
St Francis Xavier Catholic Church

Location

1022-1030 Portarlington Rd, LEOPOLD VIC 3224 - Property No 267396

Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO1587

Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

C Listed - Local Significance

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

St Francis Xavier Catholic Church , built beside the now demolished Catholic school, was opened in 1873 and the octagonal belfry was added in 1878. It is a steeply gabled slate roof Decorated Gothic structure of rendered brick with diamond paned leadlight windows and interior timber panelling.

St Francis Xavier Catholic Church has aesthetic, historic and social value to the Curlewis district community.

This well proportioned Decorated Gothic church with good integrity is surrounded by cypress trees. The church and its ceiling demonstrate important picturesque visual qualities. The establishment of the Catholic school and St Francis Xavier Catholic Church together illustrates the strength of Catholicism in the area. The Church, which was in continuous use for over 100 years, has had a major religious and social association with the rural Curlewis community since 1873. It is the sole remnant of the once active agricultural community which existed at Curlewis. It is of LOCAL cultural significance.

References

Hill, R *Catholic Life on the Bellarine Peninsula* p. 5

Wynd, I (1988) *Balla-Wein - A History of the Shire of Bellarine* p. 101

Hill, R. op. cit. p6

Wynd, I op.cit. pp101-2

ibid, p 166

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Geelong - Bellarine Heritage Study, Huddle, Howe, Lewis and Francis, 1996;
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	21625
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

DESCRIPTION

A relatively intact steeply gabled slate roof, Decorated Gothic church c.1870 built in brick and later cement rendered. It has diamond paned leadlight east and west windows of three and four lights respectively, and an octagonal belfry to the southwest. The front porch has a slate roof and interior timber panelling to a metre and a half. Both the porch and the church have timber ceilings. There is a small rear room and the building is surrounded by large cypress trees.

The knotted pine floorboards are believed to be original.

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/>