

BACCHUS MARSH HERITAGE STUDY.**Ref:** 173A

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

NAME: St Patrick's House, Broadlands Estate. (No access).

[Ref: 173B, Former Bacchus Marsh Church of England (non-vested) Denominational School ("Iron School") No 53. (No access). Ref: 173C. Former Bacchus Marsh National School, No. 28, site.]

ADDRESS: Avenue of Honour (off. north).**TITLE DETAILS:****USE:** Farm manager's residence**PREVIOUS USE:** Farmhouse**SIGNIFICANT DATE:** **CONSTRUCTION DATE:** 1864 **SOURCE:** 1**ADDITIONS:** **DATE:** 1877, 1920s **SOURCE:** 1**CRITERIA:** H1,3,5; Ar 1. **HISTORIC THEME:** Agriculture**DESCRIPTION:** **STYLE:** Early **STORIES:** 1 **DETACHED.****MATERIALS:** **WALLS** Brick **ROOF** Iron **STRUCTURE** Lb**CONDITION:** Not assessed **INTACTNESS:** Not assessed **THREATS:** -**SIGNIFICANT INTACT ELEMENTS:**

FORM. FACADE. VERANDAH. ROOF FORM. USE. VERANDAH DEC. CHIMNEYS. DOORS. WINDOWS.

SIGNIFICANCE:**TYPE:** HISTORICAL. ARCHITECTURAL. SCIENTIFIC.**LEVEL:** LOCAL.**DESIGNATION EXISTING:** NTC**RECOMMENDED CONTROL/NOMINATION:** PLANNING SCHEME.**MAP NO:** R2.05**SURVEY:** RP**DATE:** 24.1.94**NEGS:** 14.20

HISTORY: St. Patrick's House, a brick house on the Broadlands estate, was erected in 1864 by Jeremiah Ryan, a native of County Tipperary, Ireland. This house replaced an earlier timber house erected by Denis McMahon McNamara in the 1840s. He died about 1850 and his widow, Bridgett (née Hogan) then married Jeremiah Ryan, a worker on the property. In 1864, Ryan built a timber house St. Patrick's Cottage, which forms the kitchen area of the present farmhouse. The cottage was extended in 1877, drawing favourable comment from the *Bacchus Marsh Express*:

It is a very neat structure, built of brick with a slate roof, it contains eleven rooms, the whole being fitted up very conveniently. The outbuildings being in keeping with the residence, all being substantial and a fine range of brick stabling, attached is a good sized garden.¹

St. Patrick's House, was decorated with effigies of St Patrick, which peered benignly from the lintels over the two front doors.

In 1881, the farmhouse and property of 1,200 acres (486 ha), was sold to Henry 'Money' Miller. Miller had purchased several adjoining properties, including Henry James' Broadlands, which gave its name to the new estate. Thereafter, St. Patrick's House was the manager's residence for the 2,000 acre (809ha) grazing property.

VISUAL DESCRIPTION:

173A. *St Patrick's House*. Not inspected. (Private property. Only visible in distance). From photographs, the house appears to be a six-bay gable-roofed brick house facing the drive with parapets at each gable-end. This is slate-roofed, with three chimneys with terra-cotta pots on the ridge. It is in the form of a semi-detached pair of cottages, each symmetrical around its entry the lintels are decorated with two carved stone *bas-reliefs* of a male head. To this has now been added two projecting minor gables with a skillion roof between and beyond at each end, in the Bungalow style of the 1920s. This is supported on square section concrete Tuscan columns on brick plinths with very shallow-arched transoms. There are various garden remnants.

Note (refer separately):

¹ Cited in "St. Patrick's House, Broadlands", typescript, Building File No.3400, National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

- 173B. *Former Bacchus Marsh Church of England (non-vested) Denominational School "Iron School" No 53* (site). Erected December 1855. Closed 1864.² Confirmed demolished.
- 173C. *Former Bacchus Marsh National School No 28* (1851. Closed 1855).³ (site). One post set into the ground survives, on the south-east corner of the Lerderderg River bridge (between the river and the Avenue of Honour).

COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS: There are 17 early farmhouses in Bacchus Marsh identified in the Study. Of these there are eleven (double fronted and symmetrical) with gable roofs, seven built without verandahs and four of brick or stone. However none is in the form of two adjoining double-fronted cottages, as is St Patrick's House. Probably ref: 76 in Werribee Vale Road is nearest. The carved heads are comparable to the animal head at ref: 174, the Woolpack Inn (1850) opposite.

SIGNIFICANCE: An early, unpretentious brick farmhouse, built in 1864, with a 1920s Bungalow front.

It is of local historical significance as a representative embodiment of an agricultural way of life in the 1860s. It demonstrates an association with Henry 'Money' Miller and earlier, Jeremiah Ryan. Further, it demonstrates a sequence of architectural styles.

It is of local architectural significance as a representative (although unique in form) example of an early farmhouse. The sites of the early buildings are of scientific significance for its archaeological research potential.

INTACTNESS: Not accessible.

CONDITIONS & THREATS: Not accessible.

² L.J. Blake, *Vision & Realisation. A Centenary History of State Education in Victoria*. Education Department of Victoria, Melbourne 1973, vol.3, p.13.

³ Ibid, p.15

