

BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.

Ref: 74

Richard Peterson Architect & Conservation Consultant. Daniel Catrice Historian 1994.

NAME: Blinkbonnie.**ADDRESS:** Werribee Vale Road (junction of Werribee River/Korkuperrimul Creek?).**TITLE DETAILS:****USE:** Farmhouse.**SIGNIFICANT DATE:** 1865 **CONSTRUCTION DATE:** 1880s **SOURCE:** 1,2**ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS:** **DATE:** c1926 **SOURCE:** 2**CRITERIA:** H1; A1**HISTORIC THEME:** Agriculture**DESCRIPTION:** **STYLE:** Bungalow **STORIES:** 1 **DETACHED.****MATERIALS:** **WALLS** Brick? **ROOF** tc tile **STRUCTURE** Lb¹**CONDITION:** Excellent **INTACTNESS:** Excellent **THREATS:** -**SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:**

MATERIALS. FORM. VERANDAH. ROOF FORM.

VERANDAH DECORATION.

CHIMNEYS.

UNPAINTED FINISH. OUTBUILDINGS.

FENCES.

ENGINEERING STRUCTURE.

PLANTING FORMATION. Cypress pines on river.

SIGNIFICANCE:**TYPE:** HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL.**LEVEL:** LOCAL.**DESIGNATION EXISTING:** Nil**RECOMMENDED CONTROL PLANNING SCHEME.****MAP NO:** U1.08 **SURVEY:** DC & RP **DATE:** 4.1.94 **NEGS:** 6.14, 15

HISTORY: A farmhouse has occupied this site since 1865, when the original grantee, William Morton purchased freehold title to Crown Allotments 5 of 52 acres (21 ha), 7 of 35 acres (14.2 ha) and 10 of 29 acres (11.7 ha).¹ The earliest sections of the present farmhouse were possibly erected in the 1880s, despite substantial reconstruction *circa* 1926.² No architect is known.

VISUAL DESCRIPTION: A fine, substantial, symmetrical hip-roofed early Bungalow farmhouse. Gables project at each end, with a timber flat-roofed verandah between. This has a timber fretwork valance and timber posts in pairs. The roof tiles are unglazed red Marseilles pattern and the chimneys Voyseyian, with flat tops and pots. Walls are unpainted roughcast, with exposed rafters and three slot vents in the upper gable ends. There are three gable-roofed outbuildings, a row of cypress pines on the riverbank and a Dethridge wheel on the front boundary. Opposite, in Werribee Vale Road is a double-rail post and rail fence. The house is distant and partly obscured.

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: There are only seven 1920s and 1930s farmhouses identified in the Shire. This would appear to be the finest of the early style, whilst ref: 314 in Lerderderg Park Road is the finest example of the later Bungalow style.

SIGNIFICANCE: This property is still held by the family of the original Crown Grantee. It has now a fine large early Bungalow style farmhouse built in the 1880s but substantially remodelled about 1924 on a site occupied by a farmhouse since 1865.

It is historically significant locally as a representative embodiment of a way of life and settlement pattern, but also a changing sequence of their architectural expression. It is also architecturally significant locally as a fine example of an architectural style.

INTACTNESS: Apparently excellent.

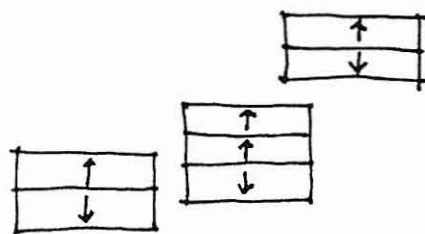
CONDITIONS & THREATS: Apparently excellent.

¹ Department of Lands and Survey, Parish of Parwan P8(4), (CPO).

² Personal communication with Gwyn Moore, BMDHS, and Nita Grant Morton, descendant of original grantee.

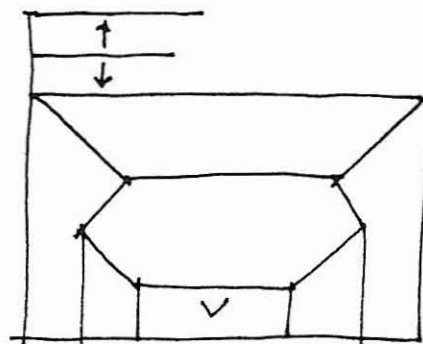
↑ TO WERRIBEE RIVER

74



OUTBUILDINGS.

DRIVE



HOUSE



DETHRIDGE WHEEL



WERRIBEE VALE ROAD.

POST & 2 RAIL FENCE

LOWER AQUEDUCT