

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: ELSTREE HOMESTEAD COMPLEX (former)

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Branxholme Road BRANXHOLME

STUDY NUMBER: 224

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: outside

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 5 **SECTION:** 4 **PARISH:** PARISH OF BRANXHOLME

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 473 A27; VicRoads 72 E7; located on the west side of the Branxholme-Murndal Road

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Heritage Inventory

Elstree Homestead Complex (former), Branxholme Road, Branxholme. New Homestead Façade.

Image Date:

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the surviving outbuildings and remnant garden plantings from the Kilby and MacGugan periods.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The original Elstree Homestead has been removed, and a new brick homestead built on the original site. Some surviving outbuildings and plantings survive.

HISTORY:

The land on the original Elstree Homestead Complex was built was first purchased from the Crown by J & D Kilby in 1861 (Department of Lands and Survey, 1876). The Kilby's also owned the adjacent allotments 5 & 7 of section 6a, bringing their total land to 186 acres (ibid.).

They built a house on allotment 5 of section 4 in 1863 where they remained until Daniel died in 1891 aged 71 years (Walter, 44). In 1905 Donald MacGugan purchased Elstree. MacGugan owned the property until 1931, when it was purchased by F. H. Barber (ibid.). In the later twentieth century, a new brick was built on the site of the original homestead, and the original Elstree homestead was relocated to Portland (ibid.).

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

3.2.5.3 Developing agricultural industries

Theme 5: Working

5.8 Working the land

CONDITION:

Fair

INTEGRITY:

Very low degree of integrity.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

Elstree Homestead Complex (former) was a single storey homestead, with significant outbuildings and a substantial garden. It was re-located to Portland in the later twentieth century, and a new brick home built. The surviving elements of the Elstree Homestead Complex are outbuildings and some elements of the garden. A new brick house has been built amongst the remnant garden and outbuildings. Elstree was taken up in 1861 by J & D Kirby as a small selection of 186 acres. The Kilby's retained Elstree until [D]aniel Kirby died in 1905. The MacGugan family purchased Elstree, and ran the property until the 1930s, when it was purchased by the Barber family, the descendants of whom continue to run the property today. There has been no architect or builder associated with the original design. The remaining fabric of Elstree Homestead Complex is in fair condition, although it retains almost no integrity.

How is it significant?

The Elstree Homestead Complex (former) is of archeological significance.

Why is it significant?

The Elstree Homestead Complex is of historical significance for its associations with the Kirby family, early selectors and members of the Branhholme community. Elstree is of further significance for its long association with the important Barber family, who have continuously held the property for over 70 years.

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COMPARISON:

223 Cheritta Homestead Complex (former), Wallacedale North - Hamilton Road, Branxholme.

ASSESSED BY: tth

ASSESSMENT DATE:

7/04/2002

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
Agnes V. Walter	Branxholme 1843-1973	1973	45
Department of Lands and Survey	Parish of Branxholme County of Normanby	1876	