

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Cottage at Tarwin Park

**Location:**

Arbutnot Road,, TARWIN LOWER VIC 3956 - Property No B7221

Heritage Status / Level of Significance:

Regional

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number:

Listing Authority: HI

Statement of Significance:

What is significant? The cottage at Tarwin Park is associated with eminent South Gippsland pioneer George Black and his son Archibald. George Black bought the Tarwin Meadows run in 1851, and eventually controlled more than 30,000 hectares in the area. The settlement that developed at Tarwin Meadows to accommodate his many workers and their families comprised timber workers' cottages, which were built in stages from the 1860s, a store, post office and eventually a school. George's son Archibald, after his marriage, took up the nearby Tarwin Park station (formerly Halewood), where he built a substantial homestead surrounded by a large garden, and lived there in some style. In about 1905 he moved a number of the timber cottages from his father's station to Tarwin Park as accommodation for his own workers. The Tarwin Park homestead, the farm buildings and most of the workers' cottages were destroyed by a bushfire in 1942, and the Tarwin Meadows buildings were demolished in the 1960s. The cottage at Tarwin Park is one of the few buildings on the station to have survived the 1942 fire.

The cottage at Tarwin Park is made up of four of the cottages brought from Tarwin Meadows, which were bolted together under the one roof. It is of weatherboard with a gabled iron roof. The floors are believed to have been made from timber from the 1900 wreck of the Magnat in Venus Bay. A skillion and verandah have been added, and the chimneys and the windows (apart from those on the south side) are not original. The iron gates into the cottage garden are believed to have come from Tarwin Meadows.

How is it significant? The Tarwin Park cottage at Tarwin Lower is significant for historical reasons at a Regional level to South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant? The cottage at Tarwin Park is historically significant as the only remaining building from the Tarwin Meadows run of George Black, an important pioneer of South Gippsland. It is a reminder of, and the

only extant survivor of, the Tarwin Meadows property, the largest and most important run in the area, and of the Tarwin Park property of his son Archibald Black. It is also historically significant as an illustration of the accommodation that was once provided for workers on country properties, as well as a reminder of the transport of early timber buildings.

Classified: 08/09/2004

Description

The present cottage at Tarwin Park is made up of four of the nineteenth century weatherboard cottages transported from Tarwin Meadows, which are joined together by bolts.

The cottage is still used as a residence, and is in very good condition. It is substantially intact, though an extension with a lounge, bedroom and bathroom has been added along the north side, and a verandah been added on the other. The original doorways have been blocked up and relocated, and some of the windows were replaced with some taken from the homestead in c1941. The original cottage had small windows of cedar and hardwood. Evidence of the original form of the cottages remains in the boarded up doors, the weatherboard stop in the south wall, and the internal weatherboard lining of the present entry hall. Only the windows on the south side appear to be original and the present brick chimneys are not original. The roof was replaced in 1995-6.

Heritage Study / Consultant	
Construction Date Range	
Architect / Designer	
Municipality	SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE
Other names	
Hermes number	71596
Property number	B7221

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