
Narre Warren Primary School No. 2924 (Former)

Location

53-57 Webb Street,NARRE WARREN, Casey City

Municipality

CASEY CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO196

Heritage Listing

Casey City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 17, 2022

What is significant?

The former Narre Warren Primary School No. 2924, constructed in 1929, at 53 Webb Street, Narre Warren.

How is it significant?

The former Narre Warren Primary School No. 2924 is of local historic, social and aesthetic significance to the City of Casey.

Why is it significant?

Historically and socially, it is significant as the site of the first school in Narre Warren and played an important role in the development of community for over a century from its opening in 1889. The current building dates from 1929 and demonstrates the development of Narre Warren as a result of closer settlement in the surrounding districts during the interwar period. With the adjoining Mechanics' Institute, it provides important evidence of the importance of Webb Street as the early civic hub of Narre Warren and the site is also important for its associations with Sidney J. Webb. (AHC criteria A4, B2, D2 and H1)

Aesthetically, it is significant as a representative example of an interwar weatherboard school, which complements the weatherboard Mechanics' Institute on the adjoining site. (AHC criterion E1)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Casey - Casey Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2004; Casey - Heritage of the City of Berwick, Context Pty Ltd, 1993;
Construction dates	1929,
Other Names	Narre Warren Railway Station State School No. 2924,
Hermes Number	62909
Property Number	

Usage/Former Usage

School, office

Physical Description 1

The former Narre Warren Primary School no. 2924 at 53-57 Webb Street, Narre Warren constructed in 1929 is a inter-war single storey weatherboard primary school, with a half-hipped corrugated galvanised steel roof. Asymmetrical in plan, the building employs design elements that are typical of interwar schools such as the multi-paned double-hung sash windows to the front and south elevations, but is apparently a unique design not used elsewhere. The two windows on the north elevation are not original. There are two brick chimneys. It is setback from the street behind asphalted areas that would have once been the playground but now serves as a car park.

The 1929 building is now attached at the rear to later classrooms that date from the post war period and form an 'L' shape. There is another post-war (probably c.1980) gabled building at the rear.

There are some mature trees on the site including an oak (*Quercus robur*?) at the rear (south west) corner of the site, and elms near the northern boundary with the Mechanics Institute, which may have been planted by students as part of Arbor Day celebrations.

The School and the adjacent Mechanics' Institute building are now the only surviving pre-World War Two buildings in Webb Street.

Physical Conditions

Good.

Intactness

Good. While the building is now attached at the rear to later classrooms, it remains very intact to the other elevations.

Historical Australian Themes

Community & Culture; Educating

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/>