
OLD KERANG TOWNSHIP ARTEFACT SCATTER

Location

OLD KERANG ROAD KERANG, GANNAWARRA SHIRE

Municipality

GANNAWARRA SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7626-0010

Heritage Overlay Numbers

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site

It is likely that the artefact scatter relates to one of the inns. However, this would need to be verified by sub-surface testing.

It is difficult to assess the archaeological significance of this place without some further investigation.

Archaeological Significance

The integrity of the artefact scatter has been damaged by the borrow pit works and therefore the original extent and context of the site is unknown. Currently, the contents of the site includes a lot of bottle glass and in particular, bottle bases, but some other crockery fragments also exist.

The site has high research potential.

It likely represents one of the inn locations for the original Kerang township.

Historical Significance	The site is of historical significance as it relates to the original location of the Kerang township (Old Kerang) from around 1848 to ~late 1850s.
Hermes Number	197448
Property Number	

History

The area initially formed part of the Loddon pastoral run, gazetted in 1848 and licenced 24 months prior to the NSW OIC to James Cowper. The run itself passed through many hands until it was finally forfeited in 1879.

However, portions must have been excised early on for closer settlement because an 1859 Parish plan shows individual lots extending from the Melbourne-Swan Hill main road to the Loddon River. At this point, the subject land is part of CA3, Sec 3. There is also a forge shown in the vicinity of the subject land.

A later parish plan dated to 1959 shows the town allotments immediately to the east of the subject land - 17 lots in all. The subject land is now CA3B and forms the land between the surveyed township and the Loddon River. This land is subject to inundation.

According to Webster (no date), an inn was built on the river in 1848 by Richard Beyes. In 1849, Edmund Hill opened the Bridge store nearby. By 1854, both the inn and store flourished in the hands of Thomas Farmer and Donald McInnes during the early gold rush years (Farmer and McInnes streets are gazetted roads in the Old township).

'By 1855 the settlement had begun to grow. Later A.D. Fraser opened a saddlery business there'.

In 1857, W.J.W. Patchell arrived in town, negotiating with Farmer to purchase an acre of land near the Loddon Inn. Not able to broker a deal, he settled upstream in what is now Nolan Street, Kerang in opposition to Farmer & CO.

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/>