

# CHRIST CHURCH COMPLEX



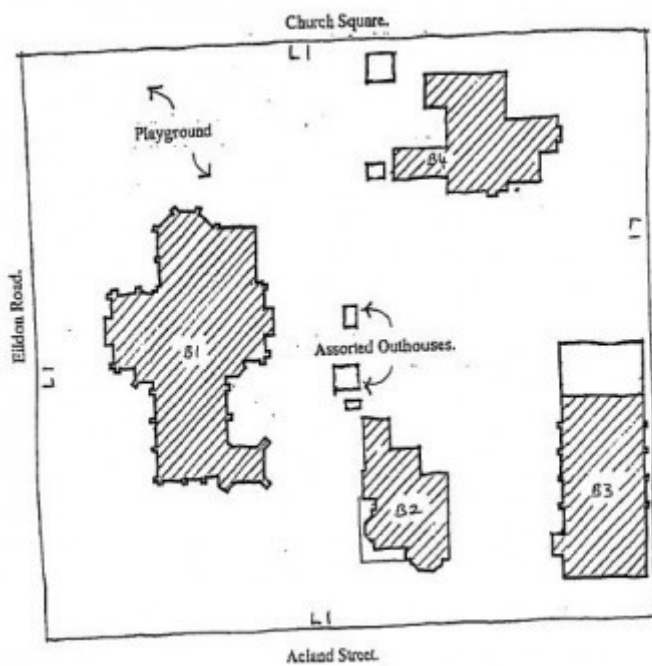
CHRIST CHURCH  
COMPLEX SOHE 2008



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1 christ church complex  
church square st kilda west  
front of church



h00996 plan h0996

## Location

14 ACLAND STREET AND 1 ST LEONARDS AVENUE ST KILDA, PORT PHILLIP CITY

## Municipality

PORT PHILLIP CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0996

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO9

## VHR Registration

December 9, 1993

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 31, 1997

The Christ Church complex, St Kilda comprises four main buildings: the church, bishop's residence, vicarage and parish hall. Christ church was constructed in 1854-57 to the designs of Purchas & Swyer and enlarged in 1874 and 1881 to the designs of Sydney W Smith. The bishop's residence was built in the 1850s as the original vicarage. In 1884 the present vicarage was constructed and the original building was used for church related activities until becoming the Bishop's residence in 1987. The parish hall, designed by Richardson and Wood Architects, was built by FJ Fair in 1914.

Christ Church, the bishop's residence, the vicarage and the parish hall are located on land granted to the Church of England in 1855 and named Church Square, a rare and significant square in the history of town planning in Victoria which demonstrates the importance of the church to the community.

All the buildings on the square are integral and important components of an ecclesiastical group which demonstrates a changing sequence of architectural styles from the early 1850s to the second decade of the twentieth century.

Christ Church demonstrates outstanding craftsmanship in its triangular rose window, said to have been modelled on Lichfield Cathedral; its lofty chancel with richly coloured wall stencilling; its timber trussed ceiling; and its fine and varied collection of stained glass which includes examples of the work of leading stained glass firms and artists in Victoria in the nineteenth and early twentieth century: Ferguson & Urie, William Montgomery and Brooks Robinson.

The material used in the construction of the church is noteworthy as rarely used undressed random coursed sandstone from Point King, Sorrento.

The western rose window is of particular note for its unusual shape. The only other similar example known in Victoria is at St Georges Presbyterian Church, East St Kilda, designed by Purchas in 1877.

The organ is an important element of the church. Built in 1859 by the noted organ builder William Hill of London and enlarged in 1916 by Meadway and Slatterie, it is the earliest documented Hill organ to be exported to an Australian church.

[Source: Report to the Minister.]

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

**Places of worship:** In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

**Subdivision/consolidation:** Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1854,
Architect/Designer	Purchas & Sawyer,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	4542
Property Number	

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## History

Associated People:

## Extent of Registration

### AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Under section 14 of the Historic Buildings Act 1981 the Governor in Council amends the Register by adding Historic Building No. 996.

Christ Church Complex  
Acland Street, St Kilda.

(To the extent of:

1. All of the buildings known as the Christ Church complex, St Kilda being Christ Church @1), the Vicarage (B2), the Parish Hall (excluding the temporary prefabricated extension to the rear of the hall) (B3) and the Bishop's

Residence (B4) (excluding all the outbuildings and the playground equipment on the site) shown on Plan 606818 endorsed by the Chairperson Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.

2. All of the land contained in Register No. 1 page 11 and Register No. 2 page 7 of the Church of England Grants, being the land bounded by Acland Street, St Leonard's Avenue, Church Square and Eildon Road marked Li on Plan 606818 endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council).

Dated 30 November 1993

Responsible Minister:  
ROBERT MACLELLAN  
Minister for Planning

DAMIEN O'SHEA  
Clerk of the Executive Council

[*Victorian Government Gazette* C48 9 December 1993 3287]

*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/>*