
FORMER ASHE HILL SCHOOL

Location

BARWON HEADS ROAD RESERVE, WEST OF 187 HARRIOT ROAD, CHARLEMONT

Municipality

Level of significance

Heritage Inventory Site

Heritage Inventory (HI) Number

H7721-0551

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Inventory

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 27, 2023

What is significant?

The Former Ashe Hill School site has the potential to contain the archaeological footprint of a small, semi-rural state school occupied throughout the first half of the 20th century (1915-1948). As the main school structure burnt down and was rebuilt in 1941, it allows for the examination of shifting styles of public architecture during the inter-war period in a rural setting. The site is a unique example in the Marshall and Charlemont area of a community space designed to cater to the education of children.

How is it significant?

The site is of archaeological, historical, scientific, and social significance at a local level.

Why is it significant?

The site is of historical and social significance due to its association with education and a period of population growth within the Marshall area.

The Former Ashe Hill School site has moderate to high archaeological potential. Given the fire, there is a reasonable likelihood for significant archaeological deposits in undisturbed portions of the site, including architectural footings or stumps, chimney bases, remnants of associated landscaping and outbuildings, and accidental discard both from the children who routinely occupied the site, as well as that associated with the fire event. It is likely that other structures placed or built on the property subsequent to its use as a school are located to the southeast of the main school structure. The spoil mounds along the northern boundary of the site are likely to be associated with ground disturbance during the residential occupation of the property and are considered to be of low archaeological potential.

Interpretation of Site	<p>School (1915-1948): The site was used as a state school throughout the first half of the 20th century (1915-1948). While no definitive traces of the school are currently visible at the ground surface, two small, surface brick exposures located in the car parking area may be representative of the school. All known and assumed features related to the Ashe Hill School lie within the boundaries of the site. The eastern brick feature identified during site inspection likely relates to the formalisation of access to the property between 1952 and 1963. Archaeological potential remains in areas subject to only limited sub-surface disturbance.</p> <p>Residential (c.1948-2023): Since the 1950s, the site has formed part of a residential property. The Edwardian period home currently located on the site is thought to have been relocated onto the property in c.1952, following the sale of the property and the demolition of all previous school structures on the site. The spoil mounds along the northern boundary of the site are likely to be associated with disturbance dating from this period.</p>
Hermes Number	210193
Property Number	

History

The site was the location for State School No. 3917 Ash's Hill from 1915, renamed the Marshall State School in 1922. The school is thought to have been established to serve the growing population of Marshall following the opening of a temporary pipe factory at Marshall, associated with the construction of the ovoid sewer system. The original school burnt down in late 1940, and was rebuilt in the same location in 1941, before the school was finally closed in 1948. Following the closure of the school, the land was sold and all school buildings were demolished pre-1952, from which time the site was occupied as a residential property.

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/>