
Stained Glass Window at Malvern St. George's Anglican Church



Malvern St Georges Anzac
1926

Location

Glenferrie Road, Malvern, STONNINGTON CITY

Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

Level of significance

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Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Heritage Study/Consultant	Vic War Heritage Inventory - Stained Glass Memorial Windows Study, Bronwyn Hughes, 2013;
Architect/Designer	Montgomery, William,
Hermes Number	196889
Property Number	

Memorial Window References & Acknowledgements

Church of England Messenger, Vol.53, No.846, 18 February 1921, p.85; 8 November 1923, p.638; *The Graphic*, 4 December 1915; *Argus*, 14 November 1927, p.14. Pencil sketch of window, William Montgomery Collection, State Library of Victoria.

Memorial Window Subject

Crucifixion / Anzac

Memorial Window Text

n/a

Memorial Window Inscription

Greater love hath no man than this

Memorial Window Description & History

As the immediate horror and grief generated by the Great War diminished, it was possible for mourning relatives and friends to accept the human image of the fallen Australian soldier instead of a symbolic representation of his heroic qualities. However, the image of the soldier remained relatively rare in religious settings before the Second World War. The source for this window, which included the Australian soldier at the foot of the Cross, was a painting by the English artist, James Clark, *The Great Sacrifice*, a copy of which was given to St. George's Malvern in 1921. When the new memorial chapel dedicated to St. Martin was opened in 1923, the picture was hung next to the Honour Roll.

The stained glass artist, William Montgomery interpreted the image with thought and sensitivity, replacing the English soldier in the original painting with an Australian Anzac. Notes on his original sketch give some insight into other changes, such as the enlargement of the ruins in the background to emphasise the destruction caused by war. It seems that window was not unveiled until 13 November, 1927 when His Excellency the Governor of Victoria, Lord Somers, accompanied by Lady Somers, attended the morning service and performed this ceremony in the soldiers' memorial chapel.

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/>