

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: CUYUAC HOMESTEAD COMPLEX

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Chetwynd-Nareen Road NAREEN

STUDY NUMBER: 036

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: outside

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

PARISH: PARISH OF DEWRANG

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 386 D29, approximately six kilometers west of the township of Nareen, one and a half kilometers south of the Chetwynd-Nareen Road, overlooking Webb's Creek

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Cuycac Homestead Complex, Chetwynd - Nareen Road, Nareen. Second Homestead

Image Date: 11/09/01

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. A) All of the mature trees (the *Pinus radiata*, the *Ulmus procera*, *Araucaria heterophylla*), the split paling hut, the shepherd's watch box and sledge, and all of the land within 50m of the edge of the 1964 house.

B) All of the stables, and all of the land within a 20m radius of any edge of the stables.

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: CUYUAC HOMESTEAD COMPLEX

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Chetwynd-Nareen Road NAREEN

STUDY NUMBER: 036

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The Cuyuac Homestead complex is located approximately six kilometers west of the village of Nareen, one and a half kilometers south of the Chetwynd-Nareen Road, on high ground overlooking Webb's Creek. The land which

makes up Cuyuac was taken up in the 1880s, consisting of small portions of several larger pastoral runs. The current homestead was built in 1964 on the same site to replace the earlier 1880s homestead which was destroyed by bushfires in the same year.

The current homestead was designed by local architect, W. Langham Proud. It is constructed of cream brick in the conservative 'Cape Cod' tradition, complete with dormer attic windows and terracotta tiled roof (Leake, 100.) Importantly, it was built on the footprint of the original house and continues the relationship with the creek below.

Several 19th century buildings survive close to the new house: the timber stables, a hut made of split palings, with wooden shingled roof and a shepherd's watch box, mounted on a red gum wooden sledge for transportation by bullocks. Further away is the large timber woolshed, with its modern extension.

Some of the garden associated with the 1880s homestead complex remains: Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*), Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*), Pencil Pine or Italian Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*), English Elm (*Ulmus procera*), Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*). There is also a large Aloe near the stables. The modern garden, which dates from 1964, has been planted with a variety of exotic deciduous trees, which are of less significance.

HISTORY:

The Cuyuac homestead complex was created in 1880 from sections of land purchased from adjacent runs, Satimer, Koolomurt and Steepbank. Mrs. Martha Quarterman, widow of John Quarterman [also known as Quartermain], MLA (1820-78), constructed the first house shortly after. Mrs. Quarterman was the daughter of John Moodie, pastoralist, of Wando Dale. Her husband John was involved in a parliamentary corruption scandal that resulted in him being gaoled together with his colleague Hugh Glass in 1869 (Leake, 100).

John and Martha Quarterman held 140 800 acres at Wonwondah, near Horsham (Billis & Kenyon) where their first child, Reginald was born in 1855 (VPI). In his memoirs, William Moodie recalls that after moving from Wonwondah, the Quarterman family took up 62 080 acres west of Maryborough, called Glenmona, where they stayed from 1860-1870 (Palmer (ed.), 71). Subsequent children's births were registered in Prahran, Toorak and Malvern, which indicates that either Martha had her children in Melbourne, or that they were absentee landholders. Their other children were an un-named female in 1858, Clara (1868), Beatrice (1870), Rosa (1872), Edward (1874), Guy (1876) (VPI). John Quarterman died at age 58 in 1879 (VPI, 2001), and it appears that Martha and her younger children may have returned to the family home, Wando Dale, before purchasing the land that was to become Cuyuac.

In 1880, Martha Quarterman built the first Cuyuac homestead which was, according to Peter Leake, a weatherboard building set on ironstone foundation on a gentle slope overlooking the valley of Webb's Creek, and a garden was laid out at this time. A line of Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*) which formed part of the original driveway remain, as do specimen trees of English Elm (*Ulmus procera*), Norfolk Island Pine (*Araucaria heterophylla*). Two particularly interesting structures which date from the late nineteenth century also survive, a split paling hut with a timber shingle roof and a shepherd's watch box, which was used by Shepherds on the property. The stables some 100 metres to the rear survive as does the woolshed which is a long way from the house. Cuyuac was sold to Mr. John Martin in

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: CUYUAC HOMESTEAD COMPLEX

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Chetwynd-Nareen Road NAREEN

STUDY NUMBER: 036

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

1898, who leased it to F. L. Graham until 1900 when he purchased nearby Nareen Station. The property was then sold in 1908 to R. H. Edgar, the grandson of David Edgar, of Pine Hill near Harrow. The original homestead was not altered until 1954 (*ibid.*) but only ten years later it was destroyed by fire. The Edgar family was renowned for breeding thoroughbred racehorses and bred winners of the Ararat Gold Cup, as well as the Casterton and Mount Gambier Cups (*ibid.*, 101). The property continues to be run as a pastoral enterprise by the Edgar Family.

A local architect, W. Langham Proud designed the new homestead in the Cape Cod style in 1964, to be built on the same site of the original homestead. (*ibid.*) No other work by this architect is presently known.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 3 Developing local, regional and national economies

3.5 Developing primary production

3.5.1 Grazing stock

3.5.2 Breeding animals

3.9 Farming for commercial profit

3.14.1 Building to suit Australian conditions

3.14.1 Using Australian materials in construction

Theme 5 Working

5.8 Working on the land

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

CONDITION:

The nineteenth century timber structures are in very good condition. The trees which survive from the 1880s garden are also in very good condition.

INTEGRITY:

Very high degree of integrity to 1964 period.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The Cuyuac Homestead complex is located approximately six kilometers west of the village of Nareen, one and a half kilometers south of the Chetwynd-Nareen Road, overlooking Webb's Creek. The land which makes up Cuyuac was taken up in the 1880s, consisting of small portions of several larger pastoral runs. The first owner of Cuyuac was Mrs. Martha Quarterman, the widow of John Quarterman, who was implicated in a parliamentary corruption scandal with Hugh Glass involving the 1860s Land Acts. The first homestead and gardens were laid out in the 1880s. Many of the mature trees in the garden are remnants from this period, including the Monterey Pines (*Pinus radiata*), Stone Pine (*Pinus pinea*), English Elms (*Ulmus procera*) and Norfolk Island Pines (*Araucaria heterophylla*). The modern garden, which dates from 1964, has been planted with an impressive Atlantic Cedar (*Cedrus atlantica*) and Pencil Pine or Italian Cypress (*Cupressus sempervirens*) as well as a variety of exotic deciduous trees, which are of less significance. The property was sold to Mr. John Martin in 1898, who subsequently sold it to R. H. Edgar in 1908. The original homestead remained until it was destroyed by fire

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: CUYUAC HOMESTEAD COMPLEX

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Chetwynd-Nareen Road NAREEN

STUDY NUMBER: 036

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

in 1964. The only buildings that survived were the stables, a shepherd's watch box, mounted on red gum wooden sledge, and a hut made of split palings with a shingle roof. The woolshed, some distance from the house, survives as well. Local architect W. Langham Proud designed the current Cuyuac homestead in 1964. It is a two-storey building constructed of cream brick with terracotta roofing tiles, designed in the conventional and rather conservative Cape Cod style. The split paling hut and the shepherd's watch box are in good condition, the garden and plantings too, are in good condition.

How is it significant?

The Cuyuac Homestead Complex is of historical significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The complex is historically important as an unusual example of a selection of land being taken up by a woman in the nineteenth century. Mrs. Quarterman, the widow of a disgraced Member of the Legislative Council, John Quarterman was unusual in that she chose not to return to her family home, nearby Wando Dale, but to take up land in her own right, constructing a homestead and garden on a property which was some distance from others. It is also historically important for the associations with John Quarterman

COMPARISON:

No comparative examples in the study area.

ASSESSED BY: AEN

ASSESSMENT DATE: 23/10/2003

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

| Author | Title | Year Page |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Department of Justice Victoria | Pioneer Index Victoria 1836 - 1888 | 2001 |
| Peter Leake | Homesteads of Australia Felix | 1973 100 |
| R V Billis and A S Kenyon | Pastoral Pioneers of Port Phillip | 1974 var. |
| William Moodie in Joan Palmer (ed.) | A Pioneer of Western Victoria | 1973 var. |