

**MALVERN STATE SCHOOL 2586, 23 TOORONGA ROAD 1886- B**

**History**

This school commenced in leased premises opposite Caulfield railway station in 1884. It reopened two years later on this site in a one classroom brick school and under head teacher, Horatio Renfrey.

Extensions included a bell tower, classroom and offices (1888) and another three classrooms as part of further expansion. An infant school annexe and hall were opened in 1908 (27 Tooronga Road) while extensive renovations followed in 1939 and the Malvern Girls School occupied part of the complex soon after World War Two.

School historian, Lawrence Burchell has termed Malvern (by 1888) as a 'Horsham type' elevation, after Horsham SS 298 (1876). Some 23 other examples are listed, not counting Stawell SS 502 (1879) which was also designed by H R Bastow, prior to the Public Works Department assuming responsibility for school designs in 1883.

**Description**

Unlike Horsham and its clones, Malvern no longer possesses a verandah (first use for schools). Given the original lack of internal corridors, verandahs provided for the necessarily external circulation between classrooms. Built as an extension to the main roof the verandah once extended three sides, at Malvern, and was echoed by the jerkin head roof forms above it. 'Gable' vents were used under each of these roof bays; interspersed with deep timber eaves brackets which in turn, were echoed in the verandah brackets. Malvern also possesses the polychrome brickwork and bell tower.

Extensions appear to have filled-in the north courtyard and attached a wing onto the east verandah. Chimneys also appear altered or rebuilt.

The adjacent infant school (1908) exhibits well the contemporary Queen Anne revival with unusual scrolled lintols at openings (stone?) and the picturesque terra cotta clad roof line. Both have lost their timber picket fences.

