

Building:	Burwood East Primary School	Significance:	B
Address:	40 Blackburn Rd 525 Highbury Road, Burwood East	Melway Map Ref:	61 K8
Building Type:	School	Construction Date:	1907
Architect:	Unknown	Builder:	Unknown



Intactness:
G[] F[x] P[]

Condition:
G[x] F[] P[]

Existing Heritage Listings:

Victorian Heritage Register []
Register of the National Estate []
National Trust []

Recommended Heritage Listings:

Victorian Heritage Register []
Register of the National Estate [x]
Heritage Overlay Controls [x]

History

Burwood East Primary School was established as an Anglican denominational school in 1861. The Church of England bought two acres of land on the corner of South Boundary (Highbury) and Hewlett (Blackburn) Roads on which was established a non-vested national school, known as Harkaway School. The school opened on 1 December 1861, with an enrolment of 20 pupils who each paid sixpence a week in fees. In 1864, the name of the school changed to Common School 454 Nunawading, at which time its enrolment was 44. The school was renamed Burwood East School (No. 454) in 1902.¹

The first building consisted of one brick room with gallery seating, and an attached residence. The bricks were locally made. In 1907, a second brick classroom, the present building, was added. In 1953, the school grounds were enlarged by three acres. Additional new buildings were added when the school population grew rapidly in the 1960s. The original 1860s buildings were demolished in the mid-1960s.²

The school was also associated with the nearby Tally Ho Boys' Training Farm, the primary school of which was as adjunct of Burwood East Primary School.³

Description

The original building of Burwood East Primary School is a simple brown brick hall-type building. The gabled roof is clad in corrugated galvanised steel with a decorative finial at the gable-end, and is penetrated by a tall chimney with moulded cap and terracotta chimney pot. Windows are large, multi-paned double-hung sashes. The entrance is through a small, gable-roofed porch with a narrow window to the front.

The building is now attached on both sides to later school buildings, but its overall form is still obvious.

Comparative Examples

Former Burwood Primary School, 166-172 Burwood Highway, Burwood
Blackburn Primary Schools, 163-175 Whitehorse Road, Blackburn

Significance

Burwood East Primary School is of historical importance and aesthetic interest. Historically, the school is one of the oldest in the municipality, and is an important remnant of the early agricultural settlement of the Burwood East/Glen Waverley districts. Aesthetically, it is a simple Edwardian brick school building, and an example of an early twentieth century brick school building.

Source

Context Pty Ltd. *City of Nunawading Heritage Survey Project*. 1994. (Graded B)

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- 1 L Blake. *Vision and Realisation: A Centenary History of State Education in Victoria* Melbourne, 1973. Vol. 3, pp 296-297.
 - 2 L Blake. *Vision and Realisation: A Centenary History of State Education in Victoria* Melbourne, 1973. Vol. 3, pp 296-297.
 - 3 L Blake. *Vision and Realisation: A Centenary History of State Education in Victoria* Melbourne, 1973. Vol. 1, pp 216.