

## COURTHOUSE (FORMER)



23437 Courthouse Former  
Martin St Penshurst interior  
1029



23437 Courthouse Former  
Martin St Penshurst interior  
1027



23437 Courthouse Former  
Martin St Penshurst interior  
1028



23437 Courthouse Former  
Martin St Penshurst interior  
1031



23437 Courthouse Former  
Martin St Penshurst interior  
1030



23437 Courthouse Former  
Martin St Penshurst interior  
1032



23437 Courthouse Former  
Martin St Penshurst interior  
1033

### Location

33 Martin Street PENSHURST, Southern Grampians Shire

### Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

### Level of significance

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 16, 2004

What is significant?

The Penshurst Courthouse is located adjacent to the Post Office, on the corner of Bell and Martin Streets in the centre of Penshurst. The building is typical of Post Offices designed by the Public Works Department in the late nineteenth century, illustrating a notionally Palladian form and the usual Italianate style. The court house was built in 1877 and was designed by the Public Works Department architect, A T Snow. The courthouse closed in the 1980s and is now used to house the Mount Rouse and District Historical Societies collection. The building is in good condition and retains an excellent degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The Courthouse is of historical and architectural significance to the township of Penshurst and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former Penshurst Courthouse is of architectural significance as a typical example of the Public Works Department oeuvre. The intactness of its nineteenth century interiors provides an accurate interpretation of its former use as a practicing court. It has further architectural significance as one of a group of substantial civic structures in Martin Street which form a focus for the Penshurst

The former Penshurst Courthouse is of historical significance because it was the location for the administration of justice for the district for over a century. Located in a prominent position next to the post office, the Penshurst Courthouse has further historical significance as a landmark site, and is one of a group of buildings forming the focus of the town.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1877,
Architect/Designer	Snow, Alfred T,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23437
Property Number	

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### Physical Conditions

The building is in good condition

### Physical Description 1

The building is a typical single storey court house with a central room and offices at the rear. The building is symmetrical and has a notionally Palladian form and the usual Italianate style. It is built of bluestone with a cement render. High level windows light the main chamber and there is a fireplace eastern wall with marble mantles. The bench for the magistrate, the witness box and other fittings, as well as loose furniture survive.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

Theme: 7 Governing  
7.6 Administering Australia  
7.6.4 Dispensing justice

Theme 8: Developing Australia's cultural life  
8.5 Forming Associations  
8.5.1 Preserving traditions and group memories

## **Usage/Former Usage**

Currently used as the meeting place and storage of some historical documents for the Mount Rouse and District Historical Society.

## **Integrity**

High degree of integrity

## **Physical Description 2**

AT Snow Architect

*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/>*