
FORMER CLIFFORD TOWNSHIP

Location

PRINCES HIGHWAY AND DEVON ROAD MOUNT MORIAC, SURF COAST SHIRE

Municipality

SURF COAST SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7721-0442

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site

The current placement of 20th century features - including extant buildings, roadways and reserves - appears to overlay the former location of most of Clifford's buildings; particularly in the north. However, given that part of the intersection area includes relatively intact road reserve and paddocks, there is limited possibility that some archaeological features may remain below surface.

Archaeological Significance

The site is of low to medium significance, as it has the potential to contain archaeological remains of one of the few early townships located on the Princes Highway, between Waurn Ponds and Winchelsea. Comparative sites of this nature are rare and include the former locations of 19th and 20th century buildings at Mount Moriac, and Buckley to the west; the latter being similar in size and context. Unlike some of the locations and historical features associated with Buckley, which continued to be used until the 20th century, Clifford had a relatively short time span and therefore is most likely to be representative of the 19th century settlement along the Princes Highway.

Historical Significance	Being 'strategically established' around Devon Road, the former Clifford township site is important because of its links to the history of Princes Highway. The significance of the site may also be linked to several historical themes (based on Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes), including 6.5 Living in Country Towns.
Other Names	CLIFFORD,
Hermes Number	115053
Property Number	

History

Wynd (1992: 83) writes that Clifford was established strategically around the Cape Otway/Devon Roads and the Princes Road as early as 1853 and it "soon had a school/church, hotel, store and smithy". The four buildings situated within the vicinity of the intersection, are as follows:

The Church of England (1853 - closing in 1875), The Store/Post Office (ref. 1869), Hotel (ref. 1871-1877 destroyed by fire), Blacksmith (1872). By the year 1890, all of the people living in the town were listed as farmers: suggesting that the town was no longer in existence.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>