

NAME: 'Strout Farm', 60 Strout Road, MCLAREN VALE

PLACE NO.: Local, HID 5413

CURRENT USE:	Dwelling with outbuildings
FORMER USE:	Farmhouse, adjoining kitchen/cellar with early outbuildings
DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION:	C.1850 with later additions and alterations
LOCATION:	60 Strout Road, MCLAREN VALE
LAND DESCRIPTION:	CT 5384/553, Section 449, Hundred of Willunga
OWNER:	Private ownership
REGISTER STATUS:	Local, HID 5413



'Strout Farm', 60 Strout Road, McLaren Vale (GGA, 2021)

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DESCRIPTION:

C.1850 former farmhouse constructed of masonry with brick quoins, surrounds and chimneys, original gable roof form with later corrugated steel cladding extending to later timber-framed verandah. Early cast iron wall plates to north elevation, early slate paving to west elevation verandah.

Mid-19th century cellar and kitchen adjoining outbuilding, cellar retains early timber door and window fittings with early slate salt bath and slate shelving. Slate treads to descending external steps. Kitchen retains original stove alcove, timber ceiling and ceiling hooks with early timber door and window fittings. Later c.1930s bathroom additions to south and north elevations.

Mid-19th century masonry and timber stabling complex with extensive early slab timberwork, including original timber stalls and mangers with original 'oculus' ventilators to north masonry wall. Various periods of early and later corrugated steel roof cladding.

Mid-19th century shed constructed of early slab timberwork with various periods of corrugated steel roof and wall cladding. Various periods of later timber structural elements supporting early timberwork.

Mid-19th century slate slab to former masonry outbuilding, demolished in c. 1997. Slate slab paving to the immediate north adjoining large Moreton Bay fig tree.

Large Moreton Bay fig tree dating to initial site development (c.1850s), now grown over adjoining timber fence posts dating to the same period. Early olive grove (c.1850s) to western boundary fence near western property entrance from Strout Road. Various later timber-framed corrugated steel-clad outbuildings dating from the mid-20th century onwards.

It is recommended that the former farmhouse, adjoining kitchen/cellar and outbuildings of the Strout Farm complex, 60 Strout Road, McLaren Vale be retained on the SA Heritage Register as a Local Heritage place. It is recommended that the current listing be amended to include additional heritage fabric identified in the recommended Extent of Listing

It is believed that State Heritage criteria a) & d) of Section 16 of the *Heritage Places Act 1993* may be applicable to the currently-identified heritage significance relating to the Strout Farm complex, 60 Strout Road, McLaren Vale.

A delineation of significant historic fabric is provided in the Extent of Listing.

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

The Strout family farming complex at 60 Strout Road, McLaren Vale is of significance as a relatively intact farming complex dating from the 1850s and retaining a high degree of early fabric. The survival of unusual and distinctive features, including slate salt baths and shelving to the cellar and early slab timber stalls and mangers to the former stabling complex, are rare and early

features for the local district, representing the site's agricultural activities from the mid-19th century. The farm complex is also strongly associated with the Strout family who have owned and resided at the property since the mid-19th century; an association of nearly 120 years.

RELEVANT CRITERIA (Under Section 23(4) of the Development Act 1993):

- a) it displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area; being a relatively intact c.1850 farming complex retaining a high degree of original fabric dating to the initial development of agricultural activities in the district during the mid-19th century.
- b) it represents customs or ways of life that are characteristic of the local area; being an relatively intact example of a mid 19th century farming complex, retaining its original farmhouse and associated outbuilding which represent the lifestyle of farmers and agricultural producers in the local district at this time.
- d) it displays aesthetic merit, design characteristics or construction techniques of significance to the local area; the former farmhouse retaining a very high integrity of original fabric, including its original layout; the kitchen/cellar retains early and distinctive features including slate salt baths, slate shelves and original ceiling hooks; the masonry and timber stabling complex retains early slab timberwork and unusual surviving early features including original stalls and mangers.
- e) it is associated with a notable local personality or event; being owned, occupied and operated by various generations of the extended Strout family since 1850; a highly significant association of approximately 120 years.
- g) in the case of a tree, it is of special historical or social significance or importance within the local area; the substantial Moreton Bay fig tree and associated boundary fencing dating to the initial development of the site from the 1850s.

RELEVANT HISTORIC THEMES:

Theme 5: Food Production in the Southern Vales

5.1 Self-contained and self-reliant farming complexes

BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

The 1997 Willunga District Heritage Survey identified that the Strout family founded 'Strout's Farm', 60 Strout Road, McLaren Vale soon after settlement of the local district in the 1840s. The 1997 survey also noted the Strout family has retained ownership of parts of the original farming land, including the original farmhouse and outbuildings at 60 Strout Road, McLaren Vale since the 1850s.

The Royal South Australian Almanack of 1849 is the first to record a 'Richard Strout, farmer, near Willunga'; suggesting settlement in the district by this date. It is unclear when the earliest portions of the farmhouse and early outbuildings were constructed but are likely to date shortly after Richard Strout's arrival in the district. Current research has identified Lands Title records dating to 1876, when the original land owner Henry Malpas leased Section 448 to Samuel Strout (also leasing Section 449 to Samuel's relative Richard Strout on the same day). Samuel Strout acquired portions of the adjoining Section 446 in March 1881. Richard Wellesley Strout, son of Samuel Strout, would later acquire all associated Sections by the late 1900s.

Various generations of the extended Strout family have continuously occupied the 'Strout Farm' complex (formerly known as 'Brooklet') since construction in c.1850. It is understood that the detached kitchen and cellar was constructed shortly after the farmhouse, originally joined by a narrow walkway. The cellar is largely in original condition with early slate salt bath, slate shelves and timber window fittings. The kitchen retains its original stove alcove and ceiling hooks.

One former barn was demolished shortly before listing in 1997, though the original slate slab remains on site. Several early outbuildings dating to the initial c.1850 site development remain, including a masonry and timber stabling complex with surviving original timber mangers and stalls and an early timber shed with later alterations. A substantial Moreton Bay fig tree dating to the mid-19th century also remains on the site, having enveloped early timber fencing posts (see Other Images). A new residence has recently been erected to the immediate north of the former farmhouse, the residence of two subsequent generations of the extended Strout family.

EXTENT OF LISTING:

The form and materials of all masonry elements to the c.1850 former farmhouse, including all masonry walls, chimneys, door and window openings and early cast-iron wall plates. Early external paving to the west elevation verandah is also included in the listing. The form of the original gable roof and use of corrugated steel is considered of significance and is included in the listing, though individual replacement materials are not included in the listing. Where replacement is required, the form and materials of replacement elements should match existing elements.

The form and materials of the mid-19th century cellar and kitchen, including all masonry elements including slate salt baths and slate shelves, slate treads to external stairs. All later additions, including the c.1930s additions are not included.

The form and materials of the mid-19th century masonry and timber stabling complex, including north masonry wall with 'oculus' window openings and all early slab timberwork, including columns, early stalls and mangers, etc. the use of later structural timberwork and use of corrugated steel is considered of significance and is included in the listing though individual replacement materials are not included in the listing. Where replacement is required, the form and materials of replacement elements should match existing elements.

The form of the mid-19th century shed including all early slab timberwork. The use of later structural timberwork and use of corrugated steel is considered of significance and is included in the listing though individual replacement materials are not included in the listing. Where replacement is required, the form and materials of replacement elements should match existing elements.

The form and materials of all external slate slabs and paving, including the mid-19th century slate slab to demolished former masonry outbuilding and slate paving to the immediate north, adjoining large Moreton Bay fig tree.

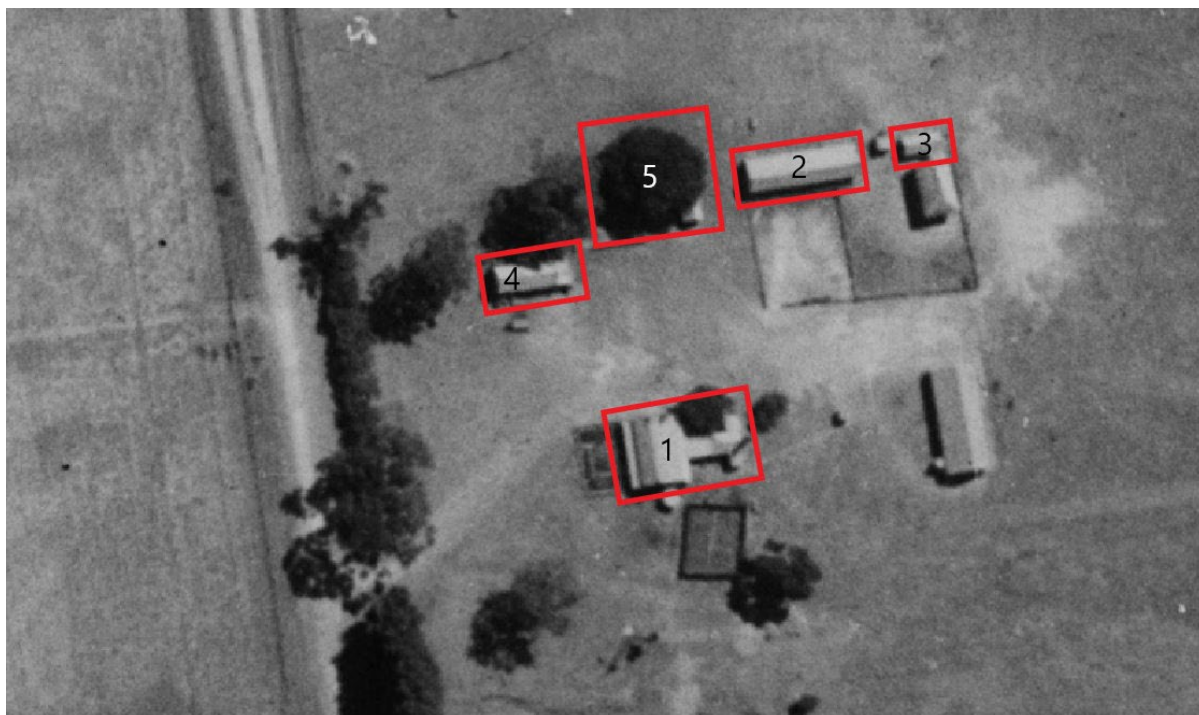
The large Moreton Bay fig tree and associated early timber boundary fencing is included in the listing. A regular routine inspection of the health and condition of the tree should be undertaken to monitor its longevity and its heritage contribution to the site.

All later additions and structures, including mid-20th century timber framed and corrugated steel clad outbuildings are not included in the listing.

REFERENCES:

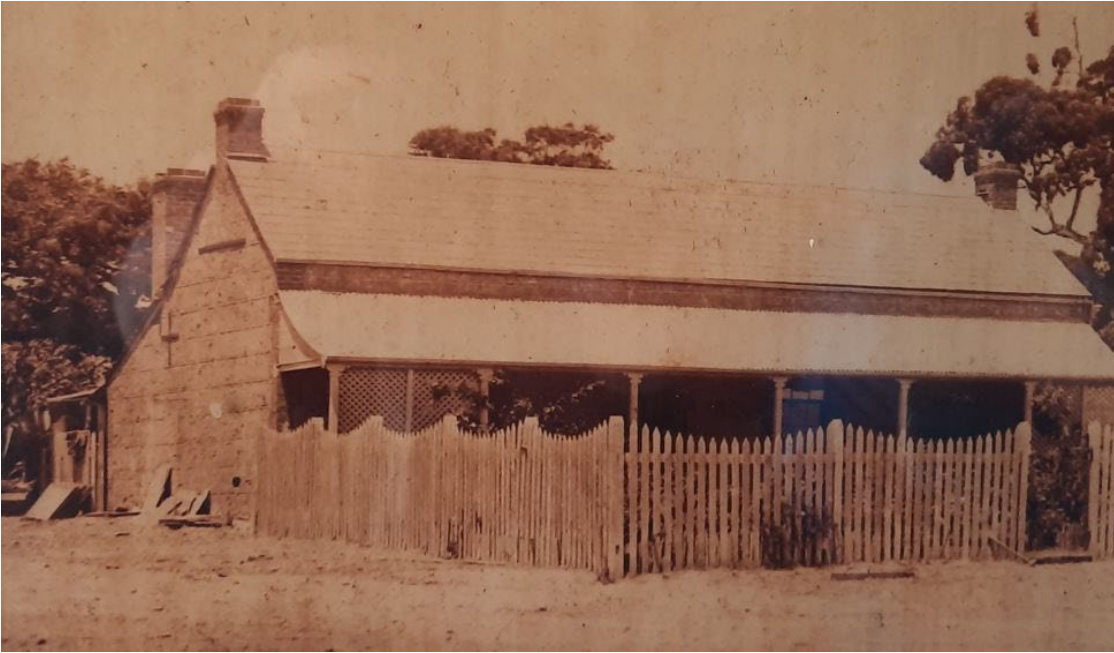
Historical CTs 227/199; 762/74; 2271/104; 3150/98; 3616/43; 3693/42; 4221/266; 4390/694; etc.
McDougall & Vines, 1997, Willunga District Heritage Survey, pp. 153-4
Historical images courtesy of Pauline Giles

HISTORICAL IMAGES:



Site of Strout Farm complex in July 1936; (1) c.1850 residence and associated kitchen/cellar, joined by covered walkway; (2) mid-19th century masonry & timber stables; (3) mid-19th century timber shed; (4) mid-19th century masonry outbuilding (now demolished) slate slab remains today; (5) Moreton Bay fig tree with early associated timber fencing posts. (ICSM Historical Aerial Photography, Film Number MAP1942, Run4S, Frame 6383, dated 3rd July, 1936.

<https://imagery.aerialphotography.fsdf.org.au/>, accessed 27/10/2021).



Late 19th century photograph of 'Brooklet', Strout Road, Willunga (now 60 Strout Road, McLaren Vale) (courtesy of Pauline Giles)



Late 19th century photograph of Strout family members at 'Brooklet', Strout Road, Willunga (now 60 Strout Road, McLaren Vale) (courtesy of Pauline Giles)



1997 photograph of Strout farmhouse with recent replacement roof cladding (1997 Willunga District Heritage Survey)



1997 photograph of former mid-19th century masonry outbuilding shortly before demolition; the original slate slab remains on site (1997 Willunga District Heritage Survey)

OTHER IMAGES:



North elevation of c.1850 former farmhouse, including early cast-iron wall plates (GGA, 2021).



C.1850 appearance of primary west elevation beneath verandah (GGA, 2021).



Mid-19th century kitchen and cellar with later c.1930s additions (GGA, 2021).



Early masonry fabric and early fittings to kitchen interior, including early ceiling hooks (GGA, 2021).



Former slate salt bath to cellar, now used as storage (GGA, 2021).



Slate shelving to cellar interior, now used as storage (GGA, 2021).



Mid-19th century masonry and slab timber stable complex, viewed from the west (GGA, 2021).



North masonry wall of stabling complex (GGA, 2021).



Early external slab timberwork to south elevation of stabling complex (GGA, 2021).



Early masonry construction and slab timberwork to stabling complex (GGA, 2021).



Early slab timber stalls and mangers to stable complex (GGA, 2021).



Early slab timber shed with later corrugated steel alterations (GGA, 2021).



Early slab timber shed interior with later timber structure and corrugated steel cladding (GGA, 2021).



Surviving slate slab to former masonry outbuilding, demolished in c.1997 (GGA, 2021).



Early slate paving adjoining Moreton Bay fig tree (GGA, 2021).



Moreton bay fig tree dating to the c.1850s, now overgrowing adjoining early timber fence posts dating to the same period (GGA, 2021).