

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: PENSURST GENERAL STORE

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: 80 Bell Street PENSURST

STUDY NUMBER: 258

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

**OTHER NAME/S
OF PLACE:** FEDERATION BUILDINGS

PRECINCT: Penshurst

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 4 **SECTION:** 17 **PARISH:** PARISH OF YALIMBA

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 475J C11; VicRoads 233 O11; located on the north side of Bell Street, in between French & Martin Streets in the centre of the township.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



General Store, 80a-c Bell St, Penshurst

Image Date: 22/04/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the building but excluding the interior and all the land.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

A large single storey timber building built to the property boundary, originally three shops, one being double and two single, and a fourth single fronted shop being added on the east side. The facade still has four entrances. Only one of the original single-leaved glazed doors survives, the other being modern glazed doors. There are five shop windows. Two, associated with former double shop, are divided into four large panes. The windows associated with the single shops are divided into six large panes. The later shop has a two paned fixed window. One new parapet unites the facade and the verandah is either much altered or largely new. The interiors of the shops are lined with tongue and groove lining boards. Internal dividing walls between the original shops have been removed. The hairdressing salon remains separate. Some historical fittings survive including shelving and large bins for the bulk storage of sugar and flour. A large earth cellar with a timber staircase and shelving survives below the former wine and spirit merchants shop. There is a contemporary storage shed behind the wine and spirit merchants shop and a substantial residence survives, although much altered, behind the middle shops. The banker manager's office and storeroom survive at the rear of No 80b.

HISTORY:

The land on which this general store stands was purchased from the Crown on 4th September 1852 by a S. W. Lutton who also purchased allotments 5 and 6 immediately to the west. This may be the Samuel Lutton who was in the Portland Bay district in 1847-8. His name has not been associated with any specific squatting run.

The early and intermediate history of this site is not yet known. The present building was constructed about 1900-01, as it has been known in Penshurst as the Federation Buildings. It was originally built as three shops, being one double and two single fronted. A further single fronted addition was made on the east side in the 1930s and used as a hairdresser. The double shop on the west side and known as 80c Bell Street has been a wine and spirit merchant since the time of its construction. The middle shops operated as a hardware, draper and bank (CBC or CBA?) at various times.

An early 20th century photograph shows that the verandah was finely decorated with moulded timber designs. Above the verandah line, the building originally bore individual stepped rectangular pediments for each shop front (Mt Rouse Historical Society).

The Collins family owned the property for many years. Phillip D. Collins came to Penshurst from Rosebrook in 1894, where he had run a dairy farm. He opened a produce store in Penshurst, and subsequently built the Federation Buildings in 1900. (Penshurst Free Press 8/2/1961)

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.12 Feeding people

3.12.5 Retailing foods and beverages

3.19 Marketing and Retailing

Theme 4: Building settlements, towns and cities

4.1 Planning urban settlements

4.1.3 Learning to live with property booms and busts.

CONDITION:

The building is in good condition throughout.

INTEGRITY:

Good degree of integrity but altered internally.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

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What is significant?

The General Store is a large single storey timber building built around 1900. It was originally built as three shops, being one double and two single fronted. A further single fronted addition was made on the east side in the 1930s and used as a hairdresser. The double shop on the west side and known as 80c Bell Street has been a wine and spirit merchant since the time of its construction. The middle shops operated as a hardware, draper and bank (CBC or CBA?) at various times. Some historical fittings survive including shelving and large bins for the bulk storage of sugar and flour, and a large earth cellar with a timber staircase and shelving survives below the former wine and spirit merchants shop. The Collins family owned the property for many years. Phillip D. Collins came to Penshurst from Rosebrook in 1894, where he had run a dairy farm. He opened a produce store in Penshurst, and subsequently built the Federation Buildings in 1900. The buildings are in good condition throughout but the integrity of the interiors has been reduced through alterations.

How is it significant?

The Penshurst General Store is of historical and architectural significance to the Southern Grampians shire and to the township of Penshurst.

Why is it significant?

The Penshurst General Store is of historical as one of the four original general stores in Penshurst and of architectural significance for its typical form.

COMPARISON:

- 242 Saddler's Shop (Former), 75 Bell Street, Penshurst
- 253 The Rouse (former Olle Family General Store), 97 Bell Street, Penshurst
- 240 Madigan's Store, Martin and Bell Streets, Penshurst
- 249 Penshurst Free Press(Former), 90 Bell Street, Penshurst

ASSESSED BY: TFH

ASSESSMENT DATE:

22-May-02

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
R V Billis and A S Kenyon	Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip	1974	89