

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: GRAVE, COBBLESTONE PAVEMENT AND WC

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: 36 Stirling Street DUNKELD

STUDY NUMBER: 417

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: Dunkeld

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 9 & 10 **SECTION:** 3

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 433J7; VicRoads 229 S4

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local

WC and Pavement, Stirling Street, Sterling St, Dunkeld

Image Date: 18/03/03

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the WC and all the paving and all of the land to the western and southern property boundaries and 5.0m from the building and works.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The substantial double WC is built of coursed rockface bluestone rubble with dressed and rockface Grampians sandstone quoins and lintels. It is approximately 2.0m x 5.0m and 3.0m high to the ridge level. It has two door openings, one facing east and one facing west, the former surviving as a ledge and brace door, the latter covered with sheet metal. The internal dividing stone wall and the seats have been removed. The eastern compartment is rendered internally.

The pavement is of mixed stones, roughly textured slightly sloping to the centre and with a central drain of dressed stones for two-thirds of its length. The area is approximately 10.0m x 30.m. There are regularly spaced small mortices in the stones immediately to the north of the drain suggesting a fence or railing.

HISTORY:

S Woodhead purchased allotment 10 and A Templeton purchased allotment 9 of section 3 of the Township of Dunkeld in 1852. Templeton and Co. and Woodhead are mentioned as squatting partners in the Portland Bay district between 1848 and 1850 but not their run (B&K, 148). The former, Andrew Templeton, was the licensee of the Woolpack Inn in the early 1840s but "left for Melbourne" in 1847 so he may have been the A Templeton who led the gold escorts from Mount Alexander to Melbourne in 1851 (Marriott, 166 & 172; Garryowen, Vol. 2, 805). The latter, Samuel Woodhead, a farmer from Nottingham, owned several properties in Dunkeld as well as his farm at Adzar. In 1871, these included "Cotton's old store", possibly on the site of the national Bank, and an "empty cottage near Templeton's old store" (SMRRB, 1871, No. 245). Samuel Woodhead died at Dunkeld at the age of 66 in 1883 (PI, Reg. No. 7955).

James Gwyther built Gwyther's Family hotel on the site in 1863 and celebrated its opening in September with a grand ball and supper (Marriott, 166). The building was designed by the leading Hamilton architect, James Fox. It was a particularly fine building of two storeys and was built of bluestone with Grampians sandstone dressings. It had an irregular in plan but had the traditional corner entrance for the public bar and a residential entrance in Parker Street. Although designed to have a verandah, none was built. When it was advertised for auction in March 1865 the description read "... all that noble two-storey building stone built property ... situate in the most central and most commanding position in the rising township of Dunkeld opposite Templeton's store ... The building has been erected without any regard to expense, the principal considerations being the wants, the comforts, and the convenience of its patrons" (Marriott, 166). There were many rooms for drinking and entertaining, eleven bedrooms and a suite for the publican and his family. "This is none of your "cabaret" roadside tipping houses, but a first-rate hotel, such as reminds you of those on the great roads in England" (Marriott, 167). Gwyther was the licensee, although perhaps not the owner, until 1865 (Marriott, 167).

The source of James Gwyther's capital is not known. After selling the hotel he became a farmer. He was English and had married Mary Ann McKinnon in 1858 (PI, Reg. No. 1357). They had six children, two of whom died in infancy (PI, Reg. No. 15043, 8619, 21947, 21449, 8518, 15285, 6470, 8312). By the early 1870s he was rated by the Shire of Mount Rouse for 578 acres of freehold land and 150 acres owned by the Crown (SMRRB, 1871, No. 172). Mary Ann died in 1887 aged 52 and James appears to have re-married Mary Elizabeth Inwood the year after (PI, Reg. No. 13866, 6895).

Charles Armytage of Mount Sturgeon Station owned the hotel in 1870 with George Docherty Senior as the "Innkeeper" (SMRRB, 1870, No. 107). The Armytage partnership owned the hotel, and was sometimes the official licensee, until the early twentieth century. In 1871 Edwin Collins became the licensee. He had been first the butcher and then the publican at the Royal Mail Hotel, the Family Hotel's main rival (SMRRB, 1870, No. 75; 1871, No. 151; Marriott, 168). He was from Brixton in Surrey and had married Mary Pook

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before he immigrated to Victoria with his young brother, Richard William in 1857. His wife immigrated in 1858 bringing their baby, daughter, Jane Sophia. They had another child, Richard William Edwin, who was born in Dunkeld in 1862 (PI, Reg. No. 20396).

It was a staging post for the Cobb and Co. coaches under the direction of Henry Hoyt. "The ... Family Inn provided food and comfort for the travellers while the cobblestones rang to the sound of teams being changed for the next stage" (Clabburn, 45). Edwin Collins is named as the licensee in 1876 in the Hamilton Spectator's Almanac when the hotel is noted as a depot for passengers and parcels (Clabburn, 82). But in 1877, he opened the new Railway Inn to take advantage of the opening of the Ararat-Hamilton railway. Collins died at Dunkeld in 1882, aged 51 with his wife Mary and his son Adolphus Augustus Collins continuing to run the Railway Hotel (PI, Reg. No. 1226; Marriott, 169). From 1901 until 1907 Adolphus Winter Lineker, the second husband of Jane Sophia Collins, was the licensee of the Railway hotel. Then, in 1908 he became the licensee of the Family Hotel. Later, in 1912 Adolphus Arthur Young was the licensee.

The Family Hotel was delicensed early in the twentieth century and burned down in the 1944 bush fire. All that remains is the double WC and paved area at the rear with access off Stirling Street. The last owner was Arthur Young, a well-known beekeeper and was an official on the Victorian Beekeeping Board. He was the last owner of the 2 storied Family Inn until it burnt down in the 1944 fires (Clabburn, et al., 1995, p. 51).

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.19 Marketing and retail

3.22 Lodging people

Theme 8: Developing Australia's Cultural Life

8.4 Eating and drinking

CONDITION:

The WC is in poor condition but is structurally sound. The pavement is in fair condition.

INTEGRITY:

relatively intact although only a remnant of former hotel development

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

A grave, cobblestone pavement and water closet are located on the site of the former hotel in Stirling Street Dunkeld. The substantial double WC is built of coursed rockface bluestone rubble with dressed and rockface Grampians sandstone quoins and lintels. The internal dividing stone wall and the seats have been removed. The pavement is of mixed stones, roughly textured slightly sloping to the centre and with a central drain of dressed stones for two-thirds of its length. There are regularly spaced small mortices in the stones immediately to the north of the drain suggesting a fence or railing. The grave, cobblestone pavement and water closet are the remaining physical fabric of Gwyther's Family hotel, opened in 1863. The grave, cobblestone pavement and WC are in good condition and retain a very high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The grave, cobblestone, pavement and WC are of historic significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historical significance as the last remaining fabric of Gwyther's Family Hotel, opened in 1863,

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and the only two storey hotel in Dunkeld. The grave shows a previous way of life, where early burials were able to take place outside of cemeteries or church yards, and the danger and rough nature of the early township. The WC and cobblestones also give insight into the running of an early hotel site, complete with outside lavatory, and a cobbled courtyard leading to what may have been stables. All the elements of the site are of historical significance.

COMPARISON:

91 Lock-up, Stables and WC, Parker and Templeton Sts, Dunkeld

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
Alexander Sutherland, ed. Don Garden	Victoria and Its Metropolis, Past and Present, Vol 2 Hamilton a Western District History	1888	61 1984 various
Pamela M Marriott	Time Gentlemen Please!	2002	166-8