
Stained Glass Window at Yarraville St. Augustine's Catholic Church



Yarraville St Augustines Catholic Church Our Lady of the Sky Brooks Robinson 1946



Yarraville St Augustines Catholic Church Our Lady of the Sky inscription BR 1946



Yarraville St Augustines Catholic Church Our Lady of the Sky County Surrey Squadron AAF BR 1945

Location

71 Somerville Road, Yarraville, MARIBYRNONG CITY

Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

Level of significance

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Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Heritage Study/Consultant

Vic War Heritage Inventory - Stained Glass Memorial Windows Study, Bronwyn Hughes, 2013;

Architect/Designer

Kerr-Morgan, William, Brooks, Robinson & Co,

Hermes Number

196868

Property Number

Memorial Window References & Acknowledgements

Argus, 2 February 1925, p.12; 3 July 1946, p.4; *West Australian*, 26 June 1945, p.3; Brooks, Robinson & Co. job books (1923-c1966); <http://cas.awm.gov.au/item/SUK14087>; CWGC.

Memorial Window Subject

Our Lady of the Sky

Memorial Window Text

Gratia Plena Ave Maria

Memorial Window Inscription

Erected by the members of No. 615 Squadron AAF and Friends to the memory of Squadron Leader David William McCormack D.F.C. and Bar Killed 10th August 1944 whilst serving the Mother Country

Memorial Window Description & History

The new church dedicated to St. Augustine was blessed and opened by Melbourne's Archbishop Mannix on 1 February 1925. Many years later, Brooks, Robinson & Co. prepared a new cartoon as a memorial to Squadron Leader David W. McCormack DFC and Bar. The design incorporated an unusual combination of religious and secular subjects, Australian Airmen, Spitfires and the Virgin Mary- *Our Lady of the Sky*. Each light measured 149 x 24 inches with tracery pieces above. It was unveiled on 14 July 1946.

David McCormack trained in Australia and then gained advanced pilot training as part of the Empire Air Training Scheme before taking up his post in England where he was awarded the DFC for outstanding courage and leadership. 615 Squadron was formed as an Army Auxillary Squadron in 1939 but became a fighter squadron taking offensive, defensive and escort roles throughout the war. It was the first squadron to land in France and took part in the Battle of Britain. Disbanded in 1945 it was reformed in 1946 as an Auxillary Air Force squadron once again. Squadron Leader McCormack, aged 26, was killed during operations in Burma where he commanded the squadron known as 'Churchill's Own'. He was commemorated at Calcutta (Bhowanipore) Cemetery, Kolkata, India.

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/>