

PYRENEES HOUSE



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2008



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1 pyrenees house ararat front
view jun1984



pyrenees house ararat from
east jun1984



pyrenees house ararat from
west jun1984



Pyrenees House Plan



pyrenees house ararat plan

Location

9-59 GIRDLESTONE STREET ARARAT, ARARAT RURAL CITY

Municipality

ARARAT RURAL CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1688

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO64

VHR Registration

August 20, 1982

Amendment to Registration

May 21, 1998

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 27, 1999

Pyrenees House was built in 1886 as a general hospital to replace its 1860 predecessor which was razed to the ground after being condemned. The designer of the new hospital was Ballarat architect AG Legge who won the design competition initiated by the hospital committee. The building was opened on February 24 1886 and during the next two decades kitchen, laundry, nurses' quarters, dining-room and a female benevolent ward were added to the collection of hospital buildings. In 1920 a new infectious diseases block was erected. Designed in the Queen Anne style, the main building is of red brick and has a prominent tower and elaborate external detailing. The buildings at the rear of the main hospital and built between 1890 and 1920 are constructed of brick and are all similar in design. Other buildings of interest are the brick morgue and a small timber building which may have been the original isolation ward built in 1880. In 1901 the hospital was registered as a training school for nurses. When a new hospital was built next door in 1937, Pyrenees House was remodelled to serve as an aged patients' home and it is currently used as administrative offices.

Pyrenees House is of architectural, historical and social significance to the state of Victoria.

Pyrenees House is of architectural significance as an early and particularly fine example of the Queen Anne style used for a public building. The style was a new arrival from England in the 1880s and the use of red brick and cement render as demonstrated in this building are key elements of the style. Exterior details of note are the elaborate gables with their render festoons and entrance tower with classical detailing. The building has strong associations with the prolific Ballarat architect AG Legge.

Pyrenees House is of historical and social significance because of its continued associations with hospital care, and as an example of changing practices in the care of elderly patients. The different stages of the buildings' construction and their changing roles demonstrate the hospital's development with the history of Ararat. The hospital is an early country example of a training school for nurses.

Permit Exemptions

General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions

prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Specific Exemptions:

EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:

(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995)

General Conditions:

1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

Exterior

- * Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- * Removal of any extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae, aerials etc, and making good.
- * Installation or repair of damp-proofing by either injection method or grouted pocket method.
- * Regular garden maintenance.
- * Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering systems.
- * Repair, removal or replacement of existing pergolas and other garden structures.

Interior

- * Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of the original paint or other decorative scheme.
- * Removal of paint from originally unpainted or oiled joinery, doors, architraves, skirtings and decorative strapping.
- * Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings.
- * Installation, removal or replacement of curtain track, rods, blinds and other window dressings.
- * Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted artworks.
- * Refurbishment of bathrooms, toilets including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors, wall and floor coverings.
- * Installation, removal or replacement of kitchen benches and fixtures including sinks, stoves, ovens, refrigerators, dishwashers etc and associated plumbing and wiring.
- * Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing

skirtings and architraves and provided that the location of the heating unit is concealed from view.

* Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed and any original light switches, pull cords, push buttons or power outlets are retained in-situ. Note: if wiring original to the place was carried in timber conduits then the conduits should remain in-situ.

* Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.

* Installation, removal or replacement of smoke detectors

Construction dates 1886,
Architect/Designer Legge, AG,
Heritage Act Categories Registered place,
Hermes Number 27
Property Number

Plaque Citation

Designed by the Ballarat architect A G Legge and built as a hospital in 1886, this is an early and fine example of the use of the Queen Anne style for a public building. It became a nurses' training school in 1901.

Extent of Registration

NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 1688 in the category described as a Heritage place:

Pyrenees House, Girdlestone Street, Ararat, Ararat Rural City Council.

EXTENT

1. To the extent of all the buildings marked B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4 and B-5 on Diagram 602246 held by the Executive Director.
2. To the extent of all the land marked L-1 on Diagram 602246 held by the Executive Director, being part of the land described as Reserve 3868, Allotment 5A, 5B and 5C, Section 30, Parish of Ararat..

Dated 7 May 1998
RAY TONKIN
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G20 21 May 1998 p.1135]

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/>