

## ST ANDREWS CHURCH PRECINCT



H0124 St Andrews Brighton church front elevation May 2009



ST ANDREWS SCHOOL HOUSE SOHE 2008



ST ANDREWS SCHOOL HOUSE SOHE 2008



H0124 St Andrews Brighton church exterior view of 1857 building May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton interior view to front of church May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton church interior east end May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton church interior view to rear May 2009



H0124 St Andrew Brighton Napier Waller Mural May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton furniture Bishop s throne May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton furniture lectern May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton graveyard view 1 May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton graveyard view 2 May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton Parish Hall interior May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton Parish Hall exterior May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton lych gate May 2009



H0124 St Andrews Brighton vicarage May 2009



1 st andrews school house brighton front view



Plan H0124 St Andrews Brighton church

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## Location

15 ST ANDREWS STREET BRIGHTON, BAYSIDE CITY

## Municipality

BAYSIDE CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0124

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO96

## VHR Registration

October 9, 1974

## Amendment to Registration

May 13, 2010

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 11, 2010

### What is significant?

The St Andrew's Church Precinct consists of a graveyard (1843), school house (1857), church (1857 and 1962), parish hall (1925), lych gate (post 1926), gate post (1842-50) and vicarage (1928). A number of objects are associated with the church including furniture designed for the building.

Ten acres of land were set aside as a Church of England Reserve in the Brighton Estate planned by Henry Dendy and J. B. Were in 1841. This site was located in a small township of fashionable crescents, between the outer crescent and desirable allotments which ran to Port Phillip Bay. An Episcopal Church, erected to the south of the site in 1842, was used as a church and school, however the formation of Church Street isolated it from the main site soon after construction. This site was not conveyed to the church in 1843 and subsequent development took place on the remaining land.

In 1843 a two acre graveyard, established to the north-east of the first building, was consecrated and the first burial took place the following year, well before the opening of the Brighton General Cemetery in 1855. More than three hundred burials took place, mostly before 1860, and the graves of many district pioneers are located in this graveyard. The last burial took place in 1948, however an adjoining garden of memory, established in the 1950s, remains in use.

An ironstone church, designed by architect Charles Laing, was erected to the north-west of this graveyard in 1850. By 1857 the congregation had outgrown this building and parishioner and architect Charles Webb, and his partner Thomas Taylor, were commissioned to design a new bluestone church, school house and vicarage. The 1850 church was demolished and some of the stone used in the construction of the T-shaped school house building. This school continued to operate until 1875 when students were relocated to a new school in Brighton. The school house was then used for Sunday School and other church activities.

In the subsequent years Brighton developed as a popular middle class suburb and by 1886 necessary additions were made to the church. Large sandstone transepts and a chancel were added to the existing bluestone church nave by architect Lloyd Tayler. A north wing was also added to the school house, creating a symmetrical H-shaped building. This was either undertaken in 1866 by Charles Webb or in 1886 by Lloyd Tayler. Webb called tenders for additions to the Church of England schools in Brighton that year, and this may have been this addition. Designed in a Gothic Revival style, the symmetrical school house is constructed of random coursed, locally quarried ironstone and is roofed in slate. It has projecting gabled end wings, a central projecting entry porch and render detailing that includes parapets, finials, angle buttresses, window and door surrounds and gable vents.

The St Andrew's parish hall, designed by architect Louis Williams, was built to the east of the school house in 1925. The Arts and Crafts influenced building is constructed of clinker brick and the symmetrical front facade contains a broad central gable roof with central jerkinhead bellcote. The exposed brick interior of the building contains oversized timber hammer beam trusses and large folding timber doors which line both sides of the central hall. All timber work remains unpainted.

At this time Brighton Grammar School, established in 1882, received in trust five acres of the original ten acres of land granted to the Church of England in 1841. A school building designed by architects Hudson and Wardrop, was constructed to the east of the church, and Brighton Grammar moved to the new site in 1927. The school used the 'cow paddock' to the north of the church and graveyard for a sports ground from about 1928. A very close affiliation was then established between St Andrew's church and the school.

The original vicarage, located north of the church, was demolished in 1928 and was rebuilt further south on the site of the 1850 church. Detailing would suggest that Hudson and Wardrop may have also designed this new vicarage. A lych gate was erected to the west of the church after the death in 1926 of George Jefferson, a vestryman at St Andrew's. This rustic timber structure, with hipped terracotta tiled roof, shows the influence of the Arts and Crafts movement, and may have been designed by Louis Williams.

In 1961 a fire destroyed much of the church at St Andrew's and parishioner, and prolific church architect, Louis Williams was commissioned to design a new church. He incorporated the remaining portion of Webb's bluestone nave as a chapel, and designed a vast building capable of holding a large congregation. At the time it was anticipated that St Andrew's was to become the cathedral church for the Mornington Peninsula Diocese when the Melbourne Diocese was divided. This church building was dedicated in December 1962 in the presence of the Governor of Victoria, Sir Dallas Brooks; the Archbishop of Melbourne, Frank Woods; clergy and two thousand people.

Williams' design re-orientated the church by setting a new nave, of some sixty metres in length, at right angles to the surviving portion of the 1857 building. This Early English Gothic section, typical of the work of Charles Webb, was reduced in length and used as a Pioneer Chapel and baptistery, and linked to the narthex of the new building by an arcaded cloister. The symmetrical west facade, with its gable belfry, bracketed string course, triple lancet windows and pinnacled corner buttresses, has therefore been retained.

The new church is simple in form with a shallow gable roof, surmounted by a narrow, copper spire, covering a textured red brick building. Pointed arch headed openings are used to convey a Gothic character. The interior employs cream bricks, anodised aluminium acoustic ceiling tiles and blue vinyl flooring (since replaced). It features subdued window glass, banks of singularly placed aluminium uprights either side of the sanctuary, a gallery organ and war memorial surrounds, an echo organ and timber furniture designed by Williams and crafted by the well established Melbourne furniture maker, Fallshaw and Sons. Tasmanian oak, fumed, stained and hand finished, was used for the large array of furniture. Pulpit and lectern panels were created by Reine Slagmolen to designs by William using a blue 'polylite' material and Napier Waller was commissioned to design a mural for the Pioneer Chapel, which replaced the former west window.

Many of Louis Williams' ecclesiastical design ideas are apparent at St Andrew's church. His desire for generous planning is manifest throughout the church with well spaced pews, a clear view of the altar, wide aisles, a spacious sanctuary and a choir gallery at the rear with a spacious narthex below. A windowless sanctuary end, lit by concealed side lighting, was also favoured by Williams. Originally intended to contain mosaic work, this recess now features a bronze sculpture of the prodigal son, by Guy Boyd. It was installed in 1987, the new church's twenty fifth anniversary.

Other developments on the site include the addition of tennis courts, probably early in the twentieth century, and the construction of two brick houses adjacent to the graveyard and an opportunity shop between the school house and the parish hall in the 1980s.

### **How is it significant?**

The St Andrew's Church of England Precinct, Brighton is of historical, architectural and aesthetic significance to the State of Victoria.

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

The St Andrew's Church of England Precinct, Brighton is of historical significance as an extensive and highly intact church complex which has associations with the early history of the Anglican Church in Victoria. It contains a graveyard, school house, church, parish hall, lych gate and vicarage which are all significant and intact

contributory elements from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Together they demonstrate the development of a significant Anglican church site, which was destined to be the cathedral centre of the proposed Mornington Diocese if the anticipated division of the Melbourne diocese had occurred.

The graveyard at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of historical significance as an extremely early, pre-gold rush parish church graveyard and as a rare surviving example in suburban Melbourne. Other examples were established later and include Scots Presbyterian Church graveyard, Cambellfield (VHR H0127, 1855) and St Helena Church Cemetery, Greensborough, 1856.

The graveyard at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of historical significance for the tombstones of early Victorian pioneers and prominent citizens, and their families, contained within it. These include Jonathan B. Were, leading merchant and agent and founder of J. B. Were and Son (d. 1885); Henry B. Foot, surveyor and planner of the Brighton township (d. 1857); William A. Brodribb, pastoralist and politician (d. 1886) and Thomas Higinbotham, chief engineer of the Victorian Railways (d.1880). The retention of a wooden memorial headstone (date unknown) is of significance.

The school house at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of historical significance as a rare surviving example of a substantial early denominational school building.

The school house at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of architectural significance as one of the few surviving examples of Charles Webb's distinctive institutional buildings and as a rare example of a building constructed of local ironstone.

The church at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of architectural significance for the section of building which survives from 1857. This is a fine example of the distinctive ecclesiastical work of prolific Melbourne architect, Charles Webb, who was a parishioner of the church and designed such buildings as the Royal Arcade (1869, VHR H0023) and the Windsor Hotel (1884, H0764) and many churches in Victoria.

The church at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of architectural significance for the highly intact section built in 1962 and designed by the parishioner and highly prolific church architect, Louis Williams. Williams, who was Victoria's, and possibly Australia's, major ecclesiastical architect of the Arts and Crafts tradition from the 1920s to the 1970s, designed more than 130 churches, including cathedrals, for every diocese in Victoria as well as every State of Australia. As one of his later works in which he designed and supervised every aspect of the job, St Andrew's is considered as amongst his greatest achievements. It has significance as an example of a modern/traditional building, which exhibits both the lightness of modern architecture and the clear expression of its purpose as a church.

The parish hall at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of architectural significance as an intact and early example of the work of Louis Williams in an Arts and Crafts manner. It presents a particularly fine interior with exposed brick (painted over then sandblasted) and extraordinarily oversized hammer beam trusses which create a highly distinctive character. The lych gate is also a fine example of a structure designed in the Arts and Crafts style.

The church at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of aesthetic significance for the furniture and fittings throughout the church which were designed by Louis Williams and manufactured by the established firm of Fallshaw and Sons. This extensive and intact assemblage of meticulously detailed, modern timber church furniture is highly significant. The blue 'polylite' lectern and pulpit panels, aluminium sanctuary uprights, the font, the war memorial organ and echo organ are also of note.

The church at St Andrew's, Church of England, Brighton is of aesthetic significance for the mural created by important artist, Napier Waller and the later bronze sculpture by artist, Guy Boyd of the well known Melbourne Boyd family.

## **Permit Exemptions**

### **General Exemptions:**

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which

don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### **Specific Exemptions:**

General Conditions: 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. Note: All archaeological places have the potential to contain significant sub-surface artefacts and other remains. In most cases it will be necessary to obtain approval from the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria before the undertaking any works that have a significant sub-surface component. General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan endorsed by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: The existence of a Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan endorsed by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan. General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable.

### **Exterior:**

\* Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae, aerials etc, and making good in a sensitive manner.

Interior of school house, church, parish hall and lych gate:

\*Painting of previously painted surfaces provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of any original paint or other decorative scheme.

\*Demolition or removal of non-original stud/partition walls, suspended ceilings or non-original wall linings, bathroom partitions and tiling, sanitary fixtures and fittings, kitchen wall tiling and equipment, lights, built-in cupboards, cubicle partitions and the like.

\*Removal or replacement of non-original door and window furniture including, hinges, locks, knobsets and sash lifts.

\*Removal of non-original tiling or concrete slabs in wet areas provided there is no damage to or alteration of original structure or fabric.

\*Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves, obscure architectural features and that the central plant is concealed.

\*Sensitive installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring.

\*Removal or replacement of electric clocks, public address systems, detectors, alarms, emergency lights, exit signs, luminaires and the like on plaster surfaces.

\*Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.

\*Installation of plant within the roof space.

\*Sensitive installation of new fire hydrant services including sprinklers, fire doors and elements affixed to plaster surfaces.

Interior of vicarage:

\* All interior alterations are permit exempt, excluding structural alterations, provided such work has no effect on the exterior of the buildings.

### **Minor Works :**

#### **Note:**

Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works may submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

Landscape:

\* Repairs, conservation, and maintenance to hard landscape elements, buildings and structures, fountains and monuments, steps, paths, paths and gutters, drainage and irrigation systems, edging, fences and gates.

\* The process of gardening; mowing, hedge clipping, bedding displays, removal of dead plants, disease and weed control, emergency and safety garden works.

\* Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard; Pruning of Amenity Trees AS 4373.

\* Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering and drainage systems outside the canopy edge of significant trees.

### **Graveyard:**

\* Interments, burials and erection of monuments, re-use of graves, burial of cremated remains, and exhumation of remains in accordance with the Cemeteries and Crematoria Act 2003.

\* Stabilisation, restoration and repair of monuments.

\* Emergency and safety works to secure the site and prevent damage and injury to property and the public.

\* Monument works undertaken in accordance with Australian Standard AS4204

Construction dates 1843, 1857, 1857, 1925, 1926, 1842, 1928, 1962,

Architect/Designer Webb, Charles, Williams, Louis R,

Heritage Act Categories Registered place, Registered object integral to a registered place,

Other Names ST ANDREWS, ST ANDREWS ANGLICAN CHURCH, ST ANDREWS CHURCH PRECINCT, ST ANDREWS GRAVEYARD, ST ANDREWS PRECINCT, ANGLICAN SCHOOL HOUSE,

Hermes Number 160



## History

### CONTEXTUAL HISTORY

#### **Charles Webb**

Prolific 19th century architect, Charles Webb was born in England in 1821 and received his architectural training there before immigrating to Australia in 1849. He joined his brother, James, who had settled at Port Phillip in 1839 and established himself as a builder. The brothers formed an architectural partnership on Charles' arrival and designed a number of buildings, many in Brighton, before James departed for England in 1854. Charles then formed a partnership with Thomas Taylor and they practised together for four years.

Webb then practised on his own from 1858 until 1888 when two of his sons joined him. He continued to practise until his death in 1898, and he designed many important buildings in Melbourne, including Wesley College in 1864, the Alfred Hospital and the Royal Arcade in 1869, the South Melbourne Town Hall and the Melbourne Orphan Asylum in 1878 and the Grand Hotel (now the Windsor) in 1884.

Webb was a founding member of the Victorian Institute of Architects in 1856 and was president in 1882-83. He joined the Brighton Volunteer Rifle Corps in September 1860 and helped to found the Boating Club (now the Royal Brighton Yacht Club) in 1875; he was a member of both the Melbourne Club and the Melbourne Cricket Club. For many years Webb was secretary of the local branch of the Bible Society, which James had helped to found. He was a devout Anglican and for many years was an active member of Brighton's St Andrew's Church.

Webb arrived in Australia fully trained and with knowledge of the Gothic Revival in England. He is perhaps the first Victorian architect with a really distinctive style of his own. (*Victorian Churches*, p21). His knobby, or fussy, picturesque Gothic is neither correct nor Puginian, distinctive but not incorrect.

#### **Louis Williams (1890-1980)**

Louis Williams was Victoria's, and possibly Australia's, major ecclesiastical architect of the Arts and Crafts tradition from the 1920s to the 1970s. He was probably the most prolific church architect in Victoria in the twentieth century, designing more than 130 churches, mainly Anglican but also Presbyterian, Methodist and Christian Science. He designed church buildings for Dioceses in South Australia, Western Australia, Queensland, New South Wales and Tasmania and every Diocese in Victoria.

Born in Hobart in 1890, Louis Williams initially served articles with Frank Heyward of Richard and Heyward in Hobart. A particular interest in ecclesiastical work led him to complete his articles with Alexander North, the Tasmanian Anglican Diocesan Architect. When North subsequently opened a practice in Melbourne in 1912, Williams was appointed the junior partner. One of their first church projects was Trinity College Chapel at the University of Melbourne, with North undertaking the design and Williams completing much of the detailed drawing. It was completed in 1917.

North retired at the end of World War One and Williams continued to practice until 1976. His practice remained in Melbourne until he relocated his office from the city to his Brighton home in c 1941. His interstate work from c 1920, particularly as Diocesan architect for Bathurst and Grafton, required frequent travel.

In his church design, Williams strove to find solutions to problems of space, such as cramped sanctuaries and narrow chancels, and problems of lighting, such as glare from the traditional east window. Where possible he advocated such advances as placing the choir at the west end in a gallery or on a platform to create more space at the east end. Where buttresses were required he aligned the wall to the outside; and he angled the east windows, often in vertical strips. He also attempted to introduce square headed windows in his work but often found he had to compromise, using low segmental or part semicircular arches.

Williams designed much of the furniture and fittings for his buildings and encouraged the use of local materials and local craftsmen and manufacturers. His on-site instruction was meticulous. The majority of his churches were constructed in brickwork, in a range of colours, textures and specially moulded shapes. He often used red brick, clinker brick and, in many of his later works, cream brick. Native timbers were used for furniture and other detail.



The best examples of Williams' later work include St John's, Camberwell (1956-57), St Boniface Cathedral, Bunbury (1961) and St Andrew's Brighton (1962). All of these were large projects of which Williams' commanded tight control. St Andrew's has been viewed as the high point of his later years; a good modern/traditional building which exhibits the lightness of modern architecture.

## HISTORY OF PLACE

Land in Brighton was first surveyed in 1841 after Henry Dendy selected his special survey there that year. By the late 1840s it had developed into a significant settlement south of the Yarra and it was establishing itself as a desirable location for those of standing in the community. Dendy himself built Brighton Park on his seaside property in c.1842, and this house was subsequently purchased by James Webb in 1848. Many houses, including Charles' residence Chilton, were built in the newly formed Wellington Street, which was formed within Dendy's original property. By 1859 Brighton was declared a municipality and that same year the railway line was opened between this suburb and Melbourne.

In the initial survey, Henry Dendy and his partner J. B. Were, set aside ten of the five thousand acres of their Brighton Estate as a Church of England Reserve. The church site was located in a township which included 120 acres of parkland and several fashionable crescents, situated between the outer crescent and choice allotments which ran to the bay. Were, Dendy, Henry Foot (estate surveyor) were among those who resided near the shore.

The first Church of England services were held in Dendy's temporary home in 1842. The first building on the church site was an Episcopal Church, erected to the south in late 1842. Used as a church and school, it was isolated from the main site soon after construction by the formation of Church Street through the reserve. This building was eventually lost to the church as this land was not conveyed to William Grant Broughton, Bishop of Australia, in October 1843.

In 1843 a two acre graveyard site, established to the north-east of the first building, was consecrated and the first burial took place the following year. Many burials took place, many without tombstones, particularly before the Brighton Cemetery was opened in 1855. The last burial took place in 1948.

In 1849 the population of Brighton was 1500, which was surpassed in Victoria only by Melbourne and Geelong. In 1843 seventy-five pupils were enrolled at the newly established Anglican school, which was officially opened as school no. 44 in 1849 by Church of England authorities.

A more substantial ironstone church, designed by Charles Laing, was erected to the north of the graveyard in 1850 (site of 1928 vicarage). It seated a congregation of about 250. By 1857 a larger church and school were needed and church committee member Charles Webb, in partnership with Thomas Taylor, was commissioned to design a new bluestone church (on the present church site), school house and vicarage (to the west of the church). The school house used some of the locally quarried ironstone from the previous church which was demolished at this time.

St Andrew's school continued to operate until 1875 when students were relocated to a new school in Brighton, established after the State School system was introduced in 1872. The building was then used for Sunday school, meetings and other church activities.

Brighton gained strength as a middle class suburb and by 1886 additions were made to the church, and possibly the school house, by architect, Lloyd Tayler. The latter was a new wing to the north of the building for use as a guild room. This may have been added earlier as Charles Webb called tenders for additions to Church of England schools in Brighton in 1866. In 1886 the altar and other furnishings from the demolition of the old chancel were installed in the central space for use by the Sunday school.

The vicar William Hancock transformed the life of the parish both physically and spiritually from his arrival in 1918. By 1924 debt had been eliminated, money had been raised for a war memorial organ built by Roberts of Adelaide, and money was being collected for a parish hall, which was subsequently built to the east of the school house, designed by Louis Williams.

At this time Brighton Grammar School received in trust five acres of the original ten acres of land granted to the Church of England by Dendy and Were. The school had been established in 1882 by George Henry Crowther (churchwarden at St Andrew's for thirty years who died in 1918) and was located in New Street. A two-storey school building was constructed in 1926 and the school moved to the new site in 1927, thus beginning a very close affiliation between the school and St Andrew's Church. The school used the 'cow paddock' to the north of the church and graveyard, for a sports ground from 1928. The 1856 vicarage was demolished that year and

rebuilt further south on the site of the 1850 ironstone church.

In 1961 a fire destroyed the 1886 transepts and the chancel of the church, as well as the organ, pews, furnishings, altar and screen. The skeleton of the 1857 bluestone nave remained. Architect and parishioner, Louis Williams was commissioned to construct a new church, incorporating the old nave portion. The new reconstituted church was dedicated in the presence of the Governor of Victoria, Sir Dallas Brooks; Lady Brooks; the Archbishop of Melbourne, Frank Woods; clergy and two thousand people in December 1962.

### Bibliography

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Helen Lardner. 'St Andrew's Brighton historic graveyard restoration: conservation analysis and management plan: final report'. Carlton 2000

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C. Sagazio. *Cemeteries: Our Heritage*. Melbourne 1992

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Perrot Lyon Mathieson P. L. in association with Andrew Ward. 'City of Brighton Urban Character and Conservation Study'. 1986

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D. F. Fallshaw. *Five Centuries of Furniture Manufacturing in Australia 1875-2009*. Melbourne 2009

J. M. Freeland. *Melbourne Churches, 1836-1851: an architectural record*. Melbourne, 1963.

Louis Williams, 'Church Architecture in Australia' in *Victorian Historical Magazine*, vol 39 no 4 (November 1968), pp 181-197

R. Landells. 'Biography of Louis Williams' in *Architect* May 1976, p 24.

### Previous History

St Andrew's school house was built on ten acres of land reserved for church purposes in the Brighton Estate planned by Henry Dendy and J. B. Were in 1841. Constructed in 1857, with later additions, it replaced an earlier building used for school purposes.

The first building on the site was an Episcopal Church, erected to the south in 1842. Used as a church and school, it was isolated from the main site soon after construction by the formation of Church Street through the reserve. In 1843 it was recorded that seventy-five pupils were enrolled at the newly established school, which was officially opened as school no. 44 in 1849 by Church of England authorities. A two acre graveyard, established to the north-east of the first building, was consecrated in 1843, and in 1850 a more substantial ironstone church, designed by Charles Laing, was erected to the north of the first church.

By 1857 a larger church and school were needed and church committee member Charles Webb, in partnership with Thomas Taylor, was commissioned to design a new church, school house and vicarage. Webb's school house was T-shaped in plan and utilised some of the ironstone from the second church building, which was demolished at this time. An identical wing was added to the building at a later stage to create a symmetrical H-shaped building. In 1866, Webb called tenders for additions to the Church of England schools in Brighton, and this may have been this addition. Suggestions have also been made that this wing was added in 1886 when additions were made to the church.

St Andrew's school continued to operate until 1875, when students were relocated to a new school in Brighton, established after the State School system was introduced in 1872. After it was vacated, the school house was used for Sunday school, meetings and other church activities. When additions were made to the church in 1886,

the altar and furnishings from the demolition of the chancel were installed in the central space of the school house.

**The draft statement of significance and the above history were produced as part of an Online Data Upgrade Project 2008. Sources were as follows:**

W. Bate. *St Andrew's, Brighton 1842-1992. A Short History*. Melbourne 1992

W. Bate. *A History of Brighton*. Melbourne 1962

L. J. Blake [ed]. *Vision and Realisation*. Melbourne 1973

MMBW Detail Plan 2122, Town of Brighton, 1906

*Argus*, 15 May 1850, p 2, tenders called by Charles Laing for erection of church, Brighton

*Melbourne Herald*, 1 March 1855, p2, tenders called by Webb and Taylor for erecting Episcopal Church, Brighton

*Argus*, 30 June 1857, p 7, tenders called by Webb and Taylor for erecting Church of England schools, Brighton

*Argus*, 29 October 1866, tenders called by Charles Webb for erecting additions to the Church of England schools, Brighton

## **Plaque Citation**

This extensive church precinct developed from the 1840s. It consists of a graveyard (1843), school house (1857), church (1857 and 1962), parish hall (1925), lych gate (post 1926) and vicarage (1928).

## **Assessment Against Criteria**

a. Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history

St Andrew's Church precinct is important as an early, extensive and highly intact church complex which has associations with the early history of the Anglican Church in Victoria. It contains a number of contributory elements which demonstrate the development of a large Anglican parish through the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

b. Possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Victoria's cultural history.

St Andrew's Church graveyard is an extremely early, pre-gold rush parish church graveyard in Victoria, and is a rare surviving example, particularly in suburban Melbourne.

St Andrew's Church school house is a rare surviving example of a substantial early denominational school building.

c. Potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Victoria's cultural history.

d. Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places or environments.

St Andrew's Church school house is one of few surviving examples of Charles Webb's distinctive institutional buildings and the surviving church section from 1857 is a fine example of the distinctive ecclesiastical work of this prolific architect.

St Andrew's Church of 1962 is a highly intact, extremely large and fine example of a modern/traditional parish church in Victoria. It is considered to be one of prolific church architect Louis Williams' greatest achievements. The parish hall is a fine example of his early Arts and Crafts design work.

e. Importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics.

St Andrew's Church contains a collection of fine modern furniture and fittings, meticulously designed by Louis Williams and manufactured by Fallshaw and Sons. They form an intact and complete group which compliments the modern church building.

The mural designed and painted by Napier Waller and the bronze sculpture by Guy Boyd at St Andrew's church, are good examples of the work of these significant Victorian artists.

f. Importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.

g. Strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons. This includes the significance of a place to Indigenous peoples as part of their continuing and developing cultural traditions.

h. Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

St Andrew's graveyard contains a collection of pioneer memorials which are illustrative of the early pioneering history of Victoria.

As church parishioners as well as architects of St Andrew's Church, Charles Webb and Louis Williams have important associations with the development of the precinct.

## **Extent of Registration**

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the **Heritage Act 1995**, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 0124 in the category described as Heritage Place and Heritage Object/s.

St Andrews Church Precinct  
St Andrews Street  
Brighton  
Bayside City Council

### EXTENT

1. All the land marked L1 on Diagram 124 held by the Executive Director.
2. All the buildings marked B1-4 and features marked F1-3 on Diagram 124 held by the Executive Director.  
B1 School House  
B2 Church  
B3 Parish Hall  
B4 Vicarage  
F1 Lych Gate  
F2 Gate Post  
F3 Cross from Transept
3. All the objects related to the place as listed in the Inventory of Objects held by the Executive Director.

General:

All of the graveyard, dating from the 1840s, including paths, memorial markers and railings and all of the plantings of mature trees on the land.

Dated 13 May 2010

JimGard'ner  
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette G 19 13 May 2010 944]

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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/>*