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# HEDLEY ANGLICAN CHURCH OF THE TRANSFIGURATION



Hedley Anglican Church of Transfiguration



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## Location

6580 SOUTH GIPPSLAND HIGHWAY, HEDLEY, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - November 23, 2022

### What is significant?

The Anglican Church of the Transfiguration designed by Gawler and Drummond and opened on 21 August 1922, at 6922 South Gippsland Highway, Hedley, is significant. It is a small Carpenter Gothic building with an Arts & Crafts influence in keeping with its early interwar construction date. Like other examples of this style, it is a timber-framed structure with a gabled roof and lancet windows with lead lighting. Contributory features include:

- The enclosed gabled entry porch, which is located on the side, and has a simple ledged timber door.
- The very large lancet window with glazing bars emulating tracery for two smaller lancet arches inscribed in the opening.

- The broken pediment created by the hipped rooflets that are visually continuous with the roof eaves from the side elevations, which frames the lancet window and the gable above.
- The timber weatherboards, and two rows of faux half-timbering comprising fibro-cement sheets with timber cover straps to the gable end with a top section of half-timbering that steps out slightly in a reference to a medieval flying gable (a jettied gable apex).
- The eaves to the side elevations of the church and the porch have expressed rafter tails, and shift to more unusual projecting purlins below the rooflets that create the broken pediment. The entry door is a simple ledged design. Inside, the ceiling is coved with ties at the wall plate level.
- The timber foundation block, which records the architects and the date of dedication, 12 April 1922.

Non-original alterations and addition are not significant.

**How is it significant?**

The Anglican Church of the Transfiguration at Hedley is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to South Gippsland Shire.

**Why is it significant?**

Historically, it is associated with the development of the Hedley district in the early twentieth century due to closer settlement, which resulted in the need for a permanent church. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically, it is a fine and well detailed example of an interwar Carpenter Gothic church with Arts & Crafts influences. Designed by church architects, Gawler & Drummond, it is distinguished by the extended eaves with visible purlins forming a broken pediment framing a large lancet window, while the stepped half-timbered gable end and the placing of the porch to the side are also distinctive features. It is an historic landmark within the Hedley district. (Criterion E)

Socially, it is significant for its continuous use as a church for almost 100 years and has played an important role in the development of the Hedley community. (Criterion G)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1922, 1922, 1922,
Architect/Designer	Gawler & Drummond,
Other Names	Extra, -,
Hermes Number	30637
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The Anglican Church of the Transfiguration at 6922 South Gippsland Highway, Hedley, is a small Carpenter Gothic building with an Arts & Crafts influence in keeping with its early interwar construction date.

Like other examples of this style, it is a timber-framed structure with a gabled roof and lancet windows. While an enclosed gabled entry porch is usually situated on the gable-fronted elevation, in this case it is located on the side. Instead of the porch, the central motif of the gable-fronted elevation is a very large lancet window with glazing bars emulating tracery for two smaller lancet arches inscribed in the opening. This window and the gable above it are framed by a broken pediment created by the hipped rooflets that are visually continuous with the roof eaves from the side elevations.

In keeping with its early interwar origins, the walls of the church are clad in timber weatherboards, while the gable end is finished in two rows of faux half-timbering comprising fibro-cement sheets with timber cover straps. The top section of half-timbering steps out slightly in a reference to a medieval flying gable (a jettied gable apex).

The eaves to the side elevations of the church and the porch have expressed rafter tails, as was common for Federation and early interwar buildings. These shift to more unusual projecting purlins below the rooflets that create the broken pediment.

The side elevations feature additional lancet windows with leadlighting. The entry door is a simple ledged design. Inside, the ceiling is covered with ties at the wall plate level. A timber foundation "stone" records the architects and the date of dedication, 12 April 1922.

The church appears to be highly intact externally, though the roofing iron was renewed with corrugated Colorbond around 2000.

*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/>*