

Scott's Homestead Statement of Significance

Heritage Place:	Scott's Homestead	PS ref no:	HO255
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What is significant?

Scott's Homestead at 103 Olliers Road, Mount Rowan, is significant. It was constructed on a small-scale (5 acre) farming allotment during the Federation period. It has not been possible to determine a more exact construction date nor the identity of who from amongst the property's earlier owners was behind the development; however, it was likely the widow Catherine Scott (née Timothy) – wife of a well-known local farmer, William Scott – who was the longest resident of the place during the Federation era.

The significance of Scott's Homestead is attributed to its original form and fabric, namely its hipped/gabled roof and 'broken back' return verandah, including short-sheeted corrugated metal cladding, exposed rafter ends, two red brick chimneys, walls of square-edged weatherboard, front entrance (excluding flyscreen), timber-framed casement windows (possibly double-hung sashes to the west elevation), some with hoods, and all coloured/patterned glazing and lead lighting.

The Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) in the backdrop of Scott's Homestead is also significant.

To the northeast of the homestead is an original or early gabled corrugated metal outbuilding that has been partially re-clad and altered. While complementary to the legibility of the place as a small farmstead, it has not been deemed significant because of its diminished intactness.

Non-original elements at the place are also not significant.

How is it significant?

Scott's Homestead is of historical (Criterion A) and representative (Criterion D) significance to the City of Ballarat.

Why is it significant?

Scott's Homestead is of historical significance as an illustration of modest agricultural activity in the Mount Rowan area during the Federation period. Such activities, while prevalent at the time across Ballarat's hinterland,

have generally left fewer tangible traces, as opposed to the larger, more affluent agricultural estates (often established in the mid-to-late Victorian era). (Criterion A)

Scott's Homestead is of representative significance as a generally intact and good example of a Queen Anne - style Federation-period timber residence, distinguished by its rural context and relatively picturesque built form. The dwelling's more pared-back form and detailing, compared with other town-based examples of the type in Ballarat, is reflective of its hinterland location and the tighter economic means of smallholders at the time. Nonetheless, the inclusion of some decorative flourishes – the bracketed half-timbered gable end, tripartite casement banks, and lead lighting – and the contrast of the symmetrical facade and asymmetrical east elevation are still demonstrative of the idiom's emphasis on having an architectural presence even when means were limited. The Monterey cypress to the rear of the homestead is associated with the formative development of the place and enhances its legibility as a rural residence. (Criterion D)

Primary source

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This document is an incorporated document in the Ballarat Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*