

# SEDDON HILL

Place No. 234

<b>ADDRESS</b>	372 Yarra Road (former 9061) Wonga Park	<b>Last Update</b>
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**DESCRIPTION** Located on a rural property, this Edwardian timber farm house is set high above and close to the present road alignment. It is double-fronted and asymmetrical, with a high gabled-hip roof extending to form a return verandah on two sides. The simple timber valence and balustrade may be original. The front is well-detailed, with the projecting gable featuring a jettied upper section, set on timber brackets over a rectangular bay window.

A large oak is close to the front of the house, and a pine to the rear.

**Condition** Fair **Integrity** Minor modifications

**Threats** Deterioration **Key elements**

**Designer**

**HISTORY** Herbert Webb, gardener, was the first owner in about 1909 of a house on 25 acres in Lot 67 of Crown Allotment 11A, valued at 15 pounds.[1] This lot was part of the National Mutual's 1897 subdivision. Lot 67 changed hands a number of times in the pre-First World War period. In 1910, it was owned by Charles Hall, and in 1911-12 by W. Hunter, orchardist.[2]

From about 1913, Lot 67 was owned by James Edward Hooper, orchardist.[3] Hooper came to Wonga Park that year with his brother Jack, a poultry farmer, and owner of Hooper Cottage at 19 Hooper Road. Jim and his wife had nine children - Violet (later Mrs Charles Fulford), Ethel, Carrie, Dave, Eddie, Roy, Alec, Jean and Isobel.[4] Three Hooper children, Ethel, Carrie and Dave, were among the pupils shown in the 1912 photograph of the opening of the new Wonga Park State School.[5]

Additions appear to have been made to Seddon Hill in 1924-25 when its valuation doubled and it was identified in rate records for the first time as Seddon Hill in Yarra Road, Croydon. The Hooper family continued to own the property which, in 1938, was owned by James E. Hooper still.[6]

Local sources suggest that Alec Hooper and his wife lived here for many years.[7]

**Creation Date** 1909

**Change Dates**

**Associations**

**Local Themes**

Herbert Webb, James Edward Hooper

5.02 - Orchards & market gardens

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE** Seddon Hill is of local significance as a turn of the century farm house with 1920s additions associated with Herbert Webb, gardener, and later, from 1913 with James Edward Hooper, orchardist, providing a relatively intact and elaborate example of the dwellings built on Wonga Park farms at this time. (Criterion D2, 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] Shire of Lillydale RB 1909-10 No.2210.
  - [2] Shire of Lillydale RB 1910-11 No.2277; 1911-12 No.2012.
  - [3] Shire of Lillydale RB 1913-14 No.2115.
  - [4] Slade MSS.
  - [5] Border Country, p.43.
  - [6] Shire of Lillydale RB 1924-25 No.3651; 1938-39 No.6317.
  - [7] Lesley Taylor, pers. comm; Mrs Hooper still lives on another part of the property.