

6 - CLEVELAND: Cleveland Memorial Hall

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



Red-e-map (RCC, 2016).



Cleveland Memorial Hall, 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 Cleveland (Redlands) Memorial Hall was constructed in 1928, as a memorial hall to commemorate soldiers from the district who had served in World War I, as well as providing a School of Arts function when the original School of Arts Hall (Edgar Harley Pavilion) became the show pavilion. The hall was designed by the local architect Raymond Nowland and constructed by a local builder Harold Wallis. The hall was opened on August 5, 1928 by Australian Prime Minister Stanley Bruce.[1]

The building functioned as an important venue for the Cleveland community from its opening and was predominantly used for fetes and dances, in addition to providing a library. Army parades were held at the hall, including the 'welcome home' parades for local service personnel returning from World War II. In 1969, the new Council chambers, which included a library, were constructed and the School of Arts library was moved there. Schools of Arts around the country declined in popularity and attendance in the second half of the twentieth century, particularly with the rise of local Council libraries. The memorial hall function also appears to have declined in importance. The building was moved to its current location in the early 1990s. The memorial function of the hall shifted to the RSL premises in Passage Street from this time.[2]

Physical Description

The Cleveland Memorial Hall is a low set building with a corrugated iron roof extending over the main structure, now located at the Cleveland Showgrounds.

The building has a timber frame with timber chamfer board cladding. The original stumps have been replaced with concrete piers and there is a skillion addition to the rear of the building. The front has two side wings with separate gabled roofs extending at right angles to the main roof. The front facade to the hall has had a separate brick wall added, but not affecting/removing the original structure. The two side entries remain behind the wall. There was a painted concrete rendered 'Art Deco' influence entry porch to the main entry and a decorative semi-circular glass panel above the front entry door.

The interior has a timber floor with a sprung dance floor indicated by different timber flooring. The dance floor and side space are also delineated by decorative timber and lattice work panels to dividing partitions.

Statement of Significance

The Cleveland Memorial Hall has historic, representative and aesthetic significance as Cleveland's second School of Arts building and as a memorial hall commemorating the service personnel from the district who fought and served during World War I. It has remained a community hub since its construction in 1928.

Criteria A	The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the region's history.
The hall is historically significant as an early RSSILA (now RSL) Hall constructed around the same time as the Cleveland War Memorial to commemorate local servicemen and has also functioned as Cleveland's second School of Arts Hall, as well as other prominent community functions.	

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Criteria D	The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class of cultural places important to the region.
The Memorial Hall is aesthetically pleasing with decorative features including the 'Art Deco' style entry porch. While it has been removed from its original context, it contributes to its location alongside the Edgar Harley Pavilion.	
Criteria E	The place is important to the region because of its aesthetic significance.
The hall had significant community value as a meeting place, library and memorial venue up until the second half of the twentieth century. The memorial aspect of the hall remains important even if it is not used specifically for this purpose any more. Memorial halls were always intended to be practical memorials used by the community and its current use remains consistent with this basic purpose.	
Primary Themes	
8.0 Creating Social and Cultural Institutions	8.06 Commemorating significant events 8.02 Cultural activities

References

- [1] Rick Thomason and Audrey Warner, "Cleveland Memorial Hall," The Association of Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Societies, 2012, <http://www.adfas.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Cleveland20Second20SOA.pdf>, p. 2.
- [2] Ibid, p. 3-4.



Cleveland Memorial Hall, Cleveland (RPS, 2013).