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# POOWONG WESLEYAN CHURCH (FORMER)



Poowong Pioneer Chapel



Poowong Pioneer Chapel

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## Location

35 NYORA ROAD, POOWONG, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO1

## Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

### What is significant?

The former Poowong Wesleyan Church, constructed by L.C. Holmes in 1878 with later additions, at 35 Nyora Road, Poowong.

### Why is it significant?

The former Poowong Wesleyan Church is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to South Gippsland Shire.

Historically, as the oldest public building in South Gippsland Shire, which was constructed only four years after land was opened for selection in Poowong, it is highly important in illustrating the initial phase of settlement and development of the Shire. As the first permanent building constructed in the Poowong area, it demonstrates the historic importance placed on religious observance in the development of the Shire. (AHC criteria - A.4 and D.2)

Aesthetically, it is the superior example of Carpenter Gothic churches in the region, displaying typical form and detail, but distinguished by its proportions and the lower than normal roof pitch which imparts a more classical appearance. (AHC criterion - E.1)

Socially, the Church, as the first public building in the township and one of the first in the Shire played a significant role in the development of the Poowong community and is an important part of the identity of the local area. (AHC criterion - G.1)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1878, 1890, 1905,
Other Names	Poowong Pioneer Chapel,
Hermes Number	30942
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

The former Wesleyan Church, at 35 Nyora Road, Poowong, built in 1878 and added to in 1890-91 is a Carpenter Gothic structure with corrugated iron gable roofs pitched at about 30 degrees. The main nave gable has lancet windows at side and front and is fronted by a gabled porch with lancet windows in the side and a square headed door at the front. A cross gable at the rear is a later addition (1890-91) and forms a transept to the nave, the floor of which slopes down in steps to the transept level. A choir gallery has been added in the west transept. The interior is finished in varnished horizontal tongue and groove lining boards, with a similarly lined coved ceiling with exposed tie beams. A sloping vertically boarded dado follows the slope of the nave.

A sympathetic new picket fence defines the street boundaries.

*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/>*