
PARK HILL (SECOND SITE)

Location

Falkenburg's Road, WANNON VIC 3301 - Property No 154

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The second site for the Park Hill homestead was developed in 1912, high on the opposite bank of the River Wannon from the original site which was low and damp. It is located at the southern end of Falkenberg's Road about seven kilometres south-west of the township of Wannon. Park Hill, with its associated garden, was built by the new owner, C. A. N. McDonald for his family. It is a large asymmetrical timber house with a typical bungalow form emphasising its horizontality. The name of an architect has not been associated with the design but there are similarities with the date, materials, form and plan of the new Wilderness homestead, at Gritjurk, 18 kms north of Park Hill. The house and garden retain a high degree of integrity and are in good condition.

How is it significant?

The second Park Hill homestead is of historical and architectural significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The second Park Hill homestead is of historical significance for its associations with the McDonald and Bailey families in particular and for demonstrating a shift away from the original site. It is of architectural significance as an early example of the bungalow form. This is reinforced by the surrounding garden.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1912,
Hermes Number	23114
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The house and garden are in good to fair condition.

Physical Description 1

Park Hill is located at the southern end of Falkenburg's Road approximately 7.0kms south of Wannon. The house overlooks the river valley towards the original site. The new Park Hill is a single storey asymmetrical timber house with a timber verandah on three sides. Its style is loosely Arts and Crafts with some Queen Anne influences but its simple detailing and overall form are strongly suggestive of the Bungalow Movement which emerged about this time. The corrugated iron roof is low pitched which, with the broad verandah, emphasises the building's horizontality. The spoutings are asbestos cement and may be replacements. The plan of the house is unusual and is similar to the rather grander house, The Wilderness at Gritjurk, which deserves further research. They may have been designed by the same architect.

The house is approached from along a diagonal drive, with concrete gate posts and a gate marking the entrance of the garden. The extensive garden dates from the construction of the house, and includes a formal area at the front, an orchard beyond, a later tennis court on the western side of the house and a more recent 'cottage' garden including herbs and roses at the rear. Two poplar trees and a weeping elm between them are the principal plantings in front of the house. A small gate in the garden fence directly opposite the off-centre front door leads to the orchard where several fruit trees survive. The whole looks across to the valley of the Wannon River.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

Theme 5: Working

5.8 Working on the land

Usage/Former Usage

Continuing as a pastoral property

Integrity

Significantly intact although altered and extend at the rear.

Physical Description 2

William Thomson and executors

Alexander and Robert Thompson

Alexander Thomson

Thomas Must

Charles Alexander Nicholson McDonald

Archibald (Dingo) Lindsay

Johannes Reinhold and Harold Phillip Linke

Charles William Bailey

Physical Description 3

CA 1 to 8A, Sec 8 9 9A 10

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/>