

Heritage Citation



Enoggera Memorial Hall

Key details

Also known as	Enoggera Memorial Schools of Arts
Addresses	At 349 Wardell Street, Enoggera, Queensland 4051
Type of place	Hall, State school
Period	Interwar 1919-1939
Style	Arts and Crafts
Lot plan	L41_RP20262; L42_RP20262
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2005 Date of Citation — September 2011
Construction	Roof: Corrugated iron; Walls: Timber

People/associations	A. Beck (Builder); A. Woollam and Son (Builder); Thomas Pye - 1925 alterations (Architect)
----------------------------	--

Criterion for listing	(A) Historical; (H) Historical association
------------------------------	--

Part of this building was constructed in 1871 and served as the main building of Enoggera State School for the first 45 years of the school's history. As the school expanded, the original building was deemed no longer sufficient and a new building was constructed on the site in 1916. The 1871 building was converted for use as the Enoggera School of Arts and remained on the school site until about 1925 when it was dismantled, reassembled and extended at this site in Wardell Street. Schools of Arts were first established in Brisbane in 1849 to promote moral, intellectual and social growth within a community. No longer a School of Arts, the building is now used as a public hall.

History

The movement to establish Schools of Arts in Queensland began in Brisbane in 1849. This movement retained its momentum right into the twentieth century; with the residents of newly formed towns and suburbs eager to establish their Schools of Arts which would 'promote moral, social and intellectual growth for their community'. The government encouraged the establishment of the Schools of Arts by reserving land for that purpose, and granting funds to subsidise building costs and book purchases. Later legislation slowly eroded the role Schools of Arts played in the community. In 1908 the state government took sole responsibility for providing technical education, initially in larger centres such as Brisbane, Ipswich, Gympie and towns further afield. The library services continued into the 1940s, but in 1943 both the state government and local authorities began to play a role in the provision of lending services. This proved to be the beginning of the end of most School of Arts committees, and these began to close from the late 1940s.

The Enoggera School of Arts was established in 6 December 1916, occupying the old Enoggera State School building when new accommodation was built for the school. The original school at Enoggera had been built in 1871 when the national school was established. A school inspector described the grounds and buildings of the new school in 1876. The school house, a hardwood weatherboard single room 40 feet by 20 feet, was roofed with hardwood shingles, and had verandahs front and back. Contractor E. Lewis of the Pimlico Shops in Brisbane (also known as the Duke of Pimlico, and known for his hoisting a teapot or gin bottle on this flagpole, depending on his state of sobriety) had quoted a total of £228 to construct the school house and a tiny 20 feet square teacher's residence. In 1885 contractor Carl Bleck added another classroom 38 feet by 20 feet at right angles to the existing building.

The School of Arts appeared here in the postal records from 1918/9 until 1925/6, to the east of the new school buildings.

This building was then apparently dismantled and reassembled on the present site in 1925, under the supervision of architect Thomas Pye and constructed by A. Woollam & Son. The old school appears to have formed the back section of the hall, at the present Trundle Street entrance. The gables of this section resemble

in size and proportion the end of the 1871 school building. When further funds have been raised via subscription the Memorial School of Arts Hall was constructed as a sizeable addition at the front of the original building. Further additions to the value of £60 were built by contractor A. Beck in late 1929 or early 1930. These additions may have comprised the small alcove added along the Wardell Street side boundary, built with matching weatherboards and roof joists. Parts of the school building are also visible internally, with some apparently original wall and ceiling linings in the storeroom and toilet of the hall.

Providing a lending library and reading room for local residents was always one of the key activities of Schools of Arts, in addition to conducting technical education classes. During its first year of operation the Enoggera School of Arts library had acquired 358 books valued at a total of £34. Seventy subscribers supported the library and reading room service. By 1934 the library had grown to over 2000 volumes valued at £250. However, the number of subscribers had only risen to 126. This still made the library one of the larger lending institutions in Brisbane's northern suburbs. The building itself was valued at over £2200 in 1934.

The Hall is still used for a variety of public purposes, and is headquarters for the Enoggera & District Historical Society. Parts of the 1871 Enoggera State School building are still visible outside the hall (gables and roof line) and inside.

Statement of significance

Relevant assessment criteria

This is a place of local heritage significance and meets one or more of the local heritage criteria under the Heritage planning scheme policy of the *Brisbane City Plan 2014*. It is significant because:

Historical

CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history

as a former School of Arts building established in the early twentieth century when Schools of Arts were flourishing throughout Queensland.

Historical association

CRITERION H

The place has a special association with the life or work of a particular person, group or organization of importance in the city's or local area's history

as a public hall and former School of Arts building that has provided a venue for social, educational, spiritual and community activities for local residents and community groups since 1916.

References

1. Brisbane City Council Water Supply and Sewerage Detail Plan 1402, nd
2. Statistics of Queensland, 1917. 1933-34
3. Allom Lovell Marquis-Kyle Architects, History of Schools of Arts
4. Brisbane City Council Building Register 1929
5. Education Department history files: Enoggera State School, School Inspector's report on the grounds & buildings of the Enoggera School, 26 May 1876
6. *Centenary: Enoggera State School 1871-1971*, Enoggera State School Centenary Celebrations Committee
7. Architectural and building journal of Queensland, 3(36), 8 June 1925, p.76
8. Queensland Post Office Directories
9. Watson, Donald & Judith McKay 1994, *Queensland Architects of the 19th Century*, University of Queensland Press, St. Lucia

Copyright Brisbane City Council

Note: This citation has been prepared on the basis of evidence available at the time including an external examination of the building. The statement of significance is a summary of the most culturally important aspects of the property based on the available evidence, and may be re-assessed if further information becomes available. The purpose of this citation is to provide an informed evaluation for heritage registration and information. This does not negate the necessity for a thorough conservation study by a qualified practitioner, before any action is taken which may affect its heritage significance.

Citation prepared by — Brisbane City Council (page revised June 2022)



Dedicated to a better Brisbane