

## Abstract

The connections between Ned Kelly, his family and the Kelly Gang in Beechworth are myriad. Beyond the neatly formed official precinct that includes the court house and the goal, there are other buildings that are strongly associated with the Kelly story. But within the context of the story of an individual man who was hanged for murder in 1880, there are other stories. This paper will examine the way the built heritage holds as many stories as Ned Kelly's and will suggest that once these have been examined, the built environment becomes symbolic of broader issues that reflect an often forgotten history. Why were the colonial authorities so anxious to stamp a form of permanence with their buildings, made from local granite, on the town? What did the railway station or the asylums mean? The built heritage is often far richer than we realise when it comes to understanding the meaning of a place.

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