
KOONWARRA STATE SCHOOL NO.3177 (FORMER)



Koonwarra State School
No.3177 (former)



image78

Location

20-26 KOALA DRIVE, KOONWARRA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 20, 2022

What is significant?

The former Koonwarra Primary School No. 3177, to the extent of the original school, designed by the Public Works Department and built in 1913, is significant. It is a typical Federation one room weatherboard school of standard design with a gable roof and a projecting gable porch. The east elevation has a bank of three tall multi-pane windows with hopper windows at the top, and there are simple gable end brackets, and timber trusswork in the gable end. The mature Oaks (*Quercus* sp.) along the front boundary also contribute to the significance of the place.

Non-original alterations and additions and other buildings on the site are not significant.

How is it significant?

The former Koonwarra State School No. 3177 is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant?

Historically, it is associated with the development of Koonwarra in the early twentieth century and the efforts of local residents to establish a permanent school to serve the district. The remnant mature Oaks demonstrate the tradition of Arbor Day and improvements made to the school grounds by school children and the local community. (Criterion A)

The mature Oak trees are of aesthetic significance as a fine and distinctive group planting that contributes to the landscape character of Koonwarra. (Criterion E)

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004; |
| Construction dates | 1913, 1913, 1913, |
| Architect/Designer | Public Works Department, |
| Other Names | Extra, Koonwarra Village School, Koonwarra Community School, |
| Hermes Number | 73252 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

The Koonwarra State School, constructed in 1913, is a Federation one-room weatherboard school of standard design. It has a main gabled roof with a gabled porch to the north. The south (front) elevation has a bank of three tall multi-pane windows with hoppers. There is a decorative cross-brace to the gable end. On the east side is a light timber construction classroom added in the 1950s. This has a skillion roof with a bank of rectangular windows to the south elevation. On the west side is a recent (c.2020) addition.

The grounds contain several mature trees, likely planted by the students on Arbor Day. This includes several mature Oaks (*Quercus sp.*) along the frontage, which frame the views to the school.

The teachers residence is a standard postwar design, that was also used at Stony Creek, Mount Best, and Dumbalk East.

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/>