
Winchelsea Army Hut



Former Army Hut. Source: D Rowe & W Jacobs 09/15

Location

27 Barkly Street, WINCHELSEA VIC 3241 - Property No 89710

Municipality

SURF COAST SHIRE

Level of significance

-

Heritage Overlay Numbers

Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 1, 2008

LOCAL Significance

The former army hut at 27 Barkly Street, Winchelsea, has significance as a large, elongated and local example of the standard P1 hut prototype common for defence related building development during the Second World War era. The vernacular design and construction - with its single gable roof form and elongated rectangular composition, together with its corrugated galvanised steel roof and wall cladding - epitomise the basic features of the P1 prototype. Although relocated from the Gherang Army Camp to the existing site after 1955, the building

still largely embodies its original character and appearance. It appears to be moderately intact and in poor condition.

The former army hut at 27 Barkly Street is historically and scientifically significant at a LOCAL level (AHC D.1, F.1). It is associated with military building development during the Second World War and represents a large, elongated and local version of the standard P1 hut prototype used in the construction of several defence-related army camps throughout Victoria from 1928 until after the Second World War. The historical and scientific significance of the hut is embodied in the physical fabric: in the gabled form, elongated rectangular composition, corrugated sheet metal roof and wall cladding (laid horizontally for the walls), gable ventilator, timber framed windows and ventilation openings in the walls.

Overall, the former army hut at 27 Barkly Street is of LOCAL significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Surf Coast - Surf Coast Shire Heritage Study Stage 2B, Dr David Rowe & Wendy Jacobs, 2008;
Hermes Number	125618
Property Number	

Historical Australian Themes

Governing the Shire (Defence)

Physical Conditions

Poor

Integrity

Moderately Intact

Physical Description 1

The former army hut at 27 Barkly Street, Winchelsea, is set on a narrow site, and it is situated on the southern boundary. It has a modest front setback and wide northern side setback, and a larger open area at the rear. There is minimal landscaping on the site.

The elevated single storey, galvanised corrugated steel, vernacular army hut is characterised by a gable roof form that is also clad in galvanised corrugated steel. On the front gable end are unpainted timber bargeboards, with unpainted timber fascias below the gutters at the sides. The front also has an early timber ventilator in the gable end and a large, possibly introduced door opening with introduced sliding galvanised corrugated steel doors.

Along the northern side are several early single window openings having early timber framed windows. Ventilation openings comprise other early fabric. It appears from the variation in the finish of cladding that two early door openings have been blocked up.

Overall, the vernacular design and rudimentary construction of the building represents an elongated version of the standard P1 hut prototype common for defence related buildings of the Second World War era.

Veterans Description for Public

The former Winchelsea Army Hut, at 27 Barkly Street, is a common example of the type of defence building built during the Second World War era. The single gable roof form and elongated rectangular composition, together with its corrugated galvanised steel roof and wall cladding- epitomise the basic features of the P1 prototype used from 1928 until after the Second World War. Although relocated from the Gherang Army Camp to the existing site after 1955, the building still largely embodies its original character and appearance.

The hut appears to have been relocated to this site after 1955 by Arthur Drayton. Drayton purchased the land in Barkly Street (part allotments 33 and 36) from Marjorie McDonald after 1955 (the Winchelsea Shire Rate Books for 1952-55 do not list the army hut and the Rate Books post 1955 were not available for this study). According to different local sources, the shed comprised a former Second World War army hut moved from Gherang after the war, probably by Arthur Drayton's brother, who used to shift houses and other structures.

The 12th Armed Regiment formed on 8 May 1942 from the 18th Mot Regiment at Clapham, South Australia. Part of the 6th Armed Brigade of the 2nd Armed Division, the Regiment moved to the Gherang Army Camp on 12 June 1942. This indicates that the camp (and the hut) had been established by this time. Occupation at Gherang by the 12th Armed Regiment was to be short-lived, because on 24 July 1942 it was relocated to Puckapunyal. The Camp was disbanded on 13 April 1943. After the former Army Hut was relocated to Winchelsea, it was used as a shearing shed.

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/>