

## St Josephs Catholic Church



November 2003. Source: Lorraine Huddle Pty Ltd.



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St Joseph's Catholic Church Complex, former School



Meredith Catholic Church  
Source: "The Stepping Stone : A History of the Shire of Bannockburn" by Derek Beaurepaire. P127



St Joseph's Catholic Church Complex, Meredith, outbuilding



St Joseph's Catholic Church Complex, Meredith, presbytery



St Joseph's Catholic Complex, Meredith, Church from north-west



St Joseph's Catholic Church Complex, Meredith, church entrance



Extent map

## Location

28 Lawler Street MEREDITH, GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Municipality

GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO133

## Heritage Listing

Golden Plains Shire

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 25, 2009

What is Significant?

St Joseph's Catholic Church Complex, 31 Lawler Street, Meredith is located on the east side of the town. The timber church was built in 1890 and was designed in a simple 'Carpenter' Gothic style. The builders were Smith Bros. and R. Dudderidge. The present church replaced an earlier timber church which had been used intermittently as a denominational school since 1860. A second school was built in 1912 and used until 1970 when it became a parish centre. The cream brick presbytery, the third to be built, dates from 1961. The architect

and builder were Alex McDonald and John Vanstan who also altered and extended the church in 1966. *Cupressus macrocarpa* (Monterey Cypress) surround the site although some have been removed. The buildings are intact, retain an excellent degree of integrity and are in good condition. The Parish of Lethbridge and Meredith, which still includes several other settlements, celebrated its centenary in 1975.

How is it Significant?

St Josephs Catholic Church is of historical, architectural and social significance to the Golden Plains Shire. The presbytery is of historic and social significance and the hall is of aesthetic significance only.

Why is it Significant?

St Josephs Catholic Church Complex is of historical significance as a relatively late church, reflecting the continuing prosperity of the Meredith district in the late nineteenth and mid-twentieth century. The church is of social significance for reflecting the relative wealth and sense of community of the Catholics in the area. The church is of architectural significance for its simple 'Carpenter' Gothic style.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Golden Plains - Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study Phase 2, Heritage Matters P/L, 2009;
Hermes Number	23638
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

St Josephs Catholic Church complex includes the church, St Josephs School, a small timber hall and the presbytery, a 1960s cream brick residence. The complex is located on the eastern side of McLeod St at 31 Lawler St. The church is timber and in the 'Carpenter' Gothic style with a small porch with a leadlight window, transepts, a square apse, a prominent red corrugated iron roof and the windows have triangular 'arches'. The interior of the church is substantially intact and its integrity is demonstrated by the internal spaces, the roof structure, coved ceiling, timber wall linings, flattened arch openings to walls, windows, light fittings, furniture (pews) and ecclesiastical fixtures and fittings. These elements are of aesthetic, historic and social value. The land comprises the whole of Section 9 of the Township of Meredith but the significance and curtilage of the buildings is limited to Allotments 1, 2, 3 and 10.

## Historical Australian Themes

The Australian Heritage Commission devised the Australian Historic Themes in 2001. The following themes have influenced the historical development of the ...

8 Developing Australia's Cultural Life

8.6 Worshipping

8.6.1 Worshipping together

8.6.2 Maintaining religious traditions and ceremonies

8.6.4 Making places for worship

8.7 Honouring achievement

8.8 Remembering the fallen

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

8.10.4 Designing and building fine buildings

## **Intactness**

The church is completely intact.

## **Integrity**

The church retains an excellent integrity.

## **Physical Description 2**

Extent of Registration: To the extent of the whole of the buildings including the interior of the church, and all of the land comprising Allotment 1, 2, 3 and 10 of Section 9 of the Township of Meredith.

## **Extent of Registration**

To the extent of the whole of the buildings, including the interior of the church and all of the land comprising Allotment 1, 2, 3 and 10 of Section 9 of the Township of Meredith.

*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/>*