

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

name: Jung Memorial Hall
Address: 28 Baker Street JUNG
Place Type: Hall Public ,War Memorial
Citation Date: 2022



Jung Memorial Hall, 28 Baker Street Jung

**Recommended
Heritage Protection** **VHR -**

 HI -

 PS
 Yes

Integrity

Average to good – minor cracking to walls and bow in floor but most significant fabric extant and clearly illustrating 1920s community hall. The front doors are a recent replacement.

History and Historical Context

The Jung Hall was officially opened on the evening of 28 October 1926, by Mr A.S. Rodgers in the presence of 400 people who had reportedly travelled by car from 'near and far'.^[1] The hall, designed by architect Mr John A. Simpson of Horsham, was built in Baker Street.

The *Horsham Times* reported that the hall was constructed from reinforced concrete and measured 100 feet by 36 feet. They described its features in fine detail:

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The main hall itself is 52 feet by 35 feet. At the entrance the ticket box is flanked on either side by ladies' and gentlemen's cloak rooms. Swing doors open out into the auditorium which can seat 400 people comfortably. A stairway leads up to a balcony overhead where a modern fireproof biograph box is installed. Here too, seats can accommodate several people. The primary object is for the seating of an orchestra. The stage is quite ample for all requirements, and is constructed on the island principle that is, access can be gained by passage ways on both sides. The wings are moveable and are placed at the angle; the drawing room effect is tastefully arranged by a dark blue flower scheme. Behind the stage is the supper room, with copper and serving window and other appliances. When necessary the room can be converted into dressing rooms. The whole of the building is fire resisting: the six inch walls composed of steel frames is made up of steel stanchions [sic] and roof trusses forming units with reinforcement rods interlaced. Mr John A. Simpson, architect, of Horsham, claims that 75 per cent of the timber used in concrete wall construction is saved, together with about 50 per cent less labor [sic]. ... The building is well ventilated along the wall, and the white glister [sic] windows add a finishing touch to quite a modern utility, that is serviceable for country districts. The whole scheme has been well conceived and constructed. Another feature is the electric power plant at the back of the building, which has a double wiring system, so if fusing takes place, the other portion can be used. The plant gives light not only to the hall, but to the streets and business places.[2]

The Jung Hall was constructed and furnished at a cost of £3,300, and despite being declared 'the finest in the district', it far exceeded what the hall committee had expected.[3] At the time of its opening, the public had already donated £800, but were urged to make further contributions to reduce the considerable overdraft. In response to the committee's appeal, local resident Mr T. Coffey promised to donate £50, whilst profits from the opening raised a further £100. On 2 November 1926, the *Horsham Times* reported that 'five ugly men competitions' were in full swing, which had raised another £150.[4]

Reflecting on the difficulties that the Jung community were faced with to raise adequate funds to pay for the overdraft, past Jung resident, Mr Vic Maddern recalled that:

It took many, many years of hard work and lots of fresh ideas before finally the hall was paid off. It was because of the building of the hall and the difficulty of paying it off that brought about the idea that we'd have the Jung Gymkhana. It became one of the great sporting events of the area in those days.[5]

It took five years for the hall committee to liquidate the debt. By 1931, the hall committee's annual balance sheets finally showed a credit from proceeds raised from years of hosting gymkhanas, concerts and other fundraising events.[6]

The present day hall is the fourth public hall that has been erected in the township of Jung (Jung Jung before 1920s). The first hall was constructed on the corner of Baker and Main Street in c.1883 as an annexe to Cook's Hotel (presumably to bring custom). Whilst Cook's hall was used for social gatherings, a small Mechanics' Institute on Baker Street (adjacent to the hotel) was used for meetings, as it was too small to be considered a public hall.[7]

The second hall was a makeshift building in Baker Street opposite Cook's hall. It was made from galvanised iron sheeting and lacked a proper floor for some years. Kerosene cases were used for the stage and tarpaulins were obtained from Victorian Railways to protect attendees from the natural elements. It was reported that in all, it took a day to prepare the hall for use.[8] The hall was erected and used between the 1890s and 1905.

The third public hall, called Federal Hall, was officially opened on 23 August 1905.[9] It was funded by a share system, whereby 250 £1 shares were made available to the local community for purchase.[10] The share system and public drive for the construction of the hall was coordinated by the Jung Progress Committee. Located on the corner of Main and Church Street, on the former site of Goodwin's store, the hall was the social centre of the town. Federal Hall was a multi-purpose facility. It was used to hold Sunday School lessons, was a

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polling booth during elections, and was the scene of many dances, wedding breakfasts, Sunday School anniversaries, “send-off” tributes to soldiers going to the First World War, and “welcome homes” for those who returned. For a while the hall was also used for fortnightly Church of England services.[11]

The present 1926 Jung Hall replaced Federal Hall as the social centre of the township. One former resident recalled that there were lots of balls held there, including Bachelors and Spinsters, and Matron Balls. They also remembered flower show exhibits and stated that ‘there must have been pictures shown in that hall as they had facilities in ... [there] to show pictures’.[12] Although the 1926 Jung Hall is infrequently used today, it remains one of the oldest intact buildings in the township and continues to play a vital role in community cohesion. Two stone memorial plaques installed on the front of the hall also serves as a reminder of the 36 local men who served in World War II.

[1] Horsham Times (1926) Modern Public Hall: Fine building at Jung. *Horsham Times*. 2 November, p. 1.

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] *Ibid.*

[4] *Ibid.*

[5] Horsham and District Historical Society (1991) *Memories of Jung Jung*. Horsham: Horsham and District Historical Society, p. 31.

[6] Horsham Times (1931) Jung: Public hall in credit. *Horsham Times*. 26 May, p. 3.

[7] Maddern, I. (1976) *Jung and the Jung State School (no. 1728) Centenary*. Unpublished pamphlet, p. 40.

[8] Modern Public Hall (1926).

[9] Horsham Times (1905) Opening the Federal Hall, Jung Jung. *Horsham Times*. 25 August, p. 3.

[10] Horsham Times (1904) Public Hall for Jung Jung. *Horsham Times*. 25 October, p. 3.

[11] *Jung and the Jung State School (no. 1728) Centenary*, p. 39.

[12] *Memories of Jung Jung*, p. 65.

Description

Physical Description

Single storey hall, constructed from reinforced concrete finished externally with ruled render. The original golden colourwash or limewash remains in many places. Front features stepped parapet, and original steel-framed windows. Hall is Stripped Classical in style – austere in architectural detail. Interior gallery, bio-box and proscenium arch all intact, featuring Arts & Crafts style detailing common to the period. Period pressed metal panel decoration to proscenium and ceiling of architectural note.

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Physical Condition

Average condition. Some structural cracking evident, but not substantial in extent. Timber floor inside has bowed in centre/ settled at perimeter – floor curve evident, indicating an urgent need for restumping.

Australian Heritage Commission Criteria

Relevant HERCON Criteria

Criterion A: Importance to the course, or pattern, of our cultural or natural history. (*third hall in Jung – erected during the agriculturally prosperous inter-war period – illustrating regional population growth, transport needs and civic/ recreational needs of the time*)

Criterion D: Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural or natural places or environments. (*Represents a class – town halls – relevant example, but not of particular merit when compared with other regional town halls in Horsham*)

Criterion G: Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions. (*associated with civic/ recreational/ social needs of local community – and more importantly the memorial plaques on the hall commemorating WW1 local participants*).

Comparative Analysis

Hall, Murra Warra, Hermes no. 186149: Sailors Home Hall – 1923 – framed construction – similar size/ construction – comparable – higher intactness though.

Hall, Mitre, Hermes no. 186146: Mitre Hall – erected 1915 – brick construction. Includes a stage and contemporary supper room – comparable.

Hall, Brimpaen, Hermes no. 186055: Brimpaen Hall – erected 1922 – timber framed, re-clad c1960s. Similar scale, memorial gates (plaques) and features. Comparable, but different construction.

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The elements of heritage value of the 1926 Jung Memorial Hall, 28 Baker Street, Jung, include:

- . 1926 reinforced-concrete hall building which retains its original limewash finish, and internally the gallery and bio-box, proscenium arch, ceiling lining and stage structure, supper room
- . WW1 memorial plaques – granite slabs fixed to facade

Exclusions: shedding/ toilets structure to rear.

How is it significant?

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The 1926 Jung Memorial Hall, Baker Street, Jung, is of local historic and social significance to Horsham Rural City.

Why is it significant?

The 1926 Jung Memorial Hall, Baker Street, Jung, is:

. of local historical significance, illustrating the results of regional growth in Jung in the early 20th century and in particular inter-war period – a boom period for agricultural development in the district. The building is the third hall in Jung and reflects the growing population and civic needs of that community at this time. (Criteria A)

. of local social significance, as a centre of community life and for the 'memorial plaques on the front I, commemorating the local community's contribution to WW11. (Criterion G)

Recommendations 2022

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| External Paint Controls | Yes |
| Internal Alteration Controls | Yes |
| Tree Controls | No |
| Fences & Outbuildings | No |
| Prohibited uses may be permitted | No |
| Incorporated Plan | - |
| Aboriginal Heritage Place | No |

References

Literature title: Memories of Jung Jung

Literature type: General Reference

Literature author: Horsham and District Historical Society

Literature publisher: Horsham: Horsham and District Historical Society

Literature year: 1991

Literature title: Horsham Times Newspaper

Literature type: General Reference

Literature author:

Literature publisher:

Literature year:

Literature title: Jung and the Jung State School (no. 1728) Centenary

Literature type: General Reference

Literature author: Maddern, I

Literature publisher: Unpublished pamphlet

Literature year: 1976

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This information is provided for guidance only and does not supersede official documents, particularly the planning scheme. Planning controls should be verified by checking the relevant municipal planning scheme.