

NEW CHURCH TEMPLE



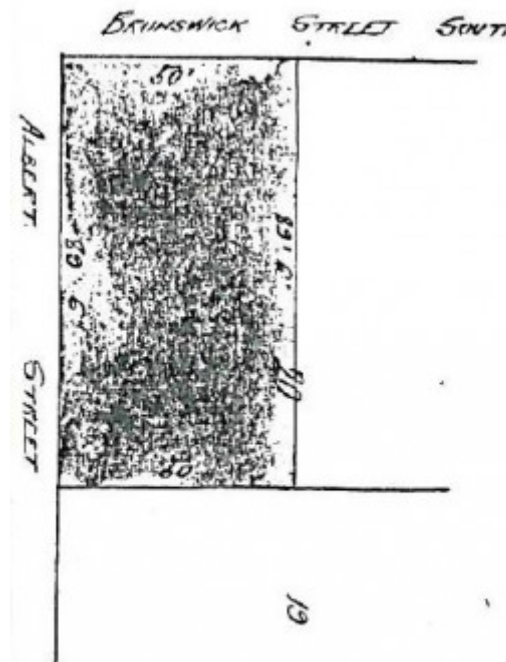
NEW TEMPLE CHURCH SOHE 2008



1 new temple church north east corner of albert street east melbourne frotn view sep1981



new temple church north east corner of albert street east melbourne memorial stone oct1990



H0852 H0852 plan

Location

2-6 MORRISON PLACE and 420-422 ALBERT STREET EAST MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0852

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO127

VHR Registration

November 13, 1991

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 2, 1999

What is significant?

The New Church Temple was built in 1872-73 in a rudimentary decorated Gothic style. The designer was the noted Victorian architect Lloyd Tayler. The builder was Freeman & Co. It was the first church erected for the Melbourne Society of the New Church (Church of the New Jerusalem or Swedenborgian). The layout consists of a single nave of rendered brick on exposed bluestone footings. Externally the New Church Temple is divided into four bays by buttresses. The main facade is composed of a Decorated Gothic window flanked directly by buttresses over a projecting porch. The stained timber trussed and lined ceiling, timber frieze and timber panelled dado all survive.

How is it significant?

The New Church Temple is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The New Church Temple is of historic significance as the first permanent church of the Swedenborgians in Victoria, and as one of only two Swedenborgian churches in the State.

The New Church Temple is architecturally significant as a rendered and therefore restrained example of church design at a time when more extravagant and elaborate polychrome was more commonly favoured. It is also of significance as an example of the work of the noted architect Lloyd Tayler, who was a designer of both conformist and non-conformist churches and who was also known to be a congregationalist of the New Church.

Construction dates 1872,

Architect/Designer Tayler, Lloyd,

Heritage Act Categories Registered place,

Other Names MELBOURNE SOCIETY OF THE NEW CHURCH, NEW TEMPLE CHURCH,
Hermes Number 349
Property Number

History

Contextual History:
 The Church of the New Jerusalem arose from the writings of Emmanuel Swedenborg (1688-1772), a Swedish scientist and mystic, who began to experience visions with angels in 1743. He turned to theology and teaching. He taught that there is a correspondence between the external universe and spiritual realities; for example that the sun's heat corresponds to the love and wisdom of God. In England the first Swedenborgian congregation was founded in the 1780s, the same year as the United States. The most important centre is now Pennsylvania.
 (From file note, with references to I A Robinson, History of the New Church in Australia 1832-1980, and J R Hinnells (ed.) Dictionary of Religions, New York 1984)

 History of Place:
 Members of the New Church first arrived in Port Phillip District in 1843. In the 1850s they met at various places, including the Temperance Hotel in Bourke Street and the Mechanics Institute (now the Atheneum) in Collins Street. The congregastion applied several times for land grants and was finally granted a site in 1872 for 1393 pounds. Loyd Tayler, a New Churchman himself, was commissioned as architect and remitted half of his 5% fee. The foundation stone was laid on 30 October 1872 and benath it was place newspapers of the day including three copies of Melbourne's New Chruch Herald, a copy of the society's rules and a short history of New Church (I A Robinson, A History of the New Church in Australia 1832-1980, p.41)
 The opening ceremony was held in March 1873. The congregation remained very small rising from only 45 in 1873 to 80 in 1880. The church was sold to the Eye and Ear Hospital in 1962.
 Associated People:

Plaque Citation

Built in 1872-73, this was the first of two Swedenborgian churches established in Victoria. Designed by architect Lloyd Tayler, the main facade has a Gothic-style window of three lights flanked by buttresses.

Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 852.

New Temple Church, Albert Street, East Melbourne.

(The whole of the Church building and fence (excluding the bookroom) and land entered in the Register Book Certificate of Title Vol. 2692 Folio 398, shown hatched in Plan A, endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.)

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G44 13 November 1991 p.3118]

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/>