
READ FARM COMPLEX (FORMER)



22797 Read House - 404 Yarra Road, Wonga Park



22797 Fence at Read House, 404 Yarra Road, Wonga Park



22797 Fruit Handling Shed - 6 Toppings Road, Wonga Park

Location

404 Yarra Road (former 9057), and 6 Toppings Road WONGA PARK, Manningham City

Municipality

MANNINGHAM CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO189

Heritage Listing

Manningham City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The former Read farm complex comprises the house constructed in stages from 1902 as well as the adjacent corrugated iron clad shed (thought to have been used for fruit handling) and associated mature trees, situated at 404 Yarra Road and 6 Toppings Road (part), Wonga Park.

How is it Significant?

The Read farm complex (former) is of historic significance to Manningham City.

Why is it Significant?

The Read farm complex has historic significance as a representative and now rare example of the small farm operations that were established in Wonga Park in the early part of the twentieth century. It has associations with Heber Newton Read, pioneer district farmer and orchardist, and the Read family maintained ownership for many years. The surviving elements of the property and its layout including the house, associated sheds and mature trees are typical of small farms of the period and illustrate how the area appeared prior to post-war suburban development. (RNE criteria A4, B2, D2, H1)

Heritage Study/Consultant Manningham - Manningham Heritage Study Review, Context Pty Ltd, 2006;

Hermes Number 22797

Property Number

Historical Australian Themes

Local Themes

5.02 - Orchards & market gardens

Physical Description 1

The Read Farm complex comprises a house, sheds and orchard remnants located at the corner of Yarra Road and Toppings Road. The house, which faces Yarra Road, is a late Edwardian weatherboard bungalow of four main rooms, a gabled-hip corrugated-iron roof and a rear skillion.

The verandah detailing is very distinctive, with large curved Baroque brackets on square posts, and a zig-zag valence at each end.

A cypress windbreak is located close to the south side of the house, and a woven wire fence and gate encloses the property along Yarra Road.

At the rear of the house is a corrugated iron-clad shed, which is now situated on the adjacent property at 6 Toppings Road. It has a main gabled roof with a skillion extension at one side.

Internally, it is constructed of rough-hewn and sawn timber posts and beams. This may have once been the fruit handling shed.

To the south of this shed is a smaller skillion-roofed shed with metal framed cattle pens.

Adjoining this is a small cattle yard and loading race. Both of these elements appear to be of a later date than the shed and house. Further down the hill is a more recent (postwar) house and a remnant lemon orchard.

A cool store further to the east at 16 Toppings Road thought to have been associated with the orchard has been converted to a house.

Physical Conditions

Condition Good

Integrity

Integrity Minor modifications

Physical Description 2

Threats None apparent

Physical Description 3

Key elements

Buildings

Fence/gate

Tree(s)

Physical Description 4

Associations

Read family

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/>