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## MARYDALE FARM COMPLEX



2270 Mclvor Highway,  
Axedale Marydale  
outbuildings



Marydale Outbuildings



Marydale Outbuildings 2



203722\_Axedale\_Mclvor  
Highway\_2270\_img04



203722\_Axedale\_Mclvor  
Highway\_2270\_img05



203722\_Axedale\_Mclvor  
Highway\_2270\_img08

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### Location

2270 MCIVOR HIGHWAY, AXEDALE - PROPERTY NUMBER 203722, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

### Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO738

### Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 21, 2024

### What is significant?

The farm complex Marydale comprising the corrugated iron farm outbuildings, timber schoolhouse, homestead garden, nineteenth century summerhouse, elm tree lined driveway and timber driveway gates is significant. The homestead and garage adjacent to the homestead is not significant.

### How is it significant?

Marydale is of local historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

### Why is it significant?

Marydale is historically significant as part of the former Campaspe Plains and Axe stations that once comprised 67,000 hectares from Axedale to the outskirts of Bendigo. It is one of the earliest properties established in the study area and has associations with the Heffernan family of the Shamrock Hotel in Bendigo. *Criterion A*

Marydale is of aesthetic significance for its unusual grouping of farm outbuildings all of which are designed in a simple but picturesque manner. The large machinery shed is highly unusual with the pigeon or dove cotes built into the gable ends. There is an unusual degree of detail and uniformity of the outbuildings all of which are clad in painted corrugated iron with timber architraves and timber framed windows. The schoolhouse is of particular interest for its unusual design, steeply pitched roof, multipaned windows and timber detailing. The driveway and area between the farm buildings is significant for its trees including elms and red gums, and ornamental timber gates. The summerhouse is rare in the study area, not otherwise associated with other farm complexes where utilitarian buildings predominate. The garden setting of the summerhouse and homestead is significant for its mature trees. *Criterion E*

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Greater Bendigo - Former Shires of Mclvor and Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2008; |
| Construction dates        | 1850, 1870, 1890, 1920,  |
| Hermes Number             | 32586  |
| Property Number           |  |

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## Physical Description 1

Marydale is an extensive pastoral property with the entrance located at the bridge over the Campaspe River at Axedale. The property includes extensive river flats bordering the Campaspe and a long tree lined avenue of red gums and elms leading to the group of buildings including the homestead, machinery shed, workshop, schoolhouse and other buildings. The homestead is set in an established garden containing a summerhouse. The garden includes many exotic trees including palms and elms.

The homestead which has been extensively renovated and extended during the ownership of the Roberts family, is apparently built over and around an early house, but there is no external evidence of this remaining.[1]

The summerhouse in the garden is of an octagonal design with a steeply pitched roof clad in terra cotta tiles. A nineteenth century photo of the garden in possession of the owners shows the summerhouse in its present location.

The farm outbuildings are built with unusual design influences, although of rectangular, gable roofed form they display an unusual attention to detail such as the pigeon or dovecote in the gable ends of the large machinery

shed. The windows are all multi-paned and are set with architraves into corrugated iron cladding. All the cladding is of short sheets.

The schoolhouse is of particular interest as an unusual one-off design with a steeply pitched roof with extended eaves and a half gable feature. The multi-paned sash windows are of an unusual design and the interior is apparently lined in western red cedar lining boards. [2]

The whole farm complex has very high aesthetic value derived from its setting, avenues of trees, timber gates, well maintained buildings of unusual design influence and grouping of buildings around a central driveway area adjacent to the house. The homestead is of lesser interest due to its contemporary extensions.

Marydale may be compared with Mt Camel Station at 770 Heathcote Rochester Road. This is also a pastoral property from part of a large squatting run, and is the only other large pastoral property in the study area.

[1] Information from the current owners, John and Ros Roberts October 2008

[2] Information from the current owners, John and Ros Roberts October 2008

## **Physical Conditions**

Excellent

## **Integrity**

High (outbuildings)

Altered (house)

## **Historical Australian Themes**

4.0 Transforming the land

4.1 Living off the land

*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/>*