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## ST MARK'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (FORMER)



St Mark's Church of England (former)



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image203

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### Location

20 GRUNDY AVENUE, NYORA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

### Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

### Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

### Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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### Statement of Significance

### **What is significant?**

The former St Mark's Church of England designed by Gawler and Drummond and opened on 4 October 1930, at 20 Grundy Avenue, Nyora, is significant. It is a small Carpenter Gothic building with modest detailing. The timber-framed structure has a gabled roof with a projecting gabled vestry at the rear, which includes a timber ledged door, shared porch landing and a second ledged door into the nave of the church. The front, open side porch is an extension of the roof that is supported by plain timber posts and has timber lining boards filling the ends. The building includes a tall, tripartite lancet window set beneath a label moulding with a gabled outline, and within a central bay that projects slightly from the wall. Each of these lancet windows are divided horizontally by small panes of coloured glass. The windows on the side elevation have rectangular frames but the top frames form lancet arches, each with three panes of coloured glass. At the base of the window, a copper repousse foundation plaque is set to a stop chamfered frame, recording the church's dedication on 4 October 1930.

Non-original alterations and addition are not significant.

### **How is it significant?**

The former St Mark's Church of England, now the Nyora Baptist Church, at Nyora is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

### **Why is it significant?**

Historically, it is associated with the development of Nyora in the early twentieth century after it became a railway junction following the opening of the railway to Wonthaggi in 1910, which resulted in the need for a permanent church. (Criterion A)

Aesthetically, while a simple design it is notable for distinctive details such as the tall, tripartite lancet window set beneath a label moulding with a gabled outline and within a central bay that projects slightly from the wall, and the unusual windows to the side elevations that have rectangular frames with the traditional lancet pointed arch formed by top pane of glass. (Criterion E)

It has social significance for its strong and enduring associations with the Nyora community through its use as a church, originally by the Anglican and now the Baptist congregations, for 90 years. (Criterion G)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1930, 1930, 1930,
Architect/Designer	Gawler & Drummond, Grawler and Drummond,
Other Names	Nyora Baptist Church, Extra, St. Mark's Church of England,
Hermes Number	73349
Property Number	

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## **Physical Description 1**

The former St Mark's Church of England is a small Carpenter Gothic building with modest detailing. Like other examples of this style, it is a timber-framed structure with a gabled roof and lancet windows.

The gabled front facade holds a tall, tripartite lancet window set beneath a label moulding with a gabled outline. The three individual lancets are divided horizontally into small panes of coloured glass. This central bay projects slightly from the front wall. At its base is a copper repousse foundation plaque set in a stop-chamfered frame, recording the church's dedication on 4 October 1930.

Unusually for Carpenter Gothic churches, the porch is not enclosed. In this case the roof extends over the porch, which is supported on plain timber posts, with timber lining boards filling the ends. It is located on the south-east side elevation, just back from the front facade. At the rear of the northwest side elevation is an enclosed gabled vestry with a timber ledged door. The vestry shares a porch landing, set beneath the vestry roof, with a second

ledged door into the nave of the church. Windows on the side elevation have rectangular frames but the top panes form the top of lancet arches. These windows each have three panes of coloured glass.

The church is in good condition. The key external change has been the installation of metal cladding over the weatherboards. There is also a concrete ramp to the front porch with the extension of what may be an original capped timber balustrade.

*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/>*