

HERITAGE CITATION REPORT

Name	Salvation Army Hall	
Address	256 Albert Street Brunswick	Significance Level 2004 ;
Place Type	Meeting House	



256 Albert St. Brunswick

Recommended Heritage Protection VHR - HI - PS -

Integrity

Altered

History and Historical Context

The Salvation Army held its first meetings in Brunswick in 1883. As such, it is the oldest organised Christian worship in Brunswick and an early purpose-built Salvation Army citadel in both in Australia and as an outpost of the English Salvation Army. The foundation stone for a new citadel was laid on present site on August 29, 1884 and the citadel opened the same year. [1] Also known as the Salvation Army Barracks, the new citadel was a single storey building, constructed mainly of brick, but with some timber construction at the rear. [2]

By 1921, there were further timber buildings at the rear of citadel, and another large brick building behind these dated 18

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March 1921. The front fence to the property was constructed of brick or masonry. [3]. In c.1927, the citadel was partly destroyed by fire. It was reconstructed and opened on 31 March, 1928. [4] Much of the 1884 building is intact and the fire may have damaged only part of the citadel.

The building is still used as the Salvation Army Hall in Brunswick.

Note: the terms Citadel and Barracks appear to be interchangeable. The current term used by the Salvation Army is Hall.

CONTEXTUAL HISTORY

The Salvation Army was established by William Booth in London in July 1865. He preached hope and salvation to the destitute, thieves, prostitutes, gamblers, and drunkards living in London's slums. By 1867, Booth had 10 full-time workers and by 1874 this number had grown to 1,000 volunteers and 42 evangelists. The volunteer 'army' was initially known as the "Christian Mission" and the "Hallelujah Army", with Booth as the "General Superintendent" or the "General". The Army began to spread its message throughout London and into other cities. They became known as the Salvation Army in 1878. [5]

The Salvation Army's first foreign outpost was America, established in 1879-1880. Next was Australia, first officially established in South Australia in 1880, then New South Wales and Victoria in 1882, Tasmania (1883), Queensland (1885), Western Australia (1890) and the Northern Territory (1940s).

Temporary Australian leadership was claimed in 1880 by John Gore who had, with Edward Saunders, established the church in Adelaide. Then Booth sent out an officer, Captain and Mrs Thomas Sutherland, at Gore and Saunder's request in late 1880. The Sutherland's brought the Salvation Army uniform to Australia, bringing with them 12 other uniforms. Within three years, 32 Officers were commissioned and 12 corps had been formed, and on the third anniversary 3,600 soldiers mustered for the grand celebrations. [6]

Major James Barker and his wife Alice arrived from England in Williamstown in 1882, sent by Booth to establish the Salvation Army "in all the colonies of the Southern Seas". By 1891, Booth-Tucker (Booth's son-in-law) wrote, "Perhaps no country has welcomed The Salvation Army with greater heartiness and offered for its operations a more congenial sphere, than has Australia." [7]

SOURCES

[1] 'Brunswick: One History many Voices', p.181

[2] c.1901: Melbourne Metropolitan Board of Works (MMBW) Field Book 1552, p. 75; 1904: MMBW Plan 96 shows a building designated with a crucifix in this position. MMBW Detail Plan 1882 indicates this building as 'Salvation Army Barracks'.

[3] MMBW Field Book 2079, pp. 133-34

[4] Plaque on front of present building.

[5] www.usc.salvationarmy.org/editorial/wbooth.htm (27/09/2004)

[6] www.salvationarmy.org.au/museum/history/foothold.asp (27/09/2004)

[7] www.salvationarmy.org.au/museum/history/church.asp (27/09/2004)

Description

Physical Description

The Salvation Army Hall was originally erected in 1884 and was partially reconstructed after fire in 1928. The front elevation appears to be based on, or may cover, the original but has been remodelled when rebuilt in 1928. The side

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elevations appear to be original and date from 1884. The age of the building is indicated on the western elevation by the bluestone foundations, brickwork with stacking marks, and the five the flat-headed windows with bluestone sills . The southern end of the building is an unusual two storey section, which is only one room in depth. At the rear of the main hall is a second red brick hall.

The front façade is painted render and has a stylized notched parapeted gable. Within the gable-end is a large sign reading 'The Salvation Army Citadel' surrounded by a relief moulding 'frame'. The sides of the front elevation are terminated with relief quoining which is currently painted a different colour (grey) to the remainder of the front façade (cream).

The front elevation features a dominant central entrance, marked by a moulded round arch, supported by plain pilasters with stylised projecting 'brackets' and a plaque reading 'This Citadel was Reconstructed after being partially destroyed by fire, and opened by Commisioner H E Whatmore on March 31st 1928. In God is our Salvation. Wm Bramwell Booth, General.'

The entrance is flanked by pairs of narrow double-hung sash windows, in plain deep recesses, marked only by a stylised relief 'keystone' above each. Beneath each pair of windows is a plaque - the left plaque is plain, the right plaque dates to the opening of the building in 1884.

There is a new brick pier and steel(?) palisade fence to the front of the property on Albert Street.

Physical Condition

Good

Statement of Significance

What is significant?

The Salvation Army Hall at 256 Albert Street, Brunswick.

How is it significant?

The Salvation Army Hall at 256 Albert Street, Brunswick is of local historic, aesthetic and social significance to the City of Moreland.

Why is it significant?

Of historic significance, as a Salvation Army Hall that has been constantly used for this purpose since its construction in 1884, that is, 120 years. Also for its continued association with the Salvation Army, the oldest organised Christian religion in Brunswick and for its early associations with the Salvation Army in Australia, the second outpost of the Salvation Army after the United States of America, and as an early permanent citadel for the Salvation Army in Australia that is still used for that purpose. (AHC Criteria A.4 & D.2)

Of aesthetic significance, as a good example of an early purpose-built Salvation Army Citadel, dating from the late nineteenth century, which although altered retains much of its original fabric. (AHC Criterion E.1)

Of social significance, as a meeting place and a place of refuge and assistance for the community for over 120 years, from its construction in 1884 to the present day. (AHC Criterion G.1)

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Recommendations 2004

External Paint Controls	-
Internal Alteration Controls	-
Tree Controls	-
Fences & Outbuildings	-
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted	-
Incorporated Plan	-
Aboriginal Heritage Place	-

This information is provided for guidance only and does not supersede official documents, particularly the planning scheme. Planning controls should be verified by checking the relevant municipal planning scheme.