

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Place No. 292

ADDRESS	674-680 Doncaster Road Doncaster	Last Update
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DESCRIPTION The 1889 section is a simple, gable-roofed, Early English Gothic church, with a slate roof with gable vents, a biochromatic dark brown and cream brick. The west front has three bays and the site elevations also have three bays. Each bay has a lancet window with render dressings and quasi-quoins. A render stringcourse mould continues over these, at their springing point. At the window half-height, is a double-course of cream bricks, with another band at dado height. The plinth is also cream brick. At sill level is a deep mould, in place of sills. The central west bay has been brutally replaced by a white rendered panel. It is unsympathetic in the extreme, as are the fence and planter, and the large rear extension (although this extension is much less visible).

The present church is an addition at the left. This is of red/blue brick in an almost Arts and Crafts domestic manner, it has terracotta tiles hung on a gambrel roof gable. Its domesticity could not be less at home in Doncaster road. It has nine leadlight windows, including three very fine windows by the lithographer, Alan Sumner. One has eight panels of the Last Supper, over the symbols of the four apostles and the other two are tiny and high over the sanctuary, of the Dove (the Holy Ghost) and the Lamb (Christ). It is worth gaining entry to see these alone.

This church is anachronistically deceptive in appearance. It is not from the 1920s, but the foundation stone was laid on 26 August 1956. Joseph Smith was an architect and R.J. Grills builder. The Alan Sumner windows are dated 16 May 1974.

Traffic vibration could be a threat to this church. The white panel, planter etc. detract from the significance of the church and should be removed.

The 1956 church compares with St Stephens Darebin. All of the Doncaster Churches are Early English Gothic variants. The Shire Hall has decorative similarities in bichromacy.

Condition	-	Integrity	Not known
Threats	Traffic vibration	Key elements	
Designer	Joseph Smith, Architect. R.J.		

HISTORY The present church replaced a timber chapel, originally built for the Baptists and later moved across the road to the present site in 1863. By 1889 a brick church had been built (memorial stone 19 June 1889), which was designed by Joseph Smith. This and was extended in 1956-57 creating the present building. [124]

Creation Date	1889	Change Dates
Associations		Local Themes
		6.02 - Churches

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Both churches have local significance, spoiled by the offending alterations, and is part of a group with the former Shire Hall and the Doncaster School.

LEVEL

RECOMMENDATIONS

Heritage Register Listings

Register	Reference	Zoning	Status
None Specified			

Extent

Heritage Schedule

External Paint Controls:

On VHR:

VHR Ref No:

Internal Alteration Controls:

Prohibited Uses:

Tree Controls:

Aboriginal Heritage Place:

Outbuildings or Fences:

Incorporated Plan:

Incorporated Plan Details

Description:

Conservation Management**Extra Research**

BIBLIOGRAPHY [124] Keogh, p.44