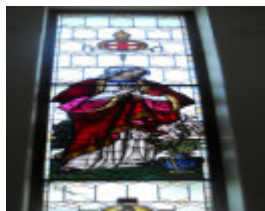

Stained Glass Window at Warrnambool Base Hospital



Warrnambool Base Hospital
Mona Wilton memorial
inscription and plaque,
Mathieson and Brooks,
Robinson & co. 1953



Warrnambool Base Hospital
Mona Wilton memorial, Love,
Mathieson and Brooks,
Robinson & Co., 1953



Warrnambool Base Hospital
Mona Wilton memorial,
nurses' pledge, Mathieson
and Brooks, Robinson &
Co., 1953

Location

Ryot Street, Warrnambool, WARRNAMBOOL CITY

Municipality

WARRNAMBOOL CITY

Level of significance

-

Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Heritage
Study/Consultant

Vic War Heritage Inventory - Stained Glass Memorial Windows Study, Bronwyn
Hughes, 2013;

Architect/Designer

Brooks, Robinson & Co, Mathieson, William,

Hermes Number

197036

Property Number

Memorial Window References & Acknowledgements

AWM Roll of Honour; NAA: B883, VX61225; *Argus*, 30 March 1953, p.2; Brooks, Robinson & Co. Job Books (1923-c.1966)

With thanks for Wayne Hay, Warrnambool Base Hospital for photographs of the window

Memorial Window Subject

Love

Memorial Window Text

unknown

Memorial Window Inscription

unknown

Memorial Window Description & History

This window was made by Brooks, Robinson & Co. from a cartoon that was supplied by William Mathieson (1897-1961) of Mathieson & Gibson. It was commissioned by Sister TF SurrIDGE (nee Hance) of Liebig Street, Warrnambool in October 1952. The subject of the design was *Love* with symbols of service and sacrifice (torch, cross, lamp) in the upper and lower panels of the window. The AIF Badge was inserted into the lower panel. A small notice appeared in the Melbourne *Argus*, noting the unveiling of the memorial stained glass window to a nurse, Mona Wilton, who lost her life in the evacuation of Singapore. In 2010 the window was removed and placed in storage.

Mona Margaret Wilton (1914-1942) completed her general training at Warrnambool Hospital and then specialised in midwifery. She joined the Australian Army Nursing Service in 1939 at the age of 27 years and was later attached to 13 Army General Hospital. She first travelled to Singapore then Johore Bahru before her unit was forced to retreat again to Singapore as the Japanese invaded from the north. Mona was one of the group of nurses who was evacuated on the inadequately small vessel, *Vyner Brooke*, which was bombed and sunk by the Japanese on the 13 February 1942. Of the 65 Australian nurses embarked upon the *Vyner Brooke*, 12 were killed during the air attack or drowned following the sinking, 21 were murdered on Radji Beach, and 32 became internees, 8 of whom subsequently died before the end of the war. At first she was reported missing, but in a letter from the army to her father Frederick Wilton, "Bellbraes", Allansford on 12 February 1945, this was amended 'for official purposes presumed to be dead' on 14 February 1942, at Banka Island, Indonesia.

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/>