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# Clonard Homestead

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## Location

275 O'Herns Road,, EPPING VIC 3076 - Property No B7162

## Municipality

WHITTLESEA CITY

## Level of significance

Demolished/Removed

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 18, 2004

Clonard is of historical and social significance at the local and regional level as a characteristic farming property which represents the type of rural activity once common on Melbourne's fringe, but increasingly rare and under threat from encroachment by urban development.

Clonard is of regional historical significance as a well-preserved example of an established dairy and mixed farm that became the standard model in the region from the mid to late nineteenth century. The Epping-Craigieburn area was perhaps the most important supplier of dairy produce to Melbourne in the late nineteenth century, prior to the development of dairying (industrialisation, and establishment of a large export market) in the 1890s. The conversion of the milking shed to a shearing shed is demonstrative of major twentieth century changes in primary industry.

The property is of regional social significance because of its associations with prominent early land-owners including Charles Campbell and the specific association with James Bunting. In particular, Clonard is associated, through Bunting, with an important role in the organisation of local dairy farmers and the establishment of the Victorian Milk Board through his meetings with Lord Casey.

It is also of interest for its demonstration of the process of absentee landowners relying on tenant farmers to produce wealth from the land in the nineteenth century. Unlike the large pastoral estates in the area (characterised by Summerhill or Orlig) Clonard represents the small farmer and so is far more representative of the scale and character of rural life. This aspect of rural history has often been overlooked as heritage studies tend to concentrate on the large and exceptional mansions associated with the few wealthy pastoralists.

The property is of significance in that it demonstrates the character of farming on Melbourne's fringe.

Classified: 'Regional' 08/04/2002

Hermes Number 66798

Property Number

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*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/>*