, although it is likely that the monument was constructed as part of a larger rural Centenary celebration which occurred in 1936.

## THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 2: Peopling Australia

2.5 Promoting settlement

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.3 Surveying the continent

3.3.1 Looking for inland seas and waterways

3.3.4 Looking for land with agricultural potential

Theme 8: Developing Australia's cultural life

8.7 Honouring achievement

8.9 Commemorating significant events

## CONDITION:

The cairn is in excellent condition.

## INTEGRITY:

High degree of integrity

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The memorial dedicated to Major Mitchell is located approximately 7 kilometers from Harrow, on the Harrow - Balmoral Road. It is constructed from local stone, laid in rough courses and takes the common form of a tapering cairn, square at the base. There is a white marble plaque which marks Mitchell's passage between what are now the townships of Harrow and Balmoral. Major Mitchell passed nearby this place at the beginning of August 1836, following the Glenelg River downstream. He stated in his journal "The country on its banks was, as far as I could see, the finest imaginable, either for sheep and cattle or for cultivation".

Monuments and memorials to commemorate Major Mitchell's epic 1836 journey can be found in many locations throughout south western Victoria. The Major crossed Victoria's northern and western plains, found a European settlement already established at Portland, and returned to New South Wales to give a glowing account of the rich land of 'Australia Felix'. One hundred years later, local communities at points along his former route engaged enthusiastically in a bout of centennial monument building. After war memorials, the Mitchell monuments are the most common form of public commemoration in the region.

How is it significant?

The Major Mitchell Monument near Harrow is of historical significance to the community of Harrow and the Southern Grampians Shire.