

NAME: 'Ashley Farm' coachhouse remains, 100 Delabole Road, WHITES VALLEY

PLACE NO.: Local, HID 5426

CURRENT USE: outbuilding
FORMER USE: coachhouse
DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION: c. 19th century (exact date unknown)

LOCATION: 100 Delabole Road, WHITES VALLEY
LAND DESCRIPTION: CT 5511/39, Section 264, Hundred of Willunga

OWNER: Private ownership

REGISTER STATUS: Local, HID 5426



100 Delabole Road, Whites Valley (GGA, 2022)

NAME: 'Ashley Farm' coachhouse remains, 100 Delabole Road, WHITES VALLEY

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DESCRIPTION:

C.19th century former coachhouse (formerly two storeys, second storey now removed), constructed of masonry with brick quoins and surrounds, later timber internal structure (likely following removal of second storey) with later corrugated steel cladding. Large steel shed to the immediate west, large tree located to immediate north.

It is recommended that 100 Delabole Road, Whites Valley be delisted as a Local Heritage place on the SA Heritage Register.

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

Not applicable, to be delisted

RELEVANT CRITERIA (As defined in Section 67(1) of the PDI Act 2016):

An assessment of the heritage values of the Ashley Farm coachhouse, 100 Delabole Road, Whites Valley has been undertaken according to the Local Heritage criteria. The heritage value of the place has **not** been identified with any criteria, as such registration as a Local Heritage place has not been recommended.

a) it displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area;

With the demolition of the original Ashley Farm farmhouse, this outbuilding is now removed from its historic context. Timber structural elements have been replaced over time and do not effectively represent the original timber internal structure. While original masonry fabric remains, this fabric has been extensively altered and does not effectively represent the heritage significance or history of the Ashley Farm complex and is currently in poor condition. Surviving heritage fabric of the outbuilding does not therefore sufficiently represent local historical, economic or social themes to warrant listing in association with this criterion. **Criteria a) is not met.**

b) it represents customs or ways of life that are characteristic to the local area;

While an interesting 19th century outbuilding for the historic Ashley Farm complex, the outbuilding has been removed from its historic context following the demolition of the associated farmhouse. Surviving heritage fabric has been extensively altered over time and does not sufficiently represent local customs or ways of life in any sufficiently tangible or meaningful way to warrant listing against this criterion. **Criteria b) is not met.**

c) it has played an important part in the lives of local residents;

As an outbuilding for a private residence for the entirety of its existence, the building has not played a significant role in the lives of Willunga residents. **Criteria c) is not met.**

d) it displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area;

As a 19th century outbuilding of relatively convention appearance and construction, surviving heritage fabric has been extensively altered over time and does not display aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to warrant listing against this criterion.

Criteria d) is not met.

e) it is associated with a notable local personality or event;

‘Ashley Farm’ is strongly associated with the farming activities of the Atkinson family, particularly Thomas Atkinson who established ‘Ashley Farm’ in the mid-19th century with subsequent generations managing the property until approximately 1934; a familial association of nearly 100 years.

However, as an outbuilding of a larger 19th century farming complex, the surviving heritage fabric of the outbuilding does not sufficiently represent the significance of the site’s association with the Atkinson family to warrant listing against this criterion. The original farmhouse may have effectively represented this significance though this building has now been demolished. **Criteria e) is not met.**

f) it is a notable landmark in the area;

The ‘Ashley Farm’ coachhouse does not present as a local landmark as it is located on private property and is not publicly viewable or accessible. **Criteria f) is not met.**

RELEVANT HISTORIC THEMES:

Not applicable, to be delisted

BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The heritage significance of the ‘Ashley Farm’ coachhouse at 100 Delabole Road, Whites Valley was first assessed as part of the 1997 Willunga District Heritage Survey. The 1997 survey described the coachhouse as a small remnant of an earlier structure, originally comprising a two-storey coachhouse and barn. The 1997 survey noted that ‘Ashley Farm’ was founded by Thomas Atkinson, a significant Willunga citizen who arrived in the township in 1839, establishing ‘Ashley Farm’ shortly afterwards and remaining there until his death in 1906. The 1997 Survey noted that members of the Atkinson family managed the property until 1934 when the farm was acquired by the Almond Groves Company who planted the site with almonds. The 1997 Survey noted that the farm was still managed as an almond grove at that time and the former coachhouse was used for storage. The 1997 Survey noted an association with the Giles family who acquired the farmhouse and outbuilding in 1934 and have retained an association since this time.

Current research largely supports historical findings, the earliest identifiable Lands Title records date to 1925 when the site was owned by Sidney Blackler of Willunga, farmer. It is unclear if Blackler acquired the land from the Atkinson family in 1925 or if Blackler had an earlier association. The property was transferred to Almond Groves Limited in August 1934; a portion of former farmland associated with the ‘Ashley Farm’ farmhouse and outbuilding was transferred to Leonard

Hollway Giles, farmer of Auburn in May 1935; the property has remained in the hands of the Giles family since this time.

It is understood that the original 'Ashley Farm' farmhouse was demolished sometime in the mid-20th century, leaving the former coachhouse as the only surviving remnant of the original farm complex. As noted in the 1997 Survey, the current appearance of the coachhouse is the result of extensive modifications; the second storey of the building has been removed with later internal timber structures, only minimal 'ground-floor' heritage fabric survives to the present day.

EXTENT OF LISTING:

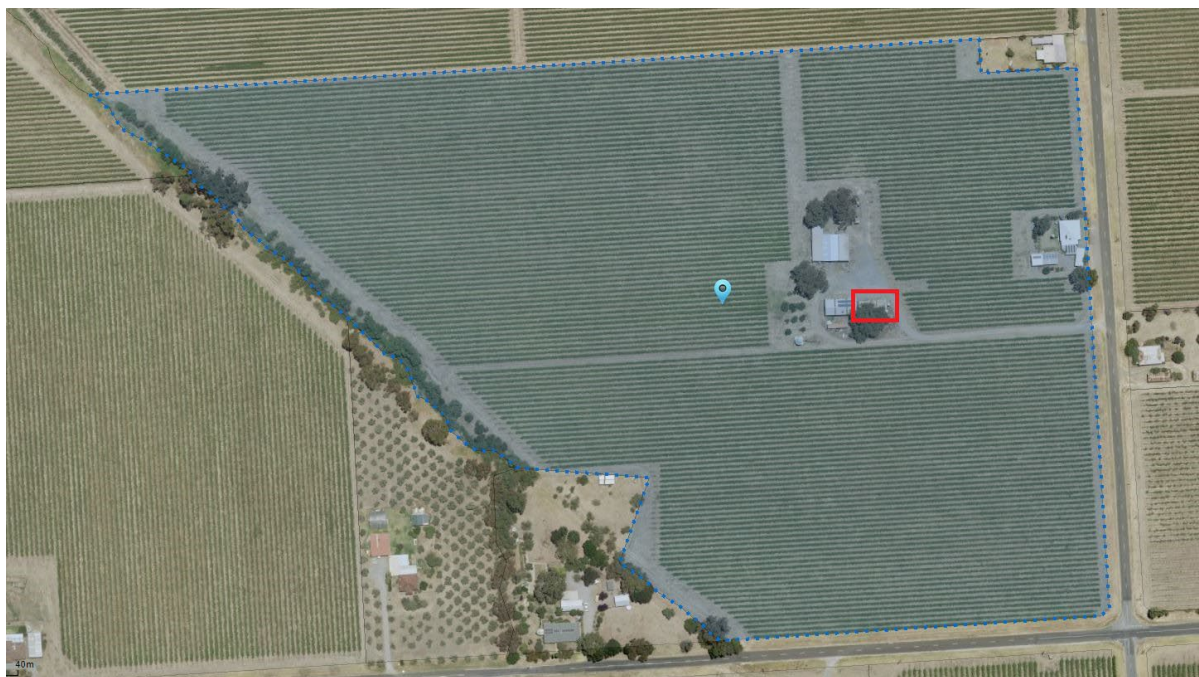
Not applicable, to be delisted

REFERENCES:

CTs 1388/73; 1632/152; 1642/20; 4114/789; etc.

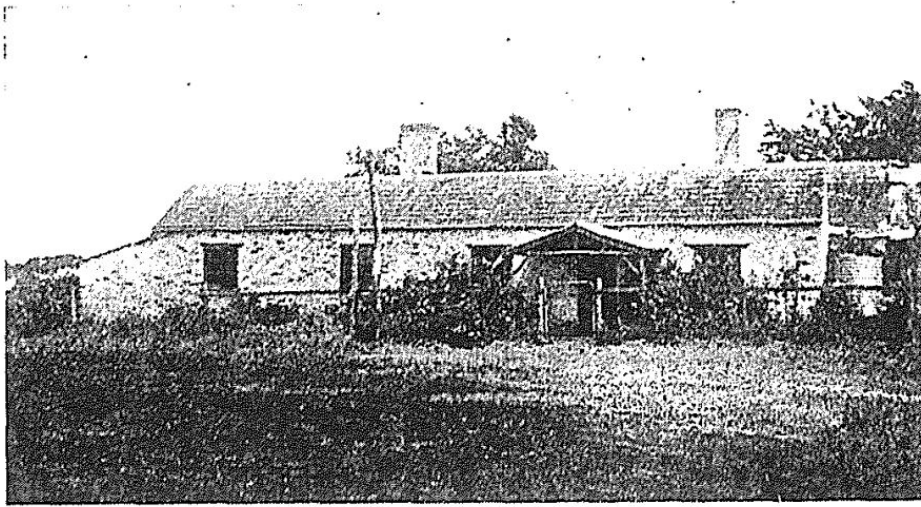
McDougall & Vines, 1997, *Willunga District Heritage Survey*, p. 240-241.

SITE MAPPING:



Site of 'Ashley Farm', 100 Delabole Road, Whites Valley; site of coachhouse shown within red rectangle (Planning SA SAPPA)

HISTORICAL IMAGES:



"ASHLEY FARM"
The Old Home of Captain Atkinson.

C.1950s photograph of 'Ashley Farm' farmhouse, now demolished (McDougall & Vines, 1997, Willunga District Heritage Survey, p.241).

OTHER IMAGES:



Current dilapidated appearance of the former coachhouse at 100 Delabole Road, Whites Valley, looking south (GGA, 2022).



Current dilapidated appearance of the former coachhouse at 100 Delabole Road, Whites Valley, looking south (GGA, 2022).



Later internal timber structure and corrugated steel roofing to outbuilding following removal of second storey, date unknown. (GGA, 2022).