

Glen Iris Primary School No. 1148, 170 Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris Statement of Significance, January 2020

Heritage Place: <i>Glen Iris Primary School No. 1148</i> 170 Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris	PS ref no: HO896
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What is significant?

Glen Iris Primary School No. 1148 at 170 Glen Iris Road, Glen Iris is significant. The school was established on the current site in 1872, and expanded in 1907, 1924 and 1946. The school building, comprising elements of the 1872 one-room school building, the 1907 additional classroom, the 1924 ground-floor extension and the 1946 upper-level north addition is significant.

How is it significant?

Glen Iris Primary School No 1148 is of local historic and social significance to the City of Boroondara.

Why is it significant?

Glen Iris Primary School No. 1148 is historically significant as a reflection of the early residential development of Glen Iris village and its subsequent growth into a densely populated suburb in the first half of the twentieth century. First established in a Wesleyan Church in 1865 and relocated to the new building in 1872, the one-roomed rural schoolhouse served the semi-rural community of Glen Iris. Glen Iris Primary School is historically significant as an expression of the changing needs of the school community through expansion, firstly in 1907 (an additional room), 1924 (six classrooms and a teachers' room) and 1947 (a first floor). They respectful approach of the Victorian Public Works Department over time means that the four stages, including the original 1872 section, have remained clearly legible in the front façade. The school's development phases coincide with the periods of major expansions in the western portion of Glen Iris. Limited residential development took place during the late 19th century, brought on by the short-lived Outer Circle railway line, which had two stations in Glen Iris district: Gardiner and Glen Iris. Glen Iris became an attractive suburban town and there was more intense residential growth in the area, brought by establishment of tramlines in the

mid-1910s, followed by major improvement of railway services in the 1920s. By 1945, Glen Iris was densely populated. The school is an expression of the local community through their aspiration for its initial construction and its continual improvements. (Criterion A)

While enclosed within later extensions to both sides, Glen Iris Primary School is the most intact of the early (pre-1875) state schools in Boroondara. Its front façade still illustrates the simple gabled form that characterised small rural schoolhouses of the nineteenth century. (Criterion B)

As the first school of the suburb, Glen Iris Primary School as a whole is of social significance due to its long tenure at this site since 1872 as a centre of the local community. Its many alumni hold particularly strong associations with the school. (Criterion G)

Primary source

City of Boroondara Municipal-Wide Heritage Gap Study Volume 7: Glen Iris (Context Pty Ltd, January 2020)

This document is an incorporated document in the Boroondara Planning Scheme pursuant to section 6(2)(j) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*