
Former Shire Offices and Library



Former Shire Offices and Library, 60 Beverley Road

Location

60 Beverley Road HEIDELBERG, BANYULE CITY

Municipality

BANYULE CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO171

Heritage Listing

Banyule City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 10, 2010

What is significant?

The former Heidelberg Shire Offices and Library, designed in 1908 by T. H. Tisdall and H. Desbrowe Annear is of significance. The building has been relocated from the original site to its current location at 60 Beverley Road, Heidelberg.

How is it significant?

The former Shire Offices and Library are of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the City of Banyule.

Why is it significant?

The building is connected to the development of local government in Heidelberg and is of both social and historic significance in the City of Banyule for this reason. (Criterion A, G)

The building is representative of the reuse and adaption of local government buildings according to contemporary needs. The building incorporated existing facilities and was extended and added to as the need arose. (Criterion A)

The relocation of the building to its current site further reflects adaptation to changing needs. The building as it stands today and the surrounding gardens and parkland are of some aesthetic and social significance as a landmark in Heidelberg and their contribution to the sense of place of the local community. (Criterion E)

The Former Shire Offices and Library are of local historic significance for associations with shire engineer T. H. Tisdall and renowned architect H. Desbrowe Annear, who designed the building. Annear worked extensively in the area and designed a number of local residences. (Criterion H)

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| Heritage Study/Consultant | Banyule - Banyule Heritage Review, Context P/L, 2009; Banyule - Heidelberg Conservation Study, Graeme Butler and Associates, 1985; |
| Construction dates | 1908, |
| Architect/Designer | Annear, Harold Desbrowe, Tisdall, TM, |
| Hermes Number | 124051 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

Since their removal from Studley Road in 2004 the Former Shire Offices and Library have had their home in Warringal Park, close to its western boundary overlooking a playing field. The building is of single-storey weatherboard construction.

Butler observed in his 1985 study that the complex possesses the Annear trademarks such as bracketed timber window hoods, and multiple half timbered gables but lacks the rationalised forms and large internal spaces; possibly because of the diverse components of the complex, and his co- designer role.

In 1985 Butler also noted that the colours of the building had been changed, the verandah balustrade lost, and finials and flagpoles were gone. Since that time all of these features, aside from the flagpoles, have been re-instated. Other notable decorative features include the timber bracketed verandah posts and stained glass sidelights to the windows in the front facade, although whether this is an original feature is not clear.

Some plantings have been made in the garden area in front of the building, while the parkland setting of the former Shire Offices and Library is characterised by large expanses of open grass, with copses of trees visible beyond.

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/>