
Former School of Mines (Stawell Technical School), Skene Street, STAWELL



SL 333 - Jacaranda
Restaurant at Stawell
Technical School (former
School of Mines)

Location

Skene Street STAWELL, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - August 27, 2004

The former School of Mines Building in Skene Street, Stawell makes a significant architectural and visual contribution to the predominantly late 19th and early 20th century residential area. The front portion of this building also has significance as an externally intact example of the Late Victorian Free Classical style. Built in 1890 as an addition to the Market Buildings (which had been constructed in 1878-79), the structure accommodated the Stawell School of Mines which had evolved out of the Stawell School of Arts and Stawell School of Arts and Design in the mid-late 1880s. The School of Mines occupied the building until junior technical courses were established in 1916, the school began to be known as the Technical School. By 1989, the front

portion of the building was converted into a teaching restaurant known as the "Jacaranda Restaurant", as part of the Stawell campus of the Wimmera Community College of Tafe. Front portion appears to be in good condition when viewed from the street.

The front portion of the former School of Mines Building in Skene Street is **architecturally** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a Late Victorian Free Classical style. These qualities include the front three bayed facade, with its central arched entrance and flanking wider bays having paired arched timber framed double hung windows. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the single storey height, face brick wall construction, rendered, tapered Ionic pilasters which support the large plain rendered entablature decorated with the band of modillions, solid, rendered parapet punctuated in the centre by a rendered pediment surmounted by a decorative urn and flanking scrolls, rendered parapet scrolls, deep entrance archway of rendered voussoirs and projecting label mould and central keystone, elaborate columns in-antis supporting the entrance archway, and the rendered window voussoirs, label moulds and keystones. The hipped roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel behind the main facade, together with the front face brick side walls and parapets, also contribute to the significance of the place.

The front portion of the former School of Mines building in Skene Street is **historically** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is associated with the development of the School of Mines from 1890, becoming the Stawell Technical School from 1916 and from 1989 a Stawell campus of the Wimmera Community College of Tafe as the "Jacaranda" teaching restaurant. The site also has associations with the establishment of the Stawell Market Buildings from 1878-79.

The front portion of the former School of Mines building in Skene Street is **socially** significant at a **LOCAL** level. It is recognised and valued by the Stawell community as a long-standing educational facility in the town.

Overall, the front portion of the former School of Mines building in Skene Street 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	School of Mines,
Hermes Number	112769
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The former School of Mines building is set in a predominantly intact residential streetscape with visual connections to late 19th and early 20th century Victorian, Edwardian/Federation and interwar Bungalow styled houses with well-landscape gardens. This building is aligned along the front (street) boundary and forms a landmark in the local area. There is a paved and landscaped area at one side.

The single storey, face brick, Late Victorian Free Classical styled building is especially characterised by the front, three bayed facade, having a central arched entrance and flanking wider bays with paired arched timber framed double hung windows. The composition of the three bays is further defined by the rendered, tapered Ionic pilasters that support a large plain rendered entablature decorated with a band of modillions. Above the entablature is a solid, rendered parapet. The central entrance is accentuated by a rendered pediment that punctuates the parapet. It is surmounted by a decorative urn and flanking scrolls. Additional scrolls form a decorative feature to the ends of the parapet. The entrance is decorated by a deep archway of rendered voussoirs and projecting label mould and central keystone, the whole supported by elaborate columns in-antis. Similar decorative treatment of rendered voussoirs, label moulds and keystones also accentuate the flanking window openings.

Behind the main facade is an early hipped roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel. The face brick side walls near the front are early (possibly with an introduced double door opening to one side), while the red brick wall construction represents the later work.

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/>