

**HISTORY** : There seems to have been a Congregational Church established on this site since at least 1870.<sup>1</sup> An earlier church is shown on the 1898 MMBW plan 1045, without a hall. This church was built about 1920. The builders were C. & R. Porteous.

**VISUAL DESCRIPTION** : A red brick, Early English Castellated Gothic church, with an iron gable roof. There are five bays divided by buttresses between transepts and narthex. This is a skillion between two castellated towers with squat pinnacles at corners, forming five bays. The gable parapet is decorated with an oculus ventilator and rises to a squat octagonal finial. It contains a George Fincham organ (ref : 24A). The timber hall is at 179 Kent Street.

**COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS** : There are very few Castellated Gothic churches in Victoria and these generally have a central front tower (eg. St. Johns Heidelberg, St. Peters Ballarat, Christ Church Beechworth and St. Andrews Mortlake)<sup>2</sup> and are Anglican. Other early twentieth century Mediaeval public buildings in Richmond are : 271 Burnley Street, Congregational Church, c1920 (ref : 24); 290-92 Burnley Street, former Presbyterian Church, 1925 (ref : 31); 12 Manton Street, Salvation Army, c1910 (ref : 50); 158 Kent Street (ref : 138); 469 Punt Road, Riverside Inn, c1920s (ref : 173) and FCJ convent, chapel, school and gatehouse, The Vaucluse, 1897-1904 (ref : Vol.2, pp.250-253).

**SIGNIFICANCE** : A most unusual Castellated Early English Gothic church of local historical and architectural significance.

**INTACTNESS** : Very good. The interior was not inspected.

**CONDITION & THREATS** : No longer used? (Not listed in telephone directory). The Hall appears to be derelict.

**REFERENCES** : 1. Sands & McDougall, Directories.  
2. Lewis, Miles. Ed. Victorian Churches. Their Origins, their Story and their Architecture. Melbourne 1991.