
St. JOHNS CATHOLIC CHURCH (FORMER)



52878 Catholic Church
Sandford

Location

11 CHURCH STREET, SANDFORD, GLENELG SHIRE

Municipality

GLENELG SHIRE

Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

Heritage Listing

Glenelg Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

St John's Catholic Church is located in an Church Street, close to the intersection of Burke Street and the Casterton-Portland Road. The church is in the Primitive Gothic Revival style. Its plan is T-shaped and it is built of red bricks, locally made. Two mature Cupressus macrocarpa (Monterey cypress) are located at the rear of the church, possibly dating from the late nineteenth century or early twentieth century. The original part of the church dates from 1866, although Catholicism was active in the township well before that time. Prior to the construction of St. John's, irregular services were conducted by itinerant priests from the Casterton parish at the Caledonian Union Hotel. The architect of St. John's is not known, but the building contractor was Jas. McCormack, a local builder. The later east-west transept was constructed after the Catholic Church sold a portion of their land to the Victorian Railways. The Church retains a high degree of integrity externally.

How is it significant?

St. John's Catholic Church is of historical, social and architectural significance to Glenelg Shire.

Why is it significant?

St John's Catholic Church is of historical significance as a representation of the importance of Catholicism within the community, and its growing popularity in the Casterton and Sandford district early after settlement in the 1860s. The church is of social significance to the township of Sandford as the focus for the Catholics who settled in the township in the mid nineteenth century, mostly small selectors of pastoral land in the mid to late nineteenth century. It is of architectural significance for its use of the Gothic Revival style to express religious values.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Glenelg - Glenelg Shire Heritage Study Part One, Carlotta Kellaway, David Rhodes Mandy Jean, 2002; Glenelg - Glenelg Heritage Study Stage Two (a), Heritage Matters, 2006;
Construction dates	1866,
Hermes Number	52878
Property Number	

Usage/Former Usage

previously a church, now privately owned

Physical Description 1

St. John's Catholic Church is a T shaped church built of hand made red bricks which have been rendered on the west side with concrete. The roofs are simple gables clad in corrugated iron, with a decorative timber detail above each opening. There are double timber doors at the eastern end of the church, as well as a door on the eastern wall of the north - south transept. Both doors and windows are timber framed in the shape of a simple Gothic arch. Some of the windows have been altered, with the original glass replaced with textured glass. These windows are in poor condition. Interior not inspected. There are two Cupressus macrocarpa (Monterey Cypress) to the west of the building, which date from about the turn of the century.

Physical Conditions

Generally in good condition

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
8.6 Worshipping
8.6.1 Worshipping together
8.6.3 Founding Australian religious institutions
8.6.4 Making places for worship

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/>