

Coal Creek Heritage Park



Jeetho State School No. 2890

34770 Jeetho State School
No



Kilcunda Road State School No. 3337e

34770 Kilcunda Road State
School No



34770 Korumburra Court
House



Korumburra Lands Office

34770 Korumburra Lands
Office



Krowera Presbyterian Church

34770 Krowera Presbyterian
Church



Leongatha Bowling Club Member's Pavilion

34770 Leongatha Bowling
Club Member s Pavilion



Leongatha Lands Office

34770 Leongatha Lands
Office

Location

12 SILKSTONE ROAD, KORUMBURRA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 20, 2022

What is significant?

Select original buildings within the Coal Creek Heritage Park, at 12 Silkstone Road, Korumburra, opened in 1972, are of significance. The tourist park was opened on 2 March 1974 after a public campaign for a place to store and celebrate South Gippsland's coal mining heritage. Not all of the buildings within the park, including the main entry building, are of heritage significance or in their original form. The original buildings that are of significance include:

- Former Korumburra Court House

Constructed in 1899-1900, this was the first building to be moved to Coal Creek in 1970 with the small timber lock-up at the rear was moved in 1990. This is Queen Anne Victorian weatherboard clad gabled hall with hip and gable elements at the rear and projecting gable to the East. To the North, there is a straight verandah with reconstructed ladder frame valance, over a segmentally arched board, with square stop chamfered posts and neck moulds. The building also has elaborate gable end frames, tri-grouped windows and small dormer vents. Inside there is an internal wind lobby from double front doors, varnished beaded tongue and groove lining boards, vertically laid as a dado, and horizontally above the dado. There are collar tie trusses, a side fireplace with bracketed mantel, and original courtroom features such as the prisoner's dock, witness box, bench and jury box.

- Former Kilcunda Road State School No. 3337 (now used as the Masonic Lodge)

Constructed in 1902 and moved to Coal Creek in the 1970s, this single classroom school is of timber construction with a half-hipped iron roof. There is a bracketed extension of the roof pane with three side windows with fixed multi-pane sashes and hoppers. The gable ends with triangular louvred vents with brackets, horizontal frame and finial.

- Former Jeetho State School No. 2690

This Federation weatherboard, one-room school, with a half-hipped corrugated iron gabled roof, with a projecting porch with an entrance, a bank of multi-paned windows with hoppers at one end, highlight windows and tall multi-paned windows adjacent to the entrance. This building was constructed in 1917 and moved to Coal Creek in 1975.

- Former Krowera Presbyterian Church

This Carpenter Gothic weatherboard church is simple in design and typical of the early 20th Century churches found throughout the Shire. There is a projecting gabled porch to the front and three lancet windows on each side elevation. A new vestry was added to the rear after it was moved to Coal Creek. This building was constructed in 1901 and moved to Coal Creek in 1972.

- Former Korumburra Lands Office

Constructed c.1915 and moved to Coal Creek in 1972, this is small weatherboard cottage with gable roof and front verandah, supported by timber posts and simple brackets. On either side of the entry is a six-pane double hung sash window and there is a reconstructed chimney at the side.

- Former Leongatha Lands Office (Bush Tramway Office)

Constructed c.1910 and moved c.1980, this gabled weatherboard cottage has a return verandah supported by timber posts. There are no brackets on the verandah and it is unclear if the verandah is original. There is also a tin chimney with brick insert.

- Former Woodleigh Vale Railway Station

A weatherboard railway station with gabled iron roof and reconstructed verandah. The windows are single hung windows with three smaller upper windows. There is a small verandah supported by wooden posts, a single brick chimney and a pair of metal vents on the roof. The roof is made of corrugated iron with decorative wooden brackets under the eaves. This railway station is comparable to the stations in Mirboo North and Nyora. The station opened in 1910 and closed in 1970, before being moved to Coal Creek in 1972.

- Western's Cottage

This weatherboard cottage was originally located at 'Devonscot', Arawata (see AR-ON-180). It is constructed of hand split timber walls and lined with hessian and newspaper. There were originally only two rooms in the building with later additions not reconstructed after the move to Coal Creek in 1986. This building was constructed c.1880.

- Wattle and Daub Cottage

This building was constructed c.1842 prior to being moved to Coal Creek. It is a small two roomed building with hip roof and tapered chimney, made of an earthen floor, timber shingles on the roof supported by bush poles, split hardwood plates, with a large timber pole in the centre. The infill of the walls is made of wattles rendered with cement-based daub material. The rafters are made of bush poles with collar ties and there is an open cooking fireplace with concave brick hearth and pick-faced large sandstone blocks.

- Former Leongatha Bowling Club Members Pavilion (Biggs Skin Store)

Constructed in 1908 and moved to Coal Creek in 1975, this building is a small weatherboard building with a gabled roof. There are gables to the side over the entrance and small four-pane windows. The double doors at one end are alterations since arriving in Coal Creek.

- Former Miner's Cottage

Constructed in c.1900 and moved to Coal Creek in 1972, this is a gabled weatherboard cottage with rear skillion area and central front door flanked by double hung sash windows. There is a front verandah and reconstructed side brick chimney. This building is not far from where it originally sat.

- Former Stony Creek Stationmasters Cottage

A gabled weatherboard cottage with projecting central gable of standard railway department design. The windows are double hung six pane windows with sashes and corrugated iron roof. This building was constructed c.1900 and moved to Coal Creek in 1972.

- Former Creamery room

A vernacular gabled roof building with split timber walls that are set horizontally up to eave level and vertical at the gable ends. There are central doors at either end of the building, flanked by pairs of small, four-paned windows. The construction date for this building is unknown, however it was moved to Coal Creek in 1992. The original buildings that are of contributory value to the park precinct include:

- Former Poowong National Bank of Australasia (Auction Room)

Constructed c.1900 and moved c.1980, this is a weatherboard building with iron hip roof and a central doorway, flanked by two large double hung sash windows. The verandah was a latter addition and the chimney was reconstructed. It is similar in construction to the former banks in Stony Creek, Fish Creek, Mirboo North and Toora.

- Former Kardella South Mechanics' Institute

A weatherboard gabled hall with a gabled porch at one end and entrance verandah that is not original. There is a skillion extension that includes a supper room and a number of tall, multi-paned windows in the side elevations. The building is of simple design that is typical of other halls in the Shire. The hall was built in 1926 and moved to Coal Creek in 1986.

- Former Kardella State School No. 3196 (Former Clunes State School)

A gabled weatherboard school with gabled porch and six-pane, double hung sash windows, including one at each end elevation and three on the side elevations (originally). The building has retained the early health department vents along the ridgeline. Major alterations have taken place on one side elevation to include a new verandah, entrance and kitchen. This school was constructed in c.1890 and donated to Coal Creek in 1977

- Former Railway goods shed and portable building

The portable building was originally a single gabled structure that has since been extended with two extra gabled sections. These buildings were built c.1910 and 1900 respectively, and were moved to Coal Creek in 1974.

- Former Radovick Street Shop (Wrench's boot makers)

A weatherboard Victorian shop with original shopfront and reconstructed verandah that may not be original. The front parapet has been reconstructed and a stored sign reading 'Mitchell's Farm Machiner' has been linked to this building. This building was constructed c.1895 and moved to Coal Creek before 1974.

The other buildings within the Coal Creek Heritage Park are not significant.

How is it significant?

The select original buildings at Coal Creek Heritage Park, in Korumburra, is of local historic, aesthetic and technological significance.

Why is it significant?

The Coal Creek Heritage Park is unique to the South Gippsland Shire as the only site with a collection of significant heritage buildings. Coal Creek as a whole celebrates and demonstrates the importance of the coal mining industry to the development of the South Gippsland Shire. The contributory buildings within this park enhance this significance. (Criterion B)

The original buildings each have their own individual significance including:

- Former Korumburra Court House

Historically, this is the first building to be relocated to Coal Creek Heritage Park after it stopped being used in May 1969. The Court House was designed by the Public Works Department's chief architect JB Cohen, who built a number of the government institutions within the South Gippsland Shire, demonstrating the importance of early government buildings within the Shire. (Criterion A)

This building is an architecturally rare and early example of a basic building form with complex Federation timber details. This building is only one of two known examples of a Queen Anne Court House in Victoria. (Criterion B)

- Former Kilcunda Road State School No. 3337 (now used as the Masonic Lodge)

Historically, this building is thought to be the only surviving building from the Kilcunda Road district, demonstrating the history of the area and early community facilities within the South Gippsland Shire. (Criteria A, B)

Aesthetically, this early school has a number of unusual design elements that are not seen in other school buildings in the Shire. (Criterion E)

- Former Jeetho State School No. 2690

This school is a representative example of a one-room school within the South Gippsland Shire. The significance of this building is enhanced by the early school furniture it houses that were taken from the former Jumbunna State School. (Criterion D)

- Former Krowera Presbyterian Church

This church is a representative example of an early church within the South Gippsland Shire, and is one of the few early 20th Century buildings in Krowera to survive over 100 years. Not only was this used as a church but as a social space for community gatherings during the development of South Gippsland. (Criteria A, D)

- Former Korumburra Lands Office

This building is a representation of an early public building, and one of only two known examples of a Lands Office in the South Gippsland Shire (the other is now used the Bush Tramway Office, also in Coal Creek). These Lands Offices played an important role in the settlement and development of Korumburra. (Criteria A, D)

- Former Leongatha Lands Office (Bush Tramway Office)

This building is a representation of an early public building in the Shire, and one of only two known examples of a Lands Office in South Gippsland (the other is the former Korumburra Lands Office, also in Coal Creek). This building was important to the settlement and development of Leongatha. (Criteria A, D)

- Former Woodleigh Vale Railway Station

The Woodleigh Vale Railway Station is a representative example of a simple weatherboard railway station that were common throughout the South Gippsland Shire. The additional goods shed and portable buildings assist to demonstrate the layout of a functioning early train station in the region. (Criterion D)

- Western's Cottage

Western's Cottage is a rare and representative example of an early farm house, built by one of the original selection families. This cottage demonstrates the early settlement and development of the South Gippsland Shire. (Criteria B, D)

- Wattle and Daub Cottage

Originally located at Tarwin Meadows Run, parts of this cottage are believed to be the oldest building in South Gippsland after been constructed in c.1842, and is one of a small number of pre-1850 buildings in Victoria. It demonstrates the first phase of European occupation in South Gippsland. (Criterion A)

- Former Leongatha Bowling Club Members Pavilion (Biggs Skin Store)

This pavilion is a representative example of an early sporting building and was important in the development of sport and recreational groups. This may be the oldest extant sporting building in the South Gippsland Shire after being constructed in 1908. (Criteria A, D)

- Former Miner's Cottage

This building is a representative example of an early miner's cottage which would have been common throughout the South Gippsland Shire during the height of the mining industry in the region. Mining is one of the main industries that helped to settle and develop the Shire. (Criterion D)

- Former Stony Creek Stationmasters Cottage

This is a representative example of an early 20th Century railway employee's house that was once common throughout the Shire. The level of intactness and the close proximity to an unrelated railway station, assists with the understanding of building and its purpose. Only one other T-designed stationmaster's cottage is still intact in Bena, though it has been altered. (Criterion D)

- Former Creamery room

This building is a rare example of an early working farm building with notable construction techniques and materials. Many of these buildings have since been demolished to make way for modern alternatives. (Criterion B)

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|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004; |
| Construction dates | 1971, 1974, 1974, |

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Other Names | -, Coal Creek Community Park & Museum, |
| Hermes Number | 34770 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

Coal Creek Heritage Village is designed as a recreation of a late nineteenth century mining village. It comprises heritage buildings and objects that have been relocated to the site from elsewhere, as well as new buildings that have been constructed in a complementary 'historic' style. Some of the new buildings are reconstructions of heritage places that are known to have existed based on photographic and other documentary evidence. Entrance to the site is via a purpose built timber building in a sympathetic contemporary style. A mine has been recreated, along with a narrow gauge railway. The appearance of the site has been enhanced by the planting of many trees, including locally indigenous species.

The heritage buildings that have been moved to the Village from elsewhere in the Shire include (note: The original name is given followed in brackets by the current name used by Coal Creek):

Leongatha Bowling clubhouse (Biggs skin store)

This is a small weatherboard buildings with a gabled roof with a gablet in the side placed (slightly off-side) over the entrance door. The windows are small four pane. The landing and double doors at one end are alterations carried out after removal to Coal Creek.

Korumburra Lands office (Lands office)

This is a simple, weatherboard cottage with a gable roof that extends to incorporate the front verandah, which is supported on timber posts with simple brackets. Windows are six pane double hung sashes. There is a re-constructed chimney at one end.

Leongatha Lands Office (Bush Tramway office)

This is a simple gabled weatherboard cottage. It has a return verandah supported on timber posts with no brackets, which may not be original. There is a tin chimney with a brick insert.

Poowong National Bank of Australasia (Auction room)

This is a simple weatherboard building with a hip iron. It has two large double hung sash windows flanking the central doorway. The verandah is a later addition and there is a reconstructed chimney at one end. This building compares with more intact examples of early twentieth century weatherboard banks at Stony Creek, Fish Creek, Mirboo North and Toora.

Korumburra Court House

Refer to individual citation in this Study.

Radovick Street shop (Wrench's boot makers)

This is a simple weatherboard Victorian shop with an original shopfront. The verandah has been reconstructed, but it is not known whether this was on the basis of historic evidence. The front parapet may also have been reconstructed and a sign dating from c.1945 is reputedly stored on site.

Krowera Presbyterian Church

This a simple Carpenter Gothic weatherboard church. A new vestry was added to the building after its move to Coal Creek. This simple design is typical of early twentieth century churches found throughout the Shire.

Jeetho State School No. 2690

This a Federation weatherboard one room school with a half-hipped corrugated iron gabled roof that incorporates a porch at one corner over the entrance. There are a bank of multi-paned windows with hoppers above at one end and small highlight windows in the other end elevation in the porch. There is also a tall multi-paned window adjacent to the entrance. It is identical in design to the school at Ruby.

Kardella State School No. 3196, Kardella Public Hall (Pig & Whistle Hotel)

This was originally a gabled weatherboard school with a small gabled porch at one end. Windows are six pane double hung sash including one each end elevation and originally about three in the side elevation. The roof retains early Health Department vents along the ridge line. Major alterations have been made to one side elevation including the construction of a verandah and new entrance as part of its conversion to the 'Pig & Whistle' Hotel. A new kitchen has also been added at the rear.

Kilcunda Road State School No. 3337

Refer to individual citation in this Study.

Western's Cottage

This is a simple gabled weatherboard cottage. The walls are constructed of hand split timber - interior with hessian and newspapers. This comprises the original two rooms, which were only partly reconstructed at Coal Creek - later additions were left behind.

Wattle and Daub cottage

Refer to individual citation in this Study.

Miners Cottage, Silkstone

This is a simple gabled weatherboard cottage with a rear skillion. The centrally located front door is flanked by double hung sash windows. There is a front verandah and a reconstructed side chimney. Reputedly, it is situated not far from its present location near the site of the present Coal Creek farm house. Few examples of this simple type of cottage have survived in the Shire. One example has been identified at Silkstone and some in Korumburra.

Kardella South Mechanics' Institute

This is a simple weatherboard gabled hall with a small gabled porch at one end and a supper room contained in a skillion extension at the other. A verandah over the entrance is not original. There are tall multi-paned windows in the side elevations. This building is of a simple design that is typical of other halls found throughout the Shire.

Stony Creek Stationmaster's Cottage (Caretaker's cottage)

This is a gabled roof weatherboard cottage with a projecting central gable of a standard early twentieth century Victorian Railways design. Windows are six pane double hung sashes. The colour scheme is sympathetic and the corrugated iron roof appears to be new.

This is the most intact of the 'T' design residences still found in the Shire. The example at Bena is still on its original site, but the front window has been altered. The other examples at Bennison and Meeniyah have been moved from their original sites and have been altered in detail (windows replaced).

Woodleigh Vale Railway Station Building, goods shed & portables.

This is a small weatherboard railway station with a gabled iron roof. The verandahs have been reconstructed. The portable building was originally a single gabled weatherboard structure, which has been extended by the addition of two gabled sections. This station compares to the stations at Mirboo North and Nyora, both constructed in 1915.

Cream Room

This is an early Vernacular gabled roof building. The walls are constructed of split timber placed horizontally up to eave level and vertically in the gable ends. Doors are centrally located at either end are flanked by pairs of small four-paned windows. There are few buildings of this type of construction remaining within the Shire - the other examples are slab shearing sheds at Dumbalk East and Berry's Creek.

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/>