
St. Patrick's Primary School, 1 Wattle Street, ST ARNAUD



SD 263 - St. Patrick's Primary School, Wattle Street, ST ARNAUD

Location

1 Wattle 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 St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School, Wattle Street, St. Arnaud, is significant as a largely intact and unusual example of an interwar rudimentary Free Gothic design. Built in 1927, the unpainted brick building has experienced some later skillion additions at the side and the introduction of a skillion verandah.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. Although partially altered and having experienced some additions, the School demonstrates original design qualities of an interwar rudimentary Free Gothic style. These qualities include the gable roof form that traverses the site, together with two skillion wings that project towards the side. Other intact qualities include the lapped galvanised corrugated

iron roof cladding, ventilator along the ridgeline, elaborate cement rendered pointed double timber door in the gable end (with flanking panelled piers and gablet that project at the front), stuccoed cement gable infill, wide eaves with decorative elongated timber brackets, side pointed arch doorway (with a similar cement rendered surround as the gable end doorway but with the moulded cement School crest above), cement window sills and architraves, steel framed windows with casements in the lower sashes, timber framed double hung windows, cement rendered pointed arcade (with unpainted brick and rendered balustrades having cement rendered cappings), stepped parapet brick wing at the end of the arcade, projecting unpainted brick buttresses with cement copings, and the timber crosses that adorn the gable ends and doorway.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School site is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. The site has associations with the establishment of the Sisters of Mercy Roman Catholic Convent from 1903. The building is associated with the development of the Roman Catholic school from 1927.

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is highly valued and recognised by the St. Arnaud Catholic community for religious and educational reasons.

Overall, St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School 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;
Hermes Number	111985
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

St. Patrick's Roman Catholic School, Wattle Street, St. Arnaud, is set on a large allotment that originally formed part of the Sisters of Mercy Roman Catholic Convent. The School is surrounded by asphalt and grassed areas, which have some exotic and native trees. There are also visual connections to the Sisters of Mercy Convent and the substantial cypress, palm and gum trees in the convent grounds.

The single storey, unpainted brick, interwar rudimentary Free Gothic styled School building is characterised by a gable roof form that traverses the site, together with two later skillion wings that project towards the side. The gable roof form is clad in lapped galvanised corrugated iron and has a ventilator along the ridgeline. The gable end has an elaborate cement rendered pointed double timber door, with flanking panelled piers and gablet that project at the front. Within the gablet is entitled "A.M.D.C. St. Patrick's School Primary and Sub-Primary 1926". The gable ends have stuccoed cement infill and the wide eaves are supported by decorative elongated timber brackets.

The side pointed arch doorway has a similar cement rendered surround, although doors have been blocked up and replaced with steel framed windows and weatherboard base walls. Above the door opening appears to be the School crest moulded in cement.

The windows along the sides of the longitudinal gable have cement sills and architraves, and are steel framed with casements in the lower sashes. Other windows are timber framed and double hung.

The other longitudinal elevation of the gable has a cement rendered pointed arcade, with unpainted brick and rendered balustrades having cement rendered cappings. At the end of the arcade is a stepped parapet brick wing to which the later skillion wing has been added. An introduction skillion verandah (supported by round hollow steel columns) projects along the arcade.

Early decorative features of the design include the projecting unpainted brick buttresses with cement copings, and the timber crosses that adorn the gable ends and doorway.

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/>