
HO96 - Melton State School No. 430



Melton State School



Melton State School

Location

Unitt Street MELTON, Melton Shire

Municipality

MELTON CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO96

Heritage Listing

Melton City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The Melton State School No. 430, Unitt Street, Melton, is significant as a moderately intact example of nineteenth century State School buildings. The original bluestone building at the far end of the school complex is a rare example of one of only seven Victorian Primitive Gothic styled bluestone Common School buildings in Victoria. The early bluestone addition has significance as one of the Victorian Education Department's "60 type" plans and the early twentieth century brick additions are representative of the Department's interwar design philosophy. Initially built in 1869-70, with the bluestone additions constructed in 1877 and the brick additions in 1924, the school has further significance with the establishment and development of State education in the Melton area.

The Melton State School No. 430, Unitt Street, is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level (AHC D.2, E.1). Although slightly altered and extended, the original bluestone building demonstrates rare design qualities of a Common School Victorian Primitive Gothic style. These qualities include simple steeply pitched gable roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel, coursed, squared rubble bluestone wall construction, and the contextually wide eaves. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the modest scale, single storey height, timber framed multi-paned windows with highlights or hopper sashes, and the narrow vertical ventilation lancet openings.

The early bluestone additions demonstrate original design qualities of the Victorian Education Department's "60-type" Victorian styled plan. These qualities include the gable roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel, coursed, squared rubble bluestone wall construction and the timber framed multi-paned windows. The early twentieth century brick addition, with broad gambrel roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel, face brick wall construction, wide eaves with exposed timber rafters and the timber framed windows, also contributes to the architectural significance of the place. The avenue of peppercorn trees along the school boundary further contributes to the aesthetic value of the school complex.

The Melton State School No. 430, Unitt Street, is historically significant at a LOCAL level (AHC A4, B2) as an early State School, and the only remaining nineteenth century school in the Shire of Melton. It has many historical associations with the life of the Melton community.

The Melton State School No. 430, Unitt Street, is socially significant at a LOCAL level (AHC G1). It is recognised and valued by the local Melton community for educational reasons.

Overall, the Melton State School No. 430, Unitt Street, is of LOCAL significance.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Melton - Shire of Melton Heritage Study phase 2, David Maloney, David Rowe, Pamela Jellie, Sera Jane Peters, 2007;
Construction dates	1869,
Other Names	Unitt Street, Melton,
Hermes Number	30215
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Physical Description -

The Melton State School No.430, Unitt Street, Melton, consists of two early bluestone buildings and an early brick addition, together with substantial later additions to one side. Along the western, southern and part of the northern boundaries of the school grounds are avenues of peppercorn trees. There is a high cyclone wire fence around the school. A mature eucalypt is also situated in the school grounds.

The original School building is the modestly scaled, coursed, squared bluestone rubble, Victorian Primitive Gothic styled single-roomed Common School Board of Education building at the far end of the school complex. It is characterised by a simple steeply pitched gable roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel. Other early features of the design include the contextually wide eaves, timber framed multi-paned windows with highlights or hopper sashes, and the narrow vertical ventilation lancet openings.

Linked to the original School building is an early bluestone addition. A "60-type" Department of Education Victorian styled building, the addition is also characterised by a gable roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel. It is also constructed of coursed, squared rubble bluestone and has timber framed multi-paned windows.

At the rear of the early bluestone buildings is a face brick early twentieth century addition. It has a broad gambrel roof form clad in galvanised corrugated steel and wide eaves with exposed timber rafters. There are also early timber framed windows.

An early underground tank is thought to survive on the site.

Historical Australian Themes

Melton Historical Themes: 'Community'

Integrity

Integrity - Moderately intact

Physical Conditions

Physical Condition - Good

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/>