

SORELL HERITAGE SURVEY

Address: White Hills Road Forcett 7173		UPI: FRP18	PID: 1641002
Name: BULLOCK HILL			
Feature Type:	Structure Type: House	Site Feature Type: Mature trees	Dating: 1830 - 1890
			Access Restrictions: Restricted
			Inspection Date: D Parham December 96
			Style: Colonial Georgian
		Grid ref: 5426 553900 5261300	
Indication of Significance: Potential archaeological significance		Theme: Early Settlement Primary Production	
Material:	Stone	Corrugated iron	Listings:
Condition:	Ruins	Deteriorated	
Integrity:	Disturbed or damaged		
National Estate Criteria:	A4 C2 D2		Photograph Index: 21: 20-21 & 29
Risk:	Excavation: ☐	Development: ☐	Maintenance: ☒ Vandalism: ☐

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Partially collapsed remains of a rectangular stone dwelling with verandah out front. The dwelling consisted of large kitchen and dining room at either end and 3 smaller bedrooms of occupying the internal space. The verandah ends were filled in to cut the wind and a wash house and associated tank were located close to the east wall of the structure. The stone was locally quarried, set in lime mortar and rendered over.

Remains of outbuildings are discernible in the immediate vicinity. All were burnt down in the 1967 bushfire. The former buildings reportedly comprised; a chock'n'log dairy with bark roof, a split slab barn (which reportedly had 15inch wide slabs) with internal slab floor, shingle roof and attached loose box (stone paving still discernible), split slab cart shed with shingle roof, and remains of an outhouse and dray are also still visible.

Two mature pine trees are the only garden elements. Post and rail fences were widespread before the bushfire and were subsequently replaced with post and wire. Indications of three rectangular paddocks are visible on the east facing slope of the hill below the site complex. Crops of maize and hay were once grown to support the bullocks which were pivotal in clearing the land and as transport. A former spring now silted up is situated at the foot of the eastern slope of Bullock Hill

A turn of the century former house is located near White Hills Road on the same property.

HISTORY:

The spring site was of local importance since it was soft water suitable for washing clothes. The spring was lined with timber boards (6 feet x 6 feet) which acted like a filter and ensured that bailing actions did not stir up the sandy sediment. Ernie Gangell recalls its as also being crystal clear fresh drinking water as opposed to an adjacent source which yielded hard water. A line was rigged up at the site and local people travelled some distance to do their washing.

Located on 53 acres granted to Joseph Wickhome and surveyed in 1842. There had already been huts on the property for some time at the date of survey as well as gardens, cleared paddocks and a 'tank' on a nearby watercourse. This tank is likely to be the timber lined spring used by the local community for over a century until inadvertently destroyed. The property inhabited for many years in the nineteenth by Edward Lloyd who appears to have married into the Wickhome family in the 1852. Many of the early structures on the property were destroyed during the 1967 bushfires.

BOUNDARY:

The listing boundary encompasses the Bullock Hill ruins including the crest of the hill and south-eastern hillside to Pipe Clay Creek.

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COMMENTS:

The site has some archaeological value as an identifiable early - mid 19th century rural complex. The foundations of the outbuildings may survive intact below ground and, in addition, former paddock boundaries are still discernible.

It meets criteria A4, C2 and D2 for inclusion in the register of the National Estate. It should be included in Schedule 3 of the Sorell Planning Scheme and should be nominated for inclusion in the Tasmanian Heritage Register and the Register of the National Estate.

BIBLIOGRAPHY + PREVIOUS STUDIES:

CEN 1/41/163

SC 285/314

Pem 2/49 (survey plan)

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