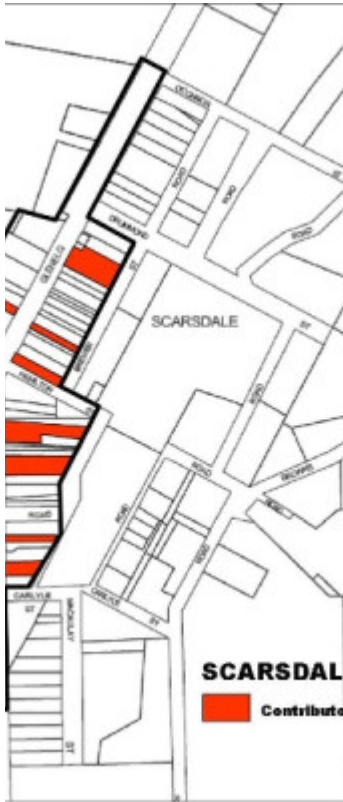


Scarsdale - Newtown Precinct



Scarsdale Heritage Precinct
Map

Location

Scarsdale-Pitfield Road and Glenelg Highway SCARSDALE, Golden Plains Shire

Municipality

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO102

Heritage Listing

Golden Plains Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The township of Scarsdale is located on the Glenelg Highway, about 25 kms south-west of Ballarat on generally level ground west of the Woady Yallock River. While gold had been discovered throughout the Woady Yallock district, it was the rush to Brown's Diggings which established the town of Scarsdale in 1855 and the consolidation of later finds towards the south which triggered the extension of the town into Newtown, towards Pitfield. The heyday of Scarsdale was in the 1860s, a period of great prosperity. The township is organic and linear in form and pivots around the intersection of the Ballarat-Linton Road, the Old Glenelg Highway and the Pitfield-Scarsdale Road. The main public buildings were always located close to the intersection. The former timber Post Office, the red brick Scarsdale Hotel and the rendered Town Hall are in a row on the east side of the Pitfield-Scarsdale Road. They are modest in their scale, conventional in their forms and in styles typical of their periods. The Railway Station was in Brewer Street but nothing survives. The loss of so many public and private buildings illustrates the great decline of the goldfields' townships.

How is it Significant?

The township Scarsdale is of historical, architectural and social significance to the Golden Plains Shire.

Why is it Significant?

The township of Scarsdale is of historical significance as one of the many small settlements in the Shire established on the site of gold rushes in the 1850s and 1860s, several of which have survived into the twenty-first century. It is of architectural significance for their range of very modest buildings dating from the nineteenth century, the most important of which are the former Post Office, the former Shire Hall and the Scarsdale Hotel. These and other buildings are complimented by substantial avenues of honour and other mature trees, as well as the limited surviving infrastructure. The township of Scarsdale is of social significance for its survival from a peak of many thousands, reflected in some surviving public buildings and cottages, to its modern population of less than one and a half thousand in the whole district. The township reflects the inter-relationship between pastoral, mining and agricultural pursuits.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Golden Plains - Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study Phase 2, Heritage Matters P/L, 2009;
Hermes Number	35036
Property Number	

Historical Australian Themes

Australian Historic Themes

The Australian Heritage Commission devised the Australian Historic Themes in 2001. The following themes have influenced the historical development of the Scarsdale / Newtown Precinct.

2. Peopling Australia

2.2 Adapting to diverse environments

2.4 Migrating

2.4.2 Migrating to seek opportunity

2.4.5 Changing the face of rural and urban Australia through migration

2.5 Promoting settlement

3 Developing Local, Regional And National Economies

3.3 Surveying the continent

3.3.3 Prospecting for precious metals

3.3.5 Laying out boundaries

3.4 Utilising natural resources

3.4.3 Mining

3.6 Recruiting labour

3.7 Establishing communications

3.7.1 Establishing postal services

3.7.2 Developing electric means of communication

3.8 Moving goods and people

3.8.5 Moving goods and people on land

3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways

3.8.7 Building and maintaining roads

3.12 Feeding people

3.12.2 Developing sources of fresh local produce

3.12.5 Retailing foods and beverages

4 Building Settlements Towns And Cities

4.1 Planning urban settlements

4.1.1 Selecting township sites

4.2 Supplying urban services (power, transport, fire prevention, roads, water, light and sewerage)

4.3 Developing institutions

4.5 Making settlements to serve rural Australia

4.6 Remembering significant phases in the development of settlements, towns and cities

5 Working

5.1 Working in harsh conditions

5.1.2 Coping with dangerous jobs and workplaces

5.6 Working in the home

5.8 Working on the land

6 Educating

6.1 Forming associations, libraries and institutes for self-education.

6.2 Establishing schools

7 Governing

7.6 Administering Australia

7.6.1 Developing local government authorities

7.6.3 Policing Australia

7.6.12 Conserving Australia's heritage

8 Developing Australia's Cultural Life

8.6 Worshipping

8.6.1 Worshipping together

8.6.2 Maintaining religious traditions and ceremonies

8.6.4 Making places for worship

8.7 Honouring achievement

8.8 Remembering the fallen

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

Physical Description 1

The twin townships of Scarsdale and Newtown are organic linear subdivisions along the Pitfield-Scarsdale Road and briefly along the Glenelg Highway, located approximately 25 kms south-west of Ballarat. An early milestone beside the road still marks the distance as 14 miles. The topography is relatively flat although the deep valley of the Woody Yallock River is nearby to the west. The township of Newtown is generally aligned north-south and the township of Scarsdale continues this alignment and is then aligned south-west to north-east. The allotments are generally long and narrow and in intermittent blocks. Those closest to the intersection are the oldest and most irregular. There was some rationalization of the subdivision when the railway went through.

The Scarsdale Heritage Precinct is approached from Ballarat along an avenue of pollarded *Populus alba* (White Poplars), an avenue of honour planted after World War 2. Some small early vernacular cottages survive on either side of the Highway and a late nineteenth century house and garden at 2029 Glenelg Highway. The cottages at 2040 Glenelg Highway was relocated in the 1930s and the cottage at 2040 was relocated from White's Road, Smythesdale. The intersection acts as a pivot. Many buildings have been demolished, particularly the shops. The most important surviving building near the intersection is the former Post and Telegraph Office, 9 Scarsdale -

Pitfield Road. It retains its double gabled form but has lost much of its late nineteenth century detailing. Immediately to the south is the Scarsdale Hotel, 15 Pitfield-Scarsdale Road, a late nineteenth century building with mid-twentieth additions on the facade. Further to the south is the former Town Hall of the Borough of Browns and Scarsdale, at 17 Scarsdale - Pitfield Road. It is a simple, single-storey, symmetrical but formal expression of the Renaissance Revival style, typical of the building type. A George and Annis Bills cement horse trough is located adjacent to the hall.

A surviving vernacular timber cottage 1900s is situated south of the Town Hall at 31 Scarsdale - Pitfield Road, at the intersection of Carlyle Street. The former Ballarat to Cressy and Linton railway line crosses the road at an oblique angle with little remnant infrastructure. The main station area was west of Brewer Street between Hamilton and Drummond Street.

Physical Description 2

Contributory elements located in the proposed Scarsdale Heritage Precinct:

House, 2029 Glenelg Highway Scarsdale

House, 2039 Glenelg Highway Scarsdale

House, 2040 Glenelg Highway Scarsdale

Scarsdale General Store, 2069 Glenelg Highway Scarsdale

Former Post & Telegraph Office, 9 Scarsdale-Pitfield Road Scarsdale

Scarsdale Hotel, 15 Scarsdale-Pitfield Road Scarsdale

House, 20 Scarsdale-Pitfield Road Scarsdale

Scarsdale Town Hall, 25 Scarsdale-Pitfield Road Scarsdale

Cottage, 31 Scarsdale-Pitfield Road Scarsdale

Integrity

The surviving buildings and infrastructure from a range of periods retain from a good to a high degree of integrity. Key public buildings and surviving examples of commercial and residential development provide a clear sense of past and present settlement.

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/>