

a) Workshed

Development History.

Built in 1972, the shed served as works depot for the northern section of the Kosciusko National Park. For a period of time, the northern head office area was based at Yarrangobilly caves. The existing visitors centre was used as a head office for the northern section of the park. The depot is of simple prefabricated structural steel construction.

Construction History.

Since the time of its construction, the depot has not been greatly modified.

Cultural Significance.

The depot is similar to many others, its cultural significance value is low.

b) Rangers House.

Development History.

Known also as the 'married quarters', the cottage was built using prisoner labour on the plateau south of Caves House in 1966-68. The plateau area itself was used as a garden, prior to being developed by the N.P.W.S. It also accommodated a meteorological station for some time.

The cottage faces onto a cleared area, once used for helicopter (management) services prior to the arboretum developing to a height that inhibited the continuation of this service. The cottage has had a number of sheds and outhouses attached to it.

Construction History.

The cottage has not been greatly modified except for minor alterations and repairs since its construction.

Cultural Significance.

The cottage is a non-unique facility. Its cultural significance is low.

c) Asbestos Cement Clad Cottage.

Development History.

Built next to the above ground fire fighting water tank, the cottage and its outbuildings is rudimentary in contemporary construction terms.

Construction History.

The cottage was built with prison labour between 1966 and 1968.

Cultural Significance.

The cultural significance of this facility is low.

Cottage No 2

nursery

d) Pump and Fuel Stores Area.

Development History.

Established during the late 1960's, this area as well as being used as a general storage area, was also used as an open air storage area for relics associated with the 1901 - 1917 accommodation facilities. Fuel stores and boilers from this building are located here as are old hydro high pressure lines. All relics are in very poor condition.

Construction History.

The storage area was established in conjunction with the cottage and workshop developments in this area.

Cultural Significance.

Due to the number of relics stored in the area, the site has a low to medium cultural significance value. If relics were relocated, the significance of the area would be low.

e) Hydro Building.

Development History.

Built in the 1950's, the building was constructed to serve the diesel and hydro systems. It replaced the earlier building sited near the stables.

Construction History.

The building has been modified as and when required, when new power units have been installed.

Cultural Significance.

Due to its relationship with a unique infrastructure facility for the area, the significance of this building is low to medium.

f) Foot bridge.

Development History.

The existing foot bridges were constructed in the 1970's, and reflect the alignment of former bridges and access roads.

Constructional History.

These facilities have been altered from time to time.

Cultural Significance.

These built elements mark former access roads and so have a low to medium value of significance.

g) Picnic Facilities.

Development History.

The picnic facilities were built in the 1960's and

and 1970's by prison labour and the N.P.W.S.

Construction History.

Various facilities were built when demand dictated.

Cultural Significance.

The cultural significance value of these elements is low.

h) N.P.W.S. Stores.

Development History.

Many stores have been built around the area for N.P.W.S. use or support functions. They have varied in size and locations. Some have been retained and some have been removed as required.

Construction History.

Stores were primarily constructed after 1966.

Cultural Significance.

Due to the fact that some stores have been associated with sites of significance and have been built on former foundations of earlier structures, the significance of these sites varies from low to medium.

17. Memorials.

Hoad Entry Gates.

Development History.

Built in 1957, the gates celebrate the contribution of Leo Hoad to the area.

Construction History.

The gates have been greatly modified since they were constructed.

Cultural Significance.

The cultural significance of this memorial is of low to medium value.

From the feature review it is evident that the Yarran-gobilly Caves Precinct is a cultural landscape containing a predominant cultural use pattern.

The major significance of the precinct is that it provides evidence of the changing nature of social attitudes to the natural environment and specifically the changes in attitude to the concept of recreation. The precinct provides evidence to changes from Victorian concepts of the natural environment being beneficial to the individual to the attitude that machinery can manage a natural environment. Aspects of the cultural significance of the precinct that became apparent were:

v) Carpark.

Development History.

The former access track was converted into a road in the 1960's. A carpark was built at this time.

Construction History.

As stated in development history.

Cultural Significance.

The road and carpark is on the alignment of the former access track. It is of low to medium significance.

w) Historic Rubbish Heaps.

Development History.

The sink holes near the Leo Hoad gateway were used as rubbish tips. Subsequently they act as valuable resources in tracing the development of the cave area.

Construction History.

Not applicable. Deposition closed in the 1970's.

Cultural Significance.

The site exhibit the changing management and use patterns of this unique tourist precinct and are therefore of medium to high significance.

x) Associated Sheds.

Development History.

The sheds identified vary in date and function. Some sheds were constructed in the late 1800's, other were built as late as the 1960's. Information that is available suggests they were not unique.

Construction History.

Varied.

Cultural Significance.

The sheds are of low significance.

y) Visitors Office.

Development History.

Formerly known as the caretakers cottage, the building was constructed in 1919. It was used for varying accommodation needs until the 1970's when the verandah was enclosed and it became a management office and information centre. It is currently being used in that manner.

Construction History.

The verandah was enclosed in the 1970's and the original fence surrounding the building has been removed.

Cultural Significance.

Due to the extant nature of this building and its relationship to the development of the unique tourist facility, the significance of the site is medium to high.

z) Ticket Office.

Development History.

Built in 1926, the ticket office was the focus for guests meeting prior to visiting the caves. The office sold tickets and provided an audible notice of impending tours by sounding a bell on the cliff face above. The facility is today used as a toilet block.

Construction History.

The office was built in 1926 and modified at an unknown time to provide toilet facilities. Suggestions were made in 1976 to further modify the building to provide more toilets.

Cultural Significance.

The building is a significant feature that relates to the tourist use of the area. It is classed as having a medium to high rating.

I) Cave Entry Gates.

Development History.

Gates have been put in place on caves since the turn of century.

Construction History.

Gates construction periods vary. Many remain intact and are replaced when damaged.

Cultural Significance.

Due to the fact that the gates are part of the management programme for the control of people into Karst features that are intrinsic to the significance of the area, the value of gates varies from low to high depending of age and intent of control.

II) Little Plain Buildings.

Development History.

Little Plain was used as a way station for Glory Hole and the caves. Buildings were said to have been constructed on the plain to serve this function, one of them being a store operated by the Harris family.

Construction History.

No extant features remain. Dates of construction have not been determined.

Cultural Significance.

Due to the building association with the unique tourist facility functions they served, the site is of low to medium significance.

III) 1888 Fence Line.

Development History.

The home paddock was built to allow animals be grazed in close proximity to the caves house area.

Construction History.

Built in 1888, the paddock was modified prior to 1922 to exclude the stables.

Cultural Significance.

Due to the structures association with the unique tourist function it served, the site is of low to medium significance.

13. Landscapes.

Development History.

The landscape of the area was first modified by the Glory Farm settlers. Since that time (1860's), further modification has taken place for expediency purposes:

- . growing gardens
- . growing orchards
- . growing visual screens.

And for aesthetic reasons in an attempt to modify the visual character of the area to a form suitable for a hospitality resort related primarily to a naturalist's retreat.

Evidence of this activity is most common along the caves valley floor area and plateau area immediately to the south of caves house.

The river valley floor also exhibits landscaping intervention, as does the Little Plain area. The natural environment was considered integral to the setting of the hospitality resort and was maintained where possible.

The road and path system is also an important part of this landscape having been carefully sited to take advantage of the natural environment in some instances. The first access road was built in 1890.

Cultural Significance.

The varying degrees of cultural significance are summarised. It should be noted that the development period 1900 - 1940 illustrated the most aesthetic landscape intervention period in landscape development.

a) Caves valley floor area and plateau:

Existing native species - Medium to high significance