
ATHENRY

Location

13-15 DIGGERS REST-COIMADAI ROAD DIGGERS REST, MELTON CITY

Municipality

MELTON CITY

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7822-2429

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 10, 2023

What is significant?

How is it significant?

Why is it significant?

Interpretation of Site

The site represents a twentieth century domestic site within a pastoral/agricultural setting. Domestic artefacts are scattered across the site, and there are extant structures associated with the pastoral use of the land. Artefacts are located within the shearing shed, in the ruins of the house and are scattered across the yard to the south of the house.

Little remains of the timber features of the house, but three brick fireplaces and four pillars remain.

Historical Significance	The site is of historical significance due to its association with Albert Tame and Michael Kilgariff. The site also contains dry stone walls in various states of repair, including some in very good condition.
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Hermes Number	199794
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Property Number	
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History

The original house was constructed in 1906 as part of a farm, and was possibly built by Archibald Funston, a renowned dry stonewaller, before passing first to his son, J. C. Funston, then to J. Henry and D. Hunter before finally coming into the possession of Albert Edward Tame. Tame was an elite sportsman who played football for the Collingwood club in 1896 and in 1902 when Collingwood won its first VFL premiership. Tame was also a bicycle racer. He owned businesses including ironmongers, spouting manufacturing, wire and wire nail manufacturing and such like.

Tame expanded and embellished the house in the style of an architectural folly, combining elements of a medieval castle with the original dwelling and incorporating pieces that are thought to have come from the steamer the SS Edina (built in 1854); the fittings of which were sold at auction in 1936. Tame had a private zoo and a model railway at the property. A number of buildings are located to the south of the house, one of which was used as a dairy in the mid-20th century. There are also stock pens and a shearing shed.

From 1951 the house was owned by the Kilgariff family; Michael Kilgariff was a former Mayor of Melton. The property was sold in 2001 to a developer and the house remained vacant from then until the time of its partial destruction by a fire in 2014.

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/>