

Building:

St Joseph's Presbytery, Otter Street



Allotment Reference:

73

National Trust Register:

Historic Buildings Council Register:

Location within Precinct:

Collingwood Slope

Photo Date:

12.6.87

Grantee:

George Otter

Original Owner:

Present Owner:

Original Use:

Presbytery

Present Use:

Presbytery

Construction Date:

1903

Architect:

Builder:

Description:

An Edwardian two storeyed red brick and rendered presbytery with timber verandah to west and south elevations punctuated by arcaded brick sections in the centre of the south elevation and at the north west corner. These sections incorporate plain cement rendered banding to the walls and round arched windows and art nouveaux decoration. The south portico includes the front door with crosses above and a distinctive parapet. Roughcast walls are used in conjunction with red bricks and extend to the tall banded chimneys capped with terra cotta pots.

Condition:

Good

Integrity:

Good. The perimeter fence is an important element, along with the "phoenix canariensis". Inside, the polished timber stair case is intact.

History:

Until 1887, the Collingwood district was attended by priests from St Patricks. In that year, Fr Aylward was appointed the first resident priest, the district being declared a separate mission in 1892. Aylward had moved into a presbytery at 22 Abbotsford Street in 1888 and in 1894 the St Mary's school was erected on the site of the present presbytery with a capacity for 200 children. On 24.5.1903, the presbytery was opened on this site.

Significance:

The St Joseph's presbytery compares with other Catholic presbyteries of the period including those at Morwell and Woodend.

It is a prominent building in the Collingwood Slope precinct and is of local importance for its associations with the activities of the St Joseph's mission church.

Recommendations:

Recommended for planning scheme protection.

References:

St Joseph's Church historical notes.

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