
CUYUAC HOMESTEAD COMPLEX



23108 Cuyuac Homestead
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stables 0038

Location

Chetwynd-Nareen Road, NAREEN VIC 3315 - Property No 144

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 23, 2003

What is significant?

The Cuyuac Homestead complex is located approximately six kilometers west of the village of Nareen, one and a half kilometers south of the Chetwynd-Nareen Road, overlooking Webb's Creek. The land which makes up Cuyuac was taken up in the 1880s, consisting of small portions of several larger pastoral runs. The first owner of Cuyuac was Mrs. Martha Quarterman, the widow of John Quarterman, who was implicated in a parliamentary corruption scandal with Hugh Glass involving the 1860s Land Acts. The first homestead and

gardens were laid out in the 1880s. Many of the mature trees in the garden are remnants from this period, including the Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*), Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*), English Elms (*Ulmus procera*) and Norfolk Island Pines

(*Araucaria heterophylla*). The modern garden, which dates from 1964, has been planted with an impressive Atlantica Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*) and Pencil Pine or Italian Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) as well as a variety of

exotic deciduous trees, which are of less significance. The property was sold to Mr. John Martin in 1898, who subsequently sold it to R. H. Edgar in 1908. The original homestead remained until it was destroyed by fire in 1964. The only buildings that survived were the stables, a shepherd's watch box, mounted on red gum wooden sledge,

and a hut made of split palings with a shingle roof. The woolshed, some distance from the house, survives as well. Local architect W. Langham Proud designed the current

Cuyuac homestead in 1964. It is a two-storey building constructed of cream brick with terracotta roofing tiles, designed in the conventional and rather conservative Cape Cod style. The split paling hut and the shepherd's watch box are in good

condition, the garden and plantings too, are in good condition.

How is it significant?

The Cuyuac Homestead Complex is of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The complex is historically important as an unusual example of a selection of land being taken up by a woman in the nineteenth century. Mrs. Quarterman, the widow of a disgraced Member of the Legislative Council, John Quarterman was unusual in that she chose not to return to her family home, nearby Wando Dale, but to take up land in her own right, constructing a homestead and garden on a property which was some distance from others. It is also historically important for the associations with John Quarterman

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1880,
Hermes Number	23108
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The nineteenth century timber structures are in very good condition. The trees which survive from the 1880s garden are also in very good condition.

Physical Description 1

The Cuyuac Homestead complex is located approximately six kilometers west of the village of Nareen, one and a half kilometers south of the Chetwynd-Nareen Road, on high ground overlooking Webb's Creek. The land which

makes up Cuyuac was taken up in the 1880s, consisting of small portions of several larger pastoral runs. The current homestead was built in 1964 on the same site to replace the earlier 1880s homestead which was destroyed by bushfires in the same year.

The current homestead was designed by local architect, W. Langham Proud. It is constructed of cream brick in the conservative 'Cape Cod' tradition, complete with dormer attic windows and terracotta tiled roof (Leake, 100.) Importantly, it was built on the footprint of the original house and continues the relationship with the creek below.

Several 19th century buildings survive close to the new house: the timber stables, a hut made of split palings, with wooden shingled roof and a shepherd's watch box, mounted on a red gum wooden sledge for transportation by bullocks. Further away is the large timber woolshed, with its modern extension.

Some of the garden associated with the 1880s homestead complex remains: Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*), Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*), Pencil Pine or Italian Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*), English Elm (*Ulmus procera*), Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*). There is also a large Aloe near the stables. The modern garden, which dates from 1964, has been planted with a variety of exotic deciduous trees, which are of less significance.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3 Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

3.5.2 Breeding animals

3.9 Farming for commercial profit

3.14.1 Building to suit Australian conditions

3.14.1 Using Australian materials in construction

Theme 5 Working

5.8 Working on the land

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

Usage/Former Usage

Continues to be used as a pastoral property.

Integrity

Very high degree of integrity to 1964 period.

Physical Description 2

John Quarterman, pastoralist

Martha Quarterman, nee Moodie, of Wando Dale

R H Edgar, son of David Edgar, pastoralist of Pine Hill, Harrow

W Langham Proud, architect of 1960s house

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/>