

SORELL HERITAGE SURVEY

Address: 68 Quarry Road Forcett 7173		UPI: 2900742	PID: 7410168
Name: OLD FORCETT SCHOOL			
Feature Type:	Structure Type: School	Site Feature Type:	Dating: 1830 - 1890 c1863/1900
	House		Access Restrictions: Not available
	Shed		Inspection Date: October 96 P Davies
			Style: Victorian Georgian
		Grid ref: 5425 550500 5258700	
Indication of Significance: High probable significance		Theme: Education	
Material:	Timber	Corrugated iron	Listings: National Trust SMC Schedule 3
Condition:	Fair		
Integrity:	Intact		
National Estate Criteria:	A4 B4 C2 D2 E1 G1		Photograph Index: 3:33-36
Risk:	Excavation: ☐	Development: ☐	Maintenance: ☐ Vandalism: ☐

SITE DESCRIPTION:

A standard style small schoolhouse with attached residence that was the original schoolhouse and residence. The later building is seen widely throughout the State from the 1900 period. The building comprises one classroom and the residence which has a front verandah and a series of rear skillion extensions. The school room has large windows to end and side wall and standard metal patent ventilators on the roof. The building is set on a stone base, has timber siding and a corrugated iron roof.

The original building had no verandah, had a hipped roof clad in shingles, brick chimneys and was set on a stone base; the skillion at the rear dates from this time. All of the original building appears to have survived with the addition of the front verandah.

There is a large skillion garage structure on one end of no significance. The building is set in the remains of a garden which has some remaining fencing. There is a detached WC at the rear and on the hill above there is a series of chicken sheds of no heritage value.

The building is an excellent example of small country schools and forms a good group with the adjacent cemetery.

HISTORY:

Constructed as the first school in the area in 1863, the weatherboard building had no verandah and was a simple rectangular building located centrally in the district. The later changes with the addition of a standard school structure to one end the addition of the verandah to the front gave the building an unusual appearance. The school ceased use with centralised education and the improvements in transport to Sorell. It is now used as a residence.

BOUNDARY:

The listing boundary is formed by the title boundary of the property.

COMMENTS:

The building is significant as the first school in the area demonstrating the form of school building used in the mid Victorian period. It also illustrates changes in education and the design of buildings with the use of larger windows and rooms and the importance of ventilation and health. The siting of the building, away from the settlements, but centrally in the area is also of interest. The building is an fine example of early school construction and design.

It meets Criteria A4, B2, C2, D2, E1 and G1 for inclusion in the Register of the National Estate. It should continue to be included in Schedule 3 of the Sorell Planning Scheme and should be nominated for inclusion in the Tasmanian Heritage Register and the Register of the National Estate.

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