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# ST PATRICK'S HALL



St Patricks hall - Film 6 /  
Frame 6 - Ballarat  
Conservation Study, 1978

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## Location

10 DAWSON STREET, BALLARAT CENTRAL, BALLARAT CITY

## Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0997

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO107

## Heritage Listing

Ballarat City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 26, 2024

**What is significant?**

**How is it significant?**

### **Why is it significant?**

Part of Recommended Area A1.3

No SoS provided in this citation. Please refer to the Attachments and History sections in this place record for further information.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Ballarat - Ballarat Conservation Study, Jacobs Lewis Vines Architects, 1978;
Construction dates	1900,
Architect/Designer	Clegg, Kell & Miller,
Hermes Number	123586
Property Number	

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### **Physical Description 1**

This brick building of Gothic character was designed in 1900 by Clegg; Kell and Miller, architects, and is interesting for its steep and long proportions and intersecting gable and hipped roof lines. Internally the hall resembles many town halls but for the Gothic windows in two levels. The plaster ceiling is coffered by intersecting beams, and curves down deeply at the sides so that the upper windows are curved in as pointed vaults. Near the rear of the hall is an interesting open work iron bell tower, apparently of a later date. The hall is of special merit because of the internal ceiling which has few peers in the state, particularly in this type of building. The external crested ridging and the adjacent bell tower are also of note. The building is an important element in the St. Patrick's Cathedral complex as well as in the environmental area.

### **Intactness**

INTACTNESS: substantially intact

### **Physical Description 2**

This brick building designed by Clegg, Kell and Miller in 1900, is of Gothic character, steep and long proportions, and a rather extraordinary appearance, with the main hall block narrowing down into a slightly lower front section which contains ancillary rooms. The hall proper has a large hipped roof intersected on each side by four gabled roofs running at right angles, while the front ridge has a single larger cross-ridge, and both of these front ridges with a very nice deep ornamental ridge cresting.

Internally the hall resembles many town halls in appearance, but for the Gothic windows in two levels. The plaster ceiling is coffered by intersecting beams into nine bays along the length by four in the width, with the 'central three by two bays omitted for the skylight. The ceiling curves down deeply at the sides so that the upper windows are carried in as pointed vaults to intersect the curved section in a simple grained junction. The ceiling beams are carried down the curve and ultimately supported on corbels from the wall. Each beam intersection is decorated with a turned and curved pendant boss, the coffers themselves have relief decoration in multiple Tudor panelling with rosettes at the intersections, and the skylight rises in a curved profile from the central six bays. The wall treatment is less elaborate and the lower range of openings is square headed, with only a blind Gothic arch head formed above. Along each long side are about eight ventilators of essentially Dr. Arnott's coalscuttle type, but rather elaborately treated with a pair of slightly Gothicising standards at either side and a curve-fronted lid which opens forwards. Attached to the side of the building is a smaller hall, all lined in timber and quite plain but for raking sides to the ceiling; a large kitchen of modern date is attached to one end.

Near the rear of the hall is openwork: iron bell tooler, apparently of a later period, that nevertheless is of particular interest. It is framed in steel angles and braced in each bay with criss-cross rods and a circular ornamental boss at the intersection; rather after the fashion of the fences of Francis Norton. The corners of the tower slope inwards and then turn into a straight rise at the top, and the great bell is intact with the huge wheel over which the rope passes. The tower is completed with a pyramidal roof capped with an ornamental 'metal cross.

The hall is generally intact internally and externally. The hall is of special merit because of the internal ceiling which has few peers in the state, particularly for this type of building. The crested ridging on the exterior and the adjacent bell tower are also of note. The building forms an important part of the Cathedral complex, as well as the environmental area.

*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/>*