
St Mary's Roman Catholic School and former Church and camphor laurel tree



St Mary's Roman Catholic Church Complex, Hobsons Bay Heritage Study 2006

Location

Corner Railway Street North and Sargood Street ALTONA, HOBSONS BAY CITY

Municipality

HOBSONS BAY CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO265

Heritage Listing

Hobsons Bay City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is Significant?

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church complex, comprising the church and school constructed in 1950 and the associated Camphor Laurel Tree, at the corner of Railway Street North and Sargood Street, Altona.

How is it Significant?

St Mary's Roman Catholic Church and School complex, Altona is of local historic, social and aesthetic significance to the City of Hobsons Bay.

Why is it Significant?

Historically, it is significant as evidence of the population explosion in this part of the City after World War 2 that was largely due to immigration. (AHC criteria A4 and B2)

Socially, it is significant for its strong associations for the many former school children and their parents because of its external integrity to its construction date and hence a relatively long period of social involvement in the Altona area. (AHC criterion G1)

Aesthetically, it is significant as a rare example of a Catholic School and Church in the Spanish Mission style. (AHC criteria B2 and E1)

Heritage Study/Consultant Hobsons Bay - Hobsons Bay Heritage Study, Hobsons Bay City Council, 2006;

Hermes Number 22244

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Located at the corner of Sargood Street this complex is a late example of the Spanish Mission architectural style, with typically evocative Spanish/Italian influences such as the hipped roof bell tower, and textured stucco walls. The timber framed windows are multi-paned and the hipped roofs are tiled with Marseilles pattern terra-cotta tiles. The former church section is presumably that wing which has clerestory lighting and side aisles, west of the bell tower.

The camphor laurel (*Cinnamomum camphora*) relates to the building period. The former Williamstown Academy of Music building is not evident in the complex today.

Integrity

External Condition

Good

External Integrity

High

Physical Description 2

Context

Sited facing the railway and surrounded by suburban development.

Historical Australian Themes

Educating, Establishing schools

Physical Description 3

Associations

Roman Catholic Church.

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/>