

Victorian Heritage Database place details - 17/3/2019 YALLAMBIE



Location:

14 Tarcoola Drive YALLAMBIE, Banyule City

Heritage Overlay Number: HO64

Listing Authority: HO

Extent of Registration:

Statement of Significance:

Yallambie is of local architectural and historical significance. Constructed in the 1870s, the house is a rare surviving 19th century building in the suburb dating from period of rural settlement. The property, which was established in the 1840s, continued to function as a farm until the 1950s, and retains a number of outbuildings. The Italianate style house, although altered, is notable for its large scale, contrasting with the more recent suburban development in the area. The house is enhanced by its setting on a relatively large site overlooking the Plenty River reserve.

The garden is notable for the fine, mature trees scattered throughout the site. They reflect the grandeur of the early estate, are prominent within the local neighbourhood, and are early examples of these trees within the municipality.

Description

Yallambie is one of the many properties in Banyule to have been built on land which had been subdivided by speculator, Thomas Walker. It was the summer residence of Thomas Wragge, a successful farmer, and as such is one of the substantial gentlemen's residences to be erected within the City of Banyule.

Original use: Residence

Current use: Residence

Fair

BUILDINGS: Yallambie is a two-storey, asymmetrically planned Italianate style villa with hipped slate roofs with bracketed eaves. Walls are rendered, and a plain string course divides the two storeys. Windows are semi-circular and segmented arched double-hung sashes with moulded surrounds. Chimneys are rendered with moulded cappings. Timber post verandahs dating from the 1910-19 period of alterations are located on the east and south elevations, which replaced the original cast iron verandahs, and have timber slatted friezes and shingled balustrading at first floor level. Other alterations from this period include the addition of bay windows, timber picture rails, timber lining boards and beams to the ceiling of one of the front rooms and the replacement of the original stair. Two-storey additions exist to the rear (west). Some of the original joinery survives including a number of four-panelled doors with hand painted floral decoration by Wragge's daughters. Several original marble and slate fireplaces also survive.

There are several outbuildings on the property including a 19th century dairy and laundry, an early 20th century garage and a water tower. An early stables building was demolished in the 1980s. **LANDSCAPE:** The property slopes steeply down to the extensive river flats, which is now part of a linear park system. The retention of the trees throughout the precinct, beyond the current property's boundary, reflects the setting of the house before subdivision.

A large outbuilding and brick rendered water tank are located in the front (south west) of the property. The driveway has a gravel surface and leads to a turning circle at the front of the house.

A host of trees associated with the original estate are scattered throughout the grounds and throughout the adjoining properties and parklands. Most of the remnant trees are located to the rear of the house, which is dominated by mature conifers. These include Bunya Pine (*Araucaria bidwillii*), various true pines (*Pinus radiata* and *P. pinaster*), Italian Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*), and a Mexican Cypress (*Cupressus lusitanica*). These trees are situated on a steep bank which appears to have been terraced, but the current garden is overgrown.

Fair

Part of Crown Portion 8. Thomas Wills, 12/9/1838

Heritage Study	1999 - Banyule - Banyule Heritage Study, 1985 - Banyule - Heidelberg Conservation Study
Year Construction Started	
Architect / Designer	
Architectural Style	
Heritage Act Categories	
Municipality	["BANYULE CITY"]
Other names	
History	