
LITTLE DAN THE COOK GRAVE

Location

24 FOREST ROAD ORBOST, EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8522-0016

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Potential State Significance

Hermes Number 14036

Property Number

History

Little Dan Dempsey, the cook, was killed 1841-45 by Aborigines on the banks of the Snowy River. Local tradition has it that he had caught a young Aboriginal girl and kept her prisoner in his hut for three days. His hut either caught fire or was set on fire, and as he stepped from his hut, he was speared by a group of Aborigines - so many spears that he was unable to fall over. The girl was taken back to the tribe. When word of the killing got out, a party of settlers was organised to hunt down the group, and retribution in the form of a massacre is said to have occurred at the Aboriginal camp at Milly, near the Brodribb River. Some of the surviving boys were captured and brought to Orbost station as station hands.

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/>