

# CAMERON HOMESTEAD

**Location**

40S CAMERON STREET CRANBOURNE EAST, CASEY CITY

**Municipality**

CASEY CITY

**Level of significance**

Heritage Inventory Site

**Heritage Inventory (HI) Number**

H7921-0121

**Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Inventory

**Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - January 1, 1900

The site contains no observable surface artefacts. A concrete water feature may conceal a disused well, which may contain deposits dating to the 1850s. The recovery of a small number of artefacts during subsurface investigation as part of a CHMP suggests that there is potential for additional historic artefacts to be located in the area. The archaeological significance of the site is moderate.

The site contributes to Victorian Historical Theme: 4.3 - Grazing and raising livestock. The site is representative of a pastoral property occupied during the gold rush era. The site will likely have local historical significance as it may relate to gold rush era settlement of the Cranbourne region, and be associated with the early pastoral use of the area.

The site is of medium scientific significance as it may contain archaeological deposits relating to the earliest occupation of Cranbourne. The water feature may be obscuring a former well, which may contain deposits dating from the 1850s. If this site has any significant archaeological integrity, it may be a rare example of its kind remaining in the region.

The site has potential for low social significance for its association with the Cameron family, who were the first European settlers in the region.

## History

The site lies within a broader tract of land leased by Alexander Cameron in March 1851, with a pre-emptive right granted in 1853. The homestead became known as 'Mayfield'. The land was used for the grazing of cattle and production of fodder crops. Alexander Cameron retained ownership of 'Mayfield' until his death, at which time ownership was transferred to his sons Alexander (Jnr) and James. The homestead was said to comprise a weatherboard house containing 8 rooms, a brick stable, kitchen and dairy, and also several wooden and bark outbuildings. Members of the Cameron family retained ownership of the 'Mayfield' estate until 1913, until it was purchased by George Herbert Hope, who established a dairy farm at 'Mayfield'. The history subsequent to this is unknown at this time.

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*