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## CLESTRON (OGILVY HOMESTEAD SITE & TREES)



Ogilvy Homestead site trees



Pines at Ogilvy homestead site



Holly at Ogilvy Homestead site



Elms beside shed at Ogilvy homestead site



Cherry tree east of shed at Ogilvy Homestead site



image183

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### Location

600 BOOLARRA SOUTH-MIRBOO NORTH ROAD, MIRBOO NORTH, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

### Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO151

### Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 20, 2022

### What is significant?

The mature exotic trees that mark out the site of 'Clestron', the former homestead of the Ogilvy family, are significant. The site includes:

- A number of Elm trees (*Ulmus sp.*) in two lines, defining the Northern and Western boundaries of the original homestead garden. The trees that form the Northern boundary are remnants of a much larger row.
- A Canary Island Pine (*Pinus Canariensis*) at the Northern end of the row of Elms running North-South
- Several Cherry trees (*Prunus domestica*) occupying the land that slopes away from the extant shed. One of these trees has a particularly large trunk.
- Holly (*Ilex sp.*) situated between the extant shed and the Western line of Elms
- On the South of the track and opposite the shed are two large Pines (possibly Monterey Pines) and another Holly bush.

The extant corrugated iron shed is not significant.

### How is it significant?

The site of 'Clestron' at 600 Boolarra South, Mirboo North Road, Mirboo North, is of local significance to the South Gippsland Shire due to its association with Charles Ogilvy and its potential to provide information about early settlement.

### Why is it significant?

The site of 'Clestron' has the potential to yield archaeological significance and inform about the way this land was occupied and developed during the early years of settlement in South Gippsland and Mirboo North. This is one of the few very early sites that have been positively identified in the region. This site also demonstrates the practice of early selectors making defining their property with ornamental and productive trees. (Criterion C)

This site is strongly associated with Charles Ogilvy and his family, who were pioneers in South Gippsland and crucial to the early development of the region. Charles Ogilvy purchased 319 acres of land West of Lydiard's Track during the Mirboo North land sales when he moved to the region in 1880. The land was densely forested but was reputedly named 'Charlieshope'. Once cleared, the Gippsland Mercury on 27 January 1885 described the property as having large quantities of flourish raspberries (enough to make large quantities of jam) and a beautiful flower garden including fuchias. Charles Ogilvy was an important member of the community and shaped the development of Mirboo North, including beginning the first newspaper in the town, campaigning for improved roads, and providing a building and land for the first Mirboo Central School in 1884. In 1887, along with John Inglis, Mr Ogilvy called a meeting to discuss forming a new Shire in the region, which led to him becoming the first Shire Secretary for the Woorayl Shire from 1888, a role he held for 12 years. (Criterion H)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - Amendment C92 Heritage Review, David Helms Heritage Planning, 2014; South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1890, 1885, 1885,
Other Names	'Charlieshope', Charlieshope,
Hermes Number	73061
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The mature exotic trees that mark the former site of 'Clestron', the Ogilvy family homestead, at 600 Boolarra South-Mirboo North Road, Mirboo North are situated on a flat area of land just below the crest of a hill behind the

present farmhouse, which is situated close to the front road boundary.

The site is accessed by an internal farm track, which the present owner believes may have once formed part of a old public road or track. The trees include several Elms (*Ulmus sp.*), three Pines (*Pinus sp.*) including a Canary Island Pine (*Pinus canariensis*), Hollies (*Ilex sp.*), and various fruit trees including several Cherry Plums (*Prunus domestica*). Most of the trees are situated on the north side of the farm track surrounding a corrugated iron shed that may occupy the site of the former homestead. They include:

- The Elms, which are in two lines/groups that appear to define what presumably were the west and north boundaries of the original homestead garden. The presumed western boundary comprises four Elms in a line running approximately north-south with a Canary Island Pine at the northern end. The northern boundary is indicated by two trees adjacent to the shed that appear to be the remnants of an east-west row.
- Several Cherry trees occupying the land that slopes away on the east side of the shed. These include one tree with a particularly large trunk.
- A Holly situated between the shed and the west line of Elms.

On the south side of the track and almost directly opposite the shed are two large Pines (possibly Monterey Pines), and another Holly, which is tangled with other shrubs.

The site appears to one of the highest points in the district and has expansive views in most directions. Based on the position of the surviving trees, it appears the homestead would have faced toward the east or south.

*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/>*