

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: O'BRIEN'S COTTAGE

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Hamilton Highway PENS HurST

STUDY NUMBER: 285

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: outside

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: Part H **SECTION:** 11 & **PARISH:** PARISH OF BORAMBORAM
& W 12

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 475 C1 ; VicRoads 73 F7; located on the south side of the Hamilton Highway, approximately 3.0kms north-west of the township of Penshurst and opposite the intersection with Cemetery and Cook Lanes.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



O'Brien's Cottage Hamilton Hwy, Penshurst (Boram Boram)

Image Date: 15/05/2002

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the exteriors of the cottage and all of the land in a radius of 20m of any edge of the bluestone cottage, not including any of the outbuildings.

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: O'BRIEN'S COTTAGE

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Hamilton Highway PENSHURST

STUDY NUMBER: 285

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

O'Briens cottage is a small, single storey bluestone cottage which is symmetrical about the front door, and may date from as early as the 1860s. The cottage has double hung sash windows and a timber verandah, which probably was constructed after the house. The verandah has simple timber brackets and a bullnose profile. The roof over the front two rooms is hipped and corrugated iron, while the roof over the rear two rooms is also hipped and corrugated iron and extends over service area. Bluestone chimneys on the side elevations are associated with three out of the four front rooms. There is a red brick chimney at the end of service wing. The last rooms of the service wing are in weatherboard.

HISTORY:

The land on which O'Brien's Cottage and the associated garden now stand was purchased from the Crown by Joseph Hammond. Hammond also purchased the adjacent allotment Q, of section 11, and, allotments R, S, T, and V of section 12 of the Parish of Boramboram. Nobody by the name of Joseph Hammond is rated as an occupier in the first rate book nor as an owner in later ratebooks. The Victorian Pioneers Index shows that Joseph Hammond and Helena Thompson had eleven children between 1844 and 1858. The births of the children indicate that the couple started in Melbourne, and moved to Port Fairy (then known as Belfast), and in 1854, one of their children was born at Mount Rouse (VPI, Reg No. 2715). It appears that while in Mount Rouse, the land was purchased, and then after returning to live in Belfast (where another two children were born) the land may have been subdivided and sold.

It is not known exactly when the cottage was built, but it is thought to date from the 1860s. Very little is known about the owners or occupants of the cottage until the 1950s, when the property was owned by William and Gladys O'Brien.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
8.12 Living in and around Australian homes
8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

CONDITION:

The building is in fair condition with a serious collapse of the chimney and part of the north-west wall.

INTEGRITY:

High degree of integrity

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

O'Briens cottage is located on the south side of the Hamilton Highway, approximately 3.0kms north-west of the township of Penshurst and opposite the intersection with Cemetery and Cook Lanes. The cottage is a simple, vernacular 1860s bluestone cottage set in a garden from the same period. It was owned for many years by the O'Brien family. There has been no architect or builder associated with the design. The cottage is in fair condition, remaining relatively intact, including the usual extensions and modifications but one chimney has collapsed with part of north-west wall. The cottage retains a high degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

O'Brien's Cottage, Hamilton Highway is of historical and architectural significance to the Southern Grampians Shire and to the township of Penshurst.

Why is it significant?

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: O'BRIEN'S COTTAGE

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Hamilton Highway PENSURST

STUDY NUMBER: 285

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

O'Brien's Cottage, Hamilton Highway is of historical and architectural significance as a typical and intact example of a traditional small rural cottage and garden and for its associations with the important local family, the O'Briens. The vernacular cottage and garden are typical of the period and district, and provide insight into a previous way of life.

COMPARISON:

284 Murdam Lodge, Hamilton Highway, Penshurst

ASSESSED BY: tfh

ASSESSMENT DATE: 15/05/2002

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR **Include in RNE** **Include in Local Planning Scheme**

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year Page
Department of Lands and Survey	Township of Penshurst, County of Villiers	1957
Macbeth Genealogical Services	Pioneer Index Victoria 1836 - 1888 (reg. No. 1505)	1998
Shire of Mount Rouse	Shire of Mount Rouse Rate Books 1872	1872 #362