

MT WALKER CITATIONS

Table of Contents

Farm complex

Lunds Road

Ruhland's Farm

Ruhland's Road

EXPANDED IPSWICH HERITAGE STUDY

Name:

Category: Farm complex

Location: Lunds Road Mt Walker

RPD: RP 21558/10

Listing boundary: Area containing houses and outbuildings.

Other listings: -

Significance level: Identified Items of Interest

History:

Description: Lowset timber farmhouse with detached kitchen wing, verandahs now enclosed with weatherboards. Mature trees including a fig are nearby.

About 300m to the northeast is a complex of farm buildings of varying ages running up the hillslope including a cottage possibly c1870.

Significance:

Identified Items of Interest.

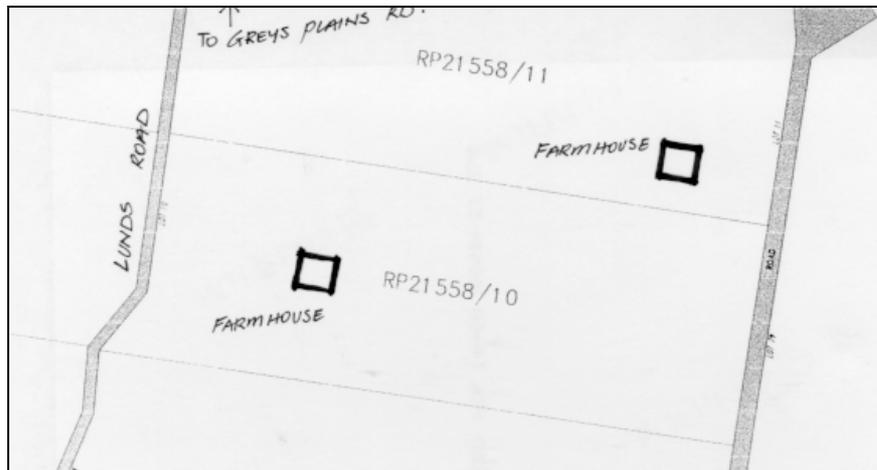
Associated items:

References:

Comments: The property has not been closely inspected.
This area is believed to be under threat from future coal mining operations.

Note: This report has been prepared on the basis of evidence examined by the study team and seeks to identify the most important heritage values of the item. The purpose of this report is to provide an initial evaluation. If any action is planned which might affect the cultural heritage significance of this place, advice should be sought through the Ipswich City Council Heritage Advisory Service.

EXPANDED IPSWICH HERITAGE STUDY



EXPANDED IPSWICH HERITAGE STUDY

Name:	Ruhland's Farm	RU-03-0012 54
Category:	Farm complex	
Location:	Ruhland's Road, Mt Walker	
RPD:	Lot 12 CH3154	
Listing boundary:	Fenced house area plus area containing all slab buildings and large fig trees	
Other listings:	Nil	
Significance level:	State	

History: Adam Ruhland (known as "Piper" Ruhland) was born in Germany in 1830 and migrated to Australia with his wife Elizabeth about 1860. He was naturalised at Ipswich in January 1867. The family selected land at Mt Walker and built a slab hut near the creek on the block nearer Stokes Rd. This location flooded and they then bought the current block and moved to the current position. Piper died in 1917 aged 87 and the farm was taken over by Henry (often known as August), then by Adam, and currently by Mick Ruhland.

The property has been used as a dairy, for mixed crops, for cotton growing and currently for grazing. August Ruhland also worked as a carrier in the district with his team of 14 bullocks.

A Co-operative dairy was set up on the property, with farmers coming in to take turns to use a separator set up in one of the barns. As separators became more common on farms, this was discontinued.

Description:

Slab house: This is in two sections. The older rear section is built entirely of ironbark slabs and poles. It originally had a front verandah but this was removed and replaced with the current skillion roof which connects the two sections. At the front is a later section of slab and weatherboard which contained a sitting room and bedrooms. It still has its front verandah and has a panelled front door. but originally also had a slab "cookhouse" with a stone floor at the rear; this kitchen section was demolished a long time ago, date uncertain. Building is in basically sound condition with some deterioration, currently used for storage. Roofs originally shingle, now corrugated galvanised iron.

Current house: Built in 1927. A weatherboard house with corrugated galvanised iron roof, open front and side verandahs, projecting gables, substantial and typical example of the inter-war bungalow with all original detailing intact. Kitchen contains an early wood stove relocated from eh slab house as well as a modern gas stove. The house is within its own fenced yard and contains grape vines, bougainvilleas, crepe myrtles. A tank stand is beside the house.

Hayshed: Remarkable large slab hayshed in excellent condition, built about 1900 by August Ruhland, using a bullock team to raise the tall poles. The post holes were 7ft 6ins deep. The bullock team also held the frame steady while the huge top plate was bolted into position. Attached to the hayshed is a barn which is used for cutting chaff, storage etc. The Co-operative dairy was in this building and the separator slab is still in position. Barn floor is slab. Buildings still in use.

Cream shed: Slab building near the slab house with pyramid corrugated galvanised iron roof, contains hand operated separator.

Fowlyard: Small slab building with slab and wire fence as fowl yard.

Stables: Slab building; interior fittings intact including feed troughs made of hollowed logs, original dowels for holding rails etc

Piggery: slab building in relatively deteriorated condition.

Cow bails: more recent weatherboard building with cement floor.

EXPANDED IPSWICH HERITAGE STUDY

Loading ramp, yards etc: the property has typical timber yards; the loading ramp, now somewhat deteriorated but useable, was the first in the district.

Modern hayshed: large modern zincalume shed.

Trees: the property has several large fig trees.

Significance:

This property is a place of cultural heritage significance and satisfies one or more of the criteria in Division 13.6 of Local Law 30 of the Ipswich Town Planning Scheme as evidenced by, but not exclusive to, the following statement of significance, based on **Criteria a, b, c, d, e, f, g.**

The property is a remarkable and extremely rare example of an early farm which still has its original buildings in good condition. The succession of buildings demonstrates the development of the property and of the family which occupied it. The buildings and some of their original equipment is still intact and clearly demonstrate the way in which the family occupied and worked the farm from the 1860s onwards. The buildings and their equipment demonstrate a high level of technical achievement in their use of local materials and simple but effective and resourceful methods. The property is associated with the development of the Mt Walker/Rosevale district and its residents, many of German origin.

Associated items:

References: Information from Mick Ruhland.
Some biographical information from *Coleyville Cemetery* Leisha Muir.

Comments:

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