

SORELL HERITAGE SURVEY

Address: 15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173		UPI: 2904775	PID: 7566787
Name: STUDLEY PARK (SHEET1/2)			
Feature Type:	Structure Type: House	Site Feature Type: Garden	Dating: 1891 - 1920
	Tobacco Kiln	Hedge	Access Restrictions: Restricted
	Dairy Group		Inspection Date: October 96 P Davies
	Garage/Shed House		Style:
Indication of Significance: High probable significance		Grid ref: 5426 551400 5260150	
Material:		Theme: Primary Production	Listings: National Trust SMC Schedule 3
Condition:		Land selection and closer settlement	
Integrity:			
National Estate Criteria: A4 B4 C2 D2 F1		Photograph Index: 5:19-33	
Risk:	Excavation: ☐	Development: ☐	Maintenance: ☐ Vandalism: ☐

SITE DESCRIPTION:

House (Federation Bungalow) 1901: A very fine Federation house set on the brow of the hill with extensive views to the west. The house is set in a fenced garden with a very impressive hedge around the front lawn area. The house is of face brick with two rear wings, bay windows a large front verandah, enclosed in the 1950's, a large rear verandah built in 1996 and features sandstone sills to windows, a sandstone base, galvanised iron roof covering, brick chimneys, sandstone steps and generally fine joinery work throughout. The house has recently been restored and is in excellent condition. The foundations of the first house on the site were partially uncovered in recent paving works at the rear of the house.

Material: Brick, Corrugated Iron Condition: good Integrity: Altered, extended sympathetically

Tobacco Kiln c1920: A rare tobacco kiln, one of the few surviving in reasonable condition and consequently of high interest. The building sits on a concrete base, is timber framed lined with horizontal corrugated iron externally and asbestos cement sheets internally. It measures 12'x12' and has a number of drying floors. The roof is pyramid shaped with louvred vent on the top. The heating was by ducts of hot air from an external source (not extant) and there is a flue on the rear wall extending past the roof. There is one entry door, two vents at the base on each side to control the air flow, each with sliding boards (missing) and the internal ducting survives but is not in place. The form of the building is striking as it is tall and narrow and in conjunction with the adjacent tobacco silo is of high significance. The thermometer survives on the kiln wall.

Material: Corrugated Iron Condition: Fair Integrity: Intact

Dairy c1920: Three small buildings aligned along the rear boundary comprising the three uses above. The buildings are on concrete foundations, have corrugated iron walls and roofs and are lined with asbestos cement sheeting. Most equipment has been removed. The dairy has a sliding door on one side and the yards survive on the rear side.

Material: Corrugated Iron Condition: Good Integrity: Intact

Garage/Shed c1920: Two small corrugated iron structures, one used as a garage the other appears to have been used for horses at some point. They are simple structures with gabled roof forms and are part of the farm group.

Material: Corrugated Iron Condition: Fair Integrity: Intact

Former Managers Cottage (Victorian) c1910: A small cottage in the grounds which was formerly two attached dwellings for farm hands. The building has been renovated and converted to a single residence. It is a timber structure with corrugated iron roof and brick chimney and is now set in a small garden.

Material: Timber Siding, Corrugated Iron Condition: Good Integrity: Altered, extended sympathetically

HISTORY:

Owned by John Thomas Lakeland who put its 300 acres up for sale in 1844. It later passed to J S Steele of Carlton River, who put it up for let in 1862. By this time it consisted of 370 acres and contained:

a substantial well-built dwelling house, large stone barn, with all necessary outbuildings, and a garden of 4 acres stocked with upwards of 300 of the choicest fruit trees.

SORELL HERITAGE SURVEY

In 1874 the property was taken over by Richard Studley Steele who added to the property and bred Shropshire sheep on it. He was a well known sheep breeder and pastoralist and served as a magistrate, a member of the School Board of Advice and the Lower Sorell Road Trust. The house he built at Studley Park at around the turn of the century was described by the Cyclopaedia of Tasmania as :

a handsome new residence . . . which is not more attractive outside than it is within, being replete not only with every comfort and convenience, but with those elegancies which betoken the presence of culture and artistic taste.

The tobacco kilns are said to date from the 1930s when the Harvey family grew tobacco on their estate, particularly on the part of the estate on which Forcett House is located.

BOUNDARY:

The listing boundary is formed by the title boundary of the property.

COMMENTS:

The property, now a small remnant of the early holdings, retains the house and a group of outbuildings set in a fine garden. The house is a very fine Federation period country house exhibiting fine detailing and use of features typical to major Federation houses. It is significant for its connection with the development of the area and particularly the town of Forcett, for its connection with prominent families including Steele and for its fine aesthetic and visual qualities.

The tobacco kiln is a very rare surviving structure from an industry that was short lived in Tasmania. Most tobacco was grown in several defined areas including the Derwent Valley with small production taking place in remote areas such as this. The kiln is well built and detailed with the interesting if utilitarian use of corrugated iron. The building was only used for a short time as the industry was wiped out by crop failures. The building is a remnant that allows an understanding of a failed agricultural venture.

The dairy buildings form part of the larger farm group and contribute to the completeness of the group. They indicate the range of farming practices on Studley Park and the self sufficiency of large farm holdings. The buildings are also very good examples of small scale dairy and butchers buildings with their interiors sufficiently intact to demonstrate former farm practices.

The shed and garage are two small contributory structures that have significance as part of the farm group and which illustrate the range of structures to be found on large farms. The garage in particular demonstrates the need to provide new buildings for changing technologies and transport.

The former managers cottage, although somewhat altered, is significant as part of the larger Studley Park group and for indicating the relative importance of the main house in comparison to the managers modest timber accommodation.

It meets Criteria A4, B2, C2, D2 and F1 for inclusion in the Register of the National Estate.

It should continue to 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:

Cyclopaedia of Tasmania. 1900. Maitland and Krone, Hobart.
Hobart Town Courier 31 May 1844, p1
Lindsay Stokes, oral information
The Mercury 1 October 1862, p1

SORELL HERITAGE SURVEY

Address: 15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173		UPI: 2904775	PID: 7566787
Name: STUDLEY PARK (SHEET 2/2)			
Feature Type:	Structure Type	Site Feature Type	Dating: 1830 - 1915
	Barn - ruins	Driveway	Access Restrictions: Restricted
	Silo	Mature trees	Inspection Date: October 96 P Davies
	Granary	Fence Gates	Style: Grid ref: 5426 551400 5260150
Indication of Significance: High probable significance		Theme: Primary Production Land selection and closer settlement	
Material:		Listings: National Trust SMC Schedule 3	
Condition:			
Integrity:			
National Estate Criteria: A4 B4 C2 D2 F1		Photograph Index: 5:19-33	
Risk:	Excavation: ☐	Development: ☐	Maintenance: ☐ Vandalism: ☐

SITE DESCRIPTION:

Barn - ruins c1910

The grounds contain many mature trees including two flanking the entry drive and a very fine stand of trees running parallel to the road inside the boundary. These are important elements in the historic landscape and should be retained as a high priority. The trees define the road and the old road formation survives (to be upgraded) as a rare and valuable reminder of the pattern of road design and construction. It is strongly recommended that this road not be upgraded and that if works are needed that the road be retained as a narrow roadway reserve to preserve the stands of trees. Removal of these trees would constitute an act of vandalism.

The front gates and fence are of 1940-50 origin and while not impressive, the gates in particular are visually an important part of the site and should be retained.

The barn site retains some of the foundations of stone and the outline and plan form of the barn can still be read. The barn is purported to be the first structure built on the site and was evidently impressive.

Material: Stone

Condition: Good

Integrity: Unexcavated potential archaeological site

Silo c1920

A very unusual and rare silo that appears to have been used for tobacco storage. The structure is round and made of interlocked pre cast concrete blocks tied with bands of round steel rod which are linked with tie wires to form an interlocked mesh on the outside of the building. The blocks are bedded in tar to form a seal. There is a door at ground level for unloading and a door above it for loading and formerly there was an elevator, now removed. The roof is constructed of timber and clad in corrugated iron and is framed square over the round base with a pyramid roof form.

Material: Pre-cast Concrete, Corrugated iron

Condition: Good

Integrity: Intact

Granary c1850

A small brick two storey granary building with loft only access to the top floor, a central low doorway and flanking windows with bars to protect the goods held inside. The building is strangely proportioned to contain its two levels. The base is rendered over stone and there is stone trim to openings. The rear skillion extension is in concrete block of poor quality and forms garaging. It detracts from the earlier building. The building has rising damp causing brick fretting which requires attention, probably to drainage.

Material: Brick, Corrugated Iron

Condition: Fair

Integrity: Altered, extended unsympathetically

SORELL HERITAGE SURVEY

HISTORY:

Owned by John Thomas Lakeland who put its 300 acres up for sale in 1844. It later passed to J S Steele of Carlton River, who put it up for let in 1862. By this time it consisted of 370 acres and contained:

a substantial well-built dwelling house, large stone barn, with all necessary outbuildings, and a garden of 4 acres stocked with upwards of 300 of the choicest fruit trees.

In 1874 the property was taken over by Richard Studley Steele who added to the property and bred Shropshire sheep on it. He was a well known sheep breeder and pastoralist and served as a magistrate, a member of the School Board of Advice and the Lower Sorell Road Trust. The house he built at Studley Park at around the turn of the century was described by the Cyclopaedia of Tasmania as :

a handsome new residence . . . which is not more attractive outside than it is within, being replete not only with every comfort and convenience, but with those elegancies which betoken the presence of culture and artistic taste.

The tobacco kilns are said to date from the 1930s when the Harvey family grew tobacco on their estate, particularly on the part of the estate on which Forcett House is located.

BOUNDARY:

The listing boundary is formed by the title boundary of the property.

COMMENTS:

The site features and foundations of the former barn are of significance as part of the total Studley Park group, for their landscape and archaeological value and as remnant features of the broader landscape surrounding this important rural property. The barn, a substantial building, would have been the feature of the site and in relation to the early house would have been the largest structure on the site indicating the importance of farm production in the early history of the property. The landscape features of the site provide the setting for the main house, may date back in part to the earlier period of development and are an important part of the landscape setting of the area.

The silo is of value as part of the farm group and for its role in the short lived production of tobacco on the property. Its use of pre-cast concrete elements is unusual and adds to its value.

The granary is one of the earliest buildings to survive on the site and probably dates from the original house on the property. Its modest form and detailing illustrate its early date with bars for protection against theft of food. The skillion addition should be removed.

It meets Criteria A4, B2, C2, D2 and F1 for inclusion in the Register of the National Estate.

It should continue to 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:

Cyclopaedia of Tasmania. 1900. Maitland and Krone, Hobart.
Hobart Town Courier 31 May 1844, p1
Lindsay Stokes, oral information
The Mercury 1 October 1862, p1

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



STUDLEY PARK (SHEET1/2)

15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



STUDLEY PARK (SHEET1/2)

15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173

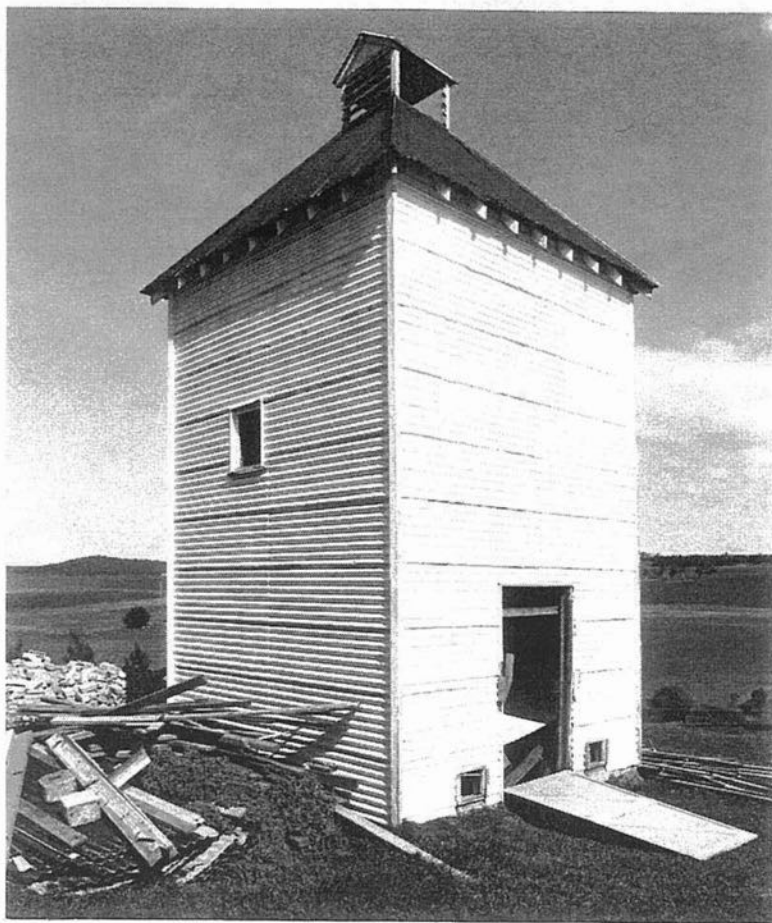
SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



STUDLEY PARK (SHEET 1/2)

15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173

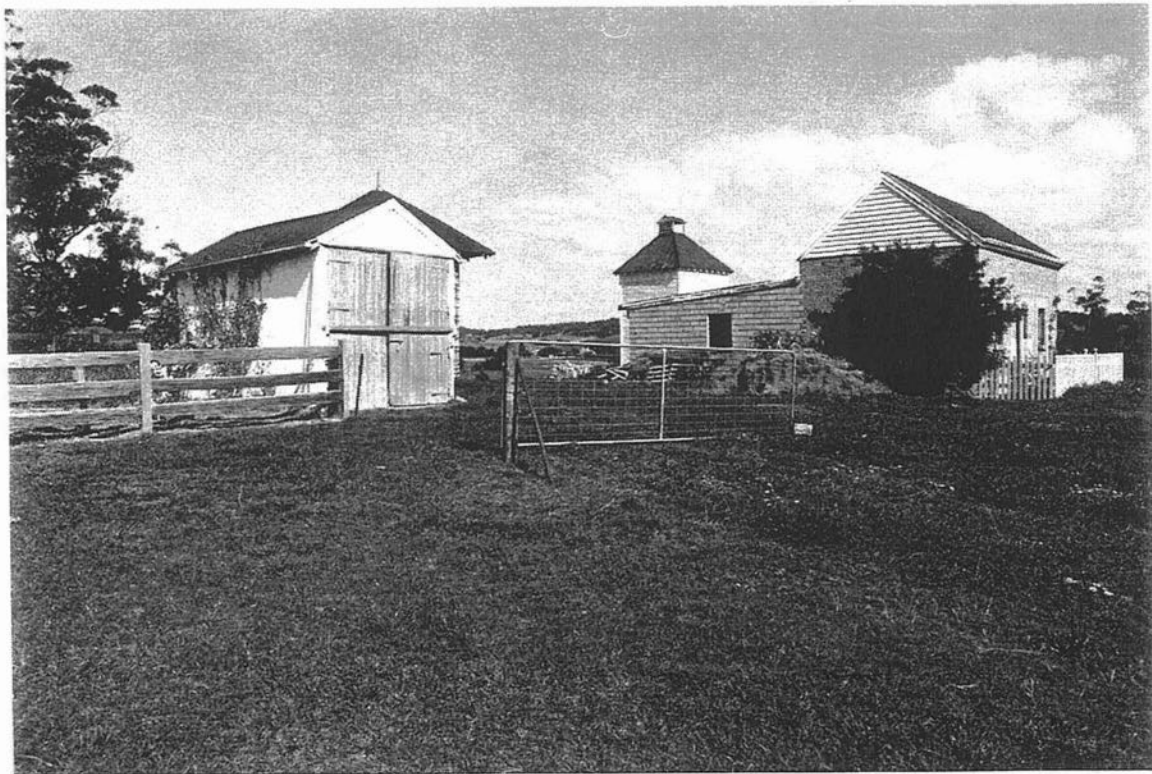
SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



STUDLEY PARK (SHE

15 Old Forcett Road

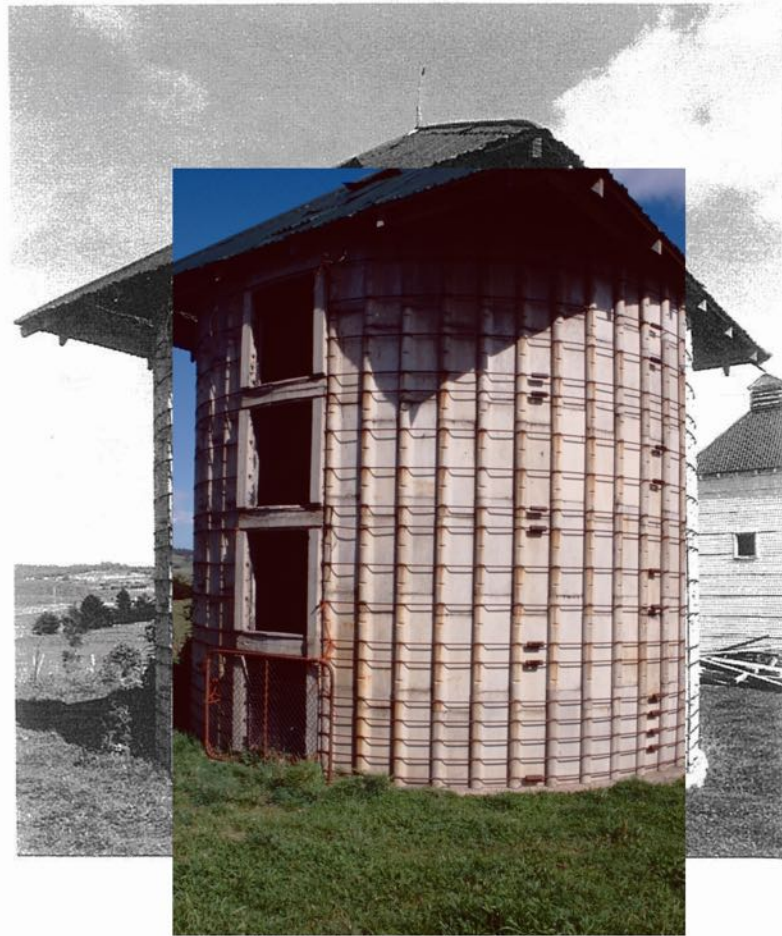
SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



STUDLEY PARK (SHEET 1/2)

15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



STUDLEY PARK (SHEET1/2)

15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



STUDLEY PARK (SHEET1/2)

15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



STUDLEY PARK (SHEET1/2)

15 Old Forcett Road Forcett 7173