

YARRA BRAE COTTAGE

Jamboree Hospital headquarters

Place No. 278

ADDRESS - Davis Road, cnr Clifford Drive
Wonga Park

Last Update

DESCRIPTION Yarra Brae Cottage is a simple, gable-roofed timber cottage with tiled roof and metal-framed windows. A large stone chimney is a feature of the main facade.

The tiled roof has been replaced. A return verandah and large carport are later extensions built by the previous owners around 1969.[5]

The garden area is enclosed by white-painted timber fencing. An H. V. McKay standard design farm gate is located on Davis Road. This is a common type of farm gate, but no other examples have been noted in the City of Manningham.

Condition Good **Integrity** Minor modifications

Threats None apparent **Key elements**

Designer

HISTORY The cottage is thought to have been built as a caretaker's house when the property was part of Clifford's Yarra Brae holding (1941-1967). John Upton, member of a district orcharding family, says that Bill Fife and Madge (daughter of Charles and Vi Fulford) were early occupiers.[1]

During the 1955-56 Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree, the cottage was used as hospital headquarters. It was described at the time as a "spanking little cottage hospital... situated on the top of Hospital Hill". A photograph of the cottage was included in an article in the local press.[2] Its location is shown on a plan of the site produced by The National Bank.[3] The hospital tents were located on the slopes below the cottage, and the level tent sites still appear as terraces on these slopes today.[4]

The weatherboard cottage, with concrete tiled roof and steel window frames, was part of the 850 acres of Yarra Brae purchased by the Bissett Johnson family in 1967. According to Ian Bissett Johnson, about 13 acres and the cottage was subdivided off and sold in about 1983 to Mr. Rod Vernon. "The cottage had been modernised in about 1969, when as well as internal works, the steel deck roofed verandahs and carport were added.[5]

Creation Date post 1941

Change Dates

Associations

Local Themes

Lord Clifford Pan-Pacific Scout Jambor

5.01 - Squatters, selectors & small farmer

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Of local significance as a cottage built for Lord Clifford, a significant property owner, and used as hospital headquarters for the 1955-56 Pan-Pacific Scout Jamboree (an event of statewide importance), held on Clifford's Yarra Brae property. (Criterion A4, H1)

LEVEL

RECOMMENDATIONS

Heritage Register Listings

Register	Reference	Zoning	Status
None Specified			

Extent

Heritage Schedule

External Paint Controls:	On VHR:	VHR Ref No:
Internal Alteration Controls:	Prohibited Uses:	

Tree Controls:

Aboriginal Heritage Place:

Outbuildings or Fences:

Incorporated Plan:

Incorporated Plan Details

Description:

Conservation Management

Extra Research

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- BIBLIOGRAPHY** [1] John Upton, pers. comm.
[2] The Lillydale Express, 2 December 1955.
[3] "Where to find him," plan of Pan-Pacific Jambouree, Dec. 1955-Jan. 1956 produced by The National Bank.
[4] Maureen and Rod Vernon: current owners.
[5] Ian Bissett Johnson, correspondence 3 June 1996.