
Great Western School No. 860, 45-59 Stephenson Street, GREAT WESTERN



GW 45 - Shire of Northern
Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage
Study, 2004

Location

45-59 Stephenson Street GREAT WESTERN, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 31, 2004

The Great Western School, 45-59 Stephenson Street, Great Western, makes a significant contribution to the architectural and cultural amenity of the Great Western township. It has visual connections to St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church, former Great Western Common School and the Great Western Anglican Church. The Great Western School was constructed in 1881 as State School No. 860, probably to a design by the head architect of the Education Department, Henry Bastow. Although the building has undergone the removal of the gable porch in the 19th century, changes to the main gable windows, and has experienced the addition of the hipped roof infants room in 1923 and the later flat roof addition, the School is largely externally intact.

The Great Western School is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original and early design qualities of an Education Department of Victoria, 80-type one roomed 19th century school building. These qualities include the steeply pitched gable roof form, with a hipped roof wing that projects at the side. Other intact qualities include the lapped and green painted galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, four green painted galvanised iron ventilation stacks along the ridgeline, two rendered brick chimneys with multi-corbelled tops and galvanised iron flues, modest eaves, twelve paned timber framed double hung windows, three paned transom windows, gable ventilator, turned timber finials and the signage panel that reads: "Great Western School No. 860. The mature perimeter shrubs and trees in the school grounds also contribute to the significance of the place.

The Great Western School is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with schooling in great Western since 1881.

The Great Western School is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised and valued by the Great Western community for educational and cultural reasons.

Overall, the Great Western School is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Hermes Number	105096
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Great Western School, Stephenson Street, Great Western, makes a significant contribution to the architectural and cultural amenity of the Great Western township. It is visually connected to St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church, former Great Western Common School and the Great Western Anglican Church. The school building is situated on a large site which is identified by a recent timber rotunda, gravel drive, wood chipped and grassed play areas and mature perimeter shrubs and trees. The site is bound by a recent tubular steel post and wire mesh fence.

The horizontal weatherboard, 80 type Education Department of Victoria styled Great Western School building is characterised by a steeply pitched gable roof form, with a hipped roof wing that projects at the side (there is also a recent flat roof minor addition to the side of the main gable). These roof forms are clad in lapped and green painted galvanised corrugated iron and have four green painted galvanised iron ventilation stacks along the ridgeline. Two rendered brick chimneys with multi-corbelled tops and crowning galvanised iron flues adorn the roofline (the western chimney is original, and the eastern chimney is early). Modest overhangs are a feature of the eaves. The early timber framed double hung windows are twelve paned and arranged in a group of four on the main gable, the central windows having three paned transoms above.

Early decorative features of the design include the gable ventilator, turned timber finials and the signage panel that reads: 'Great Western School No. 860'.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>