

The old 1882 timber Mechanics Institute (one of three in the municipality) became the supper room for the 1920a building. Local builder, E.P. Sheahan, who was responsible for the construction of the new building, moved the old Institute, rotating it to form the supper room at the rear. Sheahan was responsible, also, for the refurbishment of the 1920s hall after the Second World War.²⁹⁶

Of local historical and social significance as a past and present focus of community sentiment as a Mechanics Institute and then as a memorial hall, and for its historical value in demonstrating the process of the growth of the Templestowe community. It has associations with the local builder, E.P. Sheahan.

East Doncaster Hall
NE Cnr. Anderson's Creek and Blackburn Rds.
East Doncaster.

The grand opening of this public community hall on 21 July 1932, reported in the district press, was combined with a queen carnival ball in the newly-completed building. Nearly 400 local people attended this event during which the Hon. W.H. Everard, MLA (the local member) presented the crown to the winning queen²⁹⁷

The local community began fund-raising activities as early as 1928²⁹⁸ Later, it was reported, a series of euchre parties and other functions were held in 1930 and 1931 "and sufficient money was raised to purchase a block of land from Mr. A. Zerbe."²⁹⁹ Many of these functions were held in the "commodious barn" on the Zerbe property. Zerbe was a successful local orchardist.³⁰⁰

"Wagstaffs Corner," where the building is located, has been an historic local landmark since 1918 when Ernest Wagstaff built his fine residence, Hilldene (qv), on his corner allotment.³⁰¹

Over the years the East Doncaster Hall has been used for local dances, flower shows, church fetes and school christmas parties. It continued in community use after the Council of the City of Doncaster and Templestowe took over the management on 2 June 1972. In recent years it has been used as a polling booth and a venue for many local groups.³⁰²

²⁹⁶ Sheahan family records.

²⁹⁷ *The Reporter*, 29 July 1932.

²⁹⁸ Iren Crouch, "The East Doncaster Hall", in Doncaster-Templestowe Historical Society Newsletter, May 1974.

²⁹⁹ *The Reporter*, 15 May 1931.

³⁰⁰ *The Reporter*, 28 Aug. 1931.

³⁰¹ See research into 36 Octantis Street, East Doncaster.

³⁰² Doncaster Hall. Property File No. 905/6.

Of *local historical significance* as an expression of community endeavour, and a place of past community focus with continuing social value for local people.

Journeys End
22-40 Bridge Street, Bulleen

Stenley Knight Dixon, a Northcote flour manufacturer,³⁰³ was the first owner and occupier in 1933 of a new house listed in Templestowe Riding records in Banksia Street, Heidelberg³⁰⁴ This property was later identified as the present house at 22-40 Bridge Street, Bullenen. Early district maps showed this street linked with Heidelberg by the bridge across the Yarra River and as the first section of Templestowe Road.³⁰⁵

The site of Dixon's residence was an historic one associated with early subdivision in the area. Once part of Gillies dairy farm estate in Crown Allotment 1 of Section A in the Unwin Special Survey, it was part of Ricardo's farm allotment purchased from the Carlton Estate subdivision.³⁰⁶ This allotment included the future sites of Heide 1 and 2.

The Craftsman Bungalow residence (rare within this municipality) built for Dixon, of S.K. Dixon Pty Ltd of Northcote, was listed as Journeys End in the 1938-39 Templestowe Riding records. It was rated as a house on one acre three roods in Banksia Street with a valuation of 40 pounds.³⁰⁷

Of *local historical significance* as the Bulleen residence of a Northcote flour manufacturer on a site that was once part of the early subdivision of the area into farm allotments.

Wembley Gardens
Doncaster.

Wembley Gardens, notable for its pine woodland character,³⁰⁸ is notable also as one of the first district residential land subdivisions where an innovative underground electrical system was introduced in the late 1960s. This system had been considered for some time. It was thought that the absence of poles and overhead wires in the streets would considerably enhance the environmental character of the new subdivisions.

³⁰³ Sands and McDougall Melbourne Directories.

³⁰⁴ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1932-33 Templestowe Riding No.203.

³⁰⁵ *Plan of Bulleen*, Parish of Bulleen, Plan 526B, 1874.

³⁰⁶ *Unwins Special Survey*, RGO, sheet 2.

³⁰⁷ Shire of Doncaster and Templestowe RB 1938-39 Templestowe Riding No.200.

³⁰⁸ Context Pty Ltd., pp.125-126.