
Christ Church Anglican Church & Hall, 61-63 Stephenson Street, GREAT WESTERN



GW 43 - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, 2004

Location

61-63 Stephenson Street GREAT WESTERN, NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Municipality

NORTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Northern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 31, 2004

The Anglican Church, corner Stephenson and Rennie Streets, Great Western, makes a significant architectural and cultural contribution to the local Great Western township. Contributing to the significance of the place are the visual connections with the neighbouring former Common School, St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church, and the Great Western School.

The Anglican Church at Great Western is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of a Federation Free Decorated Gothic Revival style.

These qualities include the steeply pitched gable roof form, castellated porch and bell tower and rear chancel with chamfered corners. Other intact qualities include the galvanised corrugated iron roof cladding, unpainted brick wall construction, modest eaves with exposed rafters, free decorated tracery window, oculus window and foundation stone in the main gable end, corbelled gable ends, Celtic crosses that adorn the roofline, pointed windows having diamond leadlighting, brick buttresses with rendered copings, stringcourse near ground level and subtly projecting brick plinth, tower frieze panels each containing three incised trefoils, large, elongated pointed porch door opening, with flat arched timber doors and timber infill panelling above. The Church bell, memorial gates and granite piers, timber post and rail and woven fence, and mature pine trees and eucalyptus also contribute to the significance of the place.

The Anglican Church at Great Western is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with the development of the Anglican Church at Great Western from 1911 until the late twentieth century. The church has also strong links with Mr. and Mrs. Hans Irvine and Mrs. Irvine's sister Miss Robinson, who were instrumental in providing funding to build the first purpose built Church of England in Great Western. The Anglican Church at Great Western is socially significant at a LOCAL level. It is recognised and highly valued by the Great Western Anglican community for religious reasons. Overall, the Anglican Church at Great Western is of LOCAL significance.

RECOMMENDED LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: LOCAL

Heritage Study/Consultant	Northern Grampians - Shire of Northern Grampians - Stage 2 Heritage Study, Wendy Jacobs, Vicki Johnson, David Rowe, Phil Taylor, 2004;
Hermes Number	105094
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The Anglican Church, corner Stephenson and Rennie Streets, Great Western, makes a significant contribution to the architectural and cultural amenity of the Great Western township. The building is also visually connected to the former Common School (which immediately neighbours the Church), St. Augustine's Roman Catholic Church and the Great Western School No. 860. The Church grounds are substantial, and are largely characterised by grassed areas with perimeter shrubs and trees, including mature pine trees and eucalyptus. The corner of the site is identified by the memorial metal gates with granite piers, while the site is bound by a recent tubular steel post and rail fence and an early timber post and rail and woven wire fence.

The asymmetrical, unpainted brick, Federation Free Decorated Gothic Revival styled Anglican Church building is characterised by a steeply pitched gable roof form, with a castellated porch and bell tower at the side of the main gable end. Modest overhangs with exposed timber rafters are features of the eaves. The main gable end has a free decorated tracery window of simple design, with an oculus above. Below the window is the foundation stone. Both the main and rear gables have corbelled gable ends and are also adorned with Celtic crosses. The rear gable has a projecting brick chancel with chamfered corners adorned with pointed windows having diamond leadlighting, with brick buttresses between. The sides of the building also have brick buttresses with rendered copings, and pairs of pointed windows having diamond leadlighting. A stringcourse near ground level defines the floor level within, and forms a subtly projecting brick plinth.

A particular feature of the design is the castellated tower. Below the brick battlemented parapets on at least three sides are frieze panels each containing three incised trefoils. The sides of the tower have paired pointed windows with diamond leadlighting, with the front side has a large, elongated pointed door opening, with flat arched timber doors and timber infill panelling above.

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/>