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# Former Congregational Church & Hall - Beechworth Historic Area



B0617 Congregational Church Beechworth

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## Location

Camp Street,, BEECHWORTH VIC 3747 - Property No B0617

## Municipality

INDIGO SHIRE

## Level of significance

Local

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 29, 2008

Two successive Congregational churches which are amongst Beechworth 's earlier buildings, and the earlier one especially of a distinctive character. The first church (later hall) was built c 1858 of the local granite in a primitive round-arched Georgian mode, but with picturesque decorative barge boards. It was superseded in 1869 by a brick church, which is ascribed to the architect Leonard Terry. It is most unusual as he worked mainly for the Anglicans, and very rarely in polychrome brick.

Classified: 29/07/1959

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (HISTORIC AREA)

Beechworth is a picturesque nineteenth Century provincial town. It is a well preserved example of a Government and private building, which resulted from the town's important historical role as the administrative and commercial centre of Victoria's north - eastern goldfields. Beechworth was once significant for its position on an early overland route from Melbourne to Sydney.

The town is located sympathetically to the topography, in an area of considerable landscape interest. Set amidst forested undulating country, there remain many relics of the mining era in and about Beechworth. It is a rich field for the industrial archaeology.

There are, within the town, a large number of historical and architecturally significant buildings. These display a quality of form and richness of material and detail, which make Beechworth one of the most significant of Australia's goldfield towns. Of particular interest is the common usage of local granite in construction. Its honey colour imparts a quality distinctive to Beechworth.

The highlights of Beechworth are the grid of wide streets flanked with granite kerbing; the streetscapes of considerable integrity with groups of homogeneous buildings set off by mature elms and other exotic trees; and the remnants of historic Victorian gardens. About the town there are many examples of nineteenth century street furniture, signs and fences. Beechworth's historical wealth is of national significance.

Classified: April, 1983

Other Names Tolman Gallery,

Hermes Number 68650

Property Number

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*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/>*