

---

# Fernlea



Fernlea - House - east elevation



Fernlea - former dairy and machinery sheds



Fernlea - facade c 1900

---

## Location

75 Tuckers Road, CLYDE, Casey City

## Municipality

CASEY CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO134

## Heritage Listing

Casey City

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 4, 2022

### What is significant?

'Fernlea', 75 Tuckers Road, Clyde, a house built in c 1870s in the Clyde region.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The form, materials and detailing of the farmhouse
- The farmhouses' high level of integrity to its early form and construction

- The setting of the farmhouse including mature trees to the north and the long driveway approach
- Below ground domed water tank with hand pump
- Early (pre-1945) outbuildings and farm buildings located to the south-west of the house.

More recently constructed outbuildings and a later addition to the rear of the house, do not contribute to the significance of the place.

#### **How is it significant?**

'Fernlea' is of local historical and architectural significance to the City of Casey.

#### **Why is it significant?**

'Fernlea' is historically significant as an early rural property in the Clyde district. It demonstrates the early establishment of farming properties in the area in the nineteenth century and their subsequent development in the twentieth century. Records indicate that the house was built and then occupied by the Tucker family until the early 1900s when it was acquired by the Manks family who retained ownership of the property throughout the twentieth century. (Tuckers and Manks roads have been named after these families) (Criterion A).

'Fernlea' is a fine, intact and representative example of a nineteenth century farming property. It displays typical features of a farm complex in Clyde and across Victoria more broadly, including a substantial farmhouse, a range of outbuildings, a long driveway approach and mature plantings. The farmhouse displays typical features of the early Victorian period, including a simple floor plan, rendered brick walls, an expansive hipped roof with surrounding verandah, substantial brick chimneys and a symmetrical front elevation with a distinctive pair of multi-paned bay windows and slightly off-set central door (Criterion D).

## **Theme**

### 4. Transforming and managing the land

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Casey - Casey Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2004; Casey - City of Casey Heritage Study: Cranbourne, Knox, Graeme Butler & Associate, 1998; Clyde Creek Precinct Structure Plan: Heritage Review and Assessments for Clyde and Clyde North, Ray Tonkin, 2014; |
| Hermes Number             | 63220   |
| Property Number           |   |

## **Physical Description 1**

Taken from the 2020 CMP (attached to this record)

## **Location and Use**

'Fernlea' is located approximately two kilometres north-east of the township of Clyde, on the west side of Tuckers Road, between Pattersons Road and Ballarto Road. The whole property is a rectangular block of land occupying approximately 35.5 hectares.

## **Setting and landscape**

'Fernlea' is located on Melbourne's urban fringe, with intense urban development approaching from the north and west. Large land holdings, generally developed during the nineteenth century for agricultural purposes, remain to the east, south and west. Set well back from Tuckers Road (approximately 225 metres), the farmhouse block is accessed by a driveway which runs west from Tuckers Road, along the southern side of the house, to outbuildings located to the west and south-west of the house. A juvenile avenue of trees lines the eastern side of the driveway and the house is surrounded by a variety of mature and more recent plantings (Figure 16). To the south of the house are remnants of an orchard with a few surviving mature fruit trees (generally planted post-1960) (Figure 17). The paddocks surrounding the homestead allotment feature a variety of eucalypt and cypress tree plantings. A detailed description of the trees on site and their condition is provided in the Arboricultural Inspection Report prepared by Arboriculture Pty Ltd and dated November 2018 .

## Outbuildings

A number of sheds, including timber-framed corrugated galvanised steel-clad sheds and a timber-clad shed, are located to the south-west of the house (Figure 18). These have served a variety of uses, including a dairy (milking shed) and probably housed chaff cutting and threshing machinery. Adjacent is a partly underground domed water tank and a steel silo, stamped 'Lysaght'. One shed retains sheets of galvanised steel cladding stamped with the 'Trademark Redcliffe' emblem with the Redcliffe crown. Detailed photographs of the various outbuildings are provided at Appendix II of the Schedule of Conservation Works (Purcell, 17 September 2020).

The outbuildings are briefly described below; their condition and fabric are discussed in more depth at Appendix 1 – Condition Survey.

The Open Equipment Shed (1) is bush pole and milled timber roof framed corrugated galvanised steel clad (three sides) low-height shed with mono pitch roof. The steel silo (2) is circular in plan with free-drain conical roof with central vent is lined in flat pan and rib galvanised steel cladding.

The vehicle shed (3) has a bush pole and milled timber framed shed and appears to have been built in two phases as part of the eastern portion of the milking shed – the west elevation is timber frame and lined, incorporating the feed lot to the timber frame milking stalls. An earlier (western) phase appears to be an enclosed timber frame clad in corrugated galvanised steel vehicle shed clad to the north and south elevations with a mono-pitch roof falling to the east with a quad eave gutter, the latter now forming a box gutter to the later (eastern) portion. This later section is similarly framed and is clad only to the north and south elevations in flat drum wall sheets. It has a corrugated galvanised steel clad mono-pitch roof. The internal faces are unlined.

The milking shed (4) is constructed of milled timber framed with a corrugated galvanised steel clad mono-pitch roof and wall that completes the earlier western portion of the vehicle shed. There are several unadorned windows reveals to the west elevation. The east elevation is framed and lined with timber, incorporating the feed lot to the timber frame milking stalls. The concrete floor has a bund upstand.

The hay shed (5) has a milled timber framed high shed with gable roof abuts the east wall of the milking shed and is clad in corrugated galvanised steel. Tall timber frame double-doors to the east elevation are similarly clad and the west elevation is timber frame and lined, incorporating the feed lot to the timber frame milking stalls. The internal wall faces are unlined.

The small workshop (6) has a milled timber framed gable roofed and is clad in timber weatherboards with a galvanised corrugated steel roof and rainwater good. A lean-to extension to the west in frame timber construction has walls and roof clad in galvanised corrugated steel. There is a ledge and brace sliding timber door to the south, a hinged multi-panel glazed timber door to the north and over-cladding to windows in the lean-to. The internal faces are lined, with a timber lined tray ceiling within the gable form. All remaining internal surfaces are flush or flat metal lined. The floor is concrete with a bund upstand.

Two modern garages / car ports (7) are located west of the house. A large modern water tank is located west of

the larger garage and a semi-submerged brick and render domed tank (of similar construction to that to the west of the homestead) is located to west of milking shed (8).

## The House

Detailed photographs of the exterior and interior of the farmhouse are provided at within the Appendix I of the Schedule of Conservation Works (Purcell, 17 September 2020). All interior and exterior photographs reproduced below were taken by Purcell on 7 May 2020. The condition of the house and its fabric are discussed in more depth at Appendix 1 – Condition Survey.

## Exterior

The house at 'Fernlea' is a single-storey brick building with U-shaped hipped roof and concave verandah which extends around the house (Figure 20). The verandah is an extension of the main roof, forming a broken-back form, and is supported on stop-chamfered timber posts. It is a self-supporting structure of galvanised corrugated iron with rivetted laps. The verandah floor has been replaced with concrete (Figure 21). A lightly-ruled cement render covers the walls of the house. The main elevation (east) is symmetrical with multi-paned bay windows with low sills, and a slightly offset central door (Figure 22). A third bay window in the north elevation is detailed in a different manner (Figure 23).

At the west elevation, the northern roof is hipped and the southern roof is gabled. Between these main roof forms, a small gable-ended roof covers the length of the central roof valley. The two west gable ends have later decorative barge boards (Figure 24). There are three chimney stacks - a roughly rendered chimney with double flue and corbelled top is situated above the inner face of the northern hipped roof and two face brick (overpainted) chimneys are located towards the rear of the house. The latter pair are a small chimney with single flue located towards the rear of the north elevation and a large chimney located at the rear of the south elevation. An additional flue has been removed and is located in the garden. Behind the house, near the back entrance, is an underground domed water tank with a hand pump.

A rendered brick section, which projects beyond the main building envelope on the south side of the house, contained the original pantry and kitchen safe (Figure 25). A second rendered brick section, with multi-paned windows, projects beyond the line of the existing verandah on the west side of the house. This is in line with the northern hipped roof and the small central gabled roof (Figure 26).

## Interior

Internally, a central hall provides access to five main rooms and service rooms at the rear of the house. Walls are plastered and ceilings are timber lined. The kitchen has a pressed metal ceiling and skylight. Intact detailing includes variety of cornices, ceiling roses and vents, plain skirtings and more elaborate framing to window and door openings. Ceiling vents have been blocked up in a number of rooms. The house retains its four panel doors and hardware. No early or original finishes, floor coverings or decorative schemes are evident.

### Historical Australian Themes

Developing Primary Production

*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/>*