
ARAWATA PUBLIC HALL



Arawata Public Hall



image3

Location

401 FAIRBANK ROAD, ARAWATA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 22, 2022

What is significant?

The Arawata Public Hall, at 401 Fairbank Road, Arawata, designed by JJ Mundine and opened on 24 November 1936 (to replace the original hall), is significant. It is a simple interwar hall clad in bullnose weatherboards with a hipped roof and visible rafters, a separate hipped roof section at the west end containing the supper room, and a projecting gabled porch at the east end with paired timber entry doors. Other features at this site include multi-pane double hung timber windows, a centenary memorial cairn to the East of the hall, and the mature trees including Elms (*Ulmus* sp.) and Oaks (*Quercus* sp.).

Internally, the building has an original covered ceiling with structural ties and a raised stage at one end.

Non-original alterations and additions are not significant.

How is it significant?

The Arawata Public Hall is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

Why is it significant?

Historically, this is Arawata's second public hall and is one of two community buildings that demonstrate the development of the district in the early to mid-twentieth century. The rebuilding of the hall so soon after the original was destroyed by fire demonstrates the importance of public halls to isolated rural communities. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically, it is an historic landmark within Arawata. The aesthetic values of the hall are enhanced by the mature trees, which provide a related setting. (Criterion E)

It has social significance for its strong and enduring associations with the Arawata community through its continuous use as a hall for over 80 years, and the historic community attachment to this place is also demonstrated by the centenary memorial. Along with the nearby church it has played an important role in the development of the local community and is an integral part of the identity of the Arawata district. (Criterion G)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1936, 1936, 1936,
Architect/Designer	JJ Mundine,
Other Names	Arawata Hall,
Hermes Number	30365
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Arawata Public Hall is a single storey timber building sheeted in bullnose weatherboards with a hipped corrugated iron roof. The projecting entrance at the east end has a gabled roof. The main hall has a floor space of 45 ft by 26 ft with a raised stage at one end, and there is a kitchen, supper room and ante room. Other notable elements include:

- The multi-pane double hung windows
- Exposed rafter ends
- The coved ceiling with structural ties.

The Hall is situated in proximity to the Arawata Union Church and the site of the former Arawata State School.

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/>