

---

# KILDARE HOMESTEAD & EARLY WOOLSHED

---

## Location

Gibson's Road MOOREE, Southern Grampians Shire

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 2, 2004

What is significant?

Kildare Homestead and Woolshed are located at the end of Gibson's Road, Mooree, overlooking Sugarloaf Creek. The complex consists of two primitive structures constructed of timber slabs. A two roomed hut and a shed enclosed on three sides. There are various other less significant structures around these. Kildare was taken up by Thomas Kelly, as a selection in 1874, and was known as Sugarloaf for many years, the creek which meandered through the selection was named after the property. The slab hut which survives was built by the Kelly family, and is a rare surviving example of the first hut continuing in use. The property changed hands in the early twentieth century, and was owned by the Gibson family, who renamed it Kildare. There are links between the Gibson family and the adjacent property owners, the Gash's through intermarriage. The hut and the early woolshed are in fair condition, and retain a very high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

Kildare is of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

Kildare is of historical significance as an unusual surviving example of a typical first selector's hut. Most selectors built a more substantial home within a few years of arriving on their selection. The hut and early woolshed which survive provide us with information about a previous way of life, and work, as they have changed very little since their construction in the 1870s. Of further significance is the location of the hut and woolshed, on a rise above the creek, traditionally favoured by those who were squatters, and later those pastoralists who came to the area. Most early home stations and selector's residences were moved to a more 'prestigious' location, and the original home removed - Kildare is of historical significance as it provides an example of the typical siting of an early residence in an isolated location, and exemplifies the early values associated with choosing a site on which to build a first hut.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1874,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23647
Property Number	

---

## Physical Conditions

The hut and the woolshed are in fair condition, there may be significant archaeological potential.

## Physical Description 1

Kildare is located half way down a hill, at the termination of Gibson's Road. There are two primitive timber structures located on the site, of slab construction. The hut is a symmetrical single storey building of two rooms with skillion extensions at the rear. The verandah across the front is timber and its roof is contiguous with the main gable roof. The shed, used as a primitive woolshed is of vertical slab construction, and is open on one side.

## Historical Australian Themes

Theme 8: Developing Australia's Cultural Life  
8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

Theme 9: Marking the phases of Life  
9.3 Forming families and partnerships  
9.3.2 Bringing up children

## Usage/Former Usage

abandoned

## Integrity

Good

## Physical Description 2

Thomas Kelly, selector  
Gibson family, second occupants

*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/>*