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# WATT'S GARAGE



23482 Watt s Garage 65  
Whyte St Coleraine 0421

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## Location

65 Whyte Street, COLERAINE VIC 3315 - Property No 1028

## 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 - January 15, 2004

What is significant?

Watt's Garage is located on the south side of Whyte Street, in the centre of the township of Coleraine. Since the late 1850s it has operated as transport orientated commercial site, first as a blacksmith, possibly under a Mr. McLeod, and since about 1920, as a motor garage. The garage is a large, single storey brick building with a substantial cantilevered front verandah. The building is symmetrical about a wide central entrance and has shop fronts on either side. There is an important petrol vending machine surviving on the western pier of the facade. The main interior beyond the shop fronts is a large workshop with a metal trussed corrugated iron roof. There has been no architect or builder identified as being associated with the building. The building is in good condition with a very high degree of integrity.

How is it significant? Watt's garage is of historical significance to the southern Grampians Shire and to the township of Coleraine.

Why is it significant?

Watt's Garage is of historical significance for its demonstration of the sequence of development and adaptation on the site which has been associated with road transport from the mid-nineteenth century. It is of further historical significance for its association with the Stephen George Henty, of the pastoral pioneer Henty family, and for its long association with the Watt family. It is of further historical significance for the coin operated petroleum meter on the facade of the building, which is a very rare surviving example of a petrol meter at a garage. It provides us with evidence of a previous method of payment and service delivery.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1920,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23482
Property Number	

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## Physical Conditions

Good condition

## Physical Description 1

The garage is a large, single storey brick building with a substantial cantilevered front verandah. The building is symmetrical about a wide central entrance and has shop fronts on either side. The main interior beyond the shop fronts is a large workshop with a metal trussed corrugated iron roof.

There is an important petrol vending machine surviving on the western pier of the facade. A more modern petrol pump survives on the eastern side in front of the verandah.

## Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.8 Moving goods and people on land

3.8.8 Getting fuel to engines

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

Garage

## Integrity

Good degree of integrity

## **Physical Description 2**

James Blair and Steven George Henty (first owners of allotments)

*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/>*