

St Peters Catholic Church and Presbytery



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Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

St Peters Catholic Church, 30 Cumberland Street, Linton is located on high ground on the north-west side of the town. It was built in 1914 and was designed in a simple restrained Gothic Revival style using typical materials for its time. No architect has yet been associated with the design. The present church replaced an earlier timber church on another site. Mature *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress Trees) surround the site. When the administration of the Parish changed in 1920 a new presbytery was built. This takes the form of a bungalow with Federation and other influences, and also uses typical materials for its time. Both buildings are largely intact, retain an excellent degree of integrity and are in good condition. There is a large *Pinus radiata* (Monterey Pine) in the neighbouring horse paddock. The Parish of Linton, which still includes several other settlements, celebrated its centenary in 1975.

How is it Significant?

St Peters Catholic Church and Presbytery, Linton are of historical, architectural and social significance to the Golden Plains Shire.

Why is it Significant?

St Peters Catholic Church, Linton are of historical significance as a relatively late goldfields church, reflecting the continuing prosperity of the Linton district into the early twentieth century. The church is of social significance for reflecting the relative wealth and sense of community of the Catholics in the area. The presbytery is of social significance for representing the communal life of the Catholic clergy. The church is of architectural significance for its conservative use of the ubiquitous Gothic Revival style. The presbytery is of architectural significance as an interesting bungalow which is transitional between the Federation period and the Interwar period.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Golden Plains - Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study Phase 2, Heritage Matters P/L, 2009;
Hermes Number	35025
Property Number	

Physical Description 2

Maintain both buildings generally as existing. Retain mature trees.

Standard Conservation Policies for Individual Places

1. Contributory elements

Significant places should be seen, understood and managed as a whole. Contributory elements for a Heritage Overlay (HO) for an individual place might include, but are not limited to:

all buildings (sometimes including their interiors), trees, gardens, works, signage, etc. mentioned in the History, Description and Statement of Significance for a place individually identified in the Golden Plains Heritage Study; the curtilage, including the layout, planting schemes, fences and features of gardens and yards (unless otherwise excluded); archaeological sites associated with the European occupation of the place; archaeological sites associated with the Aboriginal community before and after European settlement.

All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 1 - Introduction.

2. Subdivision or consolidation

Subdivision or consolidation should complement and support the significance of the place. It should be policy to ensure that an appropriate setting and context for the place is maintained or enhanced. It should also be policy to ensure that development that might result from a subdivision or consolidation does not adversely affect the significance, character or appearance of surrounding significance places. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 2 - Subdivision and Consolidation.

3. Demolition

Demolition of significant fabric is unlikely to be supported. It should be policy to encourage the restoration and conservation of the place and to ensure that contributory elements are retained. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 3 - Demolition.

4. Removal

The removal of buildings from the place and the relocation of buildings into the place should be discouraged as a potential falsification or corruption of the significance of the place. Rather, it should be policy to encourage appropriate alterations and extensions to existing buildings and appropriate new buildings. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 4 - Removal and Relocation.

5. New buildings

New buildings and other works should contribute to the significance of the place. It should be policy to ensure that new buildings enhance the character and appearance of the place. It should be policy to ensure that new buildings do not adversely affect the significance, character or appearance of the place. It should be policy to ensure that contributory elements retain their prominence in the place and are not dominated by new buildings. It should be policy to allow for reasonable change within the place, while ensuring that all other heritage objectives are met. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 5 - New Buildings in an Area Heritage Overlay.

6. Significant contributory elements

The existing significant fabric, usually buildings (sometimes including their interiors), trees, gardens, works, signage, etc. , is the tangible heritage of the place. It should be policy to encourage the conservation and restoration of the place. It should be policy to ensure that alterations and additions respect the contributory elements of the place. It should be policy to ensure that alterations and additions do not adversely affect the significance, character and appearance of contributory elements specifically or the place generally. It should be policy to ensure that alterations retain the significant parts of built fabric. It should be policy to ensure that the significant parts of contributory elements retain their prominence and are not dominated by new works. It should be policy to allow for the adaptation of heritage buildings, while ensuring that all other heritage objectives are met. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 6 - External Alteration and Additions to Contributory Elements.

7. Non contributory elements

Not all existing fabric in a place is significant but it can still affect the character, appearance and interpretation of the place. It should be policy to ensure that alterations and additions respect the contributory elements of the place covered by the Heritage Overlay (HO). It should be policy to ensure that alterations and additions enhance the character and appearance of the place covered by the HO. It should be policy to ensure that alterations and additions do not adversely affect the significance, character or appearance of the place covered by the HO. It should be policy to ensure that contributory elements retain their prominence in the place covered by the HO and are not dominated by new works. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 7 - External Alteration and Additions to Non-contributory Elements.

8. Interiors

The interiors of buildings are not normally identified and protected under a Heritage Overlay (HO) but can be in special circumstances when they are significant in their own right. It should be policy to ensure that internal features that contribute to significance are retained and conserved. It should also be policy to ensure that interiors that contribute to significance are not adversely affected by development. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 8 - Internal Alterations.

9. Landscape, gardens and trees

Landscapes, gardens and trees are not normally identified and protected under a Heritage Overlay (HO) but can be in special circumstances when they are significant in their own right or contribute to the broader significance of the place. It should be policy to ensure heritage landscapes, gardens and trees are adequately conserved, maintained and managed and are not adversely affected by development of these places or their settings. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 9 - Landscapes, Gardens and Trees.

10. External Painting and Finishes

Paint colours, finishes such as lime wash and other traditional treatments are important for the conservation of significant fabric and the appearance of contributory elements. Their inappropriate removal can adversely affect the significant fabric. Colours and finishes should be appropriate for the significant period of the contributory element. Where identified and protected under a Heritage Overlay (HO), it should be policy to encourage the use of external paint colours and treatments that enhance the understanding and appearance of contributory elements in the place. It should be also policy to ensure that external treatments and paint removal techniques do not damage significant building fabric and that external treatments that contribute to significance are retained and conserved. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 10 - External Painting and Finishes.

11. Fences

Fences, usually being obvious from the public domain, are important for the setting of contributory elements and for the place generally. Fences should be appropriate in type and scale for the significant period of the contributory element. Where identified and protected under a Heritage Overlay (HO), it should be policy to ensure fences enhance the character and appearance of the place. It should be policy to ensure the retention and restoration of fences where appropriate and to encourage the reconstruction of original front fences where appropriate. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 11 - Fences.

12. Signs

Signage and advertising have always been part of traditional settlements and can contribute to the character and interpretation of a place. Inappropriate modern signage and advertising can be extremely intrusive, especially when internally or externally illuminated. It should be policy to ensure that signs are appropriate to the era, style and significance of the place and to ensure the retention and conservation of signs that contribute to the significance of the place. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 12 - Signs.

13. Change of Use

The change of use of a building, other than the affect it may have on the fabric of a development, is not normally a heritage concern. In special cases uses not normally permitted under the Planning Scheme may be permitted to allow a viable new use for a place, subject to appropriate conditions. This privilege is for the benefit of the place, that is, its long term conservation, and not for the personal benefit of the applicant. It should be policy to encourage the restoration and conservation of a place generally and to ensure that contributory elements in the place are retained. It should be policy to ensure the long-term care and maintenance of contributory elements. It should be policy to ensure the impact of any change of use on the place is minimised and to encourage the continued use of contributory elements. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 13 - Change of Use.

14. Urban infrastructure

Urban infrastructure in the public domain is as important a contributor to the character of a place as private development and should be managed as carefully. It should be policy to encourage the restoration and conservation of heritage places and to ensure that public works enhance the character and appearance of the

place and its broader setting through appropriate works. It should be policy to ensure that contributory elements in the public domain are conserved. It should be policy to allow for reasonable change within heritage places, while ensuring that all other heritage objectives are met. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 14 - Civic Areas, Utilities and Services.

15. Archaeological sites

Archaeological significance can be inherently hard to see. It should be policy to ensure the appropriate identification and conservation of historical archaeological places. It should be policy to ensure the appropriate management of archaeological places, in accordance with their level of significance. It should be policy to encourage awareness of the provisions of the Heritage Act. All decisions should follow the Heritage Victoria Heritage Overlay Guideline 15 - Archaeological Sites.

To the extent of the whole of both buildings, including the interior of the church but not including the interior of the presbytery, the mature trees, and all of the land comprising Allotments 1, 2 and 3 of Section 13 and Allotments 13, 14, and 15 of Section 12.

Historical Australian Themes

The Australian Heritage Commission devised the Australian Historic Themes in 2001. The following themes have influenced the historical development of the ...

8 Developing Australia's Cultural Life

8.6 Worshipping

8.6.1 Worshipping together

8.6.2 Maintaining religious traditions and ceremonies

8.6.4 Making places for worship

8.7 Honouring achievement

8.8 Remembering the fallen

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

8.10.4 Designing and building fine buildings

Intactness

The church and the presbytery are completely intact externally and the church is intact internally.

Integrity

The church and the presbytery retain an excellent integrity.

Physical Description 1

The Catholic church is located on high ground on the north-west side of the town and on the opposite side of the town from the Anglican, Presbyterian and Methodist churches. It is designed in a simple restrained Gothic Revival style. It uses typical materials for the period including pressed red brick for the walls, painted cement render for

various details, and slate for the roof. The glazing is tinted pressed glass, mostly light green in a diaper leadlight pattern. The building has four bays separated by buttresses. There is no front porch and the bluestone steps lead to a double timber door elaborated with large iron hinges. There is a vestry at the rear, off-set to the south allowing for a single timber ledge and brace door into the nave with a matching door into the vestry. The interior retains the elaborate original altar and Stations of the Cross. The building is completely intact and retains an excellent integrity. It is in good condition. It is surrounded by *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress Trees) which probably date from the time of its construction.

The presbytery is a symmetrical single-storey dwelling in a late interpretation of the Federation style. It adopts the form of a bungalow with some limited influence from the West Coast of the United States of America. The walls are pressed red brick with cement render details. The piers of the verandah have a rough rock veneer, now painted. Timber is used as a grille over the front entrance, for brackets and for the verandah frieze. The render of the chimneys is not painted suggesting that the other render details were not intended to be painted. The roof is terra cotta Marseilles tiles. An unpainted cement cross surmounts the gable of the front porch. The interiors have not been inspected. The building is completely intact externally and retains an excellent integrity. It is in good condition. The modern brick and steel pipe front fence is not significant. The garden surrounding the house is conventional for the period. There is a particularly large and fine specimen of a *Pinus radiata* (Monterey o Radiata Pine) in the horse paddock to the south-west of the house and timber stables and sheds survive at the back of the paddock.

Extent of Registration

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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/>