5 - CLEVELAND: Edgar Harley Pavilion (Former School of Arts Hall)



Street Address	44-76 Smith Street, Cleveland
GPS/RPD	Lot 1 SP236501
Place Type	Built



Red-e-map (RCC, 2016).

Edgar Harley Pavillion, Cleveland (RCC, 2013).

Condition	Good	Integrity	Fair		
Statutory Listings	Local Heritage Place				
Non-Statutory Listings	No current listing				
Inspection Date	24/04/2017				

Historical Context

The Edgar Harley Pavilion was originally constructed as Cleveland's first School of Arts Hall. Schools of Arts buildings were important educational hubs in nineteenth and twentieth century Australia, functioning as educational centres, libraries, community centres and venues for public lectures.[1] Originally located on Shore Street, the purpose of the building diversified in the early twentieth century. The Cleveland Agricultural, Horticultural and Industrial Society held the first Cleveland Show in 1904 and used the School of Arts building as the pavilion. It continued to serve its dual function until c.1929, when it became solely the show pavilion (a new School of Arts building was constructed at this time, which is now located next to the Edgar Harley Pavilion). A new show ground was selected in the early 1950s and the building was moved there in 1952 where it remained the main pavilion and was converted to a two-storey building. It was renamed the Edgar Harley Pavilion at this time, in recognition of Edgar Harley, a long-serving secretary of the show society. As the show continued to expand, the Pavilion was removed from the showgrounds to its current location on Smith Street in 2008. It is now used primarily as a band hall.[2]

Physical Description

The Edgar Harley Pavilion is a substantial rectangular planned, weatherboard hall raised on modern timber and steel posts. It has timber casement windows and ventilation ridges over a pitched roof featuring modern colourbond covering. Originally a simple timber structure with a half-hipped roof, narrow windows and entry stairs leading to an entrance at the gabled end of the building (half-hip end), the building has been altered following its relocations.

Statement of Significance

The Edgar Harley Pavilion survives as the first Cleveland School of Arts and first Cleveland show pavilion. It reflects the pattern and evolution of Redland's history and it retains its association with the Cleveland and later Redlands shows, a connection that is reflected in the building's name. Some features from its use as a pavilion have been retained and it still exhibits a relatively simple form representative of such buildings from this period.

Criteria A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the region's history.

The Edgar Harley Pavilion is historically significant as the modified early School of Arts building. It was constructed c.1890 and moved to its current location in 2008. The building has played an important role in the social and cultural life of the Cleveland area.

Primary Themes

8.0 Creating Social and Cultural Institutions

8.02 Cultural activities

References

[1] Rick Thomason, Les Warner and Audrey Warner, "School of Arts," The Association of Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Societies, 2012, <u>https://www.adfas.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cleveland20First.pdf</u>

[2] Tracey Ryan, "The Cleveland Shows and the Showground," Redland City Council, 2006, p. 1-3

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Original location on Shore Street North, c. 1912 (QSL).