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# R J Hamer Forest Arboretum & Woolrich Nursery Lookout



Woolrich House

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## Location

Chalet Road, Olinda-Monbulk Road, Olinda VIC 3788

## Municipality

YARRA RANGES SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO278

## Heritage Listing

Yarra Ranges Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 5, 2000

R J Hamer Forest Arboretum (including the Woolrich Nursery Lookout) is of local significance as a tangible example of the fire protection planning that resulted from the disastrous 1962 Dandenongs fires, and as a place that expresses the Garden State philosophy of Rupert Hamer, then Premier of Victoria. It is also valued for its aesthetic and landscape qualities, and as part of a group with the adjoining Olinda State Forest and National Rhododendron Garden.

Heritage Study/Consultant Yarra Ranges - Shire of Yarra Ranges Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2000;

Hermes Number 115720

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

R J Hamer Arboretum is located near Olinda township, in the heart of the Dandenong Ranges. It is a large forest arboretum containing exotic and indigenous plantings, and covering 120 hectares.

The Arboretum contains more than 22,000 exotic trees (over 200 species), including eucalypts from other parts of Australia. The arboretum blends these exotic plantings with those of the surrounding mountain ash forest landscape. There is an extensive network of paths throughout the arboretum, and walkers, horseriders and cyclists are encouraged to use this network. (Maynes, 1997)

Within the Arboretum is an old dam on the headwaters of the creek that is thought may be part of the township water supply (Workshop Place Record Sheet M2/24) . Above the Arboretum is the Woolrich Nursery Lookout which offers views to the ranges.(Workshop Place Record Sheet M5/29).

## Physical Conditions

Good

## Integrity

Minor Modifications

*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/>*