
ROWE'S SAWMILL SITE



23744 Copy of 4501 Rowe s
Sawmill Mill Lane
Woohlpooer canteen

Location

off Mill Lane WOHLPOOER, 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 - March 10, 2004

What is significant?

The site of Rowe's Sawmill is located on the south side of Mill Lane off the Henty Highway and at the head of Cattle Station Creek at Woohlpooer. There are few above ground remains of the Sawmill site, but a corrugated iron fuel depot building and the remains of timber outbuildings, including a chicken-house survive in Mill Lane. The only other substantial structure is the chimney of the workers' canteen, located about .5km to the south-west of the fuel depot. About .4km to the south there is a large dam and the remains of a tramway. It seems that the sawmill was located between the fuel depot and the dam. According to local tradition, the Rowe family , who had been sawmillers from the area east of the Grampians started the sawmill at this site in the early twentieth century. The site has high archaeological potential although most of the elements are in poor condition.

How is it significant?

Rowe's sawmill site is of archaeological and historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire as a Heritage Inventory Site.

Why is it significant?

The site of the former Rowe's Sawmill site is of historical significance as a representative example of the now passed saw millers' way of life. It is of archaeological significance for the evidence it may yield about that lifestyle.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1900,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23744
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

High degree of archaeological potential.

Physical Description 1

The sawmill site extended south from Mill Lane. A fuel depot building survives close to Mill Lane. It is gabled shed, elevated on high stumps and clad in corrugated iron. The remains of timber outbuildings, including a chicken-house used by a later occupant, survive nearby. The only other substantial structure is the chimney of the workers' canteen, located about .5km to the south-west of the fuel depot. About .4km to the south there is a large dam and the remains of a tramway. It seems that the sawmill was located between the fuel depot and the dam.

"Rowe's, Strachans and Fitzpatrick's took huge quantities of logs to their mills in Hamilton and Dunkeld. Four million superfeet a year left the Victoria Range each year from 1954-1964" (Clabburn, 44).

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3 Developing Local, Regional and National Economies

3.4 Utilising natural resources

3.4.4 Making forests into a saleable resource

Usage/Former Usage

abandoned

Integrity

Almost all structures and works have been removed.

Physical Description 2

The Rowe family.

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/>