

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** WHEELER'S ORIENT STORE (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** 19 Memorial Road GLENTHOMPSON

**STUDY NUMBER:** 386

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

**PRECINCT:** Glenthompson

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** part F1A  
and part F1B

**SECTION:** 1

**PARISH:** PARISH OF YUPPECKIAR

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 434J J3; VicRoads 229 N10; located on the south-east corner of Memorial Road (Glenelg Highway) and McLennan Street.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Wheeler's Orient Store, Memorial Road and McLennan Streets, Glenthompson

**Image Date:** 29/05/02

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the exterior of the building and all of the land, being part F1A and part F1B, section 1, township of Glenthompson

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** WHEELER'S ORIENT STORE (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** 19 Memorial Road GLENTHOMPSON

**STUDY NUMBER:** 386

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The single storey brick shop is located at the north-west corner of the allotment. It has a canted corner entrance and a simple post supported timber verandah on two sides. In the past there were boards with painted signs above the three edges of the verandah. The corrugated iron roof is hipped and there is a small stuccoed parapet with a concave segmental depression immediately above the entrance. The crudely shaped brackets of the verandah survive. The original plate glass shop windows survive although possibly modified with extra glazing bars. The bricks have been painted and the shop has been extended by one room towards the south.

## **HISTORY:**

The land on which the former Wheeler's Orient Store now stands was originally part of allotment F1A of section 1 of the Township of Glenthompson and part of allotment F1B. The former was purchased from the Crown in August 1872 by J McLennan, who established Mac's Glenthompson Hotel and is considered to be the founder of the township. The latter was transferred to the Shire of Mount Rouse at the same time. Some time later, McLennan street was extended through McLennan's allotment and the sliver of land remaining to the east of the new road was amalgamated with the Shire's allotment.

The present store appears to have been built in the early twentieth century and is typical of that period. According to the signage in an historical photograph, by the 1920s it was operated by "Wheeler & Co" and was known as "The Orient" selling Choice fruit and confectionery. The proprietors were Alec Wheeler and Bett Skinner who appear in the photograph (GHS collection). Neither are buried in the Glenthompson Cemetery. Four other figures in the photograph, two men, a girl and a boy, may be staff or relatives. The photograph also shows a detached shed or storeroom at the rear which is now demolished. The shop has been extended along the McLennan Street boundary. It is not known if the store also included a residence. The shop, now vacant, was last used to sell farm supplies.

## **THEMATIC CONTEXT:**

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.12 Feeding people

3.12.5 Retailing foods and beverages

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 building is in fair condition. [The interiors have not been inspected.]

## **INTEGRITY:**

Good degree of integrity

## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

What is significant?

The former Wheeler's Orient Store (former) is located on the south-east corner of Memorial Road (Gleneil Highway) and McLennan Street, in the centre of the Township of Glenthompson. It is a single storey brick structure with a canted corner entrance and a simple post supported timber verandah on two sides. The store appears to date from prior to 1920. It has been variously known as "Wheeler's Store" and "The Orient", and has supplied a variety of goods from fruit to farm products over the past 85 years. There does not appear to

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** WHEELER'S ORIENT STORE (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** 19 Memorial Road GLENTHOMPSON

**STUDY NUMBER:** 386

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

be an associated residence. No architect or builder has been associated with the design. The store is in fair condition (although interiors have not been inspected) and has a fair degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The former Wheeler's Orient Store is of historical and architectural significance to the community of Glenthompson and to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former Wheeler's Orient Store is of historical significance as an example of a small corner store. It is of architectural significance for its corner store form, its surviving detailing and its landmark position within the streetscape.

**COMPARISON:**

380 Stewart's General Store, Station Street, Glenthompson

364 Turner's Store and Residence, Memorial Road, Glenthompson

**ASSESSED BY:** tfh

**ASSESSMENT DATE:**

29/01/2003

**EXISTING LISTINGS:**

**HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Include in VHR  Include in RNE  Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

**REFERENCES:**