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# Bills Horse Trough, 97-99 Main Street (in front of), GREAT WESTERN



GW 26 - Shire of Northern  
Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage  
Study, 2004

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## Location

97-99 Western Highway GREAT WESTERN, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 16, 2004

The horse trough, in front of 97-99 Main Street (Western Highway), Great Western, is significant as part of the Annis and George Bills Estate, which was established to provide watering facilities for horses after George's death in 1927. The structure is also a legacy of the days of horse drawn vehicles.

The horse trough is historically and socially significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with Annis and George Bills from c.1927, who established a fund in the early 20th century to provide adequate watering facilities for horses. The trough is just one of over a thousand troughs installed throughout Australia, and the USA, which are a legacy of the Bills Estate.

The troughs are recognised by the local Great Western community as demonstrating a distinctive custom that is no longer in use.

Overall, the horse trough are of LOCAL significance.

RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LOCAL

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Hermes Number	105076
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The water trough consists of a poured cement structure divided into a large horse trough and a smaller trough, the purpose of which is unknown. Sometimes these troughs had a much smaller dog trough located almost at ground level next to the main trough but such a structure is not evident in this case. The horse trough has incised rectangular panels on the front side of the structure, with an elaborate curved back. It rests on rectangular concrete members.

*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/>*