

SHEPHERD'S HUT (DEVON PARK 1)



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2248



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2243



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2245



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2244



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2246



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2247



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2242



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2249



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2250



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2251



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2252



23479 Shepherd s Hut Devon Park 1 Dunkeld 2253

Location

off Old Cemetery Rd off Bellicourt Road DUNKELD, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 5, 2004

What is significant?

The abandoned hut, one of at least two formerly associated with the Devon Park squatting run, is located in the southern end of an unmade road off Old Cemetery Road, Dunkeld and about 1.3kms from Bellicourt. The date of its construction is not known nor is its purpose. The hut may have been built originally for a shepherd or a rabbitier or both. Alternatively it may have been built by a selector. The Adzar Parish Plan suggests that the hut was positioned on land purchased by W H Brown in 1862 and at the confluence of several minor creeks. It is about 8.0kms north-north-east of Devon Park Homestead. The bluestone construction of the hut is basic and its style is vernacular, having two rooms and a chimney. The larger room was formerly subdivided by a timber wall. There were other structures and works, now lost, associated with it. The hut has been altered by recent renovations and is in a near ruinous condition without floors, ceilings or windows.

How is it significant?

The shepherd's hut, formerly associated with the Devon Park squatting run, is of historical and architectural significance to the communities of Dunkeld and Peshurst and to the Shire of Southern Grampians.

Why is it significant?

The shepherd's hut is of historical significance because it demonstrates a unique way of life which related to a particular stage of the development of the pastoral industry, when shepherds tended sheep in isolation at remote outstations on vast squatting runs. It is also significant for its later occupation by the Gordon family in the twentieth century.

The shepherd's hut is of architectural significance for its humble construction and vernacular style and as a comparison with the grander homestead.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1844,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23479
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The structure is in fair condition.

Physical Description 1

The hut is a single storey bluestone building of two rooms facing east and overlooking the confluence of several minor creeks. . There is a central ledge and brace door and two window openings on both the eastern and western sides. The original 12-paned sashes are missing. The chimney is on the northern side and has a well finished cornice. The walls are constructed of well squared bluestone in 12" (300mm) beds of random rubble with stone lintels over the door, windows and fireplace. The timber framed hip roof is clad with corrugated iron and has most of the original shingles surviving and remnants of half-round guttering. (It was not possible to see a brand on the underside of the iron which may not be the original.) The walls are whitewashed internally but recent renovations have removed much of the surface. The ceiling may have been lined with pine boards and the floor appears to have been hardwood boards. The hut is situated on a slight rise with some Elm trees surrounding it. The integrity of the hut has been compromised by recent renovations and is still in a near ruinous condition. Nothing survives of the detached timber wing at the rear, although some footings can be discerned and the superstructure is said to have been removed to Dunkeld. There were also a smokehouse, a dairy, stables, a WC and a well.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

Theme 5: Working

5.8 Working on the land

Usage/Former Usage

Abandoned

Integrity

High degree of integrity

Physical Description 2

Silas Harding, long time owner of Devon Park

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/>