

SORELL HERITAGE STUDY			
Address: Carlton Road, Carlton River 7173		UPI:	PID:
Name: CARLTON RIVER POST OFFICE		Owner: I & P STEELE	
Structure Type: Feature Type: Post Office	Site Feature Type:	Dating:	1830-1890 1841
		Access Restrictions:	Not available
		Inspection date:	October 96 P Davies
		Style:	Postal Services
		Grid ref:	5425 55565 525390
Indication of Significance: High Probable Significance		Theme: Postal services	
Material: Timber Split Slabs Corrugated Iron		Listings: National Trust SMC Schedule 3	
Condition: Deteriorated			
Integrity: Intact			
National Estate Criteria: A4 B2 C2 D2 E1		Photograph Index:	9:19-20
Risk: Excavation: ☐ Development: ☐ Maintenance: ☐ Vandalism: ☐			
SITE DESCRIPTION: An early post office at Canton River has survived, if in poor condition, almost intact. The early section of the building is a small symmetrical slab house with rendered walls and a steep pitched bell-cast roof now covered in corrugated iron but originally clad in shingles (seen in 1920's photograph). The rear has a skillion section in timber. There are two brick and stone fireplaces at the east end, one to the front section and one to the skillion for the kitchen. There is a small timber addition to the west built on timber log supports. The joinery is simple and survives, windows are double hung pairs of 6 pane sashes and the door is simply panelled. Some remnants of the garden survive and photographs show that it once sat in a fine cottage garden. It is set on the banks of the river and is one of the few surviving modest buildings in the area, most of which have disappeared through their ephemeral nature.			
HISTORY: The first recorded postal service at Carlton was in 1841 when Ralph Dodge became the postmaster. It is unlikely that the present building became the post office until 1845 when its owner, William Morris, became postmaster. The building continued to be used as a post office until its closure in 1949. It was then occupied by Fred Steele until his death. The owners have liaised with Sorell School for students to do historical work relating to the post office. Conservation is taking place.			
BOUNDARY: The listing boundary is formed by the title boundary of the property.			
COMMENTS: The former Post Office is one of the earliest buildings to survive in the Carlton area and indicates the location of the former township, the importance of the river in providing access to the area and form of building used for early communications. The building is an excellent example of early construction techniques which has retained its significant form. It meets Criteria A4, B2, C2, D2 and E1 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:			

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