
Mills' House - Port Fairy - Historic Area



B1633 Captain Mills House
Port Fairy



B1633 Mills Cottage



B1633 Captain John Mills
House Port Fairy



B1633 Captain Mills



B1633 Captain Mills



B1633 Mills Cottage Plaque

Location

40 - 42 Gipps Street, PORT FAIRY VIC 3284 - Property No B1633

Municipality

MOYNE SHIRE

Level of significance

State

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0253

Heritage Listing

National Trust

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 10, 2008

A well preserved timber cottage with open work cast iron verandah posts and elevated blue stone wall; reported to have been built by Captain John Mill, a Launceston whaler who sailed in Victorian waters from the 1820s and became harbour master at Port Fairy 1853.

Mills' Cottage was erected most probably in three stages on land within James Atkinson's Special Survey and leased from him by Charles Mills and subsequently purchased by John Mills. The centre weatherboard section was possibly erected prior to 1845, with the rear section being constructed after that date. The front section, possibly of pre-fabricated construction, was erected c. 1853. Originally this section had a canvas front verandah and the present verandah was presumably erected soon after.

Mills' Cottage at Port Fairy is one of the oldest extant building in Victoria and is of paramount importance in the heritage of the State. The complex of timber buildings dates from the first period of settlement in Port Fairy and survives virtually intact, demonstrating early building techniques in Australia. John and Charles Mills, as whalers, sealers and costal traders, were amongst the earliest settlers in Western Victoria. Charles Mills is associated with the cottage in its earliest years and John Mills with its later history until 1871.

Mills' Cottage survives virtually in original condition and is a property of the National Trust of Australia (Vic)

Part of Port Fairy Historic Area. Classified: 02/03/1981.

2010 Note: Building extensively conserved (externally) c.1990 with government funding. In deteriorating condition.

Other Names Captain John Mills' Cottage,

Hermes Number 69356

Property Number

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/>