Register of Significant Twentieth Century Architecture

RSTCA No: R010

Name of Place: Yarralumla Woolshed and Outbuildings

Other/Former Names:

Address/Location: Cotter Road YARRALUMLA 2600

Block 677 Section of Weston Creek

Listing Status: Registered Other Heritage Listings: Date of Listing: 1986 Level of Significance: Local Citation Revision No: Category: Farming/Pastoral July 1987 Citation Revision Date: Style: Vernacular Date of Design: Frederick Designer: Campbell Construction Period: 1904 Client/Owner/Lessee: Dept of Capital Territory (formerly Frederick Campbell) Date of Additions: 1940's Builder: Frederick Young

Statement of Significance

The buildings, a large shearing shed, and out buildings, form a harmonious group of vernacular buildings in a pleasant rural landscape setting, and symbolise the National Capital's pastoral heritage. The group of buildings, and large refined Woolshed are significant. The buildings demonstrate a significant part of early pastoral life in Canberra, and comprise one of the few intact groups of shearing buildings existing in the area. The buildings continue to have a socially important function.

Description

This group of vernacular buildings was constructed for Frederick Campbell in 1904. There are four principal buildings within the group - the Woolshed, Shearers Quarters, Rouseabouts Quarters and the Rouseabouts Kitchen, located on gently sloping ground quite close to Yarralumla Creek. Although now surrounded by suburban development the immediate environment is still of rural character, which contributes to the significance. The large Woolshed is a traditional T-plan. A simple sawn timber framed structure, sheeted with corrugated iron and raised 2.4m on log posts. The buildings roof is supported by struts on posts and arranged with a "nave" and "aisles". The outbuildings are simple, rural, timber framed buildings and are also sheeted with corrugated iron. There are brick fireplaces and ovens in the Rouseabouts Kitchen and the kitchen of the Shearers' Quarters. The buildings were used for shearing until the 1960's. Currently the Woolshed is hired for functions and the outbuildings and adjacent land are leased by Canberra Lakes Pony Club.

Condition and Integrity

All buildings have been modified, especially internally, with the Woolshed being in reasonable condition but the outbuildings are generally in poor condition. The sheep pens remain intact. All machinery has been removed.

Background/History

Analysis against the Criteria specified in Schedule 2 of the Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991

- (i) a place which demonstrates a high degree of technical and/or creative achievement, by showing qualities of innovation or departure or representing a new achievement of its time
- (ii) a place which exhibits outstanding design or aesthetic qualities valued by the community or a cultural group
- (iii) a place which demonstrates a distinctive way of life, taste, tradition, religion, land use, custom, process, design or function which is no longer practised, is in danger or being lost, or is of exceptional interest
- (iv) a place which is highly valued by the community or a cultural group for reasons of strong or special religious, spiritual, cultural, educational or social associations
- (v) a place which is the only known or only comparatively intact example of its type
- (vi) a place which is a notable example of a class of natural or cultural places or landscapes and which demonstrates the principal characteristics of that class
- (vii) a place which has strong or special associations with person, group, event, development or cultural phase which played a significant part in local or national history
- (xi) a place which demonstrates a likelihood of providing information which will contribute significantly to a wider understanding of natural or cultural history, by virtue of its use as a research site, teaching site, type locality or benchmark site

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Other Information Sources