

By 1910-11, when Florence Blair was the owner still of the Ross' Hill house, it was identified as on the Yarra Lodge site, on Lot 3 of Section 8 in Yarra Street⁴⁵⁴ In that year, her husband acquired more land in the Warrandyte goldfields area, 19 acres in Harris Gully.⁴⁵⁵ This was an alluvial gully opened in 1854-56.⁴⁵⁶ Today, Yarra Lodge is located near Blair Street, which is not far from Harris Gully Road.

During the early 1920s when the Yarra Street house increased in value,⁴⁵⁷ Florence sold Yarra Lodge to Charles R. Hemsworth, a farmer.⁴⁵⁸ The Blairs, however, continued to own properties in Yarra Street and were responsible in the 1940s for the subdivision of the Yarra View Estate⁴⁵⁹ Their former home survived and is shown on a recent 1992 MMBW Property Sewerage Plan still on Lot 3 with its return verandah facing Yarra Street.⁴⁶⁰

Yarra Lodge is of *local historical significance*. for its associations with the Blair family, Western Australian miners attracted to the Anderson's Creek, Warrandyte goldfields area.

House

38 Yarra Street, Warrandyte.

This shop and residence, which appears to date from circa 1940, was located on the 1935 subdivision of the Joseph Blair Estate in Yarra Street.⁴⁶¹ Prior to that date, Joseph Blair of Box Hill, was rated for Lots 1 to 6, vacant land in Yarra Street.⁴⁶²

⁴⁵⁴ Shire of Templestowe RB 1910-11 Warrandyte Riding No.24 (NAV 30 pounds). Still listed at Ross' Hill.

⁴⁵⁵ Shire of Templestowe RB 1910-11 Warrandyte Riding No.25(NAV 12 pounds).

⁴⁵⁶ James Flett, p.36.

⁴⁵⁷ Shire of Doncaster RB 1922-23 Templestowe Riding No.292 (NAV 50 pounds).

⁴⁵⁸ Shire of Doncaster RB 1923-24 Templestowe Riding No.401(House 6 acres Lots 2B,3,3A Section 8, Yarra Street).

⁴⁵⁹ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1941-42 Warrandyte Riding Nos.67,68,69.

⁴⁶⁰ MMBW Property Sewerage Plan No.818182.

⁴⁶¹ Lodge Plan 14119. Dated 27 March 1935.

⁴⁶² Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1935-36 Warrandyte Riding No.62(NAV 15 pounds).

Paul Brown, storekeeper, was associated with the property from 1939 when he purchased Lots 4 and 5, still vacant land.⁴⁶³ In 1940, Brown was rated for a house, tearooms and shop.⁴⁶⁴ By 1949, the property was owned by Jacob Lang.⁴⁶⁵

Of local historical significance as a shop, residence and tearooms dating from c 1940.

Former Police Station
71 Yarra St., Warrandyte.

This brick Bungalow type residence, built in the early 1930s for Ellen and Emily Unwin, was used as the Warrandyte Police Station from that time⁴⁶⁶ until the 1950s. Its site was owned earlier by William J. Unwin, a South Yarra plumber.⁴⁶⁷

A "new house-to be used as a Police Station" was recorded on the site in the 1931-32 Warrandyte Riding records. Completed by 1933, the house was owned by Ellen and Emily Unwin of 167 Commercial Road, South Yarra.⁴⁶⁸ It replaced the previous Warrandyte Police Station in Stiggants Street, which had been destroyed by fire.⁴⁶⁹

The Yarra Street building was used as a one man mounted police station and residence.⁴⁷⁰ Photographs held by the Warrandyte Historical Society show the officers in charge during the 1930s and 1940s and their Police Horse, Minnie. One photograph shows Constable Bert Birthisal (the officer in charge from 1939) on Police Horse Minnie. Another shows Constable Len McColl (officer in charge 1939-1946) at the back of the station with Minnie.

Bert Birthisal came to Warrandyte in 1935. Bert was also the first fire brigade captain in the district, elected at the inaugural meeting in March 1938 of the Warrandyte Bush Fire Brigade. He was transferred from Warrandyte in 1939 and later served in Northern Victoria. He died in August 1962.⁴⁷¹

⁴⁶³ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1939-40 Warrandyte Riding No.67 (NAV 9 pounds).

⁴⁶⁴ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1940-41 Warrandyte Riding No.87(NAV 34 pounds).

⁴⁶⁵ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1949-50 Warrandyte Riding No.3185.

⁴⁶⁶ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1931-32 Warrandyte Riding No.568(NAV 10 pounds).

⁴⁶⁷ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1931-32 Warrandyte Riding No.568.

⁴⁶⁸ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1932-33 Warrandyte Riding No.608(NAV