
TULOONA HOMESTEAD COMPLEX



23217 Tuloona homestead
0264



23217 Tuloona homestead
0265



23217 Tuloona mens
quarters 0266



23217 Tuloona stables 0261

Location

Coleraine-Edenhope Road HARROW, West Wimmera Shire

Municipality

WEST WIMMERA SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 29, 2003

What is Significant?

Tuloona Homestead Complex is located on the Coleraine-Edenhope Road, some four kilometers south east of

Harrow. The complex is made up of a large federation style brick and timber house and a number of outbuildings, including a drop slab stables and shed, situated in a picturesque setting on a prominent rise overlooking Tuloona Gully. Tuloona was subdivided from the larger nearby Clunie Estate in 1906, taken up by J. C Fitzgerald, the son of a local selector family who became large landholders in the Harrow area in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The homestead was built for J. C Fitzgerald in 1907, and although there is no known architect, the quality of the design and detail suggest that a professional may have designed it. A number of timber additions were constructed, and some renovations took place post 1945. The large timber drop slab stables and shed were constructed in the early twentieth century. The house and outbuildings are in good condition, although the interiors have lost some of their integrity.

How is it Significant?

Tuloona Homestead Complex is of historical and architectural significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it Significant?

Tuloona Homestead Complex is of historical significance for its association with the much larger and historically significant Clunie run, and for its associations with the Fitzgerald family, who arrived in the Harrow area in the 1860s and became important landholders in the district. Tuloona homestead is of architectural significance as a classic example of federation architecture, demonstrated in both the exteriors and the interiors, although some interior details have been lost through modernisation. The complex is of further architectural significance for the drop slab shed and stables, constructed in the early twentieth century, using primitive building techniques.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23217
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The physical condition of Tuloona homestead and its outbuildings is excellent. The garden is overgrown and in poor condition.

Physical Description 1

Tuloona Homestead is a large brick and timber house, partially rendered, situated in a picturesque setting on a prominent rise overlooking Tuloona Gully, off the Coleraine-Edenhope Road. Built in 1907 in the Federation style, the main rooms are approached from a grand hallway with large double entrance doors, and highly decorative pressed metal ceiling and cornices. The quality of the design and detail suggest that a professional architect may have been employed, although the name is not known. After World War 2, a number of additions were made in timber, and some of the rooms were renovated in the contemporary Modern style. Servants quarters, the laundry and storage rooms are located at the rear of the house, but can only be approached from the central courtyard. Garages and a meat house are located in the rear yard.

Beyond the house garden, delineated by a row of Peppercorn (*Schinus molle*) trees, is a large horizontal drop slab stables and shed, built in the early 20th century, but demonstrating much earlier construction techniques. The woolshed was constructed in 1946, using traditional design and materials. A group of three timber and corrugated iron buildings near the stables were quarters for the shearers and cook. The gardener's cottage, closer to the main house, was built or moved to Tuloona from elsewhere in the 1950s. Similarly, a 19th century cottage, some distance from the main house, was shifted to the site from Coleraine in the 1940s.

The garden retains many elements of a formal design, with a turning circle at the end of the long driveway, which

is lined with a double row of poplars leading to the house. The remains of a hedge of Golden Cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Aurea') can be seen, together with European specimen trees of various ages.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

3.5.2 Breeding animals

3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

Theme 5: Working

5.8 Working the land

Usage/Former Usage

Continuing as a pastoral property

Integrity

High

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/>