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# GASH'S DRIED FRUIT FARM

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## Location

Moree-Culla Road MOOREE, Southern Grampians Shire

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 6, 2002

### What is significant?

Gash's Dried Fruit Farm at Moree is a complex consisting of a 1930s homestead, with house garden and orchard, the remains of a once extensive commercial orchard, an early house site, and a group of buildings associated with the commercial processing of dried fruit, including the preparation, drying, packing and storage sheds. The homestead and house surrounds are simple and representative of homestead complexes of the period. The fruit processing complex is unusual, being the only known example in the Southern Grampians Shire. The buildings appear to have been developed in situ to accommodate the drying process. While much equipment has been removed, a dehumidifier and sections of tram track remain intact.

### How is it significant?

Gash's Dried Fruit Farm is of historical and scientific significance to the community of Harrow and the Southern Grampians Shire.

### Why is it significant?

Gash's Dried Fruit Farm is of historical significance as an example of alternative agricultural production in the Shire, prior to the emergence of the Sunraysia district as the dominant producer of dried fruits in Victoria. It is of scientific significance for the ingenuity it demonstrates in its simple but effective processing system.

Construction dates        1930,  
Hermes Number            23240  
Property Number

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## Physical Conditions

The farmhouse and sheds are in fair condition. Much of the processing equipment appears to have been removed although the dehumidifier and sections of tram track survive.

## Physical Description 1

Gash's Dried Fruit Farm is located 500 metres south of the Moree-Culla Road, about 2 kilometres east of the Moree Bridge. The complex comprises a timber framed, weatherboard and cement sheet single storeyed asymmetrical farm house; its garden and orchard at the front; various sheds involved in preparing (sorting and cleaning), drying, packing and storing fruit; the remnants of the commercial orchard and an earlier abandoned house site. Some equipment survives including the plant used for drying the fruit and the tracks used to guide the trays laden with fruit. The site also includes windbreaks and stands of mature Monterey Pine, *Pinus radiata*.

## Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

3.9 farming for commercial profit

3.10 Integrating people into the cash economy

3.10.3 Encouraging fringe and alternative businesses

3.12 Feeding people

3.12.4 Preserving food and beverages

3.17 Inventing devices

Theme 5: Working

5.8 Working on the land

## Usage/Former Usage

abandoned

## Integrity

Good degree of integrity for the buildings and equipment but most of the commercial orchard has been pulled out.

## Physical Description 2

Daly family, first owners as selectors.

Gash family, owners and operators of the dried fruit farm.

*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/>*