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# Nathania Springs



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## Location

Olinda-Monbulk Road Monbulk, YARRA RANGES SHIRE

## Municipality

YARRA RANGES SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO65

## Heritage Listing

Yarra Ranges Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 5, 2000

Before European settlement, the Nathania Springs were significant to the Aborigines who used the area as a sanctuary and brought their wounded to shelter beside them until their strength returned. After European settlement, the springs became a very popular tourist attraction and the guest house and tea rooms which were established there, during the early years of this century, became one of the most popular in Victoria. Much of the original guest house survives as part of the present Blue Peacock Restaurant, and the springs and beautiful semi-native gardens around them survive, although overgrown. (Tansley, 1978)

Heritage Study/Consultant Yarra Ranges - Shire of Yarra Ranges Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2000;  
Other Names Blue Peacock Restaurant & Gardens, Guest House,  
Hermes Number 115629  
Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

Established c.1900 by Bennie Simcox. It has a mortised frame of adzed timber, and is covered with weatherboards and a corrugated iron roof. The rooms are lined with pine lining-boards and the windows have the original small panes. It contains the original guest house dining room, lounge room, etc. The bedroom wing of the old guest house has been demolished, and the main dining room of the Blue Peacock Restaurant constructed in its place.

When the guest house was established, many varieties of exotic trees were planted amongst the native bush around the springs, and these gardens attracted thousands of visitors annually. Today, even in an overgrown state, these semi-native gardens are very beautiful and rock-lined paths wind to the seven natural springs. (Tansley, 1978)

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*