

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** SOLDIER SETTLEMENT MEMORIAL

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Morgiana Road MORGIANA

**STUDY NUMBER:** 106

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

**PRECINCT:** outside

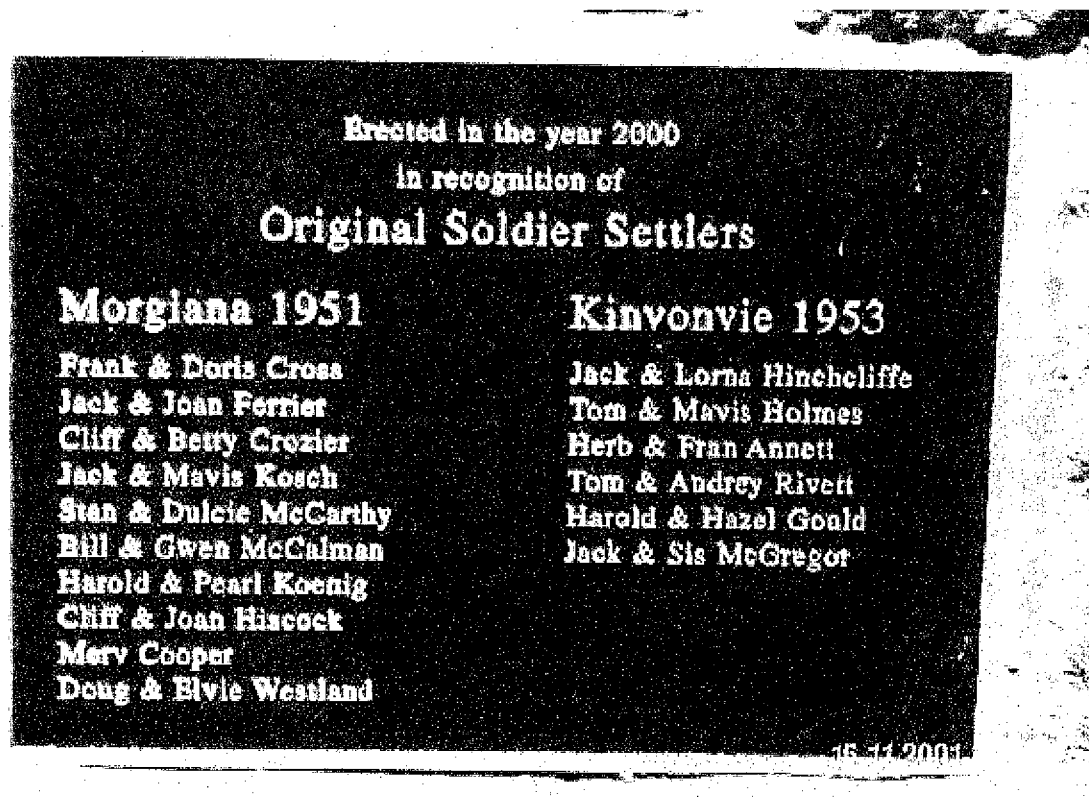
**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**PARISH:** PARISH OF YULECART

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 431 E; VicRoads ; On Morgiana Road, directly opposite the intersection of Loats Road and Morgiana Road.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Soldier Settlement Memorial to those who settled at Morgiana and Kinovic Estates, Morgiana Road, Morgiana.

**Image Date:** 15/11/01

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the memorial, and all of the land in a 10 metre circumference from the centre of the memorial.

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## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The Soldier Settlement Memorial is located on the roadside reserve on Morgiana Road, Morgiana. The memorial takes the form of a large basalt rock, on which a simple bronze plaque is mounted. The plaque details the names of those soldiers and their wives who took up land in the district on the Morgiana Estate (1950) and the Kinvonvie Estate (1953) after returning home from World War Two. The memorial was erected in 2000 'in recognition of the original soldier settlers'. The memorial is set on a large rectangular concrete slab set in the natural grass of the roadside reserve.

## **HISTORY:**

The First and Second World Wars brought major social change and serious demobilisation problems. The British ideal of the yeoman farmer returned and Soldier Settlements were proposed as the solution. After the Second World War, under the Soldier Settlement Act, 545 properties (1,193,171 acres) were acquired by the Soldier Settlement Commission, plus 40,000 acres of former Crown Land. 1,180,669 acres of the total area was subdivided into 3,084 soldier settlement blocks. The scheme offered very low interest loans and very long periods for repayment with the eventual goal of full title. Agricultural improvement and diversification were other goals. Morgiana and Kinvonvie (formerly Sleat Bank) were two properties were subdivided for Soldier Settlement in the early 1950s. Most of the blocks of land proved to be too small to be viable, and in many areas, the soldier settlement scheme failed due to isolation and loneliness, misinformation, water shortages, and a lack of steady income. However, some did survive quite well, including those at Morgiana and Kinvonvie.

The memorial was erected in 2000 by the descendants of the original soldier settler families, who settled on the Morgiana and Kinvonvie (formerly Sleat Bank) Estates in the early 1950s.

## **THEMATIC CONTEXT:**

Theme 8: Developing Australia's cultural life  
8.8 Remembering the fallen

Theme 9 - Marking the phases of life  
9.7 Dying  
9.7.3 Remembering the dead

## **CONDITION:**

Excellent condition.

## **INTEGRITY:**

Highly intact, high degree of integrity.

## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

What is significant?

The Morgiana and Kinvonvie Soldier Settlement Memorial is located on the roadside reserve of Morgiana Road. The memorial is a large basalt boulder set in a concrete slab. A simple bronze plaque is set on the boulder, which details the names of those who first took up land under the World War Two Soldier Settlement Scheme on Kinvonvie and Morgiana Estates. The memorial was erected in 2002 and is in excellent condition.

How is it significant?

The Soldier Settlement Memorial is of historical and social significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The Soldier Settlement Memorial is of historical significance for marking a major chapter in post World War 2 repatriation, commemoration and early posterity. It of further historical significance for its association with the returned servicemen and their families who took up land on the estates. The memorial is of social significance

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as a physical reminder of the change in the social structures which soldier settlement brought to the area, as well as many other communities in Victoria.

**COMPARISON:**

340 Woodhouse-Nareeb Soldiers Memorial Hall Complex, Bundoran Lane, Woodhouse.

**ASSESSED BY:** AEN

**ASSESSMENT DATE:** 15-Nov-03

**EXISTING LISTINGS:**

**HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Include in VHR  Include in RNE  Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

**REFERENCES:**