

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE VALUE

Old Darwin Primary School

The Old Darwin Primary School, built in 1951, is associated with the dramatic growth in Darwin's population in the post-World War II era, and the need for new education facilities during that period.

The School was built overlooking the low-lying area of parkland known as 'Frog Hollow'. After the school closed in 1984, it became well-known as the Frog Hollow Centre for the Arts.

The Old Primary School is the oldest surviving school building in Darwin. It is a rare example in the Darwin region of a purpose-built school building, designed to suit the tropical climate of Darwin prior to the widespread use of air conditioning, and still largely unaltered since it was first constructed.

The Old Primary School has a distinctive design, and has become a well-known landmark in Darwin. Many people still living in the Northern Territory attended the Old Primary School as a student, and would have a special association with the buildings for that reason.

In 2018, construction work commenced on 'Garramilla Boulevard', immediately to the north of the Old Primary School. Some structures associated with the Old School were demolished and/or subsumed by landfill, and the construction work had a significant effect on the setting of the Old Primary School.