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# NAREEB NAREEB HOMESTEAD COMPLEX



23413 Nareeb Nareeb facade  
1672

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## Location

Chatsworth Road, GLENTHOMPSON VIC 3293 - Property No 0025

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

## Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 16, 2004

What is significant?

The Nareeb Nareeb squatting run, located on the north-west corner of the intersection of the Hamilton-Chatsworth Road and the Glenthompson-Caramut Road on Gray Creek, was taken up in 1840 by Charles Gray. It was originally part of the as Green Hill Creek run at Lake Repose. Gray was the principal member of a partnership with William P. Scott and John Marr. Scott soon left the partnership. Green Hill was subdivided in 1846, Marr taking the northern half as Brie Brie and Gray the other as Nareeb Nareeb. Having obtained the pre-emptive right and purchased much of land under the Land Selection Acts in the 1860s, Gray stayed at Nareeb Nareeb until 1886. He built three dwellings in his time there, the first a rough hut in the early 1840s, the second a timber cottage in 1851 and finally, in 1884, a substantial stone house. The architect was a local, the English-born William Smith, who was also the town clerk of Hamilton. Sober and conservative, this and its predecessor were clearly informed by the Picturesque aesthetic with a deliberate modification of their spectacular landscape. He also made substantial improvements including a wool shed and sheep wash complex, which was advanced as a

model for the district. He focused his efforts on breeding and could fairly claim that his sheep were probably the best in the district. Having suffered early losses to bush fire, he made special efforts to protect Nareeb Nareeb with firebreaks. When the Beggs family took over the property in 1886, the focus on breeding continued. Throughout the twentieth century, increasingly sophisticated systems were used with great success. Ironically, Nareeb Nareeb did suffer from disastrous bush fires, with almost everything being lost in fires after the Second World War. The present homestead complex is sited in the same position as the 1884 house and garden and enjoys the same dramatic panorama of the Grampians. The house is neo-Georgian in style, a relatively late example that continues the conservative tradition established by Charles Gray. The present house and garden are in excellent condition and retain a very high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

Nareeb Nareeb homestead is of historic and architectural significance to the Shire of Southern Grampians.

Why is it significant?

Nareeb Nareeb homestead is of historic significance for its early beginnings and connection with Charles Gray, a very successful pastoralist who developed a model grazing property and was a highly respected leader of the community. The Beggs family, the second owners of the property, continue his role as sheep breeders and as promoters of the wool industry. Notwithstanding Gray's great concern about bushfire, the property was devastated by bushfires in the mid-twentieth century, only to survive and prosper. Nareeb Nareeb is of architectural significance for the continuity of its well informed but conservative approach to domestic architecture and the surrounding landscape.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1960,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23413
Property Number	

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## 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

3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

Theme 5: Working

5.8 working on the land

## Usage/Former Usage

Grazing

## Integrity

Very high degree of integrity.

## Physical Description 3

## Nareeb-Nareeb Pre-emptive Right

*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/>*