
ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH



52468 St Gregory s Cath Ch
Heywood 015

Location

2049 PRINCES HIGHWAY, HEYWOOD, GLENELG SHIRE

Municipality

GLENELG SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Glenelg Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

St. Gregory's Catholic Church, 95 Edgar Street, Heywood is a small bluestone church in the Primitive Gothic Revival style. Built in 1866, it was opened by the Bishop of Melbourne, the Bishop-elect of Adelaide and the Dean of Warrnambool. The church must have served a congregation well beyond that of the small township of Heywood. It was repaired and extended in 1890 and redecorated in 1907. The side porch, which may be an addition, is of interest for its pseudo-three-centered arched door and window. The original pews survive and generally the building retains a very high degree of integrity internally and externally although its condition is only fair.

How is it Significant?

St. Gregory's Catholic Church is of historical, social and architectural significance to the Glenelg Shire.

Why is it Significant?

St. Gregory's Catholic Church is of historical significance as one of the earliest Catholic churches in the Shire. It is of social significance for its service to the Catholic denomination not just in Heywood but also in the rural area to its north and west. It is of architectural interest as an example of the Primitive Gothic Revival style used to express the religious values of the congregation, for the simplicity of its interior, and as a comparison with the churches of other denominations in Heywood.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Glenelg - Glenelg Shire Heritage Study Part One, Carlotta Kellaway, David Rhodes Mandy Jean, 2002; Glenelg - Glenelg Heritage Study Stage Two (a), Heritage Matters, 2006;
Construction dates	1865,
Hermes Number	52468
Property Number	

Usage/Former Usage

church

Physical Description 1

St. Gregory's Catholic Church is a small bluestone building in the Primitive Gothic Revival style. It is aligned east-west, is rectangular in plan and has a small entrance porch on the north side. The steep gable roof, pitched at 45 degrees, is now clad with terra cotta tiles and has a cross and belfry at the east end of the main ridge. The main gable has a roundel with a crudely carved trefoil detail.

The timber front door is a double-leaved, ledge and rail. The north and south walls have three windows with a stepped buttress between the second and third window. The windows have small panes with the glazing bars interlocking in the arches. The window and door of the porch have shallow pseudo-three-centered arches. The rendered west wall also has stepped stone buttresses. The original timber pews are present in the church and the building generally retains a very high degree of integrity.

A 1961 photograph (Collins, John T, 1961) shows a post and beam fence along the east and north sides of the church which is no longer present.

Physical Conditions

Fair condition with evidence of cracking over a long time and inappropriate patching.

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

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/>