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# Grace McKellar House, the chapel part of "Bell Park" house

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## Location

45 Ballarat Road, BELL PARK VIC 3215 - Property No 277340

## Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO154

## Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

B Listed - Regional Significance

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Chapel of Grace McKellar House is the only surviving wing of a once extensive rural residence Bell park, erected in 1853-54 for John Bell to Picturesque gothic revival designs by Geelong Architect John Young. The Chapel wing which dates from 1861 was designed by J/L/ Shaw to match the original gothic detailing of the first section of the homestead. John Bell, a pioneer Geelong Pastoralist most probably used this wing as a billiard room annex to his distinctive rural villa. The property later gave its name to the surrounding area and the chapel is a relic of the Bell family presence and influence in the region.

## References

Huddle, Lorraine, "Architects in Geelong in the 1840's and 1850's." Humanities Research Report Department of Architecture, University of Melbourne, 1979. Vol. 1. p19, Vol. 2 pp 18-19, Vol. 3. p. 101.

Brownhill, W. R., The History of Geelong and Corio Bay, Wilke and co., Melbourne, 1955, p367.

Henry, J. A and Collie, N. J. Early Geelong, Do You Remember, Henry Thacker, Geelong, Vol. 1 and 2., reprinted 1971. Vol. 2 p.2.

Geelong Advertiser, 1. October 1853, 11 May 1854, 14 August 1854, 23 August 1858, 7 March 1861, 12 April 1861, 14 March 1863, 24 January 1879, 28 march 1879, 2 January 1880, 22 January 1880.

Sutherland, Alexander, Victoria and Its Metropolis, Past and Present, McCarron, Bird and Co., Melbourne, 1888, Vol. 2. p.160, biographical sketches of John Calvert Bell and Alexander Bell, sons of John Bell (1821-1876).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Geelong - Geelong Region Historic Buildings and Objects Study, Allan Willingham, 1986;
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	21707
Property Number	

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*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/>*