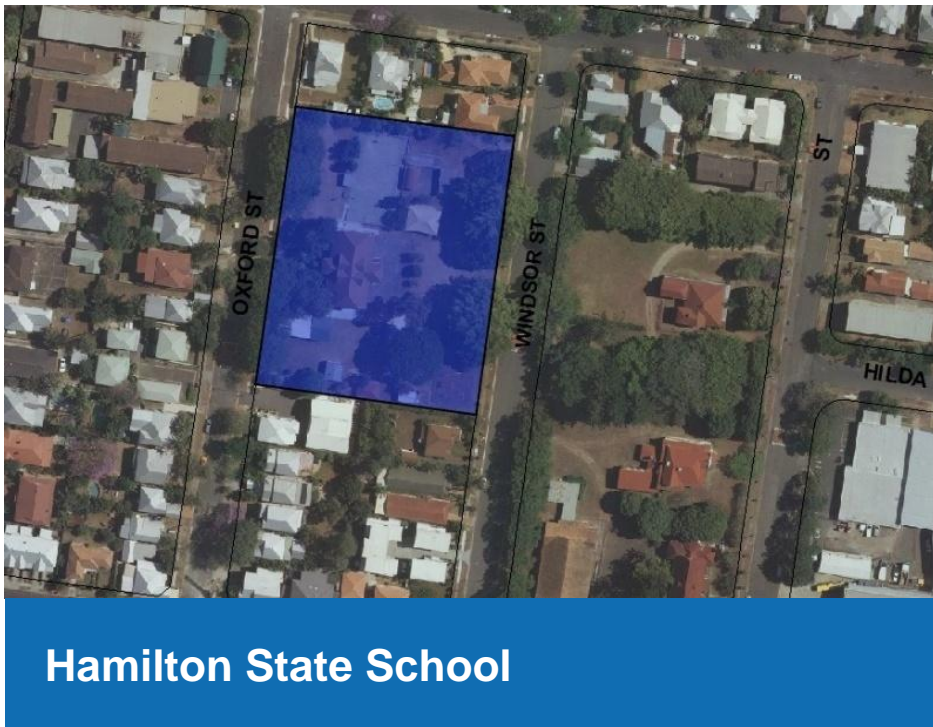


## Heritage Citation



### Key details

<b>Addresses</b>	At 52 Windsor Street, Hamilton, Queensland 4007; At 71 Oxford Street, Hamilton, Queensland 4007
<b>Type of place</b>	State school
<b>Period</b>	Federation 1890-1914
<b>Style</b>	Arts and Crafts
<b>Lot plan</b>	L400_SP310419
<b>Key dates</b>	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — July 2013
<b>Criterion for listing</b>	(A) Historical; (D) Representative; (E) Aesthetic; (G) Social

The first Hamilton State School building was designed and constructed by the Queensland Department of Public

Works in 1906. It was officially opened by Andrew Petrie, the local Member of Parliament on 19 March 1907 and is an example of the substantial brick state school buildings built in Queensland in the early 1900s during a time of increasing prosperity and population growth.

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## History

This substantial brick school building was built in 1906 for the new Hamilton State School which was officially opened on 19 March 1907.

At this time, development of Hamilton as a fashionable suburb for Brisbane's wealthy and professional classes was intensifying. Large estates surrounding the fine homes established in the nineteenth century by the city's elite class were subdivided for residential development from the 1880s and the opening of the tram line from the city in 1899 increased demand for housing in the area. Hamilton became a separate division in 1890 with Andrew Petrie as its first chairman. It was designated as a town in 1904.

The construction of more expensive brick school buildings in the early 1900s was an indication of the growth in the permanent population of an area such as Hamilton and a reflection of the state's increasing prosperity at this time. This enabled the government to embark on an ambitious building programme. Brick was a particularly suitable material for school buildings as it was fire resistant, soundproof and more durable than timber. The designs of schools by the Department of Public Works at this time aimed to facilitate contemporary educational philosophies such as the need for adequate play areas, light and ventilation. Twelve brick schools were constructed by the Queensland Government between 1899 and 1927.

In 1899, the Queensland Minister for Education approved the construction of a new brick school at Hamilton. A building committee was formed by Hamilton community leaders to canvas for subscriptions to a building fund and organise fundraising events as it was necessary to contribute one fifth of the cost of establishing a new school. By 1905, the committee had raised £197. However, after these funds were handed to the government, plans for the construction stalled. Construction of the new school eventually commenced in late 1906 and the school was officially opened on 16 March 1907 by Andrew Petrie, then the local state member of parliament. The building was constructed by contractor, A.H. Barltrop, at a cost of £1,567/8/3. Mr George Martin was appointed Headmaster for the 200 new students with a staff of six assistants.

The school was of a symmetrical design and faced west with verandahs and two sets of stairs on both the eastern and western sides. The western verandah had a teacher's room attached. Each of the two classrooms had a high level dormer window set into the corrugated iron, hipped roof. The building was situated in two acres of land in the midst of the Wickham Estate which was offered for sale in the 1890s and early 1900s. The grounds were fenced and included four tanks to provide drinking water. The brick school building could accommodate 240 students and was raised 8 feet to allow for an asphalted playground underneath which was accessed through large brick arches in the lower walls. According to the Annual Report for the Dept. of Public Works, the upper sections of the brick walls were cement plastered internally and finished with rough cast externally. *The Brisbane Courier* of 18 March 1907, reported that:

*The interior has been subdivided by glass and wood partitions, which provide for the separation of the children, and at the same time enable the master to supervise generally the whole work of the school....The school-room is well-ventilated and admirably lighted, and there are spacious verandahs on either side.*

In 1917, the area underneath the building was partially enclosed to provide an extra classroom for infants. Further alterations occurred in 1944 when the two upper classrooms were divided to create four rooms. Additional doors were built for the two new classrooms and the original glazed partition replaced with one fixed and two folding partitions. A teacher's room was built in the centre of the eastern verandah and hat rooms created by enclosing the verandah ends. The windows on the southern and northern walls were removed and bricked up and the existing verandah wall windows appear to have been dropped to a lower sill level and fanlights added. Two extra sets of windows were added to retain the symmetry of the window arrangement.<sup>1</sup>

A tennis court was added to the south of the building prior to 1930 and is in use as a multipurpose court today.

A health room was added underneath the eastern teacher's room in 1977 and a storeroom and male teachers' toilets were built beneath the western teacher's room in 1979.<sup>2</sup> Further alteration occurred in 1998 when the folding partitions in the upstairs classrooms were replaced with concertina doors, the eastern verandah was enclosed and the windows between the verandah and classroom removed to create an opening. A demountable building was added to the site after 1998 but is not considered to be of cultural heritage significance.

A fixture for the school bell which is located on the rear verandah is a significant surviving element of the building.

Today, Hamilton State School is a small school that continues to serve the educational needs of the local community.

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## Description

Hamilton State School is located in a suburban residential block on 8094 m<sup>2</sup>. The main access is via Oxford Street. The site contains the original 1907 school building which is brick with an iron roof and a small number of modern buildings (which are not considered of cultural heritage significance). These include two demountable classrooms used for Prep classes in the south west corner of the site (built in 2005 and 2008) and the BER funded library constructed in 2011. The original tennis court has been resurfaced.

A multipurpose arts room now occupies the space underneath the 1907 building.

Mature fig trees and camphor laurels line the street boundaries of the school and there is a large mature leopard tree in the north east of the grounds.

The Environmental Protection Agency report on the school in 2006, described the 1907 building as follows:

The external form of the building is fairly intact and some key elements within the building survive. The two verandah annexe teachers' rooms survive, the former head teacher's room retains horizontally pivoting windows. The windows in the end (north and south) walls have been blocked up.

The location of the existing front stairs relate to the location of the original doors. The ventilation fleche is missing.

The alcoves for the hat rooms survive on the west (front) verandah. The rear verandah has been partly enclosed.

The layout of the four classrooms survives; the one at the south end is most intact retaining 1940s partitions. The coved timber ceilings are intact with their lattice vents. The dormers are intact. All the window sashes in the west wall have been replaced with louvres but the window openings and 1940s fanlights are intact. The pairs of solid panelled doors and their fanlights also survive.

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## 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:

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#### Historical

##### CRITERION A

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

as a 1907 school which provides evidence of the increasing population in the Hamilton area in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

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#### Representative

##### CRITERION D

The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places

as an early example of a brick state school building.

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#### Aesthetic

##### CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance

for its attractive, symmetrical design, use of contrasting brick and timber materials and spacious setting amongst mature trees.

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## Social

### CRITERION G

The place has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons

as a school which has continuously provided a social and educational focus for the local community for over a century.

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## References

1. EPA. Qld Schools Heritage Survey. Project Services no 42510. 6/06/2006. Hamilton State School: site no. 21130. p. 6
2. EPA.(2006) Hamilton State School: site no. 21130, p.6
3. Brisbane City Council aerial photographs 1946, 2011
4. Brisbane City Council Detail Plan no 473. May 1930
5. EPA. Qld Schools Heritage Survey. Project Services no 42510. 6/06/2006. Hamilton State School: site no. 21130
6. *McKellar's Official Map of Brisbane and Suburbs* 1895
7. *Brisbane Courier*. 24 Sep 1900, 1 May 1901, 23 Dec 194, 9 Nov 1905, 27 Jun 1908, 9 Nov 1905, 18 Mar 1907. Accessed Jun-Jul 2013 <http://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper>
8. Hamilton State School website. Accessed 9 July 2013. <https://hamiltonss.eq.edu.au/Facilities/Pages/Facilities.aspx>

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**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.

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