

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY

Address: Bream Creek Road Copping 7174		UPI: 2901694	PID: 1531356
Name: BREAM CREEK SHOWGROUND			
Feature Type:	Structure Type:	Site Feature Type:	Dating: 1891-1915
	Shed	Sportsground	Access Restrictions: Restricted
	Community Centre or hall		Inspection date: October 96 Ian Terry
			Style: Utilitarian
			Grid ref: 5625 566700 5258600
Indication of Significance: High probable significance		Theme: Shows and Festivals Community Organisations	
Material:	Timber Siding	Corrugated Iron	Listings:
Condition:	Good		
Integrity:	Altered, extended unsympathetically		
National Estate Criteria:	Photograph Index: 15:24-25		
Risk: Excavation: ☐ Development: ☒ Maintenance: ☒ Vandalism: ☐			
SITE DESCRIPTION: A country showground with a number of buildings. The most significant building is the 1906 weatherboard hall with its corrugated iron gabled roof. Its western gable features ornamental timberwork, a vent and a finial. A very unsympathetic aluminium clad extension to the entailed the removal of the eastern gable and its decorative features. It also has a new bullnosed verandah with treated pine floorboards. The early hall has a timber floor and Baltic pine lining. The other structures on the property are of timber, metal and concrete block construction and have little significance in themselves.			
HISTORY: The first Bream Creek show was held at the nearby Copping recreation ground in May 1896, when the 'crowd of people was so great that they actually had to be let into the cricket pavilion (in which the show was held) in sections'. The showground has been in operation for approximately 100 years and is one of the longest standing shows in the state. The oldest building is the hall, built in 1906 to replace the 1898 hall which had burnt down. A bachelor's ball was held on July 27, 1906 to celebrate its opening. The much-talked about bachelors' ball . . . took place in the new show-hall on Friday, July 27 and was quite the success it was expected to be. The whole arrangements were a credit to the committee of management, and there were fully sixty couples present, including visitors from other parts of the district. There were also many visitors, who, no doubt, enjoyed the picturesque and animated scene as the dancers were engaged in the graceful waltzes, stately lancers, and other dances. The hall was tastefully decorated with ferns and flags of choice designs, kindly lent by Miss Harris and Mr Copping. . . The floor was in splendid order. The music could not be surpassed . . . and the most up-to-date numbers in dance music were supplied. The Bream Creek show has been held continuously since its inception with breaks only being made during wartime. In recent years there have been a number of extensions and new buildings erected to cater for its increased popularity.			
BOUNDARY: The listing boundary is formed by the title boundary of the property.			
COMMENTS: The showground and in particular the intact section of the main hall have historic significance as a place of gathering for over a century, reflecting a longstanding local commitment to community activities. The place has social significance for the local community as a symbol of celebration of the rural economy. It should be included in Schedule 3 of the Sorell Planning Scheme and should be nominated for inclusion in the Tasmanian Heritage Register.			

BIBLIOGRAPHY + PREVIOUS STUDIES:

Informants: Jim Dunbabin, ph: 6253 5276

REID, Owen. 1979. *The South East*. Curriculum Centre, Education Department, Hobart
Tasmanian Mail 30 May 1896, p29; 4 August 1906, p12.

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY



Address:	Bream Creek Road, Copping 7174
Name:	BREAM CREEK SHOWGROUND