

Place name Holey Plain Homestead

Survey Date:

Other name

Id:

1317

Street Rosedale-Longford Road

Last Update

Locality Rosedale

Postcode

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 1889

Change Date 1907

Description Holey Plain Homestead is situated off the Rosedale-Longford Road, 11km east of Rosedale.

The present homestead is a two storey red brick building finely detailed both externally and internally. It comprises the original section dating from 1889 and the substantial 1907 additions, which included the two storey verandah and the linking of the two sections of the house with a central tower. Four alcoves exist at the corners of the house but these were added later. The tower is four storeys in keeping with Victorian Italianate architectural taste of the day, but served little useful purpose except for fire spotting. Slender columns support the wide verandahs on the upper storey which are decorated with iron work. The bricks were made on the property. There is a single storey brick section with corrugated iron roof and verandah, containing kitchen, specialised storage rooms (eg ham room), servants quarters and milking area around an internal courtyard/kitchen garden. Features of note inside the house include fine blackwood panelling in the hallway, oak panelling in the dining room (the oak pre-cu in England) with a feature window inset above the fireplace, large billiard room from 1930 panelled in blackwood with silky oak insets and a fine carved mantel above a Buchan marble fireplace and a library of historic volumes.

The garden contains many fine specimen trees dating from the nineteenth century but other features were damaged during floods in 1934 and 1944. The stables date from between these floods and the 1950s.

The house and associated outbuildings are in excellent condition and have a high degree of integrity. The original garden has been damaged by floods which also washed away some outbuildings and fencing.

SOURCES

Register of the National Estate Citation, Place record no. 015403)

Condition

Integrity

Buildings
Garden

National Themes	Local Themes
	2. SETTLING THE LAND
	2.1 Phases of land settlement

History

The Holey Plains pastoral run was first licenced to Walter and George Campbell Curlewis in 1843 and to Edward Crooke in 1845. The Crooke family followed in the pioneering footsteps of Angus McMillan, initially obtaining pastoral runs around Omeo and then seeking the Holey Plains run to be closer to the Port discovered by McMillan at Port Albert. The property has been in the Crooke family since then. The first Homestead was a simple wooden house. It was replaced with the present building which is two storey red brick building finely detailed both externally and internally. It was commenced in 1889 and extended substantially around 1907 with the building of a two storey verandah and the linking of the two sections of the house with a central tower.

The garden contains many fine specimen trees dating from the nineteenth century but other features were damaged during floods in 1934 and 1944. Floods also entered the house in 1934 and in 1944 washed away some outbuildings and much fencing. The stables date from between these floods and the 1950s.

REFERENCES

Register of the National Estate place record no. 015403

Heritage Protections Register	Reference	Zoning	Status
National Trust Register	B605		Listed
Planning Scheme	HO70		Listed
Register of the National Estate	015403		Recommended
Victorian Heritage Inventory	601137		File only

National Estate

Research Required

Recommendations

Fieldwork priority?

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

Final Ranking State significance **Final Recommendation** Amendment C26

Statement of significance The Holey Plain Homestead is significant as an unusually fine and large house designed in the Victorian Italianate style, more typical of Victoria's western district homesteads than the Gippsland region (Criterion B.2). The property has strong associations with the Crooke family who have lived there for more than one hundred and fifty years. Members of the family have been influential in State and local politics (Criterion H.1). The property is a key site which demonstrates the process of early pastoral settlement of Gippsland along a set pattern, being specifically chosen by the Crooke family for its proximity to Port Albert after they had developed other pastoral runs inland around Omeo (Criterion A.4). (RNE 015403)

Extent of designation

Informant

Notes

Follow up

Bibliography