
Holy Trinity Anglican Church complex



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Holy Trinity Anglican Church -
Ballarat Heritage Review,
1998

Location

227 Albert Street, SEBASTOPOL VIC 3356 - Property No 2000241

Municipality

BALLARAT CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO203

Heritage Listing

Ballarat City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - March 5, 2024

What is significant?

The Holy Trinity Anglican Church Complex comprising the Holy Trinity Church (1867-8) designed by architect HR Caselli, the Sunday School (c1868) at 227 Albert Street, Sebastopol and the two mature *Ulmus procera* (English Elm) trees that mark the eastern corners of the property. The timber hall, relocated to the site in 2003 is not significant.

How is it significant?

The Holy Trinity Anglican Church Complex is historical, architectural and social significance to the City of Ballarat.

Why is it significant?

The Holy Trinity Anglican Church Complex is historically significant as it represent worship on this site from the earliest stages of Sebastopol's development, from the first wave of mining boom in Sebastopol in the 1860s. The church is significant for its connection with the local architect Henry Richards Caselli. (Criterion A & H)

The church is of architectural significance as a fine example of a mid-Victorian single aisle church. The school building is of a fairly standard design for the period, but both buildings are prominently positioned, facing Albert Street at its junction with Ophir Street, and represent landmarks of aesthetic significance within the local landscape. It is of further architectural significance as an early example of Caselli's ecclesiastical buildings on a small scale. The two English Elms at the rear of the property were apparently planted in the 19th century and mark the historic extent of the church block. They also provide a visual setting and context for the buildings. (Criterion E & D)

The complex is of social significance as a representation of the collective aspirations of the local Anglican congregation to establish a place of worship. It demonstrates the strength and growth of the Anglican congregation in Sebastopol, particularly in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. (Criterion G)

Theme

8. Building community life

Heritage Study/Consultant Ballarat - Sebastopol Heritage Study (Stage 2), Context Pty Ltd, 2015;

Construction dates 1867,

Architect/Designer Caselli, Henry R,

Hermes Number 120329

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Holy Trinity Church and the former Sunday school (now an op shop) sit next to each other on the front of the block, with ample setbacks on either side. There are two massive elms at the rear of the property, at the north and south corners, effectively delineating the extent of the block. Behind the church is a timber hall, which was moved to the site in the 1990s.

Church

The church is a large gable-fronted building with a steeply pitched slate roof. It was constructed with handmade bricks in an English bond. Many of the headers are overburnt, giving them a black glazed finish. The walls rest on rock-faced basalt foundations. The rearmost two bays of the nave and apse were added in 1870, using a lighter brick with fewer overburnt headers. The brickwork of the entire church is well detailed, with chamfered bricks used on the edges of the buttresses. Dressings of the buttresses and the segmentally arched label moulds to the windows are of cement render. The window sills are basalt.

The facade of the church has a simple timber bargeboard and lined eaves. Short corner buttresses and two tall buttresses flanking the central entry divide the facade into four bays. The outer bays each hold a tall, narrow window with a segmentally arched head, containing heavy timber tracery and diamond-pane leadlights. The entrance has a pair of ledged doors, also segmentally arched.

A late 20th-century arched verandah has been added over the entrance, stretching to the front gates.

The rear (east elevation) of the church has a similar timber bargeboard, and lined eaves to the facade, but the large window is a lancet arch filled with similar tracery to the earlier windows. A vestry projects from the 1870 apse, on the north side. It also has a lancet window.

The side elevations of the church are divided by buttresses, and have the same narrow segmentally arched windows as seen on the facade.

Inside, the roof is supported by decorative hammer beams. The ceiling is divided into panels with a flat star motif created by slim stop-chamfered timbers. It is quite similar to the design used at the Carmel Welsh Church.

Sunday School

The former Sunday School is a small building with minimal setback from the footpath. It is gable-fronted with a gabled front porch. The foundations are rock-faced basalt. The walls are constructed of a handmade brick with dark-burnt headers in English bond, while the dressings to the diagonal corner buttresses and very simple Tudor arched window label moulds are of cement render.

Atop the bricks is a layer of smooth, unruled render, which appears to be an alteration. A second layer of sloppy, sprayed-on roughcast render was used to cover the building in the post-war period.

For a school, the building does not have much natural light. There is a small window in the face of the front porch, and three larger windows on the south elevation. The north elevation has an external chimney at the centre, flanked by two blank windows. The chimney is quite fine, narrowing to a square shaft above the eaves, and then transitioning to an octagonal shaft with a cement render 'cornice'.

The front porch has an entrance door and bluestone steps on either side. The southern doorway retains its Tudor-arched ledged and framed timber door.

The rear of the Sunday school has a recent brick lean-to attached to it. This replaced a timber lean-to, which was taller. Its height is indicated by the remnants of two beams, and by the use of very soft orange bricks below this point, while harder brick like that used on the church is visible above.

The roof was reclad during the post-war period with cement tiles, most likely replacing slate.

Hall

A large weatherboard hall, with a corrugated metal roof and casement windows, stands to the rear of the church. This structure comprises a main hall with a corrugated roof and casement window, with a lower extension at its southern end and a small entrance porch to the north. This is now approached via a modern brick and concrete access ramp along the building's western side.

At the rear of the buildings are two mature *Ulmus procera* English Elm which date from the nineteenth century.

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/>