

## Item Details

**Name**  
McGarvie-Smith Farm  
**SHR/LEP/S170**  
LEP #857

**Address**  
1793-1951 Elizabeth Drive BADGERYS CREEK NSW 2555

**Local Govt Area**  
Penrith  
**Local Aboriginal Land Council**  
Unknown

Item Type	Group/Collection	Category
Built	Farming and Grazing	Homestead Complex

## All Addresses

Addresses								
Records Retrieved: 1								
Street No	Street Name	Suburb/Town/Postcode	Local Govt. Area	LALC	Parish	County	Electorate	Address Type
1793 - 1951	Elizabeth Drive	BADGERYS CREEK/NSW/2555	Penrith	Unknown			Unknown	Primary Address

## Significance

### Statement Of Significance

The McGarvie Smith Farm has interest as a veterinary research centre for Sydney University since 1936. These buildings are the only known example of rural research institution buildings in the Penrith City Council area.

The c.1936 buildings are representative examples of Inter-War design applied to rural research buildings. The office building uses good proportions in a symmetrical design composed of primary and secondary roof forms and regular door and window openings. The scale, proportions and regular pattern of openings is continued in the less formal student accommodation building.

### Criteria a)

#### Historical Significance

The McGarvie Smith Farm has interest as a veterinary research centre for Sydney University since 1936.

### Criteria c)

#### Aesthetic/Technical Significance

The c.1936 buildings are representative examples of Inter-War design applied to rural research buildings. The office building uses good proportions in a symmetrical design composed of primary and secondary roof forms and regular door and window openings. The scale, proportions and regular pattern of openings is continued in the less formal student accommodation building.

### Criteria f)

#### Rarity

These buildings are the only known example of rural research institution buildings in the Penrith City Council area.

#### Integrity/Intactness

Apart from damage due to neglect, the 1936 buildings on this farm appear to have been little altered since they were constructed.

## Owners

Records Retrieved: 0		
Organisation	Stakeholder Category	Date Ownership Updated
No Results Found		

### Description

Designer	Builder/Maker	
<b>Physical Description</b>		<b>Updated</b>
<p>McGavrie Smith Farm occupies land on the north side of Elizabeth Drive, west of Badgerys Creek. It is undulating rural land with a scattering of dams. A number of houses and farm buildings are scattered on the property.</p> <p>On the west side of the main drive is a pair of early timber and compressed fibre cement sheet buildings, associated with the establishment of the farm as a research facility in 1936.</p> <p>The eastern building of the pair was used as an office building. It has a residential character influenced by the Inter-War Moderne style. It has a symmetrical front to the main drive with an enclosed central entry vestibule flanked by two double hung windows to each side. The roof is hipped with ventilation gablets on the main roof and extends to form a verandah at the rear. A smaller hipped roof is over the front entry. The front doors are a pair of French doors with horizontal glazing bars. Windows are double hung sashes with horizontal glazing bars. Windows and doors have simple timber architraves.</p> <p>To the west is a skillion roofed building with an L shaped footprint that was used for student accommodation. The main length of the building runs perpendicular to the drive with a short leg at the northwest end. A series of door openings on the northeast side suggests it is divided into single accommodation units. Corresponding double hung windows are located on the southwest side. The door leafs are missing and much of the cladding has been damaged and/or removed.</p> <p>Both buildings are clad with a spandrel of rusticated weatherboards below battened compressed fibre cement sheet sheeting. The roofs are sheeted with corrugated asbestos compressed fibre cement sheet with roll top ridge and hip cappings on the hipped roof of the eastern building. The gutters have a quad profile and the eaves have exposed rafters.</p>		
<b>Physical Condition</b>		<b>Updated 09/23/2008</b>
<p>Condition of 1930s buildings – poor. Most windows have been broken and the compressed fibre cement sheet cladding has been damaged in many places.</p>		
<b>Modifications And Dates</b>		
<b>Further Comments</b>		
<b>Current Use</b>		
Pastoral Land		

Former Use

Veterinary Research Station

Listings

Listings

			Records Retrieved: 1		
Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazzette Number	Gazzette Page
Local Environmental Plan	Penrith Local Environmental Plan 2010	857	9/22/2010 12:00:00 AM		

Procedures/Exemptions

Records Retrieved: 0					
Section of Act	Description	Title	Comments	Action Date	Outcome
No Results Found					

History

Historical Notes or Provenance

Updated

The University of Sydney established a research station for their veterinary science faculty on 160 hectares of land at Badgery’s Creek in 1936 to be used for the training of students in animal husbandry. It was purchased with a grant from the McGarvie Smith Institute.

The farm is located in an area that has a rain shadow, creating problems with water supply. This lead to the University relocating its veterinary research facility to Camden in 1955. Dairying did continue on the site after the relocation.

The site is currently agisted for cattle grazing.

Historic Themes

Records Retrieved: 1		
National Theme	State Theme	Local Theme
3. Economy	Pastoralism	Unknown

Recommended Management

Management Summary

Management

Records Retrieved: 0		
Management Category	Management Name	Date Updated
No Results Found		

## Report/Study

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### Heritage Studies

Records Retrieved: 1

Report/Study Name	Report/Study Code	Report/Study Type	Report/Study Year	Organisation	Author
Penrith Heritage Study Supplementary Items			2008		Hubert Architects Pty Ltd

## Reference & Internet Links

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### References

Records Retrieved: 4

Type	Author	Year	Title	Link
Oral History	David Bennett, Porfolio Property Manager, University of Sydney	2008	Telephone interview with Pamela Hubert 16.8.08	
Management Plan	The University of Sydney	2008	The University of Sydney – Faculty of Veterinary Science – Our Heritage	
Written	Paul Davies Pty Ltd	2007	Penrith Heritage Study Vol 3 – Locality Assessment Badgery’s Creek	
Management Plan	The University of Sydney	2007	The University of Sydney – Financial Services – Farms	

## Data Source

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The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Data Source	Record Owner	Heritage Item ID
Local Government	Penrith City Council	2260857

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