
Liberty Hall (former Princess Theatre), 6 Raglan Street, ST ARNAUD



111776 SD 235

Location

6 Raglan Street ST ARNAUD, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 18, 2004

The Liberty Hall building, 6 Raglan Street, St. Arnaud, makes a significant architectural and visual contribution and is a landmark in the local area. Constructed in 1927 as the Princess Theatre, the building was used as a corset factory during World War Two and was purchased by the St. Arnaud Sub-branch of the R.S.L. in 1953 as Memorial Clubrooms. Externally, the building is largely intact.

The Liberty Hall building is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of an interwar rudimentary Free Classical style. These qualities include the five bayed composition, two storey height, and the large central pedimented parapet flanked by unpainted brick piers with rendered corbelled tops and crowning orbs, and adorned with a timber flag pole and flanking narrow ventilators. Other intact qualities

include the flanking solid and austere parapets, unpainted brick pilasters with corbelled tops (forming stylised capitals), rendered incised rectangular panels and rendered pedestals, red brick first floor wall construction punctuated by timber framed multi paned windows and small louvered (ventilation) windows, projecting cantilevered verandah with a shallow coffered soffit, plain brown brick ground floor wall construction accentuated by projecting pilasters, central double doorway with vertically boarded doors and steel framed windows.

The Liberty Hall building is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with early moving picture shows in the area, the Liberty Corset factory, a large employer of women during the second world war years and as a memorial and clubrooms of the local sub-branch of the RSL.

The Liberty Hall building is socially significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised and highly valued by the St. Arnaud community for recreational and commemorative reasons.

Overall, the Liberty Hall building is of **LOCAL** significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Other Names	Princess Theatre,
Hermes Number	111776
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Liberty Hall building, 6 Raglan Street, makes a significant architectural and visual contribution and forms a landmark in the local area.

The two storey, unpainted brick and render, interwar rudimentary Free Classical styled building is composed of five bays and has a large central pedimented parapet flanked by unpainted brick piers with rendered corbelled tops and crowning orbs. The pedimented parapet is adorned with a central timber flag pole and flanking narrow ventilators. The remainder of the parapet is solid, simple and austere. Below the parapet are unpainted brick pilasters with corbelled tops (forming stylised capitals), rendered incised rectangular panels and rendered pedestals. Each bay has red brick wall construction with timber framed multi paned windows and small louvered (ventilation) windows, except the narrow end bays which have only the louvered windows.

A dominant feature of the design is the projecting cantilevered verandah with its shallow coffered soffit. An introduced tubular steel balustrade forms a walkway over the central portion of the verandah, which is connected to a doorway that punctuates the central first floor window. The ground floor is denoted by the plain brown brick wall construction accentuated by the projecting pilasters, central double doorway with vertically boarded doors and steel framed windows.

The hall is substantially intact and retains its moulded plaster ceiling which was repainted in 1999 to pick out the foliage and flower patterns.

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/>