Homestead Statement of Significance

August 2026

HERITAGE PLACE: Homestead **PS ref no: HO255**

What is significant?



The Homestead at 103 Olliers Road, Mount Rowan, is significant. It was likely constructed, or took its current form, during the Federation period. It has however not been possible to determine a more exact construction date nor whom amongst the earlier owners it is associated with, as there had been a house at the site from 1891 (possibly the widow Catherine Scott [née Timothy] – wife of a well-known local farmer, William Scott – who was the longest resident of the place during the early 20th century) or if not, the subsequent owner, Catherine Frawley.

The significant elements of the homestead are its original form and fabric, being:

- steeply pitched picturesque roof clad in traditional-sized, corrugated metal sheeting,
- two red brick chimneys with upper band and moulded bricks to the projecting cap,
- main pyramidal roof section with surviving metal finial to the short ridge, continuous with (or extending over) the verandah, and exposed rafter ends,
- projecting east gable end with battened sheeting over brackets,
- walls clad in square-edged weatherboard,
- timber-framed openings including front entrance with sidelights (excluding flyscreen); window units with three casements and square toplights; and possibly double-hung sashes to the west elevation; some with hoods, and
- decorative glass – stained to entry sidelights; leadlighting and stained glass, etc. to toplights (not all visible).

The Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) to the rear of the house is also significant.

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Non-original and/or non-intact elements, being the steel poles to the verandah, all outbuildings, other structures (tanks, etc.), fencing and other landscaping are not significant.

How is it significant?

The Homestead at 103 Olliers Road, Mount Rowan is of historical (Criterion A) and representative (Criterion D) significance to the City of Ballarat.

Why is it significant?

The Homestead at 103 Olliers Road, Mount Rowan is of historical significance as an illustration of the ongoing agricultural activity in the Mount Rowan area during the early 20th century. Generally, fewer remains of this scale and/or period survive, while prevalent at the time across Ballarat's hinterland, as opposed to the larger, more affluent agricultural estates, which often had been established during the mid-to-late Victorian era. (Criterion A)

The Homestead at 103 Olliers Road, Mount Rowan is of representative significance as a largely intact and good economic example of a Federation-period timber residence, and as such differentiated by its hinterland location with other, often more elaborate town-based examples of the type in Ballarat. Characteristic of the period is the informal and asymmetric form, a prominent and varied roofscape with steeply pitched main pyramidal section and east gable end, and tripartite groups of casement windows with decorative glass (leadlight and stained glass) to the toplights. The Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) to the rear of the homestead, associated with the place's formative phase, reinforces its understanding as a rural development. (Criterion D)

Primary source

RBA Architects & Conservation Consultants, Homestead, Citation, August 2026