
Cowin's Orchard Cool Store

Location

93-113 Murray Road DIAMOND CREEK, NILLUMBIK SHIRE

Municipality

NILLUMBIK SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO140

Heritage Listing

Nillumbik Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 7, 2010

REVISED STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE, CONTEXT, 2010

What is significant?

The orchard cool store and the surrounding site to the title boundaries.

How is it significant?

The orchard cool store is historically, technically and aesthetically significant to the Shire of Nillumbik.

Why is it significant?

The orchard cool store is historically significant because, from 1890 through to the early decades of the 20th century, fruit growing was a significant industry in Diamond Creek. In the absence of refrigeration, cool stores were a means by which fruit could be kept from deteriorating. The cool store is a reminder of this important industry and an example of a technical innovation that enabled local farmers to adapt to conditions in the region; it is one of only a few such structures left in the Shire (also see HO143 and HO212) (Criteria A, B & F). The cool store is technically and aesthetically significant because it features an unusual construction technique and has been dug in to the hillside and attractively clad with log walls and a thatched roof (Criteria F & E).

BUTLER STUDY, 2001

The Orchard Cool Store is of regional significance

- for its role in and association with the fruit-growing industry at Diamond Creek in the early twentieth century as a surviving example-of a rare construction method within the State

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

Hermes Number 73564

Property Number

Physical Description 1

This cool store has been dug into the hillside and equipped with log walls and a thatched roof. Although perhaps more common once, the coolstore is among only a small number of similar cool stores known to survive in the State.

Historical Australian Themes

Farming

3.9, Farming for commercial profit

3.12.2 Developing sources of fresh local produce

3.12.4 Preserving food and beverages

5.8 Working on the land

31.14.1 Building to suit Australian conditions

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/>