

Building:

Former St. Georges Presbyterian
Church
215 Wellington Street



Allotment Reference:

73

National Trust Register:

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National Estate Register:

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Historic Buildings Council Register:

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Location within Precinct:

Collingwood Slope

Photograph Date:

12.6.87

Grantee:

George Otter

Original Owner:

Present Owner:

Original Use:

Church

Present Use:

Vacant with the John Barnaby
Memorial Kindergarten adjoining.

Construction Date:

1861-62

Architect:

Mr. Ireland

Builder:

Sutherland, B. Ier and Co.

299

Description:

A mid Victorian Gothic bluestone church consisting of nave and base of a spire, never completed. The lancet arched windows are located generally along the length of the nave in bays defined by buttresses. Decoration is limited to cream brick dressings and stuccoed offsets to the buttresses. The roof is slated, whilst the John Barnaby Memorial Kindergarten adjoins to the west.

Inside, the south portion of the nave was built in with office space C 1937 (?) as part of the kindergarten. The remaining portion of the nave has level "Wunderlich" ceiling linings and ventilators, stuccoed walls with ashlar markings and simple leadlight windows in lancet openings. The only decorated window is in the Rev. D. McKenzie's honour and carries an inscription which reads : "To commemorate the Ministry of the Rev'd D. McKenzie who presided over this church and congregation from 4th April, 1878 till 15th November, 1904. The pews are in situ

Condition:

Good

Integrity:

Good

History:

The foundation stone for St. Georges was laid on 23.12.1861 and the church opened on 6.4.1862.

In 1907 (?) an extension was provided immediately to the east and in 1924 alterations were made to accommodate a kindergarten. On 26.6.1937 the John Barnaby Hall and kindergarten adjoining the church in Otter Street were opened, the front portion being demolished in 1967.

Significance:

St. Georges is important as a major centre of Presbyterian mission work in Melbourne's inner areas and in this respect offers insights into the social history of the municipality. It is a major bluestone building in the city and occupies a prominent position in the Collingwood Slope precinct.

Recommendations:

Recommended for Planning Scheme protection.

References:

Gillan, M., (?) 50 Years Jubilee 1924 - 1974, 1974.
Wesleyan Chronicle, 21.1.1862.
Collingwood Observer, 29.3.1862.
The Age, 24.12.1861.
The Group Mission Advocate, Feb., 1936, vol. 9, no. 27.

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