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# Buninyong Shire Hall and Court House



No30. Buninyong Shire Hall -  
1983 Buninyong  
Conservation Study



No30. Buninyong Shire Hall -  
Town Hall Buninyong contract  
drawing dated 24 July 1886  
held L.H. vernon Collection -  
1983 Buninyong  
Conservation Study

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## Location

313 Learmonth Street,, BUNINYONG VIC 3357 - Property No 2019101

## Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO134

## Heritage Listing

Ballarat City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 17, 2024

**What is significant?**

**How is it significant?**

**Why is it significant?**

The Buninyong Shire Hall is a prominent building, commanding many vistas of the locality. The building was notably designed for the dual roles of a Shire Hall and Court House, and is well executed using locally procured bricks. The Shire Hall is a fine example of a provincial municipal building constructed in the Italianate Style.

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Ballarat - Buninyong Conservation Study, Colman Sutherland Conservation Consultants, 1983; |
| Construction dates        | 1886, 1913,  |
| Architect/Designer        | Tappin, Gilbert & Dennehy,   |
| Hermes Number             | 123905   |
| Property Number           |  |

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## Physical Description 1

The Town Hall building was erected by the noted local builder Richard Rennie, to the design of Melbourne architects Tappin, Gilbert and Dennehy.

The building is constructed to a rectangular plan with a central hall flanked by offices and a Court House. Access to the hall was provided by a recessed porch, and the Court House entry was a side porch.

The building was enlarged by the addition of a concrete structure 1913 designed by Charles C P Wilson, Shire Engineer.

An Italianate style was adopted by the Melbourne architects, and was 8 style typical of many municipal buildings, employing such elements arch-headed windows, projecting cornices, balustrading, pediments and parapet urns, in the design. The central slate roof tower with dormer ventilators, and ridge cresting is a significant feature.

## Intactness

The Shire Hall building remains largely intact, however its former dual role as a Court House is no longer practised. A rear concrete addition detracts from the intended form of the building. Photographic evidence remains of the interior building decoration, particularly of the hall and procenium arch. It is recommended that Council undertake work to restore the building interior based on a conservation analysis of the existing fabric and surviving evidence.

*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/>*