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# Hamilton North Primary School SS2035



26669 Hamilton North  
Primary School SS2035

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## Location

cnr West Boundary Rd) and Andrews St HAMILTON, 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 -

**SIGNIFICANCE:** »Other than Hamilton Primary School SS 295, most important in region for its age and, in a humble way, its much extended architecture. Model school for the region.

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hamilton North Primary School SS 2035

Andrews St (cnr West Boundary Rd)

The Hamilton North Common School No 897 was established on the Coleraine Road about a mile from the present site which was purchased by the Education Department in 1872. The conditions there were intolerable.

([i]) The present building combining a classroom and a teacher's residence were built by 1878 and the school opened on 1 April of that year with 72 pupils in the single room. The first Head Teacher was Benjamin Hodges who stayed on until 1890. ([ii]) Under the next Head Teacher, John James Jenkin, 1907 -14, the school became a Model School where training in rural teaching was given to Junior Teachers. He was also instrumental in having the North Hamilton Hall erected. The residence was also used as the Local Post Office. ([iii]) In 1890 there were 103 pupils but the school nearly closed down at the turn of the century to cut costs. ([iv]) The Headmaster from 1924 to 1936 was Mr F W Smith and from 1966 to 1970 he was Mr G A Brown. The school's Mothers' Club was formed in 1928 and Mrs W Scott was Secretary for 38 years. The school has always taken a keen interest in horticulture and agriculture.

The buildings have always been typical of their period. The first major alteration was in 1933 when two extra rooms were formed at the rear. ([v]) In 1946 the former residence was added as teaching space. To accommodate the population explosion of the baby boomers, the school was substantially extended by the mid 1950s. There are ancillary buildings in the three and half acre grounds. The buildings remain relatively intact and are in good condition. The whole of the complex is of local significance for its architectural interest and its historical associations.

## FOOTNOTES

[i] Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 88. It was called "The Black Hole of Calcutta" because of the over crowded conditions created by compulsory education.

[ii] Education Department, *Vision & Realisation*, Vol 2, p 68.

[iii] From 1937-1959 according to *Hamilton North Primary School No 2035 Centenary*, unpaginated and possibly from 1883 to 1895 according to Garden, p 118.

[iv] Garden, p 151.

[v] *Vision & Realisation*, p 69.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - City of Hamilton Conservation Study, Timothy Hubbard with Carlotta Kellaway & Michael Looker (plus Francis Punch), 1991;
Construction dates	1878, 1933, 1946, 1955,
Hermes Number	26669
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

**MATERIALS:** (original building)

**Roof:** »corrugated iron

**Walls:** »rendered brick/stone

**Dressings:** »cement render

**Plinth:** »rock face bluestone

**Windows:** »timber dhs

**Paving:** »asphalt

**Other:** »timber entrance porch

## Physical Description 2

**NOTABLE FEATURES:**» Simple forms and details.

## **Integrity**

INTEGRITY:G

CONDITION:G

## **Historical Australian Themes**

### **ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES**

Evolution of the Town: 1870s - 1990s

Education: Primary schools

*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/>*