

# HOLY VIRGIN'S PROTECTION MEMORIAL CHURCH & FAMINE MEMORIAL



Ukrainian Orthodox Church



Ukrainian Orthodox Church



Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
famine memorial



Ukrainian Orthodox Church



Ukrainian Orthodox Church



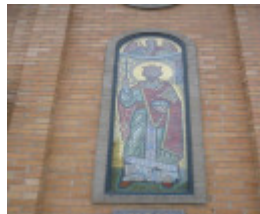
Ukrainian Orthodox Church  
memorial plaque



Ukrainian Orthodox Church



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## Location

91 BUCKLEY STREET, MOONEE PONDS, MOONEE VALLEY CITY

## **Municipality**

MOONEE VALLEY CITY

## **Level of significance**

Included in Heritage Overlay

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO434

## **Heritage Listing**

Moonee Valley City

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## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - November 28, 2013

### **What is significant?**

The Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church (Holy Virgin's Protection Memorial Church), constructed in 1961-66, and Famine Memorial at 91 Buckley Street, Moonee Ponds are significant. This is a large brick church that draws on traditional Orthodox church design and planning, which includes the prominent use of three domes (each crowned with a lantern and surmounted by a cross) representing the Holy Trinity, and the modified linear or Basilican plan with a large rectangular nave and a curved apse at one end. The front elevation has a symmetrical composition around a central doorway with shallow entrance porch. A central pediment is between a pair of towers with the smaller domes that provide the focus. The smaller domes and the larger central dome are all supported upon eight-sided towers with tall arch-headed windows. Flanking the diagonal timber entrance doors (that are accessed by shallow steps in terrazzo) are a pair of arch headed niches with figurative mosaics with memorial plaques below, and oculi above. A larger central arch headed mosaic is over the entrance. The cream face brick is subtly articulated through the use of pilasters, a string course and raised panel at the cornice level and is corbelled at the base. There are tall arch headed windows in the side elevations. Internally, the church has a traditional Orthodox planning being divided into a vestibule, nave and sanctuary with a choir balcony above the vestibule. The nave and the sanctuary are separated by an iconostasis, a wall of icons and religious paintings and doors.

The famine memorial is in the form of a stepped slab in polished black granite, which is situated within the forecourt of the church, on the right side.

The church hall at the rear of the site is not significant.

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

The Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church and Famine Memorial at 91 Buckley Street, Moonee Ponds are of local historic, social and architectural significance to the City of Moonee Valley.

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

The church and memorial are historically and socially significant for the associations with the migration of Ukrainian people to Melbourne in the post-war era. The church demonstrates the rich religious and cultural traditions that Ukrainian migrants brought to Australia, and the continuation of those traditions in this country, and is notable as one of the first Ukrainian Orthodox churches established in Melbourne and Australia more generally in the post-war period. (Criteria A & G)

It is significant as a representative example of a church built by the Ukrainian migrant community, with a layout and design that is derived from traditional Orthodox architecture in Europe. This includes the modified Basilican plan with a main dome and two smaller domes representing the Holy Trinity, the use of traditional Orthodox

symbols and iconography, and the internal planning where the nave and the sanctuary are separated by an iconostasis. It has aesthetic significance for the figurative mosaic details to the facade and as a distinctive and prominent landmark within Essendon and Moonee Ponds. (Criteria D & E)

## Theme

### 8. Building community life

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moonee Valley - Moonee Valley Heritage Study, Context Pty Ltd, 2015, 2015; Moonee Valley - City of Moonee Valley Stage 1 Heritage Gap Study, Context PL, 2013;
Other Names	Ukrainian Autocephalic Orthodox Church,
Hermes Number	196289
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

This is a large brick church that draws on traditional Orthodox church design and planning, which includes the prominent use of three domes (each crowned with a lantern and surmounted by a cross) representing the Holy Trinity, and the modified linear or Basilican plan with a large rectangular nave and a curved apse at one end. The front elevation has a symmetrical composition around a central doorway with shallow entrance porch. A central pediment is between a pair of towers with the smaller domes that provide the focus. The smaller domes and the larger central dome are all supported upon eight-sided towers with tall arch-headed windows. Flanking the diagonal timber entrance doors (that are accessed by shallow steps in terrazzo) are a pair of arch headed niches with figurative mosaics with memorial plaques below, and oculi above. A larger central arch headed mosaic is over the entrance. The cream face brick is subtly articulated through the use of pilasters, a string course and raised panel at the cornice level and is corbelled at the base. There are tall arch headed windows in the side elevations.

Internally, the church has a traditional Orthodox planning being divided into a vestibule, nave and sanctuary. The nave and the sanctuary are separated by an iconostasis, a wall of icons and religious paintings and doors. (Note: the church was not inspected internally, this is based on the plans on the PROV files)

The famine memorial is in the form of a stepped slab in polished black granite, which is situated within the forecourt of the church, just to the right. There is an inscription in both Ukrainian and English. The English inscription reads 'In Memory of seven million Ukrainians who perished in 1932-33 as a result of famine imposed by the Russian-Bolshevik regime in Ukraine. Lest We Forget'. Above the inscriptions is a cross, and inscribed in the base is a laurel wreath with the date '9.10.1983' and below 'Donated by I. Alexandrow'.

*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/>*