

Heritage Item #

MI Reference: 48 HCWA No: 1881	Place Name: Northam State School (fmr)	Other Name/s: Northam Primary School, Girls School (fmr), Avon Valley Arts Society
		Date of Review: October 2021



Address: 25 Wellington Street East (near intersection of Ensign Dale Place), Northam	Lot No: 380 Property Key: Plan Diagram: 182613 Vol Folio: 1542/764 Assess No: A10547
Locality: Northam	GPS:
Current Use: Arts Society	Original Use(s): School
HERITAGE LISTINGS	
Listings: Classified by the National Trust (1980), State Register of Heritage Places (2014)	
CONSTRUCTION	
Date of Construction: 1878	
Architect / Builder: Richard Roach Jewell, George Throssell	
Architectural Style: Victorian Tudor	
PHYSICAL EVIDENCE	
<p>Description:</p> <p>The place is a single storey, face brick building laid in Flemish bond with rendered lintels, sills and window surrounds displaying characteristics of the Victorian Tudor style of architecture.</p> <p>It comprises of two large former classrooms under the main roofline and a small projecting central bay. This bay is a curvilinear parapeted gable at the centre of the main facade. The place has a high pitched gable roof clad in short sheet corrugated galvanised steel roof with a central rendered chimney.</p> <p>To the rear wing there are two face brick chimneys. There is a separate hipped roof over the surrounding verandah. The building is rectangular and symmetrical. The verandah roof is supported on plain timber posts and the elevated areas have a simple square section timber balustrade.</p>	

The windows are typically timber double hung with one pane to each sash. Some windows are double hung with six panes to each sash. To the northern gable is a rendered plaque with the words 'Girls School'.
Condition: Good
HISTORICAL
Notes: Constructed in 1877, this early building stands in Wellington Street, originally the main street of Northam. In 1896, the original two roomed building was extended to include the verandahs, which are a feature of the present building. The roof is steeply pitched and the verandah is under a separate roof. A distinctive ornamental gable is attached to the front of the building.
Theme: Education and Science
Associations: George Throssell
Heritage Assessment or Conservation Plan: Conservation Plan prepared in 2011. Titled Post Office & Quarters and Girls' and Boys' School (fmr). Prepared by Laura Gray and Irene Sauman.
Public Access: Yes (limited)
SIGNIFICANCE
Level of Integrity: Medium
Level of Authenticity: High
Statement of Significance: Northam State School (fmr) is of cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The place is an important indicator of the introduction of compulsory education in Western Australia under the Elementary Education Act 1871. • The place is one of the earliest Government schools to remain extant in Western Australia. • The place is a rare example of Victorian Tudor style of architecture in Western Australia. • The place reflects the changing growth patterns of Northam, particularly its rise as a major regional centre in the latter part of the nineteenth century. • The place was designed by the Colonial Superintendent of Public Works, Richard Roach Jewell, and constructed by local businessman and Western Australia's second Premier George Throssell.
Level of Significance: Exceptional
Heritage Category: 1

Additional Photographs	
	
West Façade Source: Municipal Heritage Inventory, 2012	West Façade Source: Stephen Carrick Architects October 2021



South Façade
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
October 2021



North West Corner
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
October 2021



North East Corner
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
October 2021



East Façade
Source: Stephen Carrick Architects
October 2021