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# CLEIR HILLS 1) DROP-SLAB BARN, 2) WEATHERBOARD HOUSE AND 3) MATURE EXOTIC PLANTING, INCLUDING A PENCIL PINE AND 4) A LINE OF FIVE YELLOW BOX, 1394 HEIDELBERG-KINGLAKE RD



892.jpg

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## Location

1394 HEIDELBERG-KINGLAKE ROAD ST ANDREWS, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO63

## Heritage Listing

Nillumbik Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 5, 2010

***What is significant?***

The late 19th century/early 20th century drop-slab barn, and the surrounding site to a radius of 50 metres

***How is it significant?***

The late 19th century/early 20th century drop-slab barn is historically and technically significant to the Shire of Nillumbik.

***Why is it significant?***

The drop-slab barn is historically significant because it is associated with the pioneering orchardist and nurseryman William Gray of Allwood (HO61) (Criterion H). It serves as a reminder of the importance of farming to the area's past and is a rare surviving example of a timber slab farm building in a Metropolitan context; only four drop-slab buildings of any age now survive in the Shire - see also HO 64 and HO 107 (Criteria A & B). The barn is historically and technically significant as an excellent demonstration of the kinds of building that would have been erected by the Shire's early settlers (Criteria A & D).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Nillumbik - Shire of Eltham Heritage Study, David Bick, 1992;
Construction dates	1800, 1900, 1900,
Other Names	PENCIL PINE - Cupressus sempervirens, YELLOW BOX - Eucalyptus melliodora,
Hermes Number	63242
Property Number	

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## **Historical Australian Themes**

FARMING

PROMINENT RESIDENTS

3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

3.9 Farming for commercial profit

5.8 Working on the land

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## **Physical Description 1**

1) DROP-SLAB BARN

Style Victoria utilitarian.

Design standard.

Plan rectangular.

Most single storeyed, loft to part.

Walls hardwood split timber posts with horizontal split slabs.  
Repairs have been made to some of the walls.  
Roof gabled with eaves, corrugated iron clad.  
Features are the size of the building, its construction, intactness and the loft inside.

## 2) WEATHERBOARD HOUSE

Style late Victorian.  
Design standard.  
Plan now rectangular with additions, previously rectangular with projecting rear kitchen wing.  
Single storeyed.  
Walls timber stud construction, weatherboard clad.  
Roof hipped with shallow eaves, corrugated iron clad.  
Features are the encircling verandah, symmetrical flat front facade, the basically intact interior, hall dividing door, wood dado to the original dining room, the in-ground tank and the garden, which contains mature box plants and old fruit trees.

## 3) MATURE EXOTIC PLANTING, INCLUDING A PENCIL PINE AND 4) A LINE OF FIVE YELLOW BOX

The Pencil Pine is typical of the species with an upright conical habit. It forms part of an historic garden setting and is located close to the rear (south-eastern) corner of the house at the top of an embankment.

The Yellow Box *E. melliodora* is a common tree indigenous to the Eltham district and is still to be seen in the immediate vicinity of the site. The trees are planted around the edge of the man-made lawn terrace and the base level of the trees is such that the trees have clearly been planted after construction of the terrace. The planting appears to have been partly to separate the garden from the farm yard.

## Usage/Former Usage

Original Use: Farm, at one stage an orchard.

*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/>*