

‘Craigton’ Homestead, 283-373 Ballan Road, Moorabool Statement of Significance

March 2026

Heritage Place: ‘Craigton’ Homestead, 283-373 Ballan Road, Moorabool	PS ref no: HO310
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Source: HomeHound, online resource.

What is significant?

Craigton at 283-373 Ballan Road, Moorabool, is locally significant to the City of Greater Geelong. Significant elements include:

- The 1859 bluestone house.
- The 1859 bluestone lockup.
- Sightlines from the residence to the Moorabool Viaduct.

Non-significant elements include:

- The new rear extensions.
- The tennis court.
- All plantings.
- All other outbuildings and farm infrastructure, including windrows.

How is it significant?

Craigton is of historical and representative significance to the City of Greater Geelong.

Why is it significant?

Craigton is of historical significance as a highly intact 1859 bluestone residence, constructed as the primary residence for the Victorian Railways superintendent, Edmund Duxbury, overseeing the construction of the Moorabool Viaduct directly south of the house. Craigton is important as it represents the historical temporary township of approximately 1,500 to 2,000 people who lived at the Viaduct’s construction site in temporary accommodation. The township comprised of a schoolhouse, temperance hall, library and other buildings. Included in that collection of buildings and public structures is the original bluestone watchhouse or lockup, located in the rear yard of Craigton. Both the residence and lockup are historically important for their direct connection to the construction of the Viaduct as well as being historical remnants of the former temporary township. (Criterion A)

Craigton is of representative significance to the City of Greater Geelong as a highly intact Italianate Victorian residence constructed in bluestone. The house is a long, rectilinear structure with a hipped roof partially clad in

slate shingles, with four original rendered chimneys and two bays on its façade with ashlar render. Raised render quoining around the windows and corners of the residence apply a degree of ornament, which is further highlighted by the wrought iron and lacework verandah on the building's façade and rear elevation. Furthermore, the property is of representative significance, as it includes a remnant outbuilding being the original lockup for the Moorabool Viaduct temporary township, which was later repurposed as a dairy when the site transitioned from use by Victoria Railways and became a farmhouse. (Criterion D)

Primary sources

Craigton, author: Benjamin Petkov, peer reviewer: Mim Butcher, *The Heritage Conservancy*, May 2025.
Greater Geelong Outer Areas Heritage Study. Stage 2, Volume 16, Authentic Heritage Services Pty Ltd, 1998-2000.

This document is an incorporated document in the Greater Geelong Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*