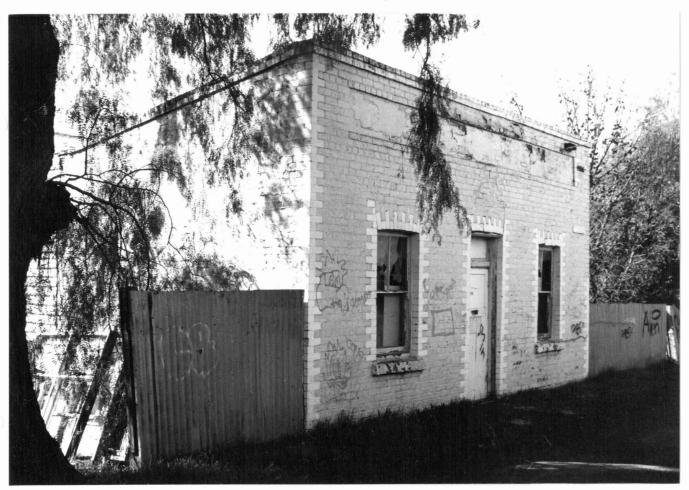# JOBS GULLY, LATER JOBS GULLY RAILWAY HOTEL.
HOTEL
374 EAGLEHAWK ROAD, CALIFORNIA GULLY

SURVEY DATE: 1991-2

STUDY GRADING: B

CONSTRUCTION DATE: 1874-7

FIRST OWNER : BIRD, EDWIN

CITATION:

History

Built: 1874-7

Edwin Bird, a miner, built a house on CA490, Section M, in 1874.[1] In 1876 he had improvements made to the residence, causing the Annual Valuation to rise 55% to £20.[2] He obtained ownership of the property by government grant on March 15, 1877, and converted the residence to an hotel, increasing the Annual Valuation to £25.[3] Bird was listed as a hotel keeper, Jobs Gully, California Gully in Victorian directories of the early 1880s[4].

1 RB1874, 1133
2 RB1876, 1145

During the 1880s and early 1890s, William Chambers was the publican in what was listed in directories as the Jobs Gully Railway Hotel.[1] The railway connection to Eaglehawk occurred in 1876, coinciding with the hotel's debut[2]. By 1897, William Bruce, a Bendigo brewer, had purchased the property and leased it to publicans, William and Jane Bellamy, during the early 1900s.[3] Bruce converted the hotel to a house in 1909 and rented it for 6/6d. to various miners until he sold the property to Antonio Pianta in 1914.[4] A wood merchant and carter, Pianta and probably his wife, Catherine Pianta, owned and occupied the property until after 1962.[5]

Description

The front brick wing of this site bears the name 'Hotel' on its parapet panel. Beyond that, a skillion parapet form extends one room depth, to connect to a timber section which appears much later than the old hotel (1920s-30s?).

Although painted, the brickwork appears to have been in two colours (red, cream) with simulated quoining at corners and openings. Openings have segment-arch heads and windows are double-hung sashes. The door is an Edwardian type, presumably having replaced the original four-panel type. An old metal street sign 'Mt. Korong Road' is on the wall. Large Pepper Trees flank the building and a remnant chain-wire (c1920s-30s) fence, which reused an earlier strut Oregon balustrade section, survives in part.

External Integrity

Bricks have been painted, glazing removed and the front door replaced. The rear wings have either been extensively altered or replaced, as has the perimeter fencing.

Context

Now facing the stone and brick railway overpass, the former hotel's public role is less obvious. Basalt pitcher street channels and gravelled footpaths reflect some of its former setting.

Significance

Although simple architecturally, the old hotel's integrity to its construction date allows expression of some 30 years as a public house and its continuing associations after that date. By its relatively isolated location, with the adjoining bridge works providing some historical context of the railway which inspired its name, the hotel still expresses its former use and setting strongly.

21 RB1877, 1183; Sandhurst Parish Plans. Sheet 7
22 BD1880-1
1   WD1888-9;RB1883, 1155; RB1892,1269
2   see Harrigan
3   RB1897, 1407; RB1903-04, 1457; RB1908- 9, 1533
4   RB1909-10, 1525; RB1910-11, 1000; RB1914, 1031
5   RB1925, 570; RB1936-37, 1177; D1962