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## Nillumbik Farm & gum



Nillumbik Farm and gum

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### Location

50 Challenger Street DIAMOND CREEK, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

### Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO24

### Heritage Listing

Nillumbik Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 5, 2010

REVISED STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONTEXT, 2010

#### ***What is significant?***

The entire site of Nillumbik farm including the farmhouse, elements of which may date from the 1850s and the surrounding site to the title boundaries.

(see also HO25 for Sugar Gum at entrance to the farm)

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

Nillumbik farm is historically and aesthetically significant to the Shire of Nillumbik.

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

Nillumbik farm is historically significant for its association with the early settlement of Port Phillip in the 1830s and the subsequent development of Melbourne and for its resulting connections to early settlers of the district and figures in the development of Melbourne including: Henry Arthur of the Port Phillip Association, Hugh and A. R. Larimour, John Wilson, William Wilson and Martha Wilson who died in 1864 and is buried on the property (Criteria A & H). The farm is historically and aesthetically significant as a very rare surviving example of a farmhouse from the period (1850s), one of the earliest surviving in the district, and for its fine joinery details which are evocative of early construction methods (Criteria B, E & F). It is also rare in retaining its rural setting, with nearby traces of former structures, the line of former roadways and mature trees, all related to the early history of the district (Criteria A & B).

Heritage Study/Consultant Nillumbik - Nillumbik Shire Heritage Study, Graeme Butler & Assoc, 1997;

Hermes Number 64020

Property Number

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## **Physical Description 1**

This is an altered hipped-roof and verandahed face brick (over-painted, slop moulded) farm house set in exotic pasture above the creek flats (or lagoon) well south of Challenger Street. New subdivisions have been made nearby. Aboriginal artifacts have been found in the vicinity and old track formations shown on early plans can still be seen in paddocks. Two big depressions (one with a gum growing out of it) just above one of these old tracks reputedly denote the clay pits used for the bricks. The bricks are laid in English bond, well-burnt.

The interior has some early joinery (fine panel moulds to passage doors) but much of it is late 19th century (architraves) or recent. The verandah has been filled-in on the west and rebuilt in a different roof profile but similar bracket forms, and the timber floor replaced in concrete; thresholds are basalt. The former detached kitchen site can be seen as a flat area in the rear lawn and only some (if any) planting may have derived from earlier times. At least one well is thought to have been near the house, now filled in.

There is also a large gum to the north of the house, relating visually to the sugar gum planted at the gate. .

## **Historical Australian Themes**

Farming

3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

*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/>*