

## Item Details

**Name**  
St Marys Public School  
**SHR/LEP/S170**  
LEP #307

**Address**  
2-6 Princess Mary Street ST MARYS NSW 2760

**Local Govt Area**  
Penrith  
**Local Aboriginal Land Council**  
Unknown



Item Type	Group/Collection	Category
Built	Education	School - State (public)

## All Addresses

Addresses								
Records Retrieved: 1								
Street No	Street Name	Suburb/Town/Postcode	Local Govt. Area	LALC	Parish	County	Electorate	Address Type
2-6	Princess Mary Street	ST MARYS/NSW/2760	Penrith	Unknown			Unknown	Primary Address

## Significance

### Statement Of Significance

The school complex provides the focus for appreciating the development of a town centre at St Marys over the late nineteenth century with the construction of public buildings to serve the suburban and rural communities. The classroom blocks are good representative examples of standard rural school building design developed by George Allen Mansfield, the architect of the Council of Education and successor William Kemp, the architect of the Department of School Education. The complex demonstrates the emergence of the provision of public education within the LGA following the Public Schools Act of 1866 and subsequent consolidation by the Public Instruction Act of 1880.

### Criteria a)

#### Historical Significance

The school complex demonstrates the emergence of public education within the LGA following the Public Schools Act of 1866 and its consolidation following the Public Instruction Act of 1880 which set statutory minimum periods of pupil attendance. The school complex demonstrates the development of a village centre at St Marys over the late nineteenth century and the development of government services to cater for the needs of this community, which had previously been provided by the churches.

### Criteria c)

#### Aesthetic/Technical Significance

The classroom blocks are good examples of standard rural school building design developed by George Allen Mansfield, the architect of the Council of Education and successor William Kemp, the architect of the Department of School Education. The buildings illustrate the Department’s model for rural schools in the choice of materials, roof form, building scale and disposition, window sizing and door location.

### Criteria f)

#### Rarity

The complex of school buildings is rare in the LGA in consideration of their number within the one school. The complex also provides the focus for appreciating the convoluted development of the village at St Marys over the latter decades of the nineteenth century better than other extant buildings of its era.

Criteria g)

Representative

The complex of buildings is representative of a model design of rural classroom blocks of the time.

Integrity/Intactness

High

Owners

Records Retrieved: 0		
Organisation	Stakeholder Category	Date Ownership Updated
No Results Found		

Description

Designer                      Builder/Maker

Physical Description                      Updated

The item is a public school complex on Princess Mary Street. The complex comprises a group of three nineteenth century brick classroom blocks erected in 1877 and 1892. The group is distinguished by the articulation of the three blocks which share a common scale, use of materials, orientation and gabled roof form. The external differences in the group are expressed in window sizes, sashes and entries. The buildings are set within level landscaped grounds which retain a number of mature trees.

The buildings have a rectangular footprint with gable roof and timber painted barrgeboards with round ends. The painted masonry bases to the buildings also have painted masonry sills and lintels that vary slightly between the two building time frames. The buildings with the inscriptions "infants" and "1892" have the same detailing with timber painted gable ends and the same type of windows sashes. The ends of the building have a set of three windows with a blind brick arch over the central window, and coloured patterned glazing. The windows along the side have a large vertical emphasis with the same glazing as the ends but include paired transom lights. The windows for the 1877 block are generally simpler in detail with timber painted double hung windows (2 over 2). The larger windows on the side elevation are 4 over 4. The ends of the buildings have a pair or set of three windows and have a flat masonry painted lintel (no arch).

Physical Condition                      Updated 03/06/2005

Good

Modifications And Dates

Further Comments

Current Use

School

Former Use

Listings

Listings

			Records Retrieved: 3		
Heritage Listing	Listing Title	Listing Number	Gazette Date	Gazzette Number	Gazzette Page
Local Environmental Plan	Penrith Local Environmental Plan 2010	307	9/22/2010 12:00:00 AM		
Heritage study	St. Marys Public School	SM-18	4/1/1987 12:00:00 AM		
Heritage study		2260307	11/1/2007 12:00:00 AM		

Procedures/Exemptions

Records Retrieved: 0					
Section of Act	Description	Title	Comments	Action Date	Outcome
No Results Found					

History

Historical Notes or Provenance

Updated

The foundation stone for the school was laid on 26th May 1877 by Sir John Robertson and the building was officially opened by Lieutenant Governor Sir Alfred Stephens on March 15 1878. The original building was constructed by John Johnson of Windsor to a design prepared by Mansfield. The school commenced on 18th March 1878 with 180 pupils in attendance. The first headmaster was R.E. Callow who was assisted by J.H. Beacroft, J.J. Blackmore and Miss Wilson. The new school replaced a National School opened in 1861 at a different site, and the earlier Church of England School. These schools were amalgamated in 1875 to form the South Creek Public School.

Historic Themes

Records Retrieved: 2		
National Theme	State Theme	Local Theme
6. Educating	Education	Rural villages
4. Settlement	Towns, suburbs and villages	Rural villages

Recommended Management

Management Summary

Management

Records Retrieved: 0

Management Category	Management Name	Date Updated
No Results Found		

Report/Study

Heritage Studies

Records Retrieved: 4

Report/Study Name	Report/Study Code	Report/Study Type	Report/Study Year	Organisation	Author
Penrith Heritage Study Review			2005		Paul Davies Pty Ltd
Penrith Heritage Study Review			2005		Pail Davies Pty Ltd
Penrith Heritage Study Review			2005		Paul Davies Pty. Ltd.
Penrith Heritage Study Review			2005		Paul Davies Pty. Ltd.

Reference & Internet Links

References

Records Retrieved: 4

Type	Author	Year	Title	Link
Written		1955	St. Marys - Penrith: Commemorating the Opening of the Electric Railway to the District.	
Written		1955	St. Marys - Penrith: Commemorating the Opening of the Electric Railway to the District.	
Written				
Written				

Data Source

The information for this entry comes from the following source:

Data Source	Record Owner	Heritage Item ID
Local Government	Penrith City Council	2260307

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