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# Redan State School No. 1289



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Redan State School No. 1289  
Jubilee Gates

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## Location

32-48 HERTFORD STREET, SEBASTOPOL - PROPERTY NUMBER 2014800, BALLARAT CITY

## Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO215

## Heritage Listing

Ballarat City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 28, 2024

### What is significant?

Redan State School No. 1289 at 32-48 Hertford Street, to the extent of its 1873-4 fabric. The bichrome brick building is H-shaped in plan, comprising a long central section flanked by four projecting gabled wings. The facade, which addresses Alfred Street, features striking jerkin-head gables with decorative bargeboards and finials, louvered circular vents and a small central projecting rooflet sheltering the school bell, also with a finial. Windows have an unusually shaped flat-arch lintel of cream brick with a red brick keystone at the top, while the sills are basalt (overpainted). The lintels and sills are in line with horizontal cream-brick bands. The north and

south elevations each have a central 'dormers' continuous with the wall, beneath a small gable with decorative bargeboard. The rear elevation is much simpler in its details.

The Jubilee Gates, to the extent of their 1934 fabric.

Mature trees of significance include a *Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* (Lawson's Cypress) planted to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II and mature Ash trees that line the entrance path.

### **How is it significant?**

The Redan State School No. 1289 is of historic, social, aesthetic and architectural significance to the City of Ballarat.

### **Why is it significant?**

The Redan State School No. 1289 is of historical significance as representation of the dramatic population increase in the Redan area (Sebastopol south and west) in the late nineteenth century. The school was built to cater for the children of mine workers, and is evidence of the concentration of deep lead mines established in the area, and the mining families who followed the work in the mines. (Criterion A)

Redan State School No. 1289 is of social significance as the permanent site for the provision of free, compulsory and secular education under the Victorian *Education Act* 1874. The role of the school as a focus for community life and commemoration is reflected in the erection of memorial gates by the Redan Old Scholars' Association in 1934 and commemorative planting within the school yard. (Criterion G)

Redan State School No. 1289, to the extent of the 1874 fabric is of architectural significance as a surviving example of a state school constructed to a Department of Education standard design in the late 19th century. It is of aesthetic significance for decorative details such as polychrome brick, jerkin-head gables with decorative bargeboards and a bell tower at the centre of the facade. Its large size and level of architectural pretension reflect the prosperity of Redan during the mining era (Criteria D & E)

## **Theme**

### 8. Building community life

Heritage Study/Consultant Ballarat - Sebastopol Heritage Study (Stage 2), Context Pty Ltd, 2015;

Construction dates 1874, 1934,

Architect/Designer Education Department, Richards, G.S.,

Other Names Redan Primary School,

Hermes Number 183812

Property Number

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## **Physical Description 1**

The former Redan State (now Primary) School No 1289, constructed in 1873-74, faces Alfred Street near the corner of Hertford Street. On the south side of the building is a garden, containing mature trees, with the Jubilee gates of 1934 at the corner.

School

The building is H-shaped in plan, constructed in red brick with cream brick details, on a rock-faced basalt foundation. Apart from the use of bichrome brick, other striking details include jerkin-head gables with decorative bargeboards to the front arms of the 'H', and a projecting rooflet over the school bell at the centre of the facade.

The facade comprises the two projecting arms (with jerkin heads) flanking a long gabled section set back behind them. At the centre is a small projecting gabled roof, supported on triangular brackets with turned pendants, which shelters the school bell. Beneath the bell is a circular louvered vent and the school's name in raised lettering. The same circular vent motif is repeated on the projecting jerkin-head wings. Windows have an unusually shaped flat-arch lintel of cream brick with a red brick keystone at the top, while the sills are basalt (overpainted). The lintels and sills are in line with horizontal cream-brick bands. The windows are six-over-six double-hung sashes.

The north and south elevations each have a central 'dormers' continuous with the wall, beneath a small gable with decorative bargeboard. Instead of a dormer window they have a circular louvered vent. The bichrome brick decoration is continued, with the flat-arched lintels and cream-brick bands at the top and bottom of the windows (six-over-six sashes). The north elevation retains all five of its original windows, while the south has only two.

The rear elevation is much simpler in its details. The projecting bays have standard gables with plain bargeboards. Bichrome brickwork is still used, though the flat-arched lintels are of a standard type. The projecting bays retain two each original six-over-six sash windows, while another two survive on the long central section (the others having been enlarged).

Alterations to the 1873-74 school building include the following. The replacement of the original sash windows on the south and rear elevations with banks of larger six-over-six double-hung sashes plus highlights. The flat-arched lintels were removed and replaced with a concrete beam, while the window sills were lowered. The three windows in the south jerkin-head wing of the facade also had highlights added and sills lower, but the brick flat arches were retained. The window replacement may have been the 'external renovations' carried out in 1936.

In more recent times, a number of windows have been converted to doorways. This is true of the present school entrance on the facade. Two windows beneath the bell tower were replaced with a large highlight and double glazed doors, leaving only the two lintels intact. In addition, on the north side elevation, a new doorway was created between two windows.

The original chimneys have all been replaced with a very simple, interwar type. This may have been done at the same time heating stoves were installed in 1947.

The original slate roof was replaced with the present galvanised iron cladding in 1963. Happily the decorative cast-zinc finials to the jerkin-head gables and bell tower were retained.

#### Jubilee gates

The Jubilee gates of 1934 are situated at the corner of Hertford and Alfred streets, on a diagonal. They comprises two tall central gate posts and two outer piers linked by a low wall, all in tuckpointed clinker brick with chamfered red bricks at the tops. The gates and infill panels on either side are a simple design in mild steel with circular motifs. Resting atop the gate posts is a concrete 'beam' with shaped ends. Raised lettering reads: 'Erected by Redan Old Scholars, 1874-1934'.

The pathway from the gates to the entrance of the school has two mature *Fraxinus* sp. Ash Trees, and two smaller specimens arranged symmetrically along each side of the pathway. A mature Lawson's Cypress is also located in the grounds of the school.

*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/>