

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** LINLITHGOW PARK

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Lake Linlithgow Road WARRAYURE

**STUDY NUMBER:** 136

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

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**OTHER NAME/S  
OF PLACE:** LINLITHGOW

**PRECINCT:** outside

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** 4A    **SECTION:** C    **PARISH:** PARISH OF JENNAWARRA

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 432 F50; VicRoads 73 E5; located on the east side of Lake Linlithgow Road, about .75km north of the intersection with Lake Road.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Linlithgow, Lake Linlithgow Rd, Warrayure

**Image Date:** 18/03/03

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the buildings, the garden and yards and all of the land within an area of 20 metre radius from any edge of the house.

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## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The house at Linlithgow Park is a single storey, asymmetrical red brick building with cement render trims and loosely in the bungalow style. It was built in two stages. The hipped and gabled roof is terra cotta. There is a large bay window at the front and other large windows composed of multiple double hung sashes and coloured glass highlights, associated with the principal rooms. A simple timber porch with a tile roof contiguous with the main roof marks the entrance. The house is set in a garden, bounded by a simple timber picket fence, typical of the period but now overgrown. There are the usual ancillary buildings at the rear. The house is in good condition and retains a high degree of integrity to its mid-twentieth century appearance. A typical garden and orchard are located adjacent to the house.

## **HISTORY:**

W. S. Helpmann purchased allotment 4A of section C of the Parish of Jennawarra comprising about 93 acres, possibly in April 1870. Walter Stephen Helpmann was born in Fremantle, Western Australia, was educated at Portland and Melbourne Grammar School and worked for the National Bank in Warrnambool as an accountant (Sutherland, Vol. 2, 35). In 1875 he began working for the Colonial Bank in Koroit and, in 1875, opened a branch of that bank in Belfast, now Port Fairy. Then he returned to Warrnambool as manager of the bank there (Sutherland, 35) He married Isabella Murray in 1877 (VPI, Reg. No. 3216). They had a son, William George who was born at Warrnambool in 1884 (ibid., Reg. No. 6301). Since Helpmann bought no other land in the Parish, most being bought by members of the Henty family of the Warrayure and Mount Sturgeon Plains runs, and because he seems to have no background in farming, it seems likely that Helpmann was acting as a dummy for Stephen Henty.

The land then passed to Wilhelm Gottfried Habel. He had emigrated to Australia in 1855, spent time as a miner but without success, and arrived in the Lake Linlithgow area in 1861 perhaps to join other members of his family (HHC, notes). He married Maria Auguste Kruger in 1863 (VPI, Reg. No. 3071). They had a son, Wilhelm who died in infancy in 1877 and another son, Wilhelm Gottfried who was born at Mount Rouse in 1878 (ibid., 10622 & 10762). A daughter, Ida was born at Penshurst in 1883 (ibid., 18671). Wilhelm died in 1899 aged 71 and Maria (or Marie) died in 1923 aged 79. Both are buried in the South Hamilton Lutheran cemetery. The Habel family seems to have been small-scale farmers typical of the German settlers in the area east of Hamilton. They had family connections in the Wimmera, especially at Murtoa (Huf, 1997). They apparently did not develop this allotment.

The next and most important owners were the Mibus family, Gottlieb Emil Mibus and Minna Valentine Mibus, nee Mibus and their four children. Gottlieb, who was known as George, was born at his parents' home, Hope Park about 11.5kms west of Linlithgow Park. He was their seventh son. "George was among the early pioneers of the Warrayure district where his father, Johann Mibus, purchased land for his sons. He was given the responsibility of developing land near Lake Linlithgow, and called the property Linlithgow Park. For some years he lived on the property in a hut" (Huf, 684). Minna's family came from Katyl in the Wimmera, where she and George were married in 1918. At first his bride lived in the same hut but then, in the early 1920s, the first four rooms of the present house were built. The house was later rebuilt and enlarged. "Here they established a beautiful garden and orchard 'George' took a keen interest in breeding stud sheep. Some years later more land was acquired near Dunkeld as a grazing property" (Huf, 685). George took a keen interest in local affairs including, in his youth, the local Gun Club and later as an Elder of the Lutheran Church and School at Warrayure and councillor for the Shire of Mount Rouse. "George Mibus was highly regarded as a successful farmer and respected citizen in the community" (ibid., 685). Basil Mibus and his sister Marie Mibus continue to occupy the property, now called Linlithgow.

For further information regarding the Mibus family ownership of Linlithgow, see pages 260-262 of "The

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Mibus family in Australia" by E. Nagorka

## **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

3.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

Theme 5: Working

5.8 Working on the land

## **CONDITION:**

The house is in good condition. The garden and orchard are overgrown.

## **INTEGRITY:**

Relatively intact, although abandoned.

## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

What is significant?

Walter Stephen Helpmann, a Warrnambool bank manager, almost certainly acting as a dummy for Stephen Henty of Warrayure, purchased the land on which Linlithgow Park now stands about 1870. The land then passed to Wilhelm Gottfried Habel, a failed miner, who had immigrated to Australia in 1855. The next and most important owners were Gottlieb Emil Mibus, called George, his wife Minna Valentine, nee Mibus and their four children. He developed the land near Lake Linlithgow and called it Linlithgow Park. After marrying in 1918, the couple lived in a hut on the land, which was replaced by four rooms of the present house and which was subsequently extended. George took a keen interest in local affairs including, in his youth, the local Gun Club and later as an Elder of the Lutheran Church and School at Warrayure and councillor for the Shire of Mount Rouse. The house is a plain red brick bungalow, asymmetrical because of its extension as much by original design. It is sober in its lack of details and use of conventional materials. There is an orchard and the house is set within a garden which appears to date largely from the 1920s. It retains an excellent degree of integrity and is in good condition. Two of the children of George and Minna continue to live in the house.

How is it significant?

Linlithgow Park is of architectural and historical significance to the community of Warrayure and to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

Linlithgow Park is of historical significance as a representative example of the smaller farms which were established by the German population who settled the area east of Hamilton in the mid-nineteenth century. Linlithgow Park is of architectural significance because it demonstrates a sequence of development and a sober style of building, together with its mature garden, which is typical of the early twentieth century when German immigrants had become well established.

## **COMPARISON:**

055 Mount Napier Homestead, Harmans Road, Gazette

443 Fairfield, Lake Linlithgow Road, Warrayure

**ASSESSED BY:** TFH

**ASSESSMENT DATE:**

11/12/2003

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**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
Alexander Sutherland, ed.	Victoria and Its Metropolis, Vol. 2	1888	35
Elizabeth Huf, ed.	Huf, 150 years in Australia 1847-1997	1997	various
Elizabeth Huf, ed.	Huf, 150 years in Australia 1847-1997	1997	various