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# DOMED CISTERNS 1 AND 2

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## Location

1880 BALLARTO ROAD, CLYDE NORTH VIC 3978

## Municipality

## Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

## Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7921-0139

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 22, 2024

### What is significant?

The two domed cisterns are significant as intact examples of a domed or beehive wells dating to the late nineteenth century-early twentieth century and relating to the early farming history of the Clyde region.

### How is it significant?

Both cisterns are approximately 3m wide and 4m deep and have been rendered with mortar and concrete. They are likely to have been built in the late nineteenth century or early twentieth century (1890's-1930's), before the technology for rainwater catchment evolved to above ground tanks.

### Why is it significant?

There is likely to be moderate potential for archaeological fabric with these cisterns, which may include but not be limited to, refuse deposits internally contained within the storage area of the cistern, construction cuts and fills with associated discarded items, building materials such as bricks, mortar and concrete.

Interpretation of Site	The site comprises two domed cisterns or beehive wells that have been constructed using brick and concrete rendering. The construction technique that has been used to build the cisterns came into practice in the late 1890s and continued until c. 1920-1930. As the two cisterns utilise the same construction technique, they were likely built in the same time period to provide a fresh water source for agricultural practices in the Clyde region between c.1890-1930. The tanks do not appear to still be in use and were likely abandoned in c. 1930 when above ground tanks were introduced and more favorable.
Hermes Number	212392
Property Number	

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## History

SiteCard data copied on 22/08/2024: The farm on which the domed cisterns are situated was originally part of Ballarto Pastoral Run which was taken up in c.1856 by John Bakewell who utilised the land for grazing and cattle breeding. A report by Mirams and Pepin (2023) shows the land use adapting from a grazing land to market gardening during the 1970's, however, the names of occupants who acquired land on the southern side of Ballarto Road are not listed by street or lot number, making it difficult to narrow down which records belong to which property. Historical imagery suggests the use of property at 1880 Ballarto Road has remained generally rural in character throughout most of the twentieth century. The property is currently vacant of livestock and has been sold recently for development of Clyde Regional Park. The domed cisterns were identified during a Historical Archaeological Assessment - field survey - undertaken on 3 May 2024 on behalf of Parks Victoria *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/>