

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** STIRLING HOMESTEAD AND SHEEP DAIRY

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Fishers Lane GLENTHOMPSON

**STUDY NUMBER:** 330

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

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**OTHER NAME/S OF PLACE:** RED HILL, GLEN EIRA

**PRECINCT:** outside

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** 13a1 **SECTION:** A **PARISH:** PARISH OF YUPPECKIAR

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 434 C31

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Stirling Homestead and Sheep Dairy

**Image Date:** 27/02/2002

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the exterior of the house and all of the wattle and daub dairy and all of the land within a 20m radius of any edge of either building.

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## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

Stirling homestead is a simple, single storey symmetrical timber residence with a simple hipped corrugated iron roof. The verandah roof is corrugated iron with simple timber posts. The verandah floor is concrete. The original twelve pane double hung sash windows have been replaced with modern French doors and the original front door has also been replaced. A new bluestone wing has been added to the original house recently. The original part of the house was built in the 1870s, perhaps replacing an earlier structure.

The date of the wattle and daub dairy is not known, although from its materials, form and style is likely to have been constructed prior to 1855. The dairy takes the form of a simple one roomed building with a small window, wooden paneling on the ceiling and whitewash on the interior. The dairy has been substantially compromised by the growth of invasive Ivy.

The wattle and daub dairy

## **HISTORY:**

The land on which Stirling Homestead and sheep dairy stands was taken up as a selection by William Dingwall in 1872 (Department of Lands and Survey, 1930). William and Mary Dingwall emigrated from Dingwall in Scotland in the came to the Glenthompson area in search of a selection (Cumming, E., Pers. Comm 12/08/2002). It is thought that their children had died on a fever ship, perhaps the first to arrive in the colony (ibid.).

Mary and William took up various allotments, their first being of 269 acres in the Parish of Yuppeckiar, while they also occupied 1416 acres owned by the Crown at Yuppeckiar (SMR RB #107 & #106, 1870). The early dairy with the primitive construction technique of wattle and daub may date from the period of the Dingwall's. When William Dingwall died in 1906 (aged 85), he had amassed 4541 acres, which was sold in 1907 as a subdivision under the name 'Red Hill Estate' on behalf of the estate of the late owner.

The 1907 Sale plan shows the Stirling Homestead located immediately south of the Dunkeld - Glenthompson rail line, with several small outbuildings surrounding it. The property was later owned by the Fisher family, after who the access road is named.

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Stirling has been in the Cumming family for many years, and is the homestead is used as a residence. A sheep's milk dairy is run from the property, the produce of which has enjoyed much success both on a local and interstate level.

## **THEMATIC CONTEXT:**

Theme 3: Developing local, regional and national economies  
3.5 Developing primary production  
3.5.1 Grazing stock  
3.5.2 Breeding animals  
3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

Theme 5: Working  
5.8 working on the land

## **CONDITION:**

The house is in good condition, although the wattle and daub dairy is in very poor condition from the invasive Ivy which is growing over it.

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## INTEGRITY:

The house has a fair degree of integrity, the wattle and daub dairy has a high degree of integrity.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

Stirling Homestead Complex and Sheep dairy is located in Fishers Lane, approximately 5 kilometers south west of the township of Glenthompson. The complex consists of the original Stirling Homestead, with later additions, a wattle and daub dairy, possibly dating from the 1850s and a modern sheep dairy. The homestead is a simple vernacular timber house dating from the 1870s, which has had the original twelve pane double hung sashes replaced with French doors, and the original door and verandah replaced. Stirling was developed by William Dingwall and his wife Mary who emigrated from Dingwall in Scotland in the second half of the nineteenth century and took up several portions of land around Glenthompson as selectors in the 1870s. At that time the property was known as 'Red Hill'. The land, consisting of over 4000 acres, was subdivided by the Estate of the late William Dingwall in 1907 as 'Red Hill Estate'. The Stirling homestead is in good condition, but its integrity has been diminished by many alterations and additions. The small wattle and daub dairy is in very poor condition and has a poor degree of intactness due to an infestation of Ivy.

How is it significant?

Stirling Homestead Complex is of historical significance to the Southern Grampians.

Why is it significant? Stirling Homestead complex is of historical significance as a representative example of a selectors homestead dating from the 1870s. The association with William and Mary Dingwall is of further historical significance, as they represent the success of some of the selectors, evident in the large amount of land for sale as part of the "Red Hill Estate". The wattle and daub dairy is also of historical significance as a rare surviving example of a wattle and daub building.

## COMPARISON:

260 Burger's Cottages (Acacia), Penshurst-Macarthur Road, Penshurst

254 Aitken's Wattle and Daub Cottage, Bell Street, Penshurst

**ASSESSED BY:** AEN

**ASSESSMENT DATE:**

13/02/2004

## 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	Parish of Yuppeckiar, County of Villiers	1930	
Elizabeth Cuming	Personal Communication 12/08/02	2002	
Shire of Mount Rouse	Rate Books 1870	1870	#106 & # 107