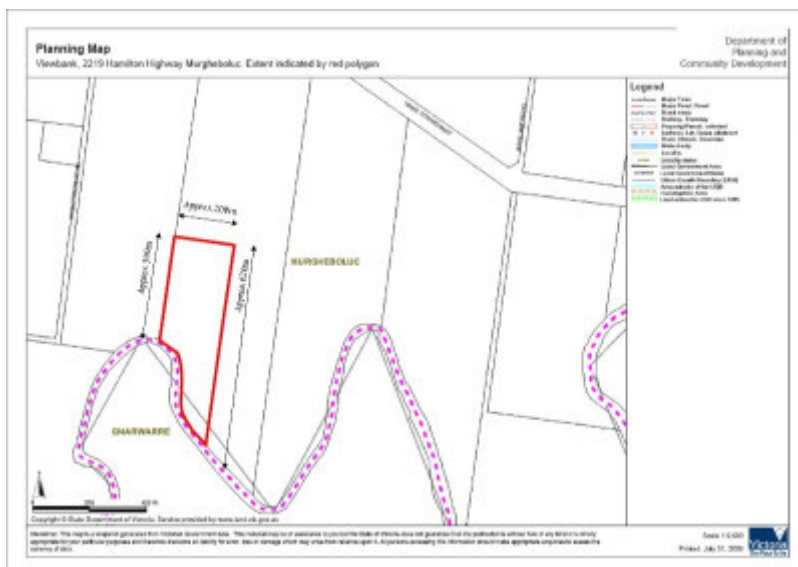


# Viewbank



Viewbank from Venters history



Extent of Registration Map

## Location

2219 Hamilton Highway, MURGHEBOLUC VIC 3221 - Property No 23600330

## Municipality

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

## Heritage Listing

Golden Plains Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

Viewbank, 2219 Hamilton Highway, Murgheboluc is located on the northern bank of the Barwon River approximately 22 kms west of Geelong and 5 kms east of Inverleigh. The 58 ha property was purchased from the Crown by Irish immigrant, Patrick Guinane in 1853 as Crown Allotment B, Section 2 of the Parish of Murgheboluc. A small, simple, single-storey bluestone cottage without a verandah was soon built for Guinane and his wife, Catherine Hickey and their five children, Patrick, John, Michael, Ann and Catherine. Catherine and John drowned in the River in 1855. In 1856, William married Margaret Day (or Reddan), a widow with four children. There were five children from the second marriage, Margaret, John, William, Denis (Mac) and Daniel. At some stage the house was extended to the west, doubling its size. After William died in 1871, his eldest son, Patrick, took over the family farm. He married Mary McCarthy of Herne Hill and they had five sons and three daughters. Patrick died at Murgheboluc in 1916, aged 70 years. His youngest son, John Leonard, who married Rita Wenstanley, carried on the Murgheboluc farm. Their sons were Desmond and Geoffrey. Desmond became a public accountant. He was President of the Shire of Bannockburn, 1990-1991 and Mayor of Golden Plains Shire in 2008. Geoffrey continues to farm Viewbank and is also active in local community affairs.

How is it Significant?

Viewbank, 2219 Hamilton Highway, Murgheboluc is of historical and architectural significance to the Golden Plains Shire.

Why is it Significant?

Viewbank, 2219 Hamilton Highway, Murgheboluc is of historical significance for its continuous occupation by one family, the Guinanes from its creation in 1853. It has particular significance as the home of Cr Des Guinane, Bannockburn Shire President and Mayor of Golden Plains Shire. It is representative of the modest riverside farms established in the shire from the 1850s, a pattern of freehold settlement in contrast to the broad-acre occupation of the land by squatters. Viewbank is of architectural significance as a representative example of the humble vernacular dwellings which accommodated often very large families on small farms.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Golden Plains - Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study Phase 2, Heritage Matters P/L, 2009;
Hermes Number	116824
Property Number	

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### Physical Description 1

A detailed description of Viewbank is not possible because access has been denied. The homestead complex is located at the end of long drive and about 200m from the Barwon River. The original dwelling, which survives is understood to have been a small, simple, single-storey bluestone cottage without a verandah. It faces north towards the Hamilton Highway rather than towards the river. There is a substantial extension to the west under a hipped roof. There are outbuildings of indeterminate age towards the rear. No substantial garden appears to survive.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

The Australian Heritage Commission devised the Australian Historic Themes in 2001. The following themes have influenced the historical development of Viewbank.

3 Developing Local, Regional And National Economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

3.5.2 Breeding animals

5 Working

5.8 Working on the land

8 Developing Australia's Cultural Life

8.14 Living in the county and rural settlements

## **Intactness**

[To be finalized after a site inspection.]

## **Integrity**

[To be finalized after a site inspection.]

## **Physical Description 2**

Extent of Registration: [To be finalized after a site inspection.] The suggested extent of registration is the whole of the house, but excluding the interiors, the outbuildings and major plantings and all of the land shown hatched on the plan comprising the Barwon River boundary, the west boundary of Allotment B for a distance of 300m from the Barwon River, a line heading east for 150m and a line heading south towards the River for approximately 320m.

## **Extent of Registration**

[To be finalized after a site inspection.]

*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/>*