

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: BILLS HORSE TROUGH

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: SE corner Cox and Martin Streets PENSHURST

STUDY NUMBER: 273

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: Penshurst

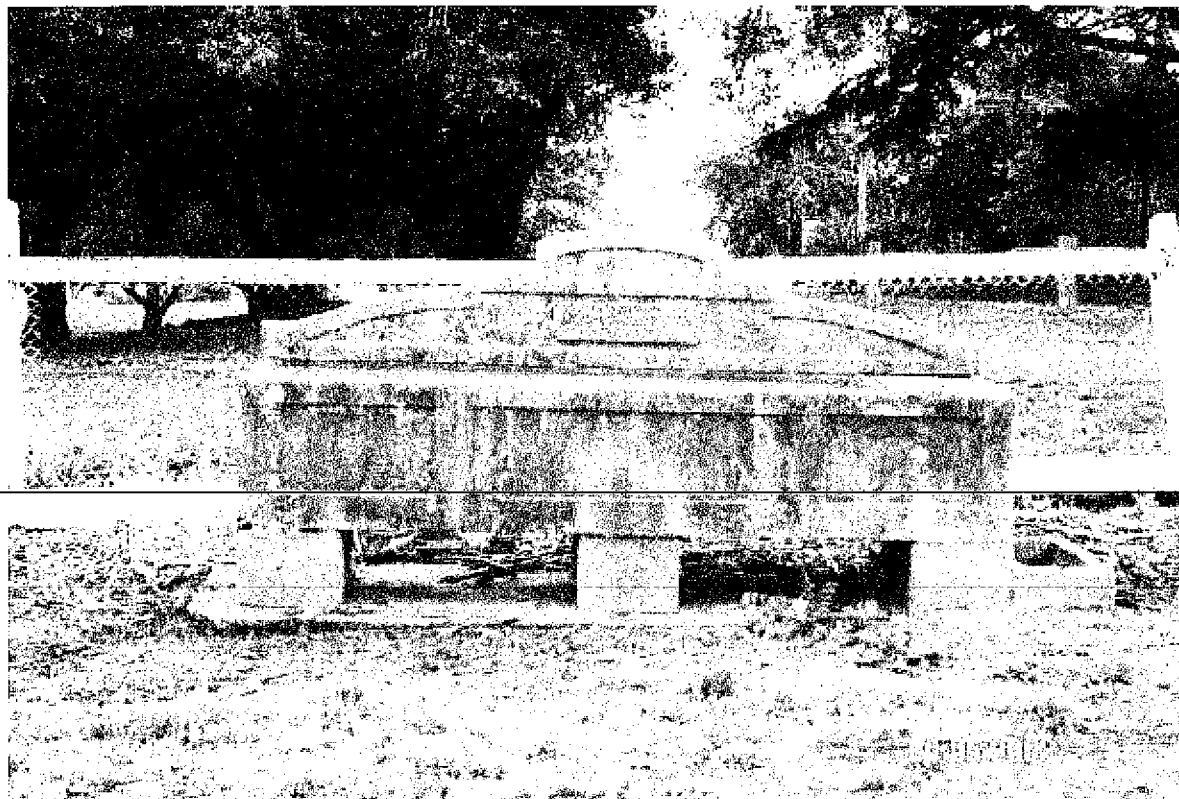
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

PARISH: PARISH OF YALIMBA

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 475J C11; Vicroads 233 P10; located on the grass verge of the north-east corner of Martin and Cox Streets, in the centre of the township of Penshurst

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Bills Horse Trough, Penshurst and dog trough

Image Date: 26/05/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the heritage object.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

A pressed cement horse trough of standard design with a tap and pump at the right hand end. The back includes a tri-partite panel with a plaque stating that the trough was provided by Annis and George Bills. On the right hand side there is also a smaller, lower trough said to be for dogs.

HISTORY:

George and Annis Bills made a fortune from the manufacture of mattresses in Melbourne and Sydney. George was active in the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to animals. Together, they mounted a campaign to provide horse troughs throughout Australia. The standard design has become a very common feature in some metropolitan suburbs and many rural towns in Victoria.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies
3.8 Moving goods and people

CONDITION:

The trough is in good condition.

INTEGRITY:

high degree of integrity

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The Bills horse trough was one of many thousands provided during the Interwar years by Annis and George Bills, a philanthropic couple who had taken pity on the condition of horses in the streets. George Bills was a mattress manufacturer and a driving force in the RSPCA. The tradition is that the Bills bequeathed some 70,000 horse troughs which were used all over Australia.

How is it significant?

The Bills Horse and Dog Troughs are of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire and to the township of Peshurst.

Why is it significant?

The Bills Horse and Dog Troughs are historically important for demonstrating the nature of nineteenth century travel and transport and twentieth century compassion for animals.

COMPARISON:

112 Apex Park, Glendinning and Stirling Streets, Balmoral
118 Bills Horse Trough, street location unknown, Cavendish

ASSESSED BY: tfh

ASSESSMENT DATE:

08-May-02

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES: