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# Whorouly East Rifle Range P.O.W. Camp and Rifle Range



( 360-41888.jpg ) An old Rifle Range sign, bottom centre - some concrete  
steps, above and to right of the gate, museum, centre

Former P.O.W. Camp and  
Rifle Range

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## Location

Camp Lane WHOROULY EAST, WANGARATTA RURAL CITY

## Municipality

WANGARATTA RURAL CITY

## Level of significance

-

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

## Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The Rifle Range catered for a popular sport and was also promoted for national defence. It is one of many former rifle ranges in the district of which only the Glenrowan range appears to still be in use. The POW camp represents a critical period in the National history, but it is even more important for its lasting influence on the Wangaratta district. The history of the camp stretched way beyond the war years and affected local attitudes to migrants and migration, and local acceptance - almost embracing - of Italian culture.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Wangaratta Rural - Rural City of Wangaratta's Heritage Study 2004, Thematic History, Inventory of Heritage Places & Guide to the Inventory, C & MJ Doring Pty Ltd & Michele Summerton, 2004;
Other Names	Myrtleford Rifle Club,
Hermes Number	127299
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

This is an archaeological site, and has not been investigated - only seen from a distance. The butts for the rifle range could not be identified. Surviving relics of the POW camp are said to be some concrete slabs where huts were built. Possibly the small pinetum behind the concrete slabs may also have originated during POW times.

## Physical Conditions

Not known

## Historical Australian Themes

6. Governing and Developing Administrative Structures 1. Peopling the Continent **Sub-Themes:** 6.6 Policing and Dispensing Justice 1.6.2 Migration:- Twentieth Century

## Veterans Description for Public

The Whorouly East Rifle Range catered for a popular sport and was also promoted for national defence. It is one of many former rifle ranges in the district of which only the Glenrowan range appears to still be in use. The butts for the original rifle range could not be identified.

A Prisoner of War camp established circa 1941 in the area, still has surviving relics in the form of some concrete slabs where huts were built. It is understood that a few of the Whorouly prisoners returned to the district as migrants after the war, when news of the rich farmland, good living and friendly people of the valleys was widely spread back to Italy, and brought many other Italian migrants to the district.

*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/>*