

Victorian Heritage Database Report  
**The Alpine Retreat Hotel**

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**Location:**

3340 Warburton Hwy (Main Street), Warburton VIC 3799 - Property No 45443

**Heritage Status / Level of Significance:**

Included in Heritage Overlay

**Heritage Inventory (HI) Number:**

**Listing Authority:** HI

**Heritage Overlay Number:** HO336

**Statement of Significance:**

The Alpine Retreat Hotel, designed in Tudor Inn style and built by John T. Robinson in 1885, has high local significance as an important township building and a popular holiday destination for Melbourne people for over a century. The hotel has significance for its associations with a number of prominent district residents including John Thomas Robinson and John C. Wildman in the 1880s, and Alice and George Leith and their descendants from the turn of the century until the 1980's.

## Description

The Alpine Retreat Hotel is a "grand" hotel, set high above Warburton Highway, with views across the river and to the forested mountains beyond. The hotel is designed in the Old English style, popular during the Inter-War period( c1915-c1940), and particularly in the 1930s. It occurs in both domestic architecture and in commercial buildings. Many of the key characteristics of the style are expressed in the design of the Alpine Retreat Hotel including: picturesque asymmetry in overall design, particularly the paired gables over the entry; gables featuring half timbering; face and textured brickwork. Externally, the hotel appears substantially intact, with the only alterations being the introduction of picture windows (presumably replacing the triple-lights that remain elsewhere in the front façade).

Other features of interest include the stone retaining wall set back from the highway, the two grand Norfolk Island Pines, and Canary Island Palm, and the red brick building with terracotta tiled roof to rear west side of the hotel.

Excellent

Minor Modifications

|                             |                                                                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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               | 115852                                                                     |
| Property number             | 45443                                                                      |

*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*