

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** PAIR OF SHOPS

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** 91 & 91A Bell Street PENSURST

**STUDY NUMBER:** 259

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

**PRECINCT:** Penshurst

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** part of **SECTION:** 14 **PARISH:** PARISH OF YALIMBA  
9

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

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

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Pair of Shops 91 & 91a Bell St, Penshurst

**Image Date:** 22/04/02

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the building, excluding the interiors and all of the land within a radius of 5m from any edge of the building.

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## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The pair of single storey rendered brick shops, designed by W.J. Schooling, architect, in 1913, have a traditional asymmetrical form with paired recessed entrances. The façade is completed by a heavy parapet with no pediment but with panels created by slightly projecting piers standing on a deep cornice and overlapping a smaller frieze. There is a substantial post supported timber verandah on the Bell and Martin Street elevations. The frieze of the verandah is solid timber and this is supported by blank brackets. The posts have been truncated at their bases with steel poles being substituted at a height of 300mm. The stall board of the eastern shop retains its bright green tiles laid in stretcher bond. One door has been replaced. Otherwise the shop fronts are intact. The design included a tearoom behind the baker's shop. Behind the butcher's shop, there is an office, cool room, anteroom, machinery room and engine shed. This shop has been extended in the mid 20th century in cream brick and this appears to have been a work room for pickling meats.

## HISTORY:

The land on which this pair of shops stands was purchased from the Crown on 8th September 1852 by a W. McDowell.

The shops were constructed for Frank L Olle in 1913, to the design of a Penshurst architect, W J Schooling. The plans were signed by Joseph H Soderberg. Olle conducted a butcher's shop on the corner, while a bakery and tearooms operated in the second shop. During the 1920s, both shops were owned by Hannah Buckley, with the corner shop occupied by her husband, Daniel Buckley, a butcher and the other shop occupied by a baker. (SMR RB 1923 #439 and 1930 #438.)

The shop on the corner was occupied by Ubergang's butchers later in the twentieth century.

Frank Liles Olle was one of the earliest settlers in Penshurst and became one of its leading citizens. Following his death on 12th March 1914, the Penshurst Free Press published a lengthy obituary.

" 'DEATH OF MR F L OLLE'

Although it was generally known that Mr. F. L. Olle had been going through a period of illness, it came as a severe shock to the whole of the town when the announcement was made of his death, which took place at one o'clock yesterday, and a profound feeling of regret swept over the residents at the death of one who had held so high a place in their estimation. Death was due to heart failure, and the suddenness of the visitation was all the more acute as on Thursday he had been once more moving about amongst his friends. Deceased was 75 years of age. At the age of 19 years, he, in company with his father, three brothers and a sister, left Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, England, sailing for Australia in the sailing vessel "Balnaguith", and after a trying voyage of 17 weeks' duration, landed in Port Fairy in the year 1858. From that port, he came to Penshurst, then in the very remote stages of civilization. The only house now standing that existed at that time is the old residence of Mr. Robert Aitken, and the only additional structure the settle[ment] boasted was the homestead of the late Mr. David Hutton, which stood on the present site of the new police station. At this time, a black's camp graced the portion of the town where the State School now stands. For about two years after settling in Penshurst, Mr. Olle followed his trade as a carpenter, then for about three years went to live in the Casterton district, where he met his wife, then Miss Lamot. They were married 55 years ago. Returning from Casterton in 1863, Mr. Olle went in for dairying and dealing. It was some time after this, and while still in this connection that he set on foot a movement to open a butter factory locally, and it was due principally to his never failing energies and activities that the present flourishing institution came to be established. Later on he started business as a butcher, carrying on business in the old shop on the corner of

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Marten (sic) and Watton streets. From this building, as the town progressed, Mr. Olle moved into the new and splendidly up-to-date shop in which the business is now carried on. Up to the time of his illness -five weeks ago- the deceased gentleman led an active and energetic life. He was of an unselfish disposition, and took an active interest in the welfare of the town and district. For 15 years he was a member of the council of the Shire of Mount Rouse, and of that time occupied the presidential chair for a period of six years. Of the Presbyterian Church he was one of the pillars, having been a member since the inception of the Church in Penshurst in 1864. He held many important positions during that time, and has seen the Church steadily growing to its present strength, holding the honoured position of Treasurer up to his decease. For some years he held the position of president of the local Mechanics Institute for which institution he spent much time and activity. While the local Progress was in existence, he was a valuable member, being always willing to do his utmost in promoting the town's advancement. He was president of the local branch of the People's Party and was held in high esteem as a sincere member. By his charitable and genial nature, Mr. Olle had established for himself a position of respect and popularity to which he was justly entitled. We are simply expressing the sentiment of every true citizen of Penshurst when we say that the late Mr. Olle will be sadly missed as one of those old pioneers who have left the town the better through their activities. The deepest sympathy is felt for those left to mourn one who was all in all to them. He leaves a sorrowing wife and five sons, Messrs. Frank, Allan, Ernest, Edgar and Arthur, and two daughters, Mrs. J Jenkin and Miss Hannah Olle. Only two brothers and a step brother are left of deceased's family, Messrs. H J and Chas Olle (Penshurst) and Mr. Archibald Olle (NSW). The funeral will leave deceased's late residence at 2.30 pm, tomorrow for the Boram Boram cemetery."

For much of the 20th century, the Uebergang family ran the butcher's business. The family had settled at Tabor after emigrating from Germany. After being educated at the local Lutheran School Ernest Otto Uebergang assisted his father on the family property until 1905, when he commenced farming pursuits on his own account. In 1924 he disposed of his land at Croxton East, and purchased 1000 acres of first-class country at Kolor, 4 miles south-east of Penshurst.... Mr Uebergang recently acquired the butchering business of Mr Buckley, of Penshurst. He has seen the district grow from the early stages of settlement to its present thriving condition, and has played no small part in the pioneer work of this portion of the State (V&R, 270). Further information regarding the Uebergang's and their family history, occupations and ownership of the property is available in "The Mibus Family in Australia" by E. Nagorka (pp367-371).

## **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 excellent condition.

## **INTEGRITY:**

High level of integrity.

## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

What is Significant?

A pair of single storey brick shops located on the south west corner of Bell and Martin Streets in the centre

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of the township of Penshurst, designed for Frank Liles Olle by Penshurst architect, W. J Schooling in 1913. The pair of shops have a traditional asymmetrical form with paired recessed entrances, a heavy parapet and a substantial post supported timber verandah on the Bell and Martin Street elevations. Other than the replacement of one door, the shop fronts are intact. Behind the butcher's shop, there is an office, cool room, anteroom, machinery room and engine shed. This shop has been extended in the mid 20th century in cream brick and this appears to have been a work room for pickling meats. Frank Olle, a well known Penshurst grocer conducted a butcher's shop on the corner, while a bakery and tearooms operated in the second shop. The shops have had a long history of occupation by butchers and bakers. The pair of shops retain a very high level of integrity and are both in excellent condition.

How is it significant?

The pair of shops, located on the corner of Bell and Martin Streets in Penshurst are of historical and architectural significance to the township of Penshurst and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The pair of shops is historically important for its early association with Frank Liles Olle, a member of the important merchant family, the Olle's, but also an influential and important early settler in Penshurst. Frank Liles Olle was historically important in the development of Penshurst as a commercial centre, and served on a number of committees, including the Mount Rouse Shire Council, the Penshurst Progress Association and was an elder of the Presbyterian Church. The pair of shops is of further significance for its long continual use as the local butcher and baker shops, traditionally placed near each other, a tradition which continued in Penshurst well into the twentieth century. The late construction date of the pair of shops indicate that Penshurst was still developing as a commercial centre in the early twentieth century. The pair of shops are of architectural significance for its traditional asymmetrical form, and for its association with local architect, W. J Schooling. It is of further architectural significance as an intact surviving example of the Free Classical style applied in commercial federation architecture

## 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:** tth

**ASSESSMENT DATE:**

22/05/2002

## 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
Alexander Sutherland	Victoria and Its Metropolis, Vol 2	1888	66
Department of Lands and Survey	Township of Penshurst, County of Villiers	1957	
Mount Rouse Shire Council	Shire of Mount Rouse, In the Centre of the Fertile Western District of Victoria: Centenary Celebrated	1966	
R V Billis and A S Kenyon	Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip	1974	38