

Victorian Heritage Database Report

DUNROE



Location:

Hamilton-Port Fairy Road, BYADUK NORTH VIC 3300 - Property No 012

Heritage Status / Level of Significance:

Stage 2 Heritage Study Complete

Statement of Significance:

What is significant?

Dunroe is a large two storey weather board house built in 1934 for Miss Lucy Carty (1886-1957), the daughter

of local pastoralists Richard Thomas and Lucy Carty, nee Hawkins who occupied Brisbane Hill. It was designed by architect, J. Carlisle Williams and built by the Hamilton master builder, Reg Williams. The style is East Coast American bungalow although the interiors reflect the influence of the Art Deco style. Lucy Carty paid for Dunroe with part of a legacy of cash and 2,000 acres of land left to her by her mother for whom she had cared for many years. She married Harold Arthur Lee Archer in 1939. The whole building survives substantially intact and is in excellent condition. The house is enhanced by its mature garden setting which dates from the same period. There is a suggestion that the garden was at least influenced if not designed by Edna Walling although the plantings do not encourage this assessment. Since Lucy Carty was a passionate gardener, the design and construction could equally be attributed to her. The garden is intact to the Interwar period, although further developed, and is in excellent condition.

How is it significant?

Dunroe is of historical and architectural significance to the Southern Grampians Shire and the community of Byaduk.

Why is it significant?

Dunroe is of historical significance for its association with the Carty family specifically through Lucy Carty and for reflecting her life as an independent woman. It is of architectural significance as an example of the work of the Canadian-born architect, J. Carlisle Robinson and the Hamilton master builder, Reg Williams who also collaborated on the new Nigretta Homestead built about the same time. The house at Dunroe must be seen in context with its extensive and mature garden, the work of Lucy Carty.

Description

House and outbuildings and garden all in excellent condition

Dunroe is a large two-storey timber residence with picturesque massing in a loosely East Coast American bungalow style. The walls are weatherboard. A flight of steps leads to the front door through a simple entrance with paired timber columns. A two storey porch to the right has similar columns set in antis with the weatherboard walls. The principle rooms are on either side of the central hall and stairwell. A polygonal bay window, part of the sitting room, dominates the north-east corner and the dining room has a rectangular bay window. There is a large dormer located over the entrance. Windows have either six paned upper sashes or are divided into several panes where they are irregular. A service wing extends to the rear. Bedrooms occupy the upper floor. The interiors, which are detailed in an elegant restrained Art Deco style, remain substantially intact. The hipped roof, which has wide eaves supported on timber brackets, is covered with terra cotta tiles. The house is painted off-white. The chimneys are red brick. There are outbuildings at the rear, the most important being a long timber garage, with large sliding doors and a hipped corrugated iron roof, which incorporates the original laundry. The house is surrounded by a substantial garden which has been laid out with care and consideration. The driveway and turning circle appear to be very similar to the original laid out in 1934, although it cannot be certain. A number of substantial mature trees surround the house; some of the less common trees including Golden Elm (*Ulmus glabra* 'lutescens', Field Maple (*Acer campestre*), Sycamore (*Acer pseudoplatanus*), Irish Strawberry (*Arbutus unedo*), Camphor Laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*), Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*). There are also a wide variety of large shrubs and smaller perennial plantings around the house. It is not known who laid out the garden, although there has been an unsubstantiated suggestion that it was Edna Walling. Few of the surviving plants in the garden are identified as being typical or representative of Edna Walling's mid to late 1930s designs. The gardens and the house are in excellent condition, and retain a high degree of integrity.

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

Theme 5: Working

5.8 Working on the land

Continuing as a pastoral property

excellent degree of integrity

Lucy Carty, first owner

J Carlisle Robinson, architect

Reg Williams, Builder

Edna Walling, possibly associated with the garden design.

Heritage Study / Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002
Construction Date Range	1835 -
Architect / Designer	
Municipality	SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE
Other names	
Hermes number	23230
Property number	012

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