

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: WINTOC

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Glenelg Highway GLENTHOMPSON

STUDY NUMBER: 312

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: outside

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 50A1 **SECTION:** none **PARISH:** PARISH OF YUPPECKIAR

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 434 C25; Vicroads ; located on the south side of the Glenelg Highway approx. 3.0kms west of Glenthompson.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Wintoc, Glenelg Highway, Glenthompson

Image Date: 29/5/02

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The residence known as Wintoc is constructed from rendered brick with a corrugated iron roof. The house is symmetrical about a triple arched porch but the front door is off-centre. The style is long and low in the bungalow form with subdued references to the Spanish Mission style in the three arches although the interiors also suggest an Art Deco influence. The residence includes six bedrooms, and has fibrous plaster ceilings typical of the period. The doors are glazed with an Art Deco cut and textured glass typical of the period. A meathouse, dairy and shed exist to the rear of the residence. Stables are nearby.

HISTORY:

In 1872 George Bell leased the land on which Wintoc is situated, an area of 77 acres, Part P, Parish of Yuppeckiar from the Crown (SMR 1872 RB #15). Bell, who owned or leased substantial landholdings around Glenthompson, purchased the land, Allotment 50A1, together with other blocks in 1874. The property was subsequently owned by Arthur and Louisa Thacker.

According to 'The Thacker Family of Bilpah Hills,' (Cundy, 2001) George and Jane Thacker emigrated from England in 1850. They arrived in Melbourne, and moved to Geelong for a short time before going to the Warracknabeal Sheep Station, where George worked for 13 years. In late 1863 they selected 125 acres of land along the Bushy Creek about 14 kilometres south of Glenthompson. They named the property Bilpah Hills, and raised a family of 6 children there. George and Jane Thacker's third child was named Arthur. He married Louisa Rees, from Gatum, and they settled on the property known as Wintoc, some 3 kilometres west of Glenthompson.

Donald Forbes purchased Wintoc from Arthur Thacker in 1919. He was born in 1896, the son of John James and Annie Forbes, who managed Cherry Mount, near Glenthompson, for Mr Gillespie. He had married Sophia Brimacombe, a descendent of Glenthompson pioneer, Thomas Scott in 1918. The house was built some time in the mid-1930s. No architect or builder has been associated with its design and construction but the very high quality of the construction and Forbes later partnership with the master builder, Reg Williams, suggest that he may have built the house and possibly designed it. Donald and Sophia ran Hereford cattle and sheep at Wintoc, building the holding up to about 5,000 acres (Allen). In 1946, in partnership with Mr Reg Williams of Hamilton, he purchased the Glenthompson brickworks. He was Managing Director at the brickworks until he was killed in an accident on the site in 1952. His son John James Forbes carried on farming at Wintoc, latterly in partnership with his own son, William James, until the sale of the property in 1996 (GHS file). The property was purchased by the Allen family, who reside and farm there today.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 3 Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

Theme 5

5.8 Working on the land

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

CONDITION:

The house is in excellent condition

INTEGRITY:

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Excellent degree of integrity

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

Wintoc, a substantial American style bungalow, was built some 3.0kms west of Glenthompson in the 1930s for Donald Forbes. Arthur Thacker of Bilpah Hills and his wife Louisa had previously farmed the land. Forbes, the son of the manager of the squatting run, Cherry Mount, purchased Wintoc from Thacker in 1919. The house was built some time in the 1930s. The later partnership between Forbes and the master builder, Reg Williams, suggests that Williams may have built the house and possibly designed it. It is a conservative mixture of American fashions current at the time. The house retains an excellent degree of integrity and is in excellent condition. Forbes and Williams bought the Glenthompson brickworks in 1947, made immediate improvements and then floated the company. Forbes became managing director and the company flourished with the boom in construction after the Second World War. His son John James Forbes carried on farming at Wintoc, latterly in partnership with his own son, William James, until the sale of the property in 1996 to the Allen family, who reside and farm there today.

How is it significant?

Wintoc is of historical and architectural significance to the community of Glenthompson and to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

Wintoc is of historical significance for its long associations with several important local families, including the Thacker and Forbes families, and architectural significance as one of the few examples of the Spanish Mission style in the study area and for the quality of its workmanship and interiors.

COMPARISON:

440 Eaton Park, Glenelg Highway (cnr Powling's Lane), Glenelg Highway
457 Nigretta, Nigretta Road, Wannon
152 Dunroe, Hamilton-Port Fairy Road, Byaduk North

ASSESSED BY: tfh

ASSESSMENT DATE:

6/06/2002

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
Glenthompson Historical Society	Thomas Scott and his Descendents 1837-1912	n.d.	
Rodney Allen	Personal Communication, 6 August 2002	2002	
Val Cundy	The Thacker Family of Bilpah Hills	2001	1-2



Outbuildings, Wintoc, Glenelg Highway, Glenthompson

Image Date: 6/8/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All of the exterior of the house, the front garden, the outbuildings and all of the land within a 25m radius of any edge of the main house.