

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: HILL VIEW

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: off Steep Gully Road NAREEN

STUDY NUMBER: 411

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: outside

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 120 **SECTION:** 1 **PARISH:** PARISH OF TARRAYOUKYAN

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 386 D (not numbered west of 25); VicRoads 54 A8; located about 1.5km south of Steep Gully Road about 1.0km west of the Coleraine-Nareen Road.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Hillview, off Steep Gully Road, Nareen, front verandah

Image Date: 26/03/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the exterior of the main house and the woolshed, all of the garden and trees and an area of 25m from any edge of the house and the woolshed.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

Hill View is a single storey timber building comprising many parts. It positioned on a considerable slope which accommodates a cellar under the front verandah. The northern end of the verandah has been enclosed to form a small bathroom. The central passage opens into a narrow hall with rooms opening off it. This leads into a larger room with a large stone fireplace on the south wall, possibly once used as a kitchen/dining room. Further, smaller additions are at the rear and this section has been a kitchen with a very large stone fireplace, now partly demolished. A more substantial extension was made on the southern elevation, similar in form to the front wing and with its own verandah. Remnants of a special low voltage power supply surviving on this verandah. A chimney has been removed from the west side of this extension. The doors are four panelled and the windows are twelve paned double hung sashes throughout. The whole is typical of vernacular construction in its forms, materials, scale and detailing. The building retains a very high degree of integrity but it is in very poor condition with some sections at the rear in a ruinous condition. The house is abandoned. The skeleton of the early and once elaborate cottage garden survives in the form of fruit trees and some ornamental shrubs but in a neglected condition. The Apples trees (*Malus sp.*) appear to date from the mid-1860s and there is a mature Loquat tree (*Eriobotrya japonicus*).

Some distance to the south-west of the house there is a woolshed, a former timber school building converted for the purpose. It was altered and extended for the conversion but is in good condition. It contains a large woolpress.

There are several Radiata pines (*Pinus radiata*) at the rear of the house and near the woolshed.

HISTORY:

The Hill View Homestead complex, as a selector's site, dates from the mid-1860s. John McDonald purchased allotments 120 and 121 of section 1 of the Parish of Tarrayoukyan from the Crown 20th August 1874 [date indistinct] which comprised a total of about 538 acres. John, his wife, Mary and their sons Allan, Roderick and Donald were born on the Isle of Skye. Allan's date of birth is not known but, according to their gravestones in the Tarrayoukyan Cemetery, the others were born in 1813, 1807, 1844 and 1847. They emigrated on the "Edward Johnstone" and landed at Portland in 1854, working for John Robertson of Wando Vale but also taking up land at Buckley's Swamp (Neeson, 10). John then selected the land on which Hill View and the earlier house, Kilmuir were built. His sons occupied Kilmuir by the end of 1865 and John and Mary arrived later (Neeson, 10).

They had occupied the land under a lease from 2nd June 1865, making improvements which included a dwelling, fencing, draining and cultivation. The land bailiff, Mr. McEwan of Hamilton inspected the improvements in June 1868 and the lease was approved to "John McDonald of Buckley Swamp" (Neeson, 26).

Hill View was built in several stages, all of which survive, and it is possible that the earliest surviving part, the central front section, dates from the mid-1860s if it were occupied by one of the McDonald sons. An Allan McDonald had married a Mary MacPhee in 1859 but the location of the marriage in Victoria is not recorded (VPI, Reg. No. 805). There were soon additions at the rear in the form of skillions and a major addition on the south side under its own gable roof and with its own central passage. The house was altered by the addition of a verandah enclosure which was used as a bathroom. Much later, a bathroom was added at the rear. The most recent decoration in the house appears to date from the Interwar years. The house was leased after the Second World War.

One of the more interesting aspects of the complex is the Tarrayoukyan (or Koolomurt?) State School, now

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used as a woolshed. State School No. 1688 opened at Tarrayoukyan in August 1875 with classes, at first, held in the newly opened Catholic Church. It was one of several schools in the Nareen district which operated together and shared teachers. Donald Macdonald was appointed Chairman of the local School Board in 1902. The exact date of the school building's construction is not known but it was probably soon after 1875. The school closed at the end of 1914 when it was moved to Hill View. The building was modified and apparently stripped of much of its interior linings to convert it into a woolshed. It contains a wool press called "The Triumph" manufactured by T Robinson & Co., Melbourne.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 6 Educating

6.2 Establishing schools

6.5 Educating people in remote places

Theme 8: Developing Australia's Cultural Life

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

Theme 9: Marking the phases of Life

9.3 Forming families and partnerships

9.3.2 Bringing up children

CONDITION:

The house and garden are in fair condition.

INTEGRITY:

Very high

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

Hillview is a timber cottage located 1.5km south of Steep Gully Road, and about 1.0km west of the Coleraine-Nareen Road. It seems to have been built in the mid 1860s as a result of the subdivision of land under the Land Selection Acts. The cottage is of interest for its simple vernacular style and its traditional forms and details. It remains in good condition with a high degree of integrity. The house is set within an appropriate cottage garden. Some distance to the south-west of the cottage there is a woolshed, a former timber school building converted for the purpose. It was altered and extended for the conversion but is in good condition.

How is it significant?

Hill View is of historical and architectural significance to the community of Nareen and to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

Hill View is of historical significance because it reflects the major change in land ownership brought about by the land Selection Acts and it is of architectural interest because of its very high degree of integrity as an excellent example of a 1860s vernacular timber cottage, and for its form and details.

COMPARISON:

468 Ethandune Woolshed, 306 Coleraine-Edenhope Road, Coleraine

062 Nareen Hall Complex, Coleraine-Nareen Road, Nareen

ASSESSED BY: TFG & MGT

ASSESSMENT DATE:

14/04/2003

EXISTING LISTINGS:

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HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
Ewan Neeson	A Place of Oaks: History of Nareen and Tarrayoukyan 1836-1970	1970	10, 26, 32