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# Saxam Homestead



Saxam Homestead



Coolyarra Homestead

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## Location

108-130 Diamond Creek Road ST HELENA, BANYULE CITY

## Municipality

BANYULE CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO197

## Heritage Listing

Banyule City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 29, 2014

### What is significant?

Saxam Homestead, comprising the homestead, constructed between c.1886-1888 and its surrounds which formed part of the homestead, at 108 Diamond Creek Road, St Helena.

### How is it significant?

Saxam Homestead is of local historic significance to Banyule City Council.

### Why is it significant?

Historically, it is significant as a tangible link with the area's rural past as it was a "well known farm in the district" and as the oldest remaining homestead in St Helena. Saxam Homestead is one of only three 19th century buildings remaining in the area.

Aesthetically, the homestead is significant as a Victorian style building associated with the cultural and historical significance of the place. Despite some intrusive elements dating from the 1950s/60s the homestead retains many of its original elements including the main entry door as well as doors to the rear, bay and general double hung windows, the front wall ashlar cladding, the weatherboards, round section downpipes, quad gutters, eaves details, the verandah and posts details to the rear, the upper wall vents and the hip roof form.

### Theme

#### 2. Peopling Victoria's places and landscapes 4. Transforming and managing the land

Heritage Study/Consultant	Banyule - Banyule Heritage Study, Allum Lovell & Associates, 1999; Banyule - Saxam Homestead - Heritage Assessment, Nadia Gasparetto Conservation/Heritage Architect, 2011;
Construction dates	1886,
Other Names	108-130 Diamond Creek Road, Greensborough, Coolyarra Homestead,
Hermes Number	31253
Property Number	

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### Physical Description 1

Saxam Homestead is currently located within the grounds of Churinga, a day centre for intellectually disabled adults run by St John of God. Churinga, on 8.6 ha of land, has been variously described as being located in Greensborough and St Helena.

It is a single storey weatherboard building with a corrugated iron hipped roof, with ashlar pattern cladding on the front facade. Side walls are clad with timber weatherboards. Original elements include the main entry door as well as doors to the rear, the bay window to the front facade and the double hung windows to the side facades, the front wall ashlar cladding, the timber weatherboards, round section downpipes, quad gutters, eaves details, the verandah and posts details to the rear, the upper wall vents and the hip roof form. The semi-octagonal bays with double-hung sash windows are also original. They flank the original entrance door, which has glazed sidelights and highlights.

Some intrusive elements apparently dating from the 1950s/60s include the steel post verandah form at the front of the building, the concrete verandah floor, the replacement of the roof cladding (originally this would have been slate), extensive internal changes and changes to the rear elevation including the enclosed areas to the side of the existing verandah. Other changes may have included the removal of original chimneys and internal joinery although this cannot be fully confirmed without photographic evidence or further physical investigation.

The building has a degree of substance to its scale and detailing, particularly in its breadth and the scale of the bay windows to either side, that enable it to stand out from typical suburban timber houses of its period and that lend it a notable homestead quality[1].

Internally the building has been substantially altered and is in very poor condition.

[1] Bryce Raworth advice, 12 February 2014

## **Local Historical Themes**

Rural Development

### **Integrity**

High in the context of the Historical and Cultural Significance. Low in the context of its built form and level of works required to restore the building.

*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/>*