

PLACE NAME: THE FORMER ABERDEEN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH
 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA CITY OF NEWTOWN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY (References)

STYLE OR PERIOD: Italianate 'Villa Rustica'

ARCHITECT(S)/DESIGN ORIGIN: John Young, architect,
 Reference: Geelong

Geelong Advertiser, 13th September 1853

BUILDER: possibly Alexander Dick

Reference:

Sutherland, A., Victoria and Its Metropolis, p.153 Vol.11

PRINCIPAL ARTISANS/ARTISTS/TRADES

Reference:

TENDER NOTICE/S: Geelong Advertiser- 13th September 1853
 Reference: 25th November 1853
 11th November 1854

DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION 1853-54
 Reference:

ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE \$5000

Wilkins, F.J. The Baptists in Victoria

SUBSEQUENT WORKS/ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS

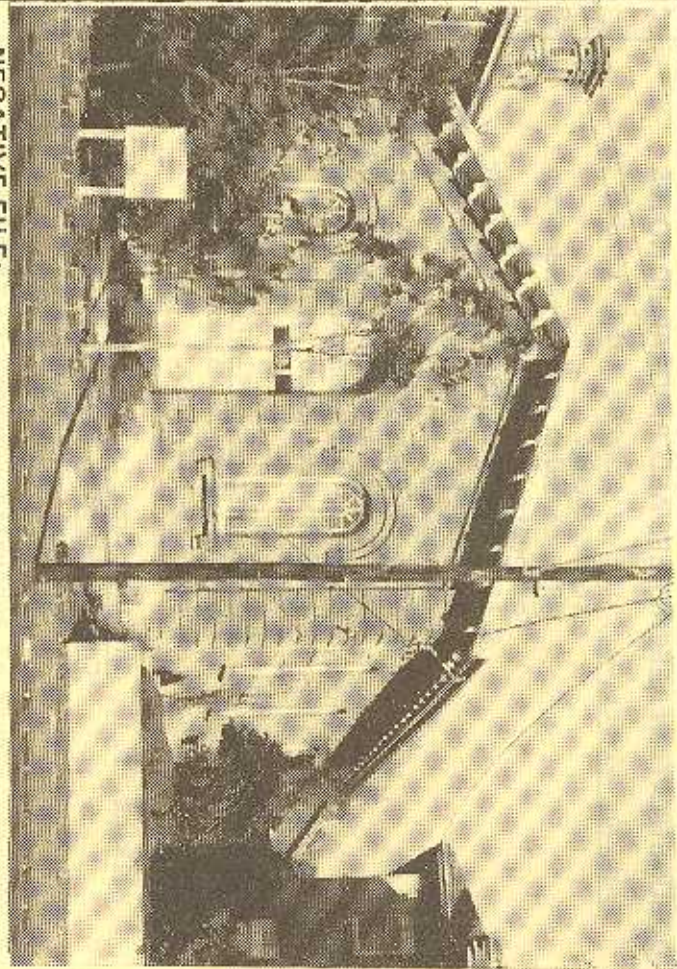
A Vestry and meeting room were added to the rear in 1856 which were later demolished and replaced. The gallery has been removed. A timber finial was removed when the roof was re-clad.

ORIGINAL OWNER(S)/OCCUPANT(S)

Aberdeen Street Baptist Congregation
SUBSEQUENT SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/OCCUPANTS

This building became the Sunday School in 1876 when the new church was built.

OTHER NOTES This church is the oldest surviving Baptist Church in Victoria outside the Metropolitan area.



NEGATIVE FILE:

Australian Heritage Commission
 Register of National Estate

National Trust of Aust. (Vic)
 Classified File No. 267

Historic Buildings Preservation Council
 Register No. 425

Geelong Regional Commission
 Register No. 102

IDENTIFICATION DATA
 PLACE NAME The Former Aberdeen Street Baptist Church
 ADDRESS 7 Aberdeen Street,
 Newtown, 3220.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA City of Newtown
TITLE INFORMATION

MAP REFERENCE

PRESENT USE Sunday School
PRESENT OWNER/LESSEE Baptist Church, C/- Rev. B.L. Baker,
ADDRESS 1 Aberdeen Street, **TELEPHONE**
 Newtown, 3220.



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DOCUMENTATION REFERENCES AND BIOGRAPHIC NOTES

Geelong Advertiser, 13th September 1853, tender for stonemasons.
 25th November 1853, tender for carpenters and joiners
 11th November 1854, tender for plasterers and joinery for gallery and pewing.
 16th September 1865, tender called by J.L. Shaw, architect, for additions; possibly the rooms which Wilkins states were added in 1856.

Brownhill, W.R., The History of Geelong and Corio Bay
Wilke and Co., Melbourne, 1955
 pp. 175-177, 267.

Wilkins, F.J., The Baptists in Victoria: Our First
Century 1838 - 1938, Baptist Union of
Victoria, Melbourne, 1939.

National Trust of Australia (Victoria), File No. 267

Aberdeen Street Baptist Church Minute Books.

Sutherland, A. Victoria and Its Metropolis, Past and
Present, 2 Volumes, McCowan, Baird
and Co., Melbourne, 1888, Vol. 2
 P. 153, biographical sketch of
 Alexander Dick. J.F.

CITATION

The former Aberdeen Street Baptist Church erected in 1853 has associations with the earliest foundations of the Baptist Church in Victoria, being erected only sixteen years after establishment of the Church in Melbourne. The Aberdeen Street Church is the oldest surviving Baptist Church in Victoria outside the metropolitan area and one which is notable for the architectural composition and quality of the masonry craftsmanship. The design derives from 1840's Italianate pattern books and is an important work of architect John Young.

SIGNIFICANCE OF PLACE

- Its creative and/or technical accomplishment.
- Its demonstration of a way of life, custom, process or function no longer practised.
- In danger of being lost or of exceptional interest.
- Its strong association with an important figure or figures, development, or cultural phase.
- Its townscape and/or landscape value.
- Its scarcity value.

SIGNIFICANCE

- LOCAL
- REGIONAL
- STATE
- NATIONAL
- WORLD

CONDITION

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS

INTEGRITY

- HIGH
- LOW
- ALTERED
- DAMAGED

RECOMMENDATIONS: PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Geelong Regional Commission Register.

DOCUMENTATION — Allan Willingham, Architect, 151 McKean St.,
 North Fitzroy, 3068. Tel: 03 489 8492.

SIGNATURE.....DATE.....