

Former Wesleyan Church and Methodist Sunday School, 81 Hesse Street, Queenscliff



The Wesleyan Chapel (1868) on the right, and the main Church (1888) on the left, 1981.



Former Wesleyan Churches, 79 -81 Hesse Street, Queenscliff



Former Wesleyan Churches, 79 -81 Hesse Street, Queenscliff



Former Wesleyan Churches - 1980



Former Wesleyan Churches, - 1981



Former Wesleyan Churches, - c1917



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Location

81 Hesse Street QUEENSCLIFF, QUEENSCLIFFE BOROUGH

Municipality

QUEENSCLIFFE BOROUGH

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO32

HO7

Heritage Listing

Queenscliffe Borough

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 1, 2009

Statement of Significance as recorded under the Queenscliff Heritage Study 2009

The 1868 and 1888 Methodist churches, and the adjacent St Andrews, create an ecclesiastical precinct in Queenscliff, given their similar gabled form and the use of face brickwork in the two later churches. They also form a transition in the streetscape from the commercial section of Hesse Street, to the residential quarter to the south and to the east. The former Methodist Church is aesthetically significant as a well designed and detailed late nineteenth century church building designed in a Gothic Revival style. It is historically significant as an example of a nineteenth century church building in the township. Its successful adaptation to commercial premises is also demonstrative of the recent stage of development in the township, where tourism has been revived and Queenscliff has become, once again, a popular resort. The former Methodist Church is architecturally significant as an example of the work of the prominent Melbourne architectural firm of Oakden Addison & Kemp. The former Methodist Church is socially significant as a building known, used and valued, originally as a church, and in more recent years as a bookshop and cafe, by the local community and visitors to Queenscliff.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Queenscliffe - Queenscliffe Urban Conservation Study, Allom Lovell & Associates P/L, Architects, 1982; Queenscliffe - Queenscliffe Heritage Study, Lovell Chen, 2009;
Hermes Number	120605
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The design was based on the English Decorated style of Gothic architecture but externally the church is relatively plain. Simply coursed monochrome brickwork predominates, with some herringbone pattern in the western gable, while stucco cappings, string courses and mouldings provide the variety. Both churches have slated roofs.

Alterations and additions include timber and brick vestries which were added to the early and later churches respectively; electric lighting internally; new steps and handrails to the 1888 church; and the removal of the picket fence which once enclosed both churches (now replaced).(7)

These two churches and the adjacent St Andrews, create an ecclesiastical precinct, given their similar gabled form and the use of face brickwork in the two later churches. They also form a transition in the streetscape from the commercial section of Hesse Street, to the residential quarter of the south.

Physical Description 2

One 1888 brick church, and one stuccoed brick and limestone church. Both intact.

Intactness

FAIR

Physical Description 3

Extract from the 2009 study

The former Wesleyan Church is a modest rendered brick Gothic Revival church situated at the north-east corner of Hesse and Stokes streets. It forms one of a group of three church buildings in the vicinity of the intersection of Hesse and Stokes streets. The church is set back from its street boundary by a garden, which contains some mature plantings. A timber picket fence extends along the street boundaries.

The building is built upon a stone base and the Hesse Street elevation is symmetrically composed with two pointed arched windows that have mouldings above them towards the lower part of the wall and a larger pointed arch towards the top. At centre is rendered signage that reads *Wesleyan Church 1868*. Projecting towards Hesse Street at each end of the wall are buttresses. The gable roof of the church is clad in slate.

The north and south elevations are each divided into six bays by buttresses. Each bay contains a pointed arched window, with each alternate window having an open-able sash at its top. A gable roofed porch projects from the south elevation. A short path leads from Stokes Street to this porch. At the rear of the church is a weatherboard skillion addition.

The render on the walls of the church is in disrepair and pressed cement crucifixes at the top of the Hesse Street elevation and on the entrance porch are damaged and/or removed. The building is no longer used as a church and is now occupied by Barwon Booksellers.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>