

Name	Raywood Primary School, no. 1844	Reference in 1998 Marong Study	R03
Address	18 Sandhurst Street ¹ , Raywood	Map reference	VicRoads 44 E2
Building type	School	Survey date	August 2010
Date	1877	Recommendation	Include in the Schedule to the Heritage Overlay
Significance	The brick school building at Raywood Primary School is of local historical, social and aesthetic/architectural significance.		



Left: West² elevation, with the school room (1877) to the rear of the porch (1912). Right: North elevation, note modified windows to school room.



Left: Rear (east) elevation. Right: Soldier's memorial at the school entrance.



Left: Aerial view, 2010, with the brick school room indicated by the arrow (Source: City of Greater Bendigo). Right: Proposed Heritage Overlay map (R03).

Intactness ✓ Good Fair Poor

History

Raywood School no. 1844 replaced an earlier school, no. 761, which was established in 1864 by the Catholic Church authorities as a non-vested Common School under the Board of Education.³ By c. 1874, the school was overcrowded and dilapidated, and parents lobbied the Education Department for a new State school.⁴ The present site, at the southern entrance to the township, was gazetted on 30 April 1875, and tenders were called in June 1876 for the construction of the present brick building, measuring 15m (50ft) by 6m (20ft). The successful tenderer was Longstaff and Moriarty, for £552.⁵ The school opened on 27 February 1877 under head teacher John Poer. A ceiling was installed in 1882-83, and the school was connected to the water mains in 1886. The school was remodelled in 1912, with improvements to the lighting and ventilation, the removal of the original gallery and the construction of a hat and cloakroom (the present porch to the front). A five-room timber residence for the head teacher was also constructed in 1912. School attendances were steady at around 100, dropping during the interwar years as local mining activity diminished, and rising again after World War II, when surrounding holdings were subdivided for soldier settlers.⁶ The school remains in use for its original intended function.

Victoria's Framework of Historical Themes

Victoria's themes and sub-themes:

- 8.2: Educating people
- 9.5: Advancing knowledge

Description & Integrity

Raywood Primary School, the earliest component of which dates to 1877, occupies a large triangular allotment to the east of the Bendigo-Pyramid Road at the southern entrance to Raywood. The school property comprises a number of buildings of which the central brick component is the oldest and tallest. This structure, which has a later 'hat and cloakroom' (porch) to the west side, is the focus of the following description. The building is oriented at a diagonal to true north. For ease, the front elevation facing the Bendigo-Pyramid Road is described as the west elevation below.

The brick building comprises a single large room space, has a pitched roof and gables at each end, and an asymmetrically placed (alter) porch at the west end. The walls are in local face brick set in English bond, varying between a rich tan and umber in colour. These are on a sandstone base set as random coursed rubble. There is a chimney on the south side, with cornice and neck shaped by setting brick courses out from the stack. The roof, which was originally slate-clad, has been replaced with corrugated galvanised steel with timber fascias and bargeboards, two ridge vents and a triple skylight. The gables have boarded soffits. The window and gable vent sills are in cut stone, overpainted at the west gable end and at the south-east end. An earlier rear door at the east end,

with a cambered soffit, is now bricked in. The four windows on the north elevation of the school, each with cambered soffits, have been bricked in above their sills and left with two-pane high-mounted windows, of which two have been filled in with air-conditioning units. The fanlit windows at the two ends are double hung sashes, four at the east end and to the west end. A rendered panel with lettering reading 'Raywood P S No. 1844' is located over the window to the west end. The entrance is through the later porch, which has red face brick walls set in stretcher-bond and a hipped roof clad in painted corrugated galvanised steel with a single ridge vent and exposed rafters. The windows on the porch have overpainted lintels and sills, with a four-paned high-mounted window set between two piers facing the street. Its rendered central panel has a decorative font and a wave-pattern mural with the label 'Raywood P S 1844'. The property appears to be in generally sound condition.

A memorial gate, located at the entrance off Bendigo-Pyramid Road⁷ and on axis with a flagpole and the front of the 1870s school building, is constructed of granite and stone and commemorates former pupils of the school who were involved in wars; it is a twentieth century addition. The external shelter area and all the adjacent buildings are later, including of more recent origin. There is no evidence of the 1912 timber teacher's residence.

Comparative Analysis

The Raywood School dates from 1877, after the Common Schools were taken over by the Colonial Education Department, and architecturally it reflects the persistence of earlier plan forms. For instance, the plan resembles a type VIII layout for Common Schools, of which extant examples include Muckleford South (1870-3).⁸ As with Muckleford South, Raywood School originally had a 'gallery' of raised seating and integral desks along one side. Raywood also resembles Lawrence Burchell's illustration of a standard early brick State school with attached quarters, where the chimneys, bargeboards, English bond brickwork, gable vent and original window heads and sills are all similar.⁹ The later 1912 entry porch is similar in detailing and fenestration to schools from the Cohen period in the Public Works (c. 1900-1909), as at Canterbury.

Assessment Against Criteria

Amended Heritage Victoria Criteria

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of the City of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.

The brick school building at Raywood Primary School, in Sandhurst Street, Raywood, is historically significant. The school when built in 1877 replaced an earlier Common School, which was dilapidated and overcrowded, and despite fluctuating attendances throughout its history, Raywood Primary School has remained in operation for over 130 years. It has been the principal centre of State funded education at Raywood since 1877. The requirement for a new school at that time also demonstrates the growth of Raywood following the gold rushes of the 1860s, when settlements such as this continued to consolidate. The porch was an enhancement of 1912; the war memorial at the entrance was a later addition again, emphasising the importance of the school within the local community.

Criterion B: Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the City the of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.

N/A

Criterion C: Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of the City of Greater Bendigo's cultural history.

N/A

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or objects.

The 1877 brick school building at Raywood Primary School is of is a surviving example of a Common School building type, built to standard plans by the Colonial Education Department during the 1870s.

Extant features and elements that are characteristic of this building type include the rectilinear footprint, chimneys, bargeboards, English bond brickwork and gable vent.

Criterion E: Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics in the context of the municipality.

The 1877 brick school building at Raywood Primary School is of aesthetic/architectural significance. The building is an example of a Common School building type, built to standard plans by the Colonial Education Department during the 1870s. Shared elements include the single-room space, rectilinear footprint, gabled form and the chimneys, bargeboards, English bond brickwork, gable vent and window heads and sills. The 1912 porch, while part-concealing and modifying the original building frontage, is significant as a long-standing addition which enhanced the facilities through introducing a hat and cloakroom space. Although modified, notably through the addition of the porch to the west, and through the bricking in of windows, the 1870s component still generally presents externally as built, and its simple gabled form and massing remain readable.

Criterion F: Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

N/A

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of the place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

Raywood Primary School is of social significance in the local context, as the principal educational institution in Raywood for over 130 years. The associated war memorial at the entrance to the school, enhances this aspect of significance.

Criterion H: Special association with life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in the City of Greater Bendigo's history.

N/A

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The brick building at Raywood Primary School, which dates to 1877, is the oldest and most prominent component of the Primary School, which was originally established in 1864. The brick building comprises a single large room space, has a pitched roof and gables at each end, and an asymmetrically placed (later) porch at the west end. The walls are in local face brick set in English bond, varying between a rich tan and umber in colour. These are on a sandstone base set as random coursed rubble. There is a chimney on the south side, with cornice and neck shaped by setting brick courses out from the stack. The roof, which was originally slate-clad, has been replaced with corrugated galvanised steel. The war memorial at the entrance was added during the twentieth century.

How is it significant?

The brick school building at Raywood Primary School, in Sandhurst Street, Raywood, is of local historical, social and aesthetic/architectural significance.

Why is it significant?

The brick school building at Raywood Primary School is historically significant (Criterion A) for being the principal centre of State funded education at Raywood since 1877. It replaced, when built, an earlier Common School which was dilapidated and overcrowded. The requirement for a new school at that time also demonstrates the growth of Raywood following the gold rushes of the 1860s, when settlements such as this continued to consolidate. Despite fluctuating attendances throughout its

history, Raywood Primary School has remained in operation for over 130 years. The porch was an enhancement of 1912; the war memorial at the entrance was a later addition again, emphasising the importance of the school within the local community. Raywood Primary School is also of social significance (Criterion G), as the principal educational institution in Raywood for over 130 years. The associated war memorial at the entrance to the school, enhances this aspect of significance. Aesthetically and architecturally (Criterion E), the original brick building is a surviving example of a Common School building type, built to standard plans by the Colonial Education Department during the 1870s. Shared elements include the single-room space, rectilinear footprint, gabled form and the chimneys, bargeboards, English bond brickwork, gable vent and window heads and sills (Criterion D). The 1912 porch, while part-concealing and modifying the original building frontage, is significant as a long-standing addition which enhanced the facilities through introducing a hat and cloakroom space. Although modified, notably through the addition of the porch to the west, and through the bricking in of windows, the 1870s component still generally presents externally as built, and its simple gabled form and massing remain readable.

Recommendations

The property is recommended for inclusion in the Schedule to the Greater Bendigo Heritage Overlay. The extent of Overlay indicated in the above map covers the entirety of the school property; however the focus of significance is on the 1877 brick school building and attached porch, and its immediate curtilage and setting to Sandhurst Street. The Heritage Overlay area could be reduced to cover only these elements. The face brickwork should remain unpainted. Significant elements of the property also include the war memorial.

External Paint Colours	No
Internal Alterations Controls	No
Tree Controls	No
Outbuildings and fences exemptions	No
Victorian Heritage Register	No
Prohibited uses may be permitted	No
Incorporated plan	No
Aboriginal heritage place	No

Identified By

Andrew Ward, 1998.

References

Ken Arnold, *Bendigo its Environs, The Way it Was*, Volume 1, Crown Castleton Publishers, 2003.

Marie H Manning (ed), *Back-To Raywood and District Souvenir Booklet*, 1973.

Andrew Ward *et al*, City of Greater Bendigo Heritage Study (Marong) Study Area, Stage 2, 1998.

Specific:

- ¹ Removed 'the Bendigo-Pyramid Road at Raywood' from *Heritage Policy Citations Review*, 2011. November 2011.
- ² All references to 'east' changed to 'west' and 'west' changed to 'east' from *Heritage Policy Citations Review*, 2011. November 2011.
- ³ *Vision and Realisation*, Victorian Government, Melbourne, 1973, v. 2, p. 450.
- ⁴ Raywood Primary School, 1877, Centenary Celebrations sheet, p. 2: History.
- ⁵ Raywood Primary School, 1877, Centenary Celebrations sheet, p. 2: History.
- ⁶ *Vision and Realisation*, Victorian Government, Melbourne, 1973, v. 2, p. 506.
- ⁷ Changed from 'Sandhurst Street' *Heritage Policy Citations Review*, 2011. November 2011.

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- ⁸ Lawrence Burchell, *Victorian Schools: a Study in Colonial Government Architecture 1837-1900*, University Press, Melbourne, 1980, p. 72.
- ⁹ Lawrence Burchell, *Victorian Schools: a Study in Colonial Government Architecture 1837-1900*, University Press, Melbourne, 1980, p. 115, Fig. 147. *State* is taken to mean built in the secular post-Common School period.