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# MT. ARARAT PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHT HOUSE, TREES



Mt Ararat Pre Emptive Right House



Mt Ararat Pre Emptive Right House & Dore Family? ('In the Wake of the Pack Tracks', p.126)

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## Location

125 Mt Ararat Road North PAKENHAM, Cardinia Shire

## Municipality

CARDINIA SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO81

## Heritage Listing

Cardinia Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The Mt. Ararat pre-emptive right house, which may date in part from the 1850s-1860s (after the district pioneer, John Dore secured the pre-emptive right) is significant to the Cardinia Shire because of its associations with one of the shire's earliest pastoral runs. The property has significance for its continuing ownership and use as a farm complex by the Dore family for over a century. Although the old farm house was altered in the 1950s, it is of

significance for some early remaining elements, particularly the early Lombardic styling which suggests an architect was involved..

Only some individual trees [white cedar (*Melia azedarach*) and two Paulownia] are of contributory significance to the house & property (garden not individually of heritage significance).

### *Regional Significance*

Heritage Study/Consultant	Cardinia - Cardinia Shire Heritage Study 1996, Graeme Butler & Associates, 1996;
Construction dates	1847,
Other Names	125 Mt. Ararat Road North, Pakenham,
Hermes Number	30074
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

Stylistically similar to the early Lombardic Italian Romanesque designs seen in Sinclair's cottage, Fitzroy Gardens (c1866), the north and south wing have unusually shallow gabled rooflines and formerly coloured brick walls (since rendered or painted).

There is a gabled brick bedroom wing (over-painted) along the north side, with unusual arcaded chimney shafts and this may have served with a then detached similarly styled kitchen wing on the south (as seen today from the large chimney). These wings have since been united by the central cellar wing with its broader gabled roofline. The roofs were reputedly once slated but are now tiled.

Alterations in the 1950s included new windows on the east and enclosure of a verandah on the west which linked the two wings (reputedly built last century)<sup>3</sup>. There is both over-painted face brick (English bond, soft c232x78x102) and ruled stucco at various points around the house. There is also signs of tuck-pointing while the trimming bricks on the north wing are visible in places as cream coloured, being around openings.

The interior is plain with largely lathe and plaster or hard plaster finishes with late nineteenth-century mouldings and four-panel doors. There is a cellar under the section dividing the two wings.

The outbuildings near the house are unrelated but there is a well nearby.

**Garden** The garden surrounds the house which is prominently situated at the top of a hill.

Other than a few trees, much of the ornamental garden surrounding the home building appears to date from a more recent period than the nineteenth-century homestead. At the rear of the house, there is a large white cedar (*Melia azedarach*) which may date from pre 1900 and two Paulownia which are reputedly from the 1950s.

The remainder of the planting appears to date from after 1900. At the side of the house is a row of elm trees, mostly small and probably suckers. The main garden is at the rear of the house, where there is a photinia hedge, camellias, liquidambars, and a pin oak which may all date from the 1940s or 50s. Near the farm buildings at the end of the drive are a windbreak row of Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) probably planted in the 1920s or later. One individual specimen tree, not in the row, is particularly large. In the paddock at the front of the house are a number of mature hawthorns (*Crataegus sp.*

) which may date from pre 1900.

## **Physical Conditions**

The house has been superficially changed probably mostly in and after the 1950s, with the bricks being painted over, the eaves on the north being extended, the once slated roofs tiled, the linking verandah enclosed, and the windows changed on the east.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

Historical Themes

3.1 Squatters/pastoralists and grazing

11.0 Evidence of: Life style, housing and landscape choice of notable figures residing in the district

## **Physical Description 2**

Associations - Dore family

*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/>*