

AHERNS ROAD CISTERN

Location

WESTERN HIGHWAY RAGLAN, PYRENEES SHIRE

Municipality

PYRENEES SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7523-0089

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Interpretation of Site	Site may be associated with a later redevelopment of a residence at the property, initially identified as a Bark Hut from a land title search during background research. More research and or archaeological investigation is recommended to further interpret the site
Archaeological Significance	Aherns Road Well is of low archaeological significance. No archaeological features or deposits associated with any structures other than the well are evident, however there is low archaeological potential for subsurface archaeological remains to be present directly associated with the well and based on the extensive area of debris in the surrounding area.
Hermes Number	191844
Property Number	

History

The land surrounding the Great Western Highway in the area of the Aherns Road Well was initially used by Europeans for grazing, predominantly of sheep. The Eurambeen or Mount Cole pastoral run was originally established on 48,000 acres near Mount Cole by Colin and Alexander Campbell. It can be seen in the figure below (Figure 1) and originally included the Buangor Run, which was separated from it in 1849. The Campbell brothers migrated to Australia from Scotland in 1839 and established a 'profitable' pastoral run 'after minor conflict with local Aborigines and aggressive overlanders. The run contained 200 cattle and 18,000 sheep. In 1847 Squatters were granted the pre-emptive right to purchase 640 acres of their run. Squatters frequently selected their pre-emptive right in the location of their original homestead and then those most well off would build homesteads in the same location (Murphy and Morris 2008. 24). Figure 2 shows the pre-emptive rights sections of Eurambeen from 1859, purchased by Alexander Campbell and Mr Beggs (north of the present activity area). Campbell's portion features drafting yards, cultivation paddocks, a stockyard, stable and store. The brothers subdivided the property in 1849 and Colin Campbell renamed his share 'Buangor', which was divided from Eurambeen by Middle Creek. Alexander Campbell sold Eurambeen to brothers George and Francis Beggs in October 1859. Francis Beggs migrated to Port Phillip in 1849 and entered into a partnership with his brother George on Eurambeen, establishing 'a fine merino stud flock'. Francis' three sons Theodore, Robert and Hugh Beggs were all successful pastoralists and sheep breeders. On the death of Francis Beggs in 1880, Theodore became manager and trustee of the Eurambeen estate. Three years later Robert and Hugh joined in the pastoral partnership, managing the purchasing and leasing of several large properties in the area. In 1913, Theodore again became the sole owner of Eurambeen. Theodore was a councillor of Ripon Shire for thirty years, and was twice president. Theodore was also a member of the Australian Sheep Breeders' Association, Victorian delegate to the Pastoralists' Federal Council in 1915 and was widely known as a judge of merino sheep. All three brothers were buried in a family cemetery at Eurambeen.' With time, larger properties in the area were progressively subdivided although open grazing of cattle and sheep, with some grain farming, remained the predominant forms of agriculture in the locality.

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/>