

Victorian Heritage Database Report  
**Nathania Springs**

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**Location:**

Olinda-Monbulk Road Monbulk, YARRA RANGES SHIRE

**Heritage Status / Level of Significance:**

Included in Heritage Overlay

**Heritage Inventory (HI) Number:**

**Listing Authority: HI**

**Heritage Overlay Number: HO65**

**Statement of Significance:**

Before European settlement, the Nathania Springs were significant to the Aborigines who used the area as a sanctuary and brought their wounded to shelter beside them until their strength returned. After European settlement, the springs became a very popular tourist attraction and the

guest house and tea rooms which were established there, during the early years of this century, became one of the most popular in Victoria. Much of the original guest house survives as part of the present Blue Peacock Restaurant, and the springs and beautiful semi-native gardens around them survive, although overgrown. (Tansley, 1978)

## Description

Established c.1900 by Bennie Simcox. It has a mortised frame of adzed timber, and is covered with weatherboards and a corrugated iron roof. The rooms are lined with pine lining-boards and the windows have the original small panes. It contains the original guest house dining room, lounge room, etc. The bedroom wing of the old guest house has been demolished, and the main dining room of the Blue Peacock Restaurant constructed in its place.

When the guest house was established, many varieties of exotic trees were planted amongst the native bush around the springs, and these gardens attracted thousands of visitors annually. Today, even in an overgrown state, these semi-native gardens are very beautiful and rock-lined paths wind to the seven natural springs. (Tansley, 1978)

Heritage Study / Consultant	Yarra Ranges - Shire of Yarra Ranges Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2000
Construction Date Range	
Architect / Designer	
Municipality	YARRA RANGES SHIRE
Other names	
Hermes number	115629
Property number	

*This place/object may also be State heritage listed. Check the Victorian Heritage Database. For further details, contact the local Council or go to Planning Schemes Online*