

Place name Green Hills Farm	Survey Date: 31/07/2002
Other name	Id: 706
Street Rays Road	Last Update 9/03/2005
Locality Tarraville	Postcode 3971
Official Locality	Property No
Local Government Area Wellington Shire	Property Info
Precinct: Not in precinct	
Easting	Northing
Map	
Workshop number	Workshop votes
Field survey number	Community priority
Designer	Builder
Ownership	Built Date 1851 Change Date
Description Former use: 1851 ; farming ; 1851 ; residential ; ; description: date started 1851; date finished ; storeys 0; desc farm; (Victorian Heritage Inventory)	

The complex consists of two timber houses (the earlier to the east) placed perpendicular to each other to form an L. The earlier house is double-fronted, is gabled and has a verandah, supported on slender stop-chamfered posts, on the north side. The later house has a high, simple hip-roof and a verandah to the east side, which is decorated with a strapwork timber frieze typical of the period 1915-1920; it is said that this was used as a detached kitchen and servant's quarters. Attached are smaller timber buildings serving various purposes (dairy etc.) some of which possess the rare half-round guttering supported on carved timber brackets such as were used on the first stage of (39) Wellington Street. One is roofed with broad-gauge iron. Extending for some distance to the north of the earlier wing, is a divided garden once consisting of brick edging and gravel paths between beds. A large stables block exists within an outer yard, each area being contained within split picket fencing. Apart from the recent addition of another house, the complex is original to a period dating back to at least the 1860s. Like (58) it represents early rural holdings within the Reeve Survey and, unlike (57) where the house design probably represents an architect's influence or hand, the buildings here are of simple concept with distinctive aspects (gutter brackets) not found elsewhere in the state.

Although the garden is now very overgrown, it is one of the few remaining gardens which is essentially utilitarian. The form probably dates from the 1870s. Of particular interest is the small geometric flower garden in front of the house which is edged with saw-toothed brickwork. The entire garden is surrounded by a split paling fence. The garden is divided into rectangular sections with earthen paths between. The furthest areas from the house are used for vegetables and those close to the house for flowers and shrubs. (Victorian Garden Inventory)

The garden is overgrown and largely derelict but the pattern is still discernible. The brick edged flower garden in front of the house is still intact. (Victorian Garden Inventory)

Condition

Integrity

History

Allotments: 18a. 0.3 and 252 acres as shown on Tarravale Estate plan, (RGO). First Allotment owners: George Dixon Hedley, July 1851: William Howden c 1858.

Dr. Hedley purchased one of the above allotments during 1851; being, the first freehold taken out of the Reeve survey (1). William Howden seems to have taken the southern part of it whilst Hedley moved closer to Tarraville and sold the property (2). Hedley was listed in the 1851 Directory at Green Hills which is the name associated today with this area and it is possible that he built first here and again, after purchasing the other allotment in 1854 (Refer 57).

John and Charles Ray were rated in 1863 for a house and land, each, on the Tarra survey: Reeve was the owner (3). John Ray had been: listed as a labourer at Sale in 1856, whilst a Thomas Ray was a bootmaker leasing

premises at Alberton (4).

Later rate listings (1870) show that a contractor, Edwin Ray, was leasing a house and land from Reeve, whilst John leased "Green Hills" from William Howden (5). The 1879 rate entry places Edwin on 20 acres with a wooden house and John on 40 acres at Woranga; both had 100 acres at Woranga also (6). By 1886, Edwin has a four room timber house and 250 acres at Tarra Tarra. 7 The entry continues into the 1890's with variations occurring in the land size. The Ray family still own this property (7).

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Heritage Protections Register	Reference	Zoning	Status
Planning Scheme	HO42		Listed
Victorian Heritage Register	600798		File only

National Estate

Research Required

Recommendations

Fieldwork priority?

Stage 1 Ranking Assessed & protected **Stage 2 priority** No Action: Already include

Final Ranking **Final Recommendation** Amendment C26

Statement of significance The complex is of great historical and architectural importance, particularly to Gippsland as representative of its vernacular and to the state as representative of a well preserved rural complex, outside of the larger pastoral lease type of homestead. (Conservation Study)

The garden is the only known one which retains its essentially utilitarian form. From early paintings and photographs this was a once common type of garden around simple country houses. (Victorian Garden Inventory)

Extent of designation

Informant

Notes

Follow up

Bibliography Butler, G. 1982. References.

- 1) RGO
- 2) Ibid
- 3) RB 1863, 341-2
- 4) LA Roll, 1856
- 5) RB 1870, 303f
- 6) RB 1879, 766f
- 7) RB 1886, 372f
- 8) Alan Ray

Butler, G., (1982), Port Albert Conservation Study (Place No. 58), South Gippsland Publishing Company, Foster, 84-5

Graeme Butler & Associates, (July 2002), Alberton - Port Albert Heritage Review (Wellington Heritage Study)
Johnston, C., Victorian Gardens Inventory