

# MORANGHURK



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H00266 moranghurk h266 house from north July 2001



H00266 moranghurk h266 manager's residence July 2001



H00266 moranghurk h266 meat house July 2001



H00266 moranghurk h266 stables July 2001



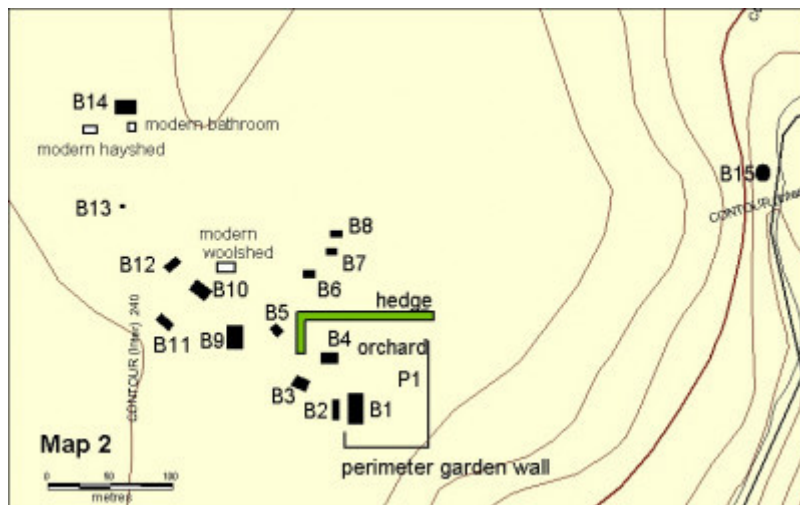
Moranghurk Lethbridge Side View Small Cottage



Moranghurk Motor Garage 1920s



H00266 moranghurk 1 plan



H00266 moranghurk plan 2

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## Location

3320 MIDLAND HIGHWAY LETHBRIDGE, GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Municipality

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0266

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO10

## VHR Registration

October 9, 1974

## Amendment to Registration

December 20, 2001

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 21, 2001

What is significant?

Moranghurk is the remains of a large pastoral property originally called Morangourke, located on the Moorabool River near Lethbridge. The first squatters to occupy the run were the partners Dugald McPherson and William Taylor, from 1840 to 1846. McPherson and Taylor subsequently moved to Longerenong on the Wimmera. Taylor went on to acquire several pastoral runs, and built his main home at Overnewton near Keilor in 1849. In 1847 the lease to Moranghurk comprised more than 18,000 acres, and in the 1850s it was 26,000 acres. The Soldier Settlement Commission acquired most of the land in the 1950s.

The exact date of construction of the present homestead is uncertain but is likely to be from the mid 1840s. It is axially planned, and built of an adzed frame covered with hand sawn timber slabs fixed vertically with cover battens. The corrugated iron roof covering conceals an earlier shingle roof fixed over rough bush pole rafters. A substantial and unfortunate 1960s cement brick addition to the house meant the removal of part of the verandah.

The garden is laid out to the east of the house in a squared form, including terraces, stone walls and steps, and is enclosed within a dry stone wall built in the 1920s. The gravel paths are edged by terracotta glazed spoon drains

with the manufacturer's name 'Cornwell'. There is a small remnant orchard, south of which is an old garden shed that has partially collapsed.

The landscape is dominated by conifers, mainly cypress and pines, and features an impressive driveway planting of a row of *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Horizontalis' and alternating *Cupressus sempervirens*, on the inside, now overgrown by the Monterey Cypress. West of the small driveway bridge built in 1926 is a double row of *Cupressus macrocarpa* 'Horizontalis', which form an impressive avenue with enclosed canopy along the drive. Beyond the gate lodge to the garden entrance is an avenue of mature Monterey Pines. A post and single rail fence, and a modern picket fence partly surround the homestead garden.

A substantial collection of historic 19th and early 20th century farm structures survive, including a picturesque hexagonal meat house. The ruined c1870 bluestone stable building contrasts to the imposing 1920s bluestone-faced motor garage sited nearby. Other notable structures are the 1920s circular pump house by the river, a greyhound kennel and pens, 1920s bluestone and brick shearers' quarters, and the small 1926 bridge along the driveway, with concrete balusters and rails but earlier bluestone abutments.

How is it significant?

Moranghurk is of architectural, historical and aesthetic (landscape) significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

Moranghurk homestead is architecturally significant as a rare example of the early Australian Colonial style house. The construction of vertical timber slabs with cover battens is not known elsewhere in Victoria. The homestead is evocative of the earlier colonial architectural traditions of New South Wales and Tasmania.

Moranghurk homestead is historically significant as one of the oldest pastoral era homesteads in Victoria. The homestead site is historically significant as a representative example of an early Victorian squatting run. The land tenure history demonstrates the familiar sequence of licensed squatting, granting of leasehold, acquisition of a pre-emptive right and later disposal of much of the run under the auspices of the Soldier Settlement Scheme.

Moranghurk is of aesthetic (landscape) significance. The key features of the garden are the squared layout, extensive use of glazed tile drains, driveway cypress trees, the orchard enclosed by a picket fence and cypress hedge, and the pines and cypress plantings that enclose the garden. Glazed terracotta spoon drains are now rare in Victorian gardens.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

**Places of worship:** In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

**Subdivision/consolidation:** Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions

prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### **Specific Exemptions:**

#### General Conditions:

1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner that prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

#### Exterior of homestead

- \* Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- \* Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, signage, antennae, aerials etc, and making good.

#### Interior of homestead

- \* Painting or wallpapering of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of earlier paint or other decorative scheme. Evidence of earlier schemes should be reported to Heritage Victoria.
- \* Replacement of carpets and floor coverings.
- \* Removal or replacement of curtain track, rods, blinds and other window dressings.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted artworks.
- \* Refurbishment of existing bathrooms, toilets and *en suites* including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors, wall and floor coverings.
- \* Removal and replacement of existing kitchen benches and fixtures including sinks, stoves, ovens, refrigerators, dishwashers etc and associated plumbing and wiring.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed and any original light switches, pull cords, push buttons or power outlets are retained in-situ. Note: if wiring original to the place was carried in timber conduits then the conduits should remain in-situ.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of smoke detectors.

#### Registered outbuildings



\* Repainting of corrugated iron roofs in existing hues.

\* Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like. E.g corrugated iron should be replaced with corrugated iron , not Colorbond or Zinalume.

\* Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, signage, antennae, aerials etc, and making good.

## Landscape & garden

\* The process of gardening and maintenance to care for existing plants and planting themes

e.g, mowing, hedge clipping, bedding displays, removal of dead plants, disease and weed control

\* Removal of vegetation that is not significant in order to maintain fire safety and to conserve significant buildings and structures

\* The replanting of pines and cypresses to conserve the landscape character and plant collections and themes

\* Repairs, conservation and maintenance to hard landscape elements, buildings, structures, ornaments, roads and paths, drainage and irrigation system

\* Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard; *Pruning of amenity trees* AS4373

\* Removal of elements not identified as being significant, and not within the registered area

\* Removal of plants listed as noxious weeds in the *Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994*

\* Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering and drainage systems that are 5 metres beyond the canopy edge of listed trees

\* Non-structural works that occur at a distance greater than 5 metres from the canopy edge of a significant tree, plant or hedge,(structural works may require a permit if still on the registered land)

\* Pruning or removal of trees in accordance with the *Code of Practice for Powerline Clearance[Vegetation] 1996*, unless they are identified as significant in the report

\* Signage, lighting, security fire safety and other safety requirements, provided no structural building occurs

\* Plant labelling

Construction dates        1840,

Heritage Act Categories   Registered place,

Hermes Number            651

Property Number

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## History

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SOURCE: REGISTER OF THE NATIONAL ESTATE CITATION

THE PASTORAL RUN MORANGOURKE (NOW MORANHURK) ON THE MOORABOOL RIVER NEAR LETHBRIDGE WAS TAKEN UP BY PETER SHARP IN MARCH 1846. THE EXACT DATE OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE PRESENT HOMESTEAD IS

UNCERTAIN BUT APPARENTLY IN THE 1840S. THIS AXIALLY PLANNED HOUSE IS BUILT OF SAWN TIMBER SLABS FIXED VERTICALLY IN AN ADZED FRAME WITH COVER BATTENS, SAPLING RAFTERS AND IRON ROOF REPLACING THE ORIGINAL THATCH. MORANGHURK HOMESTEAD IS OF PARAMOUNT IMPORTANCE AS A RARE EXAMPLE OF THE EARLY AUSTRALIAN COLONIAL STYLE, AND CONSTRUCTED IN A VERTICAL TIMBER SLAB TECHNIQUE WITH COVER BATTENS NOT KNOWN ELSEWHERE IN VICTORIA. THE HOMESTEAD HAS SIGNIFICANT ASSOCIATIONS WITH JOHN MATHESON, A PROMINENT PASTORALIST AND FINANCIER, AND HIS DESCENDANTS FOR OVER 100 YEARS AND IS EVOCATIVE OF THE COLONIAL ARCHITECTURAL TRADITIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES AND TASMANIA. THE VERANDAH AND VALENCE AND UNUSUAL FENESTRATION ARE DISTINCTIVE FEATURES. MORANGHURK HOMESTEAD WAS EXTENDED BY CONSTRUCTION OF A MID VICTORIAN STYLE WEATHERBOARD COTTAGE AT AN UNKNOWN DATE. THE ORIGINAL HOMESTEAD IS MAINTAINED IN GOOD CONDITION AND IS EXTERNALLY INTACT. OF STATE SIGNIFICANCE

## **Extent of Registration**

### **NOTICE OF REGISTRATION**

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended in that the Heritage Register Number 266 in the category described as a Heritage place is now described as:

Moranghurk, Midland Highway, Lethbridge, Golden Plains Shire Council.

### **EXTENT:**

1. All the building and structures marked as follows on Diagram 603760 held by the Executive Director: B1 House, B2 Maid's Quarters, B3 Manager's Office, B4 Laundry, B5 Single Men's Hut, B6 Grain Store, B7 Fowl House, B8 Kennels, B9 Motor Garage, B10 Stables, B11 Old Manager's House, B12 Dairy, B13 Meat House, B14 Shearers Quarters, B15 Pump House, B16 Gatehouse.
2. All the garden paths, garden edges, terracotta spoon drains and dry stone walls marked as follows on Diagram 603760.
3. The trees marked as follows on Diagram 603760 held by the Executive Director: T1 Avenue of pines and cypresses along the drive.
4. All the land marked L1 shown on Diagram 603760 held by the Executive Director, being Lot 2 on plan of Subdivision No. 93854.

Dated 19 December 2001

RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette G 51 20 December 2001 3137]

*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/>*