

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** BALLANTRAE

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Glenelg Highway GLENTHOMPSON

**STUDY NUMBER:** 337      **HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

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**PRECINCT:** outside

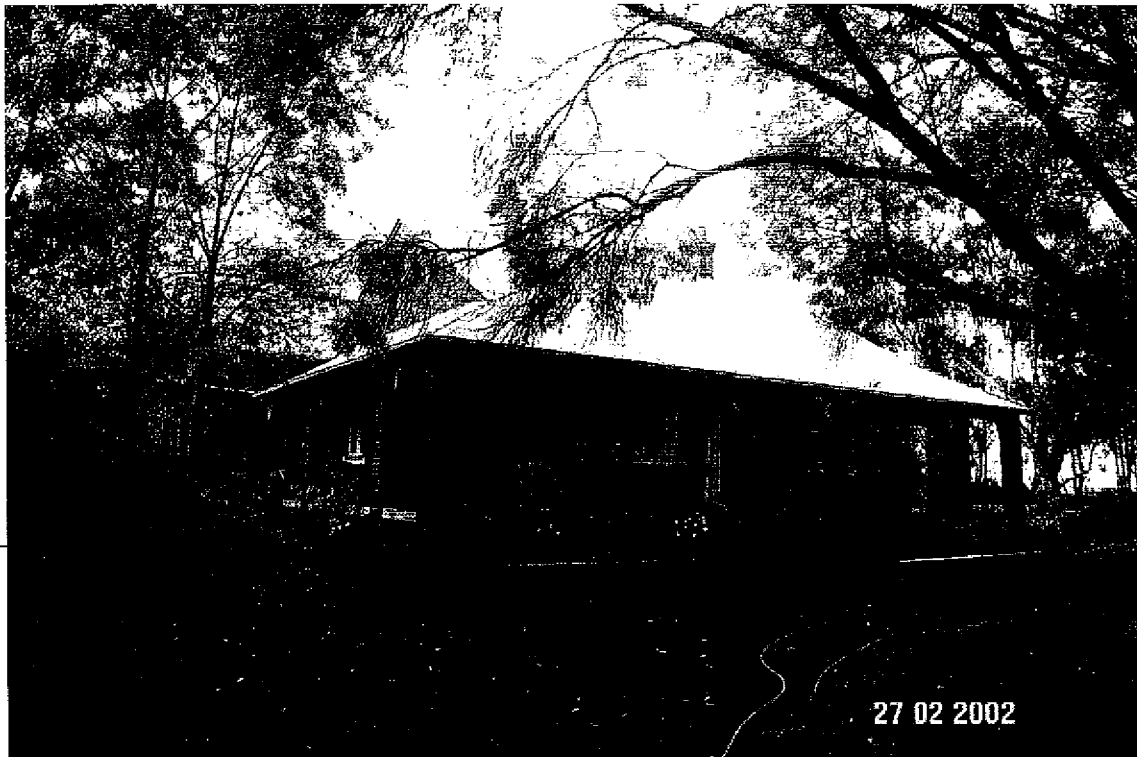
**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** 26A    **SECTION:** none    **PARISH:** PARISH OF NANAPUNDAH

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

Located about 2 kilometres east of the township of Glenthompson, on the south side of Glenelg Highway.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Nil



Ballantrae, Glenelg Highway, Glenthompson

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

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. Nil significance.

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## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

### **DRAFT**

Ballantrae is a single storey symmetrical red brick house which adopts the bungalow form and is loosely Arts and Crafts in style. It is almost certain that the bricks were supplied by the nearby Glenthompson brickworks. The house is surrounded by a mature garden which appears to date from the first half of the twentieth century.

## **HISTORY:**

### **DRAFT**

The land on which Ballantrae was part of the much larger Bushy Creek squatting run and, later, a part of Glenronald (subdivided from Bushy Creek). Bushy Creek was first taken up as a pastoral lease by John Kidd in September of 1840 (B&K 185). In September 1845, James Kidd (a relative of John) and Peter Hutcheson took over the lease which they retained until 1853, when it was subdivided into Bushy Creek and Glenronald. Kidd retained the portion known as Bushy Creek and Hutcheson took the portion known as Glenronald, which he retained until 1863 (ibid.). Under the Land Selection Acts of the 1860s, much of Glenronald was thrown open for selection, including the Ballantrae land. The Nanapundah Parish Plan indicates that allotment 26A was purchased by a P. L. Smith who, it is presumed, was acting as a 'dummy' purchaser. The Shire of Mount Rouse ratebooks include a Philip Life Smith, described as a grazier, who leased 1011 acres in the adjacent Parish of Yuppekiar. Although it is not proven, it is probable that this Phillip Life Smith purchased Allotment 26A as a selection in 1863. He purchased no other land in either parish and, intriguingly, he is not mentioned in the ratebooks until 1873 when the land he leased was selected by Elias Lambert. Allotment 26A is not mentioned separately in the rate books until around 1900 when it is included in the many which comprise the Glenronald estate.

Glenronald went through a number of changes of ownership until it was broken up for closer settlement after World War One. The 1918 Ratebooks for the Shire of Mount Rouse indicate that Glenronald Estate comprised 9320 acres in the Parishes of Nanapundah and Yuppekiar and, at that time, that it was owned by Edward J Simmons and James Morrison Simmons (SMR #110, 1918), and occupied by Cecil, Cedric and Edward James Simmons, graziers (ibid.).

The same ratebook includes a special note that 17 allotments were carved off Glenronald for distribution to 17 soldiers, some of whose names are listed. Allotment 26A is not specifically mentioned but, by the following year, the allotment is listed as part of a large landholding owned and occupied by James Malachy O'Rourke, totaling 2555 acres. His is not one of the soldiers names and there is no record of him serving in World War One (Australian War Memorial Honour Roll). It is probable that the house was built by James and his wife, Johanna between 1920-1921.

The O'Rourkes retained the house and the 2,555 acres until 1934-5, when the whole was purchased by Leigh Bromell Heard, also described as a grazier. Through his mother, Sarah Ann Bromell, he was associated with the Hensley Park Homestead, to the north of Hamilton. (VPI, Reg. No. 4125, 1887) The house was extended before the Second World War and a substantial increase in its net annual value in 1935 suggests that it was extended then. The property has remained in the Heard family since that time.

## **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

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## 3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

Theme 5: Working

5.8 working on the land

### **CONDITION:**

The house and garden are in good condition, although the interiors have not been inspected

### **INTEGRITY:**

High degree of integrity

### **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

What is significant?

Ballantrae is a single storey symmetrical brick house constructed in the early 1920s, thought to be between 1920-21, by James and Johanna O'Rourke. Ballantrae is located on land which was once part of the original Bushy Creek run and later the Glenronald run. Glenronald Estate was subdivided for closer settlement in 1919, when seventeen allotments (of between 350-450 acres) were allocated to soldiers who had returned from World War One. Allotment 26a, where Ballantrae stands is not mentioned in this subdivision and, in the following year, James Malachy O'Rourke and his wife, Johanna had taken possession of the land as part of their much larger 2,555 acre landholding. In the mid 1930s, the property passed into the Heard family, who still retain ownership. The house was extended before the Second World War. As yet, no architect or builder has been identified with the construction of the house. Its bricks would have come from the nearby Glenthompson brickworks. The house is in very good condition and retains a high degree of integrity. The garden setting contributes to the house but is not significant in its own right.

How is it significant?

The house is of some historical and architectural significance, but is not of sufficient significance to justify its inclusion on the local planning scheme.

Why is it significant?

Ballantrae is of historical significance for its association with nearby pastoral runs of Glenronald and Bushy Creek of which it was once a part. More importantly, it is of historical significance after the First World War for its association with the local O'Rourke and Heard families who have played an important part in the local community. Ballantrae is of architectural significance as an example of the Arts and Crafts style loosely applied to the bungalow form, which is unusual in the area.

**ASSESSED BY:** AEN

**ASSESSMENT DATE:**

16/02/2004

### **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
	Cyclopaedia of Victoria	1903	534

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	Mt Rouse Shire Centenary	1964 not pagin ated
Australian War Memorial	First World War Nominal Roll (on Australian War Memorial homepage)	2004
Department of Lands and Survey	Parish of Nanapunda	1919
Henderson, Alexander	Early Pioneer Families of Victoria and the Riverina	1936
Paul de Serville	Pounds and Pedigrees	1991 460
R V Billis and A S Kenyon	Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip	1974 87, 92, 185
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1934-35	1934 Entry 102
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1920-21	1920 Entry 100
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1918-19	1919 Entry 104, 108
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1918-19	1918 Entry 110
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1923-24	1923 Entry 104
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1911-12	1911
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1913-14	1913
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1909-10	1909
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1925-26	1925
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1901-02	1901 Entry 55
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1873-74	1873 Entry 112
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1869-70	1869 Entry 293
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1874-75	1874 Entry 105
Shire of Mount Rouse	Ratebooks 1931-32	1931 Entry 95