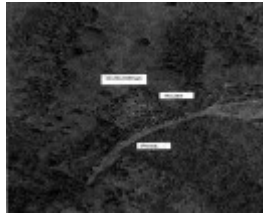

HO200 - Hill, later Birch farm complex, 945 Eltham Yarra Glen Road, Watsons Creek



HO200 - Hill, later Birch farm complex - cottage from street



HO200 - Hill, later Birch farm complex - Plan prepared from recent aerial image



HO200 - Hill, later Birch farm complex - Standard design dairy erected in 1935

Location

945 Eltham Yarra Glen Road WATSONS CREEK, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO200

Heritage Listing

Nillumbik Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 1, 2009

HERITAGE VALUE 2005: Local

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT

What is significant?

Fabric associated with:

- the Victorian-era,
- the Hill & Birch family tenure.

How is it significant?

Hill family later Birch family complex is historically and architecturally significant to the Shire:

- for the distinctive and early building techniques displayed in its construction (vertical slabs) (Criterion B2)
- for the association with pioneering families of the Christmas Hills area, Hill and Birch (Criterion A4, H1)
- for the informal nature of the land tenure, particularly given the number of buildings in the complex, tenure typically associated with gold mining areas such as this one (Criterion A4).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Nillumbik - C13 Heritage Stage 2 Final Report Revised Citation, Graeme Butler and Assoc., 2001;
Hermes Number	118819
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

DESCRIPTION

The house has a steep but simply gabled roof form clad with corrugated iron, vertical adzed hardwood slab front wall construction, split palings to the gable ends; rubble freestone chimney at one end (with added gsi flue), pole-framed verandah (rebuilt?); six-pane double-hung sash windows; T&G bead-edge boarded ledged & braced door; and paling clad rooms added at verandah ends. A slab-clad large fireplace is at the north corner of the house, with a gsi upper cladding added and an internal lining of rubble stone.

The rear facade is different construction, being drop-slab, and sits beneath a rear skillion addition to the main gabled form: this may be more recent construction. The house appears to have been once set up for public display and may have been recreated in part for that purpose.

Outbuildings are reached by a track along the east side of the house, including what may have been a creamery (typical standard inter-war design clad with corrugated iron and lined with 1938 Lysaght Queens Head Australia galvanised sheet iron) and a paling clad gabled out-house. Timber outbuildings of differing eras are to the north-west of the house, with pole framing and paling infill construction and Redcliffe brand corrugated iron. Post and rail (front) and split paling (rear) fence remnants line the front boundary. Pepper trees part of house yard landscape .

Integrity

Integrity

(See above)

Outbuildings in poor repair.

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/>