
TARWIN LOWER MEMORIAL HALL



Tarwin Lower Memorial Hall

Location

RIVER DRIVE, TARWIN LOWER, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO118

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Tarwin Lower Memorial Hall, constructed in 1890 and extended between 1926-33, at River Drive, Tarwin Lower.

Why is it significant?

The Tarwin Lower Memorial Hall is of local historic, social and aesthetic significance to South Gippsland Shire.

Historically, it is oldest extant Mechanics Institute Hall in the Shire and is important for its ability to illustrate the early development of the Tarwin Lower district. It is also significant as a memorial to residents of the local area who served in World War 1. (AHC criteria - A.4 and D.2)

Socially, the Hall has played an important part in the development of the Tarwin Lower community and is an integral part of the identity of the local area. (AHC criterion - G.1)

Aesthetically, it is significant for the unique treatment of the front elevation of the 1926 addition, which combines the unusual division of windows with heavy geometric frames and sashes and the notable entry with its projecting pediment above the roof plane. It is the most architecturally notable of all of the small halls of the Shire, particularly those where additions were made to the original small rectangular plan. (AHC criterion - E.1)

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004; |
| Construction dates | 1890, 1926, |
| Other Names | Former Mechanics' Institute Library and Hall, |
| Hermes Number | 30989 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

The Tarwin Lower Memorial Hall was constructed in two stages. The first stage, constructed in 1890, comprises the original Mechanics Institute, which is an early simple weatherboard hall with a gable iron roof. The second stage, added between 1926 and 1933, comprises the formal entrance and anterooms contained under the slightly lower transverse gable added across the front of the original hall in the same materials. Skillion elements have been added later behind the cross gable.

The most notable element of the building is the symmetrical arrangement of the facade about a recessed entry, which is surmounted by a free standing pediment supported on posts carried through the roof from the wall construction. This pediment is elevated above the roof and has a bracketed timber gable end with a simple cross frame above a signboard as its architrave. The recessed entry is flanked by framed timber portals flush with the wall and bearing circular fretted labels with the dates of the Great War, 1914 and 1918.

The windows are in pairs of horizontal proportion symmetrically in each side of the facade. They have a narrow projecting hood board and are divided with heavy frames into small panels, which contain a geometric combination of divided fixed sashes and small hoppers.

There is one concrete block chimney and the ridge ends have sheet metal scroll finials, suggesting the previous existence of ridge cresting.

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/>