

NAME: Dwelling, 402 Plains Road, SELICKS HILL

CURRENT USE: Dwelling
FORMER USE: Dwelling
DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION: C.1897 with later additions and alterations

LOCATION: 402 Plains Road, SELICKS HILL
LAND DESCRIPTION: CT 5572/255, Section 619, Hundred of Willunga

OWNER: Private ownership

RECOMMENDATION: Local Heritage Place



402 Plains Road, Sellicks Hill (GGA, 2022)

NAME: Dwelling, 402 Plains Road, SELICKS HILL

DESCRIPTION:

C.1897 symmetrical cottage constructed of masonry with brick quoins, surrounds and dressings. Early timber entrance door and window elements to early building. Early brick chimney with later steel cowl, original hipped and gabled roof form with later corrugated steel cladding. Slate paving to west and south elevations surrounding early building. Mid to late 20th century additions to north and east elevations. Both early residence and later additions are currently in dilapidated condition, though early fabric to the original farmhouse appears to be in intact condition. An internal inspection was not possible at the time of viewing, though interior appears to be in dilapidated condition.

It is recommended that the dwelling at 402 Plains Road, Selicks Hill be included on the South Australian Heritage Register as a Local Heritage place.

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

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

402 Plains Road, Selicks Hill is of local significance as a C. late-19th century farmhouse dating to an important period of development for the district and providing a strong contribution to the Selicks Hill landscape. The residence is closely associated with the McRae family, early Selicks Hill settlers and farmers; particularly with Kenneth McRae (1842-1929) who is responsible for the farmhouse's construction

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

- a) it displays historical, economic or social themes that are of importance to the local area; being a late 19th century farmhouse dating to an important period of development for the Selicks Hill district, providing a strong heritage contribution to the local landscape.
 - b) it represents customs or ways of life that are characteristic of the local area; being a late 19th century farmhouse dating to an important settlement period of the Selicks Hill district.
 - e) it is associated with a notable local personality or event; being strongly associated with members of the McRae family, early settlers and residents of the Selicks Hill district. The residence is strongly associated with Kenneth McRae (1842-1929), a prominent Selicks Hill resident during his lifetime and responsible for the farmhouse's construction.
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RELEVANT HISTORIC THEMES:

Theme 2: Regional Life in the Southern Vales

2.1 Cottages and small dwellings

Theme 4: Local Settlers and Local Entrepreneurship

4.1 Notable early local settlers and families

BRIEF HISTORICAL BACKGROUND:

402 Plains Road, Sellicks Hill was initially assessed as part of the 1997 Willunga District Heritage Survey, undertaken by conservation and heritage consultants McDougall & Vines.

While relatively little historical information was identified within the 1997 survey (no ownership history or attributed construction date was provided), the 1997 Survey recommended Local Heritage listing according to criteria a), b) & d) of Section 23(4) of the *Development Act 1993*. An extent of listing was also recommended, the 1997 Survey recommending that the discernible external form and detailing of the original farmhouse should be retained, particularly fabric relating to the two early front rooms of the dwelling. Later extensions to the rear of the property were identified as not being of significance.

Current research has identified Lands Title records dating to October 1897 when the original allotment was acquired by Kenneth McRae, farmer of Aldinga. The original allotment comprised the entirety of Section 619 of the Hundred of Willunga, including approximately eighty acres of land. A mortgage was registered at the time of acquisition, providing a possible construction date for the residence. As the McRae family are noted in the district from the mid-19th century, it is possible the 1897 title is the result of the subdivision of an earlier pre-1858 Torrens Title certificate acquired by the McRaes, which could indicate an earlier construction period. Information relating to this possibility has however not been identified.

Kenneth McRae (1842-1929), a member of the McRae family, prominent local Aldinga and Sellicks Hill residents, was a prominent citizen within the local district during his lifetime. McRae was a member of the Aldinga District Council during the 1860s and a member of the Aldinga Forester's Lodge, being superintendent of the Lodge's juvenile branch for many years. It is understood that the McRae family owned large portions of farmland within the Aldinga and Sellicks Hill district; the farmhouse at 402 Plains Road, Sellicks Hill may have been constructed as one of several holdings managed by the family and was possibly rented out to tenant farmers.

The property was owned by McRae until 1923 when the farmhouse was sold to farmer John Gerhard Vogt, who registered several mortgages around this time. Vogt owned the property until his death in 1943. Subsequent owner Elizabeth Davis was responsible for the amalgamation of Section 619 with a number of adjoining allotments in the surrounding Sections in 1953, forming a much larger farm holding. From 1955 the farm was owned by the Rogers family until 1970, with several subdivision occurring during this period. Subsequent ownerships include the Keene family (1970-1990), Diane Myers (1990) and the Cole family (1990>).

The c.1897 residence appears to have remained unoccupied since the 1997 Survey and is currently in dilapidated though intact condition. Several periods of additions dating to the late 20th century are evident and are also currently in dilapidated condition.

EXTENT OF LISTING:

The form and materials of all surviving and intact masonry fabric to the original residence including all external walls, quoins, surrounds and dressings, chimneys and window & door openings. Surviving intact early timber window and door elements are considered of significance and included in the listing, though it is acknowledged that these elements appear to be in dilapidated condition. Where replacement is required, replacements should match the profile and materials of early elements. The form of the hipped and gabled roof is considered of significance, as is the use of corrugated steel as the roof cladding material. Current replacement elements are considered stylistically appropriate but are not historic fabric and are not included in the listing.

All later additions and alterations, including mid to late 20th century additions to the north and east elevations are not included in the listing. Internal elements, including modified room structure and removed internal walls, are not included in the listing.

REFERENCES:

District Councils, South Australian Chronicle and Weekly Mail, Sat 25 Jul 1868, p.7.
Mr. K. McRae, Chronicle, Thu 12 Sep 1929, p.20.
CTs 626/125; 2252/11; 3166/148; 3380/176; 3613/181; 3658/127; 3709/88; etc.
McDougall & Vines, 1997, Willunga District Heritage Survey, pp.212-213.

SITE MAPPING:



Site of 402 Plains Road, Sellicks Hill, site of dwelling highlighted within red circle (Planning SA SAPPa)

OTHER IMAGES:



Primary west elevation of 402 Plains Road, Sellicks Hill (GGA, 2022)



Early historic fabric to west and south elevations of 402 Plains Road, Sellicks Hill (GGA, 2022)



Early and later fabric to north elevation of 402 Plains Road, Sellicks Hill (GGA, 2022)



Various later additions to the east elevation, dating from the mid-20th century onwards (GGA, 2022).