

## St Kilian's Catholic Church & Organ



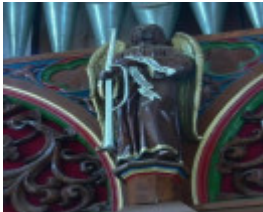
B3508 St Kilian's Catholic Church Pipe Organ



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B3508 St Kilian's Catholic Church Interior

### Location

161 McCrae Street,, BENDIGO VIC 3550 - Property No B3508

### Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

### Level of significance

State

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1341

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 22, 2005

#### Church:

An impressive wooden Church with long nave, aisles and clerestory, designed in the gothic style by W C Vahland and built in 1888 by Z Button. It replaced an earlier stone church of 1857 by George & Schneider. This is Victoria's largest wooden church and notable on account of its distinctive interior and unique German Organ built by R A Randebrock in 1871.

Classified: 18/09/1975

Revised: 03/08/1998

#### Organ:

The largest 19th century German pipe organ in Australia, this instrument was built in 1871 by R A Randebrock of Paderborn. It was commissioned by the pioneer priest Dean Henry Bachhause who had emigrated from Paderborn in 1846. The organ was moved from the former stone church to the present building in 1888 by George Fincham and subsequently fell into serious disrepair. A comprehensive restoration programme was completed in 1982-83 and the organ placed in the church at floor level; previously it had been sited on a gallery. It is a large organ of conservative 19th century design. The distinctive console is placed on the left side of the organ and retains its original drawknobs and fittings, although the manuals and pedal board are contemporary replacements for the originals, which are in storage. The oak casework, in the Gothic style, is elaborately carved and high-lighted with colour. This is one of Australia's most notable organs because of its rarity.

The German origin and character of the instrument make it quite different from other English style pipe organs which were built in, or exported to, Australia.

Classified: 30/05/1983.

Hermes Number 70121

Property Number

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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/>*