
Arranmore Gates



Illustration 1 Copy of painting of house prior to fire.jpg



Illustration 2 State Library of Victoria, John T Collins Collection, 9 April 1983. Showing gates and picket fences prior to reconstruction.jpg



Illustration 3 Gates at Killarney, Dunnstown, 1901 have a similar scale and layout but differ in detail and cast iron pattern. They were designed by George Clegg, architect of Ballarat, who had also designed James Coghlan's home in Ballarat in 1888 and if



Photo 1 Gate Posts and Cast Iron Gates.jpg



Photo 2 Detail of Pedestrian Gate.jpg



Photo 3 Detail of lock and cast iron handle.jpg



Photo 4 Detail of central stone slab for fastening gates.jpg



Photo 5 Pillar showing slight damage and rotation.jpg



Arranmore Gates 80 Howe Street Miners Rest - Gates, Gate Posts and Driveway.jpg

Location

84 HOWE STREET, MINERS REST - PROPERTY NUMBER 2064034, BALLARAT CITY

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO197

Heritage Listing

Ballarat City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 29, 2024

What is significant?

The entry gates and associated picket fencing and planting, the form of the existing entry road and planting from Howe Street to the entry to the house garden have significance as remaining items of the development of a family farm and horse stud of the nineteenth and early twentieth century. The farm was first owned and farmed from 1854 by Harry Mount who was well known in horse riding circles in Ballarat and a friend and partner of Adam Lindsay Gordon in the horse stables that operated from Craig's Hotel. The property was then owned from 1875 to 1909 by Stephen Holgate a stock and station agent with horse breeding and owning connections. From 1909 until 1954 the property was owned by prominent brewer and racing identity Oswald Coghlan. The date of construction of the gates is as yet undetermined but appears to date from at least 1910 and they have been a major landmark on the road to Miner's Rest. The roadway appears to date from the mid to late nineteenth century providing the entry to the house and garden area. The main house was gutted by fire in the mid twentieth century and the remaining stable and farm buildings have been substantially altered and therefore the significant fabric remaining to interpret the site are the gates, driveway and ponds/swimming pool.

How is it significant?

The gates and driveway are aesthetically and historically significant at a LOCAL level.

Why is it significant?

The gates, gateposts, flanking picket fence, central stone for fastening and adjacent mature trees, driveway at 80 Howe Street, Miners Rest are historically significant for the association with a substantial and affluent family farm and horse stud development in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. (Criterion A). The property is associated with three owners with prominent association in horse breeding and racing circles in Miners Rest and Ballarat, Harry Mount, Stephen Holgate and Oswald Coghlan (Criterion H)

The entry gates are aesthetically significant for demonstrating late nineteenth and early twentieth century design qualities, being the substantial scale, materials and design of the stone pillars and cast iron gates (Criterion E). The single piece of basalt for the main section of the gate pillars is rare. The flat nature of the castings for the gates and the sinuous floral nature of the pattern are unusual and distinctive. No similar design has been found in the region. The flanking timber picket sections of fence, although reconstructed are part of the original entry and complement the central gates. The entry is a landmark in the region.

Construction dates 1900,

Architect/Designer Clegg & Miller,

Other Names Howe Street Gates,

Hermes Number 197833

Property Number

Physical Description 1

5. Detailed description of the gates.

The gates comprise the four main basalt pillars, the central vehicular cast iron gates, the flanking cast iron pedestrian gates and the curved timber picket fence with exposed posts capped with cast iron finials. There is also a central basalt stone in the roadway which was used to fix the gates shut.

The four gateposts are of identical height and comprise a squat base stone finished with rock faces on all sides with a chisel draughted margin on each side of each face. This tapers to a very large single piece of basalt also with chisel draughted margins but with a pointed finish. These terminated with a narrow cornice, another section to match the main pillar and a moulded cornice capped with a four way gabled terminating stone.

The cast iron gates are very flat and severe in design with the main decorative element being the upright trio of flowers at the apex and upper part of the gates and drooping flowers across the mid section of the gates. These resemble bluebells which may have caused the supposition that the gates were of Scottish derivation. Each gate is fitted with a large cast iron lock and latch. These have floral decorated handles.

The timber picket fence was reconstructed in the late 1990s using the remaining fabric as evidence and reusing the cast iron capping finials. The outer posts are very large in cross section and the tops echo the cornice decoration of the main stone gate posts. The intermediate posts are all expressed and capped with cast iron finials and more modest cornice moulding.

There are no maker's marks or inscriptions on the stonework or cast iron.

The second pillar from the north has been impacted by a vehicle at some stage in the past resulting in a missing small section of stone and the main stone being rotated slightly. The post has remained structurally stable.

The stone work and cast iron gates are in substantially intact condition and appear to be stable and well maintained.

Physical Conditions

3. Existing Conditions

The property today appears to encompass the original Crown Allotments of 43 and 43a. The land has a long frontage to Howe Street with dense mature trees along the boundary. Near the centre of the boundary is the entrance way which is marked by four stone pillars with main cast iron carriage gates and flanking, matching cast iron pedestrian gates. The posts are distinguished by the main post section being cut from one large piece of basalt. These are flanked on each side by panels of picket fencing with posts capped with cast iron finials.

Leading through the front pastures is a slightly curving gravelled driveway which is flanked by some mature elm trees. This leads to a bifurcated driveway within the garden area to the west of the original house site. The garden has a curved boundary on the west to the pasture areas. The house is sited to the north of the driveway.

Screened by trees to the south west of the house is a large modern shed.

To the south and slightly east of the house is the remains of an early picturesque swimming pool which has a long narrow central section with a brick base at the south end which may have once held a diving board. There are curved ponds to the east and west divided from the central pond by walls which stop below the main outer wall height. Other curved pool areas lead off to the north east and are now partly obscured by fallen parts of a cypress tree. The pool is of brick and concrete construction and appears to date from the early part of the twentieth century. It has been reported as being known as the earliest in ground swimming pool in the Ballarat district.[1]

To the north east of the house is a collection of sheds which would appear to have been stables and store sheds. There is some remnant bluestone cobbles and some brick floor areas. The sheds appear to have been modified and repaired over the years and are in poor condition. Some appear to date from the early twentieth century and others appear to be nineteenth century but have had external fabric replaced. The sheds are used for storage and do not appear to retain any internal stable fittings. There is a timber shingle roof evident in one shed.

The house suffered a major fire in the late 1940s or early 1950s. There are two sections with hipped slate roofs and a number of bluestone footing walls remaining. There is a large cellar under what is now an outdoor terrace. The west wing of the building was constructed in 1998/99, the east wing may have some early building fabric. The central large room was reconstructed as part of the 1998/99 works having been heavily modified in the post fire reconstruction.

[1] Conversation with James Coghlan grandson of Oswald Coghlan.

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/>