
WOOREEN STATE SCHOOL NO. 3723 (FORMER)



Wooreen State School No. 3723 (former)



image258

Location

590 LEONGATHA-YARRAGON ROAD, and WOOREEN-MIRBOO ROAD, WOOREEN, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 20, 2022

What is significant?

The former Wooreen State School No.3723, designed by the Public Works Department and constructed in 1912, at 590 Leongatha-Yarragon Road, Wooreen is significant. It is a typical Federation one room school of standard design with a gable roof and an offset projecting porch with separate gable roof to the north. It has two sets of tall multi-pane double hung windows to the south and a single set to the north, and high set four-pane hopper windows in the side walls of the porch and the north side wall of the school room. There is another four-over-four pane sash window in the side of the porch.

Non-original alterations and additions and other buildings on the site are not significant.

How is it significant?

The former Wooreen State School No.3723 is of local historic significance to South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant?

Historically, it is associated with the development of Wooreen in the early twentieth century, which resulted in the need for a permanent school to serve the district. As the only public building it played an important role in community development and remained the heart of the Wooreen district until its closure. (Criterion A)
It is also historically significant for the incident in 1977 when the teacher and nine pupils were abducted by Edwin John Eastwood who had previously kidnapped the teacher and children of Faraday Primary School in 1974. These abductions are said to have focussed attention on the lack of security for isolated single teacher schools and hastened the closure of rural schools with small enrolments. (Criterion A)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1912, 1912, 1912,
Architect/Designer	Public Works Department,
Other Names	Extra, -,
Hermes Number	31040
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The former Wooreen State School No. 3723 is a typical weatherboard gable roof single school room with an offset projecting gable porch to the north. It has two sets of multi-pane double hung windows to the south and a single set to the north, and there are simple gable end brackets and a louvred vent in the gable peak. The former shelter shed is located in the grounds, which include some significant exotic and native trees.

The building is situated at the northeast corner of Leongatha Yarragon Road and Wooreen-Mirboo Road. Immediately to the south of the intersection the Wooreen Avenue of Honour provides a related landscape.

It is based on a standard design, which was also used at Dollar, Hoddle Range, Koonwarra, Mount Eccles and Stony Creek. The key variation was the size of the floor plan, which could be increased to accommodate additional students.

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/>