

Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 19/01/20



PUBLIC HALL & STATE SCHOOL NO. 2529 (FORMER)



23403 Copy of 2336 Public Hall school
Mirranatwa



23403 Copy of 2337 Public Hall school
Mirranatwa

Location

Mirranatwa School Road MIRRANATWA, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 5, 2004

What is significant?

The Mirranatwa public hall is a single storey building located on the south side of Mirranatwa School Road. The hall and the adjacent Uniting Church are the only surviving civic buildings in Mirranatwa. The original part of the structure was erected in 1904 as the Mirranatwa State School No 2529. The building has been much altered in subsequent years. The grounds of the hall contain recreation facilities which are the only facilities of their kind in the area. In front of the hall are two fine old specimens of *Pinus nigra*. The land has been used for ceremonial tree plantings to commemorate people considered important to the local community.

How is it significant?

Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The Mirranatwa public hall is of historical significance as the former State School No 2529, the provider of primary education to the residents of the area for about 70 years. The continuing use of the school as the area's public hall is socially significant, as one of only two remaining civic buildings, which has been the focus of community activities, sport, recreation and education for the relatively remote community of Mirranatwa for many decades.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1904,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	STATE SCHOOL NO 2529,
Hermes Number	23403
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The condition of the hall is very good, as the building has been maintained regularly. However, the original external cladding has been completely replaced, and the entire structure has been extensively altered.

Physical Description 1

The public hall and former school at Mirranatwa is a single storey timber framed building with corrugated iron roof. Much of the original external fabric has been replaced, including a new roof, several new windows, and the replacement of timber boards by fibro-cement boards. The 1904 structure of 30ftx15ft has been substantially extended and altered on at least 3 occasions, with additions at the front and rear, and on the west side. A sign above the entrance identifies the hall as the former Mirranatwa State School No. 2529.

The interior of what appears to be the original section reveals pine lining boards, ledge and brace double doors, a coved ceiling lined with plywood sheeting, and a hardwood floor. A stage has been added on the south end. Two memorial boards hang on the back wall of the stage.

The grounds of the public hall contain a modern barbeque shelter, toilets, and tennis courts. Two large specimens of *Pinus nigra* are located near the front of the land, and may date from the construction of the school in 1904. Two small trees are planted on the eastern boundary of the grounds, adjacent to the Uniting Church. A plaque is located in front of each tree. The first reads 'Planted in memory of A.G.I. Willard F. Garton.' The second tree's plaque reads, 'This tree was planted to commemorate the settlement of our forbears in the Mirranatwa/Victoria Valley district in 1871. McArthur family reunion, Easter, 1987.'

There is another memorial tree located between the adjacent Uniting Church and the east side of the school commemorating early pioneering families. The plaque states "This tree was planted to commemorate the settlement of our forebears in the Mirranatwa/Victoria Valley district in 1871, McArthur Family Reunion Easter 1987".

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 6: Educating

6.2 Establishing schools

6.5 Educating people in remote places

Theme 8: Developing Australia's cultural life

8.1 Organising recreation

8.1.1 Playing and watching organised sport

8.5 Forming associations

8.5.4 Pursuing common leisure interests

Usage/Former Usage

Public hall

Integrity

Good degree of integrity but altered and extended at sides and rear.

Physical Description 3

Part Allotment 60, NW corner of Water Reserve

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 data owner.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>