
Stawell State School No 502, 14-28 Barnes Street, STAWELL



SL 008 - Stawell State School
No 502, Barnes Street,
STAWELL

Location

14-28 Barnes Street STAWELL, 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 Stawell State School buildings makes a significant contribution to the architectural and visual amenity of the local streetscape. The Common School was constructed in 1865 and the Barnes Street building was constructed in 1875 to a design by the head of the Architecture branch of the Department of Education in Victoria, Henry Bastow. The exteriors of both buildings are largely intact.

The 1875 Stawell State School building is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of an Education Department of Victoria Gothic style. These qualities include the major, steeply pitched gable roof form that traverses the site, together with two projecting gables at the front, a central projecting

jerkin-head roof, small hipped roof wings at the sides, and additional gables at the rear. Other intact qualities include the single storey height, unpainted brick wall construction, slate roof cladding, Stawell stone plinth, unpainted brick Old English style chimneys with corbelled tops, galvanised steel ventilation stacks, ventilation dormers, narrow eaves, steeply pitched bellcote spire supported by four timber posts that provide uninterrupted views of the bell, pair of large, vertically proportioned clerestory windows above the glazed doors on the central bay, segmentally arched drip moulds and keystones on the central bay, two recessed wall planes of pointed arched windows adorned with brick voussoirs, window bays crowned by segmentally arched drip mould and keystone (similar to the central bay) on the flanking projecting bays, timber framed multi-paned double hung windows, pairs of smaller timber framed windows, and the decorative features (crafted timber bargeboards and finials, dichromatic brick patterning, and the cast iron finial surmounting the bellcote). The uninterrupted views of the school building, due to the large open playfields and grounds, and the front brick memorial fence, also contribute to the significance of the place.

The 1865 Common School building is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of an early Common School. These qualities include the gable roofs, the face brick upper walls and introduced render to the lower walls, the double hung, timber framed windows and the altered tripartite windows in the gable ends.

The Stawell State School building is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the development of the Stawell State School No. 502 from 1876, and previously with the first school at the rear of the extant building, from 1865. The Stawell State School building no. 502 also has associations with the head of the Architecture branch of the Education Department in Victoria, Henry Bastow.

The Stawell State School building is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised and valued by the Stawell community for educational reasons.

Overall, the Stawell State 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	111998
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Stawell State School No. 502 and site, 14-28 Barnes Street, Stawell, make an important visual and architectural contribution to the local streetscapes. The site is identified by the imposing polychrome 1875 brick School building, the 1865 Common School building, together with later school buildings, perimeter gardens and grassed areas. The front is bound by a memorial fence, consisting of unpainted brick piers and plinths and cyclone wire, and steel gates, the whole flanked by an introduced wire mesh fence, approximately 1500 mm high.

The Barnes Street streetscape is dominated by the single storey, largely symmetrical, unpainted brick, Victorian Education Department Gothic styled St. Arnaud type School building. This building is characterised by a major, steeply pitched gable roof form that traverses the site, together with two projecting gables at the front, and a central projecting jerkin-head roof. Smaller hipped roof wings are situated at the sides, while additional gables project at the rear. These roof forms are clad in slate. Several unpainted brick Old English style chimneys with corbelled tops adorn the rooflines, as do the several galvanised ventilation stacks and ventilation dormers. Narrow overhangs are a feature of the eaves, while the wall bases are highlighted by the Stawell stone plinths.

A distinctive feature of the design is the central bay, crowning by a steeply pitched bellcote spire supported by four timber posts that provide uninterrupted views of the bell. The wall of the central bay has a pair of large,

vertically proportion clerestory windows above the glazed doors. These windows are adorned with arched drip moulds and keystones.

Flanking the central bay are two recessed wall planes of pointed arched windows. The pointedness of these windows is highlighted by the brick voussoirs. The flanking projecting bays are identified by a central window bay crowned by segmentally arched drip mould and keystone (similar to the central bay). The window bay, and the outer flanking window bays, contain timber framed multi-paned double hung windows. The inner window bays have a pair of smaller timber framed windows. Early decorative features include the crafted timber bargeboards and finials, dichromatic brick patterning, and the cast iron finial surmounting the bellcote.

The Common School building can be viewed from the side street. It was originally set well back from the Barnes Street frontage to the site. The building was constructed to face Barnes Street and is a long brick building with intersecting gable roofs. The long gable roof parallel with Barnes Street is marked in the centre by a gable with a central tripartite window. Originally this was flanked by two small gable roofed porches which have since been removed. The side gable ends were similar to the central gable with a central tripartite window. There was also a gable roofed entry porch facing the side street which has also been removed. The base of the brick work has been rendered to sill height with rendered quoinwork on the corners. A matching brick and render porch has been added to the side of the gable and a modern verandah with matching gables added to protect the new glazed side entry. The gable roofs are now clad in corrugated metal which has replaced the original slate. Circular roof vents have been introduced into the roof. This was a common practice in about 1900 when ventilation was seen as important to the health of young people. The original porch entry door has been reconfigured into a window to match the early multipaned, timber framed, double hung windows.

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/>