

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: HOUSE

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: 580 Grantville-Glen Alvie Road ALMURTA

STUDY NUMBER: 233

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER: HO3

OTHER NAME/S OF PLACE: ALMURTA POST OFFICE

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Bass Coast Shire

PARISH: PARISH OF CORINELLA

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



House, 580 Grantville-Glen Alvie Road, Almurta

Image Date: March 2002

EXTENT OF LISTING:

From the front boundary and nominally 20 metres all around house and including the mature trees.

HOUSE

Heritage Overlay No **HO3**

Property No

File Number

Heritage Study No **233**

Heritage Grading

HPD Number **183**

HI Number

VHR Number

Other Names/s **ALMURTA POST OFFICE**

Precinct

Group Number

Extra Files

Location **580 Grantville-Glen Alvie Road ALMURTA**

PARISH OF CORINELLA

COUNTY OF MORNINGTON

Planning Authority

Ward Leadbeater

Access Description

Map Number

0

Map Scale **1:100000**

Latitude

Longitude

UMG Zone

Easting

Northing

Location Validity

Spatial Accuracy

Extent of Listing

From the front boundary and nominally 20 metres all around house and including the mature trees.

Published Extent of Listing

Significance **Local**

Statement of Significance

The residence at 580 Grantville-Glen Alvie Road, Almurta, is historically and aesthetically significant. This house is demonstrative of an important phase in the development of the area. Originally the first post-office in Almurta, the house served as a focal point for the community in its distribution of mail, and as a local telephone exchange, significant aspects of the growth and continuity of the community. The established garden now provides an appropriate setting.

Gazettal Details

Permit Exemptions

Exemptions Policy

Assessment Against Criteria

AHC A4. Important for association with events, developments or cultural phrases which have had a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of the nation, state, region or community.

AHC C2. Importance for information contributing to a wider understanding of the history of human occupation of Australia

Date Assessed

26/07/2004

Assessed By **Fay Woodhouse**

Comparisons

Rare Assessment

Intact Assessment

Include in VHR

Include in RNE

Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

Recommended Management

While the house is generally intact, regular painting to ensure the weatherboards remain in good condition is recommended.

Heritage Act Categories

Heritage Item Groups

Heritage Item Categories

Title Details

Construction Started

Circa No

Completed

Circa No

Physical Description

The residence at 580 Grantville-Glen Alvie Road, Almurta, is a single-storey house with off-form concrete walls and a gabled corrugated galvanised steel roof. It has a vented gabled end and eaves lined with V-jointed boards. The recessed front verandah has timber posts with a timber valance and brackets. The timber-framed windows are of modern origin. The house is set in an established garden featuring a

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Canary Island Palm (*Phoenix canariensis*) and front hedge. The property also contains a modern post and nail corrugated steel garage and a gable roofed weatherboard outbuilding.

Physical Condition and/or Archaeological Potential

Good

Usage Residence

Associated People

Historical Notes

This house is situated on a portion of land located between the intersection of the original Glen Alvie-Almurta Road dating from the c.1880s, and its new route running further south, created during realignment works. The opening of the Almurta Railway Station in 1910 was an important stimulus for the development of the township of Almurta and was a focal point for the surrounding farming district. This house is believed to have originally been built as a post office and manual telephone exchange between 1925 and 1927 (p.c.). Mary Young was an early post-mistress, followed by a Mr Ewings who died c. 1965 (p.c.). The post office was purchased by the present owner in 1966, and the building is now a private house (p.c.).

Historic Themes

Thematic Environmental History

12.5 Post Offices & Telegraph Exchanges

Postal services in Australia were initially a government monopoly following legislation regulating postal services and deliveries throughout the colonies. The distribution of mail was assisted by Cobb & Co. Coach services. In capital cities, mail was often delivered three times a day by the 1880s. From 1901 the Commonwealth Government took over the running of post and telegraph offices. In the areas of Keroon, Almurta and Woodleigh, mail originally came by steamer from Hastings to Grantville, where it was sorted for locations up to 20 miles inland. Initially delivery was twice per week to outlying areas, but this was soon increased to three times per week. After a post office opened in Loch in 1888, mail was sent through for Woodleigh and delivered 'by jinker in a sealed bag twice a week'. As the districts opened up to increasing numbers of farmers, storekeepers often doubled as post and telegraph offices.

Listings

References

Author	Title	Year	Shelf	Location
Frank Garry, pers comm.				
Frank Norton	pers. Comm.	2004		
Graeme Davison	'Postal Services' in The Oxford Companion to Australian History	2001		
Jan Harper	Three Stops on the Line: A History of Keroon, Almurta and Woodleigh	2003		
Jim Caldwell, Pers comm.				
Les Blake	Place Names of Victoria	1977		

Conservation Plans

Owner Type

Section 32 Recommendation

Owners/Occupants/Managers

Other Notes

Application Detail

Adviser Comments

Planning Scheme Amendments

Overlay Controls

Planning Scheme Schedule

External Paint Controls?

No

Included in Vic Heritage Register? No

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Internal Alteration Controls? No

Prohibited uses may be permitted? Yes

Tree Controls? Yes

Name of incorporated plan No

Outbuildings/fences not exempt? No

Aboriginal Heritage Place? No