

Former St. Georges Church of England Parsonage, 13 Mercer Street, Queenscliff



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Former St George's Church Vicarage c. 1972-1983
Source: Pictures Collection, State Library of Victoria



13 Mercer Street, Queenscliff

Location

13 Mercer Street QUEENSCLIFF, QUEENSCLIFFE BOROUGH

Municipality

QUEENSCLIFFE BOROUGH

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO45

HO10

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 former parsonage is of historical and architectural significance to the Borough of Queenscliffe. It is of historical significance as the original parsonage for the Church of England in Queenscliff, constructed in the 1860s to accommodate the first resident clergyman. It remains significant for its association with the Church of England, which ran for 100 years, and with Rev. Henry Wilkinson who resided there for 36 years. Although in private use, it relates historically and functionally to the adjacent Church and Church Hall, which were all part of the original church reserve. Architecturally, although altered, the former parsonage is a good example of a substantial Victorian parsonage, which retains its original well-proportioned form, some Tudor-derived detailing and picturesque appearance, including the steeply pitched roofscape. The building style was commonly used for parsonages of the period, but few of these have survived. The parsonage and church complex also occupy a prominent position overlooking Queenscliff township.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Queenscliffe - Queenscliffe Urban Conservation Study, Allom Lovell & Associates P/L, Architects, 1982; Queenscliffe - Queenscliffe Heritage Study, Lovell Chen, 2009;
Construction dates	1865,
Hermes Number	120725
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

Extract from the 1982 study

The building is of two levels and a half basement. It has been constructed of brick, with rubble stone foundations. Tudor derived style has been used with rectangular windows and label moulds, an asymmetrical plan and the resultant diverse roof shapes which, like the church and the school, are prominent. A timber verandah, with vertical timber balusters, faces east and returns on the south side. Of note is a gabled wash house which is sited to the north of the parsonage.

Physical Description 2

The balustrading has been replaced, extra windows placed in the north and west facades, the south wall rendered, a skillion added at ground level on the west, a chimney truncated and the brick work painted. Internally some mantels have been replaced, kitchen added at ground level and a bathroom was placed under the stairs blocking the stair to the former basement-kitchen and maids room. The latter work was carried out by architect Owen Cazaly(3) after the turn of the century.

Physical Description 3

Extract from the 2009 study

The former parsonage is a two-storey over-painted brick building with a rubble foundation and a basement to the rear (east) side, which once formed the servant's quarters. A Tudor-derived style has been used with rectangular windows and label moulds, an asymmetrical plan and the resultant diverse roof shapes with steep pitches and prominent gables similar to those of the church and school. The roof is slate clad with several prominent painted brick chimneys with stone cornices.

A timber verandah with vertical timber balusters (a later replacement), faces east and returns on the south side. Of note is a gable roofed wash house, attached to the north elevation of the parsonage, which also has label moulds over the windows. The skillion addition at ground floor level on the front (west) elevation has been altered with new doors and additional windows being inserted.

The property is much altered with windows having been modified on the north and west facades, the south wall rendered, a chimney truncated and the brick work painted. Internally architect Owen Cazaly undertook work in the early twentieth century,[i] including adding a kitchen at ground level and a bathroom under the stairs blocking the stair to the former basement-kitchen and maid's room.

The Church complex occupies a prominent position overlooking Queenscliff township.

It is not part of the Victorian Heritage Register listing for the associated Church and the Parish Hall.

FOOTNOTES

[i] (i) QS 8.10.1887;

(ii) Pamphlet Op Cit;

(iii) National Trust file no. 3456. Mention in vestry minutes of Purchas in 1887.

Intactness

FAIR

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/>