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# John Knox Presbyterian Church

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## Location

60 Victoria Street, RIPPLESIDE VIC 3215 - Property No 218955

## Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO1180

## Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

C Listed - Local Significance

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Knox Presbyterian Church complex at 60 Victoria Street, North Geelong, has significance for its associations with the Presbyterian Church in North Geelong from 1918, when the Church building was situated on the corner of Melbourne Road and Vautier Street (and had been constructed as the Congregational Church before 1910). The Church complex also has significance as examples of the Federation Carpenter Gothic style and interwar Hall Bungalow style (Church and hall buildings respectively), and as a altered example of the Late Victorian style (manse). These buildings appear to be in good-fair condition when viewed from the street.

The John Knox Presbyterian Church building at 60 Victoria Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. It demonstrates original design qualities of the Federation Carpenter Gothic style. These qualities include the simple gable roof form that traverses the site, together with the minor porch gable that projects towards the street frontage. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the single storey height, horizontal timber weatherboard wall cladding, galvanised corrugated steel roof cladding, narrow eaves, ventilation stacks, narrow round-arched timber framed double hung windows (including the small window in the gable porch) and the timber framed doorway. The neighbouring interwar hall building also contributes to the architectural significance of the place.

The John Knox Presbyterian Church manse at 60 Victoria Street is architecturally significant at a LOCAL level. Although altered, it still demonstrates some original design qualities of a Late Victorian style. These qualities include hipped roof form, together with the skillion verandah that projects towards the Bay. Other intact or appropriate qualities include the single storey height, horizontal weatherboard wall cladding, corrugated profile to the roof cladding, two unpainted brick chimneys with concrete bands and cappings, narrow eaves, symmetrical central front composition accentuated by the central doorway (with sidelights and highlights) and the flanking timber framed double hung tripartite windows, and the other timber framed double hung windows at the rear.

The John Knox Presbyterian Church complex at 60 Victoria Street is historically significant at a LOCAL level. It is associated with the development of the Presbyterian Church in North Geelong from 1918 when the Church building was situated at the corner of Melbourne Road and Vautier Street (then known as Shannon Street). It had been built before 1910 for the Congregation Church who sold it to the Presbyterian Church and relocated to its Melbourne Road site in 1919. The Church hall has long associations with the North Geelong Presbyterian Church, being constructed on the former Church site in Melbourne Road in 1925. The manse has associations with the Presbyterian Church from between 1915-1920, when the building was a private residence at 127 Melbourne Road. All three buildings were relocated to their current site in 1929, as a result of the widening of the Melbourne Road. The church complex then became known as the John Knox Presbyterian Church.

The John Knox Presbyterian Church complex at 60 Victoria Street is socially significant at a LOCAL level. It is recognised and highly valued by some sections of the North Geelong community for religious reasons.

Overall, the John Knox Presbyterian Church complex at 60 Victoria Street is of LOCAL significance.

#### REFERENCES:

- Electoral Roll (Div. Corio; Sub-div. Geelong North) 1984, Geelong Historical Records Centre.  
Sands & McDougall's Directory of Geelong, 1972, Geelong Historical Records Centre.  
Sands & McDougall's "Invicta" Geelong Directory, 1968, Geelong Historical Records Centre.  
Geelong City Council Rate Books (Villamanta Ward), 1905-1960, Geelong Historical Records Centre.  
Town Plan of Geelong 1881, Geelong Historical Records Centre.  
Trustee Records 1879-1977, Item 13, North Geelong, Geelong Historical Records Centre, Record no.319.  
Anderson, D.S. & Smith, E.H., Faith through the years 1934-1984, Geelong Historical Records Centre.  
Presbytery of Geelong - Reports and Submissions Item 10: Redistribution of Geelong Churches 1910-1911, Geelong Historical records Centre, Record no.229.  
Presbytery of Geelong - Inwards & Outwards Correspondence, Item 110 - North Geelong 1975, Geelong Historical Records Centre, Record no.230.  
Oral information supplied by former parishioner, Alison Reid.  
Letters & other archival documents of the Presbytery of Geelong, Presbyterian Church Archives, 156 Collins St., Melbourne.  
Presbytery of Geelong Minutes 1918-1928, Presbyterian Church Archives, 156 Collins St., Melbourne.  
Notice of sale, St. Helen's Estate, 15 October, 1910, Geelong Historical Records Centre.

Heritage Study/Consultant Greater Geelong - Geelong City 'C' Citations Study, Dr David Rowe, 2002;

Hermes Number 21073

Property Number

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## Physical Description 1

## DESCRIPTION:

The John Knox Presbyterian Church complex at 60 Victoria Street, North Geelong, comprises a timber Church building, a timber Church hall building, and a timber Church manse at the rear (north). The complex is set on a corner allotment and the front of the Church building is largely characterised by concrete paving, with an introduced wire mesh fence (approximately 1800 mm high) along the Victoria Street boundary. There is a concrete footpath and perimeter garden beds between the Church and hall buildings.

### Church Building

The single storey, horizontal timber weatherboard, Federation Carpenter Gothic styled Church building is characterised by a simple gable roof form that traverses the site, together with a minor porch gable that projects towards the street frontage. These roof forms are clad in red-painted galvanised corrugated steel. Narrow overhangs are features of the eaves. Some round galvanised steel ventilation stacks adorn the roofline.

An early feature of the design is the narrow round-arched timber framed double hung windows (including the small window in the gable porch). Another early feature is the timber framed doorway.

### Church Hall

The single storey, horizontal timber weatherboard, interwar Hall Bungalow styled building is characterised by a gable roof form that traverses the site, together with a minor gable porch that projects towards the street frontage. These roof forms are clad in red-painted galvanised corrugated steel. An early galvanised steel ventilation stack adorns the roofline. Wide overhangs with exposed timber rafters are features of the eaves.

Other early features of the design include the timber framed double hung windows, timber framed doorway under the projecting porch gable, and the timber gable ventilator.

### Church Manse

Behind the Church and hall buildings is an early timber residence that overlooks Corio Bay. The single storey, horizontal weatherboard, Late Victorian styled house is characterised by a hipped roof form, together with a skillion verandah that projects towards the Bay. There are also an introduced c.1950s fibro cement addition to the south, and an introduced c.1920s gabled addition projecting towards Victoria Street. The roof forms are clad in introduced corrugated Colorbond. There are two early unpainted brick chimneys with concrete bands and cappings, which possibly date from the early 20th century (c.1900-1920), suggesting the this Victorian styled building was relocated to this site during that period. Narrow overhangs are features of the eaves.

The early front section of the house (that overlooks the Bay) has a symmetrical composition accentuated by the early central doorway (with early sidelights and highlights) and the flanking timber framed double hung tripartite windows. The timber framed double hung windows of the central section at the rear also appear to be early. However, the timber verandah columns and cast iron valance have been introduced, as has the timber framed and aluminium framed windows on the side additions.

There is also an early skillion timber shed between the Church hall and the house.

*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/>*