
SPRINGDALE



Springvale

Location

190 GWYTHER SIDING ROAD, LEONGATHA SOUTH, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO64

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 19, 2022

What is significant?

'Springdale', the former Martin residence, designed by H. Desbrowe Annear and constructed in 1905 at 190 Gwyther Siding Road, Leongatha South. It is set at a distance from the road obscured behind a recent brick house. It faces east, parallel with the road, and is based on a rectangular plan with a low hip roof and a symmetrical projecting gable to the east around which a splayed verandah projected from the main roof planes is formed.

The main body of the walls of the building are sheathed in narrow hardwood weatherboards above which a wide panelled roughcast frieze is carried around the perimeter, below the wide bracketed, boxed eaves. The roughcast

panelled gable verandah front projects to the east above a bank of seven casement windows with hopper above. The perimeter valance of the verandah is in a close spaced ladder frames the bottom chord of which is arched in sensuous asymmetrical curves between the posts. The verandah balustrades, which had a similar ladder frame with a swagged rail, have been removed, but lean against the side of the house. The verandah detailing matches that of the Chadwick House at 32-34 The Eyrie, Eaglemont.

At the south west corner, the hip roof has been extended to provide service rooms. The chimneys are of brick with simple battered, rendered caps.

Internally, the two front living rooms are lined to door head height with wide thin North American redwood panels, now very dark, which is also used throughout the main rooms for window seats, doors, skirtings, architraves, fireplace surrounds and false ceilings that are integrated into the overall design. The service areas are lined in tongue and groove boards. In the two main rooms (once known as the "Ballroom" and the "Drawing Room"), the ceilings of v-jointed boards are carried on exposed rafters sloping from the sides up to a deep central beam. A 1500mm wide sliding door, which is concealed within the wall, connects the rooms. A central hall behind the main room services the rear porch, a hallway to three bedrooms and the kitchen.

How is it significant?

'Springdale', the former Martin residence is of local historic and aesthetic significance to South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant?

Historically, it demonstrates the important phase of development associated with the expansion of the dairying industry in the early part of the twentieth century, which led to increased prosperity that enabled landowners to construct more substantial residences. (AHC criteria - A.4 and D.2)

Aesthetically, it is a rare (and possibly unique) rural example of the residential work of the important Victorian architect, Harold Desbrowe Annear. Externally, the design is closely related to his acclaimed houses at The Eyrie, while also exploring a compact and effective form and simplified roof form. Internally, it is notable for the detailing and material palette that are typical of Annear's work. As such, it is unique within the Shire, and the Gippsland region as a whole. (AHC criteria - B.2, E.1 and F.1)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1905, 1905, 1905,
Architect/Designer	Annear, Harold Desbrowe, Harold Desbrowe Annear,
Other Names	Former Martin residence,
Hermes Number	30768
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Springdale, the former Martin residence was designed by the important Victorian architect Harold Desbrowe Annear in 1905. It is set at a distance from the road obscured behind a recent brick house. It faces east, parallel with the road, and is based on a rectangular plan with a low hip roof and a symmetrical projecting gable to the east around which a splayed verandah projected from the main roof planes is formed.

The main body of the walls of the building are sheathed in narrow hardwood weatherboards above which a wide panelled roughcast frieze is carried around the perimeter, below the wide bracketed, boxed eaves. The roughcast panelled gable verandah front projects to the east above a bank of seven casement windows with hopper above. The perimeter valance of the verandah is in a close spaced ladder frames the bottom chord of which is arched in sensuous asymmetrical curves between the posts. The verandah balustrades, which had a similar ladder frame with a swagged rail, have been removed, but lean against the side of the house. The verandah detailing matches that of the Chadwick House at 32-34 The Eyrie, Eaglemont.

At the south west corner, the hip roof has been extended to provide service rooms. The chimneys are of brick

with simple battered, rendered caps.

Internally, the two front living rooms are lined to door head height with wide thin North American redwood panels, now very dark, which is also used throughout the main rooms for window seats, doors, skirtings, architraves, fireplace surrounds and false ceilings that are integrated into the overall design. The service areas are lined in tongue and groove boards. In the two main rooms (once known as the "Ballroom" and the "Drawing Room"), the ceilings of v-jointed boards are carried on exposed rafters sloping from the sides up to a deep central beam. A 1500mm wide sliding door, which is concealed within the wall, connects the rooms. A central hall behind the main room services the rear porch, a hallway to three bedrooms and the kitchen.

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/>