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# Mountain Grand Guesthouse, 124-126 Grampians Road, HALLS GAP



HG 15 - Shire of Northern  
Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage  
Study, 2004

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## Location

124-126 Grampians Road HALLS GAP, 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 31, 2004

The Mountain Grand Guesthouse, Grampians Road, has significance as the only known surviving early guesthouse in Halls Gap still serving its original purpose. Built in 1944, the building has experienced substantial alterations and additions, include the considerable projecting front bay that terminates into a semicircle that once accommodated a ballroom. Physically, the original building has been substantially compromised, but the remaining original and early building and continued use as a guest house provides an important historical and social understanding of the place. The Mountain Grand Guesthouse is of architectural interest. Although substantially altered, the rear single storey hipped roof portion, together with the early front wing with its semicircular projection, represent the original and early building qualities of the mid 20th century.

The Mountain Grand Guesthouse is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the establishment of guesthouses and growth of tourism in Halls Gap in the early-mid 20th century. In particular, the Mountain Grand Guesthouse was built in 1944 for Arthur and Nina Mangle and has continuously operated as a guesthouse since that time. It is the only known surviving 20th century guesthouse still serving its original purpose.

The Mountain Grand Guesthouse is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised and valued by sections of the Halls Gap community and the wider Victorian community as an important place of recreation, having continuously served as a guesthouse since 1944.

Overall, the Mountain Grand Guesthouse is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Hermes Number	105120
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The Mountain Grand Guesthouse, Grampians Road, has a picturesque garden and bushland setting in the central part of Halls Gap. The front has introduced capped timber picket fencing and a timber lychgate, together with introduced fernery garden.

The asymmetrical, two storey weatherboard, strapped sheeting and brick guesthouse building has been greatly altered. All that appears to remain of the early guesthouse is the projecting semicircular bay at the front and part of the original single storey portion at the rear. The projecting semicircular bay has a conical-like galvanised corrugated steel roof and encircling verandah supported by timber posts. The timber framed and glazed French doors are reflective of the early design qualities, as is the capped timber picket balustrade. The fenestration and weatherboard wall cladding below represent later work.

At the rear is a single storey hipped roof portion with wide eaves and galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding. This section forms part of the original building and has strapped sheet clad walls and spaced timbered wall base.

Other parts of the guesthouse appear to have been either substantially altered or have been added at a later time.

## COMPARATIVE

It appears that the mountain Grand Guesthouse is the only early surviving guesthouse building in Halls Gap still serving its original purpose. Some of the other early guesthouses in Halls Gap included:

Wirriya Guest House: was situated at the junction of the Halls Gap and Pomonal Roads and was built in the early 1920s. It was destroyed by fire in 1946;

Rocklyn Guest House: was situated two kilometres south of Halls Gap township. It commenced as a tea room before becoming a guest house. The building has subsequently been replaced by a motel operated by an Aboriginal Welfare Group;

Myrtle Guest House: was located 6 kilometres south of Halls Gap and is now under Lake Bellfield. Originally, the Warren family took guests in at their large home. Myrtlebank was subsequently built as a guest house in 1915;

Morningside Guest House: this guest house closed in 1935 and was located in the position of the Colonial Motel. It was operated as a guest house by Mr. and Mrs. J. D'Alton;

The Chalet: this building is now a private home in the Halls Gap township;

Bellfield Hotel: this building was originally a guesthouse from 1911 when Mr. Marshall White purchased the licensed building from the Armstrongs. It opened as a hotel in 1924 and was destroyed by fire in 1967;

Norval Guest House: this building operated as a guest house from 1921. In 1965, it was sold to the Presbyterian Church and the building now operates as a Conference Centre.

*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/>*