

BUILDING TITLE ST. ANDREWS KIRK
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF BALLAARAT

NATIONAL ESTATE PROJECT No.
DOCUMENTATION OF LISTED HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN VICTORIA

DESIGNATION H.B.P.C. REGISTER No. NATIONAL TRUST (S) (R) FILE No

BUILDING TYPE CHURCH
BUILDING NAME ST ANDREWS KIRK
STATE VICTORIA
LOCAL GOVT AREA CITY OF BALLAARAT
STREET STURT (CNR DAWSON) No.
SUBURB/TOWN BALLARAT
CITY BALLAARAT POSTCODE 3350
RURAL
NEAREST CENTRE Km.

TITLE REFERENCE Vol Fol
DIRECTORY
NEGATIVE FILE FILM 6/FRAME 2

PHOTOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION
DATE OF SURVEY/INSPECTION JULY 1978

OWNERSHIP ORIGINAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
PRESENT UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA
ADDRESS

ARCHITECT/PRACTICE C.D. CUTHBERT.
BUILDER
ARTISANS/TRADES

TENDERS REFERENCE
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION OPENED 1864.
ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE £ 3,150
ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS TOWER AND SPIRE, 1884. C.D. FIGGIS ARCHITECT £2
ADDITIONS 1889, FIGGIS AND MOLLOY ARCHITECTS.

BUILDING CITATION

Building commenced in 1862 to the design of C.D. Cuthbert. The foundation stone was laid on 1 December 1862, and the church was opened on 15 August 1864. The spire was added in 1884, C.D. Figgis the architect and the transepts, constructed in 1889, were designed by Figgis and Molloy. In 1888 Tappin, Gilbert and Dennehy designed the Manse.

The main section of the church is of Norman design of some considerable importance. The tower is mainly a Gothic design, other than at its base. Internally the 1862 section comprises a Norman nave aisle which is rather broad in relation to the nave width. The St. Andrews complex is perhaps the major ecclesiastical landmark of Ballarat, as well as being among the most important architecturally on account of the Norman design. The tower, although of a different style, is quite elegant, and the whole design harmonious. The original Norman section is the principal architectural interest and is of statewide importance.

This building is one of the principal buildings in an important environmental area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

ON 2-1 STATION SOURCES

- 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

02 B.C.C. BUILDING PERMITS BOOK, SPIRE 3 NOVEMBER 1883.

04 ABCH 28/1/1888 - MANSE, STABLING, & FENCING.

ABCH 27/8/1889 - STONE TRANSEPT.

05. VERNON COLLECTION, FIGGIS AND MOLLOY. ADDITIONS TO ST. ANDREWS KIRK 2 JUNE 1889. -

06 BEMJ 23 NOVEMBER 1901

BALLARAT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION, GUIDE TO BALLARAT 1912

BALLARAT ILLUSTRATED INTERIOR, P55, EXTERIOR P43.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. WITHERS, HISTORY OF BALLARAT 1887 ed. p267.
2. STAR, 19 JUNE 1862
3. HISTORY OF ST. ANDREWS KIRK (PAMPHLET)
4. AUSTRALASIAN 8 DECEMBER 1906 P1353

ASSESSMENT OF LISTING

CONDITION/INTEGRITY OF BUILDING SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT.

SIGNIFICANCE OF BUILDING

LANDSCAPE/STREETSCAPE/ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE PART OF RECOMMENDED AREA A1-B

DOCUMENTATION JACOBS LEWIS VINES DATE SEPTEMBER 1978.

ARCHITECTS 334

ST.ANDREW'S KIRK, CNR. STURT AND DAWSON STREETS
BUILDING ANALYSIS AND DESCRIPTION

HISTORY

St.Andrews Kirk was established in 1854, the first service being held in a wooden shanty on Specimen Hill (now known as Eureka Street).¹ They later erected a wooden church on the present site.

In 1861 tenders were called for the erection of the extant church² and work commenced in late 1862. In June 1862 the *Ballarat Star*³ described the design by C.D.Cuthbert which has been chosen by the building committee. The finished church differs in many ways from the description due to the length of time taken to complete the church and the different firms of architects involved. The foundation stone was laid on 1st December 1862 by the Rev. W. Henderson, the Minister.⁴ During the course of construction a portion of the walls was blown down in a gale on the 3rd August 1863. The church, without spire, or transepts, was opened on 15 August 1864.⁵

The plans for the spire were lodged with the City of Ballaarat on 3 November 1883⁶. It was built the next year to the design of C.D.Figgis. Rev.Henderson died during the construction of the spire and the dark layers of stone in the pinnacles show the height to which the work had reached on 22 July, when he died,⁷ and was therefore named the Henderson Memorial Spire.

1. *The Australian* 8 December 1906, p.1353.

2. History of St.Andrews Kirk, pamphlet.

3. *Ballarat Star* 19 June 1862.

4. Withers, *History of Ballarat* p.267.

5. *ibid.*

6. City of Ballarat, Building Permits Book.

7. Withers, *loc.cit.*

BUILDING ANALYSIS AND DESCRIPTION

In 1888, Tappin, Gilbert and Dennehy called tenders for erection of a Manse, stabling and fencing.⁸ The fencing was probably for a picket fence, as the cast iron fence was not erected until after 1900. In 1889 Figgis and Molloy advertised for tenders for erection of stone transepts.⁹

The original section of the church is of a Norman design of some considerable importance, whereas the tower, other than its base of a Gothic design, is of lesser interest. The later additions, particularly the transept, are also of lesser interest.

The main entrance door (or ecclesiastical west) is one of three orders, the two outer ones with colonettes or engaged columns; the outermost has a modified scalloped capital, and the inner one a composite version of a sort of Corinthianesque capital with a scalloped capital squashed in above it. Inside again, the innermost order is a continuous bowtell mould with attached rosettes and plaques with the symbols of the evangelists, and then rising out of the arch various foliated crockets or paterae. The arch of the middle order is done in a triple chevron mould; the outermost has a big roll mould surrounded by a serrated decoration, and then outside again is a label mould consisting of a bowtell with flame like carving overlapping the cylindrical mould itself. The side or tower door is a simple version of two orders, each of shafts running up to triple scalloped capitals, and with both arches and the outer label arch all done in a chevron moulding. There is an intersecting blind arcade above the main door, a correct Norman motif is carried on various scalloped and cushion capitals; above that the three light window consists of a stilted central arch flanked by two ordinary semi-circular arches which again is correctly Norman. The same stages are less elaborately treated in the tower with an ordinary blind arcade above the door, then a circular window, then an ordinary headed window, after which the tower proper commences the upper stages of which are less deliberately Norman and of

8. ABCN 28/1/1888.

9. ABCN 27/8/1889.

ST.ANDREWS KIRK, CNR. STURT AND DAWSON STREET (contd.)
BUILDING ANALYSIS AND DESCRIPTION

somewhat lesser interest. The main nave section of the building is of a basilican form, the effect being lessened by the transpet additions of a later period. The clerestory windows and aisle windows are also ordinary circular head windows.

Internally the original section comprises a Norman nave aisle which is rather broad in relation to the nave width, and the nave arcade is rather broad so that the interior reads as one space. The arcade is supported on rather slim cylindrical shafts with Norman scalloped capitals, each carrying a plain thin abacus from which rises a plain archivolt. The continuation of the nave arcade across the transept space is a theme originating in the "H.Demetrious Salonika" and repeated in the Duomo at Pisa. The Norman theme is carried through more earnestly in the three order arch at the ecclesiastical east end.

The complex is remarkably intact; other than the demolition of the adjoining St.Andrews Institute in Sturt Street and some addition to the rear hall. There would appear to have been few changes to the complex over the past fifty years.

The St.Andrews complex is perhaps the major ecclesiastical landmark of Ballarat, as well as being among the most important architecturally on account of the Norman design. The tower, although of a different style, is quite elegant, and the whole design of the main nave and aisle, transepts and tower is quite harmonious, although of course the principal architectural interest lies in the original Norman section. It is because of this that the building is of statewide importance.

This building forms part of an important environmental area and is one of the principal buildings in it.