
Mount Blackwood Hotel Ruins (Drury's Hotel)



Derelict ruin



Derelict ruin

Location

CA36 Sec7 Mount Blackwood Road PENTLAND HILLS, MOORABOOL SHIRE

Municipality

MOORABOOL SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO191

Heritage Listing

Moorabool Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 1, 1995

The ruin of an ashlar bluestone and sandstone hotel building, built in 1864, on the route to the Mt Blackwood gold fields. Various related landscape elements potentially of this period, survive.

It is of local historical significance as a representative embodiment of a way of life and the social values of the 1860s and for its association with a significant event, the rush for gold. It has scientific significance for its archaeological research potential as a cultural research document. It retains social significance as a landmark known and valued by the community for orientation.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moorabool - Bacchus Marsh Heritage Study 1995, Richard Peterson and Daniel Catrice, 1995;
Other Names	Mt Blackwood Hotel (Drury's Hotel),
Hermes Number	118160
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

Reasonable. Overgrown.

Intactness

Ruin. Derelict.

SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:

MATERIALS .

HEDGES.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL. POTENTIAL. RUIN.

TREES.

Physical Description 1

A ruin, of ashlar bluestone with sandstone dressings. It consists of the left hand half of a room with a fireplace in the centre of the side wall. The chimney is dressed sandstone with a capping mould.

The remainder of the building is easily recognisable from footings and piles of fallen wall stone, although a considerable amount of original stone has been removed from the site. Two circular, stone-lined wells are near the northern side of the ruin, one of which has been filled with rubble. Several garden and landscape features remain. At left, Hawthorn hedges form yards around the ruins and a larger paddock to the south.

Other features include a pile of stone and brick near the south west corner of the main building, probably from a detached kitchen . Two collapsed stone structures about twenty-five metres north-west of the main building, which may have been stables or other outbuildings, a large circular paved area about thirty metres to the west . This last feature is unusual It comprises a platform paved with large basalt field boulders, with a rectangular space two by one metres in the centre and a narrower trench on the western side. It is unclear what this was for, but it may have been some form of stockyard, or very possibly, the site of a horse works, for driving some form of machinery, such as a chaff cutter. A large earth dam lies a further fifty metres to the south-west.

Physical Description 2

Landscape. The paddock adjacent to the ruin is surrounded by a Hawthorn hedge (*Crataegus monogyna*), a widely used hedge species used in Victoria, as it is in England. Trees are clumped near the gate on the north side, and there is a backdrop of one extremely good *Pinus sp.* and Poplar.

Plant species include: *Ulmus procera*, English Elm. *Crataegus monogyna*, English Hawthorn. *Pinus pinea*?, Stone Pine. *Populus tremula*, Aspen.

Historical Australian Themes

Community life/ Governing

Usage/Former Usage

USE: Derelict ruin.

PREVIOUS USE: Hotel.

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/>