
Former Bandiana Military Warehouse (now Military Museum)



Army Museum, South Bandiana/n

Location

Anderson Road, South Bandiana BANDIANA, Wodonga City

Municipality

WODONGA CITY

Level of significance

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Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Heritage Study/Consultant Wodonga - Wodonga Heritage Study Stage 1, Freeman Randell, 2004;

Construction dates 1940,

Hermes Number 125539

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The present Army Museum is housed in a large low timber-framed, cgi clad shed with a shallow-pitch gable roof, and with a ground-level concrete floor. In appearance the Museum is rather like one of the low c1942 storehouses at North Bandiana, but it is not designed for use with rail wagons, so it must have been different in function. It is about 120 metres long and about 45 metres wide, with the long axis running NW to SE. (Most buildings at South Bandiana are aligned the same way.) It has been painted externally with a mural of army activities, but otherwise looks in fairly original condition. Internally it has an extensive open area of (now) polished concrete floor, interrupted only by wide-spaced rows of timber columns. The timber framing is clearly visible inside the outer walls, and under the nearly-flat roof, which has very light timber framing supported by several rows of spindly timber posts with an umbrella-like splay of four thin braces at the top. It has been designed with minimal timber framing, but obviously has worked OK for over 60 years. The central bay even has an overhead monorail hoist supported by steel beams attached to the top of the posts, and presumably used to move heavy loads without causing the timber posts to collapse. Some posts have been attacked by termites at the base and have been partly replaced at the bottom by small RSJ-style steel posts, one of which has recently been covered with incongruous wooden boxing. Otherwise the building looks in good condition.

Before becoming a museum, it was used as a warehouse for 'B' vehicles, ie. large vehicles such as trucks, tanks etc. The building is now open to the public as the Army Museum, even though it sits inside an active military base. The floor is now covered with a large number of glass display cases holding hundreds of exhibits of memorabilia, uniforms, medical equipment, etc. Sitting open on the floor are dozens of larger exhibits such as old vehicles, heavy guns etc. Most exhibits are in surprisingly good condition. Army No.307, or more fully 0445/S307.

Veterans Description for Public

Before becoming the Bandiana Military Museum, the site was used as a warehouse for 'B' vehicles, ie. large vehicles such as trucks, tanks etc. The building is about 120 metres long and about 45 metres wide, with the long axis running NW to SE. It has been painted externally with a mural of army activities, but otherwise in fairly original condition. Internally it has an extensive open area of (now) polished concrete floor, interrupted only by wide-spaced rows of timber columns. The floor is flanked with a large number of glass display cases holding hundreds of exhibits of memorabilia, uniforms, medical equipment, etc. Sitting open on the floor are dozens of larger exhibits such as old vehicles, heavy guns etc. Most exhibits are in surprisingly good condition.

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/>