



## Heritage Listing

Golden Plains Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

The Mannibadar Soldiers Memorial Hall is situated on Allotment Lot 1 TP739023, adjacent to the Mannibadar Fire Shed on the southern side of Rokewood- Skipton Road. The hall stands on land initially leased from W Lewers as a 'peppercorn' agreement. The first hall was relocated from Pitfield Plains in the 1925 to provide a community facility for the increased population of the Mannibadar district due to the Soldier Settlement Scheme. The timber hall also served as the first state school until a new building was moved in during the 1930s to provide accommodation of the growing number of young children in the district.

During the 1950s returned soldiers from the Second World War and their families took up farming allotments subdivided from nearby pastoral estates. This second wave of population, combined with the prosperity of the 1950s wool boom, prompted the community to raise funds to establish a Soldiers Memorial Hall to commemorate the soldiers of Mannibadar and district who had served in World War 1 & 2. The new timber and asbestos hall was officially opened on the 14th of August 1959, providing the growing population extra floor space and modern facilities to conduct concerts, dances, suppers and accommodate indoor sporting activities.

How is it Significant?

The Mannibadar Soldiers Memorial Hall is of historical significance and social significance to the Golden Plains Shire.

Why is it Significant?

The Mannibadar Soldiers Memorial Hall is of historical significance as the principal public meeting place of the Mannibadar township, since its establishment during the post World War 1 Soldier Settlement period.

The hall is of socially significance as surviving example of the collective aspirations of the local community during the settlement periods of the 1920s and 1950s to provide an educational and community facility for the township and district. The hall also represents a tangible link to the community's commitment to honor the memory of the soldiers of Mannibadar and district who had served in World War 1 & 2.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Golden Plains - Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study Phase 2, Heritage Matters P/L, 2009;
Hermes Number	31677
Property Number	

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### Physical Conditions

The Mannibadar Soldiers Memorial Hall is situated on Allotment Lot 1 TP739023, adjacent to the Mannibadar Fire Shed on the southern side of Rokewood- Skipton Road. The hall stands on land initially leased from the W Lewers as a 'peppercorn' agreement.

The complex consists of a portion of the original timber hall, including the stage and supper room, a former timber class room structure dating from the 1930s, the timber and asbestos Memorial Hall extension constructed in 1959 and a brick toilet block built at a later period.

The original hall, relocated from Pitfield Plains in the 1925, is located at the rear of the 1959 Memorial Hall. The early hall is clad with timber weatherboards, with a hipped corrugated roof and a single double hung sash window existing on the western elevation. The rear skillion attached to the southern elevation of the original contains redundant kitchen and storage facilities, including a 1920s wood stove and an exposed entrance. A former timber classroom, attached and refurbished in the 1930s, features a set of three double sash windows and a timber door way with cement ramp. This structure is partially incorporated into the roofline of the original hall and features a red brick chimney protruding from the southern elevation.

The 1959 Memorial Hall is a large Moderne building, based on a red brick plinth, clad with weatherboard dado and unpainted asbestos sheets with a shallow pitched corrugate iron roof featuring a long ridge vent. The northern elevation which addresses the Rokewood Skipton Road contains a set of three hopper windows with timber framed frosted windows and double timber entrance doors accessed by a concrete ramp. The western elevation is clad with weatherboard dado and unpainted asbestos sheets above and features three ventilators and a timber exit with concrete ramp. The southern elevation of the hall features a set of two casement windows with two adjacent ventilators.

The weatherboard dado and timber cladding of the original hall and school building are painted cream with the fascia boards and timber doors painted jade green. The asbestos sheeting is unpainted. The eastern elevation features the formal entrance doors, red brick toilet block extension and a ticket window. The entrance has been enclosed by a floating screen and features a concrete slab paving. The 'Mannibadar Soldiers Memorial Hall' sign is located on the northern elevation of the hall, with a bronze plaque unveiled in 2002, located within the entrance porch.

## **Historical Australian Themes**

The Australian Heritage Commission devised the Australian Historic Themes in 2001. The following themes have influenced the historical development of the Mannibadar Soldiers Memorial Hall.

### 6 Educating

#### 6.1 Forming associations, libraries and institutes for self-education

#### 6.2 Establishing schools

#### 6.5 Educating people in remote places

### 8 Developing Australia's Cultural Life

#### 8.5 Forming associations

##### 8.5.1 Preserving traditions and group memories

##### 8.5.3 Associating for mutual aid

##### 8.5.4 Pursuing common leisure interests

#### 8.8 Remembering the fallen

#### 8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## **Physical Description 2**

Extent of Registration: To the extent of the Mannibadar Soldiers Memorial Hall, being the whole of Allotment Lot 1 TP739023, township of Mannibadar.

## **Integrity**

The original portion of the hall and the 1959 hall are in good condition and retain a high degree of integrity. The supper room skillion is in fair 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/>*