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# LEONGATHA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE (FORMER)



Leongatha Agricultural  
College (former)

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## Location

13 HORN STREET, NERRENA ROAD, and OGILVY STREET, LEONGATHA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0949

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO72

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The Leongatha Secondary College is included on the Victorian Heritage Register (H0949). Please refer to the VHR statement of significance. The following statement of significance describes the importance of the place at

the local level.

### **What is significant?**

The former Leongatha Agricultural College complex (now part of Leongatha Secondary College), including the Sloyd Room constructed in 1914, the Administration Building constructed by J Cox in 1934, and the Silver Jubilee Park established in 1937, at Nerrena Road, Leongatha.

### **Why is it significant?**

The former Leongatha Agricultural College complex is of local historic, social and aesthetic significance to South Gippsland Shire.

Historically, Leongatha Secondary College is the oldest higher educational facility in the Shire and the complex of buildings comprising the Sloyd Room and the 1934 Administration Block are important as one of two surviving interwar secondary school complexes in the Shire while later buildings demonstrate the significant expansion of the complex in the postwar years. As the only surviving building associated with the first Agricultural College established on this site in 1914, the former Sloyd Room is of particular importance in illustrating the early development of higher education in the Shire, as well the period when boys were given manual training according to a Swedish system introduced into Victoria during the early years of the twentieth century. The Silver Jubilee park celebrates the opening of the School in 1914. (AHC criteria - A.4, B.2 and D.2)

Socially, it has played an important role in the development of the Leongatha community. (AHC criterion - G.1)

Aesthetically, although basic in design, the 1934 Administration Building is a rare example of a substantial interwar school constructed in timber and is of interest as an early example of work of the noted PWD architect, Percy Everett. It is the only surviving example in the Shire and believed to be one of only a few in Victoria. Despite the removal of its original equipment, the Sloyd Room is locally important as a representative purpose-built example, one of only two in the Shire. The Silver Jubilee Park enhances the appearance of the School and provides an appropriate setting for the buildings. (AHC criteria - B.2 and E.1)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1914, 1934,
Architect/Designer	Everett, Percy, Public Works Department,
Other Names	(Leongatha Secondary College, former Leongatha High School),
Hermes Number	30810
Property Number	

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## **Physical Description 1**

The former Leongatha Agricultural High School (Now the Leongatha Secondary College) at Nerrena Road, Leongatha comprises a complex of buildings constructed between 1914 and 2000.

Significant buildings include: The 1934 Administration Building This is a single storey weatherboard building constructed in an H-plan with a courtyard at the north and a verandah between the shorter projections to the south. It has a low pitched corrugated iron roof and large banks of multi-pane double hung windows with hoppers over the south. It appears to be of roughly the same layout plan as the original 1914 building that burnt down in 1933.

Sloyd Room (1914) The former Sloyd Room (now used as the school canteen) is located to the north of the

Administration Building. It is a single gable with side and end double hung windows.

The Silver Jubilee Park, which was originally established in 1937, comprises a number of mature exotic trees in the south east corner of the site.

*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/>*