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# THE ROUSE



23337 The Rouse 97 Bell St  
Penshurst 1525



23337 The Rouse Bell St  
Penshurst 0812



23337 The Rouse General  
Store Bell St Penshurst 0877



23337 The Rouse General  
Store Bell St Penshurst 0878

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## Location

97 Bell Street, PENSHURST VIC 3289 - Property No 0105

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 15, 2003

What is significant?

The Rouse is located at 97 Bell Street, on the south side. It is a large timber building with a corrugated iron verandah. Its earliest known use was by a Chinese merchant, Ah Wong, who operated a grocery from the store in the 1870s. The most important merchant to operate from the site was Frank Liles Olle, a member of the important Olle family who were heavily involved in all aspects of Peshurst. Olle left the store to move into newly built premises in 1914. There has been no architect or builder associated with the design of the store. The Rouse is in good condition, and retains a very high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The Rouse is of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire and to the township of Peshurst.

Why is it significant?

The Rouse is of historical significance as one of the four general stores in Peshurst. It is of further historical significance for its association with the Olle family, particularly Frank Liles Olle who was an important member of the local Shire Council, Presbyterian Church and Peshurst community. The Rouse is also of historic importance for its long use as a store, and its intact fabric which shows a previous way of life.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1860,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	OLLE FAMILY GENERAL STORE, THE ROUSE RESTAURANT,
Hermes Number	23337
Property Number	

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## Physical Conditions

The exterior of the shop appears to be in good condition.

## Physical Description 1

A large, single storey timber building which appears to have been two separate shops, each under a separate gable, with a later addition of a timber wing to the west. The facade is on the street alignment and faces north. The facade includes two entrances each with large multi paned shop windows on either side which have a modern diagonal timber detailing underneath. The timber extension has a window divided into 4 or 6 small panes. There is a corrugated iron bullnose verandah supported by timber posts across the whole facade. There is a parapet across the facade. The eastern wall is corrugated iron laid vertically. There is a small timber section at the rear. On the west side, there is an extension at rear clad in modern pressed cement sheeting.

The roofs are simple gables with a triangular wooden facade and finial, probably new, at the point of each. The parapet is a later addition, constructed of sheeting and includes the words 'The Rouse BYO'.

The interior has not been inspected

## Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.12 Feeding people

3.12.5 Retailing foods and beverages

3.19 Marketing and Retailing

Theme 4: Building settlements, towns and cities

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.4 Eating and drinking

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

### **Usage/Former Usage**

Antiques & Bric-a brac store.

### **Integrity**

High degree of integrity on exterior (Interior not inspected)

### **Physical Description 2**

A. Lane - original owner of the land on which The Rouse now stands.

Frank Liles Olle

Foyster Farrell, present owner and resident(?)

*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/>*