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## STATE SCHOOL NO. 1978



23289 State School No 1978  
Branholme 0467



23289 State School No 1978  
Branholme 0468

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### Location

Monroe Street BRANXHOLME, Southern Grampians Shire

### Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

### Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

### Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 16, 2003

What is significant?

The Branhholme Primary School (State School No. 1978) is a collection of buildings situated on a large site with frontages to both Monroe and Cox Streets. The school is the second site and the second school building. Education began at Branhholme in 1856 with Common School No. 63 built adjacent to the present building. It was superseded by the present building in 1877. The school, which is standard in its scale, form and detailing, was almost certainly designed by the Public Works Department. Local building contractors, Foster Brothers, built it. It has been altered and extended over the years, particularly after the Second World War under the policy of consolidation. A number of significant items are displayed in the entrance such as plaques and commemorative items, including Rolls of Honour.

How is it significant?

The Branhholme Primary School (State School No. 1978) is of historic, cultural and architectural significance to

the township of Coleraine and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

State School No. 1978 is of historic significance as the expression of the early community's struggle for education, and for its association with over 150 years of schooling in the area. It is of cultural significance as a focus for the community. The school is of architectural significance for its range of traditional classroom forms and outbuildings such as the shelter shed.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1877,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	COMMON SCHOOL NO. 63,
Hermes Number	23289
Property Number	

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## Physical Conditions

Good

## Physical Description 1

The school is a single storey asymmetrical building, loosely Collegiate Gothic in style and standard in its scale, form and detailing. The walls are constructed of a dark brown brick, probably fired locally, which are similar to those used in other buildings in and around Branxholme, such as Bassett Homestead. The steeply pitched roof is corrugated iron. There is a chimney beside the entrance. The large timber window in the east wall of the school is probably a later alteration. There is a plaque with the school's number in the main gable with an oeil de boeuf ventilator above it and a similar detail in the transverse gable. Various additions have been made and late twentieth century portable classrooms have been added at the rear.

## Historical Australian Themes

Theme 6 Educating

6.2 Establishing schools

6.5 Educating people in remote places

## Usage/Former Usage

school and community centre

## Integrity

Good degree of integrity.

## Physical Description 2

Mr. J. R. Remfrey, teacher for 26 years

Foster Brothers, building contractors

Gordon Fletcher, of Ardachy, a former pupil who joined the railways and rose to become a Railways

Commissioner

John McLean, a former pupil who was awarded the Military Medal for bravery

*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/>*