
MIA MIA UNITING CHURCH



203903_Mia Mia_Matheson
Road_031_img12



203903_Mia Mia_Matheson
Road_031_img01



203903_Mia Mia_Matheson
Road_031_img03



203903_Mia Mia_Matheson
Road_031_img04



203903_Mia Mia_Matheson
Road_031_img10



203903_Mia Mia_Matheson
Road_031_img14

Location

31 MATHESON ROAD, MIA MIA - PROPERTY NUMBER 203903, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO805

Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 30, 2023

What is significant?

The former Presbyterian, now Uniting Church at Mia Mia built in 1871 and including the porch and vestry built in 1903 are significant. The memorial window of post 1945 and mature pine trees are also significant. The toilets are not significant.

How is it significant?

The Mia Mia Uniting Church is of local historical, aesthetic and social significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

Why is it significant?

Mia Mia Uniting Church is of historical significance for its association with the Scots Presbyterians in the district, and in particular with the Rev. Robert Henderson who was its first minister. *Criterion A*

Mia Mia Uniting Church is of aesthetic significance for its demonstration of the principal elements of the Primitive Gothic style including the gabled roof, porch and pointed arch windows. The church demonstrates the use of local building materials in the form of bluestone. The pine trees add to the sense of enclosure of the Church in its setting. *Criterion D*

Mia Mia Uniting Church is of social significance for the Mia Mia community as a continuous place of worship for over 130 years. This is demonstrated by the undertaking of local families in adding to the building, donating an organ, and in the installation of the memorial window to the Govey family. *Criterion G*

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Former Shires of Mclvor and Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2008;
Construction dates	1871,
Other Names	Presbyterian Church,
Hermes Number	33021
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The setting for the Mia Mia Uniting Church is on a steep hill at the edge of the township.

Mia Mia Uniting Church is designed in the Primitive Gothic style and constructed in 1871. Elements of the style include the use of gabled roof and pointed arch windows. Often there is a small round window or oculus that becomes a feature of the gable end, as is the case for the Mia Mia church. Variations to the style include whether a porch has been added and whether the entry is to the side or end of the porch. At Mia Mia the porch was added in 1903 in matching style. The Mia Mia church has a large vestry with fireplace and chimney constructed at the same time as the porch in 1903.

Variations in building materials are evident across the Bendigo region and the Mia Mia church is constructed of bluestone which is used throughout the Mia Mia and Redesdale locality. The bluestone was quarried locally from the Ross's property near Mia Mia.[1]

Other alterations include the addition of a commemorative window to the porch. All of the window and door openings have cement rendered dressings and the parapets are constructed with rendered cappings. The render

appears to be an alteration as the openings have been formed in orange brick that is visible where the render has been damaged.

Of note is the second door to the side, which is unusual in a church of this small size.

The interior consists of a white painted timber ceiling with scissor truss roof structure, a memorial stained glass window and an early light fitting of some interest. The church contains pine pews and the interior of the doors are unpainted pine. The organ was donated in 1898.

The site contains a number of mature pine trees but a number of these are under stress from extended dry conditions.

[1] Information from parishioner Mary Bennett, October 2008.

Physical Conditions

Good

Integrity

High

Historical Australian Themes

8.0 Building community life

8.1 Maintaining spiritual life

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/>