

BUILDING TITLE FORMER BAPTIST CHURCH  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF BALLAARAT

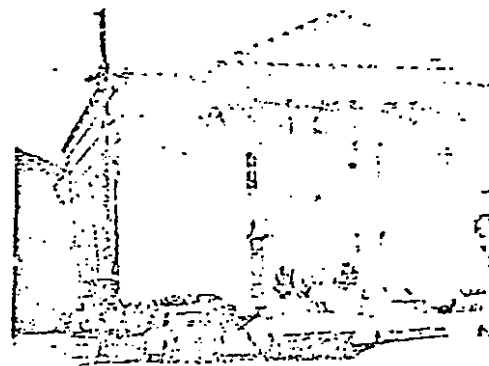
NATIONAL ESTATE PROJECT No.

DOCUMENTATION OF LISTED HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN VICTORIA

DESIGNATION H.B.P.C. REGISTER No. 107 NATIONAL TRUST (C) ☒ FILE No.

BUILDING TYPE CHURCH  
BUILDING NAME FORMER BAPTIST CHURCH  
STATE VICTORIA  
LOCAL GOVT AREA CITY OF BALLAARAT  
STREET DAWSON No. 3  
SUBURB/TOWN BALLAARAT C.B.D.  
CITY BALLAARAT POSTCODE 3350  
RURAL  
NEAREST CENTRE Km.

TITLE REFERENCE Vol Fol  
DIRECTORY  
NEGATIVE FILE FILM 6 / FRAME 5



PHOTOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION  
DATE OF SURVEY/INSPECTION JULY 1978

OWNERSHIP ORIGINAL BAPTIST CHURCH  
PRESENT J. ALWYN & K.M. HAYES/WHITEHOUSE RESTORA  
ADDRESS 6 HUTCHESON ST, HIGHTON. 3216

ARCHITECT/PRACTICE J.A. DOANE  
BUILDER  
ARTISANS/TRADES

TENDERS REFERENCE  
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION 1866-67 FOUNDATION STONE LAID 23.10.1866  
ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE £4,000 OPENED 6.11.1867  
ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS ALTERATIONS 1908; 1959.

BUILDING CITATION

<sup>66-67</sup>  
This church was constructed in 1866-87 to the design of Architect J.A. Doane for a cost of £3591. The exterior (including the classical portico) was not completed until a later date, possibly the late 1870's.

The composition consists of a fluted Corinthian giant order portico attached to a facade with unfluted Corinthian pilasters on a represented ashlar carcass. The facade has an irregular arrangement of fenestration. The entablature of the portico is very refined; the pediment itself is formed up on a timber frame in plaster.

The interior is relatively intact and of a domestic character. The floor originally sloped away to the east end, but has since been levelled.

Together with the Baptist Church in Collins Street, this building provides an excellent essay in Roman Revival church architecture. However, this building, unlike the Collins Street Church, can be viewed in its entirety without any intrusions. The building is in good condition, is relatively intact, and provides an important streetscape element.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that this building be retained on the Historic Buildings Register and the Register of the National Estate. It is recommended that it be specified under Clause 8 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Third Schedule).

## DOCUMENTATION SOURCES

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- 01 GOVERNMENT RECORDS
- 02 LOCAL GOVERNMENT RECORDS
- 03 ARCHIVES/CATALOGUES
- 04 ARCHITECTS INDEX
- 05 ARCHITECTURAL DRAWINGS/ILLUSTRATIONS
- 06 PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDS
- 07 NATIONAL TRUST FILE/ HISTORIC BUILDINGS PRESERVATION COUNCIL FILE
- 08 PRIVATE RECORDS

06 SEE REF A BELOW.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 1. SAUNDERS, D (ED) HISTORIC BUILDINGS OF VICTORIA P 215
- 2. BALLARAT HISTORICAL SOCIETY 'SPIELVOGEL PAPERS' HELD AT BALLARAT REGIONAL LIBRARY. P 52
- 3. WITHERS, W.B. THE HISTORY OF BALLARAT, BALLARAT 1887 P 272.
- 4. BALLARAT ILLUSTRATED

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## ASSESSMENT OF LISTING

CONDITION/INTEGRITY OF BUILDING SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT

SIGNIFICANCE OF BUILDING

LANDSCAPE/STREETSCAPE/ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE PART OF RECOMMENDED AREA A1.3

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DOCUMENTATION JACOBS, LEWIS VINES DATE SEPTEMBER 1978  
ARCHITECTS

FORMER BAPTIST CHURCH - 3 DAWSON STREET

BUILDING ANALYSIS AND DESCRIPTION

This church was constructed in 1886-87 to the design of Architect J.A.Doane for a cost of £3591.<sup>1</sup> The exterior and the classical portico was not completed until a later date, possibly the late 1870's.<sup>2</sup>

The classical composition consists of a fluted Corinthian giant order portico attached to a facade with unfluted Corinthian pilasters on a represented ashlar carcass. This facade has an irregular arrangement of fenestration, consisting of blind tabernacle niches in the outer bays, and arched windows capped by broken pediments rising to a slightly greater height than the outer arches. A further central tabernacle niche rises higher still. The two entrance doors are placed below the arched windows. The entablature of the portico and the building proper is very refined with dentillations and modillions running up the pediment. The pediment itself is formed up on a timber frame in plaster. The composition, with a large classical portico, resembles that of the Baptist Church in Collins Street<sup>3</sup> which has similar giant Corinthian columns and glazed niches in the outer bays.

The interior is relatively intact and of a domestic character. The arched windows have vermiculated keystones and simple Georgian glazing bars. Above is a shallow moulded frieze surmounted by a line of foliated brackets carrying a deep cornice. A plain cove with circular vents runs into the flat of the ceiling which has a panel surrounded by rosettes in the centre of which are 2 large ventilating flowers (which formerly carried gas lamps).

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1. Withers *The History of Ballarat* p.272.

2. Saunders D. (Ed). *Historic Buildings of Victoria* p.215.

3. The portico to this church was added in 1862 with Reed and Barnes as Architects.

FORMER BAPTIST CHURCH - 3 DAWSON STREET

BUILDING ANALYSIS AND DESCRIPTION

At the east end there is a tabernacle arrangement, now chopped off at the base by the levelling of the floor, which formerly sloped to its lowest at this end.

At the entrance there is a gallery which was possibly always infilled. The two pairs of double doors and the joinery is intact and varnished. From either side of the lobby rises the stairs to the gallery. The gallery itself is of interest with a screen wall which cantilevers out with timber brackets, and a solid panelled balustrade.

The consistent Classical Roman Revival detailing of this building makes it of considerable importance. The bluestone walls are visible on the side elevations; the rendered front facade has recently been painted, but this does not significantly detract from the building. Together with the Baptist Church in Collins Street, this building provided an excellent essay in Roman Revival church architecture. However, unlike the Collins Street Church, which has been built up to on either side with an intrusive shop in front, this building can be viewed in its entirety. The building is relatively intact (apart from the modification to the parapet and the paintwork) and provides a strong streetscape element. It is justly placed on the Historic Buildings Register.