

27/01/2011
C6**SCHEDULE 2 TO THE SIGNIFICANT LANDSCAPE OVERLAY**Shown on the planning scheme map as **SLO2****MOUNT ROUSE AND CRATER RESERVE****1.0**27/01/2011
C6**Statement of nature and key elements of landscape**

The Mount Rouse Crater Reserve is located at the Termination of the Mount Rouse Tourist Road, approximately five kilometres south of the township of Peshurst. The reserve consists of 63 Hectares around the summit of Mount Rouse, an extinct volcano that has a large crater in the centre. The lower slopes of the reserve have had the indigenous vegetation denuded, and there are substantial plantings of Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) on the higher slopes, particularly on the north western and north eastern sides. There are some built structures within the reserve, a fire tower located on the summit, steps up to a lookout and car park. Major Mitchell named Mount Rouse in 1836, presumably after the early Sydney settler, Richard Rouse who established Rouse Hill. The Mountain was in the centre of the 100 square mile 'Reserve', which as the Mount Rouse Aboriginal Protectorate from the 1840s. The Protectorate failed and from about 1852 the township of Peshurst began to develop centred on the Protectorate's remaining buildings, now the Police Reserve. The current reserve dates from the 1850s, when land immediately around the crater was reserved as a "Public Park" and a water reserve. The Mount Rouse Reserve was formally gazetted in 1870. Plantings of exotic species, such as buffalo grass, Monterey Pines and the removal of indigenous vegetation have led to serious erosion on the Mountain. A revegetation program started in the 1960s has halted this, planting a number of species of native trees and shrubs. Quarrying has been undertaken on the northeast face of Mount Rouse since the nineteenth century. The reserve is in good condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

The Mount Rouse Crater Reserve is of historical, social and aesthetic significance to the Southern Grampians Shire and to the township of Peshurst.

The Mount Rouse and Crater Reserve is of historical significance for its associations with the very early squatting run of John Cox and with the Aboriginal Protectorate. It is of continuing historical significance for its development as a cultural landmark through various planting programs. It is of social significance for its role as a recreation reserve. It is of aesthetic significance for its association with the homestead, Kolor and its landscaping, located on the western slope.

2.027/01/2011
C6**Landscape character objective to be achieved**

To protect the appearance and presentation of the Mount Rouse Crater Reserve.

3.027/01/2011
C6**Permit requirement**

A permit is required to remove, destroy or lop any native vegetation.

4.027/01/2011
C6**Decision guidelines**

The responsible authority will take into account the impact of the proposal on the qualities of the landscape in considering any application for buildings and works or vegetation removal.

The impact of the siting, height and design of any proposed development and the view of that development from the rest of the township of Peshurst and the Port Fairy-Hamilton Road will be considered.

The use of new or existing vegetation to screen the development will be considered.

Reference Document: Southern Grampians Heritage Study 2004 Datasheets 272 and 288.