

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** OLLE RESIDENCE

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** 143-5 Bell Street PENSURST

**STUDY NUMBER:** 256

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

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**PRECINCT:** Penshurst

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** 6 & 7 **SECTION:** 11 **PARISH:** PARISH OF BORAMBORAM

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 475J C11; VicRoads 233 O11; located on the south side of Bell Street, between Hutton and Kennedy Streets on the west side of the township.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Olle Residence, 143 Bell St, Penshurst

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

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the house but excluding its interiors and all the land including the fences.

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## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The Olle residence is a simple, symmetrical, single-storey timber house with a verandah on three sides. The front four panelled door has fan and side lights. The front windows are single paned double hung sashes. The verandah is timber and has a bullnose roof of corrugated iron. The main roof is hipped with a central valley to the rear and is corrugated iron. The original chimneys appear to have been removed. There is a simple picket fence on the street boundary.

## **HISTORY:**

The land on which the Olle Residence stands was purchased from the Crown on 14th January 1856 by A. Cameron (Department of Lands and Survey, 1957). The first Shire of Mount Rouse rate book of 1864 lists the owner as Angus Cameron and the occupant as Alexander Cameron. These may be the squatters, Angus Cameron of Violet Creek and Alexander Cameron of Warrayure who lost his property about this time and was declared insolvent in 1863. The Penshurst property is described as one acre, house and stockyard. The present house is most unlikely to be this original. It is not known when the present house was constructed but its form, scale, materials and details suggest a date much later in the nineteenth or early twentieth century.

The Olle family had two branches. Frank Liles Olle who arrived in Penshurst in 1857. He left the town for two years to the Ararat diggings and other parts before returning to Penshurst where he worked as a carpenter and joiner. In 1870 he went into business as a butcher, grazier and baker. His biographical entry in 'Victoria and Its Metropolis' states that in 1885 he purchased a property which he had been renting for fifteen years. It consisted of a shop, bakery and residence which suggests that it was not Frank Olle who lived at 143 Bell Street.

Harry John Olle arrived in Port Fairy in 1857 with his parents as a boy. From there they proceeded to Penshurst. His biographical entry in 'Victoria and Its Metropolis' states that in 1862 Harry Olle went to Hamilton to work as an assistant for Donald M. Cameron, storekeeper. He left Hamilton in 1865 and spent twelve months with his brother in Ararat and other places returning to work in Hamilton until 1870. In 1870 he returned to Penshurst and was employed by Mr. John Earl, storekeeper. Then he went to Horsham for two years, returning to Penshurst and the employ of Mr. Earls. In 1881, he leased from a Mrs. Bond premises in Bell Street where he conducted his business of general storekeeper for many years.

The Olle family, in this second generation, participated extensively in town life.

## **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

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.4 Eating and drinking

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## **CONDITION:**

The house is in good condition.

## **INTEGRITY:**

High degree of integrity

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## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

### What is significant?

The Olle Residence is located on the south side of Bell Street, between Hutton and Kennedy Streets on the west side of the township of Peshurst. The residence dates from the Victorian period, and is a vernacular, symmetrical, single-storey timber house with a verandah on three sides. The house has been associated with the Olle family, who have been important general merchants, butchers, bakers and grocers in Peshurst since the mid nineteenth century. The family have been well represented on a number of local boards, including the Mount Rouse Shire Council. There has been no architect or builder associated with the design of the house. The house is in good condition with a high degree of integrity.

### How is it significant?

The Olle Residence at 143-5 Bell Street is of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire and to the township of Peshurst.

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### Why is it significant?

The Olle Residence is of historical significance for its connections with the Olle family, long term residents of Peshurst and important merchants in the town. The house is still in its traditional ownership.

## COMPARISON:

218 Bakery (former), Hamilton -Port Fairy Road, Byaduk  
008 Fintona, 49 Gage Street, Coleraine

**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:

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| Author                         | Title   | Year | Page |
|--------------------------------|---|------|------|
| Alexander Sutherland           | Victoria and Its Metropolis, Vol 2  | 1888 | 66   |
| Department of Lands and Survey | Township of Peshurst, 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   |