FORMER KARDELLA RAILWAY STATION AND SETTLEMENT

Location

KARDELLA ROAD, KARDELLA VIC 3951

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H8021-0060

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 11, 2020

This site is associated with the Great Southern Railway which linked Melbourne in the west with Port Albert in the east. Kardella station was constructed as part of the section of railway between Whitelaw's Track (Korumburra) and Toora which was opened on 17 June 1891.

The former Kardella railway station site has archaeological potential which could provide further information relating to Linking Victorians by Rail (Historical Theme 3.3).

Interpretation of Site

1888-1891: Work camp near Kardella during 1891: Railway and station completed 1976: station went out of operation Function: Transport of passengers and goods. Goods likely to have included timber and bricks. Not currently used or occupied.

Hermes Number

206961

Property Number

History

One of the largest railway construction camps was on the banks of Coalition Creek, at an area known as the Brickyard area, near Kardella (Healy 1988:99). It would have been occupied between 1888 and 1891 (Healy 1988). The works camp near Kardella is described as: being between the creek and the railway line near the present town of Kardella and over 200 navvies lived in tent and bark and slab huts. There were also two boarding houses, one of which was a bark hut. Mrs. Elizabeth Donnelly (also known as Frost) ran one of these boarding houses, Scott's Store was managed by Mr. John Wheelman and a butcher prospered for the time of the contract. A herbalist ran a store too, and he guaranteed a refund if no cure was effected. (Healy 1988:99). Kardella railway station was constructed in 1891 as part of the Great Southern Railway. The station complex included a building, platform, sidings and goods storage shed. The station operated until 1976 (Wikipedia accessed 3/9/2020). There were brick-yards in the vicinity which gave their names to an area that included a section of railway line near Kardella (Bowden 1970: 37). There were several sawmills operational in the district logging blue gum that utilized the railway, station when it was first built, however, the sawmills closed by 1900 and as a result the station business declined (victoriaplaces.com.au accessed 15/9/2020). An 1895 map of Kardella Village Settlement (Figure 1) shows approximately 30 houses, workshops etc. Hand-written annotation on the margin states "Mr (illegible) informed that Minister decided not to have allotments subdivided. Mr Reed 20/3/96." 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/