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## HO64 - Plumpton Park



Plumpton Park

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### Location

412-518 Plumpton Road DIGGERS REST, Melton Shire

### Municipality

MELTON CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO64

### Heritage Listing

Melton City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Plumpton Park at 412 Plumpton Road Diggers Rest is significant as an intact example of a small early twentieth century farmstead with a moderately intact interwar homestead Bungalow styled dwelling. Built c.1922, the house has experienced some alterations.

The house at Plumpton Park, 412 Plumpton Road, is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level (AHC D.2). Although altered and extended towards the rear, the house still demonstrates original design qualities of an interwar homestead Bungalow style. These qualities include the steeply pitched hipped roof form, together with

the minor hipped roof that projects towards the side and the broken back return verandah formed under the main roof. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the asymmetrical composition, single storey height, horizontal timber weatherboard wall cladding, deep red painted and lapped galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, broad eaves with exposed timber rafters, timber verandah posts, capped timber verandah balustrade, timber framed double hung windows with nine paned upper sashes and the timber framed front doorway. The windbreak of mature cypresses contributes to the setting of the place.

Plumpton Park at 412 Plumpton Road, is historically significant at a LOCAL level (AHC A4). It is an example of the small farming established in the wake of the break-up of the large pastoral estates that dominated the Shire of Melton in the nineteenth century, in particular those associated with the Clarke estate (AHC A.4 and D.2). This was a turning point in the history of Melton Shire. With the name Plumpton Road, its name recalls Australia's first 'Plumpton' greyhound coursing enclosure, built by Sir WJ Clarke to the south west of the farmstead. This site is also significant for the adjacent Clarke's Plumpton Dam (identified separately), and for Harry Houdini's 1910 flight, one of the claimants to the first powered flights in Australia.

Overall, Plumpton Park at 412 Plumpton Road is of LOCAL significance.

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|---------------------------|--|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Melton - Shire of Melton Heritage Study phase 2, David Maloney, David Rowe, Pamela Jellie, Sera Jane Peters, 2007; |
| Construction dates        | 1922,  |
| Other Names               | 412-518 Plumpton Road, Diggers Rest,   |
| Hermes Number             | 30070  |
| Property Number           |  |

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## Physical Description 1

Physical Description -

Plumpton Park at 412 Plumpton Road, Diggers Rest is a small farmstead with a rural setting comprising a single storey timber dwelling with adjacent outbuildings, windbreak of mature cypress trees and rudimentary homestead garden characterised by open grassed areas and young shrubs and plants mainly in perimeter garden beds.

The asymmetrical, single storey, interwar homestead Bungalow styled house is characterised by a steeply pitched hipped roof form, together with a minor hipped roof that projects towards the side and a broken back return verandah formed under the main roof. These roof forms are clad in early deep red painted and lapped galvanised corrugated steel. Broad overhangs with exposed timber rafters are features of the eaves.

A feature of the design is the return verandah. It is supported by introduced square timber posts that have decorative timber brackets. A capped timber balustrade forms the verandah boundary.

Other early features of the design include the timber framed double hung windows with nine paned upper sashes, and the timber framed front doorway.

A flat roofed verandah and skillion wing at the rear and side have been introduced.

## Integrity

Integrity - Moderately Intact

## **Physical Conditions**

Physical Condition - Fair

## **Historical Australian Themes**

*Shire of Melton Historical Themes: 'Farming'.*

*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/>*