

# BELLARINE HERITAGE STUDY RECORD SHEET

Site No.	32	Street/Site Name	Ashgarth Ave	Town / Suburb	Leopold	Postcode	3224
Address	40						
Record No.	104						
Page No.	1 of 4						
Site Name	fmr Allens Weak farm						

Key Dates: Original  Major Changes

Existing Use/Type

Precinct Name

Survey Date

Neg. No.

Video Track No.

Recorded By



**Heritage Status:**

CATEGORY: National Estate

REGISTRATION NUMBER: [ ]

Nominated:

Registered:  [ ]

**Historic Buildings Register**

Nominated:

Registered:  [ ]

**National Trust Register:**

[ ] [ ]

**Planning Scheme:**

[ ] [ ]

**Historical Archaeological Register :**

[ ]

**Other:**

[ ]

**BHS Degree of Significance**

A  B  C  D

**Condition of the fabric:**

Excellent  Good

Fair  Poor

Ruinous  Unexposed

**Integrity of the site:**

Excellent  Good

Fair  Poor

Partially excavated

Fully excavated

**Present Threats:**

Human; mining

Human; visitor erosion

Human; vandalism

Human; development

Human; conservation/maintenance

Human; stock

Natural Forces; erosion

Natural Forces; vegetation

Not threatened

**Significant Architectural Features:**

Original Materials

Original Chimneys

Wall Decoration

Verandah Structure

Verandah Decoration

Original Parapet

other prominent elevations

Original Roof:

Original Openings:

Original Decoration:


Original Finish:

Early Garden

Early Fence

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<b>Site Address</b>	No. <input type="text" value="40"/>	Street/Site name <input type="text" value="Ashgarth Ave"/>	Town / Suburb <input type="text" value="Leopold 3224"/>	Record No. <input type="text" value="104"/>
				Page No. <input type="text" value="2 of 4"/>

<b>Site Plan/ Location Sketch</b> <span style="float: right;">Not To Scale</span> 	<b>Australian Map Grid Co-ordinates</b> <input type="text" value="E 279000 N 5767550"/> Map <input type="text" value="DSM Leopold 7721-1 SE"/> Scale <input type="text" value="1: 25,000"/>
<b>Access</b> <input style="width: 100%; height: 50px;" type="text"/>	
<b>Informants</b> <input style="width: 100%; height: 50px;" type="text"/>	

<b>Ownership:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Crown <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Resident owner <input type="checkbox"/> Occupier only Local Govt Area <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Greater Geelong	<b>Cadastral Location:</b> County <input type="text" value="Grant"/> Parish <input type="text" value="Moolap"/> Allotment <input type="text" value="LP 208228 Lot 2"/> Block <input type="text" value="Vol. 9764 Fol. 73"/>
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**Physical Description of Site:**

The site has several mature exotic and fruit trees, a cypress windrow, and an underground well. The building was developed in at least four stages.

The earliest section is a small brick and stone cottage, with a steep pitch gable roof clad in corrugated iron. The west elevation is constructed from sandstone with red bricks above ceiling level, with a stone inscription plaque proclaiming "Allens Week 1856". The cottage has new 12 pane windows, french doors, a small verandah added to the south elevation and a new bricks on the east elevation. The next section was an extension to the north side of the cottage, in red brick and sandstone, with a hipped and gable roof, clad in corrugated iron. There is a simple verandah on the north elevation.

A separate weatherboard clad section has an internal red brick chimney and a hipped roof, clad in new corrugated iron. It is probably the detached kitchen for the original cottage, but is now joined to the other building by a new walkway.

**Relevant Special Interest Groups:**

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## Types of Sites:

<input type="checkbox"/> monument	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime	<input type="checkbox"/> tree(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> machinery
<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> relic/ruin	<input type="checkbox"/> garden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building
<input type="checkbox"/> agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> residential	<input type="checkbox"/> fence	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	<input type="checkbox"/> miscellaneous
<input type="checkbox"/> recreational	<input type="checkbox"/> infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> gate	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious	

## Historical Themes:

<b>Early Settlement</b> <input type="text" value="esDwellings"/> <b>Maritime</b> <input type="text"/> <b>Tourism</b> <input type="text"/> <b>Workforce</b> <input type="text"/> <b>Townships</b> <input type="text"/>	<b>Communities</b> <input type="text"/> <b>Landscapes</b> <input type="text"/> <b>The Wider World</b> <input type="text"/> <b>Cultural Activity</b> <input type="text"/> <b>Miscellaneous</b> <input type="text"/>
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## History of Site/Object/Place:

William Brinsmead was an 'English squatter' from Devonshire who settled the Kensington district before c1855. (1)(2) This property is believed to be the original Brinsmead homestead "Allens Week", on the shores of Lake Connewarre, off Brinsmeads Lane, Leopold. The detached kitchen of the homestead was used for early non-denominational church services in the 1850s. (3)

Early photographs of "Allens Week" and Mr & Mrs Brinsmead show a hipped roof, weatherboard clad house with a timber frame return verandah. (3) (4)

Henry Brinsmead is listed in the 1916 Bellarine Rate Book as a Farmer at Leopold with a house and land, and Henry Brinsmead, son of William, was born in 1856, and was a resident at "Allens Creek", Leopold.(5) (6)

A written account by Henry Brinsmead's grandchild recalls stables, barns, cowyards, a milk separator room and a blacksmiths shop on the property, and the house encircled by a white picket fence and an acre of gardens and lawns. (1)

In 1952 Mr John Jackson purchased "Ashgarth" in Ashgarth Ave, the original Brinsmeads pioneer farm. It was 200 acres on Lake Connewarre - at first a dairy farm, then producing peas and potatoes. (7.)

The property was advertised for sale in The Geelong Advertiser Sat 31st Dec1983 as "Brinsmeads", on Lake Connewarre, built c1866.

## References:

1. GHRC, Ref 450/ 3224 Brinsmead Cedric & Laura GHRC
2. The Geelong Advertiser
3. Wynd, p. 171 & 172
4. Ref318, 33, 29 Photographs, Bellarine Collection, Geelong Historic Records Centre
5. Bellarine Rate Books 1916
6. The Geelong Advertiser
7. GHRC, Ref 332/ 3224 Leopold Boat & Sail Club

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## Statement of Cultural Significance:

The former Allens Week farmhouse on the shores of Lake Connearra was built by William Brinsmead, an English squatter. The earliest section, where non-denominational church services were held, is a small gable roof brick and stone cottage probably constructed in the 1850s. The original 200 acre site which was a dairy farm and later produced peas and potatoes, contains mature exotic trees, a cypress windrow, fruit trees and an underground well.

The former Allens Week farm has historic and social value to the Leopold area.

The former Allens Week farm is the original homestead of a pioneer family and indicates the agricultural origins of settlement in the Leopold area. Remnants of the house surrounds survive and the original building, which is relatively intact and one of the oldest in the region, has associations with early community religious observance.

It is of **LOCAL** cultural significance.

## Additional Information

