

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH (FORMER)



City of Darebin Heritage Review 2000



Map Ref: **30 G2**

NOT within Heritage Overlay Area.

City of Darebin Heritage Review 2000

Location

Yann Street PRESTON, Darebin City

Municipality

DAREBIN CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO94

Heritage Listing

Darebin City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The former Wesleyan Methodist Church is of local architectural and historical significance.

The third Wesleyan Methodist church to be built in South Preston in a period of thirty years, the construction in 1888-9 of the Yann Street church is evidence of the strength and social importance of the Wesleyan church in the Preston district as in other areas in the nineteenth century. The church has associations with J C Hutton, founder of what became one of the largest smallgoods manufacturers in Victoria.

Designed by the notable architect Alfred Dunn, the church is comparable with Dunn's contemporary Wesleyan church at Oxley Road, Hawthorn, recognised as the finest Wesleyan church in Victoria. While the use of Gothic style at Preston was more conservative than the American Romanesque and Lombardic styles used on the Hawthorn church, the compact and powerful massing is outstanding among Victorian churches.

Heritage Study/Consultant Darebin - Darebin Heritage Review, Andrew Ward, 2000;

Other Names Greek Orthodox Church,

Hermes Number 24286

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The church is constructed from brown Hawthorn brick with red brick banding, freestone dressings and slate roofs. The striking and boldly massed Gothic design has the gabled entrance elevation of the nave, facing south, recessed between flanking twin towers, the larger tower to the left containing a bell chamber and having a bell-cast roof above an overhanging eaves cornice. North of the bell-tower is a gabled transept. The north and south nave elevations and the transept both have large four-light traceried windows.

A porch, partly obscuring the traceried window, has been constructed in front of the entrance on the south elevation since the church was acquired by the Greek Orthodox Church. The Fincham organ and the original amphitheatre seating and sloping floor have been removed. Other alterations include painting of icons on the walls and replacement of the original window glazing with coloured glass.

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/>