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# INGLIS FARM COMPLEX



Inglis farm homestead (2000)



Inglis farm shearing shed



image25

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## Location

180 INGLIS ROAD, DUMBALK, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Rec for HO area contributory

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 23, 2022

### What is significant?

The Inglis Farm Complex, at 180 Inglis Road, Dumbalk East, built in 1909 for James and Thomas Wills, is significant. The property includes the main homestead, cool room, stables, shearing shed (now irreparably damaged) and shearing pens. The single storey transitional weatherboard homestead has a large-scale longitudinal hip, smaller parallel hip and a wide centrally projecting gable. The bullnose verandah encircles the building with iron lace decorations and supported by stop chamfered square posts. Other contributory features include:

External

- Two tripartite windows in projecting front gable
- Three rendered chimneys with moulded caps
- Pressed metal infills to the projecting gable end

- Bracketed eaves decoration
- Louvred ridge gablets
- Remaining original double-hung windows

#### Internal

- Internal high ceilings with pressed metal decorations (including ceiling roses)
- All original fireplaces

Other key features of heritage significance on the property include:

- Entry to underground well
- Early gabled stable structure to the east of the homestead
- Other heritage outbuildings surrounding the homestead
- Loft shed that may predate the homestead with earthen floor, two stables, men's room and bathroom
- Shearing pens to the west of the homestead, at the rear of the old shearing shed
- Garden setting including mature trees

The shearing sheds are significant to the site but are in a state of irreparable damage.

Non-original alterations and additions, other than those listed above, are not of heritage significance.

#### **How is it significant?**

The Inglis Farm Complex is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the South Gippsland Shire. The complex is also strongly associated with the Inglis family.

#### **Why is it significant?**

Historically, the homestead was constructed for James and Thomas Wills and the additions of the cool room, well, and surrounding outbuilding on the property over time reflect the growth of the farm and the development of the district throughout settlement. The shearing shed is one of the four known early shearing sheds in the Shire and illustrates the importance of sheep to the local economy at the time. The homestead, cool room and surrounding outbuildings are significant for their ability to demonstrate the early settlement and development of farming in the hills of Dumbalk. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically, the homestead is significant for its design, which is a blend of the Victorian and Federation styles and features and an overall design that is unique to the Shire, both inside and out. The Inglis farm significantly contributes to the aesthetic and historic significance of the Dumbalk district. (Criterion E)

The Inglis farm has a very strong association to the early pioneering families of South Gippsland, the Inglis' and the Elliott's. Linked through marriage, these two families were key in the settlement of the Parish of Mirboo and farming in the region. The farm has been owned by the Inglis family since they purchased the property and is still owned by descendants today. The Inglis farm demonstrates the longevity of these two pioneer families. (Criterion H)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1906, 1904, 1904,
Other Names	House, homestead, shearing shed, thematic, Federation, Bunda Woorayl,
Hermes Number	30573
Property Number	

## **Physical Description 1**

The homestead at 180 Inglis Lane, Dumbalk East is a single storey weatherboard Transitional villa.

The design, which illustrates the confusion of the transitional period between Victorian and Federation styles, is unique in the Shire and is based on a large single longitudinal corrugated iron hip with a wide centrally projecting gable. It has a smaller parallel hip and an encircling verandah.

Other notable elements include:

- The two tripartite windows in the projecting front gable.
- The main entry relegated to the secondary side room in a re-entry against the main building form. It has rendered steps built into the angle of the verandah return.
- The rendered chimneys with moulded caps.
- The pressed metal infills to the projecting gable end.
- Bracketed eaves decoration.
- Louvred ridge gablets.
- The bullnose verandah with stop chamfered square posts (neck moulds missing) and cast iron frieze with crescent brackets.
- The false ashlar (blocked) boards of the main facades below the verandah. There is an early gabled stable structure constructed from corrugated iron to the east of the house and a small weatherboard coolroom with an iron gable shade roof and a hood over the entry, at the rear of the house.

The shearing shed is located on a hillside above the entry drive to the west of the house. The earlier section (c. 1890) is constructed of parallel corrugated iron roofed gables with vertical single lapped split planks on split framing. This section has a slat floor and contains the holding pens. The shearing, sorting and baling areas are now contained within a later pair of parallel vertical corrugated iron gabled structures. External pens are located further to the east.

The property is located at the very end of Inglis Road, with the homestead surrounded by pine trees and the shed more exposed on the side of a hill. The homestead is set in an old garden, which contains some very old tree ferns, as well as exotic trees.

*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/>*