

FORMER WESLEYAN CHAPEL
300 Church Street

History and Description

Erected between 1853-4 as the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel to the design of architects Wharton and Burns, and extended by the addition of a new porch and facade designed by architects Crouch and Wilson in 1858.

In 1852 the Wesleyans ordered 30 tons of iron from Morewood and Rogers, London. The original iron roofing tiles on the Chapel could have been part of this order. In 1853 the Church Act allowed a grant of up to 3000 pounds from public funds towards a church building in stone, and thirty thousand pounds per annum was apportioned between the sects.

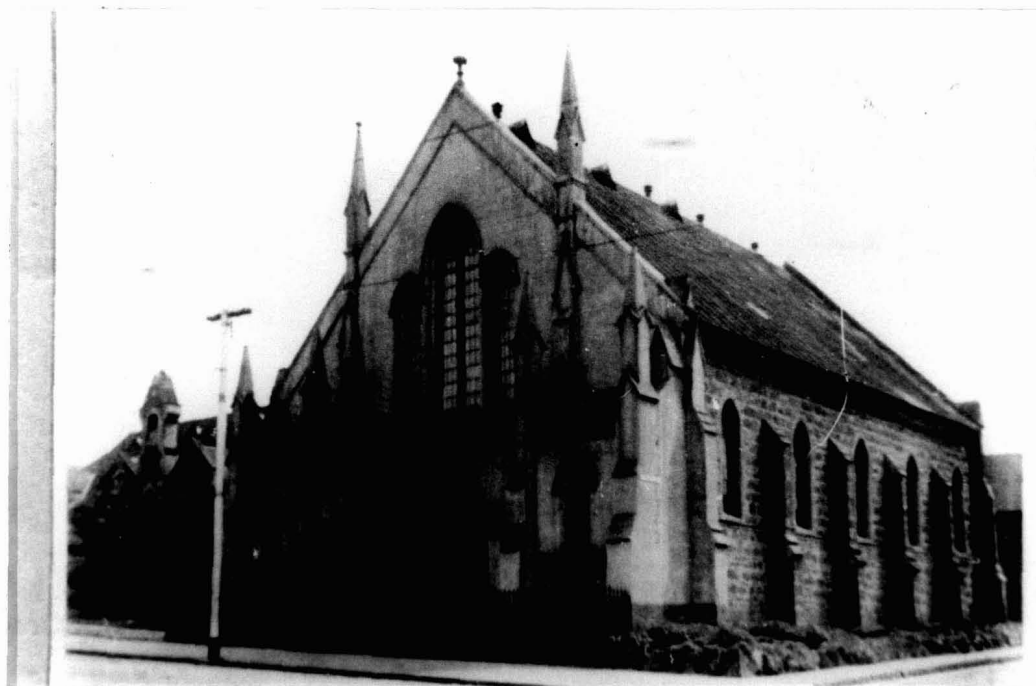
The site was donated by Henry 'Money' Miller in 1851. Built of local bluestone, the Chapel was the third constructed in Richmond for the Wesleyan congregation. The rendered facade is a notable Early English Gothic design. The interior, with the gallery of 1873, Fincham organ of 1878, choir, fine wood panelling and wall stencilling, is of high architectural importance being largely intact.

Statement of Significance

A good example of Early English Gothic church design with a splendid interior, substantially unaltered since 1873.

References

Historic Environment, Vol. 4, No. 1 1984 pp. 31,35.
National Trust of Australia (Vic.) F.N. 2891.
 National Estate Register citation.



Wesleyan Chapel, undated.
 (La Trobe Library picture collection.)