



REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES - ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTATION

11. ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

The criteria adopted by the Heritage Council in November, 1996 have been used to determine the cultural heritage significance of the place.

11.1 AESTHETIC VALUE *

Moora Town Hall is a fine example of rural civic architecture designed in the Federation Georgian Revival style. (Criterion 1.1)

As an imposing building performing an important civic function, *Moora Town Hall* has landmark qualities within the streetscape and townscape and contributes to the identity and character of Moora. (Criterion 1.3)

11.2. HISTORIC VALUE

Moora Town Hall was the civic headquarters of the town for a period of 46 years from 1913 to 1959 and the centre of social events from 1913 to the present. (Criterion 2.1)

As the first purpose designed civic offices in Moora, *Moora Town Hall* demonstrates the development of the local government in that region. (Criterion 2.2)

Moora Town Hall is associated with past civic leaders and identities of Moora and the surrounding region, including H B Lefroy and James Clinch. It is also associated with the original architect, W.A. Nelson, and the builder, D. Griffiths, who collaborated on many of Moora's most important buildings. (Criterion 2.3)

11.3. SCIENTIFIC VALUE

11.4. SOCIAL VALUE

Moora Town Hall is highly valued by the community as the centre of social events from 1913 to the present and as the centre of civic administration for 46 years from 1913 to 1959. (Criterion 4.1)

* For consistency, all references to architectural style are taken from Apperly, Richard; Irving, Robert and Reynolds, Peter *A Pictorial Guide to Identifying Australian Architecture: Styles and Terms from 1788 to the Present*, Angus & Robertson, North Ryde, 1989.

Moora Town Hall contributes to the community's sense of place as a reminder of the development of Moora and as a social centre for a farming community. (Criterion 4.2)

12. DEGREE OF SIGNIFICANCE

12. 1. RARITY

Moora Town Hall is a singular design by the architect, and the only building of its period, type or function in Moora town or shire area. (Criterion 5.1)

12. 2 REPRESENTATIVENESS

Moora Town Hall is characteristic of rural civic architecture combining civic offices with a social centre. The place is also representative of the inter-war Georgian Revival style of architecture. (6.1)

12. 3 CONDITION

The present condition of the place is reasonable. The interior condition is generally good. The external condition of the brickwork is fair to good with the rising damp a longstanding problem.

12. 4 INTEGRITY

Although the Roads Board offices are no longer used for the original purpose, the hall still functions as a social meeting place. The place has a high degree of integrity and its original dual purpose is obvious from its appearance.

12. 5 AUTHENTICITY

The original fabric has been retained despite the 1922 fire, except for reversible interventions in the form of the toilet facilities and the addition of the stage amenities at the rear of the hall, and the carport structure. No structural alteration or intervention has taken place to the original fabric, and generally the place retains a high degree of authenticity.

13. SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

Attached are key sections of the supporting evidence prepared by R J Ferguson & Associates Pty Ltd, Architects, in association with Laura Gray: 'Conservation Plan Moora Town Hall', (prepared for the Shire of Moora November 1996).

13.1 DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the documentary evidence refer to R J Ferguson & Associates Pty Ltd, Architects, in association with Laura Gray: 'Conservation Plan Moora Town Hall', (prepared for the Shire of Moora November 1996).

13.2 PHYSICAL EVIDENCE

For a discussion of the physical evidence refer to R J Ferguson & Associates Pty Ltd, Architects, in association with Laura Gray: 'Conservation Plan Moora Town Hall', (prepared for the Shire of Moora November 1996).

13.3 REFERENCES

R J Ferguson & Associates Pty Ltd, Architects, in association with Laura Gray: 'Conservation Plan Moora Town Hall', (prepared for the Shire of Moora November 1996).

13.4 FURTHER RESEARCH
