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# Ceres Heritage Citations Project



**Prepared for the City of Greater Geelong**

**By**

**Dr David Rowe, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd  
& Wendy Jacobs, Architect & Heritage Consultant**

**May 2017**

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Commissioned by the City of Greater Geelong

**Prepared By**

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&  
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**Support Staff:**

**Pam Jennings, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd**

**May 2017**

Cover Photo: Ceres Memorial Gates, 1937, with Alfred Beaumont "Mont" McDowall (former Barrabool Cricket Club President) at front.  
Source: David Jirik, Ceres Community Association.

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• <b>285 Gully Road:</b> ‘Erinvale’.	
• <b>17 McCann Street:</b> Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School.	
• <b>100 McCann Street:</b> ‘Hurley House’.	

## Executive Summary

### 1.0 Introduction

The City of Greater Geelong commissioned Dr David Rowe, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd and Wendy Jacobs, Architect and Heritage Consultant, to undertake a review of heritage assessments for places at Ceres in the 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2', 2000 (prepared for the City of Greater Geelong by David Rowe and Lorraine Huddle). The project was carried out over a two month period. A draft of this report was provided to the City of Greater Geelong in February 2017. Following completion of the report in March 2017, minor updates were made in May 2017 which are reflected in this report.

#### Project Aim

The aim of the project was to review the assessments in the 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2' (1998-2000, prepared for the City of Greater Geelong by David Rowe and Lorraine Huddle) of those places identified at Ceres, and to refresh their assessments of significance through further fieldwork, historical research and comparative analysis. Updated heritage citations have been prepared in accordance with *VPP Practice Note: Applying the Heritage Overlay (2015)*.

#### Places Assessed

The places assessed as part of this project were:

- 605 Barrabool Road: Ceres Primary School.
- 20 Cochranes Road: Ceres Recreation Reserve.
- 240 Gully Road: 'Barwonside'.
- 285 Gully Road: 'Erinvale'.
- 17 McCann Street: Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School.
- 100 McCann Street: 'Hurley House'.

### 2.0 Recommendations

#### 2.1 Consultation

Consultation with affected owners and stakeholders is desirable prior to a formal planning scheme amendment if Council's time frames permit.

#### 2.2 Heritage Overlays

It is recommended that the six places identified as having heritage significance in this report are included as six heritage overlays in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay in the Greater Geelong Scheme, through a planning scheme amendment. The proposed controls in the schedule to the heritage overlay for each place is recommended as follows:

##### 605 Barrabool Road: Ceres Primary School.

##### Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>Yes</b> – early Barrabool stone school building only.
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

**20 Cochranes Road: Ceres Recreation Reserve.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>Yes</b> – memorial gates only.
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>Yes</b> – mature Cypress trees.
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

**Other Recommendations**

It is recommended that an Incorporated Plan is prepared to provide permit exemptions for: construction of non-highly reflective buildings and structures (no greater than 10 square metres and no higher than 3 metres above ground level); low fencing; and works to the ground surfaces.

It is recognised that many of the Cypress trees forming the perimeter of the reserve are senescent. It is recommended that a tree management program be prepared by a qualified Arborist to assist with the future management of the trees. The plan should outline identical or similar replacement species (where trees may need to be removed), to retain its current intended character and appearance and possible commemorative associations. Interpretation of the plantings by the local school children on Arbor Day 1916 is also suggested.

**240 Gully Road: 'Barwonside'.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>Yes</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

**Other Recommendations**

It is recognised that 'Barwonside' is in very poor condition and has been uninhabited for many years. While the restoration and repair of the building as part of its reuse as a dwelling would ensure its long term future, further investigation is required to determine whether this is feasible (both physically and economically). Consequently, the purpose of the recommended heritage overlay is to assist in the management of the fabric during any restoration, or at the very least, enable opportunity for further recording of the fabric during its ongoing deterioration, given its historical significance to the area.

**285 Gully Road: 'Erinvale'.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

**17 McCann Street: Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>Yes</b> – former Church building only.
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>Yes</b> – former Sunday School building
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

It is recommended that the existing heritage overlay (HO66) is extended over the whole former Wesleyan Church site at 17 McCann Street. It is recognised that hall appears to be in fair-poor condition (when viewed from outside the property). The restoration and repair of this building as part of its reuse as a dwelling would ensure its long term future, but further investigation (including a structural assessment by a suitably qualified Engineer) is required to determine whether this is feasible (both physically and economically). Relocation of the hall to another site (preferably in Ceres and to a location where it may have public access) should only be considered if this is the sole means of ensuring its survival and if it has sufficient structural integrity.

It is recommended that the existing internal alteration controls as part of HO66 are deleted given that the fittings and fixtures have been removed from the former church interior.

**100 McCann Street: 'Hurley House'.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

**2.3 HERMES**

It is recommended that any changes resulting from consultations and a planning scheme amendment are reflected in the HERMES heritage database administered by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

If the Ceres Heritage Citations Project proceeds to a planning scheme amendment and heritage overlays are introduced, it is recommended that the heritage status fields and heritage overlay numbers are updated and added to HERMES respectively by the City of Greater Geelong.

**2.4 Greater Geelong Planning Scheme****Clause 22: Local Heritage Policies**

It is recommended that if the Ceres Heritage Citations Project proceeds to planning scheme amendment and that heritage overlays are introduced, that:

- The Ceres Heritage Citations Project is included as a reference document at Clause 22.09 of the Planning Scheme.

## 1.0 Introduction

The City of Greater Geelong commissioned Dr David Rowe, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd and Wendy Jacobs, Architect and Heritage Consultant, to undertake a review of heritage assessments for places at Ceres in the 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2', 2000 (prepared for the City of Greater Geelong by David Rowe and Lorraine Huddle). The project was carried out over a two month period. A draft of this report was provided to the City of Greater Geelong in February 2017. Following completion of the report in March 2017, minor updates were made in May 2017 which are reflected in this report.

All illustrations and photographs used in this heritage study are for research and guidance purposes only. Any commercial reproduction of these illustrations and photos will require Copyright clearance from the respective owners.

The Consultants recommend that this Study be implemented within two years. If the Study has not been implemented within that time frame, it is recommended that the Study be peer-reviewed to take account of any changes in condition and integrity of particular heritage places, changes in planning regulations and Council policies. The study should subsequently be updated as necessary.

### 1.1 The Study Team

The study team was as follows:

- Dr David Rowe, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd – researcher and author.
- Wendy Jacobs, Architect & Heritage Consultant – reviewer.
- Pam Jennings, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd – researcher.

### 1.2 Acknowledgments

The Consultants sincerely appreciated the assistance and support received throughout the course of the Study. Particular appreciation given as follows:

- Susan Williamson, Strategic Planner, City of Greater Geelong.
- Melody McDonald, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.
- Annette Zealley, Director, Geelong Botanic Gardens, City of Greater Geelong.
- Phil Mulroyan, Supervisor, Geelong Botanic Gardens, Parks & Support Services City of Greater Geelong.
- David Jirik, Ceres Community Association.
- Margaret Baensch, Historian, Belmont.

### 1.3 Project Background & Aim

#### Background

The 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2' was prepared by David Rowe and Lorraine Huddle of Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd, between 1998 and 2000. A total of 1285 potential heritage places were identified and assessed. Since the completion of the study, Planning Scheme amendments have been carried out to introduce heritage overlays over some of the places identified in the 'Outer Areas

Heritage Study'. No planning scheme amendment had been initiated for heritage overlays for properties identified in the study at Ceres.

In 2016, the Strategic Implementation Unit of the City of Greater Geelong made a commitment to a Local Member of Parliament to prepare an amendment to the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme to apply the heritage overlay to those properties at Ceres identified in the 'Outer Areas Heritage Study'. The authors were asked to submit a Proposal to the Strategic Implementation for a review and updated assessments of 12 properties given that 17 years had transpired since the completion of the study and that alternative formatting of statements of significance and a new Planning Practice Note: Applying the Heritage Overlay (2015) had been introduced during this period.

A Project Proposal was prepared by the authors in November 2016 which gave the following comments and recommended actions:

Property Address & Name	Comments	Recommended Actions
<b>340 Barrabool Rd</b> – 'Moncrieff'	As per advice by the author earlier in 2016, the dwelling has been substantially altered since the completion of the Outer Areas Heritage Study, and the historical significance basis is not considered to meet the current significance assessment criteria listed in the Practice Note: Applying the Heritage Overlay.	No updated heritage assessment recommended.
<b>100 McCann St</b> – 'Glencairn' cottage/'Hurley House'	Aerial imagery and views from outside the property suggest that this dwelling has not experienced considerable alteration.  Existing history and description to be updated. Preliminary historical research suggests a different construction date and early owner than that outlined in the Outer Areas Heritage Study.	Heritage citation to be updated and heritage overlay recommended.
<b>100 McCann St/420 Barrabool Rd</b> – Seidel's Vineyard Ruins (Ceres Nursery)	This site was assessed and described by Dr Vincent Clark, archaeologist, as part of the Outer Areas Heritage Study. Dr Clark's assessment has been erroneously linked with the property at 400 Barrabool Road (also identified as Seidel's Vineyard – cellars). A check of aerial images of 2001, 2005 and 2016, further research at the Geelong Library & Heritage Centre, and a view of the site, confirms that the site at 420 Barrabool Rd is the former Seidel's Vineyard Ruins site.  Existing history and description to be	Heritage citation to be updated.  Given existing heritage assessment criteria and practice, and being consistent with similar archaeological sites in the Lara Heritage Review (2016), no heritage overlay is recommended.  Since the completion of the Outer Areas Heritage Study, Seidel's Vineyard ruins have been included on the Victorian Heritage Inventory, yet no address or information is included as a basis for the

	updated.	inventory listing. It is recommended that the heritage citation is corrected and updated as part of the Heritage Study, and ultimately, forwarded to Heritage Victoria.
<b>410 Barrabool Rd (400 Barrabool Rd) – Seidel’s Vineyard Cellar</b>	This information is not correct. The existing subterranean structure is a water tank. The tank has also recently been renewed. It would not appear to be over 50 years old and therefore not applicable for the Victorian Heritage Inventory.	It is recommended that no assessment is prepared and no heritage overlay applied to the property.
<b>605 Barrabool Rd – Ceres Primary School</b>	The history and description are to be updated, given the additional information currently available (historical photographs, written documentation, etc.).	Heritage citation to be updated. The school might still have historical and social significance (depending on the findings of the additional work.  It is likely that a heritage overlay will be recommended.
<b>20 Cochranes Rd – Ceres Recreation Reserve &amp; Memorial Gates</b>	Some further research and investigations have been carried out since the Outer Areas Heritage Study. This research has revealed that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The reserve was in existence as early as 1907.</li> <li>• The memorial gates were opened by the Acting Premier of Victoria in 1937.</li> <li>• The boundary trees were planted on Arbor Day, 1916, by school children of the nearby Ceres State School. The trees are memorials to those who were then serving (including those that had fallen) in World War One.</li> </ul> <p>The memorial gates have recently been restored following a Federal Government grant and community initiative. The project received a Heritage Award by the City of Greater Geelong and National Trust in 2015.</p> <p>The history and description are to be updated.</p>	Heritage citation to be updated and heritage overlay recommended.
<b>35 Gully Rd –</b>	The former homestead and	Heritage citation to be updated.

Fairley Homestead & Outbuildings	<p>outbuildings are not accessible. Aerial images and views from the property boundaries (albeit limited given the growth of the trees) strongly suggests that the homestead is dilapidated and likely to be ruinous. The outbuildings have collapsed.</p> <p>There is archaeological potential for the site. History to be updated to confirm information in the existing citation.</p>	<p>No heritage overlay recommended but it is likely that the site will be recommended for the Victorian Heritage Inventory.</p> <p>Ideally, it is recommended that Council contact the current owner to confirm condition of homestead and ascertain any historical information.</p>
240 Gully Rd – ‘Barwonside’	<p>Some brief additional historical research (since the completion of the Outer Areas Heritage Study) has previously been carried out indicating that the property was originally called ‘Barwonside’ and possibly built in the 1850s (contrary to the construction date in the existing heritage citation).</p> <p>Today, the stone cottage is almost ruinous.</p> <p>The history and description (and comparative analysis) for the property require updating.</p>	<p>Heritage citation to be updated.</p> <p>Ideally, it is recommended that Council contact the current owner to ascertain whether a site visit is possible.</p> <p>A heritage overlay is likely, but this is dependent on whether the poor condition of the dwelling has undermined its integrity.</p>
260 Gully Rd – Drain Outfall	<p>This water channel is addressed as 260 Gully Rd (not 275 Gully Rd) and is shown on aerial images. It appears to extend from Gully Road to the Barwon River. A portion of the channel closest to Gully Rd has been rebuilt since the completion of the Outer Areas Heritage Study.</p> <p>The history and description require updating.</p>	<p>Heritage citation to be updated.</p> <p>Recommendation on whether a heritage overlay should apply yet to be determined (or whether the channel is recommended for the Victorian Heritage Inventory).</p>
285 Gully Rd - Erinvale	<p>Few changes appear to have been made since 2000 (since the Outer Areas Heritage Study was completed) although the dwelling is difficult to view from Gully Rd.</p>	<p>Heritage citation to be updated.</p> <p>Ideally, it is recommended that Council contact the current owner to ascertain whether a site visit is possible.</p> <p>A heritage overlay is likely to be recommended.</p>
17 McCann St – Ceres Uniting Church and Hall	<p>A heritage overlay currently applies to the Church but not the Hall (which was identified in the Outer Areas Heritage Study).</p>	<p>Heritage citation to be updated.</p> <p>An update to the existing heritage overlay is likely to be recommended.</p>

The history and description for both buildings require updating so that the heritage citation accounts for the whole site and the one heritage overlay.
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Following receipt of the Project Proposal and due to budgetary constraints, the Strategic Implementation Unit requested a revised Proposal which was not to involve any further assessments of:

- 100 McCann Street/420 Barrabool Road: Former Seidel's Vineyard Ruins.
- 35 Gully Road: Fairley Homestead and Outbuildings.
- 260 Gully Road: Drain Outfall.

A revised Project Proposal was subsequently accepted for the review of six heritage places. The revised Proposal did not allow for consultations.

### Project Aim

The aim of the project was to review the assessments in the 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2' (1998-2000, prepared for the City of Greater Geelong by David Rowe and Lorraine Huddle) those places identified at Ceres, and to refresh their assessments of significance through further fieldwork, historical research and comparative analysis. Updated heritage citations have been prepared in accordance with *VPP Practice Note: Applying the Heritage Overlay (2015)*.

## 1.4 Places Assessed

The six places assessed as part of this project were:

- 605 Barrabool Road: Ceres Primary School.
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- 17 McCann Street: Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School.
- 100 McCann Street: 'Hurley House'.

## 1.5 Terminology

The terminology of *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance (2013)* is used throughout this study. Refer to Appendix 7.01 for a copy of the *Burra Charter*. The identification and documentation of potential post-contact places of cultural significance has been interpreted using the definitions provided in the *Burra Charter*. Some of the critical definitions identified in the *Burra Charter* and used in this study are:

Article 1.1: *Place* means a geographically defined area. It may include elements, objects, spaces and views. Place may have tangible and intangible dimensions. Explanatory Notes: Place has a broad scope and includes natural and cultural features. Place can be large or small: for example, a memorial, a tree, an individual building or group of buildings, the location of an historical event, an urban area or town, a cultural landscape, a garden, an industrial plant, a shipwreck, a site with in situ remains, a stone arrangement, a road or travel route, a

community meeting place, a site with spiritual or religious connections.

Article 1.2: *Cultural significance* means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations. Cultural significance is embodied in the place itself, its fabric, setting, use, associations, meanings, records, related places and related objects. Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups. Explanatory Notes: The term cultural significance is synonymous with heritage significance and cultural heritage value. Cultural significance may change over time and with use. Understanding of cultural significance may change as a result of new information.

Article 1.3: *Fabric* means all the physical material of the place including elements, fixtures, contents and objects.

## 2.0 Methodology

The Ceres Heritage Citations Project involved a review of the existing heritage assessments in the 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2', fieldwork, historical research, comparative analysis and written heritage assessments. Historical themes were drawn from Volume 2 of the 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study' prepared by the late Ian Wynd in 1998-2000.

### 2.1 Fieldwork

All fieldwork was carried out from outside property boundaries (apart from the Ceres Recreation Reserve given that this is a publicly accessible property). The results of the fieldwork were supported by aerial images from the City of Greater Geelong. The fieldwork was carried out by David Rowe and Wendy Jacobs.

### 2.2 Historical Research

Extensive additional historical research was carried out by the consultants given the greater availability of historical material compared to when the 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study' was completed. This included (but was not limited to):

- Land application files, Land Information Centre, Laverton.
- Certificates of Title, Landata online and Public Record Office (North Melbourne).
- Probates and Wills of early owners at the Public Record Office Victoria (North Melbourne).
- Births, Deaths and Marriages Indexes, Department of Justice, Melbourne.
- Historic Rate Books for the former Barrabool Shire (Geelong Library and Heritage Centre).
- Historic Parish Plans, other maps, Crown Land and Public Building files, Public Record Office (North Melbourne) and Geelong Library and Heritage Centre.
- Numerous newspaper articles available on Trove (National Library of Australia) online.
- Historical photographs in the collections of the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre, State Library of Victoria, Public Record Office Victoria, Ceres Community Association and the authors.
- Various local history and other publications.

- Unpublished manuscripts and booklets in the collection of the Geelong Library and Heritage Centre, and own collections.
- Crown Land files in the Department of the Environment, Land, Water and Planning (Geelong office).

The historical research was carried out by Pam Jennings and David Rowe.

## 2.3 Comparative Analyses

Comparative analyses were carried out for all of the heritage places, using an architectural and/or historical context, and where necessary, a scientific or social context. The comparative analyses were prepared by David Rowe.

## 2.4 Heritage Citations

Updated heritage citations were prepared by David Rowe and reviewed by Wendy Jacobs for each of the six heritage places. Each citation includes:

- Place name and address.
- Relevant Historic Themes (cross-referenced from the Thematic Environmental History).
- Condition and Integrity.
- Current and Historic Photographs (where available).
- Current and recommended heritage status and level of significance.
- Recommendations for the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay and Permit Exemptions through the preparation of an Incorporated Plan.
- Proposed heritage overlay map/polygon.
- Statement of Significance (based on the VPP: *Applying the Heritage Overlay*, and related criteria listed in this report).
- Detailed description.
- Fully-referenced history.
- Comparative Analysis.

## 2.5 Thematic Environmental History

The historic themes used in the updated citations were based on those used in the Environmental History that forms Volume 2 of the 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2', prepared by the late Ian Wynd in 1998-2000. Since the completion of the 'Outer Areas Heritage Study', the Heritage Council of Victoria published *Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes* in February 2010. The latest equivalent themes to those used in the updated citations from the 'Outer Areas Heritage Study' are as follows:

Outer Areas Heritage Study Environmental History – Themes Used	Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes – Equivalent Themes
Early Settlement: Agriculture	Theme 4.3: Grazing and raising livestock Theme 4.4: Farming
Early Settlement: Land Sales	Theme 2.7: Promoting settlement
Community Life: Leisure	Theme 9.1: Participating in sport & recreation
Community Life: War	Theme 8.5: Preserving traditions & commemorating
Community Life: Churches	Theme 8.1: Maintaining spiritual life
Townships: Ceres	Theme 6.4: Making regional centres
Industry: Extractive Industries	Theme 4.6: Exploiting other mineral, forest &

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| water resources

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## 2.6 Consultation

Consultation was not part of the revised project. Informal communication was made with David Jirik of the Ceres Community Association to help clarify an anomaly in the interpretive display related to the War Memorial Gates, 20 Cochranes Road.

## 3.0 Assessment of Significance

### 3.1 Basis of Assessment Criteria

The Ceres Heritage Citations Project has been prepared in accordance with the *VPP Practice Note 01: Applying the Heritage Overlay* (July 2015) (Appendix 7.02). The *Practice Note* states:

“The heritage process leading to the identification of the place needs to clearly justify the significance of the place as a basis for its inclusion in the Heritage Overlay. The documentation for each place shall include a statement of significance that clearly establishes the importance of the place and addresses the heritage criteria.”

The following heritage criteria listed in the *Practice Note* were adopted as part of the assessment of heritage places in this project:

**Criterion A:** Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).

**Criterion B:** Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).

**Criterion C:** Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).

**Criterion D:** Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).

**Criterion E:** Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).

**Criterion F:** Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance).

**Criterion G:** Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).

**Criterion H:** Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).

In addition, the more detailed Assessment Criteria adopted by the Australian Heritage Commission for the Register of the National Estate (which has formed the basis to the criteria outlined in the *Practice Note*) have formed a foundation to the heritage assessment,<sup>1</sup> as have the principles of the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter.

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1 The use of the more detailed Australian Heritage Commission Criteria is considered to be valid, given that the VPP Practice Note: Applying the Heritage Overlay (revised July 2015) states: “The adoption of the

### 3.2 Significance, Condition & Integrity Levels and Thresholds

In addition to the recognition of the heritage values of the Burra Charter and the assessment criteria outlined in the VPP Practice Note, significance, condition and integrity thresholds were also prepared to determine the level of significance for each heritage place and whether they warranted a heritage overlay.

In relation to significance thresholds, the *Practice Note* states:

“The thresholds to be applied in the assessment of significance shall be ‘State Significance’ and ‘Local Significance’. ‘Local Significance’ includes those places that are important to a particular community or locality ... “

In relation to places of significance for historical or social reasons, the following from the VPP Practice Note has also been considered:

Planning is about managing the environment and changes to it. An appropriate test for a potential heritage place to pass in order to apply the Heritage Overlay is that it has ‘something’ to be managed. This ‘something’ is usually tangible but it may, for example, be an absence of built form or the presence of some other special characteristic. If such things are present, there will be something to manage and the Heritage Overlay may be applied.

A more definitive matrix of how the Burra Charter values, VPP Practice Note Criteria, Australian Heritage Commission Criteria and Thresholds Levels have been employed in this study is as follows:

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above criteria does not diminish heritage assessment work undertaken before 2012 using older versions of criteria.”

BURRA CHARTER VALUES	PRACTICE NOTE CRITERIA	AHC CRITERIA INCLUSION GUIDELINES (slightly modified for local assessments)	SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS
<p><b>Aesthetic &amp;/or Architectural Value:</b> Places where consideration is given to form, scale, colour, texture and material of the fabric.</p>	<p><b>Criterion B:</b> Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).</p> <p><b>Criterion D:</b> Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).</p> <p><b>Criterion E:</b> Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).</p> <p><b>Criterion F:</b> Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance).</p>	<p><b>AHC B.2:</b> Scarcity may be the result of historical process (ie. few of such places were ever made) or of subsequent destruction or decay. Rarity in some cases may apply to the survival of the combination of characteristics and the place as a whole may lack integrity.</p> <p><b>AHC D.2:</b> A place must clearly represent the period, method of construction, techniques, way of life, etc. of its Type. A place may be significant because it is characteristic of either an unusual, or a widely practiced Type, style, or method of construction. It may have been innovative or influential, or it may have been traditional or vernacular; the significance of the place is determined by considering it within its context.</p> <p>A place may be considered if one or more of the following apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It can be regarded as a particularly good example of its Type, by virtue of the combination of characteristics most indicative of the Type, or a significant variant of the Type equally well;</li> <li>• It is one of number of similar places which are all good examples of a Type, but has a higher value by virtue of its integrity, condition, association with other significant places or setting;</li> <li>• It is part of a group of places which collectively include a range or variation within a Type;</li> <li>• It represents the seminal or optimal development of</li> </ul>	<p><b>STATE THRESHOLD:</b> Places which are considered significant to the State of Victoria and are worthy for inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register. These places are the most outstanding examples either aesthetically, architecturally, historically, scientifically or socially. The place meets this threshold if it has outstanding and/or unique aesthetic and technical value/s, is highly intact and has been compared to similar places on the Victorian Heritage Register, and/or has unique historical associations with events or persons in the history of the community and municipality, the importance or which are considered to stretch beyond local municipal boundaries.</p> <p><b>LOCAL THRESHOLD:</b> Places which are considered individually significant to a local area. The Greater Geelong municipality is defined by a number of urban and rural settings of varying historical developments and cultural identities that are not necessarily related to each other. Traditional municipal boundaries have changed, but the cultural identities of the different local communities that comprise the municipality are largely idiosyncratic. These heritage places are considered to have had a significant impact in shaping the cultural, architectural, historical and/or social identity of the local community and where applicable, have been compared to other places of</p>

BURRA CHARTER VALUES	PRACTICE NOTE CRITERIA	AHC CRITERIA INCLUSION GUIDELINES (slightly modified for local assessments)	SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS
		<p>the Type.</p> <p><b>AHC E.1:</b> A place is eligible if it articulates so fully a particular concept of design that it expresses an aesthetic ideal (eg. A place which epitomizes the design principles of an architectural style, landscape ideal, etc.) or if the place, because of its aesthetic characteristics, is held in high esteem by the community.</p> <p>To be eligible, a place must have a high degree of integrity so that it fully reflects the aesthetic qualities for which it is nominated.</p> <p><b>AHC F.1:</b> A place is eligible if it demonstrates clearly a particularly appropriate solution to a technical problem using or expanding upon established technology, or developing new technology, that solution being outstanding due to its conceptual strength. This might occur, for example, in the fields of engineering, architecture, industrial design, landscape design, etc.</p> <p>A place may be considered to be outstandingly creative if it results from the innovative departure from established norms in some field of design or the arts.</p> <p>To be eligible, a place must have a high degree of integrity so that it fully reflects the aesthetic or technical qualities for which it is nominated.</p>	<p>State or Local significance (or potential significance). They are considered to have sufficient significance to warrant a heritage overlay in the Greater Geelong Scheme.</p>

BURRA CHARTER VALUES	PRACTICE NOTE CRITERIA	AHC CRITERIA INCLUSION GUIDELINES (slightly modified for local assessments)	SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS
<p><b>Historic Value:</b> Places that have influenced or have been influenced by an historic figure, event, phase or activity. For any given place the significance will be greater where evidence of the association or event survives insitu, or where the settings are substantially intact, than where it has been changed or evidence does not survive.</p>	<p><b>Criterion A:</b> Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).</p> <p><b>Criterion C:</b> Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).</p> <p><b>Criterion H:</b> Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).</p>	<p><b>AHC A.4:</b> Places associated with events or developments which contribute to or reflect the long-term changes in municipality or local history.</p> <p>Places representing “landmark” cultural phases in the evolving pattern of municipal or local history.</p> <p>A place eligible for its association with a significant scientific theory must have a clear and important relationship to the development of that theory or its early application in the municipality or locality.</p> <p>A place eligible for its history of science associations must have a strong connection with the work of an historically significant scientific figure or with an historically significant scientific exploration/undertaking, or methodological development.</p> <p><b>AHC C.2:</b> A place with archaeological deposits may be eligible if it can be shown that the deposits are likely to contain evidence of technological, architectural, or cultural value, that evidence not being available through other research techniques. The nature of this research should be specified.</p> <p>A building or engineering item may be eligible if its research value can be defined. For example, a building exhibiting a local variation on a standard design or construction technique may be eligible if study could yield important information such as how local materials</p>	

BURRA CHARTER VALUES	PRACTICE NOTE CRITERIA	AHC CRITERIA INCLUSION GUIDELINES (slightly modified for local assessments)	SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS
		<p>and construction expertise affect the evolution of local building development, if this information is not available through documentary research.</p> <p><b>AHC H.1:</b> The person's contribution must be established sufficiently by historical documentation or other firm evidence, and the association of a person with the place established clearly in a similar way.</p> <p>A building designed by a prominent architect may be eligible under this criterion if it expresses a particular phase of the individual's career or exhibits aspects reflecting a particular idea or theme of her/his craft. It is possible that several places may represent different aspects of the productive life of an important person. Similarly, several examples of a person's work may be considered because a different combination of criteria are satisfied.</p> <p>In general, the association between person and place needs to be of long duration, or needs to be particularly significant in the person's productive life.</p> <p>Places which contain fabric that is a direct result of the person's activity or activities, or where the place can be demonstrated to have influenced the person's life or works, are eligible, and such places are more eligible than places which lack such direct and personal associations.</p>	

BURRA CHARTER VALUES	PRACTICE NOTE CRITERIA	AHC CRITERIA INCLUSION GUIDELINES (slightly modified for local assessments)	SIGNIFICANCE THRESHOLDS
<p><b>Scientific Value:</b> Places where data clearly indicates its rarity, quality or representativeness.</p>	<p><b>Criterion F:</b> Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance).</p>	<p><b>AHC F.1:</b> A place is eligible if it demonstrates clearly a particularly appropriate solution to a technical problem using or expanding upon established technology, or developing new technology, that solution being outstanding due to its conceptual strength. This might occur, for example, in the fields of engineering, architecture, industrial design, landscape design, etc.</p> <p>A place may be considered to be outstandingly creative if it results from the innovative departure from established norms in some field of design or the arts.</p> <p>To be eligible, a place must have a high degree of integrity so that it fully reflects the aesthetic or technical qualities for which it is nominated.</p>	
<p><b>Social Value:</b> Places that have a focus on spiritual, political, national or other cultural sentiment to a majority or minority group.</p>	<p><b>Criterion G:</b> Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).</p>	<p><b>AHC G.1:</b> Places which are held in high esteem by the municipality or local community or a segment of it, that esteem being demonstrated and special. The value to the community must be beyond normal regard felt by a community for its familiar surroundings.</p> <p>It is necessary to demonstrate that the strong association between a community and place is of a social or cultural nature, and not simply a local assessment of some other value more correctly assessed against another criterion.</p>	

### Condition Thresholds

- Excellent Condition (no deterioration of fabric noticeable).
- Good Condition (minor deterioration of fabric noticeable).
- Fair Condition (deterioration of fabric noticeable).
- Poor Condition (deterioration of fabric very noticeable, with possible structural deterioration as well).
- Ruins (small elements of original character & appearance only identified through building remnants).

### Integrity Thresholds

#### Thresholds

- Highly Intact (either completely intact or a small number minor modifications noticeable).
- Moderately Intact (original character & appearance clearly discernible, but a number of minor modifications noticeable).
- Altered (original character & appearance discernible but alterations to some original fabric such as doors and window openings and verandah noticeable).
- Substantially Altered/Low Integrity (original character & appearance only partly discernible – multiple changes noticeable to the exterior).
- Ruinous (ruinous fabric surviving only).

### Building Fabric

The integrity of places (when viewed from the public realm) may include to varying degrees the following such that the place is discernible to its creation date (or creation dates):

- Overall form & composition.
- Construction materials.
- Building details.
- Verandahs.
- Visible windows and doors.
- Front Fencing.
- Outbuildings.

The integrity of landscaped settings, spaces and views may also have been considered.

### Additions and Alterations

Places with additions may continue to have significance if:

- The additions have been identified as contributing to the significance of the building or place (the additions being significant).
- The additions and alterations have no significance but are recessive and minor in nature, and do not dominate over the building. There is considered to be sufficient retained fabric to meet the relevant significance threshold/s.

### Relocated Places

Relocated places may also have significance if they have direct associations with important phases in the history of the place.

### Significance Thresholds

- **State and Local significance** thresholds apply, in accordance with the VPP Practice Note.

## 4.0 Recommendations

### 4.1 Consultation

Consultation with affected owners and stakeholders is desirable prior to a formal planning scheme amendment if Council's time frames permit.

### 4.2 Heritage Overlays

It is recommended that the six places identified as having heritage significance in this report are included as six heritage overlays in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay in the Greater Geelong Scheme, through a planning scheme amendment. The proposed controls in the schedule to the heritage overlay for each place is recommended as follows:

#### 605 Barrabool Road: Ceres Primary School.

##### Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>Yes</b> – early Barrabool stone school building only.
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

#### 20 Cochranes Road: Ceres Recreation Reserve.

##### Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>Yes</b> – memorial gates only.
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>Yes</b> – mature Cypress trees.
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

##### Other Recommendations

It is recommended that an Incorporated Plan is prepared to provide permit exemptions for: construction of non-highly reflective buildings and structures (no greater than 10 square metres and no higher than 3 metres above ground level); low fencing; and works to the ground surfaces.

It is recognised that many of the Cypress trees forming the perimeter of the reserve are senescent. It is recommended that a tree management program be prepared by a qualified Arborist to assist with the future management of the trees. The plan should outline identical or similar replacement species (where trees may need to be removed), to retain its current intended character and appearance and possible commemorative associations. Interpretation of the plantings by the local school children on Arbor Day 1916 is also suggested.

**240 Gully Road: 'Barwonside'.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>Yes</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

**Other Recommendations**

It is recognised that 'Barwonside' is in very poor condition and has been uninhabited for many years. While the restoration and repair of the dwelling as part of its reuse as a dwelling would ensure its long term future, further investigation is required to determine whether this is feasible (both physically and economically). Consequently, the purpose of the recommended heritage overlay is to assist in the management of the fabric during any restoration, or at the very least, enable opportunity for further recording of the fabric during its ongoing deterioration, given its historical significance to the area.

**285 Gully Road: 'Erinvale'.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

**17 McCann Street: Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>Yes</b> – former Church building only.
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>Yes</b> – former Sunday School building.
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

It is recommended that the existing heritage overlay (HO66) is extended over the whole former Wesleyan Church site at 17 McCann Street. It is recognised that hall appears to be in fair-poor condition (when viewed from outside the property). The restoration and repair of this building as part of its reuse as a dwelling would ensure its long term future, but further investigation (including a structural assessment by a suitably qualified Engineer) is required to determine whether this is feasible (both physically and economically). Relocation of the hall to another site (preferably in Ceres and to a location where it may have public access) should only be considered if this is the sole means of ensuring its survival and if it has sufficient structural integrity.

It is recommended that the existing internal alteration controls as part of HO66 are deleted given that the fittings and fixtures have been removed from the former church interior.

**100 McCann Street: 'Hurley House'.****Proposed Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Tree Controls Should Apply?	<b>No</b>
Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note?	<b>No</b>
Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?	<b>No</b>
Incorporated Document	<b>No</b>

**4.3 HERMES**

It is recommended that any changes resulting from consultations and a planning scheme amendment are reflected in the HERMES heritage database administered by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.

If the Ceres Heritage Citations Project proceeds to a planning scheme amendment and heritage overlays are introduced, it is recommended that the heritage status fields and heritage overlay numbers are updated and added to HERMES respectively by the City of Greater Geelong.

**4.4 Greater Geelong Planning Scheme****Clause 22: Local Heritage Policies**

It is recommended that if the Ceres Heritage Citations Project proceeds to planning scheme amendment and that heritage overlays are introduced, that:

- The Ceres Heritage Citations Project is included as a reference document at Clause 22.09 of the Planning Scheme.

## **5.0 Appendices**

**5.01** Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter

**5.02** Practice Note: Applying the Heritage Overlay

**5.03** Heritage Citations –

- **605 Barrabool Road:** Ceres Primary School.
- **20 Cochranes Road:** Ceres Recreation Reserve.
- **240 Gully Road:** 'Barwonside'.
- **285 Gully Road:** 'Erinvale'.
- **17 McCann Street:** Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School.
- **100 McCann Street:** 'Hurley House'.

## **5.01 Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter**

# THE BURRA CHARTER

The Australia ICOMOS Charter for  
Places of Cultural Significance 2013



Australia ICOMOS Incorporated  
International Council on Monuments and Sites

## **ICOMOS**

ICOMOS (International Council on Monuments and Sites) is a non-governmental professional organisation formed in 1965, with headquarters in Paris. ICOMOS is primarily concerned with the philosophy, terminology, methodology and techniques of cultural heritage conservation. It is closely linked to UNESCO, particularly in its role under the World Heritage Convention 1972 as UNESCO's principal adviser on cultural matters related to World Heritage. The 11,000 members of ICOMOS include architects, town planners, demographers, archaeologists, geographers, historians, conservators, anthropologists, scientists, engineers and heritage administrators. Members in the 103 countries belonging to ICOMOS are formed into National Committees and participate in a range of conservation projects, research work, intercultural exchanges and cooperative activities. ICOMOS also has 27 International Scientific Committees that focus on particular aspects of the conservation field. ICOMOS members meet triennially in a General Assembly.

## **Australia ICOMOS**

The Australian National Committee of ICOMOS (Australia ICOMOS) was formed in 1976. It elects an Executive Committee of 15 members, which is responsible for carrying out national programs and participating in decisions of ICOMOS as an international organisation. It provides expert advice as required by ICOMOS, especially in its relationship with the World Heritage Committee. Australia ICOMOS acts as a national and international link between public authorities, institutions and individuals involved in the study and conservation of all places of cultural significance. Australia ICOMOS members participate in a range of conservation activities including site visits, training, conferences and meetings.

## **Revision of the Burra Charter**

The Burra Charter was first adopted in 1979 at the historic South Australian mining town of Burra. Minor revisions were made in 1981 and 1988, with more substantial changes in 1999.

Following a review this version was adopted by Australia ICOMOS in October 2013.

The review process included replacement of the 1988 Guidelines to the Burra Charter with Practice Notes which are available at: [australia.icomos.org](http://australia.icomos.org)

Australia ICOMOS documents are periodically reviewed and we welcome any comments.

## **Citing the Burra Charter**

The full reference is *The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013*. Initial textual references should be in the form of the *Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter, 2013* and later references in the short form (*Burra Charter*).

## **© Australia ICOMOS Incorporated 2013**

The Burra Charter consists of the Preamble, Articles, Explanatory Notes and the flow chart.

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Cover photograph by Ian Stapleton.

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# The Burra Charter

(The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance, 2013)

## Preamble

Considering the International Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (Venice 1964), and the Resolutions of the 5th General Assembly of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) (Moscow 1978), the Burra Charter was adopted by Australia ICOMOS (the Australian National Committee of ICOMOS) on 19 August 1979 at Burra, South Australia. Revisions were adopted on 23 February 1981, 23 April 1988, 26 November 1999 and 31 October 2013.

The Burra Charter provides guidance for the conservation and management of places of cultural significance (cultural heritage places), and is based on the knowledge and experience of Australia ICOMOS members.

Conservation is an integral part of the management of places of cultural significance and is an ongoing responsibility.

### Who is the Charter for?

The Charter sets a standard of practice for those who provide advice, make decisions about, or undertake works to places of cultural significance, including owners, managers and custodians.

### Using the Charter

The Charter should be read as a whole. Many articles are interdependent.

The Charter consists of:

- Definitions Article 1
- Conservation Principles Articles 2–13
- Conservation Processes Articles 14–25
- Conservation Practices Articles 26–34
- The Burra Charter Process flow chart.

The key concepts are included in the Conservation Principles section and these are further developed in the Conservation Processes and Conservation Practice sections. The flow chart explains the Burra Charter Process (Article 6) and is an integral part of

the Charter. Explanatory Notes also form part of the Charter.

The Charter is self-contained, but aspects of its use and application are further explained, in a series of Australia ICOMOS Practice Notes, in *The Illustrated Burra Charter*, and in other guiding documents available from the Australia ICOMOS web site: [australia.icomos.org](http://australia.icomos.org).

### What places does the Charter apply to?

The Charter can be applied to all types of places of cultural significance including natural, Indigenous and historic places with cultural values.

The standards of other organisations may also be relevant. These include the *Australian Natural Heritage Charter*, *Ask First: a guide to respecting Indigenous heritage places and values* and *Significance 2.0: a guide to assessing the significance of collections*.

National and international charters and other doctrine may be relevant. See [australia.icomos.org](http://australia.icomos.org).

### Why conserve?

Places of cultural significance enrich people's lives, often providing a deep and inspirational sense of connection to community and landscape, to the past and to lived experiences. They are historical records, that are important expressions of Australian identity and experience. Places of cultural significance reflect the diversity of our communities, telling us about who we are and the past that has formed us and the Australian landscape. They are irreplaceable and precious.

These places of cultural significance must be conserved for present and future generations in accordance with the principle of inter-generational equity.

The Burra Charter advocates a cautious approach to change: do as much as necessary to care for the place and to make it useable, but otherwise change it as little as possible so that its cultural significance is retained.

## Articles

### Article 1. Definitions

For the purposes of this Charter:

- 1.1 *Place* means a geographically defined area. It may include elements, objects, spaces and views. Place may have tangible and intangible dimensions.
- 1.2 *Cultural significance* means aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual value for past, present or future generations.  
  
Cultural significance is embodied in the *place* itself, its *fabric*, *setting*, *use*, *associations*, *meanings*, *records*, *related places* and *related objects*.  
  
Places may have a range of values for different individuals or groups.
- 1.3 *Fabric* means all the physical material of the *place* including elements, fixtures, contents and objects.
- 1.4 *Conservation* means all the processes of looking after a *place* so as to retain its *cultural significance*.
- 1.5 *Maintenance* means the continuous protective care of a *place*, and its *setting*.  
  
Maintenance is to be distinguished from repair which involves *restoration* or *reconstruction*.
- 1.6 *Preservation* means maintaining a *place* in its existing state and retarding deterioration.
- 1.7 *Restoration* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state by removing accretions or by reassembling existing elements without the introduction of new material.
- 1.8 *Reconstruction* means returning a *place* to a known earlier state and is distinguished from *restoration* by the introduction of new material.
- 1.9 *Adaptation* means changing a *place* to suit the existing *use* or a proposed use.
- 1.10 *Use* means the functions of a *place*, including the activities and traditional and customary practices that may occur at the place or are dependent on the place.

## Explanatory Notes

Place has a broad scope and includes natural and cultural features. Place can be large or small: for example, a memorial, a tree, an individual building or group of buildings, the location of an historical event, an urban area or town, a cultural landscape, a garden, an industrial plant, a shipwreck, a site with in situ remains, a stone arrangement, a road or travel route, a community meeting place, a site with spiritual or religious connections.

The term cultural significance is synonymous with cultural heritage significance and cultural heritage value.

Cultural significance may change over time and with use.

Understanding of cultural significance may change as a result of new information.

Fabric includes building interiors and sub-surface remains, as well as excavated material.

Natural elements of a place may also constitute fabric. For example the rocks that signify a Dreaming place.

Fabric may define spaces and views and these may be part of the significance of the place.

See also Article 14.

Examples of protective care include:

- maintenance – regular inspection and cleaning of a place, e.g. mowing and pruning in a garden;
- repair involving restoration – returning dislodged or relocated fabric to its original location e.g. loose roof gutters on a building or displaced rocks in a stone bora ring;
- repair involving reconstruction – replacing decayed fabric with new fabric

It is recognised that all places and their elements change over time at varying rates.

New material may include recycled material salvaged from other places. This should not be to the detriment of any place of cultural significance.

Use includes for example cultural practices commonly associated with Indigenous peoples such as ceremonies, hunting and fishing, and fulfillment of traditional obligations. Exercising a right of access may be a use.

## Articles

- 1.11 *Compatible use* means a *use* which respects the *cultural significance* of a *place*. Such a use involves no, or minimal, impact on cultural significance.
- 1.12 *Setting* means the immediate and extended environment of a *place* that is part of or contributes to its *cultural significance* and distinctive character.
- 1.13 *Related place* means a *place* that contributes to the *cultural significance* of another place.
- 1.14 *Related object* means an object that contributes to the *cultural significance* of a *place* but is not at the place.
- 1.15 *Associations* mean the connections that exist between people and a *place*.
- 1.16 *Meanings* denote what a *place* signifies, indicates, evokes or expresses to people.
- 1.17 *Interpretation* means all the ways of presenting the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

# Conservation Principles

## Article 2. Conservation and management

- 2.1 *Places of cultural significance* should be conserved.
- 2.2 The aim of *conservation* is to retain the *cultural significance* of a *place*.
- 2.3 *Conservation* is an integral part of good management of *places of cultural significance*.
- 2.4 *Places of cultural significance* should be safeguarded and not put at risk or left in a vulnerable state.

## Article 3. Cautious approach

- 3.1 *Conservation* is based on a respect for the existing *fabric, use, associations* and *meanings*. It requires a cautious approach of changing as much as necessary but as little as possible.
- 3.2 Changes to a *place* should not distort the physical or other evidence it provides, nor be based on conjecture.

## Article 4. Knowledge, skills and techniques

- 4.1 *Conservation* should make use of all the knowledge, skills and disciplines which can contribute to the study and care of the *place*.

## Explanatory Notes

Setting may include: structures, spaces, land, water and sky; the visual setting including views to and from the place, and along a cultural route; and other sensory aspects of the setting such as smells and sounds. Setting may also include historical and contemporary relationships, such as use and activities, social and spiritual practices, and relationships with other places, both tangible and intangible.

Objects at a place are encompassed by the definition of place, and may or may not contribute to its cultural significance.

Associations may include social or spiritual values and cultural responsibilities for a place.

Meanings generally relate to intangible dimensions such as symbolic qualities and memories.

Interpretation may be a combination of the treatment of the fabric (e.g. maintenance, restoration, reconstruction); the use of and activities at the place; and the use of introduced explanatory material.

The traces of additions, alterations and earlier treatments to the fabric of a place are evidence of its history and uses which may be part of its significance. Conservation action should assist and not impede their understanding.

## Articles

4.2 Traditional techniques and materials are preferred for the *conservation* of significant *fabric*. In some circumstances modern techniques and materials which offer substantial conservation benefits may be appropriate.

### Article 5. Values

5.1 *Conservation* of a *place* should identify and take into consideration all aspects of cultural and natural significance without unwarranted emphasis on any one value at the expense of others.

5.2 Relative degrees of *cultural significance* may lead to different *conservation* actions at a place.

### Article 6. Burra Charter Process

6.1 The *cultural significance* of a *place* and other issues affecting its future are best understood by a sequence of collecting and analysing information before making decisions. Understanding cultural significance comes first, then development of policy and finally management of the place in accordance with the policy. This is the Burra Charter Process.

6.2 Policy for managing a *place* must be based on an understanding of its *cultural significance*.

6.3 Policy development should also include consideration of other factors affecting the future of a *place* such as the owner's needs, resources, external constraints and its physical condition.

6.4 In developing an effective policy, different ways to retain *cultural significance* and address other factors may need to be explored.

6.5 Changes in circumstances, or new information or perspectives, may require reiteration of part or all of the Burra Charter Process.

### Article 7. Use

7.1 Where the *use* of a *place* is of *cultural significance* it should be retained.

7.2 A *place* should have a *compatible use*.

## Explanatory Notes

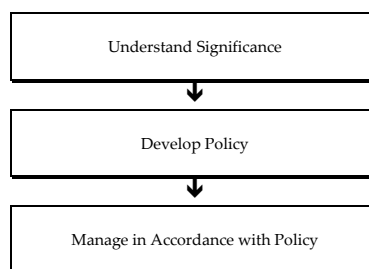
The use of modern materials and techniques must be supported by firm scientific evidence or by a body of experience.

Conservation of places with natural significance is explained in the Australian Natural Heritage Charter. This Charter defines natural significance to mean the importance of ecosystems, biodiversity and geodiversity for their existence value or for present or future generations, in terms of their scientific, social, aesthetic and life-support value.

In some cultures, natural and cultural values are indivisible.

A cautious approach is needed, as understanding of cultural significance may change. This article should not be used to justify actions which do not retain cultural significance.

The Burra Charter Process, or sequence of investigations, decisions and actions, is illustrated below and in more detail in the accompanying flow chart which forms part of the Charter.



Options considered may include a range of uses and changes (e.g. adaptation) to a place.

The policy should identify a use or combination of uses or constraints on uses that retain the cultural significance of the place. New use of a place should involve minimal change to significant fabric and use; should respect associations and meanings; and where appropriate should provide for continuation of activities and practices which contribute to the cultural significance of the place.

## Articles

### Article 8. Setting

*Conservation* requires the retention of an appropriate *setting*. This includes retention of the visual and sensory setting, as well as the retention of spiritual and other cultural relationships that contribute to the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

New construction, demolition, intrusions or other changes which would adversely affect the setting or relationships are not appropriate.

### Article 9. Location

- 9.1 The physical location of a *place* is part of its *cultural significance*. A building, work or other element of a place should remain in its historical location. Relocation is generally unacceptable unless this is the sole practical means of ensuring its survival.
- 9.2 Some buildings, works or other elements of *places* were designed to be readily removable or already have a history of relocation. Provided such buildings, works or other elements do not have significant links with their present location, removal may be appropriate.
- 9.3 If any building, work or other element is moved, it should be moved to an appropriate location and given an appropriate *use*. Such action should not be to the detriment of any *place* of *cultural significance*.

### Article 10. Contents

Contents, fixtures and objects which contribute to the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be retained at that place. Their removal is unacceptable unless it is: the sole means of ensuring their security and *preservation*; on a temporary basis for treatment or exhibition; for cultural reasons; for health and safety; or to protect the place. Such contents, fixtures and objects should be returned where circumstances permit and it is culturally appropriate.

### Article 11. Related places and objects

The contribution which *related places* and *related objects* make to the *cultural significance* of the *place* should be retained.

### Article 12. Participation

*Conservation*, *interpretation* and management of a *place* should provide for the participation of people for whom the place has significant *associations* and *meanings*, or who have social, spiritual or other cultural responsibilities for the place.

### Article 13. Co-existence of cultural values

Co-existence of cultural values should always be recognised, respected and encouraged. This is especially important in cases where they conflict.

## Explanatory Notes

Setting is explained in Article 1.12.

For example, the repatriation (returning) of an object or element to a place may be important to Indigenous cultures, and may be essential to the retention of its cultural significance.

Article 28 covers the circumstances where significant fabric might be disturbed, for example, during archaeological excavation.

Article 33 deals with significant fabric that has been removed from a place.

For some places, conflicting cultural values may affect policy development and management decisions. In Article 13, the term cultural values refers to those beliefs which are important to a cultural group, including but not limited to political, religious, spiritual and moral beliefs. This is broader than values associated with cultural significance.

# Conservation Processes

## Article 14. Conservation processes

*Conservation* may, according to circumstance, include the processes of: retention or reintroduction of a *use*; retention of *associations* and *meanings*; *maintenance*, *preservation*, *restoration*, *reconstruction*, *adaptation* and *interpretation*; and will commonly include a combination of more than one of these. Conservation may also include retention of the contribution that *related places* and *related objects* make to the *cultural significance* of a *place*.

## Article 15. Change

15.1 Change may be necessary to retain *cultural significance*, but is undesirable where it reduces cultural significance. The amount of change to a *place* and its *use* should be guided by the *cultural significance* of the place and its appropriate *interpretation*.

15.2 Changes which reduce *cultural significance* should be reversible, and be reversed when circumstances permit.

15.3 Demolition of significant *fabric* of a *place* is generally not acceptable. However, in some cases minor demolition may be appropriate as part of *conservation*. Removed significant fabric should be reinstated when circumstances permit.

15.4 The contributions of all aspects of *cultural significance* of a *place* should be respected. If a place includes *fabric*, *uses*, *associations* or *meanings* of different periods, or different aspects of cultural significance, emphasising or interpreting one period or aspect at the expense of another can only be justified when what is left out, removed or diminished is of slight cultural significance and that which is emphasised or interpreted is of much greater cultural significance.

## Article 16. Maintenance

*Maintenance* is fundamental to *conservation*. Maintenance should be undertaken where *fabric* is of *cultural significance* and its maintenance is necessary to retain that *cultural significance*.

## Article 17. Preservation

*Preservation* is appropriate where the existing *fabric* or its condition constitutes evidence of *cultural significance*, or where insufficient evidence is available to allow other *conservation* processes to be carried out.

Conservation normally seeks to slow deterioration unless the significance of the place dictates otherwise. There may be circumstances where no action is required to achieve conservation.

When change is being considered, including for a temporary use, a range of options should be explored to seek the option which minimises any reduction to its cultural significance.

It may be appropriate to change a place where this reflects a change in cultural meanings or practices at the place, but the significance of the place should always be respected.

Reversible changes should be considered temporary. Non-reversible change should only be used as a last resort and should not prevent future conservation action.

Maintaining a place may be important to the fulfilment of traditional laws and customs in some Indigenous communities and other cultural groups.

Preservation protects fabric without obscuring evidence of its construction and use. The process should always be applied:

- where the evidence of the fabric is of such significance that it should not be altered; or
- where insufficient investigation has been carried out to permit policy decisions to be taken in accord with Articles 26 to 28.

New work (e.g. stabilisation) may be carried out in association with preservation when its purpose is the physical protection of the fabric and when it is consistent with Article 22.

## Articles

### Article 18. Restoration and reconstruction

*Restoration* and *reconstruction* should reveal culturally significant aspects of the *place*.

### Article 19. Restoration

*Restoration* is appropriate only if there is sufficient evidence of an earlier state of the *fabric*.

### Article 20. Reconstruction

20.1 *Reconstruction* is appropriate only where a *place* is incomplete through damage or alteration, and only where there is sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state of the *fabric*. In some cases, reconstruction may also be appropriate as part of a *use* or practice that retains the *cultural significance* of the place.

20.2 *Reconstruction* should be identifiable on close inspection or through additional *interpretation*.

### Article 21. Adaptation

21.1 *Adaptation* is acceptable only where the adaptation has minimal impact on the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

21.2 *Adaptation* should involve minimal change to significant *fabric*, achieved only after considering alternatives.

### Article 22. New work

22.1 New work such as additions or other changes to the *place* may be acceptable where it respects and does not distort or obscure the *cultural significance* of the place, or detract from its *interpretation* and appreciation.

22.2 New work should be readily identifiable as such, but must respect and have minimal impact on the *cultural significance* of the *place*.

### Article 23. Retaining or reintroducing use

Retaining, modifying or reintroducing a significant *use* may be appropriate and preferred forms of *conservation*.

### Article 24. Retaining associations and meanings

24.1 Significant *associations* between people and a *place* should be respected, retained and not obscured. Opportunities for the *interpretation*, commemoration and celebration of these associations should be investigated and implemented.

24.2 Significant *meanings*, including spiritual values, of a *place* should be respected. Opportunities for the continuation or revival of these meanings should be investigated and implemented.

## Explanatory Notes

Places with social or spiritual value may warrant reconstruction, even though very little may remain (e.g. only building footings or tree stumps following fire, flood or storm). The requirement for sufficient evidence to reproduce an earlier state still applies.

Adaptation may involve additions to the place, the introduction of new services, or a new use, or changes to safeguard the place. Adaptation of a place for a new use is often referred to as 'adaptive re-use' and should be consistent with Article 7.2.

New work should respect the significance of a place through consideration of its siting, bulk, form, scale, character, colour, texture and material. Imitation should generally be avoided.

New work should be consistent with Articles 3, 5, 8, 15, 21 and 22.1.

These may require changes to significant fabric but they should be minimised. In some cases, continuing a significant use, activity or practice may involve substantial new work.

For many places associations will be linked to aspects of use, including activities and practices.

Some associations and meanings may not be apparent and will require research.

## Articles

### Article 25. Interpretation

The *cultural significance* of many *places* is not readily apparent, and should be explained by *interpretation*. Interpretation should enhance understanding and engagement, and be culturally appropriate.

## Conservation Practice

### Article 26. Applying the Burra Charter Process

26.1 Work on a *place* should be preceded by studies to understand the place which should include analysis of physical, documentary, oral and other evidence, drawing on appropriate knowledge, skills and disciplines.

26.2 Written statements of *cultural significance* and policy for the *place* should be prepared, justified and accompanied by supporting evidence. The statements of significance and policy should be incorporated into a management plan for the place.

26.3 Groups and individuals with *associations* with the *place* as well as those involved in its management should be provided with opportunities to contribute to and participate in identifying and understanding the *cultural significance* of the place. Where appropriate they should also have opportunities to participate in its *conservation* and management.

26.4 Statements of *cultural significance* and policy for the *place* should be periodically reviewed, and actions and their consequences monitored to ensure continuing appropriateness and effectiveness.

### Article 27. Managing change

27.1 The impact of proposed changes, including incremental changes, on the *cultural significance* of a *place* should be assessed with reference to the statement of significance and the policy for managing the place. It may be necessary to modify proposed changes to better retain cultural significance.

27.2 Existing *fabric*, *use*, *associations* and *meanings* should be adequately recorded before and after any changes are made to the *place*.

### Article 28. Disturbance of fabric

28.1 Disturbance of significant *fabric* for study, or to obtain evidence, should be minimised. Study of a *place* by any disturbance of the fabric, including archaeological excavation, should only be undertaken to provide data essential for decisions on the *conservation* of the place, or to obtain important evidence about to be lost or made inaccessible.

## Explanatory Notes

In some circumstances any form of interpretation may be culturally inappropriate.

The results of studies should be kept up to date, regularly reviewed and revised as necessary.

Policy should address all relevant issues, e.g. use, interpretation, management and change.

A management plan is a useful document for recording the Burra Charter Process, i.e. the steps in planning for and managing a place of cultural significance (Article 6.1 and flow chart). Such plans are often called conservation management plans and sometimes have other names.

The management plan may deal with other matters related to the management of the place.

Monitor actions taken in case there are also unintended consequences.

## Articles

28.2 Investigation of a *place* which requires disturbance of the *fabric*, apart from that necessary to make decisions, may be appropriate provided that it is consistent with the policy for the place. Such investigation should be based on important research questions which have potential to substantially add to knowledge, which cannot be answered in other ways and which minimises disturbance of significant fabric.

### Article 29. Responsibility

The organisations and individuals responsible for management and decisions should be named and specific responsibility taken for each decision.

### Article 30. Direction, supervision and implementation

Competent direction and supervision should be maintained at all stages, and any changes should be implemented by people with appropriate knowledge and skills.

### Article 31. Keeping a log

New evidence may come to light while implementing policy or a plan for a *place*. Other factors may arise and require new decisions. A log of new evidence and additional decisions should be kept.

### Article 32. Records

32.1 The records associated with the *conservation* of a *place* should be placed in a permanent archive and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

32.2 Records about the history of a *place* should be protected and made publicly available, subject to requirements of security and privacy, and where this is culturally appropriate.

### Article 33. Removed fabric

Significant *fabric* which has been removed from a *place* including contents, fixtures and objects, should be catalogued, and protected in accordance with its *cultural significance*.

Where possible and culturally appropriate, removed significant fabric including contents, fixtures and objects, should be kept at the place.

### Article 34. Resources

Adequate resources should be provided for *conservation*.

*Words in italics are defined in Article 1.*

## Explanatory Notes

New decisions should respect and have minimal impact on the cultural significance of the place.

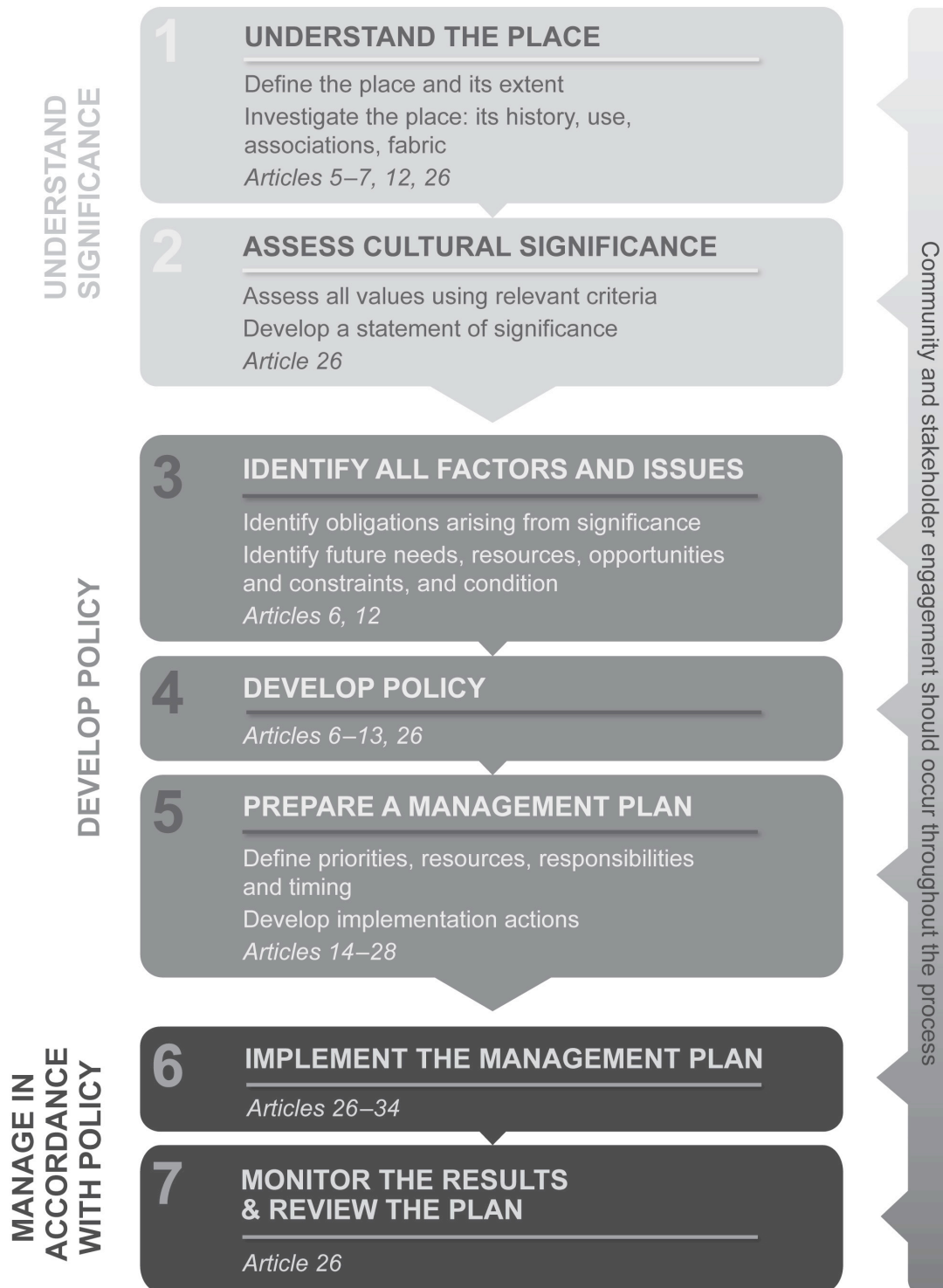
The best conservation often involves the least work and can be inexpensive.

# The Burra Charter Process

## Steps in planning for and managing a place of cultural significance

The Burra Charter should be read as a whole.

Key articles relevant to each step are shown in the boxes. Article 6 summarises the Burra Charter Process.



## **5.02 Practice Note: Applying the Heritage Overlay**

# Applying the Heritage Overlay

Planning Practice Note | 1

JULY 2015

This practice note provides guidance about the use of the Heritage Overlay.

## What places should be included in the Heritage Overlay?

- Any place that has been listed on the Australian Heritage Council's now closed *Register of the National Estate*.
- Any place that has been referred by the Heritage Council for consideration for an amendment to the planning scheme.
- Places listed on the *National Trust Register* of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria), provided the significance of the place can be shown to justify the application of the overlay.
- Places identified in a local heritage study, provided the significance of the place can be shown to justify the application of the overlay.

Places listed on the former *Register of the National Estate* or on the *National Trust Register* of the National Trust of Australia (Victoria) do not have statutory protection unless they are protected in the planning scheme.

The heritage process leading to the identification of the place needs to clearly justify the significance of the place as a basis for its inclusion in the Heritage Overlay. The documentation for each place shall include a statement of significance that clearly establishes the importance of the place and addresses the heritage criteria.

## What are recognised heritage criteria?

The following recognised heritage criteria shall be used for the assessment of the heritage values of the heritage place. These model criteria have been broadly adopted by heritage jurisdictions across Australia and should be used for all new heritage assessment work.

**Criterion A:** Importance to the course or pattern of our cultural or natural history (historical significance).

**Criterion B:** Possession of uncommon rare or endangered aspects of our cultural or natural history (rarity).

**Criterion C:** Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of our cultural or natural history (research potential).

**Criterion D:** Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments (representativeness).

**Criterion E:** Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics (aesthetic significance).

**Criterion F:** Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period (technical significance).

**Criterion G:** Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions (social significance).

**Criterion H:** Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in our history (associative significance).

The adoption of the above criteria does not diminish heritage assessment work undertaken before 2012 using older versions of criteria.

The thresholds to be applied in the assessment of significance shall be 'State Significance' and 'Local Significance'. 'Local Significance' includes those places that are important to a particular community or locality. Letter gradings (for example, "A", "B", "C") should not be used.

In order to apply a threshold, some comparative analysis will be required to substantiate the significance of each place. The comparative analysis should draw on other similar places within the study area, including those that have previously been included in a heritage register or overlay. Places identified to be of potential state significance should undergo limited analysis on a broader (statewide) comparative basis.

## Places of significance for historical or social reasons

Planning is about managing the environment and changes to it. An appropriate test for a potential heritage place to pass in order to apply the Heritage Overlay is that it has 'something' to be managed. This 'something' is usually tangible but it may, for example, be an absence of built form or the presence of some other special characteristic. If such things are present, there will be something to manage and the Heritage Overlay may be applied.

If not, a commemorative plaque is an appropriate way of signifying the importance of the place to the local community.

## Group, thematic and serial listings

Places that share a common history and/or significance but which do not adjoin each other or form a geographical grouping may be considered for treatment as a single heritage place. Each place that forms part of the group might share a common statement of significance; a single entry in the Heritage Overlay Schedule and a single Heritage Overlay number.

This approach has been taken to the listing of Chicory Kilns on Phillip Island in the Bass Coast Planning Scheme. The kilns are dispersed across the island but share a common significance. Group listing of the kilns also draws attention to the fact that the kilns are not just important on an individual basis, but are collectively significant as a group.

The group approach has also been used for the former Rosella Factory Complex in the Yarra Planning Scheme. This important factory complex had become fragmented through replacement development making it hard to justify a precinct listing. The group listing, with a single Heritage Overlay number, has meant that the extent and significance of the complex can still be appreciated.

## Writing statements of significance

For every heritage place (that is, a precinct or individual place) a statement of significance should be prepared using the three-part format of 'What is significant?'; 'How is it significant?' and 'Why is it significant?'

**What is significant?**- This section should be brief, usually no more than one paragraph or a series of dot points. There should be no doubt about the elements of the place that are under discussion. The paragraph should identify features or elements that are significant about the place, for example, house, outbuildings, garden, plantings, ruins, archaeological sites, interiors as a guide to future decision makers. Mention could also be made of elements that are not significant.

**How is it significant?**- A sentence should be included to the effect that the place is important because of its historical significance, its rarity, its research potential, its representativeness, its

aesthetic significance, its technical significance and/or its associative significance. These descriptors are shown in brackets at the end of the heritage criteria listed above. The sentence should indicate the threshold for which the place is considered important.

**Why is it significant?**- This should elaborate on the criteria that makes the place significant.

A separate point or paragraph should be used for each criterion satisfied. The relevant criterion should be inserted in brackets after each point or paragraph. Each point or paragraph may include the threshold for which the place is considered important.

## Saving and displaying statements of significance

All statements of significance should be securely stored in the HERMES heritage database.

Where a planning scheme amendment has resulted in the addition of, or amendments to, places in the Heritage Overlay, the strategic justification (that is, heritage study documentation and statements of significance) should be entered into the department's HERMES heritage database.

Where a place (either a precinct or individual place) is included in the Heritage Overlay, the statement of significance for that place should be publicly viewable through the department's Victorian Heritage Database.

## Additional resources may be required

When introducing the Heritage Overlay, a council should consider the resources required to administer the heritage controls and to provide assistance and advice to affected property owners. This might include providing community access to a heritage adviser or other technical or financial assistance.

## Drafting the Heritage Overlay schedule

### What is a heritage place?

A heritage place could include a site, area, building, group of buildings, structure, archaeological site, tree, garden, geological formation, fossil site, habitat or other place of natural or cultural significance and

its associated land. It cannot include movable or portable objects such as machinery within a factory or furniture within a house.

### What is the planning scheme map reference number?

In column one of the schedule, the Planning Scheme Map Reference prefix should read HO1, HO2, HO3 and so on. Each heritage place in the schedule will have its own identifying number. The planning scheme maps should also record these numbers as a cross reference between the maps and the schedule.

### Street numbers and location descriptions

Street numbers and locality addresses should be included for properties wherever possible. Where a street address is not available, plan of subdivision details (for example, Lot 1 of PS12345) should be used. Avoid using Crown Allotment details, Certificate of Title details or obscure location descriptions if possible.

### How should the Heritage Overlay schedule be arranged?

There are two preferred options for arranging the schedule. Heritage places may be grouped according to their suburb, town or location and then arranged alphabetically by street address within each grouping. Alternatively, all places may be listed alphabetically by their street address irrespective of their location. Use the method which most assists users of the planning scheme to find the relevant property by a simple search through the schedule.

### Applying external painting controls

External painting controls over particular heritage places can be applied in the schedule by including a 'yes' in the External Paint Controls Apply? column.

### Applying internal alterations controls

Internal alteration controls over specified buildings can be applied in the schedule by including a 'yes' in the Internal Alteration Controls Apply? column. This provision should be applied sparingly and on a selective basis to special interiors of high significance. The statement of significance for the heritage place should explain what is significant about the interior and why it is important.

## Applying tree controls

The schedule can apply tree controls over heritage places. The tree controls could apply to the whole of a heritage place (for example, over a house site or an area) or a tree or group of trees could be specifically nominated as the heritage place.

Tree controls are applied by including a 'yes' in the Tree Controls Apply? column. Tree controls should only be applied where there has been a proper assessment. The statement of significance for the heritage place should identify the particular trees that are significant (under "What is significant?") and why the tree or trees are important.

If only one, or a few trees within a large property are considered to be significant, the 'Tree Controls Apply' column can be qualified with the relevant details. This would then mean that a planning permit would only be required to remove, destroy or lop the trees that were specifically identified in the column.

This control is designed to protect trees that are of intrinsic significance (such as trees that are included on the National Trust Register or trees that contribute to the significance of a heritage place (for example, trees that contribute to the significance of a garden or area). The control is not meant to protect trees for their amenity value. See *Planning Practice Note 7 – Vegetation Protection in Urban Areas* for alternative methods of vegetation protection.

## Outbuildings and fences

While a planning permit is required to demolish an existing outbuilding or fence on land subject to the Heritage Overlay, it is possible to exempt such planning permit applications from the notice and review requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. This is achieved by including the word 'no' in the column headed 'Outbuildings or fences which are not exempt under Clause 43.01-3?'.

If the word 'yes' appears in this column then the notice and review requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* will potentially apply to a planning permit application to demolish or remove an outbuilding or fence.

It is helpful to landowners and users of the planning scheme if the column in the schedule identifies the particular outbuildings and/or fences that are considered to be significant. The statement of significance for the heritage place should also

identify the particular outbuildings and/or fences that are significant (under "What is significant?") and why they are important.

## How should places in the Victorian Heritage Register be treated in the schedule and map?

Section 48 of the *Heritage Act 1995* requires that the Minister for Planning must 'prepare and approve an amendment to any planning scheme applying to a place which is included in the Heritage Register to identify the inclusion of that place in the Heritage Register'. This is intended as an alert to planning scheme users of restrictions that might apply to land under the Heritage Act.

Planning authorities should not amend the schedule or maps as they relate to places in the Victorian Heritage Register and certainly not without the prior approval of Heritage Victoria. This is to ensure that planning schemes accurately reflect the Heritage Register as required by the Heritage Act.

Under Clause 43.01-2, places on the Victorian Heritage Register are subject to the requirements of the *Heritage Act 1995* and not the planning provisions of the Heritage Overlay. Where Places included in the Victorian Heritage Register are listed in the schedule, a dash should be recorded in columns three (external paint controls), four (internal alteration controls), five (tree controls) and six (outbuildings and fences) to avoid any possible confusion as to whether planning provisions apply to these properties. In column seven ('Included on the Victorian Heritage Register ...') the reference number of the property on the Victorian Heritage Register should be included as an aid to users of the planning scheme.

## Allowing a prohibited use of a heritage place

It is possible to make a prohibited use permissible at specific places by including a 'yes' in the Prohibited uses may be permitted? column.

This provision should not be applied to significant areas because it might result in the *de facto* rezoning of a large area. The provision should only be applied to specific places. For example, the provision might be used for a redundant church, warehouse or other large building complex where it is considered that the normally available range of permissible uses is

insufficient to provide for the future conservation of the building. Currently this provision applies in the metropolitan area of Melbourne to places that are included on the *Victorian Heritage Register*.

## Aboriginal heritage places

Scarred trees, stone arrangements and other places significant for their Aboriginal associations can be identified by including a 'yes' in the Aboriginal Heritage Place? column. As with any place listed in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay, supporting justification is expected to apply this provision.

The standard permit requirements of Clause 43.01-1 of the Heritage Overlay apply to Aboriginal heritage places included in the schedule. Clause 43.01-6 reminds a responsible authority that the requirements of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* apply to these places.

## How are heritage precincts and areas treated?

Significant precincts and areas should be identified in the schedule as well as being mapped.

## How are individual buildings, trees or properties of significance located within significant areas treated?

The provisions applying to individual buildings and structures are the same as the provisions applying to areas, so there is no need to separately schedule and map a significant building, feature or property located within a significant area.

The only instance where an individual property within a significant area should be scheduled and mapped is where it is proposed that a different requirement should apply. For example, external painting controls may be justified for an individual building of significance but not over the heritage precinct surrounding the building.

Alternatively, tree controls may be justified for a specific tree or property within a significant precinct but not over the whole precinct. In such situations the individual property or tree should be both scheduled and mapped.

Significant buildings or structures within a significant precinct can be identified through a local planning policy.

## Curtilages and Heritage Overlay polygons

The Heritage Overlay applies to both the listed heritage item and its associated land. It is usually important to include land surrounding a building, structure, tree or feature of importance to ensure that any development, including subdivision, does not adversely affect the setting, context or significance of the heritage item. The land surrounding the heritage item is known as a 'curtilage' and will be shown as a polygon on the Heritage Overlay map. In many cases, particularly in urban areas and townships, the extent of the curtilage will be the whole of the property (for example, a suburban dwelling and its allotment).

However, there will be occasions where the curtilage and the Heritage Overlay polygon should be reduced in size as the land is of no significance. Reducing the curtilage and the polygon will have the potential benefit of lessening the number of planning permits that are required with advantages to both the landowner and the responsible authority. Examples of situations where a reduction in the curtilage and polygon may be appropriate include:

- A homestead on a large farm or pastoral property where it is only the house and/or outbuildings that is important. In most cases with large rural properties, the inclusion of large areas of surrounding farmland are unlikely to have any positive heritage benefits or outcomes.
- A significant tree on an otherwise unimportant property.
- A horse trough, fountain or monument in a road reservation.
- A grandstand or shelter in a large but otherwise unimportant public park.

Suggested steps in establishing a curtilage and polygon include:

1. Review the heritage study documentation and ask the question 'What is significant?'. The polygon should capture those elements of the place that are significant. If there are multiple elements that are widely dispersed on the property, one option may be to have multiple polygons which share the same Heritage Overlay number.

2. In addition to capturing the elements that are significant, it is almost always necessary to include some surrounding land (a “curtilage”) in order to:
  - retain the setting or context of the significant building, structure, tree or feature
  - regulate development (including subdivision) in close proximity to the significant building, tree or feature.
3. Where possible, uncomplicated and easily recognised boundaries (such as a fence line) leave little room for potential dispute in terms of the land affected by any future Overlay.
4. Use aerial photos where they exist to assist in identifying a reduced curtilage.
5. Where access is possible, ‘ground truthing’ may be of assistance.
6. Explain the basis for the reduced curtilage polygon in the heritage study documentation.
7. Where questions might arise in the future as to the extent of the polygon shown on the planning scheme map, use the entry in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay (i.e. column two) to specify the area covered by the polygon. For example:

*“The heritage place is the Moreton Bay Fig Tree and land beneath and beyond the canopy of the tree and extending for a distance of five metres from the canopy edge.”*

## Mapping heritage places

All heritage places must be both scheduled and mapped.

In each case, care should be taken to ensure that there is an accurate correlation between the Heritage Overlay schedule and the Heritage Overlay map.

The need for care is exemplified by the fact that the Heritage Overlay map will be the determining factor in any dispute as to whether a control applies (for example, in cases where there is conflict between the Heritage Overlay map and the property description or address in the Heritage Overlay schedule).

Councils are encouraged to review their planning schemes to ensure that all heritage places are correctly mapped and that there are no discrepancies between how places are identified in the Heritage Overlay schedule and Heritage Overlay maps.

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## Schedule to the Heritage Overlay

The requirements of this overlay apply to both the heritage place and its associated land.

PS Map Ref	Heritage Place	External Paint Controls Apply?	Internal Alteration Controls Apply?	Tree Controls Apply?	Outbuildings or fences which are Not exempt under Clause 43.01-3?	Included on the Victorian Heritage Register under the Heritage Act 1995?	Prohibited uses may be permitted?	Name of Incorporated Plan under Clause 43.01-2	Aboriginal heritage place?
HO1	House 1 Albert Street, Belmont	Yes	No	No	No	No	No		No
HO2	Athol House 57 Albert Street, Belmont	-	-	-	-	-	Yes		No
HO3	Jones Foundry 4 William Street, Breakwater		Yes	No	No	No	No		No
HO4	Moreton Bay Fig Tree 26 Bryant Street, Ceres The heritage place is the Moreton Bay Fig Tree and land beneath the canopy edge of the tree for a distance of five metres from the canopy edge.	No	No	Yes	No	No	No		No
HO5	House 13 Albert Street, Geelong	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No		No
HO6	Bay Villa 122 Middle Street, Geelong	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No		No
HO7	Barwon River Bridge Station Street, Geelong	-	-	-	-	Yes Ref No H789	No		No
HO8	William Street Precinct William Street, Geelong	Yes	No	No	No	No	No		No
HO9	Mount Rothwell Stone Arrangement Mount Rothwell Station Little River-Ripley, Little River	No	No	No	No	No	No		Yes

**5.03** Heritage Citations –

- **605 Barrabool Road:** Ceres Primary School.
- **20 Cochranes Road:** Ceres Recreation Reserve.
- **240 Gully Road:** 'Barwonside'.
- **285 Gully Road:** 'Erinvale'.
- **17 McCann Street:** Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School.
- **100 McCann Street:** 'Hurley House'.

**Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017****PLACE NAME:** Ceres Primary School**ADDRESS:** 605 Barrabool Road, Ceres

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**Historic Themes:****Early Settlement:** Agriculture**Community Life:** Education**Condition:** Good-Fair**Integrity:** Moderate-Low (as a postwar school)**Photograph Date:** January 2017**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON STATUTORY REGISTERS****Victorian Heritage Register:** No**Victorian Heritage Inventory:** No**Local Planning Scheme:** No**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON OTHER REGISTERS:****National Trust (Victoria) Register:** No**RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

Local Significance

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register: **No**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory: **No**Recommended for inclusion as a Heritage Overlay in the Planning Scheme: **Yes****Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**External Paint Controls Should Apply? **Yes** – early Barrabool stone school building only.Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply? **No**Tree Controls Should Apply? **No**Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note? **No**Prohibited Uses May be Permitted? **No**Incorporated Document **No****Other Recommendations**

It is recommended that the significant fabric is confined to the early Barrabool stone school building, mature Washingtonia Robusta Palm tree and the hipped roofed timber shelter shed to the north-east of the early school building.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:****What is Significant?**

Ceres Primary School, 605 Barrabool Road, has significance as an educational and community hub since 1875 valued by the local Ceres community. Constructed as a one-roomed gabled school building of local Barrabool stone in 1875, it represented a standard Education Department styled 80-type school designed by the Chief Architect of the Department, Henry Bastow. Today, the school is an amalgam of the original design and the major alterations carried out by the Chief Architect of the Public Works Department, Percy Everett in 1949-50, following substantial storm damage to the school in 1948. In addition to being an important education centre for local Primary school children, the school has played host to different community activities including Arbor Day tree plantings in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The fabric of significance includes the centrally-located stone school building, mature Washingtonia Robusta Palm tree at the front and the hipped roofed timber shelter shed (built in 1934 probably to a design by the Chief Architect of the Public Works Department, Percy Everett).

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This shelter shed is a rare known surviving interwar example of a State School pavilion in the Greater Geelong area.

### **How is it significant?**

Ceres Primary School, 605 Barrabool Road, Ceres, is historically and socially significant at a LOCAL level.

The timber shelter shed at the Ceres Primary School, 605 Barrabool Road, Ceres, is aesthetically significant at a LOCAL level.

### **Why is it significant?**

Ceres Primary School, 605 Barrabool Road, has historical significance for its enduring associations with the development and progress of State education for local school children since 1875 (Criterion A). From this time, the school has been the centre for education and social activities in the Ceres area. It has associations with several teachers and locals, including John Matthew Hartshorn, first Head Teacher who served from 1875 until 1894 (and previously as Head Teacher at Barrabool Hills Common School No. 50 from 1867) (Criterion H). Hartshorn and other staff that followed were the guiding forces in the education of local children. The school also has associations with Henry Bastow, Chief Architect of the Education Department, who was responsible for the original gabled school building; and Percy Everett, Chief Architect of the Public Works Department who designed the "Modern" shallow pitched roofed alterations in 1949 following substantial storm damage to the building. The historical significance of the Ceres School is embodied in the surviving historic fabric: centrally located early school building constructed of Barrabool stone (an amalgam of different standard design philosophies for School buildings in the 19<sup>th</sup> and mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries), mature Washingtonia Robusta Palm tree at the front of the site (which appears to have been planted in 1901 to celebrate the raising the Union Jack flag at the School for the first time); and the hipped roofed timber shelter shed (built in 1934 probably to a design by Percy Everett, having replaced an earlier pavilion on the site).

Ceres Primary School, 605 Barrabool Road, has social significance for the important educational role the site has played in the life and development of local school children since 1875 until the present day (Criterion G). It is recognised and valued by sections of the Ceres community for this reason.

The hipped roofed timber shelter shed at the Ceres Primary School, 605 Barrabool Road, has aesthetic significance as a rare known surviving example of an interwar State School outbuilding that demonstrates its original design (Criterion E). The modest scale and hipped form, together with the timber weatherboard wall cladding with timber lattice screening in the upper portions, and the exposed timber rafters in the eaves are those intact design traits that reflect its original appearance. While reflecting a standardized design approach by Percy Everett, Chief Architect of the Public Works Department, it is now one of few known to be extant.

The early Ceres Primary School building, 605 Barrabool Road, has aesthetic interest as a surviving amalgam of standardized State School design philosophies in the 19<sup>th</sup> and mid 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. This is evidence in the rectangular layout, Barrabool stone walls and single timber framed 12 paned double hung windows (reflective of the original design by Henry Bastow in 1875) and in the shallow-pitched roofs, raised roofed portion with clerestorey windows, broad eaves and banks of timber framed windows (a legacy of the major modernization designed by Percy Everett in 1949). While of aesthetic interest, the school building is not considered to have sufficient integrity of either era to meet an aesthetic/architectural significance threshold. There are more intact examples of single roomed State School designs of the 1870s in the Greater Geelong area, while there are more substantial and intact, purpose-built mid 20<sup>th</sup> century school buildings that embody the Modern design philosophies for State Schools by Percy Everett in Victoria.

### Heritage Overlay Map

It is recommended that the heritage overlay is applied to the north-east portion of the school site at 605 Barrabool Road as shown in the following aerial image:



Source of image: City of Greater Geelong 2016.

### DESCRIPTION:

The Ceres Primary School, 605 Barrabool Road, Ceres is situated on sloping ground on the southern side of the road, comprising a near rectangular layout. The front is marked by a mature cypress hedge with a central entrance opening and another opening on the east side. The latter entrance is marked by a low solid Barrabool stone fence with name plate that reads “Ceres P.S. No. 1602 Est. 1875” and cyclone wire mesh vehicular and pedestrian gates supported by timber posts. Immediately behind the hedge on the east side is an asphalt play area and skillion roofed buildings. There is another skillion roofed building on the west side, together with children’s play structures.

Centrally located is the original stone school building. It has a broadly projecting shallow pitched hipped main roof (built 1949-50), together with an elevated roofed portion (built 1949-50) with an introduced shallow gabled form (having replaced a shallow-hipped roof). These roofs are clad in introduced tray deck, having replaced asbestos roof cladding in earlier years. The raised roofed portion has early (1949-50) timber framed clerestory windows on the north (front) elevation. The Barrabool stone walls – including the rough hewn plinth with dressed coursed stonework above – reflect the original fabric of 1875. Also original are the three single window openings on the east elevation, with 12 paned timber framed double hung windows. The front elevation has a bank of three 12 paned full length windows that replaced the original raised bank of windows in 1949-50. The original stone building is dominated at the front by the introduced gabled administration wing. A remnant of the

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early cloak room wing is evident in the flat-roofed section adjoining the north wall of the school building (west side).

Adjacent to the old stone school to the north-east is the early timber shelter shed built in 1934. The modestly scaled pavilion has a hipped roof form clad in corrugated sheet metal (with an introduced bay of clear roof sheeting at the front) with broad eaves and exposed timber rafters. There is a large central door opening at the front (with an introduced door), the walls being clad in timber weatherboards, the upper open portions having timber lattice screening.

All other buildings and structures appear to have been introduced in more recent years, including the large flat and skillion roofed wing to the south-east of the old stone building, smaller gabled outbuildings and the shade sail structures.

At the rear (south of the site) is a grassed sports ground with running track. There is an asphalt basketball court in the south-east corner. The western and southern boundaries of the school site are planted with young Cypress trees.



**Photo 2:** Distance view (from school car park to the north-east) of the Ceres School complex, 2017.



**Photo 3:** Detail of front elevation of the old Ceres Primary School building, 2017.



**Photo 4:** Early timber shelter shed, north & east elevations, 2017.



**Photo 5:** Mature Washingtonia Robusta Palm tree, 2017.

**HISTORY:****Early Settlement of the Barrabool Hills**

For at least 5,000 years, the Barrabool Hills was occupied by sections of the Wathaurong, a nomadic Indigenous tribe.<sup>1</sup> The Wathaurong's existence at Barrabool was to be dramatically changed with the arrival of John Batman and his exploration party in 1835. Arriving from Tasmania with the explicit intention of exploring the area, the eventually developed into the Port Phillip Association.<sup>2</sup> Establishing his headquarters in the vicinity of Indented Head, Batman explored the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong region.<sup>3</sup> One of Batman's party, John Helder Wedge, a surveyor, ventured further westward in exploring other parts of the region. He eventually followed the Barwon River from Fyansford along the foot of the 'Barrabool' Hills.<sup>4</sup> There, 'he noted that the hills afforded "fine pastorage for sheep".<sup>5</sup> From 1836, squatters arrived at Geelong to take up land for sheep grazing.<sup>6</sup>

By 1839, the Barrabool Hills had been surveyed as part of the Barrabool Parish.<sup>7</sup> Large acreages were made available at a Government land sale in late 1839.<sup>8</sup> In February 1840, much of the Barrabool Hills was acquired by Charles McLachlan, a wealthy Scottish businessman of Tasmania, and his business partner, Captain Charles Swanston, English banker and merchant of Tasmania and member of the Port Phillip Association<sup>9</sup> who purchased Sections 2-3, 13-16, and 20-23 as his vast 4,480 acre Strathlachlan sheep estate.<sup>10</sup> In 1850, Sections 22 and 23 and parts of Sections 13 and 14 of the Strathlachlan Estate (Barrabool Parish) were subdivided into 65 farms centred on a village of 45 building sites as the Merrawarp Estate.<sup>11</sup> By 1861, there were only 10 owner residents in the Estate, with four fifths still being tenant farmers.<sup>12</sup> At this time, the Barrabool Hills were considered to be the 'granary of the colony,'<sup>13</sup> the location of sheep grazing and crop farms, and vineyards.

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1 I. Wynd, *Barrabool: Land of the Magpie*, Barrabool Shire, Torquay, 1992, p.ix.

2 *Ibid.*, p.3.

3 *Ibid.*

4 *Ibid.*, pp.4-5.

5 *Ibid.*

6 *Ibid.*, p.5.

7 Barrabool Parish Plan, VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria.

8 Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser, 9 December 1839, p.3.

9 D.S. Macmillan & J.R. Morris, 'McLachlan, Charles (1795-1850)' *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mclachlanh-charles-2411/text3191>, published first in hardcopy, 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017 & C. Swanston, 'Swanston, Charles (1789-1850)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://abd.anu.edu.au/biography/swanston-charles-2713/texttext3815>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017.

10 Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit. & Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.43.

11 *Ibid.*, p.22.

12 *Ibid.*

13 *Geelong Advertiser*, 14 September 1874, p.2.



Figure 1: Part Barrabool Parish Plan, Dept of Lands & Survey, Melbourne, March 1946, showing land sections in the Barrabool Hills, including Ceres. Source: VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria

Another successful purchaser in February 1840 was William Robertson, Port Phillip Association member. He acquired Sections 5, 11 and 12.<sup>14</sup> Two days after his purchase, Robertson sold Sections 11 and 12 to David Fisher, manager of the Derwent Company (successor to the Port Phillip Association). He named his estate 'Roslin' which he subdivided into farms that were leased to various tenants.<sup>15</sup> In 1850, Fisher created the village of Ceres as a private subdivision of 58 allotments in part of Section 12.<sup>16</sup> The small settlement was soon to become the centre of the agricultural district where the neighbouring properties farmed crops, grazed sheep and established noteworthy vineyards.

## History of the Ceres Primary School

### The First Schools in the Barrabool Hills

With the arrival of tenant farmers to the Merrawarp Estate and others to the Ceres village came the need for a school. A denominational school was soon established on Edward Willis' land, with 50 scholars in attended by June 1847.<sup>17</sup> Willis donated 10 acres of land to the west of the Merrawarp Road

<sup>14</sup> Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit.

<sup>15</sup> Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.208.

<sup>16</sup> Fisher's Ceres Village Subdivision Plan, 1850, Maps & Plans collection 17/60, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

<sup>17</sup> Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.65.

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for 'a school house, church, parsonage, and burial ground.'<sup>18</sup> The foundation of a temporary school building was laid in June 1847 which was replaced by J.A. Clowes by January 1849.<sup>19</sup> It seems a new school building was constructed by 1856, the Superintendent of the school being James Dennithorne.<sup>20</sup> This school later became Barrabool Hills State School No. 50 under the Common Schools Act 1962.<sup>21</sup> Following the passing of the Education Department Act in 1872, the school building was leased to the Education Department until it closed in 1875 with the construction of a new State School on the Barrabool Road.<sup>22</sup>

The second school to open in the district was the Wesleyan denominational school at Ceres in the newly-constructed stone chapel in 1855.<sup>23</sup> Opening in October 1855, the denominational school brought with it a centre of education at this location for the next 20 years. It became Common School No. 151 in 1863 and then the Ceres State School in 1872.<sup>24</sup> It closed in 1875.

A third school was established in the Barrabool Hills in 1857 with its construction on part of the Strathlachlan Estate.<sup>25</sup> A new building was opened on 19 May 1858 as a Presbyterian denominational school and it soon became the centre of community life.<sup>26</sup> With the Common Schools Act in 1863, it became school No. 73. The building was replaced with a new stone structure in 1874 before the school closed in 1881.<sup>27</sup> It reopened in the old stone building in 1921 until a new timber building was erected opposite the school site on land purchased from D. Anderson.<sup>28</sup>

### Establishment of the Barrabool (Ceres) State School

#### Selection of a Site for a New School

On 19 August 1873, John Main, District Inspector of Schools, recommended to the Education Department the purchase of John Edney's land to the south of the Barrabool Road, west of the Ceres village, as the site of a new State School building.<sup>29</sup> Main's recommendation was supported by the Local Board of Advice No. 89.<sup>30</sup> The land had been purchased by July 1874 and the urgency of a new building was highlighted by the Presbyterian Minister, Rev. Brownlie, who lamented that 'State' School No. 50 is so dilapidated as to the roof, that it is almost unfit for school purposes.'<sup>31</sup>

#### Design and Construction of the School

On 12 September 1874, Angus Mackay, Victorian Minister of Public Instruction, called tenders for 'the erection of a stone School at Barrabool.'<sup>32</sup> The proposed school building had probably been designed by Henry Bastow, head of the Architecture branch of the Department of Education. The one-room school

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18 *Ibid.*

19 *Ibid.*

20 *Ibid.*, p.66.

21 *Ibid.* See also *Geelong Advertiser* 22 July 1874, p.3 which described the school at the Barrabool Hills State School.

22 Wynd, *op.cit.*

23 *Ibid.*, p.72.

24 *Ibid.*

25 *Ibid.*, p.67.

26 *Ibid.*

27 *Ibid.*, p.69.

28 *Ibid.*

29 K. Poyner, 'Sandstone Buildings in the Parish of Barrabool Part A: The Public Building in and around Ceres', Research Report, School of Architecture, Deakin University 1978, p.51, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

30 *Ibid.*

31 *Ibid.*

32 *Geelong Advertiser*, 12 September 1874, p.3.

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at Ceres formed part of a broad standardized design approach that has its origins in the architectural campaign established by the Victorian Board of Education in the 1860s.<sup>33</sup> The Board had looked to England for ideas, and particularly towards the implementation of the English Privy Council system of school organization including the shape and layout of school buildings.<sup>34</sup> The English Committee of Council on Education established standardized plans in 1851, and it was from these designs where the Victorian Board of Education found ideas to form the standardized schemes in Victoria in the 19th century.<sup>35</sup>

With the establishment of the Education Department in 1873 (and the disbandment of the Board of Education), the standard one-room school plans developed by the previous Department became the foundation of school design until the turn of the century.<sup>36</sup> It was also the Education Department that standardized the exteriors, under the design guidance of Henry Robert Bastow. The rudimentary construction of these school buildings were largely offset by some minimal ornamentation in the gable ends, with the use of timber finials, gable ventilators, and moulded bargeboards.<sup>37</sup>

During the first three years under the control of the Education Department from 1873-76, 40 and 60 plan types predominated.<sup>38</sup> The actual size of a school building was dependent on the number of pupils that were estimated to attend, hence the 40 type for 40 children, the 60 type for 60 children and the 100 type for 100 children.

The proposed Ceres State School building (Figure 2) was based on the 80 type plan to accommodate 80 children. It was to feature the standard rectangular plan, raised platform floor, steeply-pitched gabled roof, blank side (west) wall with central projecting chimney, three single multi-paned timber framed double hung windows on the east elevation, and banks of multi-paned timber framed double hung windows on the 'end' elevations.

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33 Information taken from R. Peterson & Heritage Assets Branch, 'Historic Government Schools: A Comparative Study', Department of Planning & Development, June 1993 & L. Burchell, *Victorian Schools: A Study of Colonial Government Architecture 1837-1900*, Melbourne University Press, Carlton, 1980.

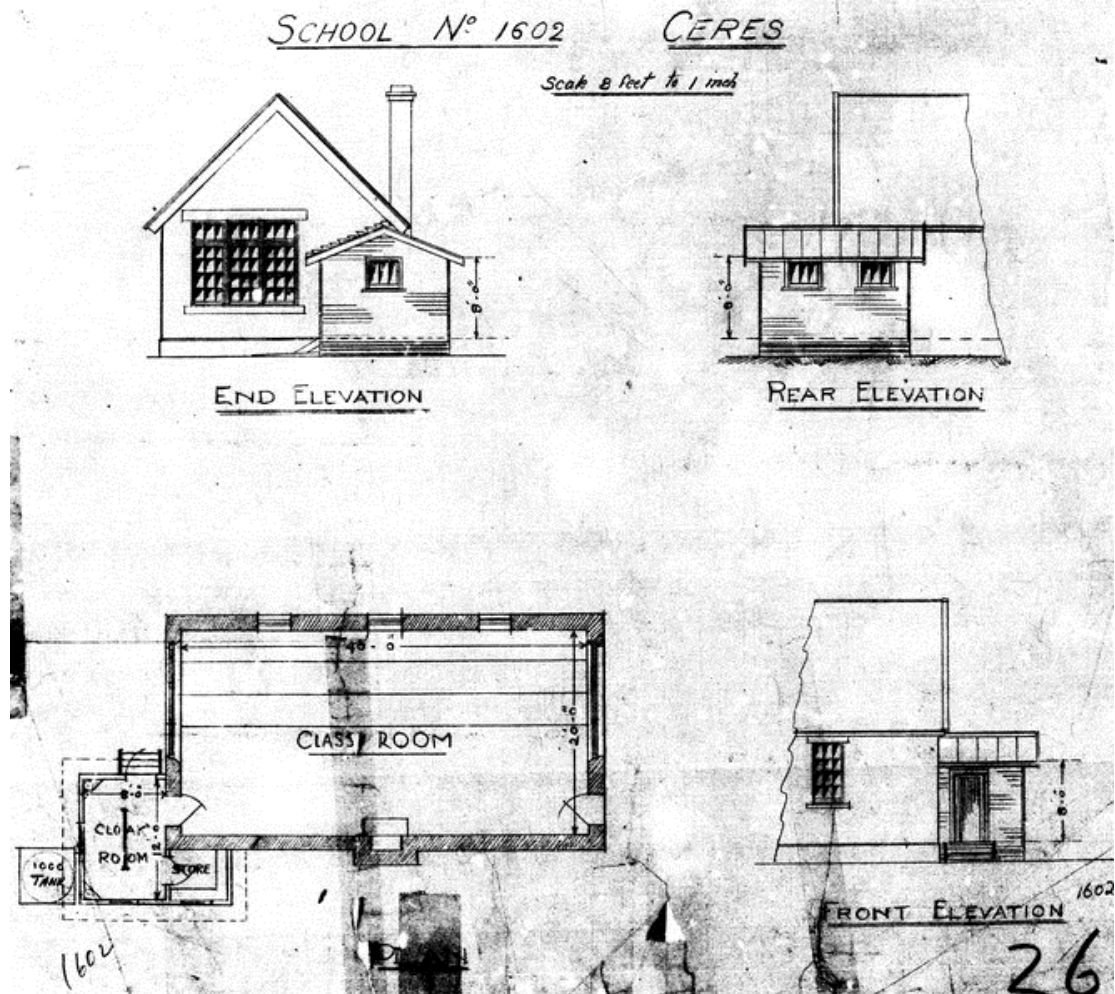
34 *Ibid.*

35 *Ibid.*

36 *Ibid.*

37 *Ibid.*

38 *Ibid.*



**Figure 2:** Plan and Elevation Drawings, Ceres State School no. 1602, n.d. (c.1948) showing original roof form and early cloakroom. Source: Drawing SSN 1602.1, Public Record Office Victoria.

The Education Department received 12 tenders for the construction of the building.<sup>39</sup> In February 1875, the tender of Giles Daniel of Albert Street, Ashby (Geelong West), for £417 was accepted for the construction of the Barrabool stone building with a slate roof.<sup>40</sup> John Matthew Hartshorn, formerly Head Teacher at the Barrabool State School on the Merrawarp Road from 1867, was appointed Head Teacher of the new school that was anticipated to open on 1 July 1875.<sup>41</sup> There was a delay in the opening until 5 July as, according to Hartshorn, 'no desks or forms were on the premises and the painted inside will not be completed before Saturday next.'<sup>42</sup> Although a commodious building, Hartshorn was again forced to write to the Education Department on 12 July seeking more seats as attendances ranged from 85-100 for a building designed to accommodate 80 children.<sup>43</sup> On 23 August 1875, Henry Bastow inspected the building and considered the work 'substantial and good ... far beyond what could have been demanded by the specification.'<sup>44</sup> However, he also noted that the chimney smoked very badly, a problem that was to beset the School of years to come until 1881 when the chimney shaft was removed

39 Poyner, op.cit.

40 Ibid. & *Victoria Government Gazette*, 26 February 1875, p.370.

41 Poyner, op.cit.

42 Ibid., p.52.

43 Ibid.

44 Ibid.

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and rebuilt.<sup>45</sup> Initially the ceiling remained unlined and it leaked as early December 1875 following heavy rain.<sup>46</sup> While Bastow's school designs usually included an entrance porch, it seems a porch was added to the school at Ceres in 1879<sup>47</sup> (the roof of this timber porch may have been replaced with a shallower gabled roof in later years). An underground brick water tank was also erected near the school building at this time.<sup>48</sup> In June 1890, the name of the school changed to Ceres State School No. 1602.<sup>49</sup> The front of the gabled stone building was shown in a photograph by the Public Works Department in 1948:



**Figure 3:** Ceres State School Building No. 1602 (right), with the shelter shed and Washington Robusta Palm tree (centre), ornamental garden (centre/foreground) and teacher's cottage (left), 6 December 1948.

Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.

### Teacher's Residence

In 1877, tenders were called for the construction of a teacher's residence. The detached gabled timber cottage of standard Victorian Education Department design<sup>50</sup> was built by J.W. Roberts of Newtown at a cost of £232.10.0.<sup>51</sup> John Hartshorn also requested the construction of a detached kitchen near the cottage, and a coach-house in one corner of the school site.<sup>52</sup> Hartshorn took possession the new dwelling on 19 February 1878.<sup>53</sup>

45 Ibid., p.52, 54.

46 Ibid., p.52.

47 Ibid., p.53.

48 *Geelong Advertiser*, 8 October 1879, p.3.

49 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.72.

50 The gabled design of the cottage was very similar to that built as the teacher's dwelling by the Education Department at Lal Lal in 1890. See D. Rowe & W. Jacobs, 'West Moorabool Heritage Study Stage 2A, vol.3, prepared for the Moorabool Shire Council, 2016, p.248.

51 *Victoria Government Gazette*, 16 November 1877, p.2174.

52 Poyner, *op.cit.*, p.53.

53 Ibid.

**J.M. Hartshorn: Long Serving Head Teacher**

John Matthew Hartshorn was born in London 21 February 1835, the son of Alexander and Margaret Jane Harshorn (nee Vercoe).<sup>54</sup> In Victoria, he followed his father and brothers, Alexander, Charles and Ebenezer into the teaching profession, eventually being promoted to head teacher at Linton's Diggings in 1863.<sup>55</sup> He resigned in 1867 and took up the position as head teacher of the Barrabool Hills Common School No. 50.<sup>56</sup> J.M. Hartshorn married Miss Mary Laura Steele Wardrobe (1848-1934) in 1872.<sup>57</sup> She was appointed to teach needlework at the Barrabool Hills School in 1874 until the birth of her first child, Esther Sarah Jane Hartshorn, and then reappointed until the birth of Catherine Maud Mary in c.1876.<sup>58</sup> This followed J.M. Hartshorn's appointment as Head Teacher of the newly-built Ceres State School No. 1602 in 1875. John and Mary had another two children during J.M. Hartshorn's tenure at the Ceres School: Harold John (born 1879) and Stella Vercoe (born 1881).<sup>59</sup> Hartshorn remained at the Ceres State School until his retirement in 1894. The School held a valedictory social in his honour:

A very profitable and enjoyable evening was spent in the Temperance Hall, Ceres, on Friday evening last, when a valedictory social was given to Mr John Hartshorn, who has occupied the position of State school teacher in this district for the past 28 years. Councillor Piper was voted to the chair as one of his oldest scholars, the teacher having put through two generations. Mr P. McCann, J.P., presented to Mr Hartshorn, on behalf of the parents and scholars of the district, an artistically illuminated address, indicating the very high esteem in which that gentleman was held. Mr Hartshorn returned thanks in a very neat and modest speech.<sup>60</sup>

John and Mary Hartshorn retired to Highton where they were involved with the Wesleyan Church (both being Sunday School Teachers) and J.M. Hartshorn was also Secretary of the Barrabool Hills Cemetery Trust.<sup>61</sup> John Hartshorn died in 1904.<sup>62</sup> In 1935, Miss E. Leigh presented the Ceres State School with a photograph of the late J.M. Hartshorn (Figure 4).<sup>63</sup>

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54 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit. & M. Cotter, 'Alexander Hartshorn' in Rootsweb online at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi>

55 Teacher Records for Hartshorn family VPRS 13718 Public Record Office Victoria, North Melbourne.

56 Ibid.

57 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

58 Ibid. & Teacher Records, op.cit.

59 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

60 *Geelong Advertiser*, 5 December 1894.

61 M. Stainsby, J.A. Smith & J. Williams, *Steadfast Through Change: A History of the Wesleyan-Methodist-Uniting Church in Highton 1853 to 2006*, St. Luke's Uniting Church, Highton, 2008, p.117 & *Geelong Advertiser*, 11 July 1894, p.4 & 7 January 1896, p.3.

62 *Ibid.*, 5 December 1894.

63 *The Age*, 20 May 1935, p.12.



**Figure 4:** John Matthew Hartshorn, n.d. This may have been the photograph presented to the Ceres School in 1935.  
Source: S. Costello, Schools of Geelong and District, Geelong Family History Group, 2010.

## Progress in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

### Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Repairs and Alterations to the School Building

By 1909, movement in one of the stone walls of the building was found to be unsafe. Portions were required to be removed and rebuilt. It seems the work was carried out by G. Wright at a cost of £39.16.0.<sup>64</sup> The nearby Temperance Hall was leased between August and October that year at a cost of 10/- per week.<sup>65</sup> In 1914, the original tiered timber floor was replaced with a new flat floor to the delight of the School Committee.<sup>66</sup> The walls of the building were replaced in 1934 by Lyons Brothers and Carroll, builders of Oxford Street, Belmont.<sup>67</sup>

### Alterations and Additions to the Teacher's Residence

By 1924, the teacher's residence had not been occupied for a number of years and was in disrepair. The four roomed dwelling was deemed to be too small for a teacher with a family.<sup>68</sup> Additions were subsequently carried out by R.R. Willard of Newtown at a cost of £369.<sup>69</sup> They appear to have included a skillion wing at the rear, accommodating a kitchen, bedroom, porch and bathroom, as shown in Figure

<sup>64</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 2 July 1909, p.3.

<sup>65</sup> Poyner, op.cit., p.54.

<sup>66</sup> H.C. Heal, Correspondent, Ceres School Committee No. 1602, to the Secretary, Education Department, 20 April 1914, Public Building file, VPRS 795/P0 Unit 2287 Public Record Office Victoria, North Melbourne.

<sup>67</sup> *The Argus*, 8 May 1934, p.5.

<sup>68</sup> File note, 2 April 1924, Public Building file, op.cit. & *Geelong Advertiser*, 2 August 1924, p.5.

<sup>69</sup> *Ibid.*, 24 September 1924, p.6.

3 in 1948. A sleep-out was proposed at the front of the dwelling in 1946 to a design by the Public Works Department (Figure 5).

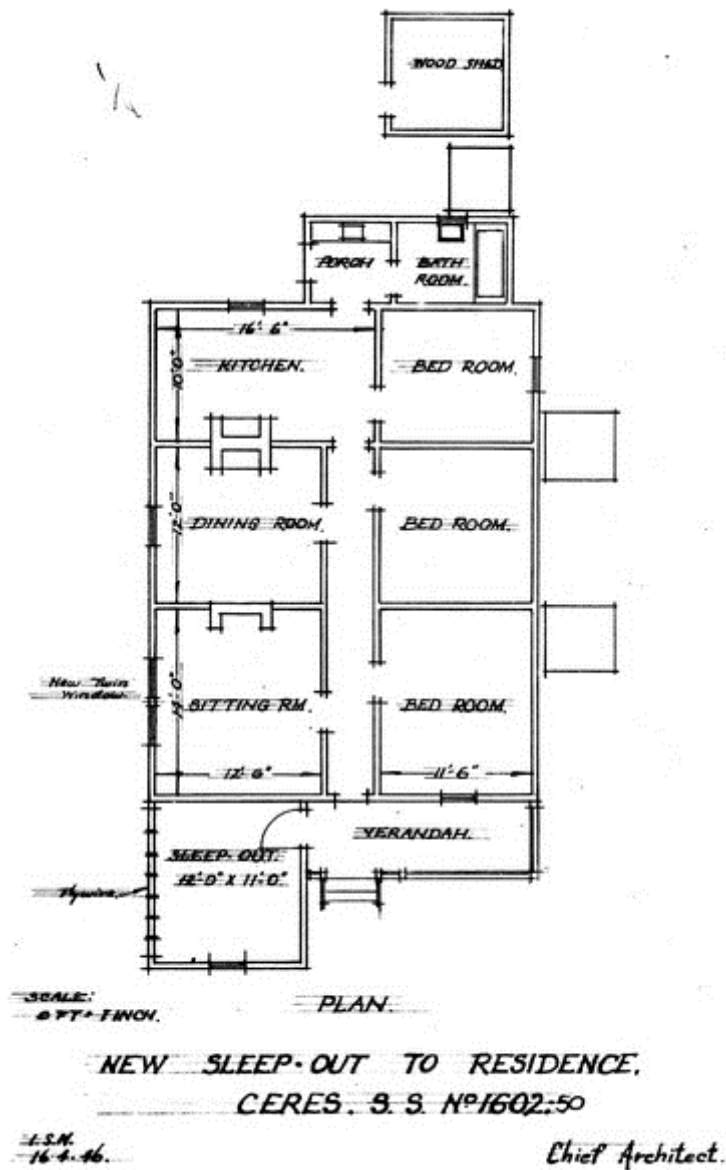


Figure 5: Proposed sleep out addition to Teacher's Residence, 16 April 1946  
Source: Drawing SS 1602.50, Public Record Office Victoria.

The residence was removed after 1970.<sup>70</sup>

### Major Alterations to the School Building

In 1948, the school building suffered severe storm damage (Figures 6-7).<sup>71</sup> The District Inspector for Schools, D.J. Gillard, gave the following report:

The chimney has been blown down on to the roof of the school; a large section fell through the slate roof and ceiling to the floor below, leaving a large hole in the ceiling.

<sup>70</sup> An aerial image of Ceres, December 1970, film 2457, Landata (Figure 18) showed that the cottage was still extant at that time.

<sup>71</sup> Poyner, op.cit., p.54.

The chimney had been strapped to the roof and in consequence the whole roof has shifted. The walls have been strained badly, and large cracks were noted in the brick [sic. – stone] work.

The damage is extensive.<sup>72</sup>

Photographs by the Public Works Department showed the extent of damage to the building, including the substantial damage to the roof and chimney.



**Figure 6:** West view of Ceres State School showing roof damage, 6 December 1948.

Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria



**Figure 7:** Interior, Ceres State School showing roof damage, 6 December 1948. Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.

Record Office Victoria.

School students were initially conveyed by bus to the Highton State School until the roof of the local Temperance Hall at Ceres was repaired.<sup>73</sup> The Hall was subsequently leased by the Education Department and became the temporary school for the next two years.<sup>74</sup> Initially, there was a proposal to completely demolish the old stone school building and replace it with a timber school relocated from Marshall.<sup>75</sup> This proposal was soon reconsidered, as outlined in a letter by Thomas Maltby, M.L.A., to the Minister for Public Instruction in November 1948:

Residents of Ceres, near Geelong are concerned because of a proposal to demolish the local stone State School building, regarded as a landmark and worthy of preservation.

It is understood that it is proposed to move the new timber School from Marshall to Ceres and this too would cause dissent, because of the probability of new scholars being ready to attend Marshall School next year.

It is suggested that Ceres School be repaired, and Marshall School remain in situ long enough to determine whether young scholars are coming forward in sufficient numbers to justify its reopening.<sup>76</sup>

Maltby's suggestion was also supported by the Public Works Department. It was 'of the opinion that the existing building is capable of many years of service.'<sup>77</sup> With scarcity of building materials following the

<sup>72</sup> D.J. Gillard, Report on Ceres State School No. 1602, 6 September 1948, Education Department, Public Building file, op.cit.

<sup>73</sup> File note, Public Building file, op.cit.

<sup>74</sup> Ibid. See various correspondence, 1948-50.

<sup>75</sup> Ibid. T.K. Malby to W.S. Kent Hughes, Minister of Public Instruction, 16 Nov 1948.

<sup>76</sup> Ibid.

<sup>77</sup> Ibid. File note, 4 February 1949.

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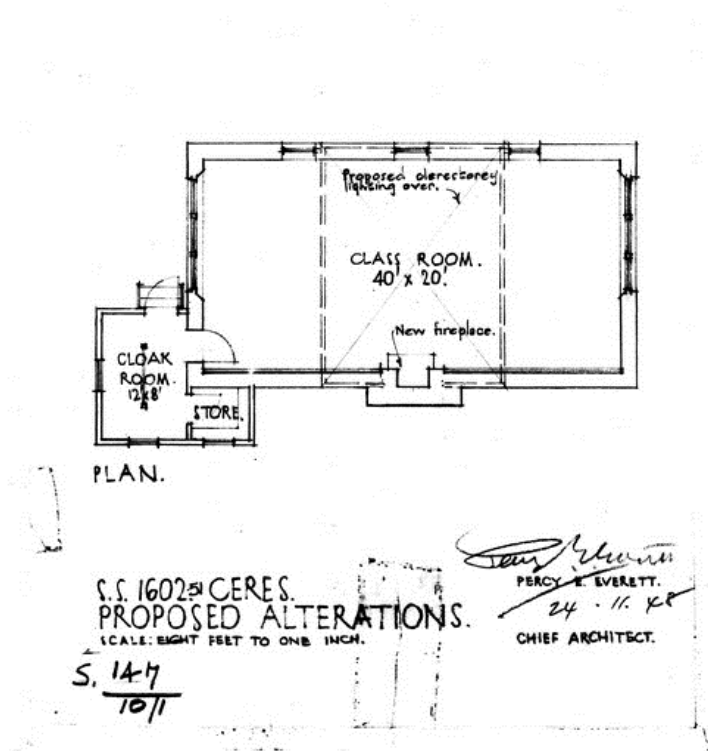
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Second World War, the Public Works Department found that the renewal of the roof was an economical proposition.<sup>78</sup>

Percy Everett, Chief Architect of the Public Works Department, prepared a design for the remodelled school in late 1948 and early 1949 (Figures 8-10).<sup>79</sup> The design included a shallow hipped (flat) roof with broad projecting eaves and a raised shallow hipped (flat-roofed) portion with clerestory windows to provide natural light within the building's interior. Natural lighting was also enhanced by lowering (and therefore enlarging) the banks of windows on the front (north) and rear (south) elevations (Figures 11-16). The existing stone walls were repaired, new chimney constructed and a contemporary flat roof (to match that of the main building) replacing the previous gabled form on the front cloak room. A small porch was also added to the cloakroom at the front. The school reopened in early September 1950.<sup>80</sup>



**Figure 8:** P. Everett, Proposed Alterations to Ceres School – Floor Plan, 24 November 1948

Source: Drawing SS 1602.51, Public Record Office Victoria.

78 Ibid.

79 See plan and elevation drawings dated 1948 and 1949, drawing nos. SSN1602.1-2, SS1602.51-52, Public Record Office, North Melbourne (Figures 8-10).

80 *The Age*, 8 September 1950, p.7.

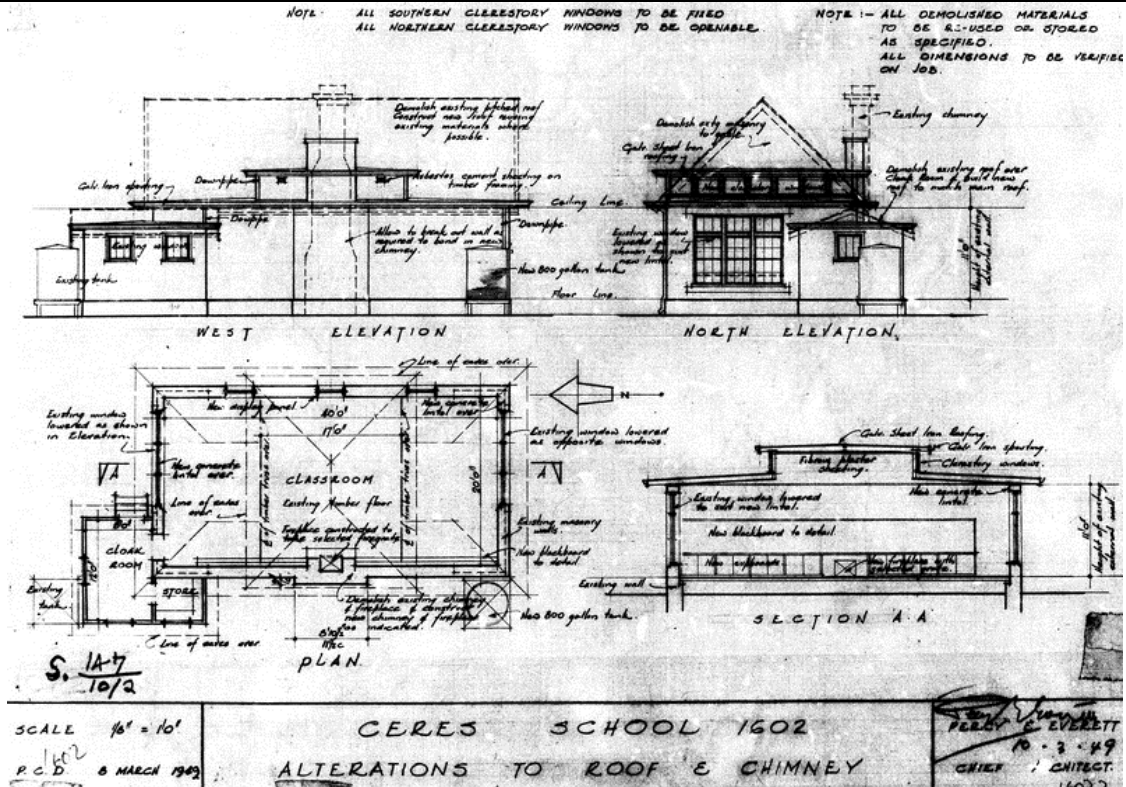


Figure 9: P. Everett, Proposed Alterations to Ceres School – Floor Plan, Elevations & Section, 10 March 1949, Source: Drawing SSN 1602.2, Public Record Office Victoria.

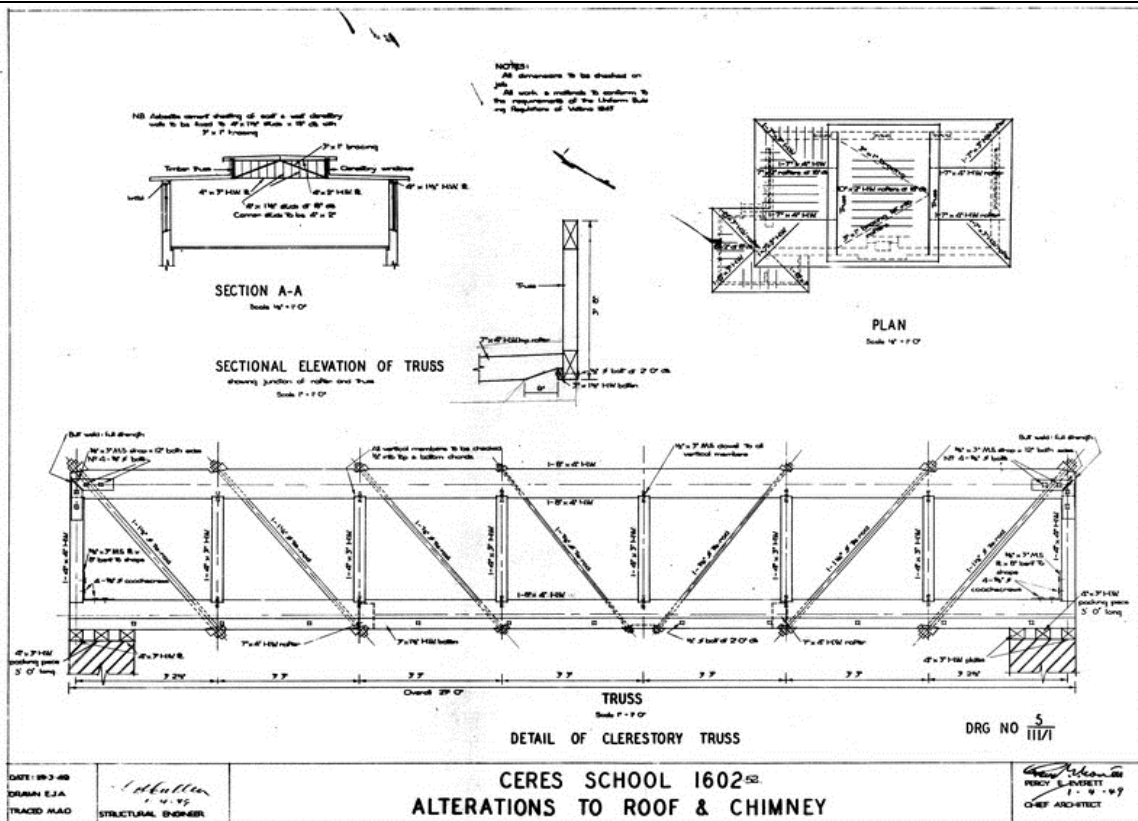


Figure 10: P. Everett, Proposed Alterations to Ceres School – Roof Plan, Section & Detail of Clerestory Truss, 1 April 1949, Source: Drawing SS 1602.52, Public Record Office Victoria.

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**Figure 11:** Ceres School under construction (front/north elevation), 15 Sept 1950.

Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.



**Figure 12:** Ceres School under construction (south & west elevations), 15 Sept 1950. Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.

Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.



**Figure 13:** Newly completed Ceres School (front elevation), 1950.

Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.



**Figure 14:** Newly completed Ceres School (front elevation), 1950. Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.

Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.



**Figure 15:** Newly completed Ceres School (south & west elevations), 1950. Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.

Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria.



**Figure 16:** Newly completed Ceres School (south elevation) 1950. Source: VPRS 10516/P3 Unit 7 Public Record Office Victoria

Further renovations were proposed in 1955 to a design by John Firth, Chief Architect of the Public Works Department.<sup>81</sup> This might have been the replacement of the shallow hipped roof of the raised section of the school building with a shallow-gabled roof (Figure 17). The cloak room at the front of the school was replaced with a larger gabled administration wing in the 1990s.<sup>82</sup>



**Figure 17** Ceres Primary School, front elevation, c.1993  
Source: Late Ian Wynd photograph collection.

### **Beautification of the Grounds**

It appears that pine trees were planted around the boundaries of the school grounds after the opening of the school building in 1875. Having matured, the invasive roots became problematic with the adjacent owner on the western boundary in 1914-15.<sup>83</sup> Instead of removing the trees, the Education

<sup>81</sup> See drawing no. SSN1602.3, op.cit.

<sup>82</sup> The cloak room was intact in c.1993 as shown in Figure 16. The administration wing was shown in a Site Analysis Master Plan by Bradbury Dicker Architects in 2000. See Public Building file, VPRS 16963/P1 Unit 293 Public Record Office Victoria.

<sup>83</sup> J.P. Leigh, to The Secretary, Ceres State School Committee, 16 December 1914, Public Building file, op.cit.

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Department purchase a narrow strip of adjoining land, with a post and wire fence erected along the new boundary.<sup>84</sup>

Equally notable was the first recorded tree planting at the school in 1901. On 14 May of that year, the School held an official raising of the Union Jack, following an offer from Captain P. Chirnside, M.P., of 'The Manor', Werribee, to supply a flag for the school.<sup>85</sup> A flagpole was donated by W.F. Volum, President of the Barrabool Shire Council.<sup>86</sup> Following the raising of the flag, Peter McCann, Chairman of the Ceres Riding of the Board of Advice, planted a tree to commemorate the event.<sup>87</sup> The tree planted by McCann might have been the mature *Washingtonia Robusta* palm near the front of the old stone school building today.<sup>88</sup> Once planted, the *Geelong Advertiser* reported that the 'programme was now exhausted, and a day, perhaps the most remarkable, and certainly the most unique in the history of the school and district was brought to a close.'<sup>89</sup>

Ceremonial tree planting and the beautification of the school grounds became an important part of school life in the ensuing years. Given the initial lack of space for the planting of trees, Arbor Day was celebrated at the neighbouring Barrabool Recreation Reserve in 1916.<sup>90</sup> There, the first tree was planted in memory of the late Earl Kitchener. Other trees were planted in honour of the local soldiers 'who had fallen and those still at the front'.<sup>91</sup>

In 1919, the School Committee sought approval from the Minister of Public Instruction to remove some pine trees and plant shrubs in the school grounds, except those trees on the west side.<sup>92</sup> Approval was given so long as the new trees were of the 'more ornamental type' and the wood from the rooted out pines sold.<sup>93</sup> A further two rows of pine trees were later removed and on Arbor Day, 1922, 'two long rows' of Cypress trees were planted in their place.<sup>94</sup> Additional trees were also planted at the recreation reserve on this day.

In 1924, many shrubs and Cypress seedlings were planted on Arbor Day in the school grounds 'in the horticultural plots, which had been specially prepared by the head teacher (Mr Macartney) and the senior boys under his direction ...'<sup>95</sup> Councillor S.H. McCann was asked to speak at the occasion:

... he well remembered the first Arbor Day at the school, he was then a small boy, and his honoured father, long since deceased, planted the first tree and afterwards addressed the children; and who could say that some of the boys present, in the days to come, would have an opportunity to address another generation at a similar gathering.<sup>96</sup>

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84 *Geelong Advertiser*, 25 September 1915, p.3.

85 *Ibid.*, 16 May 1901, p.3.

86 A new flagpole was proposed in 1919. See A.B. McDowall to the Education Department, 1919, Public Building file, op.cit.

87 *Geelong Advertiser*, op.cit.

88 Phil Mulroyan, Supervisor, Geelong Botanic Gardens, to the author, February 2017, states that the palm tree at the Ceres School may be approximately 80 years old but with a lack of significant watering they can grow very slowly, and so this might suggest that the tree at the Ceres School is 100 or more years of age. An alternative possibility to the tree being planted in 1901 is that it formed part of the Arbor Day plantings at the School in the 1920s.

89 *Geelong Advertiser*, op.cit.

90 *Ibid.*, 7 July 1916, p.5.

91 *Ibid.* See also Barrabool Recreation Reserve heritage citation.

92 J.P. Leigh, Correspondent, to the Minister for Education, 25 August 1919, Public Building file, op.cit.

93 *Ibid.* J. Dew, District Inspector, to The Director of Education Department, 8 September 1919.

94 *Geelong Advertiser*, 13 July 1922, p.8.

95 *Ibid.*, 5 July 1924, p.3.

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It seems that the 'many shrubs' were planted as part of a formal garden at the front of the school as shown in Figure 12.

Another important development in the school grounds was the installation of a tennis court on the rear boundary in 1925.<sup>97</sup> A fundraising concert was held in the Temperance Hall in July of that year and by later September 1925 the court 'was expected to be ready for play ...'<sup>98</sup>

As space in the school grounds was again limited for tree planting to mark Arbor Day in 1926, 'the men folk were employed to trimming the hedges round the school',<sup>99</sup> suggesting that the Cypresses planted in previous years had been formed into hedges. It also appears that an ornamental garden had been established at the front of the school, the efforts of earlier Arbor Days. This garden was shown on a rough sketch of the school site in 1946 (Figure 18). It showed the gardens flanking the front pathway, together with the perimeter tree plantations, location of the 'residence block' and shelter shed, playing spaces, toilet blocks and two proposed poultry sheds.

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96 *Ibid.* Cr. S.H. McCann (born 1872) may not have been a small boy at the time of the tree planting. It seems that the tree planted by his father, Peter McCann, was that planted in celebration of the raising of the Union Jack in 1901.

97 *Ibid.*, 6 July 1925, p.6.

98 *Ibid.*, 11 September 1925, p.9.

99 *Ibid.*, 1 July 1926, p.8.

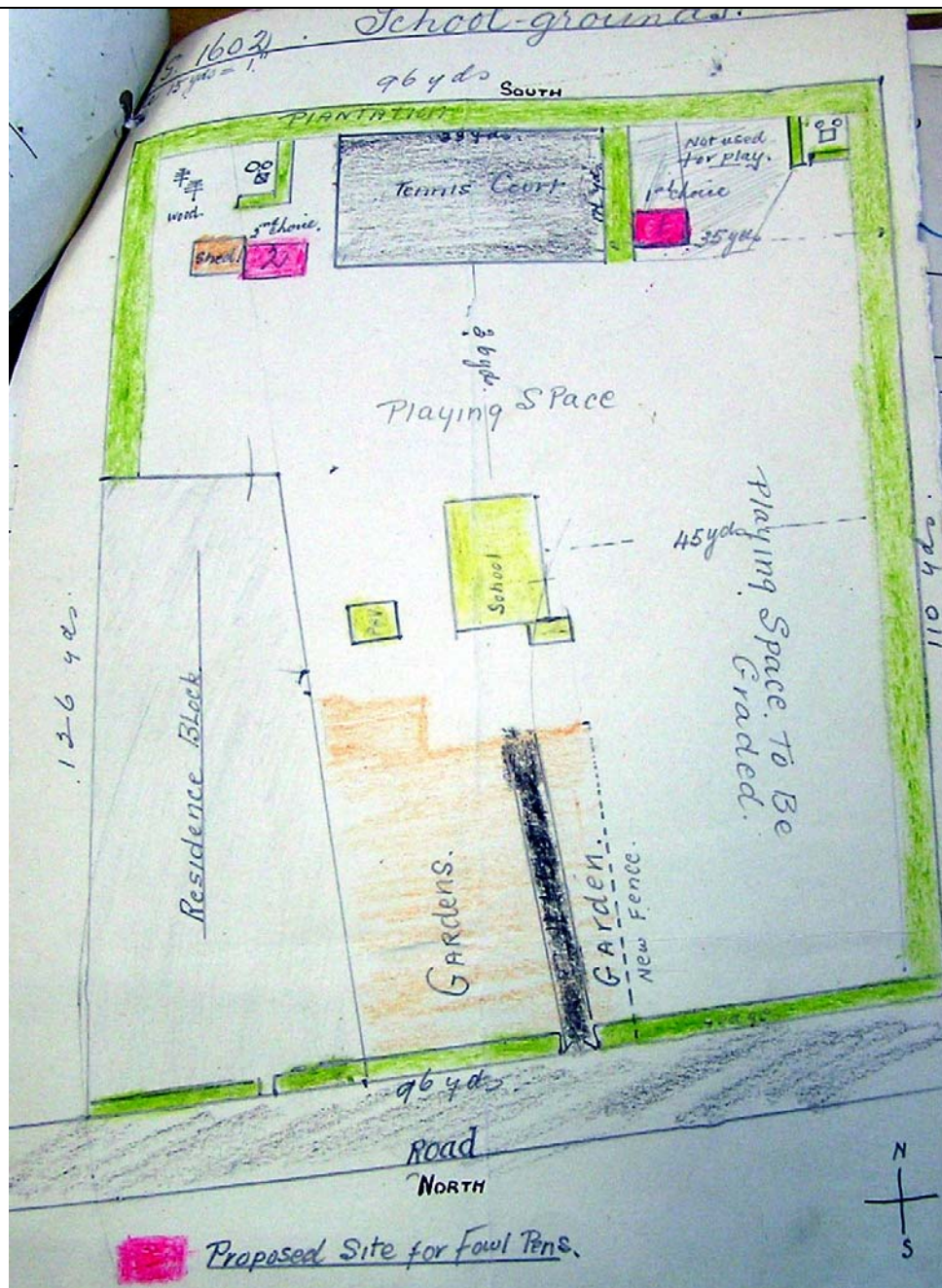


Figure 18 Schematic Site Plan of the Ceres State School, 1946.

Source: Public Building file, VPRS 795/P0 Unit 2287 Public Record Office Victoria.

In 1932, the School Committee proposed the demolition of an old shelter shed and the construction of new pavilion.<sup>100</sup> Approval was given by the Education Department and a design was provided by Percy Everett, Chief Architect of the Public Works Department.<sup>101</sup> The tender of Lyons Brothers and Carroll, Oxford Street, Belmont, was accepted in early May 1934 for the modest, hipped-roofed timber structure.<sup>102</sup> The shelter shed was shown in photograph of 1948 (Figure 3). The roof was clad in galvanised corrugated steel and there were broad eaves with exposed timber rafters. The upper

<sup>100</sup> Correspondence, 1923-34, Public Building file, op.cit.

<sup>101</sup> Ibid. The Secretary, Education Department, file note, 19 February 1932. The file note did not identify Everett as the designer but the design of the shelter shed at Ceres was identical to others he designed elsewhere – see Comparative Analysis.

<sup>102</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 8 May 1934, p.5.

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portions of the timber weatherboard walls were clad in timber lattice screens. There was a large central opening at the front.

By 1970, an aerial image (Figure 19) showed that the school site was bound by mature trees on the south and west sides only, with a hedge having been planted on the front (north) boundary. There was no row of trees on the east boundary. The tennis court still existed at the rear of the site (it was not replaced by the existing basketball court until later years) and there were large open grassed play areas in the front north-west corner of the site and behind the school building.



**Figure 19** Aerial view of the Ceres Primary School, December 1970.

Source: Part aerial of Ceres, Film 2457, Landata, with Creative Commons Copyright

<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

### Recent Developments

In 2000, Bradbury Dicker Whitnall Architects were engaged to prepare a Masterplan for the school.<sup>103</sup> A site plan was prepared (Figure 20), showing the existing buildings and landscaping at that time. It included the centrally located stone school building with front administration wing, and a three portable classrooms and art shed flanking the east and west sides of the old stone building. There was a playground on the west side, a sand pit with shade structure and car parking at the front, while on the east side, in addition to the classroom and art shed was an underground water tank, old shelter shed and mature palm tree (the tree being located in front of the old stone school building). At the rear were detached toilets and sheds, a large sports oval and a basketball court in the south-east corner.

<sup>103</sup> See Public Building file, op.cit.

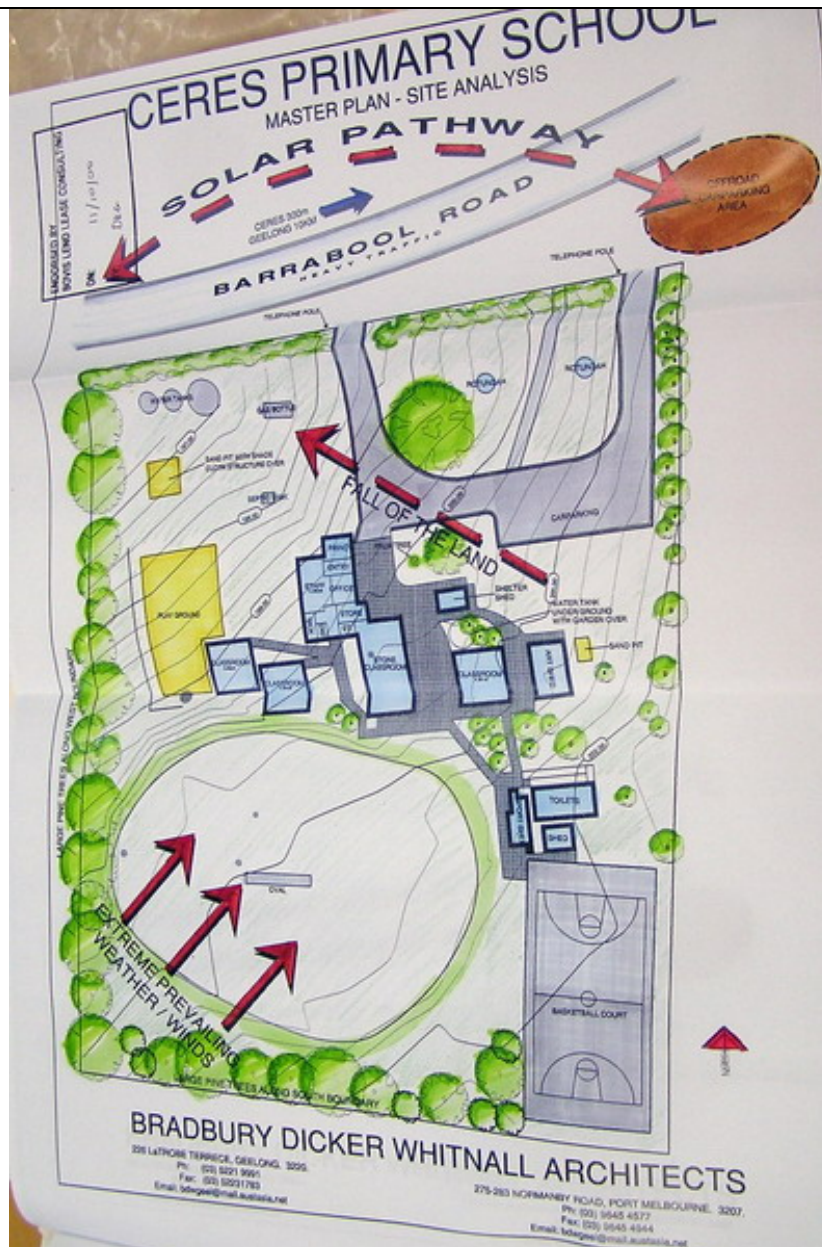


Figure 20: Bradbury Dicker Whitnall Architects, Ceres State School Site Analysis, 2000 .

Source: Public Building file VPRS 16963/P1 Unit 293 Public Record Office Victoria.

In 2001, the Bradbury Dicker Group, architects, prepared a design for two new classrooms to the south west of the old stone building.<sup>104</sup> It was to be connected to the old school by an entrance and amenities wing (Figure 21). This masonry building was built in 2004 and it was at this time that the administration wing was upgraded. Portable classrooms were relocated to accommodate the new building. In 2011, a two-room portable classroom was also constructed on the site, and new shade sail structures were erected and a running track installed.<sup>105</sup>

104 Ibid.

105 See Ceres Primary School website, January 2017: <http://ceresps.vic.edu.au/about/>

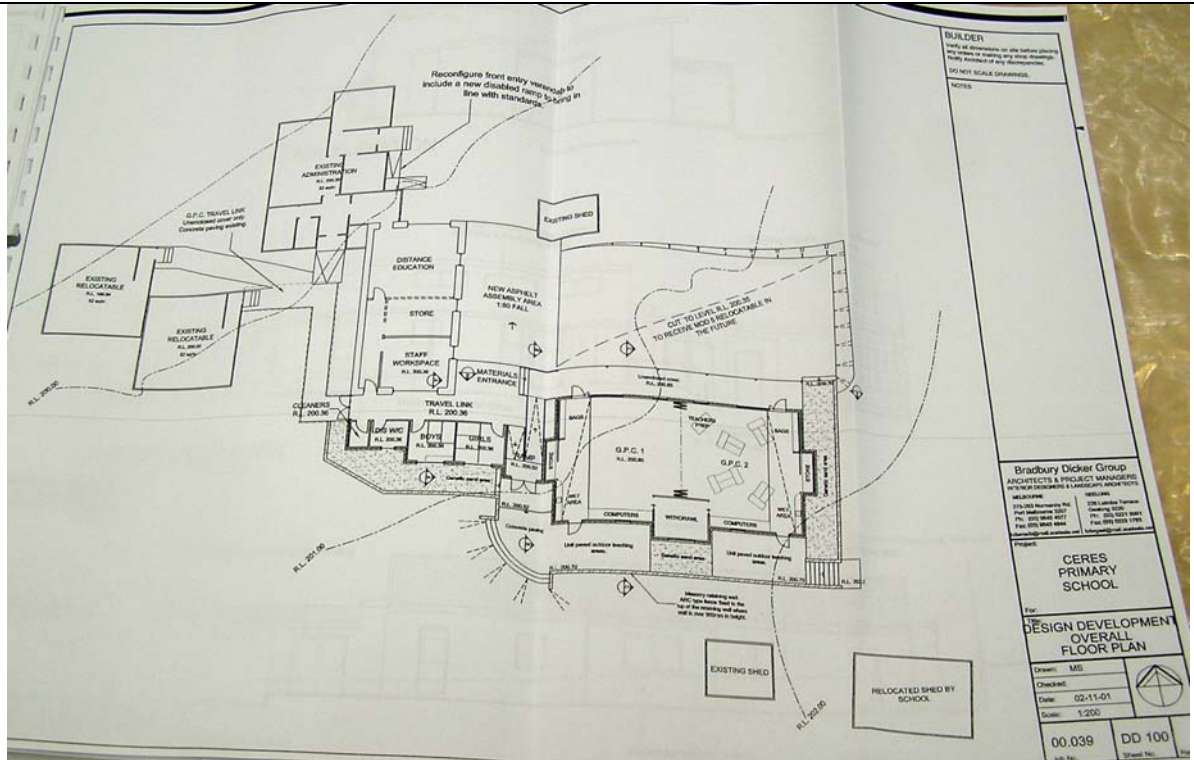


Figure 21: Bradbury Dicker Architects, Ceres State School Design Development Overall Plan, 2001 .  
 Source: Public Building file VPRS 16963/P1 Unit 293 Public Record Office Victoria.

**COMPARATIVE**

**Other Comparable State School Buildings**

**Other Single Room 19<sup>th</sup> Century State School Buildings**

The surviving original fabric of the early Ceres School building – Barrabool stone walls and the timber framed 12 paned double hung windows – are a physical legacy of the standard, gabled, single room Victorian Education Department schools designed by Henry Bastow in the 1870s. Given the substantial alterations that were carried out in 1949-50, there are a small number of more intact examples of the type built in the 1870s in the Greater Geelong area. They include the former Fyansford (100 type, bluestone construction) and Batesford (brick construction).<sup>106</sup>

**Other Postwar State School Buildings**

During the Second World War, the Minister for Public Instruction forecast a need ‘for a comprehensive [school] rebuilding program, in which many school buildings would have to be demolished and new ones erected.’<sup>107</sup> The old buildings were considered to be ill-lit and badly ventilated.<sup>108</sup> Following the war there was a critical shortage in building materials and yet a substantial increase in school enrolments.<sup>109</sup> In 1948 in an effort to solve the problem, Minister for Public Instruction and the Director of the Education Department, together with two Melbourne architects, Lloyd Orton and A. Armstrong, visited Hertfordshire in the United Kingdom. They found that ‘the standardised planning and pre-fabrication methods of building construction offered a solution to the demand for more classrooms.’<sup>110</sup> In the

106 F. O’Neill, Memorial to Graham Bowley, DRNE, Geelong, 13 Mar 1997, City of Greater Geelong Statutory Planning Department & A. Willingham, *Geelong Region Historic Buildings and Objects Study*, vol. 1, Geelong Regional Commission, Geelong, 1986, sheet 120.

107 L.J. Blake, ‘The Primary Division’ in L.J. Blake (ed.), *Vision and Realisation: A Centenary History of State Education in Victoria*, vol.1, Education Department of Victoria, Melbourne, 1973, p.385.

108 *Ibid.*

109 *Ibid.*, pp.385-386.

110 *Ibid.*

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interim, Army huts were converted to classrooms.<sup>111</sup> In December 1949, 195 double-unit prefabricated classrooms were ordered from the Bristol Aircraft Company in order to provide much-needed and relatively economical building accommodation.<sup>112</sup>

In the meantime in 1949, the Chief Architect of the Public Works Department, Percy Everett, devised a new approach to school planning and design. His approach was to provide a 'more efficient grouping or zoning of classrooms' 'to enable pupils and teachers to obtain the best results.'<sup>113</sup> He outlined the new approach to long term school building:

Among the features of modern planning is improved natural lighting to brighten more colourful classroom interiors. Ribbon windows, extending continuously along each elevation, having replaced those vertical slits which appeared in the ancient buttressed walls. There are now greater areas of windows than walls.

Embellishment has been entirely eliminated. Simple horizontal lines with more pleasing proportions have been substituted for the tall gables and turrets of the old-timers.

Flat roofs, giving diffused natural lighting to classroom interiors, have superseded the steep roofs with their brittle coverings.

Victoria was the first State in the Commonwealth to adopt the contemporary form of school building from plans and designs which I initiated when schools of the type of the Yallourn Technical School and the art and craft school at Shepparton were first introduced.<sup>114</sup>

One of the earliest rural designs by Everett following the new modern postwar regime was the Timboon Consolidated and Secondary School, designed by August 1949 and opened in 1950 (Figure 22).<sup>115</sup> It was considered to be 'the most modern in the State', setting 'a standard for rural centres.'<sup>116</sup> Architecturally, the Timboon School was contextually substantial in scale, being two storied and constructed of brick. It reflected Everett's Modern Functionalist approach in the emphasis on proportions and lines in favour of decoration, cuboid forms, flat roofs (including raised flat-roofed portions with clerestorey windows) and banks of horizontally-aligned windows. The largely rectangular form was juxtaposed by a projecting curved bay.

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111 *Ibid.*, p.386.

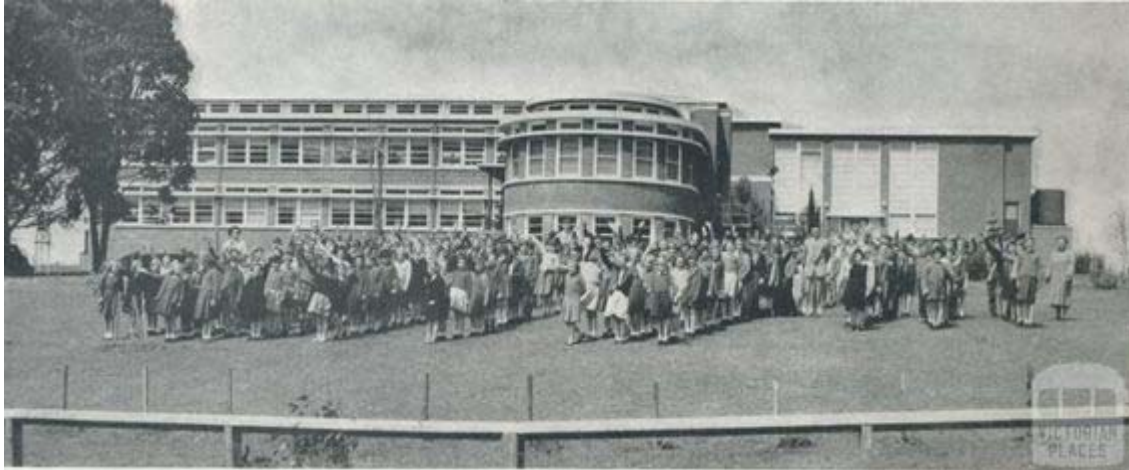
112 Peterson, et.al., op.cit., p.99.

113 P. Everett, 'New Planning Improves School Architecture' in *The Age*, 15 August 1949, p.2.

114 *Ibid.*

115 *Ibid.* & 14 November 1950, p.7.

116 *Ibid.*

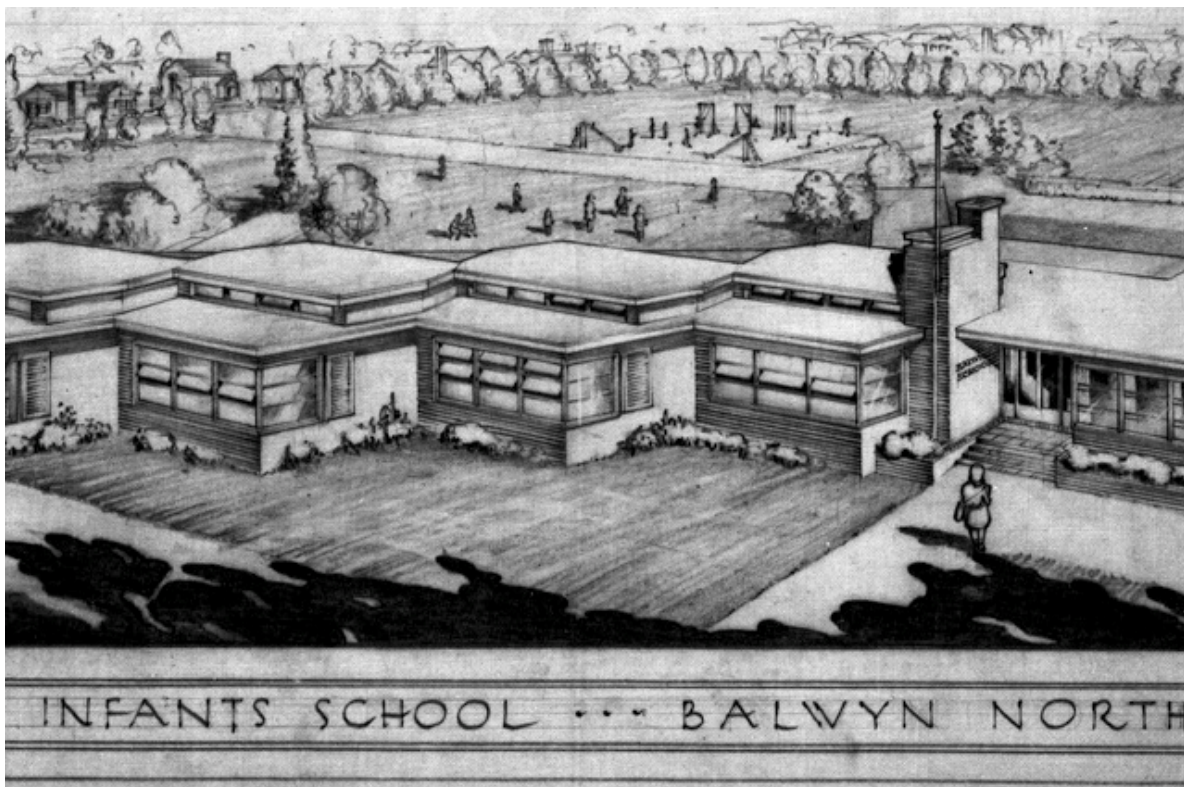


**Figure 22:** Timboon Consolidated and Secondary School, 1958.

Source: Victorian Places online at <http://www.victorianplaces.com.au/timboon>

While the Ceres School shares little resemblance in construction, scale and layout to the Timboon School, it is comparable as another very early rural example of Everett's use of flat roof forms, clerestorey windows and banks of windows, albeit in a more conservative and modest way, the plan being constrained by the original layout and stone walls of 1875.

Everett also designed other State and Infant Schools in this newly-created modern mode in 1949-50. The Balwyn North Primary School (Figure 23) shares the similar broadly project flat roofs, raised roof portions with clerestorey windows, and banks of other windows as the Ceres School, but being purpose-built, the layout and design is more dynamic in the stepped forms, vertical element, cream brick walls and streamlined window details.



**Figure 23:** P. Everett, Perspective drawing of proposed Infants School, Balwyn North, 1948.

Source: Architectureau online, January 2017: <http://architectureau.com/articles/designing-australian-schools/>

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An equally dynamic composition was given by Everett for the design of the Moorabbin West State School. The Argus claimed it to be the 'newest and best State school' in 1950, with its series of brick and glass L-shaped wings oriented to capture the sun.<sup>117</sup> The flat roofs with broad eaves and raised roofed portions with clerestorey windows were those comparable features to the Ceres School. Yet, like the Balwyn North Primary School, overall, the Moorabbin West School was a more substantial, purpose-built school that was not comparable to the Ceres school. It closed in 1993 and the site was sold to become a housing estate.<sup>118</sup>

The South Yarra State School opened a new wing in 1950 following a fire that partly damaged an earlier building in 1946.<sup>119</sup> At the opening, the Minister for Education 'contrasted the fine modern, well-lit and equipped school, with the old-fashioned ill-lit building which had been destroyed.'<sup>120</sup> The elongated flat-roofed building with eave overhangs and raised shallow-gabled roofed section with clerestorey windows were those specific features also identified on the Ceres School. Overall, the layout, stepped configuration, construction and scale of the South Yarra addition is not comparable to the Ceres School. The South Yarra School building has recently been altered and extended by Burlak Constructions.<sup>121</sup>

Overall, the Ceres Primary School is not directly comparable to any of the standard one-room gabled school designs built during the Bastow era of the Education Department in the 1870s, or the early postwar Modern school designs by Percy Everett in the late 1940s. Instead, it is an amalgam of both architectural eras, the stone walls and side windows reflective of the 19<sup>th</sup> century design, the principal character and appearance being an embodiment of the Everett's new approach in the flat roofs with broad eaves, raised roof portion with clerestorey windows and the banks of windows. There are more intact examples of both types in Victoria although the Ceres school is a legacy in combining original 19<sup>th</sup> century fabric as part of the new design; in part due to community sentiment to the old building in the 1940s and a consequence of a shortage in building materials following the Second World War.

### Other State School Interwar Shelter Sheds

Shelter sheds for State School appears to have been almost ubiquitous during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century in the construction of octagonal timber pavilions with either polygonal or gambrel roofs.<sup>122</sup> The provision of these structures for shade continued into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The shelter shed at Ceres built in 1934 followed a familiar construction method with timber weatherboard walls, the upper portions screened with timber lattice. A notable change from the 19<sup>th</sup> century model was the construction of hipped or gambrel roof forms on a rectangular plan. All of these structures appear to have been designed by the Chief Architect of the Public Works Department, Percy Everett. Other similarly laid out and roofed State School pavilions constructed in the 1920s and 1930s in Victoria included those at Auburn Primary School (built 1930)<sup>123</sup> and Dixons Creek built in 1935 (Figure 24).<sup>124</sup> It is unclear whether this shed at the Dixon Creek School is extant. Overall, it appears that the shelter shed at the Ceres School is one of few known surviving in the Greater Geelong area, and potentially a rare example from the interwar period across the State.

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117 *The Argus*, 7 March 1950.

118 See 'Lost Schools of the 1990s', Learning from the Past, <http://learningfromthepast.com.au/lost-schools-of-the-1990s/>, January 2017.

119 *The Age*, 23 March 1950, p.2.

120 *Ibid.*

121 The alterations and additions are shown on the website of Burlak Constructions: <http://burlakconstructions.com.au/projects/sth-yarra-ps>.

122 Blake, op.cit., p.265 claims that in the early years from the 1870s schools lacked shelter sheds, 'although several Boards of Advice endeavoured to contrive these ...'

123 'Auburn Primary School No. 2948', Victorian Heritage Database online, January 2017.

124 P. Everett, 'Proposed Shelter Shed, Dixons Creek State School No. 1585', Building Services Agency (BSA) drawing, SSO1585.2, Public Record Office Victoria, North Melbourne.

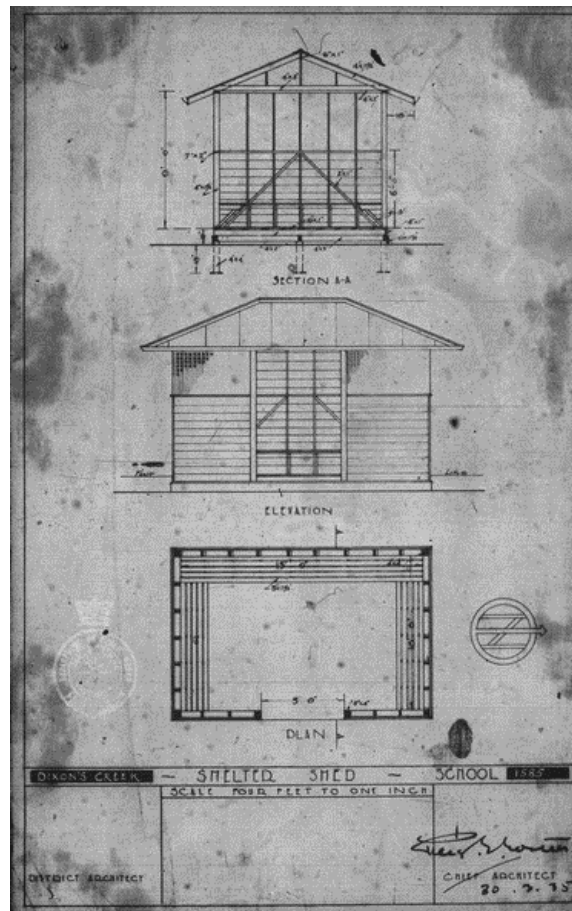


Figure 24: P. Everett, Plan, Elevation & Section A-A drawing of proposed Shelter Shed, Dixons Creek State School, 30 March 1935. Source: Building Services Agency (BSA) drawing, SSO1585.2, Public Record Office Victoria.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

**PLACE NAME:** Ceres Recreation Reserve (incl. Memorial Gates & Trees) Place No. CER02

**ADDRESS:** 20 Cochranes Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

### Historic Themes:

**Early Settlement:** Agriculture

**Community Life:** Leisure

**Community Life:** War

**Condition:** Good (Buildings & Sports Ground)  
Fair-Poor (Mature Trees)

**Integrity:** Moderate

**Photograph Date:** December 2016



### CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON STATUTORY REGISTERS

**Victorian Heritage Register:** No

**Victorian Heritage Inventory:** No

**Local Planning Scheme:** No

### CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON OTHER REGISTERS:

**National Trust (Victoria) Register:** No

### RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Local Significance

### RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register: **No**

Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory: **No**

Recommended for inclusion as a Heritage Overlay in the Planning Scheme: **Yes**

### Schedule to the Heritage Overlay

External Paint Controls Should Apply? **Yes** – memorial gates only.

Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply? **No**

Tree Controls Should Apply? **Yes** – mature Cypress trees.

Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note? **No**

Prohibited Uses May be Permitted? **No**

Incorporated Document **No**

### Other Recommendations

It is recommended that an Incorporated Plan is prepared to provide permit exemptions for: construction of non-highly reflective buildings and structures (no greater than 10 square metres and no higher than 3 metres above ground level); low fencing; and works to the ground surfaces.

It is recognised that many of the Cypress trees forming the perimeter of the reserve are senescent. It is recommended that a tree management program be prepared by a qualified Arborist to assist with the future management of the trees. The plan should outline identical or similar replacement species (where trees may need to be removed), to retain its current intended character and appearance and possible commemorative associations. Interpretation of the plantings by the local school children on Arbor Day 1916 is also suggested.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

#### What is Significant?

The Ceres Recreation Reserve, 20 Cochranes Road, Ceres has significance as the location of the local cricket and football clubs and matches, and other recreational activities since the early 1900s, and particularly from 1912. It was at this time when the site was acquired by public subscription from William Leigh and developed as an important recreational centre for the Barrabool Hills area. The beautification of the reserve in the early years included the planting of trees. In 1916, Arbor Day was celebrated by the neighbouring Ceres State School, with trees planting to commemorate Earl

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Kitchener and equally importantly, to honour and commemorate local soldiers serving and killed in action in the First World War. Rows of cypress trees were planted by the local State School children in 1922 and 1924. Several of these trees, although senescent, form the perimeter of the reserve today. The local pioneers of the area and the soldiers who served in the Great War were honoured with the construction of a memorial gateway at the north-east entrance of the reserve in 1937. The fabric of significance at the reserve includes: grassed sports oval, perimeter mature cypress trees and the memorial gates (with dressed bluestone piers, original cast iron palisade bays and reconstructed cast iron gates).

### **How is it significant?**

The Ceres Recreation Reserve (including the war memorial gates and mature perimeter cypress trees), 20 Cochranes Road, Ceres is historically, aesthetically and socially significant at a LOCAL level.

### **Why is it significant?**

The Ceres Recreation Reserve, 20 Cochranes Road, has historical significance for its associations with the evolution and progress of cricket, football and other recreational activities by the Ceres and Barrabool Hills communities from the early 1900s and particularly from 1912 (Criterion A). With a cricket pitch first laid out in the early 1900s in William Leigh's paddock (an avid cricketer), it was in 1912 when a portion of his land was acquired by public subscription as the first permanent recreation reserve in Ceres. A Trust was formed to manage and develop the reserve and by 1929 it had raised £1000 for the erection of pavilions, improving the ground and beautifying the reserve. From 1916, trees were planted on Arbor Day by students of the neighbouring Ceres State School. Forming the perimeter boundary, these trees contributed to the beautification of the reserve as well as honour and commemorate local soldiers of the Great War. Other rows of Cypress trees were planted by the school children in 1922 and 1924. The Ceres Recreation Reserve therefore has associations with the local community's involvement in the First World War. Another physical legacy of these associations is the memorial gates at the north-east entrance, erected in 1937. They also have honour the pioneers of the district. The Ceres Recreation Reserve has further associations with several local figures who contributed much to the progress of the reserve, including those who served as Trustees or on the Committee of Management following the transfer of the grounds in 1931.

The perimeter Cypress trees at the Ceres Recreation Reserve are aesthetically significant as an important perimeter boarder to the setting of the reserve, and together with the memorial gates, contribute to the visual qualities of the place, a legacy of the beautification of the site in 1916, 1920s and 1937 (Criterion E). The setting of the Ceres Recreation Reserve, including the grassed sports oval, perimeter Cypress Trees and design of the memorial gates, is directly comparable to the Lara Reserve, memorial trees and gates, albeit on a smaller, more rural scale. It is a contextually rare surviving rural reserve in Greater Geelong that has maintained the setting intended in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The Ceres Recreation Reserve is socially significant as it is recognised and valued by the local community as a place for organized and informal sport and recreation (Criterion G). The site has been the location of cricket and football from 1912. The memorial gates have social significance for their commemorative associations with the pioneers of Ceres and the local soldiers who served and died in the Great War (Criterion G). Some of the surviving Cypress trees may also have commemorative value as plantings in honour of local soldiers of the First World War.

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### Heritage Overlay Map

It is recommended that the heritage overlay is applied to the Ceres Recreation Reserve site, 20 Cochranes Road, Ceres, as shown in the following aerial image:



Source of image: City of Greater Geelong 2016.

### DESCRIPTION:

The Ceres Recreation Reserve, 20 Cochranes Road, Ceres, consists of elevated, gently-sloping land near the south-east intersection of Cochranes and Barrabool Roads. The predominant feature of the site is the grassed sports ground, being largely oval in layout (apart from the east side which following the lineal alignment of Cochranes Road). The ground and site are variously bound by introduced post and rail fencing (of hollow steel construction), timber bollards, low timber and rail bays, bays of posts with signage panels and rural post and wire fences. In the south-west corner are practice cricket wickets with high wire mesh fencing. In the north-east corner are memorial gates.

At the south end of the ground are the Barrabool Cricket Clubrooms, characterised by a central bay of shallow, broadly-projecting gabled roof forms with flanking, minor steeply-pitched gabled wings. These roofs are clad in corrugated colorbond, the walls are clad in lightweight horizontal timber cladding punctuated by aluminium framed windows and doors. There are post-supported skillion verandahs projecting from the flanking wings.

Much of the western and northern boundaries of the site, and the south-west corner, are lined with mature Cypress trees. There are approximately 29 mature trees on the west side of the oval, 9 trees near the north-east corner (adjacent the memorial gates), 10 trees immediately south of the memorial gates (north-east corner) and 7 trees in the south-east corner of the site. These trees are all senescent and appear to be the most mature. There are an additional 14 Cypress trees in the north-west corner of the site. These trees are not as mature as the others flanking the recreation reserve.

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In the north-east corner of the reserve are the war memorial gates. They consist of four dressed, bluestone piers on tooled bluestone pedestals and surmounted by projecting cappings. The taller piers flank the central gateway, with lower piers completing the flanking bays. These bays have dressed and tooled plinths above which are decorative cast iron palisades. Similarly-designed and constructed gates (which also have metal scrollwork cappings) are a central feature of the memorial. They were introduced in 2015 as a reconstruction of the original gates that had been replaced in the 20<sup>th</sup> century with gates of inferior design and construction. The principal gate piers having incised goldleaf lettering. The left pier reads: "Erected in the Year 1937 as a Tribute to the Pioneers of the District", the right pier reading: "In Memory of the Soldiers who Fought in the Great War 1914-1918".

Immediately inside the reserve adjacent to the memorial gates are two recently planted trees, marking the official reopening of the gates in 2015.

Overall, the recreation reserve is in good condition (particularly the grassed oval, pavilion and memorial gates). Most of the mature cypress trees (apart from a row of what appear to be younger cypresses in the north-west corner) are senescent. The recreation reserve has moderate integrity given that the open grassed oval, perimeter cypress trees and memorial gates are largely intact. The removal of the original pavilion (before 1970) and the loss of some cypress trees (after 1970) has diminished the integrity of the reserve to some degree but the original, intended rural sports ground appearance is largely intact.



**Photo 2:** View of Reserve looking south to the pavilion, 2016. Source: David Rowe.



**Photo 3:** Reserve Pavilion with mature Cypress trees to the east (south-east corner of Reserve), 2016. Source: David Rowe.



**Photo 4:** Mature Cypress trees in north-east corner of reserve, 2016. Source: David Rowe.



**Photo 5:** Semi-mature Cypress trees in the north-east corner of reserve, 2016. Source: David Rowe.

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**Photo 6:** Mature Cypress trees on west boundary of reserve, 2016. Source: David Rowe.



**Photo 7:** Recently planted trees behind memorial gates, 2016. Source: David Rowe.

### HISTORY:

#### Early Settlement of the Barrabool Hills

For at least 5,000 years, the Barrabool Hills was occupied by sections of the Wathaurong, a nomadic Indigenous tribe.<sup>1</sup> The Wathaurong's existence at Barrabool was to be dramatically changed with the arrival of John Batman and his exploration party in 1835. Arriving from Tasmania with the explicit intention of exploring the area, the eventually developed into the Port Phillip Association.<sup>2</sup> Establishing his headquarters in the vicinity of Indented Head, Batman explored the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong region.<sup>3</sup> One of Batman's party, John Helder Wedge, a surveyor, ventured further westward in exploring other parts of the region. He eventually followed the Barwon River from Fyansford along the foot of the 'Barrabull' Hills.<sup>4</sup> There, 'he noted that the hills afforded "fine pastorage for sheep".<sup>5</sup> From 1836, squatters arrived at Geelong to take up land for sheep grazing.<sup>6</sup>

By 1839, the Barrabool Hills had been surveyed as part of the Barrabool Parish.<sup>7</sup> Large acreages were made available at a Government land sale in late 1839.<sup>8</sup> In February 1840, much of the Barrabool Hills was acquired by Charles McLachlan, a wealthy Scottish businessman of Tasmania, and his business partner, Captain Charles Swanston, English banker and merchant of Tasmania and member of the Port Phillip Association<sup>9</sup> who purchased Sections 2-3, 13-16, and 20-23 as his vast 4,480 acre Strathlachlan sheep estate.<sup>10</sup> In 1850, Sections 22 and 23 and parts of Sections 13 and 14 of the Strathlachlan Estate (Barrabool Parish) were subdivided into 65 farms centred on a village of 45 building sites as the

1 I. Wynd, *Barrabool: Land of the Magpie*, Barrabool Shire, Torquay, 1992, p.ix.

2 *Ibid.*, p.3.

3 *Ibid.*

4 *Ibid.*, pp.4-5.

5 *Ibid.*

6 *Ibid.*, p.5.

7 Barrabool Parish Plan, VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria.

8 Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser, 9 December 1839, p.3.

9 D.S. Macmillan & J.R. Morris, 'McLachlan, Charles (1795-1850)' *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mclachlanh-charles-2411/text3191>, published first in hardcopy, 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017 & C. Swanston, 'Swanston, Charles (1789-1850), *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://abd.anu.edu.au/biography/swanston-charles-2713/texttext3815>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017.

10 Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit. & Wynd, op.cit., p.43.

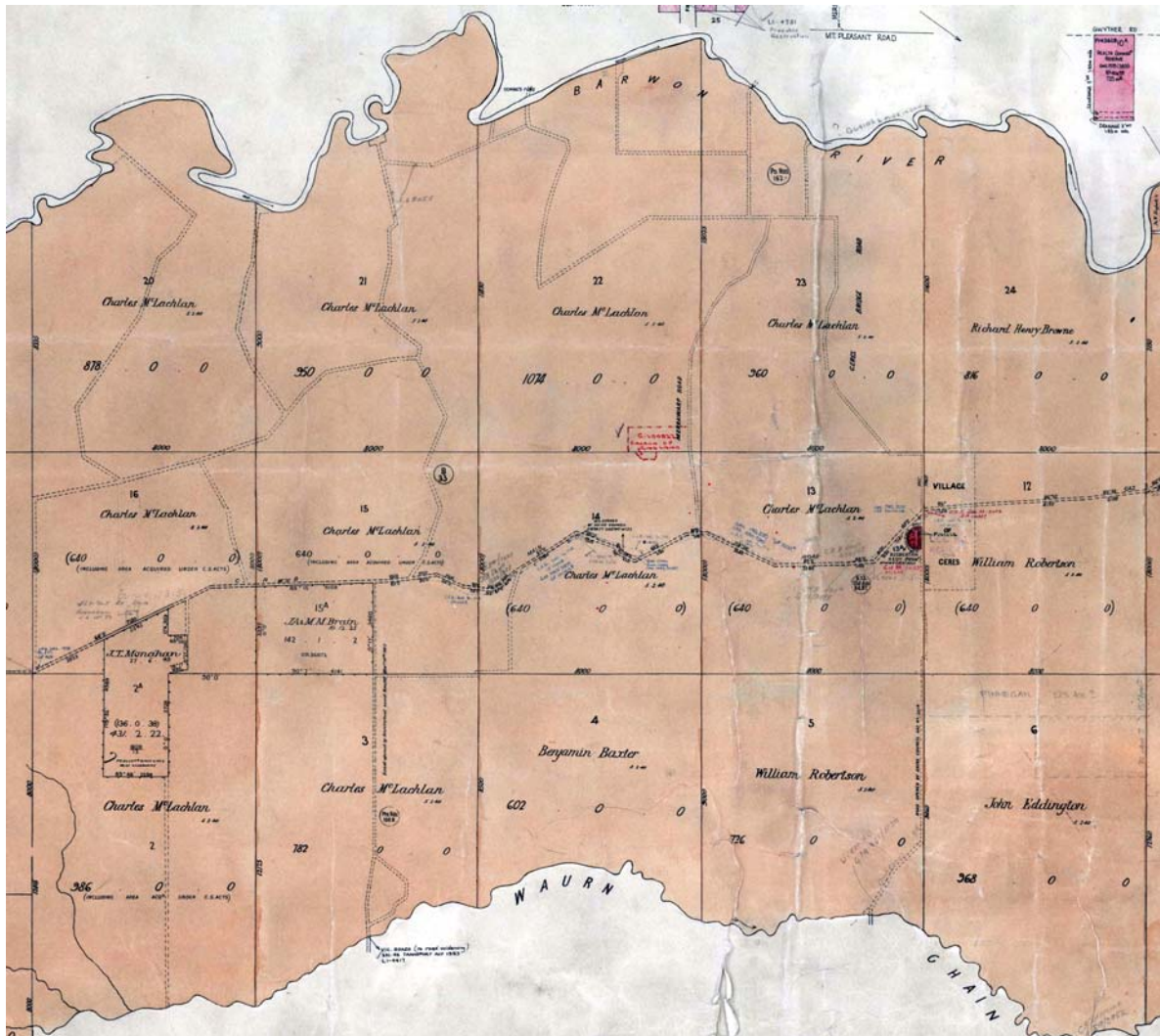
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Merrawarp Estate.<sup>11</sup> By 1861, there were only 10 owner residents in the Estate, with four fifths still being tenant farmers.<sup>12</sup> At this time, the Barrabool Hills were considered to be the 'granary of the colony,'<sup>13</sup> the location of sheep grazing and crop farms, and vineyards.



**Figure 1:** Part Barrabool Parish Plan, Dept of Lands & Survey, Melbourne, March 1946, showing land sections in the Barrabool Hills, including Ceres. Source: VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria

Another successful purchaser in February 1840 was William Robertson, Port Phillip Association member. He acquired Sections 5, 11 and 12.<sup>14</sup> Two days after his purchase, Robertson sold Sections 11 and 12 to David Fisher, manager of the Derwent Company (successor to the Port Phillip Association). He named his estate 'Roslin' which he subdivided into farms that were leased to various tenants.<sup>15</sup> In 1850, Fisher created the village of Ceres as a private subdivision of 58 allotments in part of Section 12.<sup>16</sup> The small settlement was soon to become the centre of the agricultural district where the neighbouring properties farmed crops, grazed sheep and established noteworthy vineyards.

11 *Ibid.*, p.22.

12 *Ibid.*

13 *Geelong Advertiser*, 14 September 1874, p.2.

14 Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit.

15 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.208.

16 Fisher's Ceres Village Subdivision Plan, 1850, Maps & Plans collection 17/60, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

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### History of Ceres Recreation Reserve

#### The Early Years

Popular during the fledgling years of European occupation of the Barrabool Hills in the 1850s were ploughing matches. It seems the first match was held on Mr Young's farm, Aitkenside, Waurn Ponds, in May 1855, following the formation of the Barrabool Hills Ploughing Match Committee that met at the Wheatsheaf Inn, Ceres.<sup>17</sup> The first cricket match at Ceres appears to have been played in January 1861 when the Ceres Total Abstinence Society met their counterparts from the region of the nearby Devon Church.<sup>18</sup> It was not until 1863 when the Geelong Advertiser first recorded a match that included the Barrabool Hills Club, suggested that the Club had formed at this time.<sup>19</sup> A football club seems to have formed much later, with the Barrabool Rovers reported as playing a team from Gheringhap for the first time in August 1891.<sup>20</sup> The location of the Barrabool Rovers' home ground is not known, but by March 1892 the Barrabool Cricket Club hosted a match between the Christ Church Union 'in Mr. H. Leigh's paddock.'<sup>21</sup> By 1900, cricket (and presumably football) matches were played at the rear of the Temperance Hall.<sup>22</sup>

In 1907, a public meeting was held in the Ceres Temperance Hall following a request by the Geelong Progress Association to secure a portion of Heard's Estate to the east of the Ceres Village (now Wandana Heights) as a site for a look out station.<sup>23</sup> It was earlier part of the farmland of John Heard, part of which was taken over by the Government for Closer Settlement in 1907.<sup>24</sup> A six acre block was sought in order to establish a recreation reserve.<sup>25</sup> With only one quarter of an acre ultimately set aside for a look out,<sup>26</sup> there was not sufficient land for a local sports ground at this location.

#### Establishment of a Permanent Recreation Ground at Ceres

Between 1900 and 1912, cricket matches were played on a pitch laid out on William Leigh's paddock at the south-west corner of Cochranes and Barrabool Roads (the location of the existing Ceres Recreation Reserve).<sup>27</sup> In mid 1912, the local farmer, William Leigh – an avid cricketer - offered to sell a portion of his land as the permanent site of a recreation ground at Ceres. The site was the then location of the cricket ground. A meeting was held to discuss the proposal:

A large and representative meeting was held in the ante room of the hall to consider the advisability of purchasing a recreation ground for the district. Mr. W. Leigh offered to sell a portion of his land, where the present cricket pitch is situated. A sub-committee was appointed to confer: Mr. Leigh very kindly fell in with a suggestion, and granted more land than was at first mentioned. Collectors

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17 *Geelong Advertiser*, 5 June 1855, p.6 & 4 June 1859, p.2.

18 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.73.

19 *Geelong Advertiser*, 24 March 1863, p.3 & N.S. McAdam, 'Barrabool Cricket Club 1863-1955', chronological manuscript, Barrabool Cricket Club online, January 2017, at <http://barraboolcc.vic.cricket.com.au/files/2256/files/2015-6/Barrabool%20Players%20and%20History%201863-1955.pdf>

20 *Geelong Advertiser*, 26 August 1891, p.2.

21 *Ibid.*, 25 March 1892, p.3.

22 *Ibid.*, 16 March 1900, p.4. The *Geelong Advertiser* referred to the cricket ground as a "Sports Ground" in 1902, suggesting that this was the allocation of the Barrabool Rovers Football Club. See *Geelong Advertiser*, 23 June 1902, p.3.

23 *Ibid.*, 24 September 1907, p.2.

24 *Ibid.*

25 *Ibid.*, 1 October 1907, p.2.

26 Wynd, *op.cit.*, pp.201-211.

27 The *Geelong Advertiser*, 16 March 1900, p.4, referred to a cricket match being played at the rear of the Temperance Hall, Ceres. But on 1 July 1912, p.6, the *Geelong Advertiser* referred to the 'present cricket pitch' being on William' Leigh's land.

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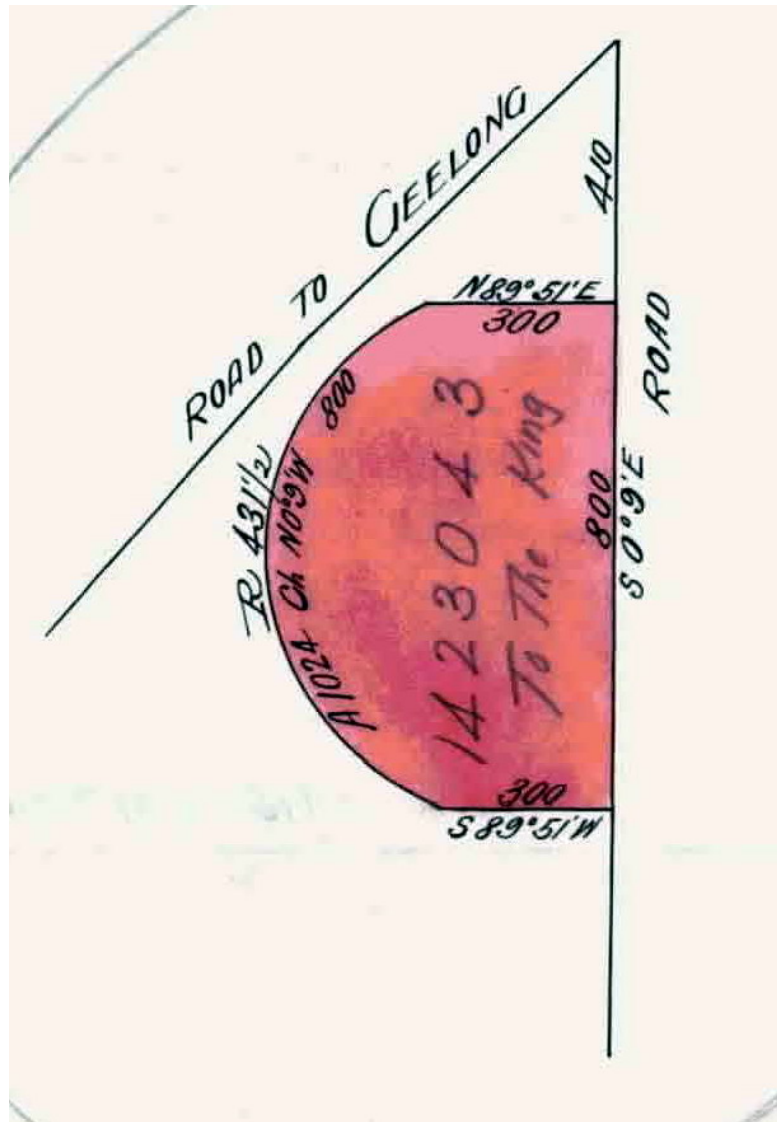
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were appointed to canvass the district, and it is to be hoped that sufficient funds will be available to accept the offer, and go right on with the long-needed required. The sub-committee will place a report of the conference before a full meeting to-night (Monday), when it is to be hoped a large gathering will be present.<sup>28</sup>

A Recreation Reserve Trust was subsequently formed to acquire the site, the members being Charles Anderson, Sidney Herbert McCann, John James Lamb, John Coombs and Herbert Cecil Heal.<sup>29</sup> A fundraising drive was held to raise the necessary finances to formalise the purchase which occurred on 5 July 1912.<sup>30</sup> The site comprised 3 acres 3 roods and 34 perches with a frontage to Cochranes Road, near the south-west corner of Barrabool and Cochranes Roads (Figure 2). The western boundary was curved.



**Figure 2:** Plan of the Ceres Recreation Reserve, 1912. Source: Certificate of Title vol. 3706 fol. 024.

By late July 1912, there was still a need for additional donors:

<sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>29</sup> Certificate of Title vol. 1817 fol. 340.

<sup>30</sup> *Ibid.* & Cr. S.H. McCann, Chair of the Trust, to the Department of Lands & Survey, 16 April 1929, Crown Land Reserve file Rs 4144, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Geelong office.

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The purchase of the new recreation ground has been completed and all that is required now is a few more donors to hand in the balance of funds to wipe off the purchase money, and then the trust can get to work and get the ground in order, which at the present is in a very raw state.<sup>31</sup>

The Trustees acted as guarantors until the balance of the funds for the reserve could be raised.<sup>32</sup> With the completion of the purchase of the site, a working bee was held by the trustees and 'young people' of the community to level the ground, replace the old cricket pitch with a new pitch, with 'good progress' being made.<sup>33</sup> Much of the improvements to the ground were completed in the following weeks, in readiness for the official opening on 5 October 1912:

Saturday last was quite a gala day at Ceres, the occasion being the opening of the new recreation ground. Through the instrumentality of an influential committee the district is provided now with a very suitable ground for all recreation purposes. A new concrete cricket pitch has been laid down, and the ground is now being fenced in. The opening ceremony was performed by Cr. R.P. Piper, J.P. Mr. H. Heal (the president of the cricket club) called up Mr. Piper to bowl the first ball, and declare the pitch open. Mr. Piper, who was received with applause, said their forefathers had not provided play-grounds, and this had been rather a detriment to the district, but to-day this drawback had been removed. He believe the young men should have a place for amusements, and not have to go into the town to find it. He recommended the young men to take a keen interest in the district, and to follow in the footsteps of their predecessors, who had done so much in times past. They had experience of what could be done with united action in the Temperance Hall. As an old cricketer he gave some very practical advice to the young team that was about to start. Amidst much applause Mr. Piper bowled the new ball handed to him by the president, and declared the pitch duly opened. C.R.S. McCann, as one of the old players, and one who had piloted the teams through much adversity in the past, said the pioneers had no time for cricket and other sports. Things now had very much changed. The old proverb all work and no play had very much altered. Cricket, if properly conducted, brought out the manliness in a man, and he hoped that the young men stepping into the places of some of the older ones would acquit themselves well both on the field and off the field, and be a credit to the district. Mr. W. Leigh, who has always been a keen cricketer in the district, desired to say to the young men, if they wished to become good cricketers, it was necessary that they should engage in plenty of practice, and also when at practice to play by system. During the afternoon an excellent repast was provided by the ladies of the district. At the conclusion a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the ladies on the motion of Mr. H. Coombs, seconded by Cr. Piper. The remaining part of the afternoon was spent in a cricket match. Married versus Single. Cr. S. McCann captained the married and Mr. J.H. Coombs the single. The single having won the toss elected to bat. The opening batsmen of the match were G. Coombs and W. Hill: while the first bowler was A. McAdam. G. Coombs was the first batsman to secure the first run; the first boundary hit was secured by H. Smith and A. McAdam the first wicket. The highest scores for the single were – C. Dyers 11, Larry Anderson 11, D. Anderson 11; for the married, Cr. Piper 12, Cr. McCann 11, A. McAdam 10. The match ended in the single securing 82 runs to the married 60 runs.<sup>34</sup>

Further improvements were made to the recreation ground in the following months. They included the construction of a timber viewing pavilion (considered to have 'greatly enhanced the value of the ground') (Figure 5) and installation of goal posts for the first football match on the site in June 1913.<sup>35</sup> On 14 March 1927, the Barrabool Football Club entered in the Athletic Football League. By 1931, the Club struggled financially and it disbanded in 1932. It reformed the following year in 1933.<sup>36</sup> Dressing rooms may also have been built next to the pavilion at this time.

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31 *Geelong Advertiser*, 25 July 1912, p.5.

32 McCann, op.cit.

33 *Geelong Advertiser*, 13 August 1912, p.5.

34 *Ibid.*, 8 October 1912, p.5.

35 *Ibid.*, 13 June 1913, p.5.

36 See Barrabool Football Club Minutes 1927-34, GRS 1446, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

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### Tree Planting Programs

In May 1916, it was announced that through J.F. Farrar, M.L.A., a Government grant of £15 had been awarded to the Trustees of the Recreation Reserve on a £1 for £1 basis.<sup>37</sup> A fundraising campaign was to be instigated 'as fencing, tree planting, etc., will help to make the reserve one of the beauty spots of these picturesque hills.'<sup>38</sup> A few months later, Arbor Day was celebrated by the neighbouring Ceres State School in the planting of trees at the recreation reserve given 'there was no room in the school ground.'<sup>39</sup> The event assisted in improving the reserve grounds as well as commemorating locals serving in the First World War. It was outlined in the *Geelong Advertiser*:

... Mr. McDowall, chairman of the school committee, said of all Arbor Days this was the most important for they had not only met to plant trees, but to honor the brave boys who had fallen and those still at the front fighting for King and country, by planting a tree for each one. The first tree would be to the memory of the great warrior who had done so much for the British Empire, the late Earl Kitchener. After all the trees had been planted, the children indulged in games, etc. An excellent afternoon tea was served by the parents. The National Anthem concluded the programme.<sup>40</sup>

It is unclear whether the commemorative trees planted on Arbor Day 1916 were gums or cypresses. Both species were known to have been planted at the reserve in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The Chairman of the Ceres State School Committee was Alfred Beaumont McDowall (1871-1942).<sup>41</sup> He was the son of the local pioneer storekeeper, postmaster and Wesleyan lay preacher, Robert McDowall.<sup>42</sup> A.B. McDowall took an interest in improvements to the Ceres Recreation Reserve. He was a member of the Barrabool Cricket Club (and its President in 1920),<sup>43</sup> proprietor of the Barrabool Butter Factory in South Geelong but resident at Ceres, and he took an active interest in local community.<sup>44</sup> In addition to his involvement with the Ceres State School Advisory Board (a role he held for 18 years),<sup>45</sup> he followed his father as Electoral Registrar for Ceres in 1893 and Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages from 1900.<sup>46</sup> He was also heavily involved in the local Wesleyan Church until 1927 when he relocated to Belmont with his family.<sup>47</sup>

On Arbor Day 1922, a number of trees were planted around the reserve by the Ceres State School children.<sup>48</sup> Two years later in 1924, a working bee was held to remove 'all the gum trees on the west side of the ground', and 'a number of cypress trees were planted.'<sup>49</sup>

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37 *Geelong Advertiser*, 9 May 1916, p.5.

38 *Ibid.*

39 *Ibid.*, 7 July 1916, p.5.

40 *Ibid.*

41 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes online, Department of Justice, Melbourne.

42 See *Geelong Advertiser*, 1 May 1911, p.5 & *Victoria Government Gazette*, 14 April 1871, p.559.

43 *Geelong Advertiser*, 17 April 1920, p.4.

44 *Ibid.*, 1 May 1911, p.5.

45 *Ibid.*, 8 April 1922, p.2.

46 *Victoria Government Gazettes*, 21 July 1893, p.3222 & 7 December 1900, p.4478.

47 *Geelong Advertiser*, 15 November 1927, p.7.

48 *Ibid.*, 13 July 1922, p.8.

49 *Ibid.*, 19 August 1924, p.7.

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### Transfer of Ownership of the Recreation Reserve

In 1929, the Trustees of the recreation reserve sought to surrender the Title of the site to His Majesty the King.<sup>50</sup> This was to ensure that the reserve was available as a public recreation space in perpetuity. Since its opening in 1912, the Trustees had committed £1000 on improvements.<sup>51</sup> On 13 October 1931, the Ceres ground was reserved as a site for public recreation. The first Committee of Management were Sidney Herbert McCann, John Percy Leigh, Victor James William Irving, John William Frank Mann and Laurence Alexander Anderson.<sup>52</sup>

A list of 14 regulations was gazetted on the management and use of the reserve at this time. There were as follows:

1. The Reserve shall be open to the Public from sunrise to sunset free of charge, except on such days, not exceeding 20 in any one year, as the Reserve may be set apart for cricket or football matches, fetes, sports, or holiday amusements, on any of which occasions a sum not exceeding two shillings and six pence (2s. 6d.) may be charged and taken for the admission of every adult to the Reserve.
2. No person shall enter or remain in the Reserve who may offend against decency as regards dress, language, or conduct.
3. No person shall damage in any way the trees, shrubs, or flowers in the Reserve, nor shall fires be lighted therein.
4. No person shall climb or jump over the gates or fences in or around the Reserve, stick bills thereon, or cut names on, or in any way damage or injure any of the buildings, gates, fences, seats, or trees in the Reserve; nor leave or deposit any glass, paper, or rubbish; nor roll or throw stones or any missiles of any kind therein.
5. No person shall put in the Reserve any cattle, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, or other animals without the permission, in writing of the Committee of Management first obtained. Provided always that the moneys received for agistment shall be expended in the maintenance and improvement of the Reserve, and that an account thereof shall be furnished annually to the Board of Land and Works.
6. The Committee of Management shall have full power and authority to impound any cattle found trespassing on the Reserve, and shall be taken to be the occupier of the Reserve (with all power incidental to that status) within the meaning of any law for the time being in force relating to the impounding of cattle.
7. No person shall bring into the Reserve any dog, unless controlled by a chain or cord, without the permission, in writing, of the Committee of Management first obtained.
8. No person shall camp in the Reserve nor erect therein any dwelling, nor any booth or other structure for the purpose of offering for sale any article, without the permission, in writing, of the Committee of Management first obtained.
9. No person shall take part in any public entertainment of any sort in the Reserve without the permission, in writing, of the Committee of Management first obtained.
10. No person shall spit or expectorate on the paths or on any structure or erection in the Reserve.
11. No person shall bet publicly in any part of the Reserve, and every person infringing this Regulation shall be liable to expulsion from the enclosures and Reserve.
12. No person shall play, practices, or engage in any game or sport within the Reserve on Sundays.
13. Persons renting or hiring any stand, building, erection, or enclosure on the occasions of any fetes, sports, or holiday amusements may be required to deposit any sum which the Committee of Management may at any time determine, not exceeding Ten pounds, by way of guarantee that due care shall be taken of such stand, building, erection, or enclosure, and such Committee in its absolute discretion may make good any damage or injury sustained by such stand, building, erection, or enclosure or anything contained therein, during such occupancy or hiring, and deducted the cost of making good such loss or damage from the sum of money deposited by way of guarantee, and all persons so renting or hiring shall abide by these Regulations and by any order given by the Committee of Management.

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50 McCann, op.cit.

51 Ibid.

52 Ceres Recreation Reserve correspondence, 17 December 1931, Crown Reserve file, op.cit.

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**PLACE NAME:** Ceres Recreation Reserve (incl. Memorial Gates & Trees) Place No. CER02

**ADDRESS:** 20 Cochranes Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

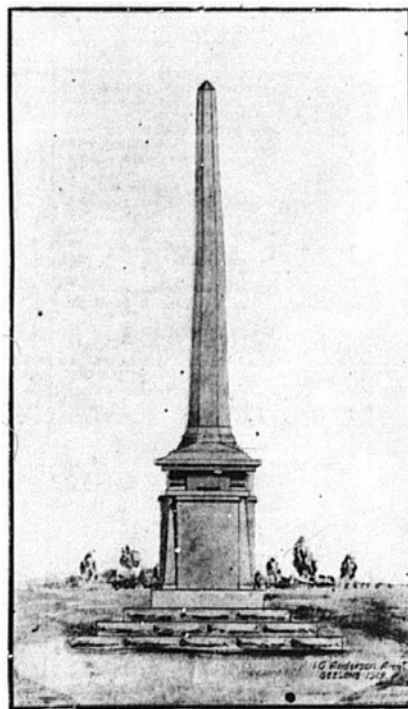
14. No person except labourers and workmen employed in the Reserve, shall enter any plots therein which may be enclosed for plantations of young trees or shrubs.

The Reserve has been placed under the control of a Committee of Management with the power and authority to enforce the foregoing Regulations.<sup>53</sup>

In 1980, the Ceres Recreational Reserve Trust resolved to request the Lands Department pass over the management of the reserve to the Barrabool Shire Council.<sup>54</sup> The Trust considered the transfer would 'be in the best interests of local users of the Reserve as Council presently owned an adjacent Reserve and would be in a better financial position to allocate the necessary maintenance funds for the future upkeep of the Reserve.'<sup>55</sup>

### Establishment of the Memorial Gates

In May 1919, the residents of Ceres proposed to erect a war memorial obelisk in the recreation reserve in honour of the locals who fought and died in the First World War.<sup>56</sup> The monument was to be constructed of either 'Ceres green granite or Harcourt granite' at a cost of £150.<sup>57</sup> Proposed to stand 20 feet high with a face of 4 feet 6 inches (Figure 6), it was designed by the Geelong architect, I.G. Anderson.<sup>58</sup> The worthy memorial proposal was not to be realised, possibly due to the considerable cost required for its erection.



Proposed Monument to be erected by Ceres residents on the Recreation Reserve, Mr. I. G. Anderson, Architect. —N.O.W. Photo.

**Figure 3:** I.G. Anderson, Proposed Monument for the Recreation Reserve, Ceres, 1919.  
Source: *News of the Week*, 19 June 1919, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

<sup>53</sup> Ibid., Recreation Reserve, Ceres: Regulations, 22 June 1932.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid., W.S. McCann, Chairman of Committee of Management, to the Secretary, Lands Department, 2 October 1980.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

<sup>56</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 20 May 1919, p.4.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid.

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Another 28 years were to elapse before a permanent war memorial was erected at the Recreation Reserve, the need for a monument not forgotten by local residents. In 1937, new gates were proposed to be constructed at the entrance to the reserve. They were to be a joint memorial to the pioneers of the district and the local soldiers who fought in the Great War. There had been a 15 year fundraising campaign to erect the gates. On 9 June 1937, the gates were officially unveiled by the Acting Premier of Victoria, the Hon. Francis Old (Figure 4).<sup>59</sup> The occasion was reported in the *Geelong Advertiser*:

The memorial is a handsome one. The two gates are of iron with stone pillars on either side. One pillar has the inscription: 'Erected 1937 as a tribute to the pioneers of the district,' and the other: "In memory of the soldiers who fought in the Great War, 1914-1918."

Following a reading from the Scripture by the Rev. Stanley Humphrey and a prayer by the Rev. H.G. Matthews, the president of the shire (Cr. J.W. White) welcomed the Acting Premier.

Cr. White said the township was appropriately named Ceres, after the Grecian goddess of agriculture. For miles, said the speaker, one saw agricultural land on which they might be proud. It was a unique occasion for Ceres to have the Acting Premier in the district for the sole purpose of attending a function there. They welcomed Mr. Old, and felt honoured by his attendance.

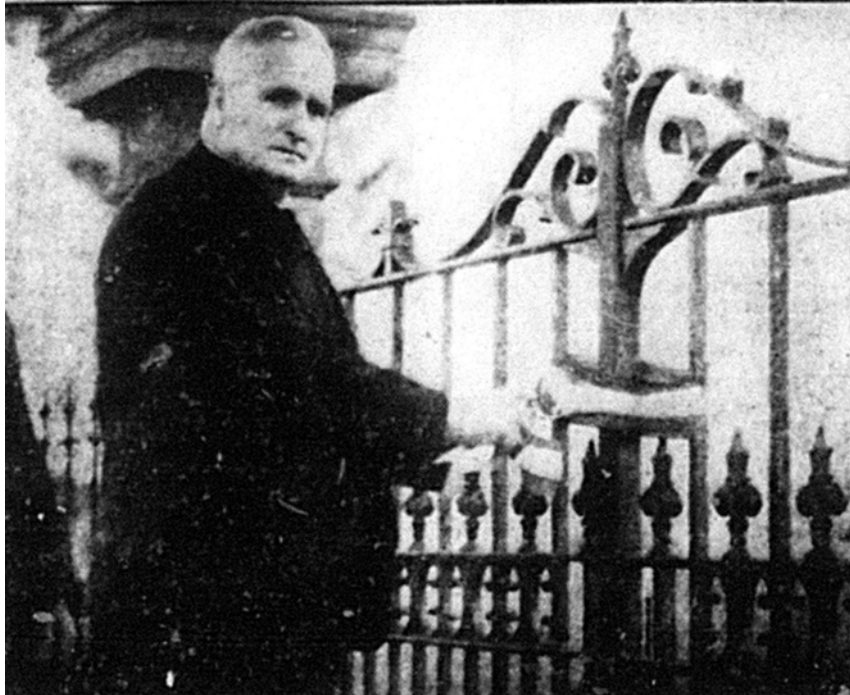
... Mr. Old said that the gathering was honouring the pioneers and the soldiers. The pioneers had made something of the land and the soldiers had fought to maintain it, and it was fitting that the two memorials should be associated. He had pleasure in unveiling the memorial gates and handing them to the trustees as a lasting tribute to the memory of the pioneers and returned soldiers.

The chairman of the trustees of the recreation reserve (Mr. S.H. McCann) acknowledged the handing over of the gates, and said that the great heritage of which they were all so proud had not come by accident. It had been only through greater service and sacrifice. Any great service could not be given without sacrifice. The pioneers had built on firm foundations, and the third generation of Australian born was living on the farms the pioneers started. The recreation ground had been started 25 years ago, and the trustees had never had a "cent" from the Government.<sup>60</sup>

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59 *Ibid.*, 10 June 1937.

60 *Ibid.*



**Figure 4:** Acting Premier Old officially opening the Ceres Memorial Gates, 1937.

Source: *Geelong Advertiser*, 12 June 1937.

The memorial gates consisted of dressed bluestone piers with elaborate cast iron gates in the centre, flanked by cast iron palisade bays (Figure 5). The design and construction of the gates was conservative for the 1930s, possibly a consequence of the gates concept having been prepared 15 years earlier. Timber picket fencing extended beyond the entrance gates.



**Figure 5:** Ceres Memorial Gates, 1937, with Alfred Beaumont "Mont" McDowall standing. Also note the early pavilion in the background built in 1913 (left of central gate bay), gum and cypress trees forming the perimeter of the reserve & the timber picket fencing. Source: David Jirik, Ceres Community Association.

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During the mid 1970s, the original gates to the memorial had disappeared and replaced with other palisade gates (Figure 6). In 2015, to mark the Centenary of Anzac, the Ceres Community Association raised funds through the Federal and State Governments to have the original gates reconstructed and other necessary repairs carried out.<sup>61</sup> The gates were officially reopened on 19 April 2015.<sup>62</sup>



**Figure 6:** Ceres Memorial Gates, 1996. Source: Crown Reserve file Rs 4144 DELWP.

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### The Recreation Reserve: A Period of Decline

By the 1950s, membership of the Barrabool Cricket Club was in decline. The Committee of Management sought other ways of making the reserve useful. For a brief period at this time, it was the location of the newly-established Barwon Valley Pony Club.<sup>63</sup> In 1958, J.W. F. Mann, Secretary and Treasurer of the recreation reserve, reported to the Lands Department that the Barrabool Cricket Club had 'no cricket team and not likely to have one for perhaps 5 years owing to no young boys of cricket age.'<sup>64</sup> The Committee of Management sought permission to let the reserve to seasonal workers (pea pickers) to camp there for up to 8-10 weeks. It also asked whether a Barley crop could be grown in the reserve for a year or two in an effort to ensure the reserve remain sustainable.<sup>65</sup>

### Building the Existing Clubrooms

By 1970, the old pavilion, dressing shed and other structures built in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century had been removed and the reserve appears to have been devoid of a dressing shed (Figure 7). A new clubroom

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<sup>61</sup> Invitation to the Official Reopening of the Ceres Memorial Gates, Ceres Community Association, 2015.

<sup>62</sup> Ibid.

<sup>63</sup> 'Barwon Valley Pony Club 1956-2006: 50 Years of Memories', unpublished history booklet online, January 2017 at [http://www.barwonvalley.ponyclubvic.org.au/site/ponyclub/barwonvalley/downloads/BVPC\\_History.pdf](http://www.barwonvalley.ponyclubvic.org.au/site/ponyclub/barwonvalley/downloads/BVPC_History.pdf)

<sup>64</sup> J.W. F. Mann, Secretary & Treasurer, to the Secretary for Lands, 8 March 1958, Crown Reserve file, op.cit.

<sup>65</sup> Ibid.

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had been erected at the south end of the ground after 1970. Other smaller shelter sheds, structures and fencing followed.



**Figure 7:** Ceres Recreation Reserve aerial view, 1970.

Source: Part aerial of Ceres, film 2457, Landata, with Creative Commons Copyright  
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

In 1996, extensions to the pavilion (Figure 8) were proposed and following their completion, it was officially opened on 8 February 1997 as the I.K. Grigg and P.R. Pickering Pavilion (Figure 9).<sup>66</sup> In 2014, Cactus Designs were engaged to prepare a design for major alterations and additions to the pavilion.<sup>67</sup> Construction soon ensued and by October 2015 it was nearing completion.<sup>68</sup> Following numerous volunteer hours in fundraising and the building of the pavilion, it was completed in December 2015 and officially opened in January 2016 (Figure 10).<sup>69</sup>

<sup>66</sup> L. Beardall, Asset Manager, January 1997 & City of Greater Geelong Council Report, 'Opening of New Pavilion at Ceres Reserve', n.d. [1997], Crown Reserve file, op.cit.

<sup>67</sup> Ibid., includes the drawings by Cactus Designs.

<sup>68</sup> Barrabool Cricket Club online, January 2017 at <http://barraboolcc.vic.cricket.com.au/pageitem.aspx?id=116241>

<sup>69</sup> Ibid.

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**Figure 8:** Ceres Recreation Reserve looking south to the pavilion prior to alterations & additions, 14 August 1996.  
Source: Crown Reserve file Rs 4144 DELWP.



**Figure 9:** Ceres Recreation Reserve looking south to the pavilion following alterations, n.d. [c.2014].  
Source: Crown Reserve file Rs 4144 DELWP.

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Figure 10: Opening day of the altered and extended Barrabool Cricket Club pavilion, 2016.

Source: Barrabool Cricket Club online, 2017.

## COMPARATIVE

### State School Arbor Day Plantings in Greater Geelong

Arbor Day was first celebrated in Australia on 20 June 1889.<sup>70</sup> Originating in the United States of America, it was first established in Adelaide where a 'proportion of the pupils in our State schools go out to plant trees, and those of them who are not selected to do the planting have a place reserved for them.'<sup>71</sup> State Schools in Victoria soon followed, with tree planting being carried out on annual Arbor Days from 1890.<sup>72</sup> In 1916, Arbor Day took on additional meaning whereby those soldiers serving and who had been killed in action were honoured and commemorated in the planting of trees in school grounds and public reserves. Like the Ceres State School's Arbor Day planting at the Recreation Reserve, commemorative trees were planted by other State Schools in the Geelong region. While the South Geelong, Jan Juc, Moolap, Torquay, Lara (Flinders), and Marshalltown State Schools planted trees, it appears that it was only the trees planted by the Torquay State School were to honour and commemorate local soldiers.<sup>73</sup> None of these Arbor Day plantings, including those of commemorative trees planted at the Torquay State School, are known to survive.<sup>74</sup>

### Other Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century Rural Recreation Reserves in Greater Geelong

Several reserves were established for public recreation and sport in the Geelong district in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. They included those at Osborne Park, North Geelong (first used privately for polo matches in 1896 and laid out for public purposes in 1919); Highton (first used for cricket matches in 1894 and acquired by the Highton Progress Association in 1926); Ocean Grove (Ingamell's Park, laid out as part of the private subdivision of the town in the 1880s); Barwon Heads (established in the Barwon Heads Caravan Park in 1924) and Lara (proclaimed for recreational purposes in 1880).<sup>75</sup>

Of these select reserves, it is the Lara Recreation Reserve that is most comparable historically, aesthetically and socially to the Ceres Reserve. While considerably more substantial in scale with two

<sup>70</sup> Monuments Australia online, January 2017 at <http://monumentaustralia.org.au/themes/culture/social/display/93053-arbor-day-trees>

<sup>71</sup> *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 20 June 1889, p.4.

<sup>72</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 12 July 1890, p.4.

<sup>73</sup> The Arbor Day plantings were reported in the *Geelong Advertiser*, 31 July 1916, p.5, 1 July 1916, p.7, 4 July 1916, p.4.

<sup>74</sup> The original Torquay State School, corner of Barnstaple and Honilton Streets, closed and a new school was built at the corner of Tavistock Street and Torquay Terrace in 1937. See Torquay State School History online, January 2017, at <https://torquayss.eq.edu.au/Ourschool/History/Pages/History.aspx>

<sup>75</sup> See Huddle, Howe, Lewis & Francis, 'Bellarine Heritage Study', prepared for the City of Greater Geelong, 1996, D. Rowe & L. Huddle, 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2', 2000, prepared for the City of Greater Geelong & D. Rowe, 'Lara Heritage Review: Thematic History', vol.2 of D. Rowe & W. Jacobs, 'Lara Heritage Review', prepared for the City of Greater Geelong, August 2013 (revised May 2016).

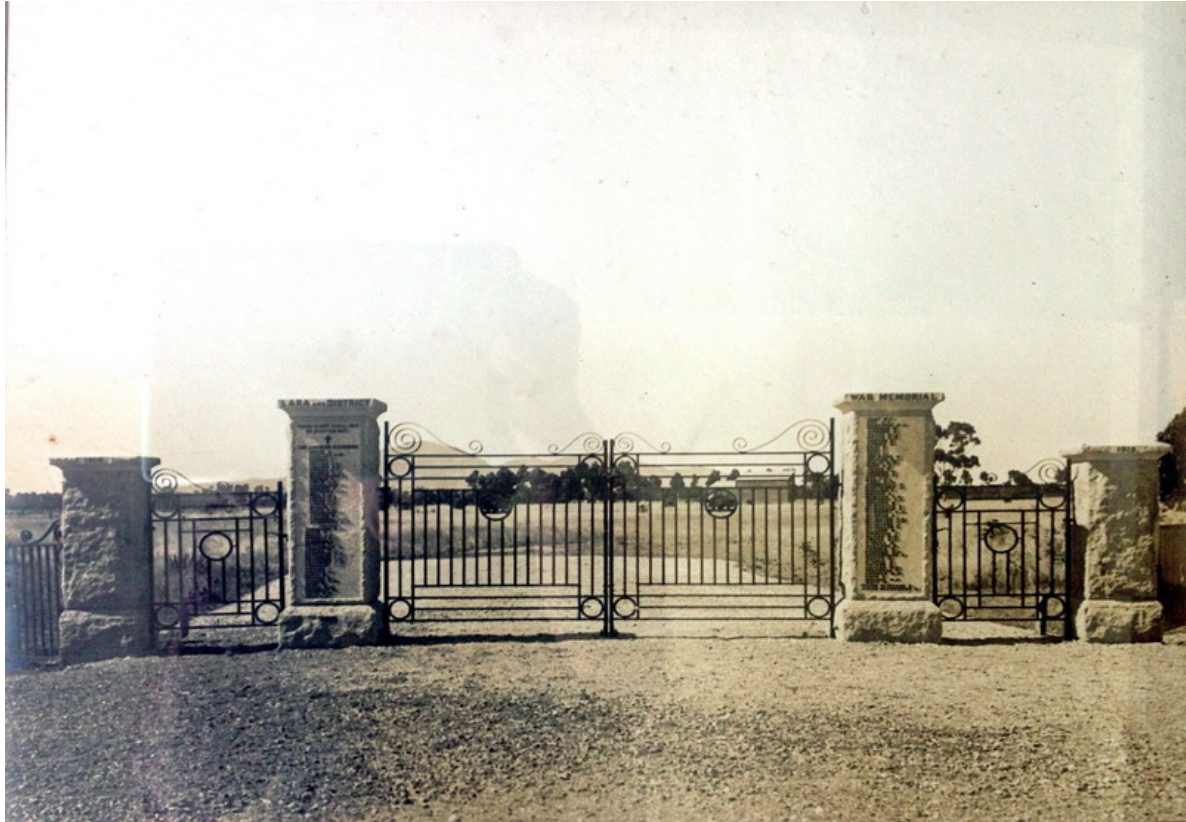
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grassed ovals, eight tennis courts, cricket practice wickets, pavilions and sports clubrooms, its development has been the result of local community involvement. In the south-east corner are war memorial gates erected in 1929 (Figure 21).<sup>76</sup> They are of similar design and construction to those at Ceres. A pine plantation reserve had also been established on the Lara reserve in earlier years (1918).<sup>77</sup> It was also at this time when an avenue of Sugar Gums was planted as a Soldiers' Avenue. In 1946, an Avenue of Honour was planted along the Walkers Road boundary of the Lara reserve which extended further west along Walkers Road.<sup>78</sup>



**Figure 11:** War Memorial Gates at the south-east entrance to the Lara Recreation Reserve, 1928.

Source: Bruce Challoner, Lara RSL Sub-Branch.

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76      *Ibid.*

77      *Ibid.*

78      *Ibid.*

**Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017**

PLACE NAME: Barwonside

Place No. CER03

ADDRESS: 240 Gully Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

**Historic Themes:****Early Settlement:** Land Sales**Early Settlement:** Agriculture**Condition:** Very Poor**Integrity:** Low-Moderate**Photograph Date:** December 2016**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON STATUTORY REGISTERS****Victorian Heritage Register:** No**Victorian Heritage Inventory:** No**Local Planning Scheme:** No**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON OTHER REGISTERS:****National Trust (Victoria) Register:** No**RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

Local Significance

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register: **No**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory: **No**Recommended for inclusion as a Heritage Overlay in the Planning Scheme: **Yes****Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**External Paint Controls Should Apply? **No**Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply? **No**Tree Controls Should Apply? **No**Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note? **No**Prohibited Uses May be Permitted? **Yes**Incorporated Document **No****Other Recommendations**

It is recognised that 'Barwonside' is in very poor condition and has been uninhabited for many years. While the restoration and repair of the building as part of its reuse as a dwelling would ensure its long term future, further investigation is required to determine whether this is feasible (both physically and economically). Consequently, the purpose of the recommended heritage overlay is to assist in the management of the fabric during any restoration, or at the very least, enable opportunity for further recording of the fabric during its ongoing deterioration, given its historical significance to the area.

**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:****What is Significant?**

'Barwonside', 240 Gully Road, has significance as physical legacy of the original development of the Barrabool Hills for farming, agriculture and viticulture by Europeans from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. It is one of a distinctive number of similarly constructed dwellings that are peculiar to the area for their vernacular designs and siting within the Barrabool Hills landscape. Built in 1850-53 for Robert McDonald, a farmer from Northern Ireland, it was the location of his successful crop farm and one acre vineyard until his sold it to David Lamb in 1876. Members of the Lamb family farmed 'Barwonside' for over 100 years until 1978. While substantially deteriorated, the surviving significant Victorian vernacular fabric includes: symmetrical composition, single storey height, parapeted gable roof form (clad in slate), rear skillion wing (partially clad in galvanised sheet metal), front verandah, Barrabool

## **Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017**

**PLACE NAME:** Barwonside

Place No. CER03

**ADDRESS:** 240 Gully Road, Ceres

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stone wall construction, stone chimneys, centrally-located four panelled timber door, and the timber framed 12 paned double hung windows.

### **How is it significant?**

'Barwonside', 240 Gully Road, Ceres, is historically and scientifically significant at a LOCAL level.

### **Why is it significant?**

'Barwonside' at 240 Gully Road has historical significance for its associations with the pioneering farming, agricultural and viticultural transformation of the Barrabool Hills by Europeans from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century (Criterion A). Collectively, with other dwellings in the area of the period, it is a rare and endangered aspect of Victoria's pioneering history (Criterion B). 'Barwonside' especially has associations with the Robert McDonald, Northern Irish farmer, and wife Margaret, and family, who built the dwelling between 1850-53 and established a successful crop farm and vineyard. McDonald contributed to the rural life of the Barrabool Hills during his tenure of the property, including his membership with the Barrabool Farmers' Society and as Secretary of the Moorabool Ploughing Match Committee. 'Barwonside' has a more enduring association with the Lamb family from 1876 until 1978. Successive generations of this family lived at and farmed the property throughout this period, beginning with David Lamb (between 1876 and 1883), John James Lamb (1883-1927) and Baden Lamb (1927-1978). The historical significance of 'Barwonside' is embodied in the surviving original fabric.

'Barwonside' at 240 Gully Road, Ceres, has scientific significance as a representative example of Barrabool stone construction for a rural dwelling built in the 1850s in the Barrabool Hills, reflecting a common and distinctive building material for the period that is now rare (Criterion F).

### **Heritage Overlay Map**

It is recommended that the heritage overlay is applied to a smaller portion of the property at 240 Gully Road that is confined to the 'Barwonside' dwelling. It is recommended that the heritage overlay include the front setback to the Gully Road (western) boundary and a 9m curtilage from the cottage on the north, south and east sides as broadly shown:



Source of image: City of Greater Geelong 2016.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The stone dwelling, 'Barwonside', 240 Gully Road, Ceres, is situated on sloping rural land with a shallow setback from the Gully Road frontage. There is a gravelled driveway to the south of the dwelling which leads to a second dwelling first built in the early 1980s.<sup>1</sup> The front boundary has an introduced timber post and wire fence with a row of senescent cypresses which appear to have once formed a hedge.

The symmetrical, single storey, Barrabool stone, Victorian vernacular styled dwelling has a parapeted gable roof form (clad in slate) and long skillion at the rear (clad in galvanised sheet metal). The main gabled roof extends at the front to form a verandah that is supported by temporary, paired slender timber posts. Early features of the design include the stone chimneys that project above the gable ends, centrally-located four panelled timber door, and the timber framed 12 paned double hung windows.

**Condition**

'Barwonside' is in very poor condition and is in disrepair. The roof has substantially deteriorated with slipped and broken slates. The render on the south wall has spalled and the mortar in the verandah stone wall base as disintegrated, possibly due to rising damp. In addition, the stonework and mortar in the chimneys has spalled, there are numerous cracks in the stone walls and there is damage to the front windows.

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<sup>1</sup> This is based on the issuing of Building Permits in 1984 and 1985, City of Greater Geelong.

**Integrity**

While the original Victorian vernacular design and construction of the dwelling is clearly discernible, the very poor condition has undermined its integrity to a notable degree. While much original fabric survives (apart from the original verandah posts that have been replaced with temporary posts to support the verandah) 'Barwonside' has low-moderate integrity.



**Photo 2:** 'Barwonside', 240 Gully Road, December 2016. Source: David Rowe.

**HISTORY:****Early Settlement of the Barrabool Hills and the Heard Family**

For at least 5,000 years, the Barrabool Hills was occupied by sections of the Wathaurong, a nomadic Indigenous tribe.<sup>2</sup> The Wathaurong's existence at Barrabool was to be dramatically changed with the arrival of John Batman and his exploration party in 1835. Arriving from Tasmania with the explicit intention of exploring the area, the eventually developed into the Port Phillip Association.<sup>3</sup> Establishing his headquarters in the vicinity of Indented Head, Batman explored the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong region.<sup>4</sup> One of Batman's party, John Helder Wedge, a surveyor, ventured further westward in exploring other parts of the region. He eventually followed the Barwon River from Fyansford along the foot of the 'Barrabool' Hills.<sup>5</sup> There, 'he noted that the hills afforded "fine pastorage for sheep".<sup>6</sup> From 1836, squatters arrived at Geelong to take up land for sheep grazing.<sup>7</sup>

2 I. Wynd, *Barrabool: Land of the Magpie*, Barrabool Shire, Torquay, 1992, p.ix.

3 *Ibid.*, p.3.

4 *Ibid.*

5 *Ibid.*, pp.4-5.

6 *Ibid.*

7 *Ibid.*, p.5.

By 1839, the Barrabool Hills had been surveyed as part of the Barrabool Parish.<sup>8</sup> Large acreages were made available at a Government land sale in late 1839.<sup>9</sup> In February 1840, much of the Barrabool Hills was acquired by Charles McLachlan, a wealthy Scottish businessman of Tasmania, and his business partner, Captain Charles Swanston, English banker and merchant of Tasmania and member of the Port Phillip Association (Figure 1)<sup>10</sup> who purchased Sections 2-3, 13-16, and 20-23 as his vast 4,480 acre Strathlachlan sheep estate.<sup>11</sup> In 1850, Sections 22 and 23 and parts of Sections 13 and 14 of the Strathlachlan Estate (Barrabool Parish) were subdivided into 65 farms centred on a village of 45 building sites as the Merrawarp Estate.<sup>12</sup> At this time, the Barrabool Hills were considered to be the 'granary of the colony,'<sup>13</sup> the location of sheep grazing, growing crops, and vineyards.



Figure 1: Part Barrabool Parish Plan, Dept of Lands & Survey, Melbourne, March 1946, showing land sections in the Barrabool Hills, including Ceres. Source: VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria.

- <sup>8</sup> Barrabool Parish Plan, VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria.
- <sup>9</sup> Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser, 9 December 1839, p.3.
- <sup>10</sup> D.S. Macmillan & J.R. Morris, 'McLachlan, Charles (1795-1850)' *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mclachlan-charles-2411/text3191>, published first in hardcopy, 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017 & C. Swanston, 'Swanston, Charles (1789-1850), *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://abd.anu.edu.au/biography/swanston-charles-2713/texttext3815>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017.
- <sup>11</sup> Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit. & Wynd, op.cit., p.43.
- <sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, p.22.
- <sup>13</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 14 September 1874, p.2.

**History of Barwonside**

On 12 December 1850, Robert McDonald, an Irish farmer, acquired 74 acres of land from the agent of the Merrawarp Estate, William Montgomerie Bell at a cost of £296.<sup>14</sup> The conveyance was registered on 11 October 1853.<sup>15</sup> Comprising allotment 1 of part of Section 23, the sloping land was situated on the southern bank of the Barwon River, at the eastern junction of the Ceres Bridge Road as shown on Andrew McWilliams’ map for the Parish of Barrabool (Figure 2).

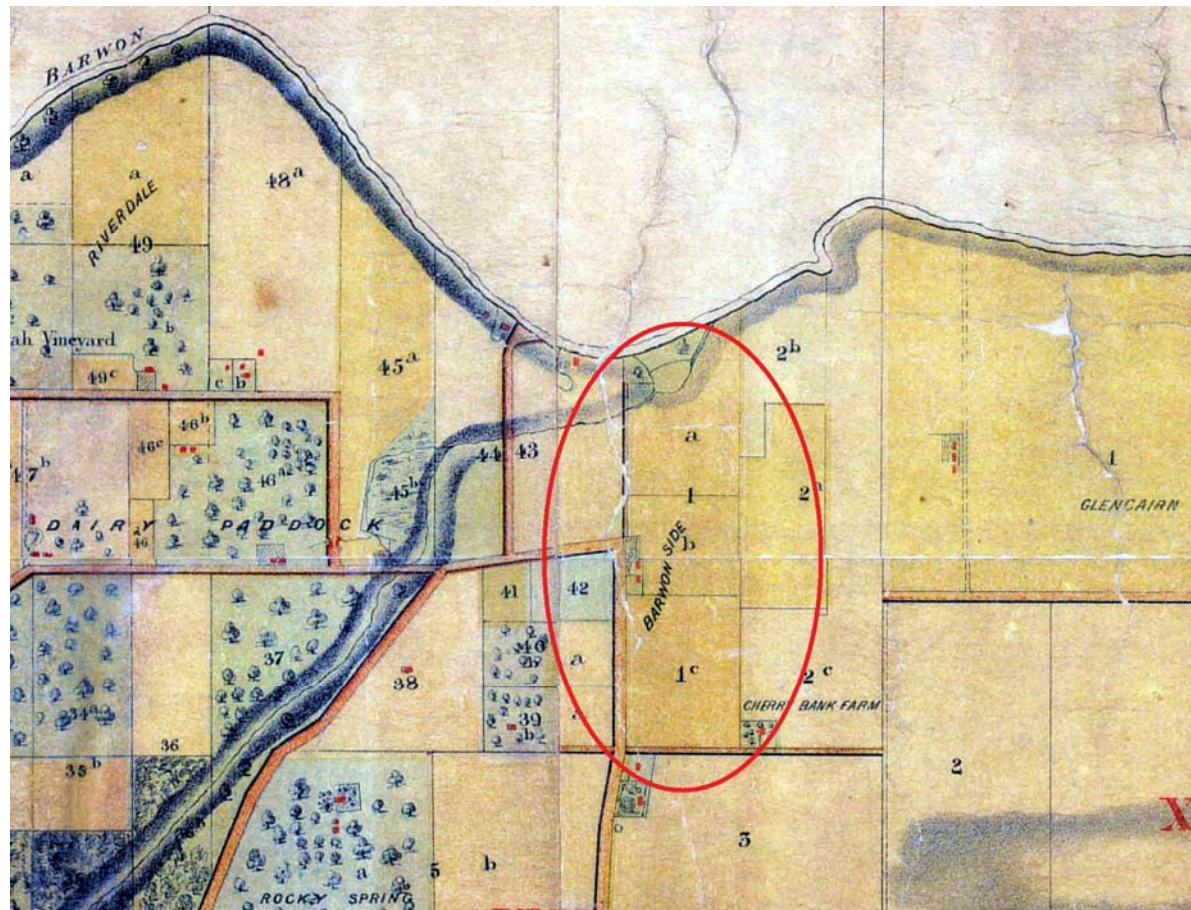


Figure 2: A. McWilliams, Plan of the Barrabool Parish, 1861, showing Robert McDonald’s ‘Barwonside’ (circled). The small red squares represent the buildings on the property.

Source: Jennifer Bantow, National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Geelong & Region Branch

By 1856, a stone dwelling had been built and a crop farm and a 1 acre vineyard established as it was at this time when McDonald was listed as a Claimant on the Electoral Roll for the South Western Province (Mount Moriac Division No. 2) of the Legislative Council as the occupier of freehold ‘by himself’ of “Barwon side”.<sup>16</sup> McDonald soon had success in growing wheat as on 27 February 1862 he published a testimonial on the favourable yield crop following the use of Flat Island Guano fertiliser:

Mr. Alexander Reid, Commission Agent, Geelong. Dear Sir, - The Flat Island Guano I had from you last season I harrowed in for a wheat crop at the rate of 1 cwt per acre on rather poor soil. I was much pleased with its effects; the crop came rich, green, and healthy-looking, and the increase of yield from the use of the guano must have been about 7 to 8 bushels per acre. On the whole, I think very

14 See Land Applications 16851 & 104773L, General Law Library, Laverton.

15 Ibid.

16 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, 16 May 1856, p.4.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

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favourably of it as a manure, and I shall require a couple of tons more this year. Taking the difference of price into account, I consider it far preferable to Peruvian.<sup>17</sup>

Born in c.1814 in the County of Antrim, Northern Ireland, Robert McDonald came to Victoria in 1841 where he initially worked as a shepherd.<sup>18</sup> In 1842, he married Miss Margaret Longmore (c.1825-1894) who had also been born in County Antrim.<sup>19</sup> She was the daughter of Robert Longmore and Elizabeth Longmore (nee Fleming), who, by the 1860s had settled near St. James' Vineyard, Batesford.<sup>20</sup>

Following his marriage, Robert McDonald initially worked as a servant.<sup>21</sup> The first child of Robert and Margaret McDonald, Joseph, was born in Geelong in 1846, the first of their eleven children.<sup>22</sup> They lived in a two-roomed house in Union Street, near Market Square.<sup>23</sup> He was followed by Robert McDonald junior in 1848, John McDonald in c.1851 and Mary Jane McDonald in c.1852.<sup>24</sup>

By 1853, the McDonald family had relocated to 'Barwonside' as Robert McDonald served on a jury into the inquest into the body of Augustus Hinke at Berremonga Vineyard, Barrabool Hills.<sup>25</sup> It is unclear how McDonald raised the necessary funds to purchase the property, given his previous occupation as a servant.<sup>26</sup> The following year, Robert and Margaret's fifth child, Elizabeth was born in the Barrabool Hills.<sup>27</sup> She was followed by Joseph in 1856 (in Geelong), James Fleming in 1858 (in the Barrabool Hills), Matilda Ann in 1860 (in the Barrabool Hills), Margaret Lydia in 1866 (in Ceres) and Charles Henry in 1868 (in Ceres).<sup>28</sup>

By 1856, McDonald had also acquired an additional 28.5 acres of adjoining land. Situated to the north-west of his original landholdings, this had been the property of Hugh Fitzpatrick (c.1811-1871). He had taken it up from William Montgomerie Bell in 1851.<sup>29</sup> Fitzpatrick had farmed there with his wife, Bridget (nee Ahern) and their two children, Thomas (born 1847) and Catherine (born 1849).<sup>30</sup> It was at this property where two of their children were born: Hugh (1851) and John (1853).<sup>31</sup> The sale of the property to McDonald does not seem to have eased Fitzpatrick's financial difficulties as he was filed as insolvent in 1863 at Kildare (Geelong West).<sup>32</sup>

Throughout the 1860s and 1870s, Robert McDonald became widely known and respected throughout the district.<sup>33</sup> Although he was unsuccessful in his candidacy as a Councillor with the Barrabool Shire

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17 *Farmers' Journal & Gardeners' Chronicle*, Melbourne, 5 April 1862, p.2.

18 *Kerang Times*, 10 January 1896, p.2.

19 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes online, Department of Justice, Melbourne. See also Mary Cotter, Rootsweb, Ancestry online at <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=marycotter&id>

20 *Geelong Advertiser*, 12 December 1867 & 3 February 1873, & Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

21 St. Andrew's Baptism Register, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

22 Ibid. & Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

23 Geelong Town Council Rate Book, 1850, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection & *Kerang Times*, op.cit.

24 Cotter, op.cit.

25 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, 13 October 1853, p.1.

26 There was no mortgage as part of the conveyance of the 'Barwonside' land from Bell to McDonald in the Land application, op.cit.

27 Cotter, op.cit. & Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

28 Ibid.

29 Land application, op.cit.

30 Ibid.

31 St. Mary's of the Angels Roman Catholic Church Baptism Register, Geelong Family History Group Inc.

32 *Geelong Advertiser*, 25 July 1863, p.3.

33 *Kerang Times*, op.cit.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

PLACE NAME: Barwonside

Place No. CER03

ADDRESS: 240 Gully Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

Council in 1868,<sup>34</sup> he contributed to community in other ways, including involvement in the Barrabool Farmers' Society (hosting the annual ploughing match in 1870) and becoming Secretary of the Moorabool Ploughing Match Committee in 1871.<sup>35</sup>

In 1875, Robert McDonald advertised 'Barwonside' for sale. The sale notice described the property as follows:

... valuable agricultural farm, comprising 102 ½ acres of some of the richest land in the district, with a frontage over half a mile to the Barwon river, securely fenced with posts and rails, subdivided into seven paddocks. The improvements include capital dwelling-house, in chiselled freestone, containing five rooms, slate roof, spouted, and well finished; weatherboard cottage of four rooms, barn, stable, dairy and a variety of out-offices; excellent garden and vineyard of about one acre, and good underground tank holding 3000 gallons.

This farm, from its position, superiority of soil, nearness to town (five miles), valuable river frontage, and comfortable permanent improvements should command the attention of all buyers of farm property.<sup>36</sup>

By February 1876, 'Barwonside' had been sold to David Lamb, farmer of Rock Bank Farm, Gheringhap.<sup>37</sup> It was at this time when McDonald advertised the sale of his stock of dairy cattle, pigs, farming implements, household furniture and sundries.<sup>38</sup> With his wife and family, McDonald relocated to the Cohuna district where he also became well known. He died there in 1896, aged 82 years.<sup>39</sup>

David Lamb took up occupation of 'Barwonside' in 1876 whilst retaining ownership of his Gheringhap property.<sup>40</sup> Born in c.1839 at Derrynagrew, Ireland, he migrated to Victoria via Liverpool in 1854 on the *SS John and Lucy*.<sup>41</sup> Arriving in September of that year, he went to Lake Burrumbeet near the Ballarat gold fields where his sister, Jane, had settled with her husband William Stuart, in 1853.<sup>42</sup> There, he worked as a slaughterman.<sup>43</sup> In 1863, he married Miss Jane Rock at Clerk House, Geelong, under the rites of the Presbyterian Church.<sup>44</sup> They were to have 11 children with births or baptisms registered variously at Geelong, Batesford, Burrumbeet and Ceres: John James (born 1865); Margaret (born 1866);<sup>45</sup> Jane (born 1869); David (born 1870); William (born 1872); Elizabeth Ann (born 1874); Mary Ellen (born 1876); Walter Hamilton (born 1878), William Andrew (born 1880); Herbert Stuart (born 1885) and Maud Cecilia (born 1883).<sup>46</sup>

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34 *Geelong Advertiser*, 6 March 1868, p.2.

35 *Ibid.*, 21 July 1870, p.2, 21 July 1871, p.2.

36 *Ibid.*, 30 March 1875, p.3.

37 The Land Application, op.cit., listed the conveyance between Robert McDonald and David Lamb, and yet the Barrabool Shire Rate Book for 1875-76 listed Lamb's father in law, John Rock, as the owner and Lamb as the occupier. See Barrabool Shire Rate Books, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

38 *Geelong Advertiser*, 15 February 1876, p.3.

39 *Kerang Times*, op.cit.

40 Barrabool Shire Rate Book 1875-76, op.cit.

41 A.M. Herd, 'David Lamb: The relatives of Angela Margaret Herd' online, <http://angeherd.com/getperson.php?personID=157&tree=ange001>

42 *Ibid.* & confirmed in Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

43 Lamb's occupation was listed in the Christ Church, Geelong, Baptism Register in 1865 and 1866, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

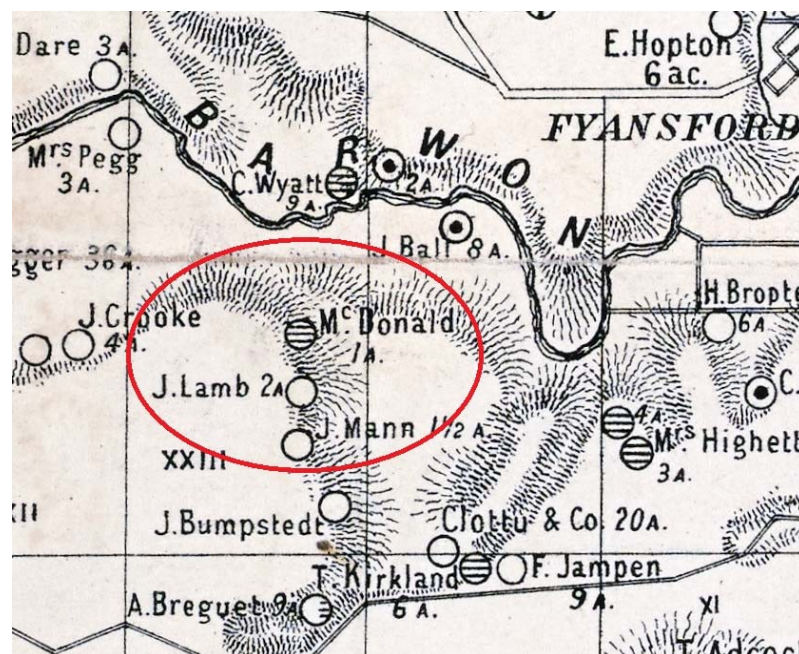
44 Herd, op.cit.

45 Christ Church Baptism Register, op.cit.

46 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

By 1869, the Lamb family had relocated to "Rock Bank Farm", Gheringhap, where David Lamb worked as a farmer.<sup>47</sup> This property may have been one of the several properties in the district owned by David Lamb's father in law, John Rock.<sup>48</sup> It seems the Rock transferred ownership of "Rock Bank" to David Lamb in the 1870s.<sup>49</sup>

David Lamb and family relocated to 'Barwonside' in 1876,<sup>50</sup> just prior to the onset of the devastation caused by *Phylloxera Vastatrix* from 1877, microscopic, pale yellow sap-sucking insects that caused deformations on grapevine roots and secondary fungal infections.<sup>51</sup> First detected (but not reported) in 1875 at Dardell's vineyard at Batesford nearby 'Barwonside',<sup>52</sup> by 1879, most of the vineyards neighbouring 'Barwonside' were still healthy, including a 2 acre plot by J. Lamb (Figure 3).<sup>53</sup> The original one acre vineyard established by Robert McDonald was not diseased but it had been neglected, as shown on a Plan of the Vineyards of the Geelong District. However, the *Phylloxera* outbreak was to bring an end to most of the vineyards in the Barrabool Hills.



**Figure 3:** S.B. Bonney, Plan showing the Vineyards of the Geelong District, 22 September 1879. The blank circles represented healthy vineyards, the circles with horizontal lines represented vineyards that were not diseased but neglected, the circles with black dots reflected diseased vineyards destroyed in the seasons of 1878 and the circles with crossed represented vineyards destroyed in the season of 1879. The former vineyard of Robert McDonald and the healthy vineyard of J. Lamb are shown circled. Source: La Trobe Picture collection, State Library of Victoria.

<sup>47</sup> Ibid., gives the birth location of Jane Lamb (nee Rock).

<sup>48</sup> See Bannockburn Shire Rate Books 1876-83 which listed several properties owned by John Rock in the Parishes of Gheringhap, Murgheboluc and Darriwill, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

<sup>49</sup> Ibid., 1876-79 listed Lamb as owner/occupier in the Parish of Gheringhap, while only a property in Newtown was listed in John Rock's Real Estate Statement of Assets in his Probate in 1888. See J. Rock, Probate Administration files, 1888, VPRS 28/P2 Unit 236 Public Record Office Victoria, North Melbourne.

<sup>50</sup> See Barrabool Shire Rate Book 1875-76, op.cit.

<sup>51</sup> Wynd, *op.cit.*, pp.59-62 & Wikipedia online at <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phylloxera>

<sup>52</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 24 December 1877, p.3.

<sup>53</sup> See Figure 3.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

PLACE NAME: Barwonside

Place No. CER03

ADDRESS: 240 Gully Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

David Lamb lived at and farmed 'Barwonside' until 1883 when he returned with his wife, Jane, and younger children to "Rock Bank Farm".<sup>54</sup> It appears that David and Jane's eldest son, John James Lamb, remained at 'Barwonside'.<sup>55</sup>

Tragedy struck the Lamb family in 1888 with the death of John Rock on 26 March and David Lamb on 19 August, both at "Rock Bank Farm".<sup>56</sup> Although John Rock's death was not unexpected given he had attained 80 years of age, David Lamb's death at the age of 53 was sudden and consequently involved an enquiry that was reported in the *Geelong Advertiser*:

The sudden death of Mr David Lamb, which was reported in our issue of yesterday, formerly of Gheringhap, yesterday afternoon. Besides Dr. Pincott, of Geelong, who made the post mortem examination of the body, the only witness examined was Mrs Lamb, wife of the deceased. She stated that her husband entered the house at about 6 o'clock on Sunday evening, after a short walk, and had been standing on the hearth for a few minutes when he suddenly fell and expired almost immediately. The only words uttered by him were, "Oh, Jane," which he ejaculated as he sank to the floor. The deceased had always been in apparently good health, and able to perform his daily duties. Dr. Pincott certified that death had been the result of a syncope from a sudden failure of the heart's action.<sup>57</sup>

At the time of his death, David Lamb owned six freehold properties. A Statement of his Real Estate Assets in his Probate valued 'Barwonside' at £1500 and gave the following description:

Freehold Land situate at Ceres Bridge containing One hundred acres, fenced with post and rail fence, and on which is erected a stone house of four rooms and slate roof occupied by family of deceased ...<sup>58</sup>

'Barwonside' remained part of the Estate of David Lamb for the ensuing years, with Jane Lamb as Administratrix<sup>59</sup>. During this time, John James Lamb farmed the property.<sup>60</sup> In 1892, 'Barwonside' was conveyed to J.J. Lamb at a cost of £2,000.<sup>61</sup> The following year, John James Lamb married Miss Ada Hart Beck.<sup>62</sup> They farmed 'Barwonside' for the next 36 years where they raised their children, David Baden (born 1900) and Ada Jane (born 1903).<sup>63</sup> On the marriage of David Baden to Miss Olive Elizabeth Johns in 1927, John and Ada retired to Autumn Street.<sup>64</sup> It was there where J.J. Lamb died in 1932.<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>54</sup> Lamb reported a grey mare having strayed into his paddock in 1883, his address given as "Rock Bank Farm, Gheringhap". See *Geelong Advertiser*, 30 October 1883, p.1

<sup>55</sup> The Barrabool Shire Rate Books 1884-88, op.cit., listed David Lamb as owner/occupier of 'Barwonside' and yet it is known that he was at 'Rock Bank Farm'. Lamb's eldest son was to later acquire 'Barwonside', suggesting that he occupied the property in the 1880s. This is also inferred in David Lamb's Statement of Real Estate in his Probate in 1888. See D. Lamb, Probate Administration files, 1888, VPRS 28/P2 Unit 251 Public Record Office Victoria, North Melbourne.

<sup>56</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 27 March 1888, p.2 & 20 August 1888, p.2.

<sup>57</sup> *Ibid.*, 21 August 1888, p.2.

<sup>58</sup> Lamb, op.cit.

<sup>59</sup> Land Application 104773L, op.cit.

<sup>60</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>61</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>62</sup> Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

<sup>63</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>64</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>65</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 17 September 1932, p.24.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

**PLACE NAME:** Barwonside

Place No. CER03

**ADDRESS:** 240 Gully Road, Ceres

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Baden Lamb took up ownership of the property following the administration of his father's Will in 1937.<sup>66</sup> With Olive, Baden Lamb continued to live at 'Barwonside' until 1978.<sup>67</sup> After 100 years, 'Barwonside' was sold out of the Lamb family. It was subdivided into two allotments, with the smaller allotment (lot 1), comprised 4.35 hectares, including the original stone dwelling.<sup>68</sup>

It seems that the 'Barwonside' dwelling was not occupied following Baden and Olive Lamb's removal from the property in 1978. Between 1980 and 1985, 'Barwonside' was again advertised for sale (Figures 4-6). The gabled stone dwelling with a post-supported front verandah, substantial rear skillion wing and introduced render to the south wall showed signs of weathering and deterioration. Roof slates had slipped, the timber posts had rotted, wall render had spalled and the mortar in the stone base to the verandah had disintegrated. By 1993, temporarily, loose sheet metal roof cladding had been laid over the roofs and held down with bricks (Figure 7).



**Figure 4:** J.T. Collins, 'Barwonside', front view, c.1980-85.

Source: La Trobe Picture collection, State Library of Victoria, accession H94.200/649.

66 Land Application, op.cit.

67 Ibid.

68 Ibid.



**Figure 5:** J.T. Collins, 'Barwonside', front and south elevations, c.1980-85.  
Source: La Trobe Picture collection, State Library of Victoria, accession H94.200/650.

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**Figure 6:** J.T. Collins, 'Barwonside', rear and north elevations, c.1980-85.  
Source: La Trobe Picture collection, State Library of Victoria, accession H94.200/653.

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Figure 7: 'Barwonside', front and south elevations, 1993.

Source: G. Dekker, A. Greenwood & S. Taylor, 'Perspectives on Ceres', architectural conservation report, School of Architecture, Deakin University, 1993, p.45.

## COMPARATIVE

'Barwonside' represents one of at least 15 dwellings built in Barrabool stone and slate roofs in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century in the Barrabool and Ceres areas. While there are variations in the designs (scale, roof forms, verandahs and other detailing), they are distinctive in reflecting the very early development of this rural area. Collectively, they embody a recognisable architectural vernacular type (as a consequence of their scale, stone wall construction, slate roof cladding and siting) within the landscape of the Barrabool Hills that is peculiar to the area and rare in Victoria.<sup>69</sup> The following dwellings are included as heritage overlays in the Greater Geelong and Surf Coast Planning Schemes:<sup>70</sup>

- Former Barrabool Presbyterian Church Manse, 1135 Barrabool Road, Barrabool (built 1859 – introduced corrugated colorbond roof).<sup>71</sup>
- 'Berramongo', 100 Crooks Road, Barrabool (built c.1853).
- Holy Trinity Vicarage, 410 Merrawarp Road, Barrabool (built 1855).
- 'Neuchatel', 460 Merrawarp Road, Barrabool (built 1854).
- Ballanclea Homestead, 250 Ballanclea Road, Barrabool (built 1859-60).

<sup>69</sup> As a recognisable collection of mid 19<sup>th</sup> century largely vernacular stone buildings in rural Victoria, there are few known comparable examples. Possibly a comparable group; are the distinctive rural dwellings and farm buildings built from the 1850s by the Swiss-Italian Gervasoni brothers and Jack Guippore, Battistia Nani and Ambrogio Invernessi in the Yandoit Hills of Victoria. See W. Jacobs, P. Taylor, R. Ballinger, V. Johnson & D. Rowe, 'Shire of Mount Alexander (former) Shire of Newstead Heritage Study Stage 2', prepared for the Shire of Mount Alexander, 2004.

<sup>70</sup> Information has been taken from A. Willingham, *Geelong Region Historic Buildings and Objects Study*, vol.1, Geelong Regional Commission, Geelong, 1986.

<sup>71</sup> D. Rowe, 'Barrabool Uniting (formerly Presbyterian) Church and Manse, 1135 Barrabool Road, Barrabool: Heritage Assessment', prepared for the Surf Coast Shire, December 2014.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

**PLACE NAME:** Barwonside

Place No. CER03

**ADDRESS:** 240 Gully Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

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- Former duplex, 5-7 Heal Street, Ceres (built c.1850s).
- Cottage, 539 Barrabool Road, Ceres (built pre 1856).
- Cottage (former Post Office), 523 Barrabool Road, Ceres (built 1850s).
- 'Foymount', 960 Barrabool Road, Ceres (built before 1861).
- 'Merrawarp', 50 Honeys Road, Ceres (built 1855).
- 'Newlands' 670 Homestead, Barrabool Road, Ceres (built 1853).
- 'Prospect' Homestead, 50 Prospect Road, Ceres (built 1861).
- 'Tasman', 755 Barrabool Road, Ceres (built early 1850s).
- Cottage, 517 Barrabool Road, Ceres (built c.1867).

Overall, these other comparable dwellings appear to be inhabited and in better condition than 'Barwonside'.

**Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017**

PLACE NAME: Erinvale

Place No. CER04

ADDRESS: 285 Gully Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: Mar 2017

**Historic Themes:****Early Settlement:** Land Sales**Early Settlement:** Agriculture**Condition:** Good-Fair**Integrity:** Moderate**Photograph Date:** December 2016**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON STATUTORY REGISTERS**

Victorian Heritage Register: No

Victorian Heritage Inventory: No

Local Planning Scheme: No

**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON OTHER REGISTERS:**

National Trust (Victoria) Register: No

**RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

Local Significance

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register: **No**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory: **No**Recommended for inclusion as a Heritage Overlay in the Planning Scheme: **Yes****Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**External Paint Controls Should Apply? **No**Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply? **No**Tree Controls Should Apply? **No**Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note? **No**Prohibited Uses May be Permitted? **No**Incorporated Document **No****Other Recommendations****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:****What is Significant?**

'Erinvale', 285 Gully Road, has significance as a moderately intact and locally rare surviving example of a late Victorian styled timber dwelling in Ceres associated with the second generation of farming in the Barrabool Hills. Built in late 1896 or early 1897 for William Heard (1863-1914), farmer and son of the local pioneer farmer, Thomas (1825-1903), the dwelling is a physical legacy of the continued progress in farming in the district in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century. The significant fabric of 'Erinvale' includes: asymmetrical composition, elevated single storey height, hipped roof forms, hipped, convex, post-supported return verandah, corrugated galvanised steel roof cladding, timber weatherboard wall cladding, narrow eaves, brick chimneys, door front opening, decorative cast iron verandah valances and brackets and the verandah balustrading.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

**PLACE NAME:** Erinvale

Place No. CER04

**ADDRESS:** 285 Gully Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: Mar 2017

### How is it significant?

‘Erinvale’, 285 Gully Road Ceres, is historically and aesthetically significant at a LOCAL level.

### Why is it significant?

‘Erinvale’ at 285 Gully Road has historical significance for its associations with second generation farming at Ceres in the Barrabool Hills from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century (Criterion A). It is one of the few known surviving examples, having been built for William Heard (1863-1914), farmer, on land owned by his pioneer farmer father, Thomas Heard (1825-1903). Thomas Heard had emigrated from England in 1844 with his older brothers, Samuel and John, and sister Elizabeth. The Heard brothers each took up farming in the Barrabool Shire, the only other known surviving nearby dwelling associated with the family being ‘Ballanlea’, built in 1860 for John Heard. ‘Erinvale’ is a physical legacy of farming progress by the second generation of the Heard family, William Heard, respected farmer, Sunday School teacher and Vestryman of the neighbouring Holy Trinity Anglican Church. He had this house built on elevated ground above the Ceres Bridge in late 1896 or early 1897 on his father’s land. It remained in Heard family ownership until 1921-22.

‘Erinvale’ at 285 Gully Road is aesthetically significant as a moderately intact and representative example of a late Victorian style, being one of very few timber examples of its type in the Ceres area (Criterion D). The dwelling reflects several late Victorian design qualities on its elevated setting, most noticeably the hipped roof forms, post-supported return verandah, roof and wall cladding, brick chimneys and some verandah detailing.

### Heritage Overlay Map

It is recommended that the heritage overlay is applied to a portion of the property at 285 Gully Road as shown in the following aerial image which broadly follows existing fence lines:



Source of image: City of Greater Geelong 2016.

**DESCRIPTION:**

The dwelling 'Erinvale' at 285 Gully Road, Ceres, is set on an elevated portion of the steeply sloping rural site, with a substantial setback from the front boundary. There is a large introduced shed (built after 1947 and before 1970) near the front (Gully Road) boundary. Mature cypress trees line the east fence line and there is curved pathway that leads from the front to the dwelling. This pathway was introduced after 1970 and before 2001. Immediately surrounding the dwelling are open grassed areas and several trees and other plantings, including an open grassed area at the rear.

The asymmetrical, elevated single storey, timber weatherboard, Late Victorian styled dwelling has a hipped roof form at the front and double hipped wings at the rear, together with a hipped, convex, post-supported return verandah. There is also a skillion wing at the rear. The roofs are clad in green painted galvanised corrugated steel. Three brick chimneys with corbelled tops (and introduced overpainting) project above the roofline. There are narrow eaves. At the front (north) is an early central door opening (possibly with a panelled timber door) and moulded timber arches. The central doorway is flanked by early window openings with introduced timber framed windows with upper hopper sashes. There also appear to be introduced windows on the east side.

A feature of the dwelling is the return verandah. There are square stop chamfered timber posts which may have replaced original posts (moulded timber capitals and pedestals to the posts are missing). The decorative cast iron verandah valances and brackets at the front appear to be early. In 1997, any early valance had been removed, with a timber frame extant only. The capped timber verandah balustrading is reflective of Late Victorian design and appears to be early. The timber lattice screen below the verandah appears to have replaced earlier screening.

Overall, the dwelling appears to be in good-fair condition when viewed from a distance. There appears to have been some deterioration in the front portion of the verandah, with movement in the posts and balustrades at the front. The dwelling has moderate integrity, the composition and detailing largely reflecting its original Late Victorian design apart from the introduced windows.

**HISTORY:****Early Settlement of the Barrabool Hills and the Heard Family**

For at least 5,000 years, the Barrabool Hills was occupied by sections of the Wathaurong, a nomadic Indigenous tribe.<sup>1</sup> The Wathaurong's existence at Barrabool was to be dramatically changed with the arrival of John Batman and his exploration party in 1835. Arriving from Tasmania with the explicit intention of exploring the area, the eventually developed into the Port Phillip Association.<sup>2</sup> Establishing his headquarters in the vicinity of Indented Head, Batman explored the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong region.<sup>3</sup> One of Batman's party, John Helder Wedge, a surveyor, ventured further westward in exploring other parts of the region. He eventually followed the Barwon River from Fyansford along the foot of the 'Barrabool' Hills.<sup>4</sup> There, 'he noted that the hills afforded "fine pastorage for sheep"'.<sup>5</sup> From 1836, squatters arrived at Geelong to take up land for sheep grazing.<sup>6</sup>

By 1839, the Barrabool Hills had been surveyed as part of the Barrabool Parish.<sup>7</sup> Large acreages were made available at a Government land sale in late 1839.<sup>8</sup> In February 1840, much of the Barrabool

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1 I. Wynd, *Barrabool: Land of the Magpie*, Barrabool Shire, Torquay, 1992, p.ix.

2 *Ibid.*, p.3.

3 *Ibid.*

4 *Ibid.*, pp.4-5.

5 *Ibid.*

6 *Ibid.*, p.5.

7 Barrabool Parish Plan, VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria.

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ADDRESS: 285 Gully Road, Ceres

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Hills was acquired by Charles McLachlan, a wealthy Scottish businessman of Tasmania, and his business partner, Captain Charles Swanston, English banker and merchant of Tasmania and member of the Port Phillip Association (Figure 1)<sup>9</sup> who purchased Sections 2-3, 13-16, and 20-23 as his vast 4,480 acre Strathlachlan sheep estate.<sup>10</sup> In 1850, Sections 22 and 23 and parts of Sections 13 and 14 of the Strathlachlan Estate (Barrabool Parish) were subdivided into 65 farms centred on a village of 45 building sites as the Merrawarp Estate.<sup>11</sup> At this time, the Barrabool Hills were considered to be the 'granary of the colony,'<sup>12</sup> the location of sheep grazing, growing crops, and vineyards.



Figure 1: Part Barrabool Parish Plan, Dept of Lands & Survey, Melbourne, March 1946, showing land sections in the Barrabool Hills, including Ceres. Source: VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria

A small number of farms in the Merrawarp and Strathlachlan Estates and in adjacent parts of the Barrabool Hills were taken up by the Heard brothers: Samuel (1815-1882), John (1813-1899) and

<sup>8</sup> Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser, 9 December 1839, p.3.

<sup>9</sup> D.S. Macmillan & J.R. Morris, 'McLachlan, Charles (1795-1850)' *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mclachlan-charles-2411/text3191>, published first in hardcopy, 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017 & C. Swanston, 'Swanston, Charles (1789-1850), *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/swanston-charles-2713/text3815>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017.

<sup>10</sup> Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit. & Wynd, op.cit., p.43.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, p.22.

<sup>12</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 14 September 1874, p.2.

Thomas (1825-1903), recent arrivals from England.<sup>13</sup> They were the sons of the Devon farmers, John Cockram Heard (1781-1855) and Elizabeth Banbury Heard (nee Cory) (1784-1842).<sup>14</sup> They sailed with their sister, Mrs Elizabeth Crouch and her husband, John, on the *Lord William Bentick*, arriving in Victoria in August 1844.<sup>15</sup> In 1847, Samuel Heard took up a lease of the 'Westcott' farm on the Merrawarp Estate and the 'Shamrock Vale' farm on the Strathlachlan Estate.<sup>16</sup> John Heard first appears to have leased Rudolph Tribolet's vineyard on the Colac Road, Waurm Ponds,<sup>17</sup> before acquiring 'Ballanlea' in the Barrabool Hills from R.G. Talbot where he built the existing homestead by 1860.<sup>18</sup> John Heard became well known as a "model farmer", a pioneer of efficient farming with improved implements.<sup>19</sup>

The third son of John and Elizabeth Heard, Thomas, a Presbyterian, was initially assigned to William McGill of the Burrumbeep Run, Maroona, north-west Victoria, where he worked as a shepherd for one year with rations.<sup>20</sup> In 1848, he married Miss Elizabeth Susanah Jenkins (c.1822-1865) at the Wesleyan Church, Melbourne.<sup>21</sup> He took up low lying land on the southern banks of the Barwon River, neighbouring the Berramungah Vineyard. Situated on Lot 49 of Section 22 in the Merrawarp Estate, Heard named his property 'Riverdale' as shown on McWilliams' Plan of Barrabool in 1861 (Figure 2). In the ensuing years, Thomas Heard increased his landholdings, taking up lot 41 in 1851, adjoining lot 38 in 1859, as well as lot 44 on the southern banks of the Barwon River of Section 23 in 1879-80,<sup>22</sup> which testified to his enduring success as a farmer in the district. Further evidence of the success of Thomas and his brothers in farming at Ceres was given in the *Geelong Advertiser* in 1887:

The land is hilly, and almost totally devoid of timber; the soil is deep, rich and suited for either agricultural or pastoral purposes. The farms are large, the homestead commodious and comfortable, and the farmers appear on the whole to be fairly "well to do." Amongst the leading farms are those of Messrs. Heard, Lee [sic.], Piper and Mann, each comprising a large area of land, a portion of which is cropped but the greater portion is used for grazing.<sup>23</sup>

Like his brother, John, Thomas Heard also exploited the latest in farm equipment. In 1896, he gave a testimonial on the benefits of Bayley's Double Furrow Ploughs, 'safely recommending' to 'anyone wanting a good useful plough.'<sup>24</sup>

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13 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, Department of Justice, Melbourne, and K. Arnold, 'Elizabeth Banbury Corey (1784-1842) at WikiTree online <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Corey-245>

14 Ibid.

15 Assisted British Immigrants Index & Register, 1844, Book 2/3, p.199, Public Record Office Victoria & Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

16 Arnold, *op.cit.* & Wynd, *op.cit.*, pp.23-24.

17 John Heard was listed as occupier of freehold, Tribolet's farm in the Electoral Roll published in the *Geelong Advertiser and Intelligencer*, 16 May 1856.

18 *Geelong Advertiser*, 24 June 1899, p.1 and Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.211.

19 *Ibid.*, pp.210-11 & *Geelong Advertiser*, 10 September 1895, p.4.

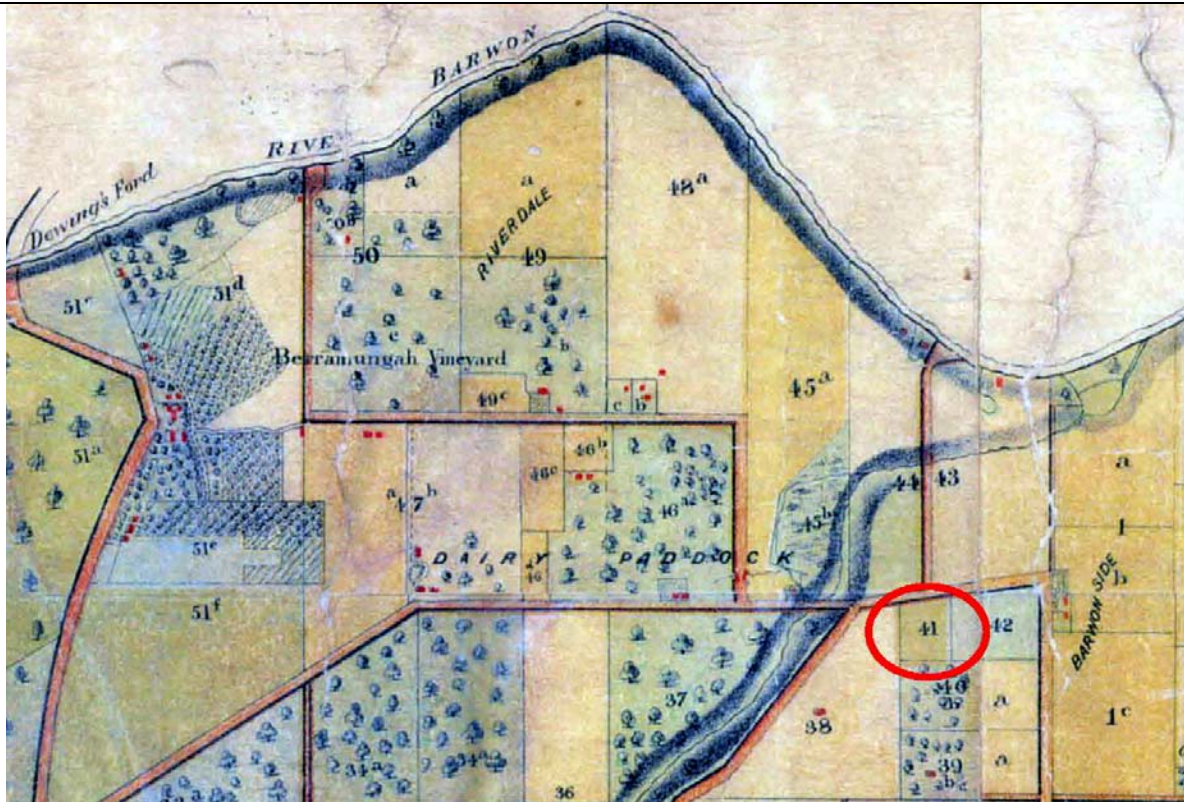
20 Assisted British Immigrants Register, *op.cit.*

21 Victoria Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, *op.cit.* & Murphy, *op.cit.*

22 See Land Applications 16851 & 58250, General Law Library, Laverton, for details on lots 41 and 38, and Barrabool Shire Rate Book, 1879-80, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre, which listed Heard as owner of lot 44 for the first time.

23 *Geelong Advertiser*, 15 October 1887, p.12.

24 *Ibid.*, 24 October 1896, p.3.



**Figure 2:** A. McWilliams, Plan of the Barrabool Parish, 1861, showing Thomas Heard's 'Riverdale' property (top-centre) and lots 41 (purchased 1851) and lot 38 (purchased 1859). Source: Jennifer Bantow, National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Geelong & Region Branch

Thomas Heard and his wife, Elizabeth, had eight children: Jane (1851-1912), John (c.1852-1883), Emma (1855-1920), George (1857-1907), Charles (1859-1920), Samuel (1861-1919), William (1853-1914) and Mary Elizabeth (1865-66).<sup>25</sup> Following the death of Mrs Thomas in 1865, Thomas Heard married Susanah Eldridge and they had four children: Thomas Eldridge (1867-1867), Albert (1871-1942), Maude Louisa (1875-1939) and Elizabeth Jane (1875-1948).<sup>26</sup> Increasing in age, Thomas Heard gave up farming in early 1897, auctioning his stock and farm equipment, and leasing 'Riverdale' farm.<sup>27</sup> He died at Ceres on 18 September 1903, his properties remaining in Trust for his family.<sup>28</sup>

### History of 'Erinvale'

Farming by the pioneering Heard brothers was continued by the next generation of Heards in the Barrabool Hills and elsewhere in Victoria. William Heard, Thomas Heard's seventh child to his first wife Elizabeth, took up his father's 44 acres on lot 44 south of the Barwon River in 1886-87.<sup>29</sup> He lived in a slab house built in 1879-80 for William's brother, Charles, who had first farmed this part of their father's estate.<sup>30</sup> In 1892, William Heard married Miss Jane Hill (c.1875-1931).<sup>31</sup> At this time

<sup>25</sup> Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

<sup>26</sup> Ibid. See also D. Murphy, 'Thomas Heard (1825-1903)' at WikiTree online <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Heard-954>

<sup>27</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 20 February 1897, p.3.

<sup>28</sup> This is indicated in the Barrabool Shire Valuation Book, 1910, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre. It is also confirmed in Thomas Heard's Probate where his Real Estate Inventory stated "By value of Real estate derived to William Heard and Albert Heard for their lives and them to their issue in equal shares." See T. Heard, Probate Administration files, 1903, VPRS 28/PO Unit 1128 Public Record Office Victoria.

<sup>29</sup> See Barrabool Shire Rate Book, op.cit., 1886-1878.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid., 1879 & 1879-80.

<sup>31</sup> Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

PLACE NAME: Erinvale

Place No. CER04

ADDRESS: 285 Gully Road, Ceres

Assessment Date: Mar 2017

they took up a lease of John George's 104 acre farm at Ceres, originally the property of Dr Coward.<sup>32</sup> William and Jane Heard had five children: Hetty Maud (born 1893), Emma Elizabeth (born 1895), Thomas Edwin Percival (born 1897), Roy Cuthbert William (born 1902) and Francis Lindsay (born 1913).<sup>33</sup>

With Thomas Heard's impending retirement from farming, William Heard took up 128 acres, 3 roods and 33 perches of his father's land, part of which comprised lot 41 of Section 23.<sup>34</sup> This was the land originally purchased by Thomas Heard in 1851-52, the western portion comprising the site at 285 Gully Road today. William Heard's newly-acquired farm also took in part of the adjoining allotment 38, the property being addressed as and accessed from Merrawarp Road.<sup>35</sup>

The existing timber dwelling at 285 Gully Road was built from late 1896 and completed in the early months of 1897.<sup>36</sup> The Heard family appear to have been in occupation of the dwelling by 1 April 1897 and certainly by July of that year as William Heard wrote to the Barrabool Shire Council seeking the Council to partly fund the cost of erecting of culvert opposite his gate.<sup>37</sup> Six years later in 1903 following the death of William Heard's father, Thomas, owner of the property, it was valued in Thomas Heard's Statement of Assets and Liabilities at £1543.1.0 and described as follows:

All that piece of land containing 128 ac 2 roods 13 perches being parts of Sections 22 and 23 Parish of Barrabool Country of Grant with 6 roomed weather Board House fencing Stables etc. Net annual Shire value £60 per annum and let to Mr William Heard at a rental of £70 a year.<sup>38</sup>

In addition to farming, William Heard was actively involved in the nearby Holy Trinity Anglican Church. In 1914, William Heard's life was cut short, his death and the esteem to which he was held in the district, being reported in the *Geelong Advertiser*:

Quite a gloom was cast over the district when it became known that Mr. W. Heard, of Ceres Bridge, had died suddenly. Though not being in the best of health at the beginning of the week he was about as usual, but on Wednesday, having occasion to walk from the road to his home he fainted. Assistance was soon at hand and he was carried to his room, but he expired within an hour. Mr Heard was a staunch supporter of Holy Trinity Church and Sunday school: for many years he was a teacher in the school: and at the time of his death was a vestryman. The respect and sympathy of the district to the deceased and his family was shown in a very practical way on Friday last by the large number of friends who followed his remains to their last resting place. The cortege was the longest that has been seen in the district for a very long time: about 50 vehicles followed.<sup>39</sup>

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32 Barrabool Shire Rate Book, op.cit., 1891-92 and *Geelong Advertiser*, 9 January 1897, p.3.

33 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

34 See Barrabool Shire Rate Books, op.cit., 1896-97, which listed Thomas Heard as owner and occupier of 'Riverdale' on 228 acres, 3 roods and 38 perches, and the Rate Book for 1897-98, which listed William Heard as occupier of 128 acres, 3 roods and 33 perches of Thomas Heard's land. See also land application 58250, op.cit.

35 Ibid. and *Geelong Advertiser*, 18 August 1897, p.4.

36 John George's advertisement in the *Geelong Advertiser*, 9 January 1897, op.cit., made mention of William Thomas still in occupation of his farm, and that any prospective tenant could take occupation from 1 April 1897. Together with documentation in the Barrabool Shire Rate Book, 1897-98, this suggests that the 'Erinvale' dwelling was built in late 1896 or early 1897.

37 *Geelong Advertiser*, 22 July 1897, p.4. Heard's request was referred to the Council's Inspector of works whose report published in the *Geelong Advertiser*, 19 August 1897, op.cit., confirmed that Heard was occupying the property now known as 'Erinvale' as it was addressed as 'Merriwarp-road.'

38 Heard, op.cit.

39 *Geelong Advertiser*, 20 October 1914, p.5.

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

**PLACE NAME:** Erinvale

Place No. CER04

**ADDRESS:** 285 Gully Road, Ceres

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Although the property remained part of the late Thomas Heard's Estate,<sup>40</sup> Mrs Jane Heard and her family continued to reside at 285 Gully Road until 1921-22 when the dwelling and 72 acres was sold to William Mann, farmer.<sup>41</sup> The property then had a net annual value of £72.<sup>42</sup> He lived there with his wife, Margaret, until his death in 1943.<sup>43</sup> Erinvale was occupied by Frank Grenvel Hill, farmer in the 1940s before he later purchased the property.<sup>44</sup> By 1947, an aerial image (Figure 3) showed mature trees lined the northern, eastern and western boundaries of the adjoining allotment that was then part of the property (lot 38). There was a vehicular driveway from Merrawarp Road and what appears to have been farm outbuildings. Apart from some young trees in the large setback fronting the dwelling and trees and garden immediately surrounding the dwelling, the front setting was largely open and grassed. Trees were planted on the western fence line to the dwelling in the following years, they being mature by 1970 (Figure 4) when a large shed had been built near the northern (Gully Road) boundary.



**Figure 3:** Aerial image of 'Erinvale' 1947. The dwelling is in the lower left corner. Source: Part aerial of Ceres, 1947, Landata, with Creative Commons Copyright <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>



**Figure 4:** Aerial image of 'Erinvale', 1970. The dwelling is in on the left. Source: Part aerial of Ceres, film 2457, Landata, with Creative Commons Copyright <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/>

The property was subdivided into two lots in 1971, the 'Erinvale' dwelling being located on lot 1 comprising 8 acres, 1 rood and 28 perches.<sup>45</sup> 'Erinvale' appears to have been purchased by Frank Hill by this time and it formed part of his Estate on his death in 1979.<sup>46</sup> By 1997, it appears that the original windows at the front and east side had been replaced and works were being carried out to the east side of the verandah (Figure 5).

<sup>40</sup> See T. Heard, Probate Administration files, op.cit.

<sup>41</sup> Barrabool Shire Rate Books, 1914-22, op.cit.

<sup>42</sup> Ibid.

<sup>43</sup> Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

<sup>44</sup> Barrabool Shire Rate Book, op.cit., 1942-44 & Land Application, op.cit.

<sup>45</sup> Land Application 58250, op.cit.

<sup>46</sup> Certificate of Title, vol. 9598 fol. 387.



Figure 5: 'Erinvale', 285 Gully Road, 1997. Source: David Rowe.

## COMPARATIVE

### Other Comparable Dwellings in Barrabool, Ceres and Highton Area

'Erinvale' represents one a number of Victorian styled hipped roofed dwellings constructed in the Barrabool, Ceres and Highton area. In Barrabool and Ceres, it is not comparable to the majority of surviving dwellings given that they are associated with the first generation of farmer tenants and owners to the area from the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. The only other known surviving timber dwelling built in the Ceres area in the 19<sup>th</sup> century is 'Hurley House', 100 McCann Street. It shares similar hipped roofs as 'Erinvale', but it was built almost 20 years earlier in 1877<sup>47</sup> and therefore expresses a different era in its more rudimentary verandah detailing, windows and chimney construction.

More comparable with 'Erinvale' are surviving late Victorian styled timber dwellings in Highton, originally a nearby farming centre and now a suburb of Greater Geelong. The house at 47 Barrabool Road (built in 1916<sup>48</sup>) has a similar hipped roof form, brick chimneys and return post-supported convex verandah with decorative cast ironwork as 'Erinvale' but the verandah returns to a projecting gabled wing. This dwelling now has a suburban setting.

Most comparable to 'Erinvale' is Thornbury Grange, 13 Brassey Avenue, Highton (Figure 6). Possibly built in 1905 for Councillor Edward Philpott and Mrs Blanche Phillipott.<sup>49</sup> Located on elevated ground, 'Thornbury Grange' has a similar composition of hipped roof forms and return post-supported verandah as 'Erinvale', including the cast iron valances and brackets, and verandah balustrading. Unlike 'Erinvale', 'Thornbury Grange' is more substantial in scale and also features arched timber verandah fretwork. However, both dwellings have experienced alterations, with recent restoration at 'Thornbury Grange' returning it further to its original late Victorian appearance.

<sup>47</sup> See heritage citation for 'Hurley House'.

<sup>48</sup> The house was built for Alexander McDonald, grazier of Anglesea. See South Barwon Shire Rate Books, 1910-17, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection, and Certificate of Title vol. 3616 fol. 164. On McDonald's death in 1918, the property was valued at £600 and was described as containing a seven roomed weatherboard house and outbuildings let to W.E. Worland, farmer. See A. McDonald, Probate Administration files, 1918, VPRS 28/P3 Unit 857 Public Record Office Victoria.

<sup>49</sup> See South Barwon Rate Books, 1893-1911, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection, and Land Applications 52835 & 53882, General Law Library, Laverton & extensive research notes by Margaret Baensch, Belmont.



**Figure 6:** 'Thornbury Grange', Highton, c.1915. Source: Heather Lyons.

Historically, 'Erinvale' is one of two surviving 19<sup>th</sup> century dwellings associated with the Heard farming family in the Barrabool Hills. The other dwelling is 'Ballanlea', Ballanlea Road, Barrabool, built in c.1860 for John Heard (1813-1899), brother of Thomas Heard (and Uncle of William). 'Ballanlea' is associated with the pioneering years of farming by the Heard family in the Barrabool Hills, with 'Erinvale' being a legacy of the next generation of farming by the family.

**Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017****PLACE NAME:** Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School

Place No. CER05

**ADDRESS:** 17 McCann Street, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

**Historic Themes:****Early Settlement:** Agriculture**Townships:** Ceres**Community Life:** Churches**Condition:** Fair (Church)

Fair-Poor (Sunday School)

**Integrity:** Moderate (Church)

Moderate-High (Sunday School)

**Photograph Date:** December 2016**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON STATUTORY REGISTERS****Victorian Heritage Register:**

No

**Victorian Heritage Inventory:**

No

**Local Planning Scheme:**

Yes – HO66 (northern portion of site only)

**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON OTHER REGISTERS:****National Trust (Victoria) Register:**

No

**RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

Local Significance

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register: **No**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory: **No**Recommended for inclusion as a Heritage Overlay in the Planning Scheme: **Yes****Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**

External Paint Controls Should Apply?

Yes – former Church building only.

Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply?

No

Tree Controls Should Apply?

No

Fences &amp;/or Outbuildings of Note?

Yes – former Sunday School building.

Prohibited Uses May be Permitted?

No

Incorporated Document

No

**Other Recommendations**

It is recommended that the existing heritage overlay (HO66) is extended over the whole former Wesleyan Church site at 17 McCann Street. It is recognised that hall appears to be in fair-poor condition (when viewed from outside the property). The restoration and repair of this building as part of its reuse as a dwelling would ensure its long term future, but further investigation (including a structural assessment by a suitably qualified Engineer) is required to determine whether this is feasible (both physically and economically). Relocation of the hall to another site (preferably in Ceres and to a location where it may have public access) should only be considered if this is the sole means of ensuring its survival and if it has sufficient structural integrity.

It is recommended that the existing internal alteration controls as part of HO66 are deleted given that the fittings and fixtures have been removed from the former church interior.

## **Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017**

**PLACE NAME:** Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School

Place No. CER05

**ADDRESS:** 17 McCann Street, Ceres

Assessment Date: May 2017

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### **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

#### **What is Significant?**

The former Ceres Wesleyan Church and Sunday School, 17 McCann Street, has significance as tangible legacies of the life and witness of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in the village of Ceres from 1855 until 2016, and as a denominational school from 1855 until 1875. Built in 1855, the former Wesleyan Church building is the only intact surviving 1850s church building as part of the Geelong Wesleyan Circuit, and a rare surviving rural example of its type in the Geelong region. As a complex, the church and Sunday School are also a rare example, the Sunday School building being the only known surviving mid 19<sup>th</sup> century example of timber construction in the Geelong region. One portion was built in c.1864 as the Wesleyan Sabbath School, the other wing constructed in the mid 1850s as the Devon Wesleyan Church, Devon, and relocated and added to the Sunday School building in 1882.

The significant fabric of the former Wesleyan Church includes the gabled roof forms, Barrabool stone wall construction, slate roof cladding, square-headed timber framed twelve paned double hung windows (the windows at the west end being lower, reflecting the original lower ceiling internally to allow for a mezzanine), dressed stone quoinwork, stone tablets in the gable ends, four panelled timber entrance door and the dressed stone window sills.

The significant fabric of the former Wesleyan Sunday School includes the double gabled roof forms clad in corrugated sheet metal, timber weatherboard wall cladding, square-headed timber framed, twelve paned double hung windows with moulded timber architraves and timber window sills, vertically boarded doors, decorative timber bargeboards and the timber finials in the east gable ends.

#### **How is it significant?**

The former Wesleyan Church and Sunday School, 17 McCann Street, Ceres, is historically, aesthetically, scientifically and socially significant at a LOCAL level.

#### **Why is it significant?**

The former Wesleyan Church and Sunday School, 17 McCann Street, have historical significance for their enduring associations as rare surviving examples with the Wesleyan movement, from the earliest days of the development of the village of Ceres in the 1850s, to the evolution and development of the Methodist Church throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, and as part of the life and witness of the Uniting Church from 1977 until 2016 (Criteria A & B). The former Wesleyan Church was built in 1855 as part of the Geelong Circuit to service the locally notable number of Wesleyans, most of whom were also part of the Temperance Movement. In particular, the church has associations with Nicholas McCann, inaugural Church Trustee and significant benefactor who helped finance the construction of the Church building and provide the local Barrabool stone (Criterion H). The former Wesleyan Church also has associations with other notable figures in its early evolution, including the Rev. Isaac Harding, Wesleyan Minister responsible for the building of a number of Wesleyan chapels in the Geelong Circuit, inaugural Trustee and first Minister responsible for providing pastoral care to the Wesleyans at Ceres; other original Trustees including Ezra Firth, quarryman, Peter McCann, quarryman, and Joseph Armitage, farmer; A.M. Hope, original architect (Criterion H).

The former Wesleyan Church and Sunday School, 17 McCann Street, have aesthetic significance as rare, intact, representative examples of their types (Criterion D). The Wesleyan philosophy of 'earnest piety and dislike of frivolity' is embodied in the surviving physical building fabric. The vernacular Victorian Georgian church reflects non-conformist meeting house design typical in mid 19<sup>th</sup> century Victoria in its modest scale and unpretentious character. This building is the only intact surviving example of the 1850s of the Wesleyan Church in Geelong, as part of the Geelong Circuit. The former Sunday School building, although an amalgam of the former Devon Wesleyan Church and Ceres Sabbath School, is representative of the rudimentary timber church buildings erected in rural Victoria. As a complex, the

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

**PLACE NAME:** Former Wesleyan Church & Sunday School

Place No. CER05

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Ceres Church and Sunday school is the earliest of the two surviving mid 19<sup>th</sup> century rural Wesleyan Church complexes in the Geelong region (the other being at South Geelong). It is also is one of very few surviving rural examples on its original site built from the 1850s in the Geelong region.

The former Wesleyan Church building, 17 McCann Street, has scientific significance for its distinctive Barrabool stonework that was quarried nearby the church site, and while ubiquitous for building construction throughout Victoria (and especially the Barrabool Hills) in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, is now a material no longer employed (Criterion F).

The former Wesleyan Church and Sunday School, 17 McCann Street, while no longer functioning for their original church purpose, have social significance as a physical legacy of their enduring role in the Wesleyan Methodist (and later Uniting Church) faith and faith education at Ceres from 1855 until 2016 (Criterion G).

### Heritage Overlay Map

It is recommended that the heritage overlay is applied to the former church site at 17 McCann Street, Ceres, as shown on the following aerial image:



Source of image: City of Greater Geelong 2016. The bold red border represents the suggested heritage overlay boundaries, the narrow red border reflects the extent of the existing heritage overlay.

### DESCRIPTION:

The former Wesleyan Church and Sunday School, 17 McCann Street, are set on an almost square site on the original subdivision of the Ceres village. It is situated on the south-west corner of Wheatsheaf and McCann Streets. The site is bound on the north, south and east sides by introduced hollow steel and rail, and cyclone mesh fences and timber corner posts (to a height of approximately 1200 mm, the north-west corner also having a timber post). On the west boundary is a row of semi-mature Cypress trees while on the front (east) boundary is a mature and manicured Cypress hedge, planted after the 1930s. The landscaping for the remainder of the site is largely open grassed spaces with some

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perimeter agapanthus on the north side, shrubbery to the south of the church and concrete pedestrian paths. Near the western boundary is an introduced, corrugated sheet metal outbuilding.

The former Victorian vernacular Georgian styled Wesleyan Church building is located in the northern portion of the site. It is characterised by a principal gabled roof form and a minor gabled entrance porch on the east side. These roofs are clad in slate with introduced timber bargeboards and flashings in the gable ends. The front porch has been rebuilt. The four-bayed church is also defined by square-headed timber framed twelve paned double hung windows (the windows at the west end being lower, reflecting the original lower ceiling internally to allow for a mezzanine). The building expresses the original Wesleyan ideal of a simple church building, the only elaboration being identified in the dressed quoinwork at the building corners and front window openings, stone label moulds above the front (east) windows and the tablets in the gable end, the tablet in the porch gable reading "Wesleyan Church 1855". Other early features include the four panelled timber entrance door and the dressed stone window sills. At the rear are introduced, projecting stone buttresses. The original window opening in the west gable end has been bricked up. There is metal bracing surrounding the rear (west) window on the north elevation and other metal brackets are visible on the north and south elevations.

Internally, the church has an early coved timber lined ceiling. There are hard plaster walls and introduced timber clad dados. The polished timber floor boards appear to be original, as do the timber door architraves and four panelled door between the main church space and vestry. The ceiling is punctuated by early iron tie rods.

To the south of the church building is the former Sunday School. The timber weatherboard, Victorian Picturesque styled building has a double gabled roof form clad in corrugated sheet metal. The three bayed building is defined by the square-headed timber framed, twelve paned double hung windows with moulded timber architraves and timber window sills. There are vertically boarded timber doors at the front (east) and another timber door at the rear (west, south side). The front gable ends are adorned with decorative timber bargeboards and timber finials.

Internally, the Sunday School building has strapped, timber-lined, coved ceilings supported by central posts. The northern portion of the interior has horizontal aligned timber wall cladding the south portion being clad in larger-sized horizontal timber boards. The timber floor boards also appear to be early. There is a timber partition wall at the west end, with a vertically boarded door providing access to a narrow kitchen area.



**Photo 2:** Former Church building, north & west elevations, 2016. Source: David Rowe.



**Photo 3:** Former Sunday School, east elevation, 2016. Source: David Rowe.



**Photo 4:** Former Sunday School (middle ground) & Church (background), south elevations, 2016.

Source: David Rowe.

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## **Condition and Integrity**

### **Church Building**

Overall from the street, the church appears to be in fair condition. There is evidence of movement at the west end (particularly the north-west corner) in the wall cracks, rising damp in the wall bases, weathered timber window frames and sashes, and timber bargeboards, and rusted ridge capping and flashings. There is numerous evidence of previous mortar patching, some appearing to be cement rich. The church is of moderate integrity as a vernacular Victorian Georgian stone building. The most noticeable changes being the altered (rebuilt) front porch (reflecting its early design), introduced buttresses at the west end and the timber bargeboards and flashing which appear to have replaced the original parapets and copings in the east and west gable ends.

### **Sunday School**

Overall from the street, the former Sunday School appears in be in fair-poor condition. There is evidence of substantial rusting in the corrugated sheet metal roof, deterioration in the timber weatherboards and decorative timber bargeboards (the northern bargeboards and finial having become loose) and rotting in the building base (possibly due to inadequate subfloor ventilation on the north side, and a downpipe not connected to sealed drainage in the south-west corner). As a Sunday School building comprising the original Sabbath School of the 1860s and the former Devon Church of the 1850s, the building has moderate-high integrity.

## **HISTORY:**

### **Early Settlement of the Barrabool Hills**

For at least 5,000 years, the Barrabool Hills was occupied by sections of the Wathaurong, a nomadic Indigenous tribe.<sup>1</sup> The Wathaurong's existence at Barrabool was to be dramatically changed with the arrival of John Batman and his exploration party in 1835. Arriving from Tasmania with the explicit intention of exploring the area, the eventually developed into the Port Phillip Association.<sup>2</sup> Establishing his headquarters in the vicinity of Indented Head, Batman explored the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong region.<sup>3</sup> One of Batman's party, John Helder Wedge, a surveyor, ventured further westward in exploring other parts of the region. He eventually followed the Barwon River from Fyansford along the

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1 I. Wynd, *Barrabool: Land of the Magpie*, Barrabool Shire, Torquay, 1992, p.ix.

2 *Ibid.*, p.3.

3 *Ibid.*

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foot of the 'Barrabool' Hills.<sup>4</sup> There, 'he noted that the hills afforded "fine pastorage for sheep".<sup>5</sup> From 1836, squatters arrived at Geelong to take up land for sheep grazing.<sup>6</sup>

By 1839, the Barrabool Hills had been surveyed as part of the Barrabool Parish.<sup>7</sup> Large acreages were made available at a Government land sale in late 1839.<sup>8</sup> In February 1840, much of the Barrabool Hills was acquired by Charles McLachlan, a wealthy Scottish businessman of Tasmania, and his business partner, Captain Charles Swanston, English banker and merchant of Tasmania and member of the Port Phillip Association<sup>9</sup> who purchased Sections 2-3, 13-16, and 20-23 as his vast 4,480 acre Strathlachlan sheep estate.<sup>10</sup> In 1850, Sections 22 and 23 and parts of Sections 13 and 14 of the Strathlachlan Estate (Barrabool Parish) were subdivided into 65 farms centred on a village of 45 building sites as the Merrawarp Estate.<sup>11</sup> By 1861, there were only 10 owner residents in the Estate, with four fifths still being tenant farmers.<sup>12</sup> At this time, the Barrabool Hills were considered to be the 'granary of the colony,'<sup>13</sup> the location of sheep grazing and crop farms, and vineyards.

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4 *Ibid.*, pp.4-5.

5 *Ibid.*

6 *Ibid.*, p.5.

7 Barrabool Parish Plan, VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria.

8 *Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser*, 9 December 1839, p.3.

9 D.S. Macmillan & J.R. Morris, 'McLachlan, Charles (1795-1850)' *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mclachlanh-charles-2411/text3191>, published first in hardcopy, 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017 & C. Swanston, 'Swanston, Charles (1789-1850)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/swanston-charles-2713/texttext3815>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017.

10 Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit. & Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.43.

11 *Ibid.*, p.22.

12 *Ibid.*

13 *Geelong Advertiser*, 14 September 1874, p.2.



Figure 1: Part Barrabool Parish Plan, Dept of Lands & Survey, Melbourne, March 1946, showing land sections in the Barrabool Hills, including Ceres. Source: VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria

Another successful purchaser in February 1840 was William Robertson, Port Phillip Association member. He acquired Sections 5, 11 and 12.<sup>14</sup> Two days after his purchase, Robertson sold Sections 11 and 12 to David Fisher, manager of the Derwent Company (successor to the Port Phillip Association). He named his estate 'Roslin' which he subdivided into farms that were leased to various tenants.<sup>15</sup> In 1850, Fisher created the village of Ceres as a private subdivision of 58 allotments in part of Section 12 (Figure 2).<sup>16</sup> The small settlement was soon to become the centre of the agricultural district where the neighbouring properties farmed crops, grazed sheep and established noteworthy vineyards.

<sup>14</sup> Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit.

<sup>15</sup> Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.208.

<sup>16</sup> Fisher's Ceres Village Subdivision Plan, 1850, Maps & Plans collection 17/60, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

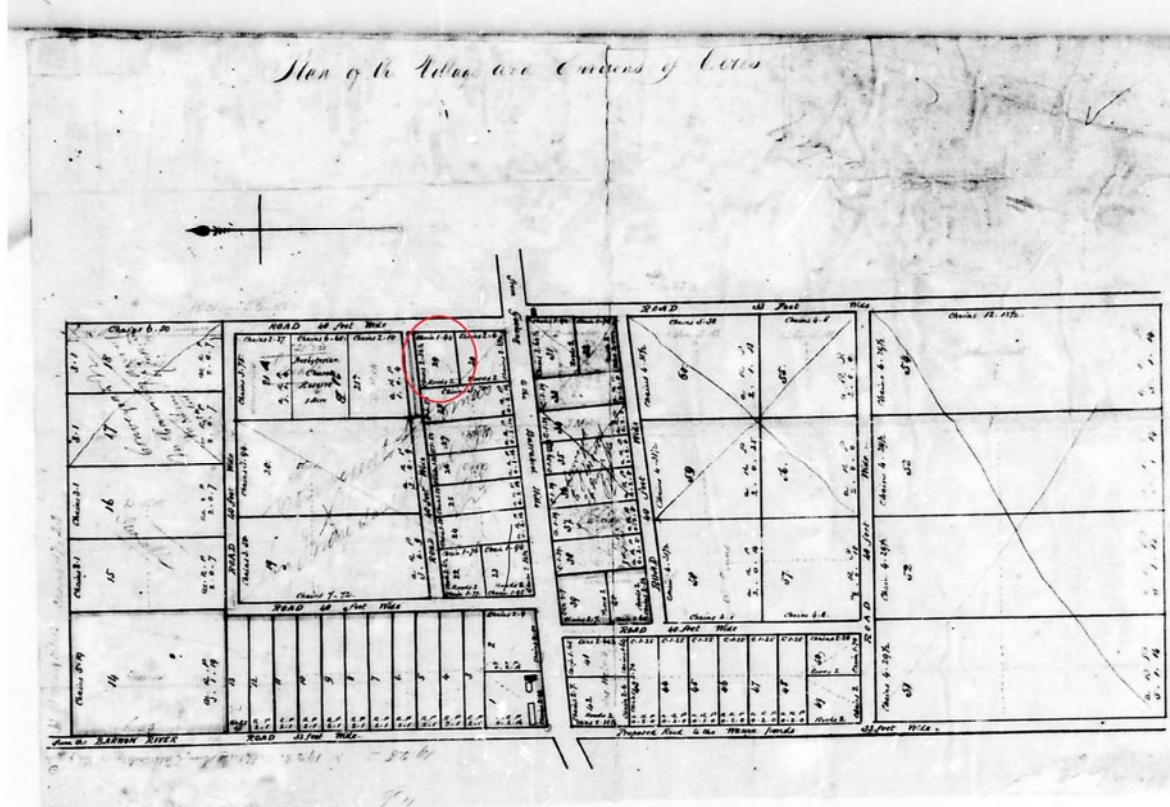


Figure 2: Fisher's subdivision plan of the Ceres Village, 1850. The circled allotment is the location of the former Wesleyan Church and Sunday School.

Source: Maps & Plans collection, 17/60, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

## History of the Ceres Wesleyan Church and Sunday School

### The Early Years

Although several successful vineyards were established in the Ceres area in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century, a notable proportion of the newly-arrived farming community were Wesleyans. In the immediate ensuing years after the sale of the Ceres village subdivision, open air Wesleyan services were held at Ceres.<sup>17</sup> Soon after, Ezra Firth hosted Wesleyan services in his stone cottage at 523 Barrabool Road.<sup>18</sup> With Benjamin Holdsworth, Firth owned a nearby Barrabool stone quarry.<sup>19</sup> Services were later held in premises owned by Nicholas McCann, another stonemason, builder and pioneer of the Ceres and the Barrabool Hills.<sup>20</sup>

Meanwhile in the village of Ceres, Stephen Thomas, a tenant farmer of the neighbouring 'Roslin' Estate from the early 1840s, purchased village allotments 1-4, 19-21 (A-C) and 29 between 1850 and 1854.<sup>21</sup> On allotment 1 he erected the Wheatsheaf Hotel and neighbouring blacksmith's shop, while on lot 21A a dwelling was built.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>17</sup> M. Frewin & L. Phelan, *Churches of Geelong and District: Pre-1900 Outer Geelong Region*, vol.2, Geelong Family History Group Inc., 2006.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid. & M. Stainsby, Email seeking information on William Firth, 19 August 2004, Rootsweb at <http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/AUS-VIC-GEELONG-DISTRICT/2004-08/1092890695>

<sup>19</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 15 August 1910, p.3.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., Frewin & Phelan, *op.cit.* & M. Stainsby, 'Part 1 1853-1900' in M. Stainsby, J.A. Smith & J. Williams, *Steadfast Through Change: A History of the Wesleyan-Methodist-Uniting Church in Highton 1853 to 2006*, St. Luke's Uniting Church, Highton, 2008, p.60.

<sup>21</sup> Land Application 419247, General Law Library, Laverton.

<sup>22</sup> See heritage citation on 'Hurley House', 100 McCann Street, for further details.

### The Building of the Church

By late 1854, Stephen Thomas had donated allotment 29 at Ceres to the new-formed Wesleyan Church.<sup>23</sup> While not a Wesleyan, Thomas' philanthropy may have been to offset his acquisition of allotment 21B that David Fisher had originally reserved for Presbyterian Church purposes.<sup>24</sup>

A.M. Hope, architect of Wesley Chapel House, Little Ryrie Street, Geelong, prepared the design for a modestly scaled, vernacular Georgian preaching hall to be built of local Barrabool stone.<sup>25</sup> Hope called tenders for slating the proposed chapel on 12 December 1854, the total construction anticipated to cost £500.<sup>26</sup>

Instrumental in the realisation of the new Church was the Rev. Isaac Harding, Wesleyan Minister, who was responsible for the building of numerous chapels and schools in the Geelong Wesleyan Circuit in the 1850s.<sup>27</sup> The local stonemason and quarry owner, Nicholas McCann, was also a key figure in the establishment of the Church, having donated the stone for its erection. He laid the foundation stone on 14 April 1855, being assisted by the Revs. Isaac Harding and Joseph Albiston (of Geelong), Theophilus Tayler (of Ballarat), D.I. Draper (Chairman of the Wesleyan District of Victoria), W.B. Boyce (President of the First Wesleyan Conference), and Sir Charles Hotham, Lieutenant Governor of Victoria.<sup>28</sup> The foundation stone ceremony was reported in the *Geelong Advertiser and Intelligencer*:

On Friday last, April 14<sup>th</sup>, the foundation stone of the new Protestant Church and School of the Wesleyan denomination was laid at Ceres, on the a beautiful range of the Barrabool Hills, about four miles from town. The goodly company of people were gathered together on the occasion ... An ample tea was gratuitously provided by the ladies, and a list of subscriptions was read amounting to the sum of £250. We understand the building is to be of stone, and will be used as a school as well as a church. It will probably be completed and opened in the early part of July next.<sup>29</sup>

It seems that the chapel had been completed by October 1855 as the Rev. Isaac Harding advertised that the Wesleyan School had been opened.<sup>30</sup> The completed gabled building was deliberately unpretentious, to reflect the 'earnest piety and dislike of frivolity' of the Wesleyan faith.<sup>31</sup> The rough hewn Barrabool stone construction reflected several of the dwellings and other buildings built at Ceres and in the Barrabool Hills at the time. The chapel was characterised by a principal gabled, slate roof form, with a minor projecting and gabled entrance porch on the east side. It was lit by square-headed 12 paned timber framed double hung windows on the north and south elevations, with multi-paned windows on the front (east ) elevation being surmounted by Tudor drip moulds. At the western ends of the north and south elevations were window openings of lower height, reflecting the internal configuration whereby the ground floor spaces – subdivided by an internal wall from the main chapel/school space - were surmounted by a mezzanine level. It appears that the western portion of the

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23 Stainsby, *op.cit.*, p.30. While the land was provided and the church was built in 1855, the conveyance of the land was not carried out until between 1857 and 1859. See Land Applications 104739 & 419247, *op.cit.*

24 Stainsby, *op.cit.*

25 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, 12 December 1854, p.5. A.M. Hope, of Mt. Duneed, was the builder of a Wesleyan Chapel at Drysdale in 1863. See *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 April 1863.

26 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, *op.cit.* & 17 April 1855, p.2.

27 W.L. Blamire & J.S. Smith, *The Early Story of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Victoria*, Wesleyan Book Depot, Melbourne, 1886.

28 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, *op.cit.*

29 *Ibid.*

30 *Ibid.*, 13 October 1855, p.4.

31 R. Howe, 'The Wesleyan Church in Victoria, 1855-1901: Its Ministry and Membership', M.A., School of History, University of Melbourne, 1965, p.9.

building was originally a teacher's residence, the mezzanine provided bedroom accommodation (Figure 3).<sup>32</sup> Aside from the drip moulds to the windows on the front elevation, the only elaboration afforded the chapel was dressed quoinwork to the building corners and window and door openings, and the name plates attached to the main and porch gable ends on the east elevation (Figure 4).

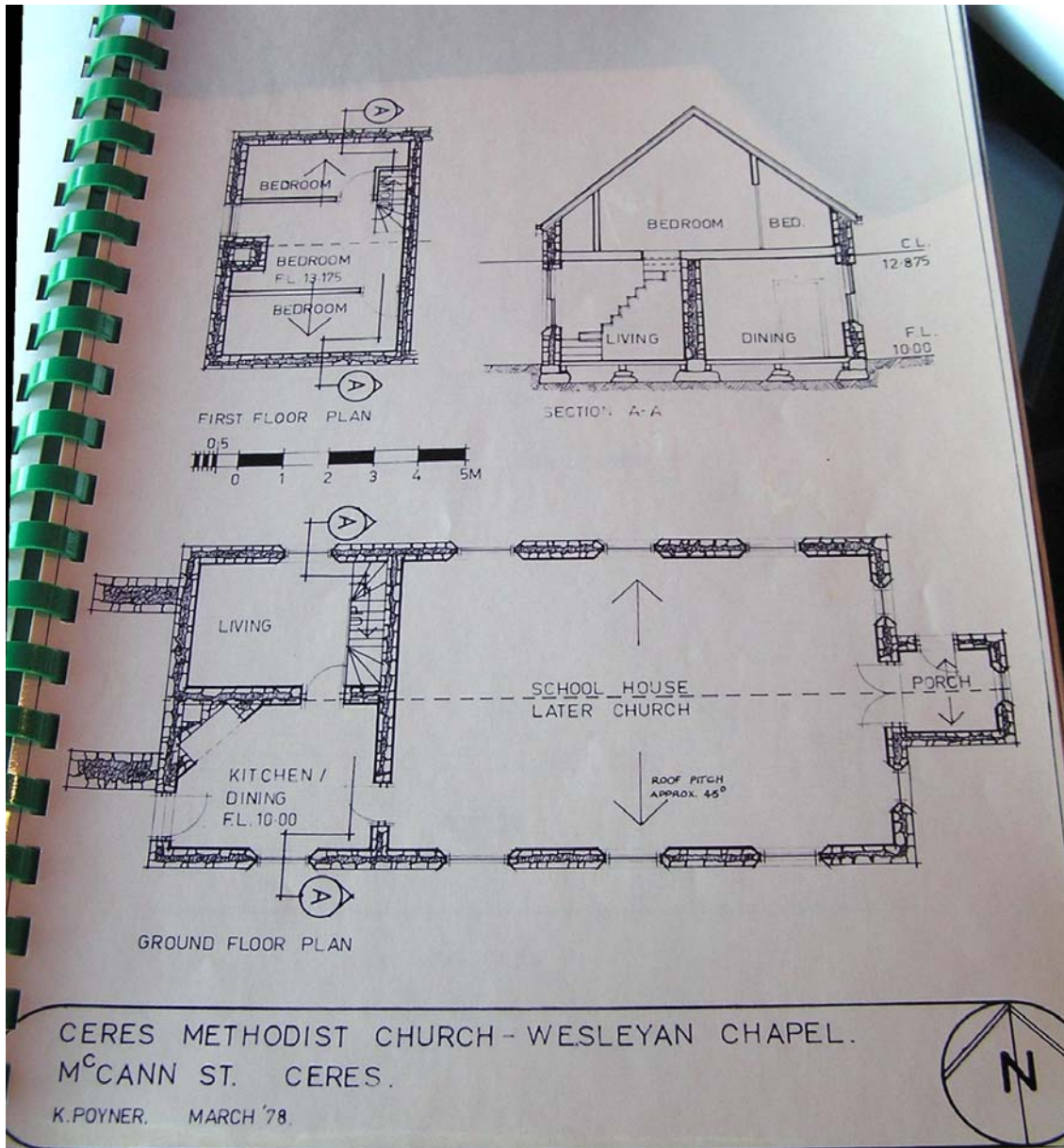


Figure 3: K. Poyner, Ground & Mezzanine Floor Plans & Section Drawing of the Ceres Church.

Source: 'Sandstone Buildings in the Parish of Barrabool Part A: The Public Building in and around Ceres', Research Report, School of Architecture, Deakin University 1978.

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This claim is made by K. Poyner, 'Sandstone Buildings in the Parish of Barrabool Part A: The Public Building in and around Ceres', Research Report, School of Architecture, Deakin University 1978, p.5, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.



**Figure 4:** T. Holmes, Ceres Wesleyan Methodist Church and Sunday School, looking from intersection of McCann & W heatsheaf Streets, c.1930. Source: T.T. Holmes photograph collection, c/o David Rowe.

It seems that the first marriage celebrated in the new Wesleyan Church occurred on 13 April 1856. Officiated by the Rev. Isaac Harding, George Miller of Ballarat married Miss Ann Norris McCann, third daughter of Nicholas McCann.<sup>33</sup>

In addition to serving as a school and chapel, the Wesleyan Church was a meeting house in the early years. In 1857, a lecture was given by the Rev. Hill for establishing a literary association at Ceres, resulting in the formation of the Ceres Literary Association.<sup>34</sup>

In 1861, it played host to a meeting held by the Barrabool Total Abstinence Society.<sup>35</sup> Total abstinence of alcohol formed part of nonconformist Wesleyan faith 'born of the fear that the immigrant would shed his temperate habits on arrival in the prosperous, golden colony.'<sup>36</sup> In the 1857, the *Wesleyan Chronicle and Victorian Miscellany Journal* published an article entitled 'A Word to New Comers' with the message:

... you can choose good companions and shun the bad; or you can refuse the good, and choose the evil. You can easily foster habits of intemperance and irreligion – or you can avoid the hotel, and repair to the House of God.<sup>37</sup>

33 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, 16 April 1856, p.3.

34 *Wesleyan Chronical and Victorian Miscellany*, vol.1, no.3, September 1857, p.41, State Library of Victoria collection.

35 *Geelong Advertiser*, 19 August 1861, p.2.

36 Howe, op.cit., p.56.

37 Ibid.

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The building of a commodious stone Temperance Hall became a reality for the Abstinence Society in 1861, the foundation stone being laid in May of that year.<sup>38</sup>

### The Inaugural Trustees

The Rev. Isaac Harding, Nicholas McCann, Peter McCann, Ezra Firth<sup>39</sup> and Joseph Armitage were appointed by the local Wesleyan Congregation to oversee and manage the interests of the Wesleyan faith at the new school and chapel. Brief biographies of the trustees are as follows:

Rev. Isaac Harding was born in 1815 at Wanstrowe, Somerset, England. He became a Wesleyan Methodist minister in 1836 and arrived in Australia in 1852. By 1854, Harding was a Minister of the Geelong Wesleyan Circuit, preaching at Wesley Church, Yarra, Street, as well as at Noble Street, Newtown, Kildare (Geelong West) and in 1855, at the opening of the chapel at Drysdale.<sup>40</sup> Harding resided in a contextually substantial 8 roomed brick dwelling in Yarra Street, South Geelong.<sup>41</sup> In 1857, he secured an imported timber building from England which he used to establish the Shenton Methodist Church.<sup>42</sup> A year later, Harding went to New Zealand before migrating to Queensland in 1868 where he ministered for many years. On his death in 1897, he was regarded as the oldest minister of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Australasia.<sup>43</sup>

Nicholas McCann was born in 1803 in New South Wales, the son of Peter and Mary McCann.<sup>44</sup> He married Miss Catherine Johnson in 1826 when McCann was a stonemason at Parramatta.<sup>45</sup> With his wife and two sons, Charles and Peter, Nicholas McCann relocated to Georgetown where Catherine McCann died in 1831. At Campbell Town, Tasmania in 1836, McCann married Catherine Nelson.<sup>46</sup> Soon after, McCann heard glowing reports of the grazing potential in Victoria and in 1837 the family sailed to Westernport and then to Port Fairy.<sup>47</sup> There, he became involved in the whaling and building industries. In 1840, he travelled from Victoria in search of grazing land. Arriving in Geelong in 1841, he selected and settled at 'Glencairn, Ceres, in 1851.<sup>48</sup> He became a builder, stonemason and quarry developer, his quarry being the source of Barrabool stone used in the construction of several early buildings in Ceres and Geelong, and soon after, in other parts of Victoria.<sup>49</sup> McCann gave generously to the Wesleyan cause in the establishment of the Wesleyan church and to the Barrabool Hills Total Abstinence Society, donating the land for its hall in 1861.<sup>50</sup> He died at Ceres in 1879.<sup>51</sup>

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38 *Geelong Advertiser*, 13 May 1861, p.2.

39 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, 17 April 1855, p.2, listed a William Firth as Trustee, and not Ezra Firth. A William Firth was born in c.1834 to Joseph and Nellie (nee Walker) Firth. William Firth was a stonemason but no record has been found of him at Ceres in the 1850s. He died at South Melbourne in 1888 – see Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes online. No family connection has been made between William and Ezra Firth. However, it is clear that Ezra Firth was an inaugural Trustee as his name was listed with the other Trustees in the conveyance of the land for the church. See Land Application 104739, op.cit.

40 *Brisbane Courier*, 19 July 1897, p.4 & Frewin & Phelan, op.cit.

41 Geelong Town Council Rate Book, 1855, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection.

42 Frewin & Phelan, op.cit.

43 *Brisbane Courier*, op.cit.

44 N.S.W. Registry of Births, Deaths & Marriages, Dept. of Justice & Attorney General, N.S.W., online.

45 Nicholas McCann, Ancestry online at [http://www.ancestry.com.au/genealogy/records/nicholas-mccann\\_72070826](http://www.ancestry.com.au/genealogy/records/nicholas-mccann_72070826)

46 J. McNeill, *A Journey to Destiny 1890-1990: 100 Years of Cement Manufacturing at Fyansford by Australian Cement Limited*, Australian Cement Limited, Melbourne, 1990, p. 88.

47 *Ibid.*

48 *Ibid.*

49 W.R. Brownhill & I. Wynd, *History of Geelong and Corio Bay With Postscript 1955-1900*, postscript edn., The Geelong Advertiser, Geelong, 1990, p.408.

50 *Geelong Advertiser*, 6 April 1912, p.7.

51 *Ibid.*, 3 December 1879, p.2.

Peter McCann was the second son of Nicholas and Catherine McCann. He was born in 1828 at Parramatta, New South Wales.<sup>52</sup> He went with his father to Port Fairy, helped him in the whaling and building business before becoming a partner in his father's business.<sup>53</sup> In 1850, Peter McCann travelled to England to bring back his sister, Ann, who, following the death of Catherine McCann, had been adopted to a couple in Launceston who relocated to England. There, McCann married Miss Elizabeth Begley. From 1852, McCann was actively involved in sandstone quarrying at Ceres and from 1880 with limestone extraction at Waurnd Ponds.<sup>54</sup> At Batesford, he quarried limestone and in 1888 he purchased an additional property there which was to become the quarry of Australian Cement Limited. His initiated the cement works at Fyansford in 1890 and was the chairman of the first board of directors of Australian Portland Cement Co. Ltd.<sup>55</sup> In addition to his business pursuits, Peter McCann was a member of the Ceres Roads Board and a justice of the peace. He died in 1908.<sup>56</sup>

Ezra Firth was born at Bradford, Yorkshire, England, in 1823, the son of John and Sarah Firth.<sup>57</sup> He married Miss Eliza Craggs in 1842.<sup>58</sup> A stonemason, Firth emigrated to Victoria on the *Larpen* in 1849, and first worked for a Mr Armytage on a property 50 kilometres from Geelong.<sup>59</sup> With the discovery of gold at Ballarat in 1851, Firth tried his luck at the diggings and within two months he had collected over 250 ounces of gold. To gain a better price, he took the gold to England, working as a seaman for the journey.<sup>60</sup> He returned to Victoria in 1852 and settled at Ceres where he established a freestone quarry with Benjamin Holdsworth.<sup>61</sup> Stone from their quarry was used to build several substantial structures in Geelong and Melbourne, including the Town Hall, Customs House and old Supreme Court buildings in Geelong.<sup>62</sup> In January 1864, Firth advertised a clearing sale of household furniture and effects on account of him and his family leaving for Queensland.<sup>63</sup> There, he established the Mount Surprise sheep station in the far north of the state, initially in partnership with James Atkinson.<sup>64</sup> Retiring from the station in 1884, Ezra and Eliza Firth travelled to England before settling in Brisbane where Ezra Firth died in 1910.<sup>65</sup>

Joseph Armitage was another inaugural Trustee of the Wesleyan Church at Ceres. Little is known of him. He may have been born in London in 1799,<sup>66</sup> and as stonemason, he settled at Ceres with Addison Lamb and Thomas Nelson, quarryman of the Barrabool Hills.<sup>67</sup> In 1858, his address was the general store.<sup>68</sup> In

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52 P. McKay, 'McCann, Peter (1828-1908)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mccann-peter-7303/text12669>, published first in hardcopy 1986, accessed online 3 February 2017.

53 *Ibid.*

54 McNeill, *op.cit.*

55 *Ibid.*

56 McKay, *op.cit.*

57 *Brisbane Courier*, 22 January 1910, p.13.

58 *Jillong Pocket* magazine, no.2, December 2013, pp.5-7.

59 *Ibid.*

60 *Ibid.*

61 *Ibid.* & *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, 26 December 1854, p.6.

62 *Jillong*, *op.cit.*

63 *Geelong Advertiser*, 26 January 1864, p.3.

64 *Brisbane Courier*, 11 July 1908, p.12 &

<http://www.chapelhill.homeip.net/FamilyHistory/Other/QueenslandHistory/HistoryoftheAthertonTableland.htm>

65 *Jillong*, *op.cit.*

66 The Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes online, lists a Joseph Firth passing away in Victoria in 1859, aged 60.

67 *Ibid.* & *The Argus*, 12 April 1859, p.3.

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1859, his partnership with Lamb and Nelson was dissolved.<sup>69</sup> Armitage may have died later that year, aged 60.<sup>70</sup>

By the time the Wesleyan Church land had been formally registered in 1859, Joseph Armitage had been replaced as Trustee by John Lowe and Edwin Wood. Some details of these later Trustees are as follows:

John Lowe was born on 27 August 1813 at Wymbunbury, Cheshire, England, to Joseph and Mary Jane Lowe (nee Barnett).<sup>71</sup> A butcher, he first emigrated to New South Wales where he worked at Parramatta. From the early 1850s he relocated to Geelong where he opened a butcher shop in Moorabool Street. In c.1857 he formed a partnership of a Mr McKenzie known as Lowe and McKenzie. A Protectionst, Lowe was a lay preacher and briefly a Geelong Town Councillor. He was married to Ellen Lowe (nee Thomas). In 1864, he was elected a Member of the Legislative Council of Victoria, holding his seat until 1 January 1867. He died 16 days later on 17 January 1867.

Edwin Wood (1819-1900) of Denby Dale, Yorkshire, England, was a house and commission agent at the corner of Ryrie and Moorabool Streets, Geelong, in 1851.<sup>72</sup> He arrived in Victoria after his marriage to Miss Harriott Bramley in 1844.<sup>73</sup> Throughout the 1850s he was involved with the Wesleyan Church and in 1856 he donated to the Geelong Wesleyan Home Missions.<sup>74</sup> By 1862 he had become insolvent and he subsequently relocated to Birregurra, where he became a member of the Birregurra Common School Committee, storekeeper and mail contractor.<sup>75</sup>

In addition to the first Trustees, other members of the congregation were influential in its early spiritual progress. They included Robert McDowall (1838-1911). He arrived at Victoria in 1857 and went to Ceres where he first commenced a carting business to Ballarat.<sup>76</sup> McDowall also became postmaster at this time, a position he held with a storekeeping business until 1877 (and again from 1882, having relocated to Rochester in the intervening years).<sup>77</sup> He was also 'an acceptable Methodist preacher, travelling from Ceres to Mt. Duneed and Freshwater Creek.'<sup>78</sup>

### The Denominational and Sabbath Schools

In addition to being a place of worship, the Wesleyan chapel was built as a Wesleyan Denominational School. Education was administered in Victoria under a dual board system, whereby denominational schools received grants from the state by a denominational school board, while the secular schools were

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68 *Geelong Advertiser*, 19 May 1858.

69 *The Argus*, *op.cit.*

70 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, *op.cit.*

71 All biographical information for John Lowe has been taken from Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, *op.cit.*, *Geelong Advertiser*, 21 January 1867, p.3 & 'Re-Member (Former Members)', Parliament of Victoria online at <http://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/re-member/details/524-john-lowe>

72 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, *op.cit.*, *Port Phillip Directory*, 1851, & J. Dworak, 'Edwin Wood (1819-1900)', Wikitree online at <https://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Wood-12436>

73 *Ibid.*

74 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, 13 June 1856, p.4.

75 Insolvency papers, 7 July 1862, VPRS 815 Unit 46, file 1203, Public Record Office Victoria, *The Age*, 3 September 1864, Winchelsea Shire Rate Books 1864, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre collection, J. Waghorn, *Index: Mail Contractors of Victoria 1838-1901*, J.F. Waghorn, 1988, J.F. Waghorn, *Index: Deputy Registrars of Victoria 1838-1901*, F.J. Waghorn, 1991 & W.L. Koenig, *The History of the Winchelsea Shire*, Henwood & Dancey, Geelong, 1933.

76 *Geelong Advertiser*, 1 May 1911, p.5.

77 See Ceres Post Office history at <http://www.stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=16494&start=250>

78 *Geelong Advertiser*, *op.cit.* Robert McDowall's family also made an important contribution to the life of the Wesleyan Church at Ceres until 1927. See *Geelong Advertiser* 15 November 1927, p.7.

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administered by a national schools board.<sup>79</sup> On 1 October 1855, the Wesleyan School at Ceres was opened. Seeking pupils, the Rev. Isaac Harding advertised the school in the *Geelong Advertiser and Intelligencer*:

The Wesleyan School at Ceres, near the Wheat sheaf inn, Barrabool Hills, is now open for the reception of children under the charge of Mr and Mrs [L.B.] Stairs [sic.], Mission House.<sup>80</sup>

Within six months, the School boasted 50 students, with positive results from the teaching of Mr Stair. In April 1856, an examination of the school was reported as follows:

An examination of this school, taught by Mr Stairs [sic.], took place on the 8<sup>th</sup> inst. In the presence of the Rev. Mr Harding and a number of the pupils' parents. Amongst the visitors, in addition to the parents, were observed Mr Stephen Thomas of the Wheat Sheaf, Mr Roche of the Rising Sun, Messrs. Firth, Meriesson, McCann and many others whose names did not transpire.

To the last named gentlemen (Mr McCann) the public are indebted for the erection of the building, as it has been mainly through his exertions (and from his purse in the first place) the village enjoys the advantages of so handsome a structure.

The pupils numbered about fifty, and their respectable attire and orderly behaviour reflected great credit on their parents and preceptor. The examination was conducted throughout by Mr Stairs in a masterly manner, under the inspection and suggestions of Mr Harding, and the proficiency of the children in their respective stages elicited the warmest approval from all present ... It is however, right to mention that several [children], who five months ago knew not one letter, are now able both to read and write ample lessons.<sup>81</sup>

The first teacher, John Bethridge Stair, was born in Wilshire, England, in c.1815.<sup>82</sup> He married Miss Emily Maria Rolls. Stair then became a Missionary and worked in the South Sea Islands for the London Missionary Society.<sup>83</sup> While in the Samoan Archipelago, he 'compiled copious memoranda of the fauna and flora, the mythology and the historical traditions of the Polynesians, on which he contributed papers of unique interest to learned societies.'<sup>84</sup> Due to the failing health of Emily Stair, they returned to England. J.B. Stair joined the Church of England and with Emily then emigrated to Victoria.<sup>85</sup> Following their tenure as teachers at the Ceres Denominational School in December 1855 (when they were given a farewell tea),<sup>86</sup> J.B. Stair became a reader under the Anglican Bishop, Charles Perry, at Steiglitz.<sup>87</sup> He was ordained as a Deacon in 1857 and served as a Vicar from 1861 at Broadmeadows, Woodlands, Keilor and St. Arnaud.<sup>88</sup> On his death in 1898, he was the oldest Anglican clergyman in the Ballarat diocese.<sup>89</sup>

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79 Howe, *op.cit.*, p.59.

80 *Geelong Advertiser & Intelligencer*, 9 October 1855, p.4. The report has the teachers' names as Mr and Mrs Stair, but later articles refer to them as "Stairs".

81 *Ibid.*, 10 April 1856, p.2.

82 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, *op.cit.* & *Ballarat Star*, 21 July 1898, p.2.

83 *Ibid.*

84 *Ibid.*

85 *Ibid.*

86 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.72.

87 *Ballarat Star*, *op.cit.*

88 *Ibid.*

89 *The Australasian*, 30 July 1898, p.5.

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The headmaster from 1856 J.P.L. de Neise.<sup>90</sup> He remained at Ceres until late 1858 or early 1859, before travelling to Jaffna, Ceylon, where he died on 22 April 1859.<sup>91</sup> After a brief period without a head teacher, Obedia Brady was appointed (assisted by Alice Cooper and Jane Firth in 1860), and a Mr. Martell in 1861.<sup>92</sup> Brady (c.1829-1888) arrived in Victoria from Galway, Ireland, in July 1859.<sup>93</sup> Later a Wesleyan Local Preacher, Brady took up land at Dromana where he died in 1888.<sup>94</sup>

In 1862 the Common Schools Act was passed and the Wesleyan School became Common School No. 151 from 1863.<sup>95</sup> Less emphasis was given to the Wesleyan faith during school hours,<sup>96</sup> this being the domain of the Wesleyan Sabbath School on Sundays which formed in 1864.<sup>97</sup> In 1872, the Common School had an average attendance of 37 children, with 48 examined as part of the Common School of South Grant.<sup>98</sup> It was also in 1872 when the Education Act was passed and the school became a State School. The State School in the Wesleyan Church closed in 1875 when the new Ceres State School No. 1602 was built at 605 Barrabool Road.<sup>99</sup>

Following the establishment of a Sunday School in 1864, it may have been at this time when a modest timber hall was built to the south of the Church, separating the place of Common School and Sabbath (Sunday) School.<sup>100</sup> In 1868, the Wesleyan Sunday School joined the roll of the Geelong Sabbath School Union.<sup>101</sup> The importance of the Sabbath School was highlighted by the Education Act in 1872 as the act excluded religious teaching in State Schools.<sup>102</sup> In 1882, the anniversary of the Ceres Wesleyan Church was celebrated with tea and public meetings involving approximately 200 people. The proceeds of the anniversary meetings were 'devoted to paying the expenses connected with the removal of the old Devon church<sup>103</sup> and its re-erection at the township of Ceres to provide further accommodation.'<sup>104</sup> The relocation of the former Devon Wesleyan Church was carried out by Josiah, Wesley and William Walter on the wagons of William Honey and Henry Clinnick.<sup>105</sup> This resulted in a double gabled timber building (Figure 4).

### The Ceres Church and Sunday School in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century

The Ceres Wesleyan Church and Sunday School continued to progress throughout the late and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. The Church experienced a number of changes and events throughout these years. In 1914, repairs were made to the front porch (further repairs were made in 1922).<sup>106</sup> In September 1915 it

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90 Wynd, *op.cit.*

91 *Ballarat Star*, 10 October 1859, p.2.

92 Poyner, *op.cit.*, p.4.

93 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, *op.cit.*, Unassisted British Passenger Index, July 1859, 'Royal Charter', Public Record Office Victoria, North Melbourne & C. Brady, Brady Genealogy Page online at <http://www.reap.org.nz/~chris/brady.html>

94 *Ibid.* & O. Brady, Probate Administration files, 1888, VPRS 28/P0 Unit 442 Public Record Office Victoria.

95 Wynd, *op.cit.*

96 Howe, *op.cit.*, p.75.

97 Frewin & Phelan, *op.cit.*

98 *Geelong Advertiser*, 2 July 1872, p.3.

99 See heritage citation for the Ceres Primary School for further details.

100 Frewin & Phelan, *op.cit.*, state that 'Church records reveal the existence of a Sunday School from 1864', which might suggest the building was constructed at this time.

101 *Geelong Advertiser*, 10 July 1868, p.2.

102 Howe, *op.cit.*

103 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.69.

104 *Geelong Advertiser*, 2 November 1882, p.2.

105 Frewin & Phelan, *op.cit.*

106 *Ibid.*

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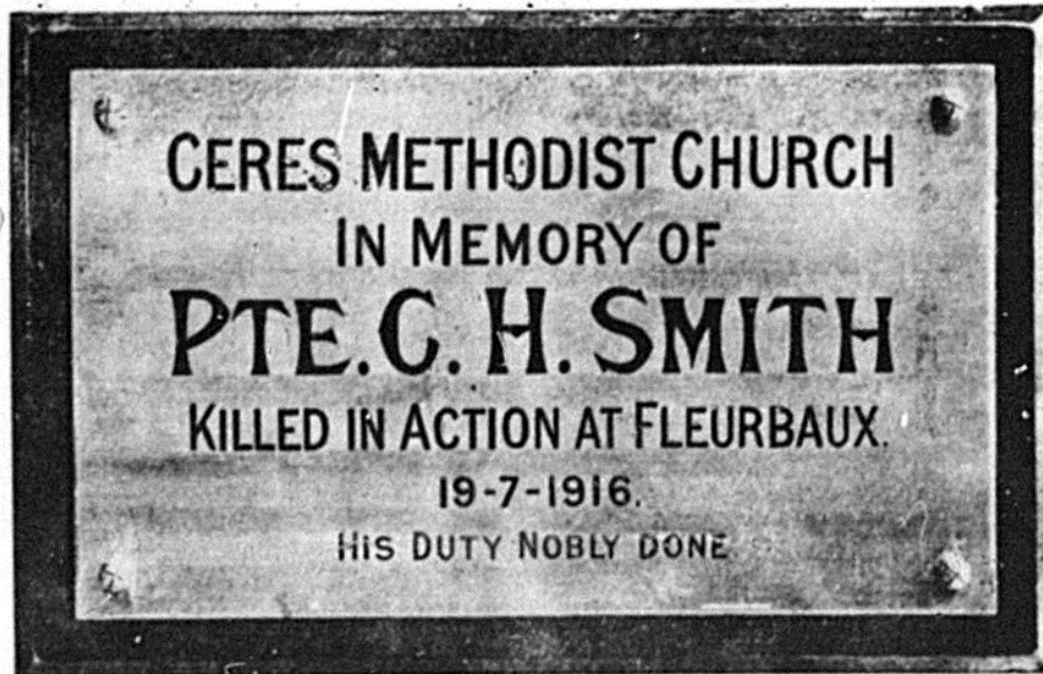
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celebrated its Diamond Jubilee with three special services the Temperance Hall.<sup>107</sup> A year later, the Church lost one of its congregation, Private Charles Henry Smith, in the First World War. He was killed in action at Fleurbaux, France, on 19 July 1916.<sup>108</sup> A memorial tablet was unveiled in the church in December 1919 (Figure 5).<sup>109</sup>



MEMORIAL TABLET RECENTLY UNVEILED AT METHODIST CHURCH, CERES  
—'N.O.W.' Photo.

**Figure 5:** Detail of Memorial Tablet to Private C.H. Smith, Ceres Church, 1919.

Source: *News of the Week*, 25 December 1919.

In 1923, the congregation considered the possibility of constructing a new church building but this did not proceed.<sup>110</sup> Between c.1930 and 1935, alterations were made to the principal gable ends, with changes to the projecting parapets and copings, and the removal of the corbels (Figure 6).<sup>111</sup> The earlier higher solid timber paling fence that lined the northern boundary was also replaced with a lower, visually-permeable timber picket fence.

107 *Geelong Advertiser*, 24 September 1915, p.5.

108 *Ibid.*, 5 December 1919, p.5.

109 *Ibid.*

110 Frewin & Phelan, *op.cit.*

111 See Figures 4 and 6.



**Figure 6:** C. Fox, Ceres Methodist Church, 7 July 1935.

Source: La Trobe Picture collection, State Library of Victoria, accession no. H14967.

Thirty years later in 1953, further repairs and upgrades were made at a cost of £1,670, including the installation of a timber dado on the interior walls to hide the evidence of rising damp.<sup>112</sup> Electricity was supplied to the church buildings in 1955.<sup>113</sup> By this time, stone buttresses had been constructed at the western end of the church building as shown in a plan of the church site (Figure 7). This plan also showed that the western spaces of the church building (presumably the former teacher's residence) had been converted into a vestry and ante room, and the mezzanine had been removed. This may have been carried out many years earlier following the disbanding of the State School in 1875.

<sup>112</sup> Frewin & Phelan, *op.cit.*, & Poyner, *op.cit.*, p.5.

<sup>113</sup> See 'Methodist Church and Hall, Ceres,' Public Building file, VPRS 7882/P2 Unit 1172 Public Record Office Victoria, North Melbourne.

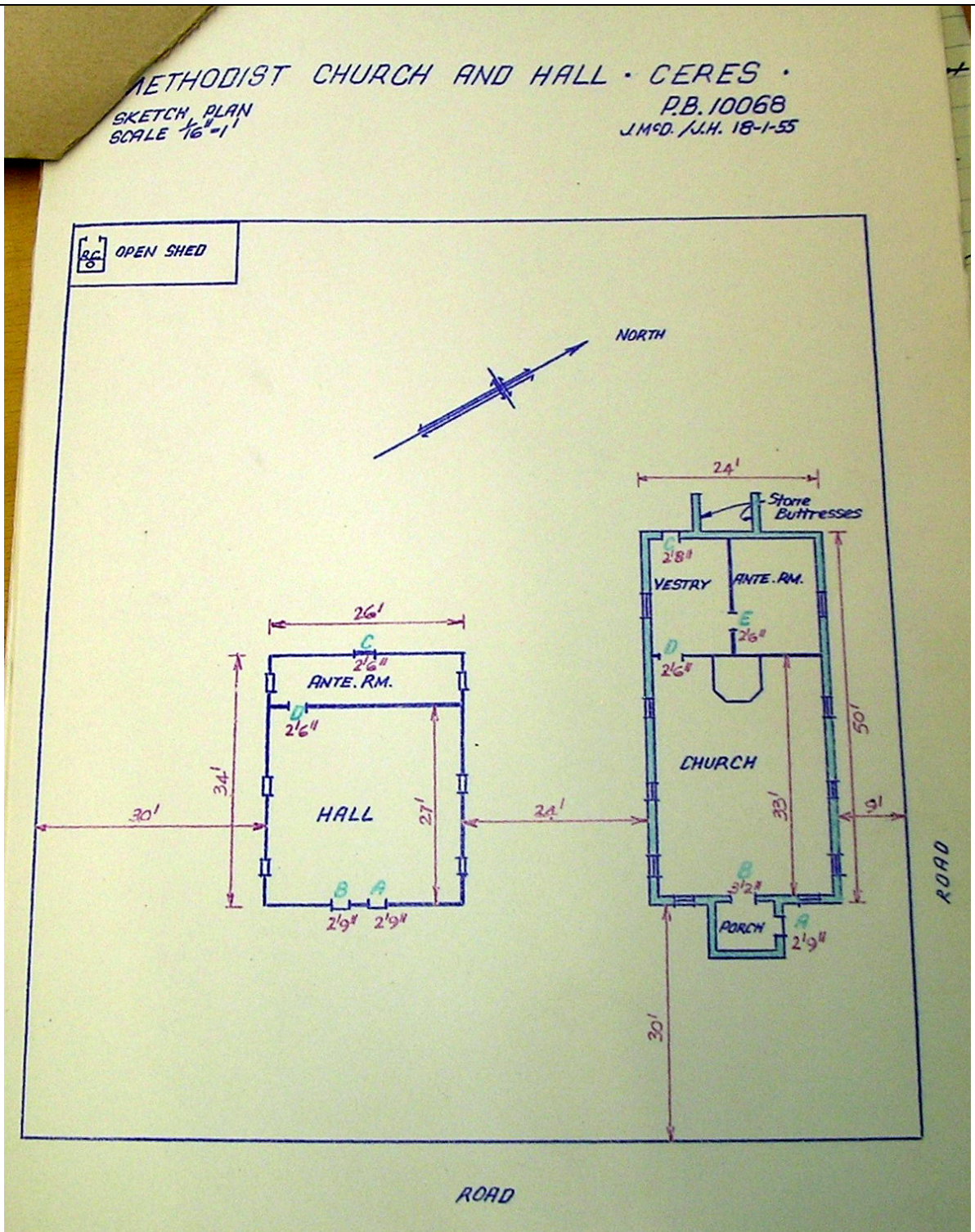


Figure 7: Sketch Site Plan of the Ceres Methodist Church, 18 January 1955.

Source: Public Building file, VPRS 7882/P2 Unit 1172 Public Record Office, North Melbourne.

### A Period of Decline

In 1977, the Ceres Methodist Church became part of the Uniting Church of Australia. A year later on 17 March 1978, the Ceres and Barrabool congregations combined services, each church hosting worship on alternate Sundays.<sup>114</sup> By 1979, the modest parapets had been capped and flashed, and timber

114 Frewin & Phelan, *op.cit.*

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bargeboards added to the main gable ends of the church building. The timber picket fence, erected in the 1930s, had been replaced with hollow steel post and rail and cyclone mesh fencing. Between 1935 and 1969, rectangular metal bracing was added around the western window opening on the north elevation (Figure 8). A low hollow steel post and rail and cyclone mesh boundary fence had also replaced the earlier timber pickets.



**Figure 8:** J.T. Collins, Ceres Methodist Church, 9 February 1969.

Source: La Trobe Picture collection, State Library of Victoria, accession H94.200/630.

Following a substantially reduced congregation, the Ceres Uniting Church held its final service in December 2015.<sup>115</sup> It subsequently closed and was sold in July 2016.<sup>116</sup> Internal fittings and fixtures were removed by the Uniting Church following the sale (the interiors of the buildings were shown in photographs by Barry Plant Real Estate in 2016.<sup>117</sup>

## COMPARATIVE

### Other Wesleyan Methodist Churches of the 1850s in the former Geelong Circuit

The Wesleyan Church was established in the Port Phillip District in 1838 with William B. Boyce as General Superintendent.<sup>118</sup> The Rev. Francis Tuckfield and the Rev. Benjamin Hurst were selected as missionaries to the Aboriginals in the district.<sup>119</sup> On 28 July 1838, the Rev. Tuckfield preached the first Wesleyan sermon in Geelong.<sup>120</sup> The Rev. Hurst followed in 1839. The first 'class' meetings were held by the Rev. James Smith in 1841.<sup>121</sup>

<sup>115</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 1 August 2016.

<sup>116</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>117</sup> Personal comment from Tufan Chakir, architect and planning consultant, to the author, December 2016. The interior photographs of 2016 may be viewed on the Barry Plant Real Estate website at <http://www.barryplant.com.au/property/538621/2a-17-mccann-street-ceres/> & <http://www.barryplant.com.au/property/538621/2a-17-mccann-street-ceres/>

<sup>118</sup> W. Phillips, 'The Denominations' in M. Lewis (ed.), *Victorian Churches: Their origins, their story and their architecture*, National Trust of Australia (Victoria), Melbourne, 1991, p.8.

<sup>119</sup> C.A. McCallam, 'Tuckfield, Francis (1908-1865)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography, op.cit.*, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/tuckfield-francis-2747/text3887>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 7 February 2017.

<sup>120</sup> Blamire & Smith, *op.cit.*

<sup>121</sup> *Ibid.*

On 20 February 1842, the first Wesleyan Chapel and Schoolroom was opened on Wesleyan Church land in Yarra Street. This relocated two storey timber store became the centre of the Geelong Wesleyan Circuit.<sup>122</sup> It was replaced with a more substantial and enduring gabled Barrabool stone church building in 1846.<sup>123</sup> Known as Wesley Church, 96 Yarra Street, Geelong, it is Victoria's oldest surviving Wesleyan Church, but it has been substantially altered and extended, including major additions in 1859, internal alterations in 1893 and throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century, narthex and chapels at the eastern end in 1932 and later additions of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in the north-west corner.<sup>124</sup> Architecturally, the Wesley Church is not comparable to the considerably more modest vernacular Georgian chapel at Ceres, the only similarity being the Barrabool stone construction (the stone having been rendered in later years at Wesley). Historically, the Wesley Church was the centre of the Geelong Wesley Circuit. It has direct associations with the Ceres Church in the fledgling years of Wesleyan life and witness in the Geelong area.

By 1849, the Wesleyan Church had made steady progress at Port Phillip with a total membership of 500 people.<sup>125</sup> In 1850, a new District of the Church was created and the Rev. William Butters was appointed as Chairman.<sup>126</sup> Significant expansion of the Wesleyan cause came following the arrival of additional Ministers to Geelong in 1853. In particular, the Rev. Isaac Harding was claimed to have had 'an ardent appetite for Chapel building.'<sup>127</sup> This is especially highlighted in a letter by Harding on 1 June 1855:

At South Geelong, a brick Chapel has been erected and paid for at a cost of £1400. At Chilwell one has also been built at a cost of £2,200, with a debet of £850. A brick Chapel is also completed at Tuckfield [Drysdale] to a considerable degree through the liberality of Miss Newcombe. A stone Chapel is also in course of erection at Ceres, amidst the confields of the Barrabool Hills, which will cost £500, and at Highton a neta little brick Chapel was opened the other day. These, beside five other Chapels of wood, have been erected during the past year, while five Day schools have been established. So that the Geelong Circuit now comprises twelve places of worship and eight Day schools affording accommodation for 2,300 souls, and daily instruction given (gratiously when necessary) to 510 children, with at least an equal number of Sabbath schools, which are conducted with as much zeal and ability as similar institutions at home.<sup>128</sup>

In addition to the Ceres church (and the former Devon Church now part of the Ceres Sunday School Hall), the only surviving building mentioned in Harding's letter built during around the time of the Ceres Church is at South Geelong. Built in 1853 with a frontage to Balliang Street, the original chapel was extended in 1861<sup>129</sup> and while altered, it is still extant.

The Ceres Wesleyan Church remained part of the Geelong Wesleyan Circuit until March 1871 when it was divided into two: the Yarra Street Circuit and the Geelong West Circuit.<sup>130</sup> Ceres fell within the Geelong West Circuit.<sup>131</sup> A Wesleyan Association Chapel had been built in Preston Street, Ashby (Geelong West), in 1855<sup>132</sup> and it was followed by the opening of another chapel nearby in Wellington

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122 *Ibid.*

123 Lewis, *op.cit.*, p.124.

124 *Ibid.*

125 Howe, *op.cit.*, p.1.

126 G. Butler & Associates, 'City of Geelong Urban Conservation Study: Significant Sites', prepared for the City of Greater Geelong, 1991-1995.

127 Blamire & Smith, *op.cit.*

128 *Ibid.*

129 Butler, et.al., *op.cit.*

130 Stainsby, *op.cit.*, p.83.

131 See Baptismal Rolls, Ashby Wesleyan Circuit, Geelong Family History Group Inc.

132 *The Age*, 28 July 1855, p.5.

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Street in 1858.<sup>133</sup> Known as the Ashby Methodist Chapel, a transept was added in 1868. This bluestone church was dismantled and rebuilt on a new site in Bostock Avenue, Manifold Heights, in 1939.<sup>134</sup> It was substantially damaged by a fire in 2015, with only the walls and some windows and doors surviving.<sup>135</sup>

Overall, the former Ceres Church is the only intact surviving example of the 1850s of the Wesleyan Church in Geelong, as part of the Geelong Circuit. It is one of four surviving church buildings associated with the Circuit for this period, the others being Wesley, 96 Yarra Street, Geelong (more substantial given its city location but substantially altered from the original design), former chapel and Sunday School, South Geelong, and the Mosque (former Ashby Methodist Church), Bostock Avenue, Manifold Height (a larger building but of lower-order integrity given its relocation in 1939 and recent considerable fire damage). These other former Wesleyan Methodist Churches are included as heritage overlays in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme.

Architecturally, the Ceres Church is not comparable to the original designs of Wesley Church, Yarra, Street, former chapel and Sunday School, South Geelong and the former Ashby Methodist Church, Manifold Heights, not only because of its considerably smaller scale but given its vernacular Victorian Georgian design. While the South Geelong chapel was designed in a restrained Victorian Tudor style, the Wesley Church and Ashby Methodist Church were distinctively Victorian Gothic. The Ceres Church reflected the attitudes and philosophies of Non-Conformist Church design of the early 19<sup>th</sup> century as represented by a preaching box or meeting house with a simple front porch and rudimentary detailing. This architectural approach was opposed by the Roman Catholic denomination who claimed it 'utterly unsuitable for Christian churches and a Christian society.'<sup>136</sup> It was not until the later 1850s when Victorian Gothic design became more accepted for Wesleyan Methodist Churches. In 1858 with the opening of Wesley Church, Melbourne, the Rev. Daniel Draper declared that 'I know that some of our friends are apprehensive that in the erection of these Gothic structures we are departing from the simplicity of original Methodism.'<sup>137</sup>

The Ceres Church and Hall is the earliest of the two surviving mid 19<sup>th</sup> century rural Wesleyan Church complexes in the Geelong region. The other complex is at South Geelong, which includes the former chapel and Sunday School and a bluestone church built in 1869.<sup>138</sup> Like the Ceres Church complex, the South Geelong Church no longer functions for its original purpose.

### Other Surviving Rural Churches of the 1850s in the Geelong Region

Within the Geelong region are a small number of surviving rural church buildings constructed in the 1850s. They include:

- Holy Trinity Anglican Church, 410 Merrawarp Road, Barrabool.<sup>139</sup> The Victorian Primitive Gothic styled Barrabool stone church was first constructed in 1855. It was rebuilt in 1884. There is a stone Victorian Picturesque Gothic styled vicarage and a vernacular styled former school room that form a rare, cohesive group of Barrabool stone Anglican buildings, reflecting the religious, social and education role of the Church in mid 19<sup>th</sup> century Barrabool. While a more substantial

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133 D. Rowe & W. Jacobs, 'Ashby Heritage Review', vol. 1, prepared for the City of Greater Geelong, 2010, pp.2590260.

134 Ibid.

135 Having served in more recent times as a Mosque, the former church is anticipated to be rebuilt in 2017 to largely reflect its original appearance.

136 R. Dixon & S. Muthesius, *Victorian Architecture*, 2<sup>nd</sup> edn., Thames & Hudson, London, 1988, pp.182-185.

137 Howe, op.cit., p.9.

138 Butler, et.al., op.cit.

139 Lewis, op.cit., p.100 & Victorian Heritage Database online, February 2017.

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church building than the Ceres church, the former Wesleyan Church at Ceres is more intact to its original 1850s design. The Holy Trinity Anglican Church complex is included on the Victorian Heritage Register.

- Former Bible Christian Siloam Chapel, 440 Considines Road, Modewarre.<sup>140</sup> Built in 1858, the rendered brick Victorian Georgian styled building is in poor condition and now a farm outbuilding. It is comparable in scale and design to the Ceres Church, although the Bible Christian chapel lacks a front porch (it has a notable round-arched central entrance doorway). Included as a heritage overlay in the Surf Coast Planning Scheme.
- St. Mark's Anglican Church, 715-729 Bellarine Highway, Leopold.<sup>141</sup> This bluestone Early English Gothic styled building was constructed in 1859-62 to a design by the Geelong architect, Edward Prose. A red brick sanctuary was added in 1919 and a gabled bluestone entry porch in 1931. It is a more substantially-scaled church building than the Ceres church, and expresses the more common Gothic idiom of the late 1850s. St. Mark's is included on the Victorian Heritage Register.
- Former St. John's Roman Catholic Chapel, Pigdons Road, Waurm Ponds.<sup>142</sup> Originally built in 1857 at Sutherlands Creek as a Roman Catholic chapel that served as a church and school, the Victorian Early English styled building was built of Maud quartzite. It was abandoned soon after 1950 and in 1986 it was dismantled and rebuilt at the Waurm Ponds campus of Deakin University. The gabled form and scale are comparable with the Ceres Church, but the latter is intact to its original site and of different design.

Overall, the Ceres Church complex is one of very few surviving rural examples on its original site built from the 1850s in the Geelong region. The Sunday School building is the only surviving timber example of the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century in the Geelong region.

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140 D. Rowe & W. Jacobs, 'Surf Coast Shire Heritage Study Stage 2B', prepared for the Surf Coast Shire, 2007-08.

141 Victorian Heritage Database online, February 2017.

142 A. Willingham, *Geelong Region Historic Buildings & Objects Study*, Geelong Region Commission, Geelong, vol. 1, 1986 & D. Rowe & L. Huddle, 'Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study Stage 2', prepared for the City of Greater Geelong, 2000.

**Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017**

PLACE NAME: Hurley House

ADDRESS: 100 McCann Street, Ceres

Place No. CER06

Assessment Date: May 2017

**Historic Themes:****Early Settlement:** Land Sales**Townships:** Ceres**Condition:** Good**Integrity:** High**Photograph Date:** December 2016**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON STATUTORY REGISTERS****Victorian Heritage Register:** No**Victorian Heritage Inventory:** No**Local Planning Scheme:** No**CURRENT HERITAGE STATUS ON OTHER REGISTERS:****National Trust (Victoria) Register:** No**RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

Local Significance

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register: **No**Recommended for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Inventory: **No**Recommended for inclusion as a Heritage Overlay in the Planning Scheme: **Yes****Schedule to the Heritage Overlay**External Paint Controls Should Apply? **No**Internal Alteration Controls Should Apply? **No**Tree Controls Should Apply? **No**Fences &/or Outbuildings of Note? **No**Prohibited Uses May be Permitted? **No**Incorporated Document **No****Other Recommendations****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:****What is Significant?**

'Hurley House' at 100 McCann Street, has significance as a representative but locally rare surviving example of a modest Victorian styled dwelling of timber construction in the Ceres village. Built in 1877 for John Hurley, farmer, quarryman, labourer and gardener, and his wife, Mary, the dwelling is predominantly intact and is a physical embodiment of 19<sup>th</sup> century rural residential life in the Ceres village that had been laid out as private subdivision by David Fisher in 1850. The significant fabric includes: single storey height and modest scale, hipped roof forms clad in corrugated sheet metal, hipped and concave roofed front verandah, timber weatherboard wall cladding, side chimneys with Barrabool stone breasts and Barrabool stone and brick shafts, central door opening with four panelled timber door, flanking timber framed twelve paned double hung windows, timber window sills, stop-chamfered timber posts with moulded timber capitals and the cast iron verandah brackets.

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**PLACE NAME:** Hurley House

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### How is it significant?

'Hurley House' at 100 McCann Street, Ceres, is historically and aesthetically significant at a LOCAL level.

### Why is it significant?

'Hurley House' at 100 McCann Street has historical significance for its associations with rural life and residential development in the village of Ceres in the 1870s at a time when the small settlement was progressing as a centre for the surrounding farms and vineyards and other enterprises (Criterion A). Built in 1877 for John Hurley, farmer, gardener, labourer and quarryman, and his wife, Mary, the dwelling represents the only known house constructed in the 1870s in the Ceres village, 20 years following initial building development in the small farming settlement.

'Hurley House' at 100 McCann Street is aesthetically significant as a representative and intact example of a vernacular Victorian style, being one of very few examples of its type of timber construction original to its location in the Ceres area, and the only timber example original to the Ceres village (Criterion D). The vernacular design is especially identified in the modest scale and rudimentary detailing, the post-supported verandah with cast iron brackets being the only embellishments. While the dwelling reflects typical Victorian stylistic elements comparable in form, scale and some detailing to other locally significant 19<sup>th</sup> century dwellings in the Ceres village, 'Hurley House' also has a contextually unusual hipped roof composition with the articulation of the hipped roofs forming a roof valley that traverses the dwelling.

### Heritage Overlay Map

It is recommended that the heritage overlay is applied to the fenced area surrounding the dwelling at 100 McCann Street, Ceres, as shown on the following aerial image:



Source of image: City of Greater Geelong 2016.

### DESCRIPTION:

The dwelling at 100 McCann Street, Ceres, is situated on a contextually modest, rural allotment at the northern end of McCann Street. The setting of the property is largely open and grassed, apart from a mature Cypress tree that dominates the front boundary. There is introduced timber post and rail

## Ceres Heritage Citations Project 2017

**PLACE NAME:** Hurley House

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fencing on the front (east) and side (south) boundaries, as well as rural post and wire fencing. To the north of the dwelling is an elevated single storey, gabled shed of recent construction.

The single storey, timber weatherboard, Victorian styled dwelling has a hipped roof form at the front, together with hipped roofs at the rear, the central roof valley traversing the dwelling and draining on the north side (rather than extending and draining to the rear). There is a corrugated sheet metal roof (painted grey) and no eaves or gutters. On the south side are two chimneys with original Barrabool stone external chimney breasts. The rear chimney has an original Barrabool stone shaft with additional seven brick courses at the top that appear to have been introduced in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The front (eastern) chimney shaft is of brick construction, the majority being of bricks that may date from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, with a face red brick capping that has been added, possibly in the 1930s or 1940s.

The front (east) façade is symmetrical, having an original central door opening with four panelled timber door, and flanking timber framed twelve paned double hung windows. There are timber window sills but no architraves to the door or windows. The front is also characterised by an original hipped and concave verandah supported by stop-chamfered timber posts with moulded timber capitals. The bases to the verandah posts have been removed and replaced with stirrups. The verandah is adorned by cast iron brackets. The concrete verandah floor has been introduced.

At the rear is a gabled timber weatherboard wing that may have been added during the interwar period or mid 1940s. It has a painted corrugated sheet metal roof, modest eaves (with timber lined soffits) and an external brick chimney on the south side. On the north side of this wing is a shallow-pitched addition that is connected to the rear of the original dwelling.

Overall, the cottage appears to be in good condition when viewed from a distance. There seems to be some loose flashing adjoining the chimneys on the south side, and any previous gutters have been removed. There is some deterioration in the Barrabool stone chimneys. The cottage has high integrity, reflecting its original Victorian design. The most noticeable change is the concrete verandah floor and alterations to the bases of the verandah posts with stirrups.

### **HISTORY:**

#### **Early Settlement of the Barrabool Hills**

For at least 5,000 years, the Barrabool Hills was occupied by sections of the Wathaurong, a nomadic Indigenous tribe.<sup>1</sup> The Wathaurong's existence at Barrabool was to be dramatically changed with the arrival of John Batman and his exploration party in 1835. Arriving from Tasmania with the explicit intention of exploring the area, the eventually developed into the Port Phillip Association.<sup>2</sup> Establishing his headquarters in the vicinity of Indented Head, Batman explored the Bellarine Peninsula and Geelong region.<sup>3</sup> One of Batman's party, John Helder Wedge, a surveyor, ventured further westward in exploring other parts of the region. He eventually followed the Barwon River from Fyansford along the foot of the 'Barrabool' Hills.<sup>4</sup> There, 'he noted that the hills afforded "fine pastorage for sheep".<sup>5</sup> From 1836, squatters arrived at Geelong to take up land for sheep grazing.<sup>6</sup>

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1 I. Wynd, *Barrabool: Land of the Magpie*, Barrabool Shire, Torquay, 1992, p.ix.

2 *Ibid.*, p.3.

3 *Ibid.*

4 *Ibid.*, pp.4-5.

5 *Ibid.*

6 *Ibid.*, p.5.

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By 1839, the Barrabool Hills had been surveyed as part of the Barrabool Parish.<sup>7</sup> Large acreages were made available at a Government land sale in late 1839.<sup>8</sup> In February 1840, much of the Barrabool Hills was acquired by Charles McLachlan, a wealthy Scottish businessman of Tasmania, and his business partner, Captain Charles Swanston, English banker and merchant of Tasmania and member of the Port Phillip Association<sup>9</sup> who purchased Sections 2-3, 13-16, and 20-23 as his vast 4,480 acre Strathlachlan sheep estate.<sup>10</sup> In 1850, Sections 22 and 23 and parts of Sections 13 and 14 of the Strathlachlan Estate (Barrabool Parish) were subdivided into 65 farms centred on a village of 45 building sites as the Merrawarp Estate.<sup>11</sup> By 1861, there were only 10 owner residents in the Estate, with four fifths still being tenant farmers.<sup>12</sup> At this time, the Barrabool Hills were considered to be the 'granary of the colony',<sup>13</sup> the location of sheep grazing and crop farms, and vineyards.



Figure 1: Part Barrabool Parish Plan, Dept of Lands & Survey, Melbourne, March 1946, showing land sections in the Barrabool Hills, including Ceres. Source: VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria

<sup>7</sup> Barrabool Parish Plan, VPRS 16171, Public Record Office Victoria.

<sup>8</sup> Port Phillip Patriot and Melbourne Advertiser, 9 December 1839, p.3.

<sup>9</sup> D.S. Macmillan & J.R. Morris, 'McLachlan, Charles (1795-1850)' *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/mclachlanh-charles-2411/text3191>, published first in hardcopy, 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017 & C. Swanston, 'Swanston, Charles (1789-1850)', *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, National Centre of Biography, Australian National University, <http://abd.anu.edu.au/biography/swanston-charles-2713/texttext3815>, published first in hardcopy 1967, accessed online 20 January 2017.

<sup>10</sup> Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit. & Wynd, op.cit., p.43.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, p.22.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>13</sup> *Geelong Advertiser*, 14 September 1874, p.2.

Another successful purchaser in February 1840 was William Robertson, Port Phillip Association member. He acquired Sections 5, 11 and 12.<sup>14</sup> Two days after his purchase, Robertson sold Sections 11 and 12 to David Fisher, manager of the Derwent Company (successor to the Port Phillip Association). He named his estate 'Roslin' which he subdivided into farms that were leased to various tenants.<sup>15</sup> In 1850, Fisher created the village of Ceres as a private subdivision of 58 allotments in part of Section 12 (Figure 2).<sup>16</sup> The small settlement was soon to become the centre of the agricultural district where the neighbouring properties farmed crops, grazed sheep and established noteworthy vineyards.

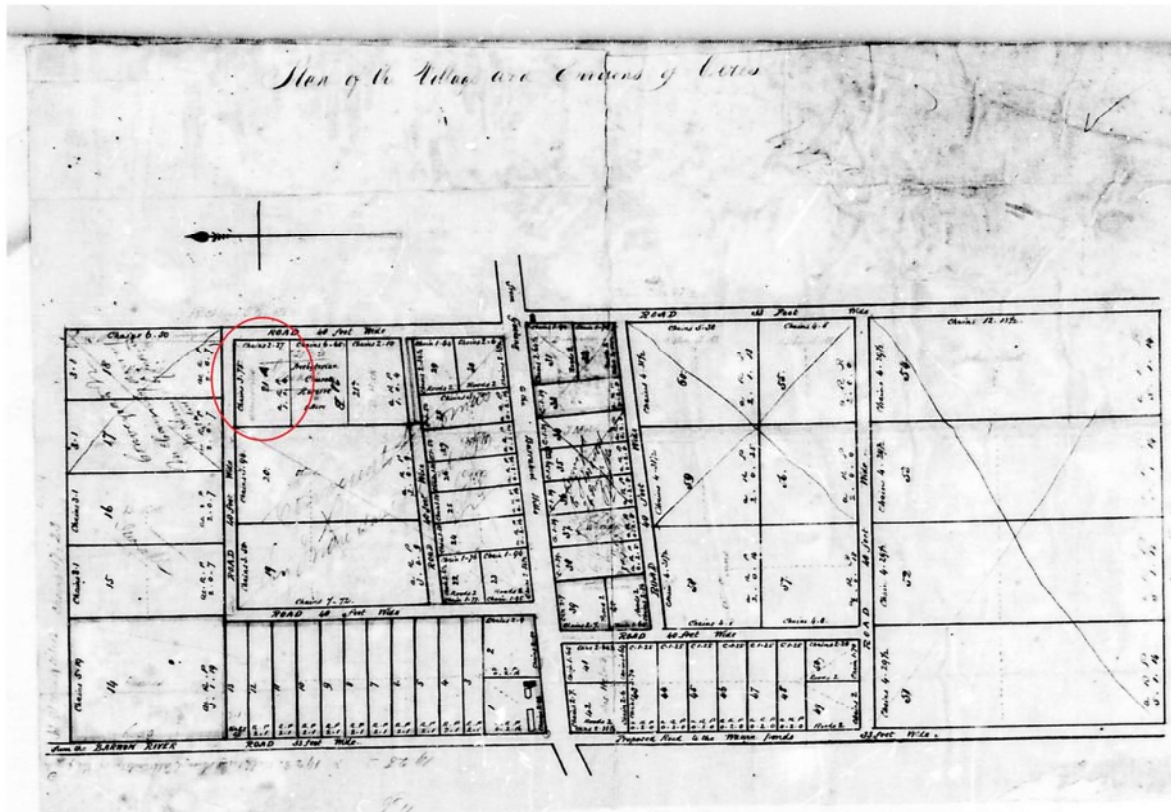


Figure 2: Fisher's subdivision plan of the Ceres Village, 1850. The circled allotment is the location of Hurley House.  
Source: Maps & Plans collection, 17/60, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

## History of Hurley House

### The Original Dwelling

Possibly initially intended to be purchased by a Mr Somerville,<sup>17</sup> lot 21A comprising 1 acre, 2 roods and 33 perches was first taken up by Alexander Thomson and John Calvert in 1850.<sup>18</sup> They sold the land to Thomas Jewell and Charles Sladen on 7 November 1851.<sup>19</sup> Three years later on 11 August 1853, the land was purchased by Stephen Thomas, a tenant farmer of the neighbouring 'Roslin' Estate from the early 1840s.<sup>20</sup>

14 Barrabool Parish Plan, op.cit.

15 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.208.

16 Fisher's Ceres Village Subdivision Plan, 1850, Maps & Plans collection 17/60, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

17 This is the name hand-written on the Ceres Village Subdivision Plan (Figure 2).

18 Land Application 419247, General Law Library, Laverton

19 Ibid.

20 Ibid. & Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.69.

Between 1853 and 1856 on allotment 21A (now part of 100 McCann Street), Thomas built a four roomed weatherboard cottage with a shingle roof.<sup>21</sup> There was a kitchen within the dwelling at the rear, and a detached dairy.<sup>22</sup> In 1856, Thomas' dwelling – and particularly the views from the property – was described in the *Geelong Advertiser*:

Behind the Chapel is a charming villa site, the property of Mr Stephen Thomas, of the Wheatsheaf. This dwelling commands one of the loveliest and most picturesque views in Victoria. To the east, the Bay of Corio stretches afar in all its grandeur – you discern the smoking steamers and heavily laden lighters as they near the harbor, whilst behind suddenly spring up as though from the very beach the rugged and isolated Youangs [sic.]. Opposite the Youangs [sic.] ride the richly freighted merchants ships anchored at Point Henry. Look to the north, and the view is equally refreshing – the Barwon lies at your feet far below, threading its tortuous course between the steep and abrupt banks formed by nature for its channel; ever the anon it is hidden from sight by an overhanging or perpendicular precipice. Across the Barwon the eye is enlivened by an extensive tract of gently rising country, variegated by cultivated paddocks, cleared pasture ground, and wooded patches; while beyond and surmounting these ride the Hills of Boninyong, frowning with majestic grandeur, calmly sublimed by the intervening distance.<sup>23</sup>

Stephen Thomas (c.1801-1884) of Hampshire, England, was a stonemason.<sup>24</sup> There, he married his wife, Ann Thomas (nee King) (c.1802-1872).<sup>25</sup> They had three children: Annie (born c.1826), George (born 1829) and Sarah (born c.1831).<sup>26</sup> In 1843, the Thomas family emigrated to Victoria on the *Royal Consort*, arriving in February 1844.<sup>27</sup> They were assigned to William Kirby of Merriang near Myrtleford.<sup>28</sup> Before 1847, the Thomas family relocated to Ceres where Stephen Thomas farmed approximately 224 acres of Fisher's subdivided 'Roslin' estate before he purchased the land in later years.<sup>29</sup>

With the sale of village allotments at Ceres in 1850, and following 'some years of toil and exertion to accumulate a handsome sum of money',<sup>30</sup> Stephen Thomas purchased lots 1-4 in the Ceres village in 1850.<sup>31</sup> On lot 1, he built the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, the location of numerous community activities in the following years.<sup>32</sup> His wife, Ann, 'a buxom hostess' known locally as "Mother Thomas", managed the hotel from the mid 1850s until 1859 when it was leased to William Armour.<sup>33</sup> Described as

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21 *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 November 1872, p.3.

22 *Ibid.*

23 'Village of Ceres on the Barrabool Hills: An Evening's Sketch', *Geelong Advertiser*, 26 July 1856, p.2.

24 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, Department of Justice, Melbourne. See also M. Cotter, 'Stephen Thomas' biographical information, Rootsweb at Ancestry online <http://wc.rootsweb.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/igm.cgi?op=GET&db=marycotter&id=I95455045> Cotter listed Thomas' birthplace as Hampshire yet the Assisted Shipping Register listed him as native of London. See Assisted British Immigration Register, Thomas family, February 1844, *Royal Consort*, Book 2/3, p.162, 169, Public Record Office Victoria & microfilm version, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

25 *Ibid.*

26 *Ibid.*

27 *Ibid.*

28 *Ibid.* See Assisted British Immigration Register.

29 *Geelong Advertiser & Squatters' Advocate*, 17 September 1847, p.2, listed Stephen Thomas of the Barrabool Hills as a subscriber to a relief fund. See also Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.25, Scott, *op.cit.*, pp.1-2 & *Geelong Advertiser*, 15 April 1863, p.4 & 16 May 1863, p.4.

30 *Ibid.*, 5 July 1872, p.2.

31 Scott, *op.cit.*, p.12.

32 Wynd, *op.cit.*, p.69.

33 *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 April 1859, p.2.

'rubicund and lusty' in 1856, she administered to the comforts of her patrons and was described as 'a rare specimen of the beautiful and invigorating properties of the Barrabool clime.'<sup>34</sup>

Mrs Thomas was entrepreneurial and energetic. With her daughter, Annie, they embarked on a coal prospecting enterprise at the rear of the Wheatsheaf Hotel.<sup>35</sup> Mrs Thomas in particular was determined to prosecute the search for mineral wealth, funding a supervisor and workmen, and rejecting offers to form companies.<sup>36</sup> The venture failed, forcing the Thomas' out of the hotel business. By April 1859, the Wheatsheaf Hotel had been leased to William Armour.<sup>37</sup> In 1863 with a £1000 mortgage,<sup>38</sup> Stephen Thomas advertised the sale of his farm, Wheatsheaf Hotel and a nearby cottage and blacksmith's shop they also owned.<sup>39</sup> Only the farm sold, the hotel and cottage (with blacksmith's shop) being leased throughout the 1860s.<sup>40</sup> Stephen and Ann Thomas retired to their cottage in McCann Street where they 'earned a scanty subsistence' on the proceeds of their orchard on the site<sup>41</sup> and rental of their other properties.

Ann Thomas died in 1872 aged 69.<sup>42</sup> Her death brought on the foreclosure of the £1000 mortgage on the property.<sup>43</sup> Stephen Thomas' son, George, and son in-law, Seth Selby, negotiated a £450 redemption with G.A. Stephen, mortgagee's agent, in order to retain the cottage.<sup>44</sup> The redemption had to be realised within a week. The Wheatsheaf Hotel with 10 acres of land was sold for £305 and Selby provided the balance.<sup>45</sup> Selby became owner of the cottage on 3 September 1872,<sup>46</sup> the day the cottage was destroyed by fire, and Seth Selby was implicated, resulting in an inquest.<sup>47</sup> Stephen Thomas subsequently retired to the residence of his grandson, Edward McKenna, of Ceres, until his death in 1884, aged 83.<sup>48</sup>

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34 *Ibid.*, 26 July 1856, p.2.

35 W.R. Brownhill & I. Wynd, *The History of Geelong and Corio Bay With Postscript 1955-1990*, postscript edn., The Geelong Advertiser, Geelong, 1990, p.404. Annie Thomas married George Brush in 1849 and following his death, she wed Seth Silby who had associations with Ceres in the 1850s and 1860s. Annie Thomas appears to have emigrated separately to Victoria than her parents and siblings. See Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

36 *Geelong Advertiser*, 5 July 1872, p.2.

37 *Ibid.*, 4 April 1859, p.2.

38 Land Application 419247, op.cit.

39 *Geelong Advertiser*, 15 April 1863, p.4 & 16 May 1863, p.4.

40 William Armour appears to have leased the hotel until 1867 as it was at this time when Jemima Tonkin was reported as the new licensee of the hotel. See *Geelong Advertiser*, 31 December 1867, p.3. By 1869-70, it appears that the hotel had closed, as Stephen Thomas was listed as owner/occupier and in the following year, 1870-871, the hotel appears to have been listed as a house and "empty". See Barrabool Shire Rate Books, op.cit., 1869-71.

41 *Geelong Advertiser*, 5 July 1872. See Barrabool Shire Rate Books, op.cit., 1869-1871, which gave Stephen Thomas as owner of the Wheatsheaf Hotel (it appears to have been listed as a house in 1870-71 and "empty").

42 Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

43 Land Application 41924 op.cit. & *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 November 1872, p.3.

44 *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 November 1872, p.3.

45 *Ibid.*

46 Land Application 419247, op.cit.

47 *Geelong Advertiser*, 4 November 1872, p.3. Seth Selby was arrested by Sergeant Toohey with unlawfully and maliciously setting fire to the dwelling, with the intent to defraud the National Insurance Company. A verdict was returned 'that the premises were wilfully set on fire, but that there was no evidence to enable them to say by whom. They also added that Selby was entitled to censure for not using better endeavours to extinguish it.' Admitted to bail, Selby was later discharged in the Geelong Police Court on 13 November 1872. See *The Age*, 14 November 1872, p.3.

48 *Ibid.*, 9 January 1884, p.2 & Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

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Just a month after the fire, Selby sold the land to Robert McDowall, storekeeper, postmaster and Wesleyan preacher, on 22 November 1872.<sup>49</sup> Five years later in July 1877, he sold it to Peter McCann who immediately sold it to John Hurley.<sup>50</sup>

### The Existing Dwelling

John Hurley, farmer, gardener, labourer and quarryman, built the existing timber dwelling in 1877.<sup>51</sup> His landholdings then comprised 7.5 acres and with the dwelling, it held a net annual value of £10.<sup>52</sup> His landholdings increased to 9 acres in the following year, the net annual value also increasing to £13.<sup>53</sup> With his wife, Mary, they lived at this property until 1914.<sup>54</sup>

John Hurley (1834-1915) was born in the Parish of Payhembury, near Honiton in Devon, England.<sup>55</sup> He was the third child of farmers, Thomas Hurley and Elizabeth Bradley. According to Ann Hurley in 'A New Life at Ceres: Hurley and Skidmore Family History':

John grew up to be tall, dark and blue-eyed, and worked on his father's property at Beer Farm which is about halfway between the villages of Payhembury and Broadhembury. The 1841 Census shows the family at Beer Farm: his father Thomas, un-married aunt Susann Hurley, older sisters Jane and Elizabeth, and two farm workers. In 1851 he is still there with his father and two older sisters, and in 1861 he is listed with his father and one sister.<sup>56</sup>

On 12 July 1861, Hurley emigrated to Victoria with his friend, John Burrows, to try his luck on the Victorian goldfields.<sup>57</sup> Following little success in mining, Hurley settled at Ceres where 'he returned to his occupation of farming, and growing vegetables to seel at the Geelong market.'<sup>58</sup> According to Anny Hurley:

John was able, and no doubt needed to be able, to turn his hand to a variety of jobs. On his marriage certificate he is described as a labourer, but he also supplemented the family's income from the farm by working throughout the western district as a shearer. At the time of his son's marriage in 1887, John is described as a quarryman, probably being employed in the local quarry in the Barrabool Hills.<sup>59</sup>

Hurley married Miss Mary Margaret Quinn (1845-1917) in 1864 at the Geelong Registry Office at the Geelong Court House.<sup>60</sup> She was the daughter of Elizabeth (nee Tamplin/Frisby) and Patrick Quinn.<sup>61</sup> Her family came to Ceres when Mary was 3 or 4 years of age, her father Patrick taking up farming until his death in 1851.<sup>62</sup> Mary's mother, Elizabeth, worked as a dressmaker and a midwife.<sup>63</sup>

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49 Land Application 419247 op.cit.

50 Ibid.

51 Ibid.

52 Barrabool Shire Rate Book 1876-77, Geelong Library & Heritage Centre.

53 Ibid., 1877-78.

54 A. Hurley, 'A New Life at Ceres: Hurley and Skidmore Family History' at <http://www.hurleyskidmorehistory.com.au/hurley-and-box-families/a-new-life-at-ceres-john.html>

55 Ibid.

56 Ibid.

57 Ibid.

58 Ibid.

59 Ibid.

60 Geelong Registry Office Marriage Register transcript, Geelong Family History Group Inc.

61 Hurley, op.cit.

62 Ibid.

Declining due to age, in 1908, John Hurley (Figure 3) offered for lease 25 acres of land in Section 23, along with 8 acres of land adjoining his dwelling.<sup>64</sup> In 1915, he transferred ownership of his property to his son, Thomas, a school inspector.<sup>65</sup> The household furniture and effects of John and Mary Hurley were auctioned on 28 April 1915.<sup>66</sup> They relocated to Ballarat to live with their son, Thomas.<sup>67</sup> John Hurley died there on 20 December 1915.<sup>68</sup> Mary Hurley died two years later in 1917 at the Terang home of her daughter.<sup>69</sup>



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**Figure 3:** John Hurley in Ballarat, n.d. [c.1915].

Source: J.V. Hurley in A. Hurley, 'A New Life at Ceres ...'.

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In the initial ensuing years, Thomas Hurley leased the cottage in McCann Street to Frank Lamond (1917-19) and W. Shell (1919-21).<sup>70</sup> He sold the property to Mrs Emily Jessie McCann in 1923.<sup>71</sup> Emily McCann (nee Lamond) was the wife of Sidney Herbert McCann, grandson of Peter McCann, founder of Australian Portland Cement Limited, and son of Peter McCann, sandstone quarryman and lime kiln operator, and initiator in the commencement of the cement works at Fyansford.<sup>72</sup> Emily McCann subsequently leased to T.T. Adams.<sup>73</sup> She retained ownership until her death in 1925 when

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63 Ibid.

64 Geelong Advertiser, 22 October 1908, p.8.

65 Land Application 419247 op.cit. & Barrabool Shire Rate Book, op.cit., 1917.

66 Geelong Advertiser, 27 April 1915, p.6.

67 Hurley, op.cit.

68 Ibid.

69 Ibid. See also *Ballarat Cemeteries & Crematorium: Burials & Cremations Registers*, CD, Genealogical Society of Victoria & Ballarat & District Genealogical Society Inc., 2006.

70 Barrabool Shire Rate Books, op.cit., 1917-1921

71 Certificate of Title, vol. 3988 fol. 566.

72 J. McNeill, *A Journey to Destiny 1890-1990: 100 Years of Cement Manufacturing at Fyansford by Australian Cement Limited*, Australian Cement Limited, Melbourne, 1990, pp.12-13, 88-89.

73 Barrabool Shire Rate Book, op.cit., 1924-25.

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the property was described as ‘containing nine acres and one perch or thereabouts on which are erected a five roomed weatherboard house and outbuildings’ valued at £550.<sup>74</sup> In 1926, the property was acquired by Ernest Wesley McCann, son of Emily and Sidney McCann, woolclasser of Geelong.<sup>75</sup> It appears that the gabled outbuilding was built during Ernest McCann’s ownership. In 1960, the property was transferred to McCann Pastoral Company Pty Ltd.<sup>76</sup>

By 1970, additions had been constructed on the north side of the rear gabled wing.<sup>77</sup> By the 1990s the garden surrounding the dwelling had overgrown (Figures 4-5). Between 2012 and 2016, it was removed and replaced, and repairs appear to have been made to the original dwelling, including painting and upgrades to the front verandah. Mature trees surrounding the dwelling were also removed at this time.<sup>78</sup>



**Figure 4:** Hurley House, 1997.  
Source: David Rowe.



**Figure 5:** Hurley House, 1998.  
Source: E. McGillivray in A. Hurley, ‘A New Life at Ceres...’.

## COMPARATIVE

### Other Comparable Dwellings in the Ceres Village<sup>79</sup>

‘Hurley House’ at 100 McCann Street is one of eight surviving Victorian dwellings constructed in the Ceres village and wider Barrabool area. The most comparable are those within the Ceres village, with hipped roofs, minimal eaves and symmetrical front facades with central door opening and flanking timber framed 12 paned double hung windows. Unlike ‘Hurley House’, all of these other dwellings are constructed of Barrabool stone with slate roofs and lack front verandahs, are Georgian in design and built in the 1850s and 1960s. Collectively, their designs and construction have established a vernacular design trait peculiar to the Ceres area. These dwellings have varying levels of integrity and are included as heritage overlays:

- Semi-detached dwellings, 5-7 Heal Street, built c.1850s.
- Former Smithy’s dwelling, 539 Barrabool Road, built before 1856.
- Sandstone cottage, 523 Barrabool Road, built c.1850s.
- Sandstone cottage, 517-521 Barrabool Road, built before 1867. Compositionally, this dwelling is less comparable given its gabled roof form.

<sup>74</sup> McCann, Emily, Probate Administration files, 1925, VPSR 28/P3 Unit 1561, Public Record Office Victoria.

<sup>75</sup> Certificate of Title, op.cit & Victorian Births, Deaths & Marriages Indexes, op.cit.

<sup>76</sup> Certificate of Title, op.cit.

<sup>77</sup> Aerial image of Ceres & Barrabool Hills, December 1970, film 2457, Landata.

<sup>78</sup> Aerial images for 2012 & 2016 held by the City of Greater Geelong.

<sup>79</sup> Historical information is taken from A. Willingham, *Geelong Region Historic Buildings & Objects Study*, vol.1, Geelong Regional Commission, Geelong, 1986.

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### Other 19<sup>th</sup> Century Timber Dwellings in Ceres

'Hurley House' is one of very few dwellings constructed in the 19<sup>th</sup> century in timber surviving in Ceres. The other dwellings are:

- Former Little River State School No. 1961, 521 Barrabool Road, built at the same time as 'Hurley House' in 1877.<sup>80</sup> This former school building (now dwelling) is not comparable to 'Hurley House'. Apart from its picturesque gabled composition, it is not original to the Ceres village, having been relocated to its current site in 2008-09 and altered and adapted into a dwelling.<sup>81</sup>
- Victorian dwelling, 2 Gully Road.<sup>82</sup> This contextually substantial and elaborate timber dwelling was relocated to this site in c.1993 and is therefore not original to the Ceres village.
- 'Erinvale', 285 Gully Road, built in c.1896 (proposed for a heritage overlay).<sup>83</sup> This Late Victorian styled timber dwelling has hipped roof forms and projecting post-supported verandah but it is not directly comparable to 'Hurley House'. The more elaborate verandah detailing is reflective of its construction 20 years after 'Hurley House'. Like 'Hurley House', it is original to the Ceres area.

Overall, 'Hurley House' is one of a small number of 19<sup>th</sup> century modestly scaled and rudimentary Victorian dwelling surviving in the original Ceres village reflecting early rural life. In particular, it is the earliest of only two surviving dwellings of timber construction original to the Ceres area.

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80 Construction date of the Little River State School is taken from <http://lrps.vic.edu.au/schoolhistory.html>

81 See City of Greater Geelong Planning Permit 268/08 and City of Greater Geelong Building Permit 2008/3027/1

82 A larger allotment was subdivided to create the existing property at 2 Gully Road in 1993. See Plan of Subdivision PS323445J, 1 September 1993, City of Greater Geelong.

83 See heritage citation as part of this study for further details.