

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** FORMER WOOLAMAI STATE SCHOOL

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Turnbull-Woolamai Road WOOLAMAI

**STUDY NUMBER:** 329

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:** HO181

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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Bass Coast Shire

**PARISH:** PARISH OF WOOLAMAI

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Former Woolamai State School, Turnbull-Woolamai Road, Woolamai

**Image Date:** December 2003

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

From the front boundary and nominally 20 metres all around former State School Building.

# FORMER WOOLAMAI STATE SCHOOL

Heritage Overlay No **HO181**  
PropertyNo  
File Number  
Heritage Study No **329**  
Heritage Grading

HPD Number **44**

HI Number

VHR Number

Other Names/s

Precinct

Group Number

Extra Files

Location **Turnball-Woolamai Road WOOLAMAI**

PARISH OF WOOLAMAI

COUNTY OF MORNINGTON

WOOLAMAI (T)

Planning Authority

Ward **Anderson**

Access Description

Map Number

0

Map Scale **1:100000**

Latitude

Longitude

UMG Zone

Easting

Northing

Location Validity

Spatial Accuracy

Extent of Listing

From the front boundary and nominally 20 metres all around former State School Building.

Published Extent of Listing

Significance **Local**

Statement of Significance

The former Woolamai State School is of local historic, social and aesthetic significance as the provision of education was critical for the development of new rural communities. Constructed in 1915, the former Woolamai State School has educated generations of local school children and for many years been a focal point for the Woolamai community. Aesthetically the former school is significant as a representative and substantially intact example of an Edwardian rural school building, of which there are a number of examples in the municipality.

Gazettal Details

Permit Exemptions

Exemptions Policy

Assessment Against Criteria

AHC A.4 Importance for association with events, developments or cultural phases which have had a significant role in the human occupation and evolution of the nation, State, region or community.

AHC E.1 Importance for a community for aesthetic characteristics held in high esteem or otherwise valued by the community

AHC G.1 Importance as a place highly valued by a community for reasons of religious, spiritual, symbolic, cultural, educational, or social associations.

Date Assessed

13/08/2004

Assessed By **F Woodhouse**

Comparisons

Rare Assessment

Intact Assessment

Good

Include in VHR

Include in RNE

Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

Recommended Management

Repair deteriorated timber fabric.

Other structures on the site may be retained, modified or demolished.

Heritage Act Categories

Heritage Item Groups

Heritage Item Categories

Heritage place

Education

School - State (public)

Title Details

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## Physical Description

The former Woolamai State school is a single-storey Edwardian weatherboard building with a gabled corrugated galvanised steel roof and a skillion roofed rear wing which appears to be an addition. The gable end contains a tripartite timber framed double-hung sash window. A red-brick chimney abutts the side elevation. Mature trees include oaks, possibly English Oaks (*Quercus robur*), and a Mexican Washington palm (*Washingtonia robusta*). The site also contains a concrete water tank, a c.1950s timber toilet block and a c.1960s toilet block, which are not of significance.

## Physical Condition and/or Archaeological Potential

Good

## Usage

## Associated People

## Historical Notes

The name Woolamai is believed to be derived from an aboriginal term meaning 'snapper', and in Bass Coast Shire refers to both a district and a township located within. The district of Woolamai was gradually settled by selectors then settlers in a series of stages beginning in the 1850s and continuing into the twentieth century. Development of the township of Woolamai was stimulated by the construction of the Nyora-Woolamai Railway line in 1910, which formed part of the coal route to Wonthaggi and included a station at Woolamai. A series of community facilities were soon built at the settlement including a store, church, and racecourse. In its early years, the town was also alternately known as Weandron and Maroondin.

Following petitioning by local residents, five acres of Allotment 98A was set aside by the government for the construction of a school. Woolamai State School No 3856 first opened at this site on 13th April 1915, and was built at a cost of £407/10/-. The first teacher was a Miss Teresa Bennett. A teacher's residence was erected in 1946 by contractor H Williamson of Corinella. Originally comprising one classroom, a second room was added to the school in 1969, reflecting rising enrolments of the previous few decades.

## Historic Themes

### Thematic Environmental History

14.5 Education: Education was an important aspect of the settlement of a district, and the construction of the Woolamai State School marked an important milestone in the development of the district. Construction of a teachers's residence in 1946 and a second classroom in 1969 reflect the ongoing prosperity of this rural district through the twentieth century.

## Listings

## References

Author	Title	Year	ShelfLocation
Education Department of Victoria	Vision and Realisation, Volume 3	1973	
Joseph White	One Hundred Years of History	1974	
Les Blake	Place Names of Victoria	1977	

## Conservation Plans

## Owner Type

## Section 32 Recommendation

## Owners/Occupants/Managers

## Other Notes

## Application Detail

## Adviser Comments

## Planning Scheme Amendments

## Overlay Controls

## Planning Scheme Schedule

## External Paint Controls?

No

## Included in Vic Heritage Register? No

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Internal Alteration Controls?	No	Prohibited uses may be permitted? Yes
Tree Controls?	No	Name of incorporated plan No
Outbuildings/fences not exempt?	No	Aboriginal Heritage Place? No