

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: WOODLEIGH HALL

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Woodleigh-St Hellier Road WOODLEIGH

STUDY NUMBER: 261

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER: HO179

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Bass Coast Shire

PARISH: PARISH OF JEETHO WEST

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Woodleigh Hall, Woodleigh-St Hellier Road, Woodleigh

Image Date: March 2004

EXTENT OF LISTING:

Whole allotment.

WOODLEIGH HALL

Heritage Overlay No HO179
PropertyNo
File Number
Heritage Study No 261
Heritage Grading

HPD Number 136

HI Number

VHR Number

Other Names/s

Group Number

Precinct

Extra Files

Location Woodleigh-St Hellier Road WOODLEIGH

PARISH OF JEETHO WEST

COUNTY OF MORNINGTON

Planning Authority

Ward Leadbeater

Access Description

Map Number

0

Map Scale 1:100000

Latitude

Longitude

UMG Zone

Easting

Northing

Location Validity

Spatial Accuracy

Extent of Listing

Whole allotment.

Published Extent of Listing

Significance Local

Statement of Significance

The Woodleigh Hall is of local historic and social significance. The Hall is of historic and social significance as an important meeting place and focal point for a small and widespread, largely farming, community since its construction in 1921. The presence of the Hall for more than eighty years has contributed to the building of a community spirit in a somewhat isolated part of the Bass Valley.

Gazettal Details

Permit Exemptions

Exemptions Policy

Assessment Against Criteria

AHC A.4 Importance for association with events, developments or cultural phases which have had a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of the nation, State, region or community.

AHC G.1 Importance as a place highly valued by a community for reasons of religious, spiritual, symbolic, cultural, educational, or social associations.

Date Assessed 13/08/2004 Assessed By F Woodhouse

Comparisons

Rare Assessment

Intact Assessment

Good.

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

Recommended Management

Replace aluminium-framed with timber-framed windows to match original.
Replace faux-weatherboard cladding with weatherboards in a profile to match the original.
If a front fence is erected it should be of an appropriate design (e.g timber picket or woven wire).

Heritage Act Categories

Heritage Item Groups

Heritage Item Categories

Title Details

Physical Description

The Woodleigh Hall is a single-storey weatherboard hall with a gabled corrugated galvanised steel roof and skillion rear wing. The front elevation contains a non-original timber-framed entry porch with a concrete floor. The east side elevation contains timber-framed double-

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hung sash windows and a V-jointed timber board door. The west side elevation has faux weatherboard cladding and aluminium-framed windows. The rear elevation contains three timber-framed windows, one of which has a non-original fixed sash.

Physical Condition and/or Archaeological Potential

Good

Usage Public Hall.

Associated People

Historical Notes

The district of Woodleigh derives its name from the estate of local farmers Isaac and Albert de Lany, which was in turn named after a cattle station in North Queensland. The first school was established in the area in 1882, reflecting an influx of selectors. Land sales had commenced by the 1880s, and accelerated the following decade. The completion of the Nyora-Wonthaggi Railway running through the Bass Valley in 1910 stimulated the development of the communities with stations along the line, including Kernot, Almurta and Woodleigh. A small settlement soon developed around the station.

A public hall was first built in the Bass Valley in 1896, serving the citizens of Woodleigh and Kernot. This burnt down in 1911 and it was decided to erect the replacement at Kernot with the insurance money. Wanting a more accessible community venue, locals began fundraising in 1914 to build another hall at Woodleigh. The traditional form of fundraising was, according to local historian Jan Harper, a concert followed by a dance. The ladies provided the supper. Although the First World War intervened in fund-raising attempts, enough money had been raised by 1921 to purchase a site, let contracts and commence construction. A ball was held to mark the opening of the completed building on 16 December 1921. The current hall is located on a site which was originally part of allotment 59 purchased by A E Delany in March 1899. The new site was in convenient proximity to the Woodleigh Railway Station. The hall has continued to be used regularly, and one major highlight, documented in 'Three Stops on the Line', was a 'Back to Woodleigh', held in 1990.

Historic Themes

Thematic Environmental History

13.1 Small Towns & Larger Centres: Some of the many small towns that grew up within the hills of the Bass Valley owed their establishment to the continuation of the railway line from Nyora through to Wonthaggi. This occurred in 1910 as a direct result of the coal mining and creation of the township of Wonthaggi. Always a small township, it was originally settled by sawmillers, and when the land cleared, dairying became the predominant industry.

14.2 Public Buildings: Public buildings are pivotal to the identity and working of small communities and can become a symbol of a community's coherence. In isolated districts, such as the hilly hamlets of the Bass Valley, the public hall, church or even local store, may be the one place that neighbours, many of whom live in relative isolation, have the opportunity to meet regularly. In the Bass Coast Shire, the community hall remains an important element in the daily lives of those who work in the farming districts.

atings

References

Author	Title	Year	Shelf	Location
Department of Lands and Survey	Parish plan of Jeetho West, County of Mornington			
Jan Harper	Three Stops on the Line	2003		
Joseph White	One Hundred Years of History	1974		
Les Blake	Place Names of Victoria	1977		

Conservation Plans

Owner Type

Section 32 Recommendation

Owners/Occupants/Managers

Other Notes

Application Detail

Adviser Comments

Planning Scheme Amendments

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Overlay Controls

Planning Scheme Schedule

External Paint Controls? No

Included in Vic Heritage Register? No

Internal Alteration Controls? No

Prohibited uses may be permitted? Yes

Tree Controls? No

Name of incorporated plan No

Outbuildings/fences not exempt? No

Aboriginal Heritage Place? No