

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** TOBACCO KILN (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Strathkellar Road STRATHKELLAR

**STUDY NUMBER:** 419

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

**PRECINCT:** outside

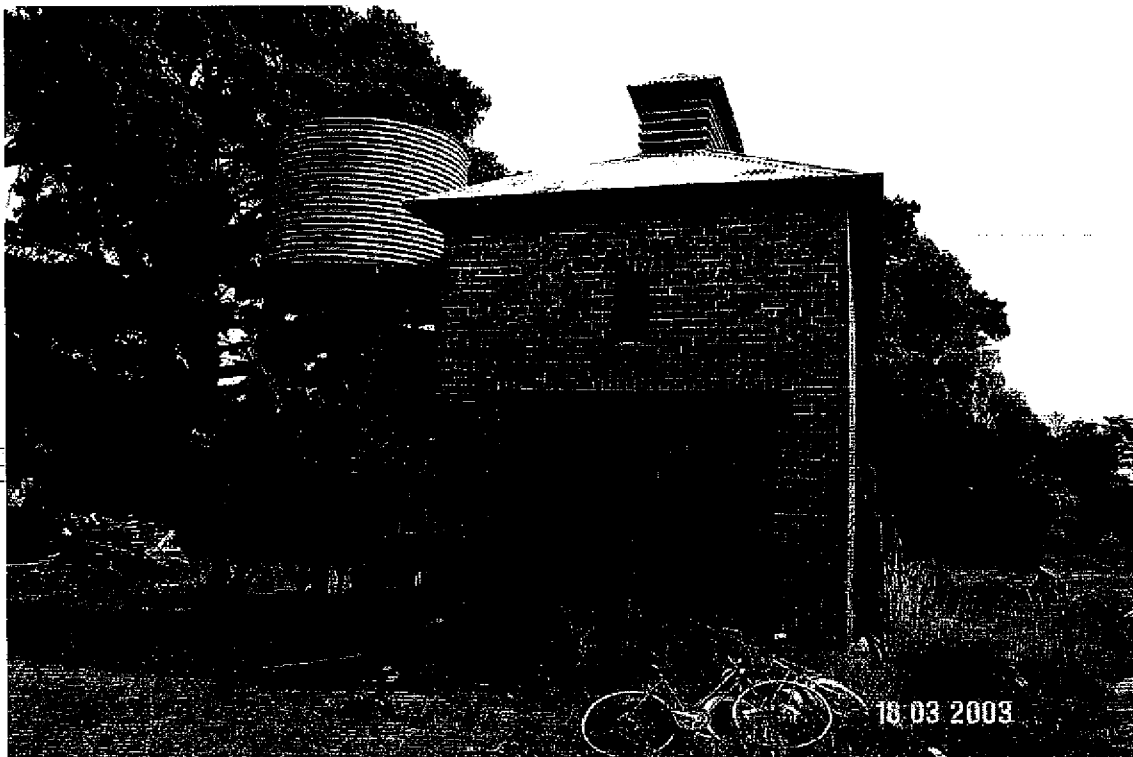
**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** 4      **SECTION:** 12      **PARISH:** PARISH OF WARRAYURE

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 432 D27; VicRoads 73 F4; located on the south side of the Strathkellar Road about 750m west of the intersection with McIntyre's Crossing Road and 3.5kms west of the railway crossing over the Glenelg Highway.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Tobacco Kiln, Glenelg Highway, Strathkellar

**Image Date:** 18/03/03

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the former tobacco kiln including its interior and all of the land within a 10 metre radius of the edge of the kiln

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** TOBACCO KILN (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Strathkellar Road STRATHKELLAR

**STUDY NUMBER:** 419

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The former tobacco kiln is located on private land, some 200 metres west of Strathkellar Road, 750m west of the intersection with McIntyre's Crossing Road and 3.5kms west of the railway crossing over the Glenelg Highway. The kiln is situated to the south of a private house and beside a windbreak of Radiata Pines. The structure is a converted garage constructed of red brick, the lower section with conventional pressed red bricks, the upper section with inferior older brick of a slightly different colour. The kiln is rectangular in plan and has a hipped roof with a louvered monitor rising from it. This is opened by means of a pivot lever. Both roofs are covered with corrugated iron. The timber double doors survive. There is a louvered opening above the doors in the former gable. Rain water tanks adjacent to the kiln are not associated with it. The interior of the kiln is untreated brick, with wooden shelves built into it for storage.

The homestead associated with the garage/kiln no longer survives although there is a well nearby and minor outbuildings. The present house was built in the 1960s.

## **HISTORY:**

Tobacco was grown as an experiment in the very late 1920s but this was short-lived. The first crop was successful but the second was affected by disease. No further crops were planted, possibly because of the Depression. The Miller Family, owners of the property at the time, converted an existing garage into a tobacco kiln for drying the crop. The property, Grasfeld, was formerly owned by the Noske Family.

The land on which the former Tobacco Kiln now stands was originally purchased from the crown by S. G Henty, who purchased much of the land in the eastern part of the Parish of Warrayure. Stephen George Henty was the fifth son of the Henty family famed as being the first settlers in Victoria. Stephen was born in Sussex 1811 and arrived in Western Australia in 1829 (Shaw, in Forth (ed.) 66). S. G Henty established the famous Merino Downs, as well as being a prominent land owner in and around Hamilton, and described as 'Portland's leading merchant' (ibid., 66). Between 1852 and 1864, Stephen George Henty owned the pastoral runs of Ardachy, Kadnood, Koroite, Mt. Sturgeon-Plains-North and Mt Sturgeon-Plains-South, Strathfillan, Talangour, Wando Vale B, and Bongmire (with William Learmonth).

Henty was considered to be a very important local man, a member of the Legislative Council, commissioner of the State Savings Bank, President of the City and Suburban Investment company. He died in Tarrington in 1870 (ibid., 66).

It is likely that Henty purchased this land after he had purchased Mt Sturgeon Plains, as this land would have been connected to his current holdings. The land was subdivided several times between 1880 and 1920, for closer settlement as well as for soldier settlement. It is not known who owned the property after it left Stephen George Henty's ownership and came into the ownership of Miller family in the 1920s.

## **THEMATIC CONTEXT:**

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

## **CONDITION:**

The building is in poor condition.

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** TOBACCO KILN (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Strathkellar Road STRATHKELLAR

**STUDY NUMBER:** 419

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

## INTEGRITY:

good degree of integrity

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The former tobacco kiln, located off Strathkellar Road, at Strathkellar the only physical fabric which remains of an experiment in tobacco growing in the late 1920s. At the time, the property was owned by the Miller family. The structure is a converted garage constructed of red brick, the lower section with conventional pressed red bricks, the upper section with inferior older brick of a slightly different colour. The kiln is rectangular in plan and has a hipped roof with a louvered monitor rising from it. This is opened by means of a pivot lever. Both roofs are covered with corrugated iron. The timber double doors survive. There is a louvered opening above the doors in the former gable. Rain water tanks adjacent to the kiln are not associated with it. The interior of the kiln is untreated brick, with wooden shelves built into it for storage. Unlike the production of flax nearby and at Penshurst, this experiment was short-lived. The kiln survives with a good degree of integrity but is in poor condition.

How is it significant?

The former tobacco kiln is of historical significance to the Strathkellar community and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former tobacco kiln is of historical significance as the only surviving evidence of an experiment to diversify crops in the Strathkellar area.

## COMPARISON:

no others exist in the study area

**ASSESSED BY:** tfh & mgt

**ASSESSMENT DATE:**

18/03/2003

## 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
A.G.L Shaw in Gordon Forth (ed)	A Biographical Dictionary of the Western District	1998	66
Mr J O Noske	Personal Communication, 18 March 2003	2003	