
ST MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH



23656 St Mark's Anglican Church Cavendish 2077

Location

Henty Highway and Bunbury Street and Riley Street CAVENDISH, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

St Mark's Anglican Church, Henty Highway, Cavendish was built in 1962 and dedicated in 1963. It is the first Anglican church building in Cavendish, and dates from one hundred years after the construction of the Presbyterian Church nearby and twenty-five years after the Methodist (now Uniting) Church. It is not known who the builders or architects for the church were. The simple cream brick church is in the International Moderne style but incorporates traditional forms and planning. Its portal frame construction is typical of such structures after the Second World War. The increased population due to Soldier Settlement in the district led to its construction and the prosperity of the times allowed it to be paid for and dedicated immediately. It includes original fittings and furniture which compliment the architecture. Important primary documents survive about its construction. The church is in excellent condition and retains an excellent degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

St Mark's Anglican Church is of historical and architectural significance to the township of Cavendish and to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

St Mark's Anglican Church is of historical significance as a demonstration of the major changes in rural communities after the Second World War. St Mark's Anglican Church is of architectural significance for its successful use of the International Moderne style to express optimism and faith while retaining conventional elements essential to the Anglican tradition.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1962,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23656
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

The church is in excellent condition internally and externally.

Physical Description 1

St Mark's is located on the Henty Highway, otherwise known as Riley Street, at the intersection with Bunbury Street. It is immediately north of the River Wannon and across the road bridge from the centre of the township. It marks the entrance to town from the north.

The church is a small cream brick building with a panel of coloured stone veneer forming the facade, a cross and the church's name, and a large window above. The construction is portal frame with a shallow pitched roof. A short square tower in cream brick marks the entrance. The entrance porch is in the south-east corner and takes advantage of the fall in the land. In plan, the chancel is slightly angled. There is a vestry and service area attached on the south side with its own entrance.

A concrete block wall screens the entrance from the nave and several steps lead up to the main floor level. The baptismal font, according to tradition, is located at the entrance. It has a narrow tapered blond wood base and a timber cover surmounted by a cross. Internally, the walls are the same cream brick as outside. A panel, painted sage green, forms the backdrop to the altar with a simple timber cross suspended above the altar. A large window in the north wall lights the chancel and a very simple altar rail divides the chancel from the nave. The pews are blond polished timber. The floors are polished hardwood. A darker timber valence at 2.2m supports heaters. Lighting is provided by fluorescent tubes on the plaster sheet ceiling. A door on the south side leads to the vestry and service areas.

The cream brick gates and Cyclone wire fence are original. There is a cream brick toilet block to the south-west of the site. The former church hall, which had been moved in, was relocated to the St Luke's Lutheran Church site in Bunbury Street.

Important primary documents survive about its construction.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
8.6 Worshipping
8.6.1 Worshipping together
8.6.3 Founding Australian religious institutions
8.6.4 Making places for worship

Usage/Former Usage

church

Integrity

excellent degree of integrity

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/>