

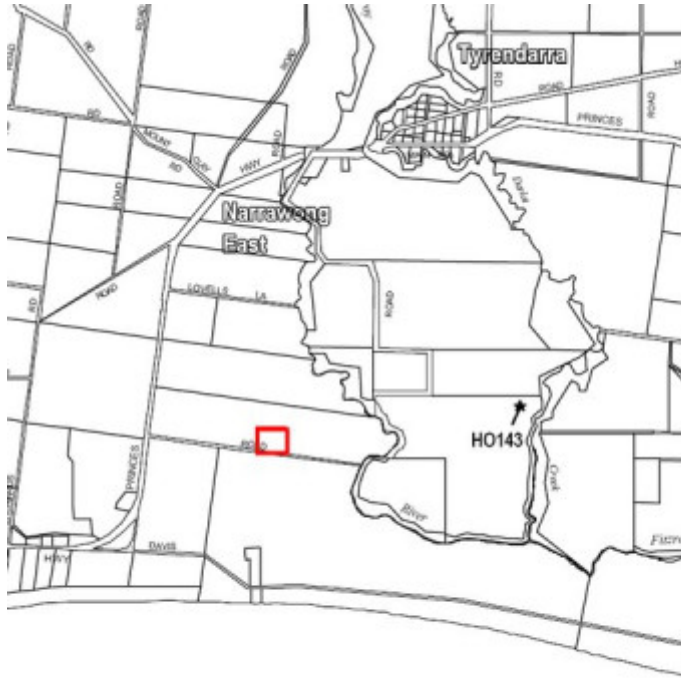
# YANNARIE CHEESE & BUTTER FACTORY



53002 Yannarie Butter  
Factory 2



MAP 1 - Extent of Registration



53002 Yannarie Butter Factory

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## Location

7533 PRINCES HIGHWAY, TYRENDARRA, GLENELG SHIRE

## Municipality

GLENELG SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Listing

Glenelg Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Yannarie Cheese and Butter Factory is a large stone building, constructed of locally quarried and collected stone, including some bluestone and some limestone. It is located approximately 1.0km south of the Princes Highway, west of the township of Tyrendarra. The former factory is constructed on the side of a steep slope. The upper storey of the building faces north towards the homestead (which was built in the Interwar period, replacing

a much earlier house at a different location, now demolished). The factory contains an office, two silage pits, the factory itself and a cheese storeroom. Mature *Coprosma repens* (Shiny leaf) have grown up inside the building, and over the uncapped stone walls. The large water repellent leaves of the Shiny leaf are repelling water away from the otherwise unprotected walls. The factory was started in 1883 by Donald McLeod, the son of John Norman McLeod, who owned the nearby Castlemaddie property. Donald McLeod was considered to be one of the pioneers of innovative farming in the nineteenth century. He made significant advances in the techniques of butter and cheese making through his Yannarie factory. Cheddar from Yannarie received the highest award for cheese at the 1888 Intercolonial Dairying Exhibition. The dairy was opened to other dairy farmers at certain times for public displays of its innovative techniques and modern equipment, aimed at improving the overall quality of the region's dairy produce. The factory was sold to William Skene in 1892, who continued to operate the factory, perhaps on a larger scale, as he purchased milk products from surrounding farms to make cheeses and butter. The factory continued in operation until the early 1900s. The former factory is in poor condition, but does retain a high degree of integrity. Unfortunately, none of the machinery of the factory remains on site.

How is it significant?

The former Yannarie Cheese and Butter Factory is of historical and archaeological significance to the Glenelg Shire Council.

Why is it significant?

The former Yannarie Cheese and Butter Factory is of historical significance as an unusual surviving example of a private cheese and butter factory. Although it started as a private venture, probably using McLeod's own herd's milk, when William Skene took the factory over in 1892, he purchased milk from surrounding producers, and processed it at his factory. This is similar to the arrangement of the much more commonly found Co-operative Cheese and Butter factories around the Glenelg Shire in the later nineteenth and early twentieth century. It is of archaeological significance for its potential to yield much more detailed information about the day to day running of the dairy, its machinery and workers through archaeological investigation.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Glenelg - Glenelg Shire Heritage Study Part One, Carlotta Kellaway, David Rhodes Mandy Jean, 2002; Glenelg - Glenelg Heritage Study Stage Two (a), Heritage Matters, 2006;
Construction dates	1833,
Hermes Number	53002
Property Number	

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## Usage/Former Usage

Ruinous and unused

## Physical Description 1

The Yannarie Cheese and Butter Factory is a large stone building, constructed of locally quarried and collected stone, including some bluestone and some limestone. The former factory is constructed on the side of a steep slope. The upper storey of the building faces north towards the homestead (which was built in the Interwar period, replacing a much earlier house). The upper storey has one enclosed room to the west of the structure, which was used as the office. The office area has a timber lined ceiling and double timber doors, which may have been replaced in the twentieth century. The exterior of the office measures 6.96m x 4.97m. Also accessed from the upper storey are two large silage pits, which extend down over both storeys. Both silage pits are over 8.0m deep, and both measure about 5.0m x 7.4m. These are located at the extreme east section of the building. The upper walls have openings to allow access to place material into the pits. The lower storey has a cheese storage room located directly below the office. The interior of the cheese room still has some shelves remaining. In the central section, remains the space used for the processing of the dairy products into Butter and Cheese. No machinery survives. The north wall has caved in, leaving the slope exposed. All of the walls are a uniform thickness of about

60cm. The office retains a corrugated iron hipped roof, but the other sections of the factory have lost all roof covering and structural timbers. Mature *Coprosma repens* (Shiny leaf) have grown up inside the building, and over the uncapped stone walls. The large water repellent leaves of the Shiny leaf are repelling water away from the otherwise unprotected walls.

To the north east of the factory, there is an over-mature hedge of *Coprosma repens*, which probably dates from the early twentieth century, although it may be later. Similarly, the remains of a *Coprosma repens* hedge and small timber picket fence and gate are located to the north west of the building.

To the south of the lower storey, a raised area exists about half way along, adjacent to a door opening in the wall. It appears that this may be the remains of the ramp onto which the carts bringing dairy products to the factory unloaded. Supporting this theory are the remains of the carriageway leading from the Highway to the factory.

## **Physical Conditions**

Fair

*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/>*