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# Cottage



Cottage - 51 Forrest Road  
South, Lara

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## Location

51 Forest Road South, LARA VIC 3212 - Property No 282002

## Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO1974

## Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

LOCAL SIGNIFIGANCE

What is Significant?

The cottage at 51 Forest Road South, Lara, has significance for its associations with the pioneers of Lara, the Spalding family, and particularly with Alfred John Spalding (1858-1935). A.J. Spalding was Lara's second

wheelwright, carrying on business in a stone blacksmith shop built by John Spalding (A.J. Spalding's father) in 1877 that was located between the two Spalding family cottages in Forest Road South (it has subsequently been demolished). The cottage was built in 1879 upon the marriage of A.J. Spalding to Mary Ann Danns, although it remained under the ownership of John Spalding until his death in 1893. It was from this time when A.J. Spalding was sole owner. Although the cottage has been altered, the significant associations with John, Alfred and other members of the pioneering and entrepreneurial Spalding family are embodied in the surviving original fabric. This includes the double gabled roof forms at the front, hipped profile to the post-supported front verandah, rendered limestone wall construction, rendered chimneys, corrugated profile sheet metal roof cladding, central front doorway and flanking window openings and timber framed double hung windows. The dwelling appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street. The mature peppercorn trees form part of the character of the place. The cottage is also one of a small number of surviving Victorian vernacular styled dwellings in the Lara area, all of which have experienced alterations.

Why is it Significant?

The cottage at 51 Forest Road South, Lara, is historically significant at a LOCAL level.

How is it Significant?

The cottage at 51 Forest South, Lara, is historically significant for its associations with the Spalding family, pioneers of Lara who settled there in 1854 (Criteria A & H). John Spalding (c.1832-1893), storekeeper, lime merchant and farmer, established the first store at Lara in 1855. He was also one of the pioneers of the burgeoning 19th century lime burning trade, with his son, James, carrying on the successful family business known as the Lara Lime Works from c.1874-75. John Spalding also opened the first store in Lara in 1855 and he was the first postmaster from 1858. This cottage was built in 1879 for John Spalding's son, Alfred John Spalding, upon his marriage to Mary Ann Danns in 1879. A.J. Spalding was Lara's second wheelwright, carrying on his business in the stone blacksmith's shop built between his and his father's cottages in 1877. A.J. Spalding carried on John Spalding's stores after the death of his father in 1893. He had also relocated to his father's property, "Limella" cottage, by 1902, and by 1914 he appears to have been involved in the family's Lara Lime Works business.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Geelong - Lara Heritage Review Phase 2, D. Rowe & W. Jacobs, 2013;
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	195342
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

### DESCRIPTION

The cottage at 51 Forest Road South, Lara, is set on a substantial site within a garden setting. In the front garden are early peppercorn trees, with an introduced curved brick pedestrian path providing access to the dwelling. Open grassed areas and perimeter garden beds and an introduced arbour complete the front setting. The front is also bound by an introduced timber post and woven wire fence. Additional mature trees are identified at the rear and to the north of the dwelling, including a large peppercorn tree. This substantial northern setback is largely an open gravelled space accommodating a gabled galvanised iron garage outbuilding. A small garden shed is situated to the south of the dwelling.

Distinguishing the property is the single storey, rendered limestone, Victorian vernacular styled cottage. It is characterised by a double gabled roof form at the front, together with a hipped front verandah. At the rear are gabled and skillion additions and a glazed conservatory. The roof forms to the bulk of the dwelling appear to be clad in introduced corrugated zincalume.

A feature of the design is the front verandah. It is supported by square timber posts and it has timber framed iron valances and brackets. This verandah and the detailing appears to have been introduced, possibly replacing an earlier verandah of similar profile and design.

Early features of the design include the rendered chimneys (although the rear chimney has been added as part of the rear extension in the late interwar or early postwar period), and front central doorway and flanking window openings. The front door has either been introduced or the upper leadlight glazing has replaced original upper timber panels. The timber framed double hung windows appear to be early.

*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/>*