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## Mont. St. Quentin Barracks



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1990



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### Location

Market Street KYNETON, Macedon Ranges Shire

### Municipality

MACEDON RANGES SHIRE

### Level of significance

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### Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

/n

The old Kyneton Drill Hall has historic associations as the later home of country Victoria's first, significant unit of army cavalry, the volunteer Kyneton and District Mounted Rifle Corps formed in 1860 (5). The 1903 building is a good example of a drill hall building, similar buildings being constructed in Melbourne and various country towns during both the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Kyneton has no other building that is similar to this structure. Drill halls were built to provide a venue for the local volunteer army corps. Market Street has changed considerably during recent decades and the old drill hall acts as a focus for the remaining streetscape, while terminating the view from the Mollison Street conservation area. In common with the other drill halls, this building has a utilitarian building form and is sparsely decorated. Features are the multi-pane windows, gable infill, chimneys and the gable flagpole. The main body is corrugated iron sheet clad.

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Extent of Significance: Entire, building and site.

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Surrounding Elements of Significance: Close to the Mollison and High Street conservation areas. Market Street contains several buildings of some importance (q.v.).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Macedon Ranges - Shire of Kyneton Conservation (Heritage) Study, David Bick with Phyllis Murphy and John Patrick - Background history by Susan Priestley, 1990;
Other Names	Originally Drill Hall,
Hermes Number	125814
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The Kyneton Drill Hall is a large single storey timber framed building, with corrugated iron wall and gable roof cladding. The lean-to roofed front offices are weatherboard clad and have red brick chimneys, twelve pane double hung sashes and a gable roofed section about the central twin timber entrance doors.

## Physical Description 2

Externally intact.

## Physical Description 3

Quite good.

## Veterans Description for Public

The Mont St Quentin Barracks, on Market Street Kyneton, were designed and built in 1903 by the Victorian Department of Public Works. During a period of transition to Commonwealth control of defence, between 1901 and 1910, the Victorian Public Works Department still designed and constructed some drill halls.

In March 1902, £2,400 was put on the estimates for the construction of an orderly room and on June 24th the taking over of the new building by the Defence Department was reported. The official opening occurred in July and a brilliant ball took place that night. The Kyneton District Rifle Mounted Rifle Corps was formed on October 1st 1860, after two public meetings which led to sixty-four volunteers joining. Dr. Mackenzie, a Justice of the Peace, was influential in the formation of the Corps; country Victoria's first, significant unit of army cavalry. Gradually the Hall's function was taken over by the Commonwealth Department of Home Affairs.

Of the remaining examples of Victorian Drill Halls, Colac and Kyneton are the most stylistically interesting. Kyneton has no other building that is similar to this structure. The Hall itself is a Commonwealth timber and corrugated iron drill hall, with gabled entry.

*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/>*