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# Former Augustine Congregational Church



Hawthorn Heritage study  
1992



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## Location

492-500 Burwood Road HAWTHORN, BOROONDARA CITY

## Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO212

HO164

## Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Significance of Individual Property

Architecturally: an original and successfully designed Gothic Revival church, towered and composed asymmetrically and thus, of a small form group within this style, this example is among the best designs: of State importance.

Historically: the religious centre, from an early date, of an influential part of Hawthorn's community and linked with the former Hawthorn College as two notable institutions in the study area: of local importance.

HO164 Leslie Street Precinct, Hawthorn

The Leslie Street Precinct, Hawthorn, which includes both Leslie Street and the Urquart Estate and Oxley Road precincts, is an area of heritage significance for the following reasons:

The place illustrates most of the significant development phases affecting Hawthorn including the early years of settlement (1835-1855), the growth of Hawthorn as a Victorian garden suburb, the Federation-era prosperity of 1901-1919; and interwar concepts of the garden suburb.

- The place contains a number of individually significant buildings exemplifying High Victorian and Italianate design, the Federation style in its formative phase, and a series of characteristic interwar designs.
- Individually significant buildings in the Oxley Road precinct include institutional buildings such as St Columbs Church, Auburn Uniting Church and its accompanying buildings, and notable houses including *Terrick Terricks and Auburn House*.
- The place has a particularly well-preserved and notable collection of the prevailing house styles of the 1880s through to the 1930s, with homogeneous concentrations of style in several streets. The interwar Old English and Mediterranean is particularly well represented in Urquhart Street and Swinburne Avenue and homogeneous arrays of 1920s Bungalows are found in The Boulevard and Lyall Street. Oxley Road, Elmie and Goodall Streets have a good variety of Victorian and Federation houses. Leslie Street is a homogeneous run of 1880s workers' cottages, and Minona Street has a relatively intact group of small late interwar housing units.
- Through the road layout, the footpaths transecting parts of the precinct, the broad street lawns in the Urquhart Estate component, mature street trees and other landscape features, and concrete road paving (Swinburne Avenue), the place clearly demonstrates the application of the 'garden suburb' ideal as variously interpreted in the later nineteenth century, Federation and inter-war periods. In Hawthorn the precinct compares interestingly with its primarily Victorian and Federation predecessor, the Grace Park Estate (HO 152). The Urquhart Estate component (Urquhart Street, Swinburne Avenue, and The Boulevard) was the last substantial land holding in Hawthorn to be subdivided for residential purposes (in 1919).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Hawthorn Heritage study 1992, Meredith Gould, Conservation Architects, 1992;
Other Names	Former Augustine Congregational Church,
Hermes Number	14849
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

French Gothic in character (Saint-Lequer, Guebuiller, 12th Century) this polychrome brick and slated gable-roof, cruciform planned church possesses a low narthex, which screens the major facade gable and is in turn penetrated by a gabled entrance. A four-light main window group is set in the main gable above the narthex and a corner-buttressed tower With octagonal belfry and flared spire is placed asymmetrically at the north-west corner. Red and cream voussoirs delineate the major window group, its central paired lights, all single windows and belfry vents. Pinnacles adorn the buttresses to both the tower and the church and cream brick quatrafoils and parapet cappings enhance and delineate the wall surfaces.

Mature and notable elements remain in the garden: these include a Himalayan Cedar, Pepper Trees, a Washington Palm and basalt rockeries.

Comparable polychrome asymmetrically composed churches include the Presbyterian Union Memorial Church, Curzon Street, North Melbourne (1877); St. Judes, Carlton (1866-70) and the Toorak Presbyterian Church (1875-6).

*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/>*