

BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.**Ref:** 27

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NAME: Buckler's Farm (Chouting?)**PREVIOUS NAME:****ADDRESS:** Bucklers Road. Parwan South(?) (Shire of Werribee, on Shire Boundary).**TITLE DETAILS:****USE:** Farmhouse.**SIGNIFICANT DATE:** ?**CONSTRUCTION DATE:** ?**SOURCE:**

1900s

ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS: ?**DATE:** ?**SOURCE:****DESIGNER:****BUILDER:****SOURCE:****CRITERIA:** H 1; Ar1, 2.**HISTORIC THEME:** Agricultural?**DESCRIPTION:** **STYLE:** Edwardian **STORIES:** 1 **DETACHED.****MATERIALS:** **WALLS** Red brick **ROOF** Iron **STRUCTURE****CONDITION:** Fair **INTACTNESS:** Very good **THREATS:** Derelict?**SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:**

FORM. VERANDAH. ROOF FORM.

ROOF DECORATION.

OUTBUILDINGS.

WALLS.

GARDEN.

AGRICULTURAL /BUILDING.

SIGNIFICANCE:**TYPE:** HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL.**LEVEL:** LOCAL.**DESIGNATION EXISTING:** Nil.**RECOMMENDED CONTROL:****PLANNING SCHEME.****MAP NO:** R3.06 **SURVEY:** RP **DATE:** 21.12.1993**NEGS:** 2.6, 2.7/1012.10,11

HISTORY: House. (History needed).

Wall. Drystone walls were constructed extensively across the Keilor Melton Plain from the 1850s, when land tenure became more firmly established, until the 1880s, when cheap barbed wire became more commonly available. Evidently, the land comprising Buckler's Farm was originally part of Simon Staughton's Exford Estate, (ref: 389), which was broken up following Staughton's death in 1863. The surviving section of wall probably relates to this later period, following the break up of Exford and the establishment of Eynesbury, comprising 21,322 acres (8,629 ha), by Samuel Thomas Staughton, in the early twentieth century. Much of the Staughtons' property was re-purchased by the Government for Closer Settlement.

VISUAL DESCRIPTION: House. A red brick Edwardian house with a T-shaped plan. The gable-ends have finials and cross-bars. There is a skillion verandah around on three sides. Chimneys are bi-chromatic brick. Two large outbuildings and a wooden pavilion appear to be a similar date, with corrugated iron cladding, timber latticework and finials. Bucklers Road is lined with a drystone wall for 200 metres and a further 200 metres of post and wire fence with a drystone base, one side only. The outbuildings are in Bacchus Marsh Shire, but the drystone walls and house are in Werribee Shire.

Wall. The substantial dry stone wall stands 1.2 metres high and demonstrates the considerable skill of the waller. Through stones are evenly placed about one third up the wall and coping is regular. The main stones are unevenly coursed, but carefully placed with extensive plugging. The wall evidently originally extended all the way to the Rowsley Exford Road, forming one side of the entrance drive to the present Buckler's farm property.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: There are 26 Edwardian farmhouses identified in the Study (Refer: Typology Schedule). This house has an unusual plan and intact contextual elements including the walls. Seven lengths of drystone fence or wall were identified in the Study.

SIGNIFICANCE: An unusual Edwardian brick farmhouse with timber outbuildings and drystone walls, originally within Simon Staughton's Exford Estate.

The complex, including the walls is of local historical significance as representing the way of life of a small farmer before the First World War. It is also of architectural significance as a relatively intact Edwardian farmhouse with some contextual elements including outbuildings and drystone walls. These walls significantly demonstrate the techniques of the stone-waller's trade.

INTACTNESS: Very good.

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Fair.

