



Conservation Management Plan – Rockley School of Arts Hall

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL

The Rockley School of Arts Hall was identified in the Bathurst Regional Heritage Study 2007, (SHI No. 1080388), which recommended that the building be listed as a heritage item in the future comprehensive Local Environmental Plan.

Other items from the village of Rockley included in the Bathurst Regional Heritage Study include:

- Rockley Mill (SHI No. 1080405)
- Clubhouse Hotel (SHI No. 1080401)
- Abercrombie Shire Council Chambers (SHI No. 1080399)
- St Peter's Anglican Church (SHI No. 1080390)
- St Patrick's Catholic Church and Presbytery (SHI No. 1080396 & 1080397)

The Rockley School of Arts Hall is located on the corner of Hill and Pepper Streets, with the main entrance orientated towards Hill Street.

The School of Arts Hall is highly intact to its original design and layout as designed by local architect John Job Copeman.

1.2 SCOPE

This Conservation Management Plan addresses the Rockley School of Arts Hall building and surrounding site. This Conservation Management Plan also considers the context of the site within the overall Rockley Heritage Conservation Area and with its more immediate neighbours, in particular Saint Peter's Anglican Church, Saint Patrick's Catholic Church and Presbytery, the cottage known as Corunna and the Former Abercrombie Shire Council Chambers.

1.3 METHODOLOGY

1.3.1 Format and References

The Conservation Management Plan has been prepared using the methodology outlined in the NSW Heritage Manual – Conservation and Management Documents. Significance was analysed in accordance with the National Themes, State Categories and 'Seven Criteria' as described in the NSW Heritage Manual. The conservation policies were established based upon the ICOMOS definitions of Conservation outlined within the Burra Charter 1999.

1.3.2 Historical Research

Historical Research was carried out with the assistance of Beth Hall of the Bathurst Regional Library and has included a review of Local, State and National archives relating to the settlement of the village of Rockley and the construction and use of the hall. Historical research carried out by Pauline Barker, Jasmin Hooper and Tony Robertson has also been used in the preparation of this document.

1.3.3 Physical Analysis

The site was inspected on a number of occasions and the building was inspected internally and externally. No intervention in fabric was made for the physical analysis.

1.3.4 Consultation and Feedback

The Conservation Management Plan has been carried out in consultation with Pauline Barker and Jasmin Hooper of the Rockley & District Community Association Inc and Bathurst Regional Council Heritage Advisor Barbara Hickson.

1.4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The assistance of the following people in the preparation of this Conservation Management Plan is acknowledged:

- Pauline Barker
- Sinclair Croft
- Beth Hall
- Barbara Hickson
- Jasmin Hooper
- Tony Robertson
- Barbara Rudloff

IDENTIFICATION

2 SITE DESCRIPTION

The area covered by this report and from here on referred to as “the site” is known as Rockley School of Arts Hall, 28 Hill Street, Rockley. The legal description of the site is Lot 1, Section 6, DP 1124226. The site is bounded by a 6.115 metre wide drainage reserve to the north, Pepper Street to the south, Hill Street to the east and Lot 248, DP 821091 to the west.

The village of Rockley was proclaimed by notice in the Government Gazette of 22 July 1851, making it the sixth oldest town west of the Blue Mountains. The first sale of allotments in the village occurred on 29 August 1853. The site was dedicated as a site for a Mechanics Institute in the Government Gazette of 24 October 1882.

The site is a Crown Reserve (No. 590093) and is managed by the Rockley & District Community Association Inc. The Rockley & District Community Association Inc. is an organisation comprising local residents who are responsible for the management and maintenance of the hall.

The site is connected to mains power. The village of Rockley does not have reticulated sewer and therefore the site has its own effluent disposal system. The village of Rockley does not have reticulated water therefore the site relies on tank water.

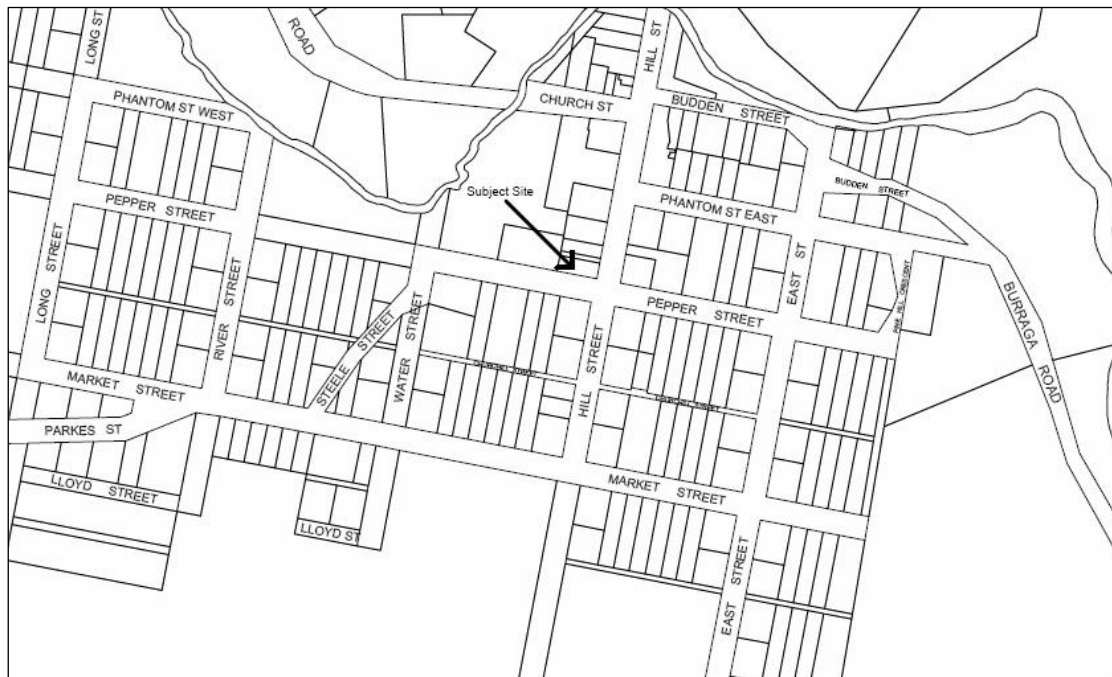


Figure 1 – Location Plan (Source: Bathurst Regional Council, Date: 2009)

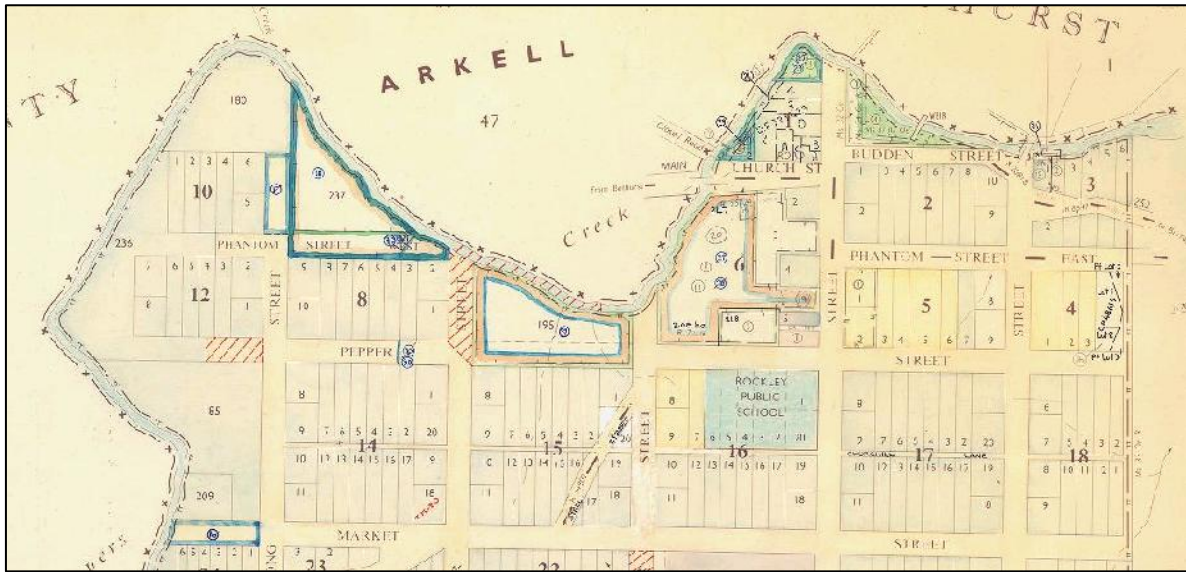


Figure 2 – Early Village Map (Source: Department of Lands, Date: Unknown)

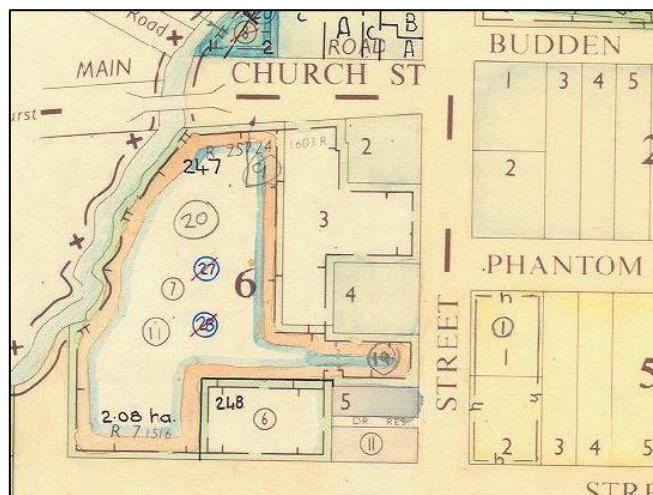


Figure 3 – Early Village Map (site enlarged) (Source: Department of Lands, Date: Unknown)

3 HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

3.1 SCHOOL OF ARTS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SETTLEMENT OF THE BATHURST REGION

3.1.1 Pre-European Settlement

The Bathurst Regional Council LGA is part of the larger area occupied by the Wiradjuri, an area that coincides with the present day Central West and beyond. Wiradjuri culture was based on small clans or family groups whose movements followed seasonal food gathering and ritual patterns. Rivers and streams were natural focal points for such activities.

A feature of traditional Wiradjuri culture is the dendroglyph, or carved tree, the carving of which was done for ritual purposes.

Initially, European intrusion into Wiradjuri country was restricted on the orders of Governor Macquarie. From the early 1820s with the removal of these restrictions, the Wiradjuri in the BRC area began to suffer major dislocation with the arrival of pastoral settlers and their herds in greater numbers, culminating in open conflict in 1823 and 1824. Windradyne, a Wiradjuri leader in this resistance, is one of the few Aborigines of the settlement period of whom we have any certain knowledge as an individual.

3.1.2 The settlement of the Rockley Area

The village of Rockley was gazetted in 1851 although settlers had arrived in the district from about 1813. Summer Hill copper mine opened in 1848, just 8 kilometres south of the village.

The location of the township of Rockley was originally kept as part of a government stock reserve from 1815 -1829. In 1829 a grant of 1,920 acres was made to Captain Watson Augustus Steel who named his grant 'Rockley', after his birthplace in Wiltshire, England. The actual township of Rockley was established in 1850 when Steel and other landholders requested that part of the stock reserve be surveyed into allotments so they could be purchased by tradesmen to service the local districts.

The discovery of gold and copper in the 1840's drew many Europeans to the area, and Rockley at its peak was home to around 2,000 - 3,000 people. This discovery also brought about lawlessness and many of the isolated landholders had to depend on themselves for defence. Many Bushrangers were active in the area and the story of the Ben Hall Gang robbing and holding to ransom the Assistant Gold, Commissioner at Dunn's Plains, near Rockley, is now part of the district's folklore.

Rockley is one of the oldest settlements west of the Blue Mountains. Descendants of some of the original settlers still reside in the area and many of Rockley's rare and historic buildings remain unspoilt or have been restored. The Rockley Mill, once a flour mill, is now a museum. The former Abercrombie Shire Chambers is constructed of local marble and the late Ben Chifley, former Prime Minister of Australia, served as President of this Shire from December 1937 to 1940. In particular the churches stand as monuments to the early development of this township.

3.1.3 The Rockley School of Arts Hall

The Hall

The hall was designed by architect John Job Copeman, of Bathurst. In the Bathurst Times of 18 February 1890 he called for tenders for the construction of the building. The building contract was awarded to Stacey and Sons.

The hall has two foundation stones. The first stone, on the left hand side of the main entrance, was laid by Emma S. Brownlow. The second stone, on the right hand side of the main entrance was laid by Arthur Budden. The foundation stones were laid on 28 July 1890. This event was reported in the Bathurst Times.

The hall was initially known as the Mechanics Institute.

The hall was originally one open room only. The stage/kitchen, amenities and front porch were later additions. Dates of construction of the stage/kitchen area and original amenities building (recently demolished) have not been determined. The original kitchen was underneath the present day kitchen/stage area and was connected to the upper level with an internal staircase and manually operated dumbwaiter which have both since been removed.

The front porch was added in approximately 1950 by Norrie Chatfield. The front porch provided shelter for patrons and ticket sellers/collectors at the door. The porch also provided an area for a sweet stall. Prior to the addition of the front porch tickets and sweets were sold from a separate kiosk located on a strip of land to the north of the hall.

During the inter-war period, Cecil Clark operated the hall as a picture theatre. In the 1950-1960s Herb David, also operated the hall as a picture theatre. A light-weight structure was installed on top of the porch for a projection room in around 1957-1958. This structure has since been removed however the openings to the projection room can still be seen inside the hall above the main door. A low parapet and ornamental urns matching those on the main parapet were erected on the porch in the late 1980s by local tradesman Jim Forrest after the projection room was removed. Photographs taken in the late 1980s show the parapet on the porch before it was rendered. The parapet was rendered in 1993 by local tradesman Keith Ovington.



Figure 4 - Openings in Eastern Wall for Film Projection
(Source: Daniel Dwyer: 2009)

The amenities building at the rear of the stage/kitchen, built in the 1950's, was demolished and replaced with a new building in 2006. The new building and paths

cover the same footprint as those demolished. Prior to the 1950s the amenities were in a separate “outhouse” near the western boundary of the hall site.

A poly rainwater storage tank was added in 2007.

The front wall, parapet and porch were painted in 2001. Prior to painting they were rendered only with pale cream face-brick detailing.

The hall has a long history of use for balls, dances, plays, dinners and school functions. The hall is purported to have excellent acoustics which have been showcased in recent times when the hall was one of the venues for the Kowmung Music Festival and the venue for a sell-out performance of the Balalaika Orchestra.

According to local sources, the hall has only been painted three times since it was constructed and the paint on the decorative ceiling insets is believed to be the original colours.

Mrs Emma Brownlow (benefactor)

Mrs Emma Brownlow was born Emma Nicholls in Calais, France in 1820. In 1838 Emma married William Brownlow in France. On 12 June 1848 Emma, William and their three children sailed on the “Agincourt” from Gravesend. The ship arrived in Sydney on 6 October 1848. The ship was one of three commissioned to transport misplaced lacemakers from France and England who were left without work during the industrial revolution. The lacemakers who travelled on the three ships were noted by immigration officials to be the most skilled arrivals to come to Australia up until that time. Of the 262 passengers on the Agincourt, 121 were taken to the Bathurst area and the remainder were taken to Maitland. Upon arrival William was hired to work in the Summer Hill Copper Mine. Throughout the 1850s and 1860s the Brownlows owned properties in the Burruga and Rockley districts. William Brownlow built the Club House Hotel, the shops adjoining the Hotel and Calais Villa in the village of Rockley. After William’s death on 20 February 1885, Emma and two of her unmarried daughters moved into Calais Villa. Emma was known to be an active member of the Church of England and a generous public spirited woman. It is no surprise then that she was a benefactor of the Rockley School of Arts Hall, an action acknowledged with one of two foundation stones.



Figure 5 – Foundation stone (LHS) (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

Mr Arthur Budden (benefactor)

Mr Arthur Budden was born in England on 16 March 1832. He left England onboard the “Ashburton” in 1854. The Ashburton arrived in Sydney on 3 January 1855. Arthur arrived in Rockley in 1858 after having spent twelve months at Caloola where he built a store from slabs and bark. Upon arrival in Rockley he built a stable for use as a temporary store while he built a permanent weatherboard store. In 1864 Arthur and his father-in-law J.C. Stranger built the Flour Mill. Between 1876 and 1878 Arthur had a bank agency in his store. In 1878 a new store building and residence was constructed and Arthur continued to operate an agency in this new building until 1885 when the agency was converted to a branch and Arthur became the manager. Arthur was a Patron and Secretary of the School during its establishment and early years. Arthur married twice and had five children to his first wife and a further five children to his second wife. During his time as bank manager, Arthur was a benefactor of the Rockley School of Arts Hall and his contribution was acknowledged with one of two foundation stones.

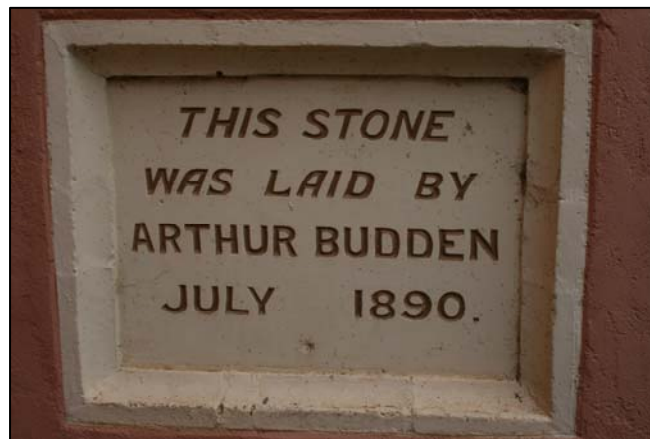


Figure 6 – Foundation stone (RHS) (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

3.2 ARCHITECTURAL CONTEXT OF THE SCHOOL OF ARTS HALL

3.2.1 The School of Arts Movement

School of Arts buildings were, and still are, often referred to as Mechanics Institutes or Literary Institutes.

The first institute was incorporated in Glasgow in November 1823.

Historically, Mechanics' Institutes were educational establishments formed to provide adult education, particularly in technical subjects, to working men. As such, they were often funded by local industrialists on the grounds that they would ultimately benefit from having more knowledgeable and skilled employees. The Mechanics' Institutes were used as 'libraries' for the adult working class, and provided them with an alternative pastime to gambling and drinking in pubs.

In Australia the first Mechanics' Institute appeared in Hobart in 1827, followed by the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts in 1833, Newcastle School of Arts in 1835, then the Melbourne Mechanics' Institute established in 1839 (renamed The Melbourne Athenaeum in 1873).

The Bathurst School of Arts was built in 1861, after land was first reserved for it in 1844 and a committee subsequently established.

The Rockley School of Arts building was built in 1890 after the movement had been well established across eastern Australia.

3.2.2 John Copeman Architect

John Job Copeman was born on 8 February 1870 in Middlesex, England, to Charles and Mary Jane Copeman. While the exact date of the Copeman's arrival in Bathurst is unclear, various sources suggest it was between 1882-1884.

In 1887, at the age of 17, Copeman entered architectural drawings in the Bathurst Show. His architectural drawings achieved him first place and a prize of ten shillings. Copeman attended the Bathurst Technical School around this time. It appears that the training Copeman received at the Bathurst Technical School was his only formal training. In 1889 resident master in charge of the Bathurst Technical School, Mr W J Clunies Ross, announced at an awards ceremony that Copeman was the only student in New South Wales who had taken honours in architectural planning and design.

Whilst unconfirmed, it is likely that Copeman was working as a joiner whilst studying at the Bathurst Technical School.

An item in the Bathurst Free Press and Mining Journal of 22 March 1890 described Copeman as "a young student who has carried off more prizes than any of his companions, and one who is now commencing life on his account in our city as an architect".

The Bathurst Times of 16 July 1890 contained an advertisement which read "J. J. COPEMAN, ARCHITECT Begs to notify to the public that he has now started his business". By this time Copeman had already designed the Rockley School of Arts Hall and builders had been contracted for its construction.

On 22 February 1895 Copeman took up a position as a teacher of Geometrical Drawing at the Bathurst Technical School, the institution where he himself had been trained.

3.3 SUMMARY OF HISTORICAL ANALYSIS

The Bathurst Regional Council LGA is part of the larger area occupied by the Wiradjuri, an area that coincides with the present day Central West and beyond.

The village of Rockley was gazetted in 1851 although settlers had arrived in the district from about 1813.

The Rockley School of Arts Hall was designed by architect John Job Copeman, of Bathurst.

The hall has two foundation stones acknowledging two primary benefactors. The first stone, on the left hand side of the main entrance, was laid by Emma S. Brownlow. The second stone, on the right hand side of the main entrance was laid by Arthur Budden. The foundation stones were laid on 28 July 1890.

Emma Brownlow was known to be an active member of the Church of England and a generous public spirited woman.

Arthur Budden was a shop owner and bank manager and was instrumental in the establishment of the Rockley School.

The Rockley School of Arts building was built in 1890 after the movement had been well established across eastern Australia. The hall has served the community of Rockley for 120 years for balls, dances, plays, dinners, school functions, community meetings, trivia nights and Lions Club activities.

4 PHYSICAL REVIEW OF THE PROPERTY

4.1 SITE

The lot containing the Rockley School of Arts Hall has an area of 1012 square metres (approximately ¼ acre).

There are substantial trees on and surrounding the site. The area surrounding the hall is managed grassland.

The site generally slopes to the north. The building is set on high ground on the south-west side of the village.

4.2 THE HALL BUILDING

Main Building

The hall itself has brick walls in Flemish Bond with attached piers which divide it into five bays. It has timber framed double-hung windows, each with four panes. The front façade has arched timber framed double-hung windows on either side of the main entrance. The front façade has two foundation stones, one on either side of the main entrance. The front parapet has a round vent, a gabled cap and four ornamental urns. The words “School of Arts” are inscribed on a semicircular raised band on the parapet. The hall has a secondary entrance on the left side with timber double doors. The hall has a gabled corrugated iron roof with vents along the ridgeline.

Stage/Kitchen

The stage/kitchen building has brick walls in English Garden Wall Bond with attached piers which divide it into two bays. It has timber framed double-hung windows, each with four panes. There is a single entry door in the second bay on the left side. The stage/kitchen building has a corrugated iron roof. The stage/kitchen building has an undercroft which is accessed by a door at the rear of the building. The undercroft, which was formerly the kitchen, has one small timber framed window. There is an ornamental rope detail over the stage opening and supports above the opening at ceiling level for attaching a curtain or projection screen.

Porch

The front porch has rendered masonry walls. The porch has a parapet with a gabled cap and two ornamental urns. The porch has two small louvered windows on either side. The entrance to the porch has arched timber double doors and a string course above the door.



Figure 7 – Ornamental Urn on Parapet (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

Amenities

The amenities building has brick walls in Stretcher Bond. The amenities building has two small aluminium windows, one on either side. The amenities building has a skillion sheet metal roof.



Figure 8 – Western & Southern Elevations (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)



Figure 9 – Western & Southern Elevations (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)



Figure 10 – Northern Elevation (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)



Figure 11 – Eastern & Northern Elevations (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)



Figure 12 – Southern Elevation (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)



Figure 13 – Eastern Elevation (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)



Figure 14 – Western Elevation (New Amenities Building) (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)



Figure 15 – Ceiling Inset (believed to be the original colours) (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

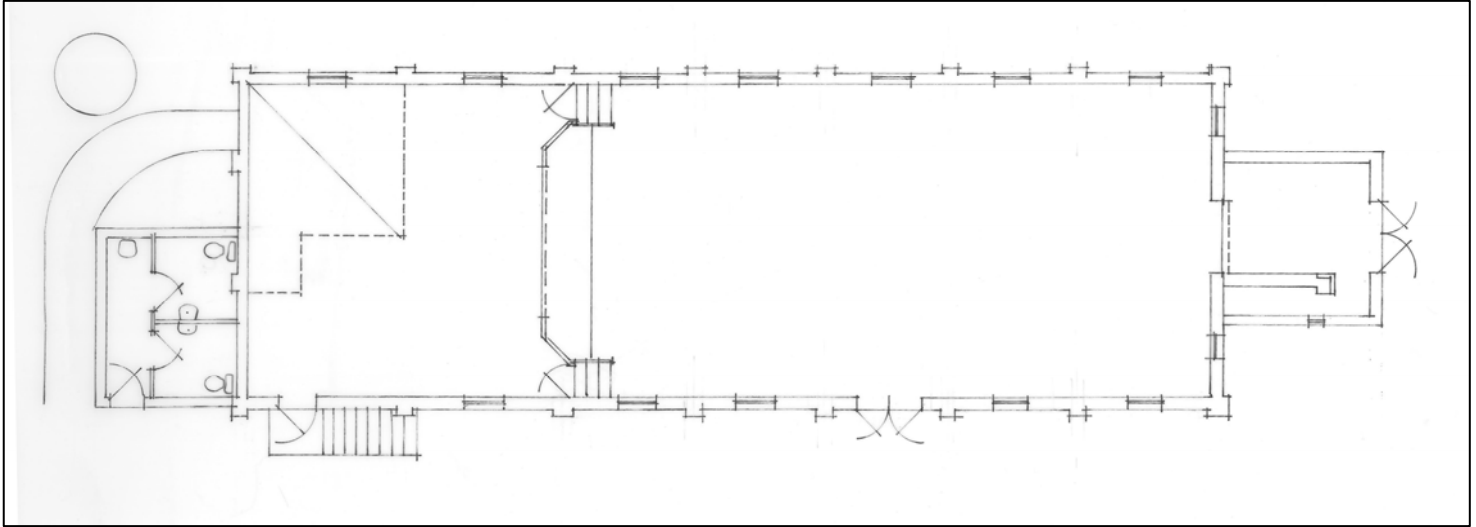


Figure 16 – Floor Plan (Source: Barbara Hickson, Date: 2009)

4.3 SUMMARY OF PHYSICAL REVIEW

The hall itself has brick walls in Flemish Bond with attached piers which divide it into five bays. The front façade has two foundation stones, one on either side of the main entrance. The front parapet has a round vent, a gabled cap and four ornamental urns. The words “School of Arts” are inscribed on the parapet. The stage/kitchen extension has brick walls in English Garden Wall Bond with attached piers which divide it into two bays. The front porch has rendered masonry walls. The porch has a parapet with a gabled cap and two ornamental urns. The amenities (toilet) building has brick walls in Stretcher Bond and two small aluminium windows, one on either side.

4.4 BUILDING COMPARISON

4.4.1 Sofala Community Hall (former)

Statement of Significance

An old hall which is timber framed and corrugated iron clad and helps to define the boundary of the street in a sympathetic manner. Has been replaced as a hall generally, but still serves the community.

Has high social significance as a place of past celebrations and entertainments.

Construction Date

1952.

Construction Materials

This building formerly used as a community hall, helps to define the boundary of the street in a sympathetic manner. The building appears to be a very old hall which is timber framed and corrugated iron clad. A gable roof with a side skillion. This building still provides the public toilets for Sofala.

Condition

Fair condition.

Current Use

Lost its roll as community hall in about 1970.

Designer / Builder

Unknown.

4.4.2 Sofala Community Hall

Statement of Significance

A new hall provides a relatively inoffensive infill to the streetscape. Not historic but good social significance.

Construction Date

1963.

Construction Materials

Set back slightly from the street alignment, this new hall provides a relatively inoffensive infill to the streetscape. The roof is gable ended and the building has a verandah at the street facade.

Condition

Fair condition.

Current Use

Constructed circa 1975 and renovated in 2004. A grant from the NSW Government: Ministry for Arts made the renovations possible.

Designer / Builder

Unknown.

4.4.3 Peel Community Hall

Statement of Significance

The 1870's building is important in the course of the educational component of the cultural history of the village of Peel. The National School was the first school within the county of Roxburgh. The building has a special association with the community, particularly those who were students at the school. The construction as a school and the floor plan will have the potential to yield information about a purpose built government building as an educational institution for the children of the working class within the village of Peel. The old school building is unusual in that it has one big room inside, being the old class room and the headmaster's residence is located in the same building, so they were able to walk directly from their residence to the class room.

The honour roll for the WWI congregation of St John the Evangelist is kept in the old school building.

During Federation, (1901), a flag pole was erected near the school building, but is no longer there.

The original windows in the school consisted of 12 panes. The side lights are an addition.

There were stables and outbuildings around the school that have now been demolished.

Construction Date

1870.

Construction Materials

Brick and iron school with residence now painted and suffering both 19th and 20th century additions. The original building consists of double hung sash windows with 6 panes per sash. The original component and additions consist of hipped roofs. The later additions have large windows, also double hung. These are single pane in the lower sash and 6 in the upper sash. To either side are double hung windows that have two panes per sash. There is a skillion addition to the western side and the openings for the windows have been filled in with fibro. It is not certain what the use of the building is now, though it looks as though at least part is used as a residence.

Current Use

Still in use.

Designer / Builder

Henry Robinson, Government Architect.

4.4.4 The Lagoon Community Hall

Statement of Significance

The Lagoon School of Arts Hall is a building of high local significance as a remaining building element indicating the arrangement of public buildings at The Lagoon around the former Lagoon Water feature.

The hall in association with the School, and the Catholic Church building, in its subdivision layout and setting, indicates the former community arrangement and development patterns of the hamlet.

The hall has high local significance in its association with John Copeman, Bathurst Architect, whose works are important in creating the late Victorian - Federation character of the Bathurst region. The building incorporates important design features that indicate the style of John Copeman.

The hall has high local social significance as the venue associated with community events in an area which is still peopled by the descendants of early settlers, and in its close association with the Public School.

Construction Date

1902.

Construction Materials

This simple rectangular face brick hall with attached piers at the sides and has a gable end that still retains the words (faintly) School of Arts 1902. The timber framed windows have been replaced with aluminium windows. These have low arched brick heads. The hall is in poor condition, and no now in use. Externally the building has some cracking, and guttering loose and falling on one side, and the front door is not secured. Internally the ceiling is lined in Mansart style in stained timber boards, with decorative roses and a stage at one end. A wall memorial has been removed. The building is dry and looks suitable for re-use. A small fibro- lined skillion structure at one side housed the food preparation area. The roofing iron on this structure is loose

Condition

Poor externally.

Current Use

Abandoned.

Designer / Builder

John Copeman.

4.4.5 Walang Community Hall (former)

Statement of Significance

This 1920's community hall has the potential to yield information about the social requirements of a rural community in a social setting for all classes in the area.

Construction Date

1925.

Construction Materials

A timber framed and fibro clad. An extension to one side is clad in weatherboards. The roof is 'Super 6 ' asbestos cladding, gable ended. Windows are timber framed in pairs of sashes, one above the other, 3 lights per pane. Vegetation is intruding on the structure.

Condition

Poor condition.

Current Use

Abandoned.

Designer / Builder

Unknown.

4.4.6 Hill End Community Hall

Statement of Significance

The Royal Hall is part of the landscape of Hill End and is representative of the ongoing development of the town as a gold boom settlement and a subsistence mining area. It is also representative of the resilience of the community of Hill End.

It possesses state heritage significance in the following areas:

- Moderate state level historical association significance
- Moderate state level technical/research significance

It also possesses a moderate degree of rarity at state level. It is considered to have local historical, aesthetic and social significance and representativeness. It also has a high level of integrity.

Construction Date

1900.

Construction Materials

The Federation hall consists of brick construction for the walls, galvanised iron for the gable roof structure, which is not lined internally. Windows are double hung with 2 panes per sash. There is a 1970s addition under a skillion roof to the north, containing the toilet block. There are a number of archaeological features surrounding the area that relate to earlier buildings.

Current Use

Still used as community hall.

Designer / Builder

Unknown.

4.4.7 Conclusion

It is noted the above halls are not inclusive of all halls within the LGA, such as Trunkey Creek and Yetholme halls are comparatively modern, e.g. twentieth century construction.

From the above halls, the Lagoon Hall is the closest in age, (constructed 1902), and in masonry construction. However, due to its poor condition, it is no longer used as a hall.

Therefore, the Rockley School of Arts Hall is quite rare in that it was constructed in 1890 as a hall and continues to be used as a community hall. This makes it the longest servicing hall within the LGA.

5 ASSESSMENT OF CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

5.1 GENERAL

The following Assessment of Significance is carried out in accordance with the Criteria for Assessing the Heritage Significance of an Item – NSW Heritage Manual 1996, and the NSW Heritage Office – NSW Historical Themes 2001.

The Rockley School of Arts Hall is a significant building within the community as it is the village's only functional non-religious and non-commercial public building.

The Rockley School of Arts Hall is an example of the work of John Copeman, an early Bathurst Architect who graduated from the Bathurst Technical School and carried out a large number of private and public commissions in the Bathurst region during the late Victorian and Edwardian and Federation periods. The Rockley School of Arts Hall was John Copeman's first commission after graduating and it marked the beginning of an impressive career.

5.2 PREVIOUS STATEMENTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

5.2.1 Bathurst Regional Heritage Study 2007 (Bathurst Regional Council)

The Schools of Arts in Rockley is an exemplar Victorian Italianate hall building, constructed for Arthur Budden in 1890. Designed by architect John Copeman the foundation stone was laid 28 July 1890. The hall is of great social significance to the Rockley community and has been the venue for grand balls, dances, war service functions, stage plays, dinners and school functions, and it was formerly used as a picture theatre.

5.3 ANALYSIS OF SIGNIFICANCE IN RELATION TO HISTORICAL THEMES

5.3.1 Natural/Ecological

The Rockley School of Arts Hall has no significance under this theme.

5.3.2 Peopling Australia

The Rockley School of Arts Hall represents a milestone in the establishment of a rural farming village. It demonstrates that the population in the area had reached a point where a meeting place and educational establishment were warranted.

5.3.3 Developing Regional Economies

By the late 1800s the village of Rockley had established itself as a hub for commercial activities for surrounding areas. Farming and mining (gold and copper) fuelled activity in the village from the mid 1800s. The School of Arts Hall demonstrates the prosperity of the village in this period.

5.3.4 Building Settlements

The village of Rockley was first surveyed in 1850 and was proclaimed in 1851. The first buildings were constructed in the village in the mid to late 1850s. While the Hall was not constructed until 1890 it represents the later stages of the settlement of the village.

5.3.5 Working

The hall was the place of employment for film projectionists, ticket sellers and confectionery sellers. The hall was used for education and training in a wide range of trade skills.

5.3.6 Educating

The Rockley School of Arts Hall was established under the School of Arts/Mechanics Institute movement to provide education and training in a wide range of work related and leisure disciplines.

The hall has a long association with the adjacent public school and is still used for school events and functions.

5.3.7 Governing

The Rockley School of Arts Hall has no significance under this theme.

5.3.8 Developing Australia's cultural life

Since its construction the Rockley School of Arts Hall has been used as a meeting place for various community groups and as a function venue for various social and recreational events.

5.3.9 Marking phases of life

The Rockley School of Arts Hall has been used for many private functions including wedding receptions, birthday parties and wakes.

5.4 NSW HERITAGE ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Criterion (a) – an item is important in the course, or pattern, of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

COMMENT: The Rockley School of Arts Hall represents a milestone in the establishment of a rural farming village. It demonstrates that the population in the area had reached a point where a meeting place and educational establishment were warranted. The hall represents the spread of the School of Arts movement across Australia.

Criterion (b) – an item has strong or special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

COMMENT: The construction of the Rockley School of Arts Hall was initiated by local businessman Arthur Budden (shop owner and bank manager). The building was designed by local architect John Copeman and represents his first commission after completion of training at Bathurst Technical School.

Criterion (c) – an item is important in demonstrating aesthetic characteristics and/or a high degree of creative or technical achievement in NSW (or the local area);

COMMENT: The hall is a Victorian Italianate building with great street appeal. The hall comprises brick walls with attached piers, four pane windows, tuck pointed arches and pale brick sills. The building was designed by local architect John Copeman and represents his first commission after completion of training at Bathurst

Technical School. The building marked the beginning of Copeman's illustrious career. Due to the building's elevated position in the village of Rockley, it is highly visible from different vantage points within the village, making it one of the landmark features.

Criterion (d) – an item has strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group in NSW (or the local area) for social, cultural or spiritual reasons;

COMMENT: The School of Arts building has been important to the community of Rockley for numerous uses. The community of Rockley has used the hall for grand balls, dances, war service functions, stage plays, dinners and school functions, and it was once used as a picture theatre.

Criterion (e) – an item has potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

COMMENT: Nil.

Criterion (f) – an item possesses uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of NSW's cultural or natural history (or the cultural or natural history of the local area);

COMMENT: The Rockley School of Arts Hall has been used for balls and dances however such events are no longer held as these types of social activities have been replaced by more informal gatherings. The porch and front façade of the main building may be able to provide evidence of the methods and techniques used when the projection room was added above the front porch.

Criterion (g) – an item is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of NSW's

- **cultural or natural places; or**
- **cultural or natural environments**

(or a class of the local area's:

- **cultural or natural places; or**
- **cultural or natural environments)**

COMMENT: The Rockley School of Arts Hall is a good example of a hall used for community events which has served different classes of society within the village of Rockley, bringing the community together. The use of the building is considered rare within the Bathurst Region in that it is from the Victorian era and is still used as a community hall. There are no other halls dating from this architectural period which are still in use.

5.5 REVISED STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE – ROCKLEY SCHOOL OF ARTS HALL

The Rockley School of Arts Hall, a Victorian Italianate building, was designed by Bathurst architect John Job Copeman and represents his first commission after the completion of his training at the Bathurst Technical School. The Hall has two foundation stones laid on 28 July 1890 by Emma S. Brownlow and Arthur Budden. The hall is in very good condition and is substantially intact with a number of sympathetic additions. The Hall has benefited from relatively continuous use as a public venue since its construction being used for grand balls, dances, war service functions, stage plays, dinners and school functions, and it was formerly used as a picture theatre.

The Rockley School of Arts Hall is a significant building within the community as it is the village's only functional non-religious and non-commercial public building.

The Rockley School of Arts Hall is an example of the work of John Copeman, an early Bathurst Architect who graduated from the Bathurst Technical School and carried out a large number of private and public commissions in the Bathurst region during the late Victorian and Edwardian and Federation periods. The Rockley School of Arts Hall was John Copeman's first commission after graduating and it marked the beginning of an impressive career.

The hall demonstrates that the population in the area had reached a point where a meeting place and educational establishment were warranted. The Hall represents the spread of the School of Arts movement across Australia.

5.6 LEVELS OF CONTRIBUTION

5.6.1 High Significance (Level 5 Significance)

- The hall including:
 - The association with John Job Copeman (being his first commission after graduating from Technical School)
- The setting

5.6.2 High to Moderate Significance (Level 4 and 3)

- The stage/kitchen building
- The porch

5.6.3 Low significance (Level 2)

N/A

5.6.4 Intrusive to No Significance (Level 1)

- The water tank
- The amenities building

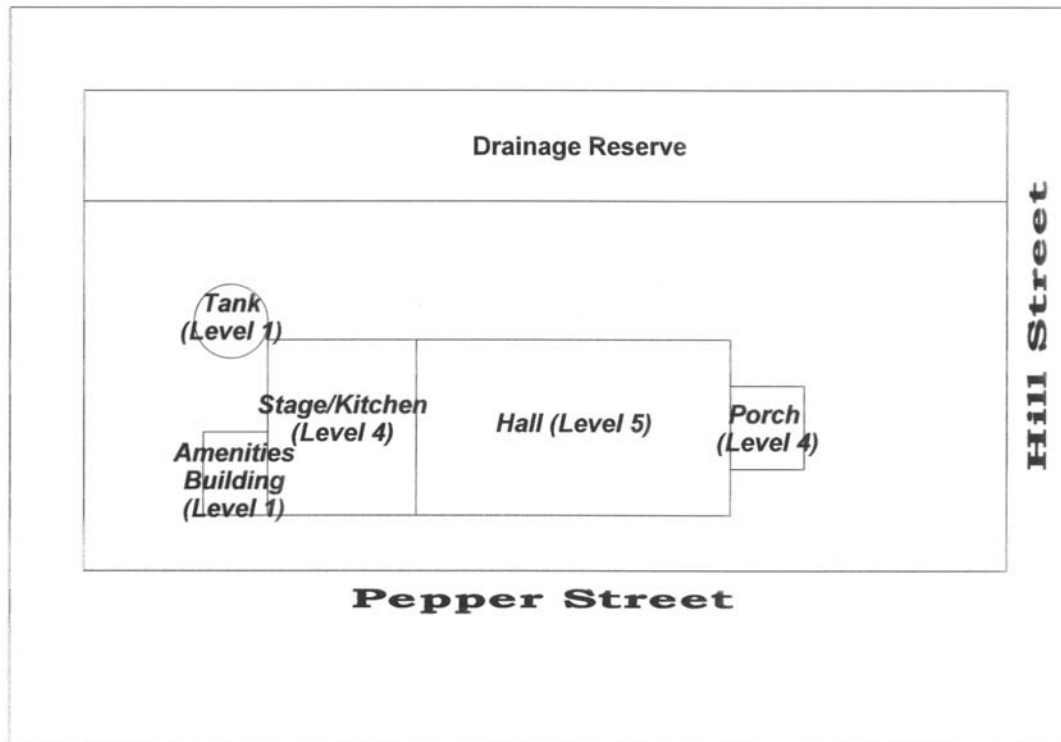


Figure 17 – Levels of Contribution Plan (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

5.7 SIGNIFICANCE OF ADJACENT OR SURROUNDING HERITAGE ITEMS

The following is a list of heritage items listed under the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005 that are within the immediate vicinity of the site:

- Saint Peter's Anglican Church (SHI No. 1080390)(LEP Item No. 227)
- Saint Peter's Rectory (SHI No. 1080391) (LEP Item No. 222)
- Saint Patrick's Catholic Church (SHI No. 1080396) (LEP Item No. 229)
- Saint Patrick's Presbytery (SHI 1080397) (LEP Item No. 229)
- Corunna (SHI No. 1080389) (LEP Item No. 226)
- Former Abercrombie Shire Council Chambers (SHI No. 1080399) (LEP Item No. 223)

In addition to the above heritage items, a Conservation Area exists over the central part of the village of Rockley.

The following is a summary of the significance of the above items.

It should be noted that no heritage items in the village of Rockley were originally listed under the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005, nor were any listed under any previous planning instruments. An amendment to the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005 gazetted on 13 May 2011 listed a number of heritage items in the village of Rockley including those outlined above.

Saint Peter's Anglican Church (SHI No. 1080390)

Constructed in 1867 with belfry and vestry added in 1872. The church is Victorian Gothic style by important architect of the period: Edward Gell. Also believed

connected to early settlers the Steel family who are believed to have influenced the design based on their native Wiltshire.

Important element in the streetscape of Rockley, sited on a steep hill overlooking the village. Constructed in brickwork. Very intact and original.



Figure 18 – Saint Peter's Anglican Church (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

Saint Peter's Rectory (SHI No. 1080391)

Presumably constructed c. 1867 to 1875, Important to the community as a church rectory. Excellent and archetypal example of a quality mid Victorian residence.

Research undertaken during the preparation of this Conservation Management Plan has revealed that the Saint Peter's Rectory was constructed in 1879.

Saint Patrick's Catholic Church (SHI No. 1080396)

An exceptionally fine church designed by Architect Edward Gell and forming an important church group with the Anglican nearby. Very good example of High Victorian Gothic style constructed of local stone.

Important to the community as a church of worship for over 130 years and contributes a major element to the village of Rockley.

Research undertaken during the preparation of this Conservation Management Plan has revealed that the Saint Patrick's Catholic Church was constructed in 1869.

Saint Patrick's Presbytery (SHI 1080397)

A good example of typical Victorian period residence, probably dating from mid Victorian period, and an important element in the religious group of buildings of Rockley.

Research undertaken during the preparation of this Conservation Management Plan has revealed that the Saint Patrick's Presbytery was constructed in 1878.

Corunna (SHI No. 1080389)

A well proportioned country house with steep hip roof, early colonial dormer window, and verandah to three sides of house. One of the many of Rockley's rare and historic buildings that remains original in character. Probably dates from the gold rush period of Rockley 1850s to 1870s. Important aesthetic contribution to Rockley.

Research undertaken during the preparation of this Conservation Management Plan has revealed that Corunna was constructed circa 1860. Research has also revealed that the dormer window is not original and was added by the current owner Phyllis Johnson.



Figure 19 – Corunna (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

Former Abercrombie Shire Council Chambers (SHI No. 1080399)

Constructed in 1912 from local marble, this building has excellent street appeal and contributes well to this important historical village. Associated with Ben Chifley who was Shire President here from 1933 to 1947, a period which included two years of his Prime Ministership. High level of intactness although readapted as residence. Includes a leadlight window that commemorates Chifley.



Figure 20 – Former Abercrombie Shire Council Chambers (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

Rockley Village Urban Conservation Area (SHI No. 1080423)

Important mid 19th century village which is well defined as situated in a valley near Peppers and Sewell's Creeks and containing many buildings dating from early settlement in the area, especially in the 1870s and 1880s period. These buildings generally focus around the park and up Hill Street, and include original shops, churches, houses, Council Chambers, post office and police buildings.

Picturesquely sited, the village slopes quite steeply down Hill Street towards the park. Along many streets, and in particular in the park and in Hill Street are large mature Elm trees.

Rockley is one of the oldest settlements west of the Blue Mountains and is especially visually intact. The village is listed by the National Trust as are many of its more striking buildings including the Rockley Mill, The School of Arts, former Abercrombie Shire Chambers where Ben Chifley, former Prime Minister of Australia served as President of this Shire, two churches designed by architect Edward Gell and a number of other outstanding and important buildings.

6 ISSUES AFFECTING THE FUTURE OF THE PROPERTY

6.1 LISTINGS AND ZONING

Bathurst Regional Heritage Inventory

The Rockley School of Arts Hall is identified in the Bathurst Regional Heritage Study 2007.

Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005 – Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage

The Rockley School of Arts Hall is a listed heritage item (Item No. 224). It is listed as being of local significance.

Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005 – Zoning

The site and the area surrounding the site is zoned 2(v) Village. The objectives of the 2(v) Village zone are:

- a) to allow appropriately designed housing types within a low density residential settlement environment,
- b) to ensure that lots created do not hinder the proper and orderly development of the villages,
- c) to ensure that adequate provision is made for the disposal of effluent in relation to new lots created or new development and that any on-site effluent generated does not enter adjoining lands or impact on surface or groundwater resources,
- d) to protect and conserve the historical significance and scenic quality of the village settings,
- e) to allow development to be carried out within the zone for purposes other than housing, being development that is appropriate to a village zone and that does not detrimentally affect the character or amenity of the locality and that enhances the economic viability of the village,
- f) to enable development for the purpose of convenience shops to be carried out to provide for the minor incidental shopping needs of the residents of the locality and to provide for minor shopping needs related to tourism and arts and craft related activities,
- g) to protect and conserve the rural atmosphere of the village areas.

6.2 PHYSICAL CONDITION OF THE REMAINING FABRIC

6.2.1 Site

The site itself is tidy and well maintained.

6.2.2 Structural condition of buildings

Main Building

Structurally sound. Cracking suggests only slight movement.

Stage/Kitchen Building

Structurally sound. Cracking suggests only slight movement.

Porch

Significant cracking. Significant drainage issues. Front doors in poor condition.

Amenities

Structurally sound. Very new construction.

6.3 FUTURE PROPOSED USES

6.3.1 Threats to the future of the Hall

Under the ownership of the Crown and the management of the Rockley and District Community Association Inc. the only significant threat to the ongoing use of the hall is funding for maintenance.

6.3.2 Upgrading required for modern use

No significant upgrades are required for modern use.

Commercial Kitchen

The hall would benefit from an improved commercial kitchen but this is not imperative to its continued use.

6.3.3 Upgrading for Building Code requirements

The building is a Class 9b assembly building under the Building Code of Australia.

Overall Building and Site

- The building does not have emergency compliant lighting. Compliant emergency lighting will need to be provided to ensure compliance with the Building Code. The type of lighting and appropriate location would need to be determined by a suitably qualified contractor.
- Exit signs and fire extinguishers are provided in the building. These would need to be assessed and certified by a suitably qualified contractor to ensure compliance with the relevant standards.
- The effluent disposal system needs to be checked by a suitably qualified contractor to ensure it is operating correctly in peak periods (i.e. during and after a function).
- The overflow from the rainwater tank needs to be directed away from the building and away from the effluent disposal area.

Main Building

The side entrance/exit in the centre of the building requires work on the landing and threshold to ensure compliance with the Building Code. A ramp and/or landing is required.

Stage/Kitchen Building

The stage/kitchen building entrance/exit requires work on the external stairway, landing and threshold to ensure compliance with the Building Code.

Porch

The main entrance/exit requires work on the landing and threshold to ensure compliance with the Building Code and in doing so provide access for persons with a disability, at a gradient of 1 in 14 or less.

Amenities

The sanitary facilities in the amenities building need to be checked to ensure compliance with AS 1428.1.

6.3.4 Proposed future uses of the property

It is likely that the Hall will continue to be used for:

- Private functions
- School events
- Community group meetings and functions
- Concerts and recitals

6.3.5 Suggested future works and priorities

Maintenance works and upgrades required for Building Code compliance are outlined below and are prioritised from low priority to high priority:

Maintenance Works

- The front porch requires immediate works to address poor roof drainage and separation from the main building **(high priority)**
- The effluent disposal system needs to be checked by a suitably qualified contractor to ensure it is operating correctly **(high priority)**
- Window panes need to be reset with putty **(moderate priority)**
- Repair or replace existing front doors **(moderate priority)**
- The overflow from the rainwater tank needs to be directed away from the building and away from the effluent disposal area **(moderate priority)**

Upgrades for Building Code Compliance

- The building does not have emergency lighting. Emergency lighting will need to be provided to ensure compliance with the Building Code. The type of lighting and appropriate location would need to be determined by a suitably qualified contractor **(moderate priority)**

- Exit signs and fire extinguishers are provided in the building. These would need to be assessed and certified by a suitably qualified contractor to ensure compliance with the relevant standards **(moderate priority)**
- The side entrance/exit in the centre of the building requires work on the landing and threshold to ensure compliance with the Building Code **(moderate priority)**
- The stage/kitchen building entrance/exit requires work on the external stairway, landing and threshold to ensure compliance with the Building Code **(moderate priority)**
- The main entrance/exit requires work on the landing and threshold to ensure compliance with the Building Code and in doing so provide access for persons with a disability **(moderate priority)**
- The sanitary facilities in the amenities building need to be checked to ensure compliance with AS 1428.1 **(low priority)**

7 CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT POLICIES

7.1 INTRODUCTION

The underlying principal of conservation according to the Burra Charter is as follows :

The aim of conservation is to retain the cultural significance of a place and must include provision for its security, its maintenance, and its future.

The general approach to the conservation of the Rockley School of Arts Hall should be to preserve as far as possible the hall in its current built form, intact state, and setting.

Building Code upgrading, as is required to enable use of the building, is relatively minor and should be able to be achieved without major intervention in the remaining fabric of the building.

Future use of the building is vital for its ongoing protection and viability, and thus it is important to ensure the building is in good working order for its ongoing use. Some restoration, and reinstatement as noted above is thus necessary to enable this.

Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005

Clause 23 Protection of environmental heritage of the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005 contains the provisions that may be applied to the Rockley School of Arts Hall:

- Clause 23(2) enables developers to carry out minor works to buildings within a Conservation Area without consent, where Council has been notified in writing of the proposed development and Council has formed the opinion that the works are of a minor nature and will not adversely affect the significance of the Conservation Area.
- Clause 23(6) requires Council to consider a heritage impact statement for any works to a building in a conservation area that require full consent. This Clause outlines the matters which need to be addressed in a heritage impact statement.

Clause 24 Conservation incentives of the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environmental Plan 2005 enables Council to consent to the use of a building within a Conservation Area even though such a use is otherwise prohibited if that use is imperative to the retention, preservation and upgrading of the subject building.

Bathurst Regional (Interim) Development Control Plan

Chapter 7 *Rural Village Development* in the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Development Control Plan 2011 contains provisions that specifically relate to the village of Rockley. These provisions, aimed at maintaining the historic character of the village, address:

- Building height
- Siting and site coverage
- Subdivision pattern
- Building design (new buildings and additions to existing)
- Landscaping

- Fencing
- Commercial signage

7.2 DEFINITIONS

Conservation involves a number of different priorities and techniques depending on the nature of the cultural significance of the fabric of a place or item and how much a particular element does or does not contribute to the significance of the place.

Conservation techniques as defined in the Burra Charter, and referred to in this report can be summarised as follows :

Preservation – involves the basic protection and maintenance, including stabilisation where necessary, of the existing fabric or make up of a place or item, in the state it is found in.

Restoration – involves the re-assembling of displaced components of a place or item, or the removal of inappropriate additions. It can only occur when such displaced items exist in their original form and there is sufficient evidence to indicate their location within the item or place.

Reconstruction – involves the partial rebuilding of a place or item where it is damaged or incomplete. Reconstruction is limited to minor adjustments to already intact places or items, and cannot involve the majority of conservation work. It is also limited by the sufficiency of evidence to indicate that the reconstruction is accurate.

Adaptation – involves the appropriate alteration or development of a place or item to enable its continued use, if this is necessary to preserve the place or item. Adaptation can only be carried out if there is no other viable alternative of conservation, and if the alterations do not damage the integrity of the place.

Recreation – is a term often used in relation to gardens, but may also refer to interior decoration and furnishings. This activity is limited to minor works that can complement a conserved item where original evidence of decorative or garden design and fabric is not available. It involves research into typical and appropriate decorative types for these purposes so that such elements can be carried out in an appropriate manner. This activity is most involved in adaptation and reconstruction projects.

7.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF CONSERVATION PLAN

7.3.1 Distribution of CMP

The adopted version of this Conservation Management Plan should be distributed to:

- Rockley & District Community Association Inc
- The Rockley Mill Museum
- Bathurst Regional Council Library
- Bathurst & District Historical Society
- Crown Lands Office (Orange)
- National Trust (Bathurst Branch)
- NSW Heritage Branch of the Office of Environment & Heritage

7.3.2 Review of plan

The Conservation Management Plan should be reviewed in the following circumstances:

- When any State Planning Legislation that affects the listing of the property, is altered.
- If ownership of the property changes.
- If the property is badly effected by any natural disaster resulting in the destruction of significant building fabric or items.
- If the buildings ceases being used as a public hall.

7.3.3 Interpretive signage

Consideration should be given to the placing of an interpretive sign at the entrance to the property indicating the history and significance of the property.

Note : Funding for such signage could potentially be sourced from Council's Conservation and Interpretation Fund.

7.3.4 Relics

All artefacts and furniture items found on the site or collected from other sources as having had an association with the site should be kept on site and not disturbed but housed in their original location where possible.

7.3.5 Potential future uses

Potential future uses of the building will need to comply with the permissible uses of the 2(v) Village Zone, as defined in the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environment Plan, 2005, and will be subject to Council consent. Clause 24 Conservation incentives of the Bathurst Regional (Interim) Local Environment Plan 2005, also may be able to be considered for proposed uses of the building that do not comply with the permissible uses of the 2(v) Village Zone.

7.4 OVERRIDING CONSERVATION POLICIES FOR THE PROPERTY

7.4.1 Preservation

Continue general maintenance including but not limited to the following:

- Clean gutters & downpipes
- Repainting
- Check septic tank
- Check wiring
- Monitor rising damp (and rectify if necessary)
- Mow grass around site

7.4.2 Restoration

- Front porch roof and stormwater drainage works
- Window panes reset with putty
- Repair front doors

7.4.3 Reconstruction

- Replace front doors (if not repairable)

7.4.4 Adaptation

- Area under stage adapted for use as functional space or secure storage
- Use of area outside on right side of building for community uses
- Requirements under Building Code (General)
 - Installation of emergency lighting
 - Works required to the thresholds and landings of all entrance/exits
- The overflow from the rainwater tank needs to be directed away from the building and away from the effluent disposal area

7.4.5 Demolition

In June 2008 The Rockley & District Community Association Inc. commissioned a Structural Engineer to report on the condition of the Hall. The Structural Engineer identified:

- water damage to the northern wall of the main building;
- water damage to the ceiling of the porch;
- cracking in the walls of the porch; and
- sticking of the main entrance door.

The Structural Engineer made recommendations in relation to the options available for the porch. These included:

- do nothing;
- injection of grout to lift slab, footings and walls back into their original position;
- underpinning to prevent further movement; and
- demolition of the porch and then reconstruction.

Should The Rockley & District Community Association Inc. elect to demolish the porch and reconstruct it, the demolition and replacement structure will require the consent of Council.

7.4.6 Appropriate future use of the site

The hall should be used for:

- Private functions
- School events
- Community group meetings and functions
- Concerts
- Movable exhibitions
- Education

The building should remain in public ownership for the use of the wider community.

7.4.7 Future additions

Future additions to the Hall should only be carried in the area identified by the shading in Figure 21.

Future additions should:

- Be physically defined and therefore distinguishable from the original building;
- Not detract from the aesthetics of the original buildings;
- Be of an appropriate design and scale which compliments the original building.

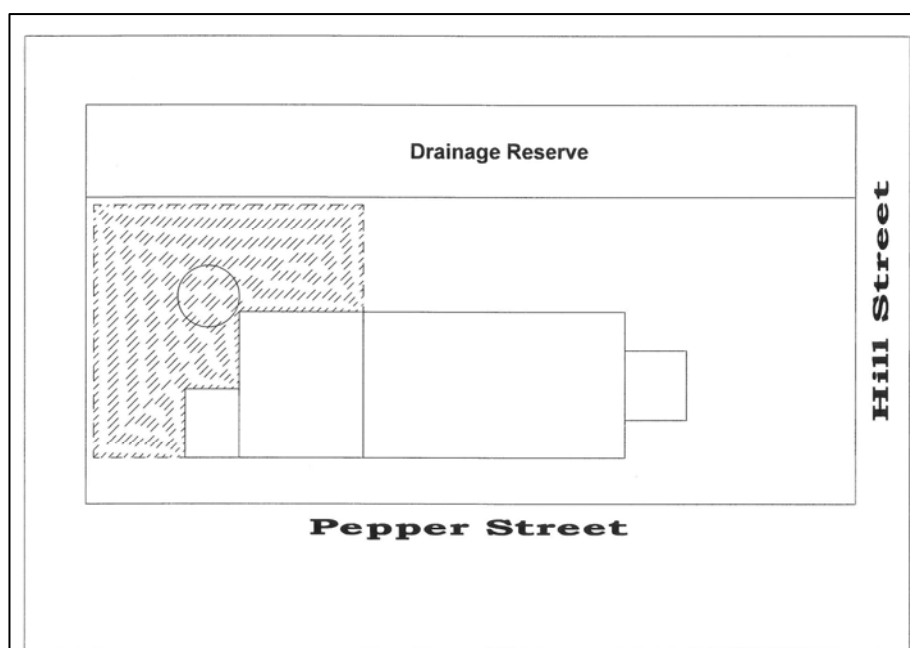


Figure 21 – Recommended location for future development (shaded) (Source: Daniel Dwyer, Date: 2009)

7.5 LISTINGS

The Bathurst Regional Heritage Study 2007 SHI form for the School of Arts Hall should be revised to include the revised Statement of Significance suggested by this report, and updated generally in the light of the more detailed information contained within this report.

7.6 DETAILED POLICIES

- **Keeping of records** – Should any works be carried out on the building or site the following records of works need to be kept:
 - before/after photos (for minor and major works)
 - progress photos (for major works)
 - before/after plans (for major works)
- **Archaeology** – Should any archaeological relics be discovered work is to stop immediately and Heritage Branch, Office of Environment and Heritage, and Council are to be notified. Any such find is to be dealt with appropriately,

in accordance with the Heritage Act 1977, and recorded, and details given to Council prior to the continuing of works.

Note: A Section 140 permit will need to be obtained to disturb archaeological relics. This permit is to be obtained from the Heritage Branch, Office of Environment and Heritage, prior to the disturbance of the archaeological relics.

- **Accessibility** – All three entrance/existing require work to the thresholds and landings in order to make them accessible for persons with a disability. The most significant works required are to create compliant landings outside.

7.7 INTERPRETATION POLICY

The aim of this interpretation policy is to provide direction for the ways in which the custodians of the Rockley School of Arts Hall can communicate and exhibit information for the purpose of study, education and enjoyment.

7.7.1 Interpretive signage

Permanent interpretive signage could be provided to explain the significance of the hall, its importance to the village of Rockley and its association with prominent local architect John Copeman.

Bathurst Regional Council maintains a heritage interpretation budget as part of its Management Plan. This budget is specifically for signage. Should the Rockley & District Community Association Inc. want to investigate the possibility of signage in the future, contact should be made with Council to investigate the possibility of Council contributing to the overall cost.

7.7.2 Archival displays

Consideration should be given to temporary or permanent displays which include photographs, playbills, newspaper articles and similar media relating to the history of the hall. Such displays could be created within the hall or within the Rockley Mill Museum.

7.7.3 Open days

Consideration should be given to holding open days, which may or may not coincide with other events in the village or region. Open days provide an opportunity for guided tours with a detailed oral history of the hall and its past uses.

7.7.4 Publications

Consideration should be given to the preparation of a pamphlet containing historical photographs and a concise history of the hall emphasising its association with prominent local Architect John Copeman. Such information could further be included in publications relating to the whole village.

Council's Conservation and Interpretation Fund may be a source of funding for such a project.

8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

Bathurst Regional Heritage Study 2007 - Bathurst Regional Council (Barbara Hickson , Dr Robert McLachlan)

Building Code of Australia

Conservation Plan – (J Semple Kerr)

The Rockley Discovery (Community Newsletter) – Various Issues

The Rockley Manner – (A.M. Roberson)

The Man Whose Name Was Left Off - A Study of John Copeman - (W.H. Tighe)

ICOMOS Burra Charter – 1999

NSW Heritage Office – Assessing Heritage Significance

9 APPENDIX 1 – NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

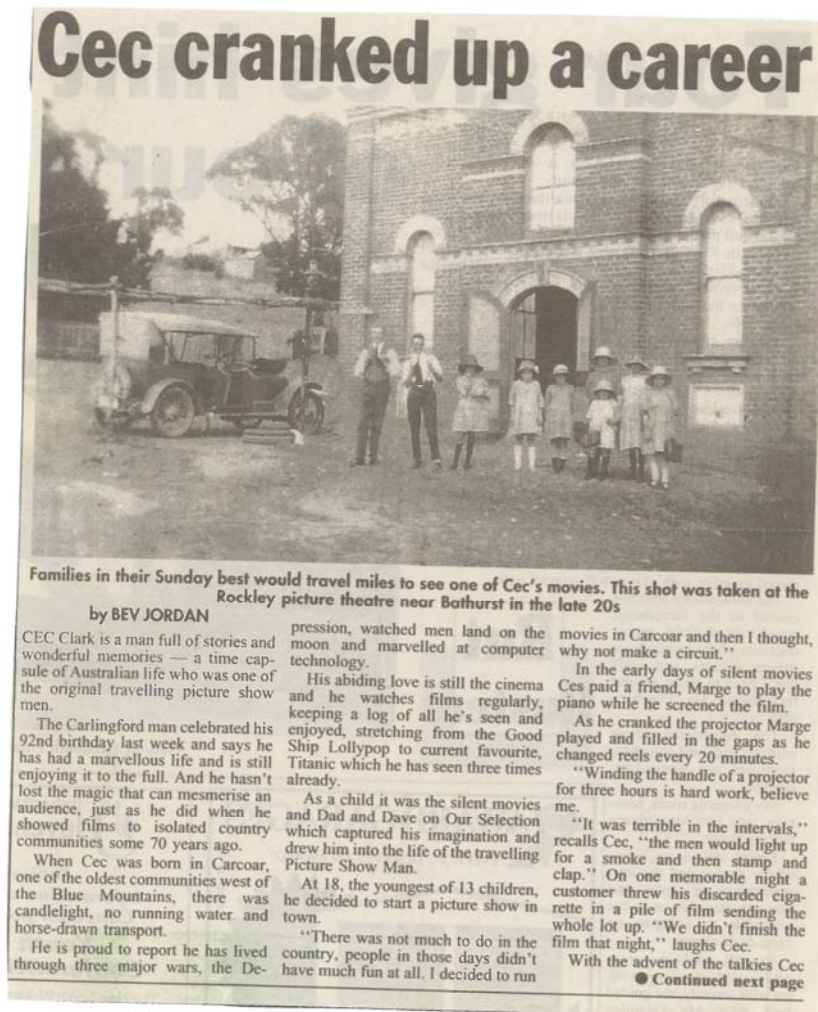


Figure 22 – Newspaper article from Western Advocate (Source: Rockley School of Arts Hall Archives, Date: unknown)

in front of a silver screen



The bell and the billy can are all part of Cec's wonderful collection of memorabilia from his years as the Picture Show Man

● From last page
scraped up \$80 and took himself off to Sydney to lease a projector (he still has the receipt).

A trusty Model-T Ford (nicknamed The Blue Flyer) carried bedding, film, gas cylinders and projector for Cec and his team who visited the 23 towns on their route once a fortnight.

A local boy would march down the street ringing a cow bell so locals would know when the film started.

Cec remembers sleeping on dirty floors and camping at the side of the road, living on bread and bananas as the billy boiled — he still has the bell and the billy.

"When we camped at the side of the road at Mt Victoria we used to fossick for gold and put the flakes in an asprin bottle, it would pay for our petrol," he said.

The travelling show ended when Cec was offered a permanent job as projectionist at Blayney picture

theatre. That was followed by war service in the RAAF during which time Cec still managed to keep his hand on the projector by showing movies to the troops.

He then worked for David Jones for 25 years, with 10 at Parramatta.

Cec's beloved wife Vera died five years ago but he is kept busy watching the latest films as a member of the Society of Australian Cinema Pioneers . . . for Cec, the show goes on.

Figure 23 – Newspaper article from Western Advocate (Source: Rockley School of Arts Hall Archives, Date: unknown)

10 APPENDIX 2 - PHOTOGRAPHS

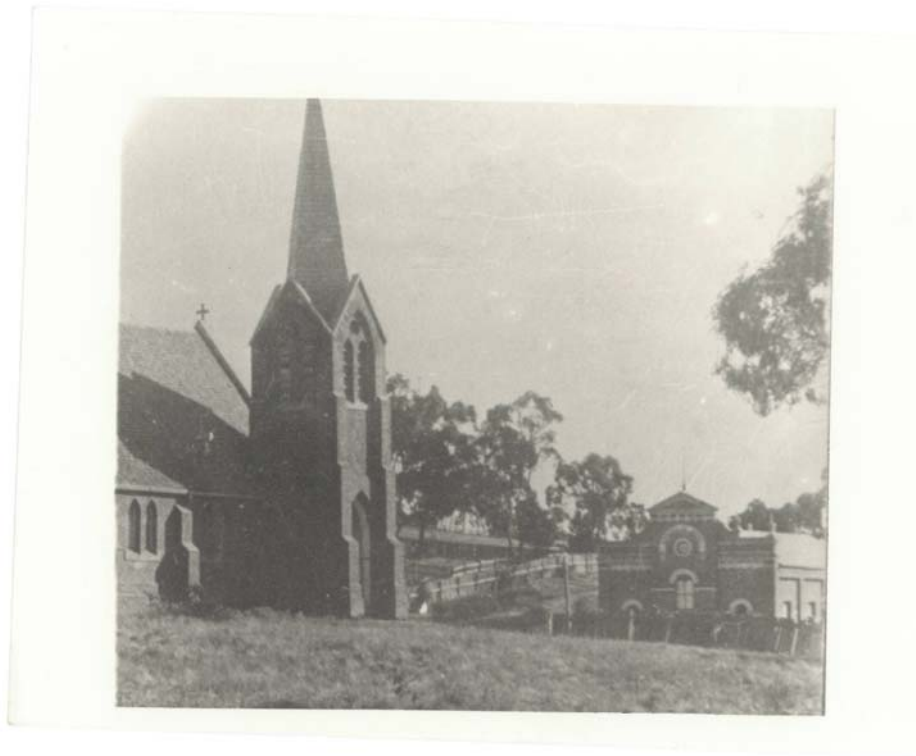


Figure 24 – Photo with hall in bottom right corner (Source: Rockley School of Arts Hall Archives, Date: 1898)

11 APPENDIX 3 – LIST OF COPEMAN DESIGNED PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Date	Building Name	Address	Works Description	Architect	Architecture	Status
1893	Cathedral of St Michael & St John	107 William Street, Bathurst	Extensive alterations including replacement of temporary apsidal sanctuary	Copeman	Federation Anglo Dutch	Intact
1895	Commercial building	101 William Street, Bathurst	Designed building	Copeman	Federation Anglo Dutch	Intact
1897	Ithica	247 Bentinck Street, Bathurst	Designed residence	Copeman	Federation Queen Anne	Intact
1899	Two storey semi detached residence	127 – 129 William Street, Bathurst	Designed residences	Copeman	Federation Queen Anne	Intact
1900	Brooke Moore Centre	142 William Street, Bathurst	Designed 1st Floor Addition	Copeman	Federation Queen Anne	Intact
1904	Bathurst District Hospital	363 Howick Street, Bathurst	Designed the Operating Theatre	Copeman	Federation	Reconstructed in 2008 due to redevelopment of hospital site
1906	Kennington	280 William Street, Bathurst	Designed residence	Copeman	Federation Queen Anne	Intact
1907	Llanarth	120 Eglinton Road, Llanarth	Designed stables	Copeman	Federation	Intact
1908	Former Australian Mutual Providence Society Building	126 – 130 William Street, Bathurst	Additions to facade	Copeman	?	Intact

Date	Building Name	Address	Works Description	Architect	Architecture	Status
n.d.	Presbyterian Church Hall	72 George Street, Bathurst	Designed church hall	Copeman	Federation	Intact
1920s	Chamberlain Hotel	420 – 428 Pitt Street, Sydney	Alterations to hotel	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Federation Anglo Dutch	Intact
1921	The Tilbury Hotel	12 – 18 Forbes Street, Woolloomooloo	Designed hotel	Copeman & Lamont	Inter War Free Classical	Intact
1921	Cricketer's Arms Hotel	106 – 108 Fitzroy Street, Surry Hills	Remodelling of hotel	Copeman & Lamont	Inter War Free Classical Style	Intact
1922	Covent Garden Hotel	102 – 110 Hay Street, Haymarket	Designed hotel	Copeman & Lamont	Federation Free Classical Style	Intact
1922	Mountbatten Hotel	701 – 705 George Street, Haymarket	Designed major extension	Copeman & Lamont	?	Intact
1922 (& 1930s)	Hotel	71 Ultimo Road, Sydney	Addition, (1922), and substantial changes in 1930s with Tooth & Co. Architects	Copeman & Lemont	Federation Free Classical	Intact
1924	Beresford Hotel	354 – 356 Bourke Street, Sydney	Remodeling of hotel	Copeman & Lemont	Inter War	Intact
1925	Winsome Hotel	11 Bridge Street, North Lismore	Assisted in the design of the hotel	FJ Board, in association with Copeman	?	Intact

Date	Building Name	Address	Works Description	Architect	Architecture	Status
1936	The Steyne Hotel	75 The Corso	Designed hotel	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Inter War Art Deco	Intact
1936	Criterion Hotel	258 – 260 Pitt Street, Sydney	Designed hotel	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Inter War Art Deco	Intact
1938	Lord Nelson Hotel	19 Kent Street, Millers Point	Extensive remodeling of interior	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	NA	Intact
1940	Erskinvile Hotel	102 Erskinvile Road, Erskinvile	Designed hotel	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Inter War Art Deco	Intact
1938	Australian Hotel	100 – 102 Broadway, Sydney	Designed the hotel	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Inter War Functionalist Style	Intact
1939	Alfred Hotel	51 – 55 Missenden Road, Camperdown, Sydney	Designed the hotel	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Inter War Art Deco	Intact
1939	No. 1 Gate Portal (part of the Carlton United Brewery Site)	26 – 98 Broadway, Chippendale	Designed gate	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Art Deco	Intact
1950	Former National Mutual Life Assurance	Market Street, Wollongong	Designed the building	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Post War International Style	Intact

Date	Building Name	Address	Works Description	Architect	Architecture	Status
n.d.	Illawarra Hotel	Corner Keira Street, Wollongong	Designed the hotel	Copeman, Lemont & Keesing	Inter War Art Deco	Intact

Notes:

A search on the State Heritage database revealed that one item associated with Copeman is listed on the State Heritage Register, (Llanarth, Bathurst). In addition to this, 27 other buildings, either designed, remodelled or extended with designs by Copeman are listed in LEPs.

The list of properties in the above table are therefore only representative of local or State listed heritage items associated with Copeman. Therefore, there will be many other buildings that have been designed by Copeman which are not heritage listed, or have since been demolished.

Copeman & Lamont worked extensively for Tooth's Brewery, Sydney.

According to Tighe, Copeman practiced as "Copeman & Lemont" from circa 1914, from an office in the E S & A Bank Chambers at 72B King Street, Sydney. The firm became "Copeman, Lemont and Keesing" from circa 1934 to 1935 and continued under this title until circa 1943.