

## St. Paul's Anglican Church Complex, Inverleigh

**Address:** 38 High Street, Inverleigh

**Construction Date/s:** c.1859, 1889, 1891, 1898, 1903.

**Level of Significance:** Local

**Heritage Overlay No:** HO50



St. Paul's Anglican Church, Inverleigh, 2012.



St. Paul's Church Hall, Inverleigh, 2012.



St. Paul's Vicarage, Inverleigh, 2012.

### Statement of Significance<sup>1</sup>

#### What is Significant?

The St. Paul's Anglican Church complex, 38 High Street, Inverleigh, has significance as one of the few and earliest church building complexes in the Golden Plains Shire, comprising a distinctive and predominantly intact Victorian Early English Gothic styled church building, moderately intact Victorian styled Vicarage and rudimentary Victorian styled timber hall (albeit altered). Initially established on another site in 1858, the existing church was built in 1889 to a design by the Melbourne architect, A.E. Clarke. Stone from the original building was used in the construction of the new church that was largely funded by the generous benefactor and parishioner, Mrs Mary Moriarty. Both the exterior and interior fabric of the church are predominantly intact, including the steeply-pitched gabled roof forms clad in dichromatic slate, crowning pressed metal belfry with louvred timber arcades and bellcast spire, and the distinctive front entrance porch with unusual quatrefoil and trefoil fretwork. The stained glass windows, decorative banding with trefoil motifs above the buttresses on the east and west

<sup>1</sup> The heritage assessment criteria and format of this statement of significance accord with the VPP Practice Note 1: Applying the Heritage Overlay, revised September 2012, Department of Planning & Community Development.

elevation and the rear gabled chancel and early skillion vestry represent other significant fabric. The importance of the intact interior is borne out in the elaborate timber-lined ceiling with king post timber trusses featuring quatrefoil infill flanking the struts, hard plastered walls, decorative stencilling in the timber beams above the walls, stained glassed windows (including the elaborate stained glass chancel window added between 1937 and 1941) and the original and early furniture (including the timber pews flanking the central aisle, oak lectern, and the timber altar, rails and reredos in the sanctuary). The timber First World War Honour Board is an important addition to the interior, as is the furniture introduced in the chancel during the incumbency of the Rev. R.C. Findlay (1936-42). The original front stone portion of the Vicarage and the rear additions of 1898 (including the projecting bay on the east side) and the main gabled portion of the hall also contribute to the significance of the place. The hipped-roofed stone Vicarage at the rear of the church and the central gabled portion of the adjacent timber hall represent other significant fabric on the site.

#### **How is it Significant?**

The St. Paul's Anglican Church complex, Inverleigh, is architecturally, historically and socially significant at a local level.

#### **Why is it Significant?**

The St. Paul's Anglican Church complex, Inverleigh, is historically significant (Practice Note Criteria A & H) for its associations with the development and witness of the Anglican Church in the town since the construction of the church in 1889. Numerous clergy and parishioners have played an important role the life of the local Anglican community. Of particular importance are the associations with Mrs Mary Charlotte Moriarty of "Lullote" homestead, a parishioner and generous benefactor who funded the bulk of the church construction and the original furniture. The earliest curate and later Vicar, the Rev. Alexander Maxwell was also responsible for the building of the church and the establishment of the early gardens (now largely removed). St. Paul's Church also has associations with the Melbourne architect, Arthur E. Clarke, being his earliest-known Anglican Church design and only one of two Anglican Churches known to have been designed by him in Victoria. The St. Paul's Vicarage has associations with the original landholder and owner the site and dwelling, Dr Frederick Willders, early medical practitioner of Inverleigh between 1857 and 1861.

The St. Paul's Anglican Church, Inverleigh, is architecturally significant (Practice Note Criteria D & E) as one of the most distinctive and intact examples of the Victorian Early English Gothic styled churches in the Golden Plains Shire. The crowning tower and the front entrance porch are particularly unusual. The church building is also the earliest-known design of the architect, A.E. Clarke, and it is directly comparable with his design of St. Paul's Anglican Church, Blackburn, built at the same time as St. Paul's, Inverleigh. The Inverleigh church is the more substantial, elaborate and distinctive, given the decorative detailing, spire and front porch.

The St. Paul's Anglican Church Vicarage, Inverleigh, is architecturally significant (Practice Note Criterion D) as a moderately intact example of a Victorian styled dwelling in Inverleigh. The original hipped portion at the front, constructed of stone and featured projecting faceted bay windows, is especially reflective of the Victorian design. The rear hipped additions, including the side projecting wing with faceted bay, also make an important contribution as a legacy of the evolution of the dwelling as a Vicarage.

The timber hall, albeit altered, also makes an architectural contribution to the site.

The St. Paul's Anglican Church complex, Inverleigh, is socially significant (Practice Note Criterion G) as it is recognised and valued by sections of the local community for religious reasons, as a symbol of their faith and their history of local participation in faith education. The church interior includes a timber honour board of those parishioners of Inverleigh who fought in the First World War. This honour board therefore has commemorative value.

## **Description**

### **The Grounds**

The St. Paul's Anglican Church complex, High Street, Inverleigh is characterised by a contextually substantial allotment comprising the rendered stone church, timber hall, stone and timber vicarage, rendered garage, corrugated sheet metal tennis pavilion and a minor metal shed to the east of the hall. The grounds feature perimeter garden beds, shrubbery and trees and open grassed areas, although much of the early garden appears to have been removed. The church is accessed by a concrete footpath flanked by beds of daffodils and agapanthus. A gravelled driveway gives access to the church, vicarage and hall forming an oval layout in the centre of the site. The front of the church grounds is bound by an introduced concrete block fence to a height of approximately 1100 mm having concrete posts at the entrance to the church, and hollow steel rails. The fence on the west boundary is hollow steel and cyclone wire. At the rear of the site is the remnant tennis court and adjacent tennis pavilion.

### **The Church**

#### **Exterior**

Located on the south-west corner of the site fronting High Street, the rendered random rubble stone Victorian Early English Gothic styled church is characterised by a steeply pitched and parapeted gabled roof surmounted by a belfry with bellcast spire and a distinctive, open timbered entrance porch at the southern end. At the north end is the original gabled chancel and projecting from its east side is the early (c.1903) skillion vestry. Apart from the vestry, the roofs are clad in slate having dichromatic pattern. The vestry has a plain slate roof. Ventilation gablets project from the east and west roof faces of the nave and the roof ridgeline is capped in metal.

The nave has a five-bayed composition defined by projecting rendered stone buttresses and pointed-arched stained glass windows surrounded by quoinwork and surmounted by decorative pointed-arched label moulds. The window sills have introduced metal coverings. The bases of the parapets feature a stringcourse with a row of trefoil motifs. Further constructional decoration is identified in the corbelled gable ends with incised tracery. The rear gable end of the nave remains unpainted, revealing an early cement render finish. There is a pointed-arched door opening with vertically boarded timber door and stained glass highlight on the west side of the rear gable end.

Crowning the nave at the southern end is the belfry and spire. The square belfry appears to be clad in pressed metal with louvred timber arcades above. It is surmounted by the bellcast spire clad in dichromatic slate and capped by a cast iron directional finial.

A feature of the design is the front gabled entrance porch. Of unusual construction and detailing, it has a slate roof that is supported by square timber posts on a raised, plain, rendered base. The central bay of the front of the porch is pointed-arched and the open timbered structure has quatrefoil and trefoil fretwork. The sides have expressed square timber posts with lightweight wall cladding behind. There are bluestone steps at the front and the porch floor has original tessellated tiles. The main pointed-arched door opening to the

church has original herringbone pattern timber doors with stained glass highlights. Flanking the porch on the west side of the main gable end is the foundation stone of the original church (1858) and subsequently inscribed with information about its re-laying in 1889 by Mrs Moriarty as part of the current building.

At the rear is the chancel. It has eaves overhangs and is especially characterised by tripartite chancel window comprised of plain lancets with point-arched label moulds above. There are ventilation gablets in the roof.

Towards the rear of the east side is the early skillion vestry constructed of rendered brick. It projects beyond the east wall plane of the nave. There are two segmentally-arched timber framed double hung windows on the east elevation and pointed-arched door openings with vertically boarded doors on the front and rear elevations that also have glazed highlights. The rear elevation of the vestry is surmounted by a plain rendered brick chimney.

### **Interior**

The church interior is especially characterised by an elaborate timber-lined ceiling with king post timber trusses featuring quatrefoil infill flanking the struts. The trusses are supported by elegant plastered consoles. The walls are hard plastered above which are timber beams with early decorative stencilling. The church is lit by the bays of pointed-arched stained glass windows that are accentuated by quoinwork surrounds. There appears to be an original timber floor. The church retains its original central aisle (with introduced carpet runner) and flanking original timber pews. The pendant electric lights and the rear timber air lock appear to have been added during the interwar period. The organ towards the front of the church has also been introduced while the oak lectern on the west side is early. At the southern end is an early timber honour board to those parishioners of Inverleigh who fought in the First World War.

A central focus of the interior is the chancel and sanctuary. It is entered through a pointed chancel arch with rendered label mould. There is a narrow raised platform outside the chancel arch that appears to be original (apart from the carpet overing). The chancel is lit by the elaborate stained glass tripartite pointed-arched windows in the sanctuary, the central light depicting The Good Shepherd, with the west window depicting St. Paul preaching at Athens and the east window the Apostle Peter at the Lakeside of Galilee. The timber altar, rails and flanking reredos are original features. Other chancel furniture was introduced during the ministry of the Rev. R.C. Findlay (1936-42).

### **The Hall**

The hall is situated on the east side of the church site, towards the High Street frontage. The single storey, late Victorian styled timber weatherboard building has an elongated, gable roof form clad in corrugated sheet metal. There are plain timber bargeboards in the gable ends and timber ventilators in the gable infill. On the east and west sides are introduced aluminium framed windows (with introduced hoods) and an introduced brick chimney on the west side. At the front and rear are introduced flat-roofed additions, the front addition partly comprising an entrance porch. There is an introduced aluminium framed window in the front wall.

### **The Vicarage**

The original portion of the Victorian styled single storey rendered stone Vicarage is the hipped roofed structure at the front (south), with the rear minor hipped wings forming a central valley. The roofs are clad in introduced corrugated sheet metal with original rendered chimneys with corbelled tops on the east and west sides. The post-supported bullnosed return

verandah has been introduced, probably in 1898 as the timber verandah brackets are reflective of other contemporary work of the architects, Laird and Barlow. There is weatherboard and cement sheet cladding and louvred windows comprising infill on the side (west) end of the verandah. The original symmetrical composition of the front portion of the dwelling is evident in the central original door opening (with original transom) and flanking faceted timber framed eight-paned double hung bay windows with raised rendered stone sills. On the east side is the extension of 1898 clad in timber weatherboards.

Connected by a box gutter at the rear of the original dwelling is the hipped roofed addition of 1898. The addition has an L layout and the roof is clad in introduced corrugated sheet metal with bluestone and horizontal timber weatherboard walls and early rendered chimneys. On the east side is a projecting faceted bay window of rendered bluestone construction with timber framed double hung windows and bluestone window sills. To the rear of the projecting hipped wing on the east side is a later skillion addition clad in timber weatherboards. The windows at the rear of the dwelling have been altered.

## History

Relevant Historical Theme (to Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study Stage 2 Thematic History)

- Sub-theme 7.3: Worshipping

### Early Development of Inverleigh

The early pastoral settlement of Inverleigh was established as a result of the Derwent Company's runs of the 1830s and 1840s. The Derwent Company laid claim to 26,000 acres of land in the Portland Bay District. At Inverleigh from 1837 was the Weatherboard Run that traversed both sides of the Barwon River. In 1854, a crown survey for the layout of the Inverleigh township was completed and in the following year of 1855 it was officially proclaimed. Initially a gravel ford provided access across the Leigh River until a permanent bridge was built in 1853. High Street became the primary route into and out of the township and it boasted Hewitt's Hotel (built 1865), Mechanics Institute (built 1866) Inverleigh Hotel (built 1876), Presbyterian Church (built 1861) and numerous shops and dwellings. The first State School was established in 1856 and it was replaced in 1872. In the Golden Plains Shire Heritage Study Stage 2, Heritage Matters Pty Ltd state that "Inverleigh owed its development as one of the 'principal town centers' not only to 'its location on the roads to the Woody Yaloak goldfields and Western District but also to the intense pastoral and agricultural efforts of its settled population." By 1919, the population of Inverleigh was 350, but by 1931 it had fallen to 250 and the town remained the same until at least the 1950s.

### Early Years of the Church of England at Inverleigh

In 1858, a Reader was appointed to take charge of the Church of England presence in the districts of Inverleigh, Murgheboluc and Wabdulla. It was at this time when 2 acres of land was granted to the Church of England by the Crown on Phillips Road outside the Inverleigh township for the purpose of establishing a church and school. Tenders for carpenters for a proposed stone Church of England School building were called on 4 March 1858. The building was soon erected at a cost of £500 including fittings. It was opened on October 1858 by Archdeacon Stretch of Geelong. In 1888, it was recognised that the church was too distant from the town centre and that "a more commodious structure was necessary."

### The Building of St. Paul's Anglican Church

The property of the Estate of the late Dr Frederick Willders was acquired in High Street by early 1889. Comprising 1 acre of land with residence on the north-east corner of High and Newman Street (opposite the Presbyterian Church), the Melbourne architect (and Anglican), A.E. Clarke,

was commissioned to prepare a design of the new church building. Stone from the original church was used in the construction of the new rendered masonry building, as outlined the St. Paul's Church of England Centenary Celebrations 1858-1859' booklet by the Rev. R.C. Findlay: "A working-bee was held to demolish the old Church near the Cemetery. The carpenters first took out the windows and other fittings, and then a bar was put into the window apertures, and the horses pulled the walls down. Farmers had brought their wagons, and four horses, and the stone was carted to the site of the present Church." Additional stone was quarried from Mr Jack Pell's property at Inverleigh. On 3 July 1889, tenders were called for stonemasons and builders in the *Geelong Advertiser* newspaper. The contract was awarded to Mr Stevens, whilst the carpenters were Messrs. Arthur and Tom Alderson, Fred Hawse (apprentice) and Jim Dale. The plumbers were brothers Messrs. William and Alfred Freeman. The Clerk of Works was the local, George Peel. According to the Rev. Findlay, "when reading the specifications, [he] noticed that the architect had not mentioned the binding of the courses of rock together with hoop-iron, and so he told the architect that unless the hoop-iron was used, 15" crosswise every 3 feet, and long lengths along the courses, he would not consent to supervise the work."

Costing approximately £1200, the bulk of the construction (£1000) was covered through the generous donation of Mrs M.C. Moriarty of nearby "Lullote" homestead. She re-laid the foundation stone on 16 July 1889 and the *Geelong Advertiser* reported on the impending ceremony a day earlier: "On Thursday ... the foundation stone of the new church is to be laid. The ceremony will be performed by Mrs Moriarty in the presence of the clergy of the Geelong rural deanery and several of the missionaries." The event was also reported in the Church of England Messenger in August 1889.

The completed St. Paul's Church of England was opened for worship on 2 February 1890 by the Archbishop of Melbourne, the Right Reverend Dr. Field Flowers Goe, D.D. Most of the furnishings, including the organ and reredos and central timber panel in the sanctuary, had been donated by Mrs Moriarty. Details of the impending opening and personnel involved in the construction of the church were given in the *Geelong Advertiser* on 30 January 1890: "The Bishop of Melbourne is at present at Flinders enjoying his annual holiday. The first duty His Lordship will do on his return is a most pleasant one, and is in the Geelong district, namely, open the handsome new church at Inverleigh on Sunday next. The new building, which is of stone, and of Gothic design, is an exceptionally fine one, and has been called by good judges 'a model country church.' It is at any rate well worth a visit. The architect is Mr Arthur E. Clarke, of Melbourne: the stonemasons, Messrs Stephens and Daws, of Geelong; the plasterers, Messrs McGee and Davies; the plumbers, Messrs Freeman: the slater, Mr Pittock; the painters and art decorators, Messrs Smith and Aitchison, all Geelong tradesmen, and well and faithfully they have done their work. The stained windows were the work of Messrs Rogers and Co., of Melbourne. The furniture and fittings by Messrs Bennett and Co., and Mr Cullis Hill, of Melbourne."

A few months later on 7 March 1890, the *Church of England Messenger* described the new church as being "very handsome and commodious", built of stone and measuring "about 80 ft. in length, and 29 ft. in width, with a lofty roof and a noble channel [sic.] arch."

Twelve months after the opening of the church, a consecration service took place on 12 February 1891, once the construction costs had been paid. *The Argus* newspaper gave the following description of the service:

“Last night the Bishop of Melbourne consecrated the new Church of St. Paul, Inverleigh. The foundation stone was laid on 15 July 1889 [sic.] by Mrs Moriarty. The building is Gothic in architecture, is constructed of stone, and is 80 ft. in total length by 36 ft. in width. The Bishop, who was accompanied by his senior chaplain (Canon Goodman), was received at the porch by the incumbent (the Rev. A. Maxwell), the trustees and guardians of the church. The Bishop congratulated the people of Inverleigh upon the possession of such a handsome church and of the organ given by a friend in commemoration of the consecration. The organist (Miss Willis) [niece of Mrs Moriarty] and choir fulfilled their parts of the service remarkably well.”

### **The Windows**

All the windows in the church were originally installed with identical coloured leadlight. It appears that the northern windows allowed too much light to enter the church interior and so it was for this reason that Mrs Moriarty commissioned the timber reredos and timber panel in the sanctuary to reduce the glare.

In 1937 under the Rev. R.C. Findlay, the chancel was restored and the first of three decorative stained glass windows were installed in the north end. The work of Brooks Robinson and Co. of Melbourne, the first (centre) light depicting The Good Shepherd was installed in memory of Mrs Mary Charlotte Moriarty (1820-1912). The second (left) light was added in 1939 in memory of Colonel Richard John Findlay O.B.E., Knight of Legion of Honour (1870-1939), as a gift of his son, the Rev. R.C. Findlay, Vicar of St. Paul's. This window depicted St. Paul preaching at Athens. The final (right) light was added in 1941. It depicted The Apostle Peter at the Lakeside of Galilee and it was erected in memory of the Rev. Alexander Maxwell (1856-1933). A context for the design of the windows was given by Dr Bronwyn Hughes, Stained Glass Consultant in 2008 as follows:

“The first window was the Good Shepherd (1937) measuring 156 ¼” x 2/ ¾” central panels of an existing three-light window. It was taken from the same cartoon as used earlier for St. Paul's, Bendigo in 1930 with the addition of a Vine ornamental border. This was also a three light window, possibly of similar proportions. The two side lights were releaded at the same time as the centre light was installed.

In 1939 the left hand light, next to the Good Shepherd was replaced with the figure of Paul Preaching, also taken from a cartoon used for St. Paul's Bendigo in 1927. The same Vine design was used for the ornamentation, and a symbolic image, the Book & Quill, inserted in the top. It was common practice, particularly among the commercial firms, to reuse cartoons and the same cartoon was used again, with variations, at St. John's, Highton, and at Berwick.

The right hand light of St. Peter still has me puzzled. I have been through my transcript of the Brooks, Robinson & Co. job books but there is no sign of the third window. BR&Co took their last pre-War window order on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1940 and the books did not reopen until 1<sup>st</sup> December, 1945. But it is possible that they did a clandestine trade, or that men in their employ fulfilled the orders as ‘foreigners’ on the side. Many of the craftsmen joined the armed services and therefore they were short staffed. This would account for the difference in style (most noticeable in the face of St. Peter) of this last order.”

### **Other Changes to the Church**

It would appear that before the mid 1920s, a skillion, rendered-brick vestry with chimney was added to the north-east corner of the church. It is shown in the background of a photograph of the Vicarage garden taken in the 1920s. The vestry addition may have been added in 1903

as the St. Paul's Church Minutes record the Rev. Maxwell referring to Mr. Laird, architect, in relation to necessary repairs for the church.

Repairs were made to the church in 1936. It was also at time when a carved oak Altar was donated by the Misses Peel in memory of their father and mother (the late Mr and Mrs William Peel). Colonel R.J. Findlay also presented a brass cross in memory of his son's induction at St. Paul's, as well as a name board.

A special appeal was made in c.1937 for the redecoration and repair of the church to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of St. Paul's in 1938. The works included the 're-decoration' of the exterior and interior of the church, painting of the tower and the laying of new carpet. It may also have been at this time when the timber air lock was installed at the south end of the interior. The cost of the improvements was £170.

In the 1950s in anticipation of the Centenary in 1959, a Restoration Fund was established. Repairs were made to the church, with £500 spent on the exterior, including the roof, and £350 used for internal redecoration.

### **Important Figures in the early history of St. Paul's Church**

St. Paul's Church has been served by numerous clergy and church members who have made lasting contributions to its life and witness. Two key figures are as follows:

#### **Mrs M.C. Moriarty**

Mrs Mary Charlotte Moriarty (1820-1912) came to Inverleigh in 1854, where she joined her brother, Henry de Crillon Berthon at "Lullote" homestead. She was the widow of Captain Sylverius Moriarty, a British Army officer and barrister. Known as 'a lady of strong character', Mrs Moriarty was a keen philanthropist and in addition to being a generous benefactor in the building and furnishing of St. Paul's Church, she also gave an annual picnic to which the whole town was invited. In 1958, the Rev. R.C. Finlay gave an account of the annual event:

"The annual picnics by Mrs. Moriarty are still remembered by many. The site was near Native Creek, on Woolbrook Station, near where Mr. Kershaw lived afterwards. The congregation, including a great many children, gathered early. Baskets containing books for those children who had regularly attended Sunday School for 8 months of the year, and other with presents for those not so regular, were on the picnic site, also prizes for the many races to be staged. When the coach bringing Mrs. Moriarty swept up at 11 a.m., there were three hearty cheers, and the picnic began by the Sunday School Superintendent throwing buns over the children's heads. There was a bran pie for the children in a wash-tub, and the mothers were given trinkets. As well as the gifts the luncheon and tea were all provided by Mrs Moriarty."

Upon her death in 1912, Mrs Moriarty's funeral at St. Paul's included a mile-long cortege of coaches following her horse-drawn hearse.

#### **Rev. A. Maxwell**

The Rev. Alexander Maxwell (1856-1933) commenced as Curate at St. Paul's in 1889 and after two years he became the first Vicar of the Church in 1891. Under his guidance, the existing church was constructed which had an average attendance of 80 people. A keen gardener, he established the Vicarage garden where there were many visitors. He remained as Incumbent at St. Paul's until 1902 and in 1938 he was fondly regarded for 'his financial ability and wonderful energy.'



### **The Hall**

The timber hall to the east of the church was built in 1891 at a cost of £80. The gabled building featured a minor gabled porch at the front as shown in a photograph of the 1920s. In 1963, given the disrepair of the hall, a Geelong architect was commissioned to design a replacement building. As the cost of the proposal was high and funds raised being insufficient, the Rev. Leslie Bond sought further opinion about the restoration of the hall. It was subsequently repaired with extensions added at the front and rear.

### **St. Paul's Vicarage**

On 10 March and 27 June 1859 respectively, Dr Frederick Willders purchased Crown allotments 9 and 10 in Section 6 of the township of Inverleigh. A four-roomed stone cottage was erected on the rear allotment (lot 10). Dr Willders was born in Stamford Barton, Northamptonshire, England, in 1827 and qualified with an M.R.C.S.E. in 1851 and an M.D. from St. Andrews in 1855. In the following year, 1856, he came to Geelong with his wife from Blackfriars, Surrey, on the 'Clasmerden'. On 4 August 1856, the *Geelong Advertiser* reported on the forthcoming Mechanics Institute program where Dr Willders was to lecture on the anatomy and physiology of the stomach.

It is known that Dr Willders had relocated to Inverleigh by 1857 as in May of that year his wife died (his servant being the informant). In 1858, Willders attended to the Russell family at Golf Hill and on 8 October 1860 the *Geelong Advertiser* also reported him residing at Inverleigh. This might suggest that his dwelling was built in c.1857 (although he had not formally acquired the land until 1859). In 1861, Willders was listed in the *Geelong and Western Districts Directory* as a medical practitioner at Inverleigh. It was at this time when Dr Willders gave evidence at the Meredith Police Court in relation to the charge on Thomas Shuttler of maliciously killing two horses, as detailed in *The Argus* newspaper (4 March 1861). It appears that it was also in 1861 when Dr Willders returned to England as he was not listed in the Directories at a time when medical registration became compulsory. He died in London on 29 January 1865 of Carcinoma Ventriculi as reported in the *Geelong Advertiser* on 25 April 1865.

In 1864, the Australian Medical Pioneers Index lists Dr William Henry Jenkins (1831-1875) from Surrey, England, as the residential medical practitioner at Inverleigh. Shaun Schroter in 'St. Paul's Church of England Vicarage' (Conservation Analysis Report) states that "it might also be considered that Dr. Jenkins set up his first practice in Inverleigh because of some prior connections with Dr. Willders back in England" although there is no documentary evidence in support of this claim. Jenkins soon relocated to Shelford in 1867 and then to Hamilton in the same year. He toured Europe between 1870 and 1872 before returning to Hamilton. From 1874, Jenkins had established a medical practice at 103 Collins Street, Melbourne. He died of alcoholic poisoning in 1877.

The earliest-available documentary evidence listing the Church of England as the owner of Dr Willders' land is in 1876 where the Rate Books list Mr George H. Kirk, an early Reader under the Archdeacon, as owner of a 'house and land.' In 1889, the Rev. Alex. Maxwell was listed as owner.

In 1898, St. Paul's Church commissioned the Geelong architects, Laird and Barlow, to design extensions to the Vicarage. Tenders were called in the *Geelong Advertiser* on 3 March of that year for stone additions. The works included a bluestone dining room with projecting bay window on the east side, bathroom addition on the east side of the original dwelling under the encircling verandah that also appears to have been added at this time (the form and detailing

being similar to other late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century designs of the architects), and a rear kitchen and scullery wing.

In 1955, during the incumbency of the Rev. V.L. Cohen, the bathroom was relocated from the east side under the verandah and in 1968 a toilet addition was made at the rear in preparation from the new incumbent, the Rev. H.D. Scott.

Between 1989 and 1990, the Vicarage remained vacant and it came into disrepair. The Bishop of Geelong, Rev. Baynton, supported the repair of the building and Westcoast Designs of Geelong were engaged to prepare designs for alterations to the interior. Peter Utrecht was commissioned to provide a structural report. Repairs and upgrading were subsequently carried out.

### **The Grounds**

From the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the church grounds were bound by a timber picket fence having curved bays and expressed timber posts, as shown in early photographs. Within the grounds was a church stables building (for horses of the congregation) and vicarage stables. It would appear that these outbuildings were constructed about the time of the building of the church. These outbuildings fell into disrepair and in 1941 it was proposed that they be removed and sold. The vicarage stables remained and the purchase of a car by the Vicar in 1926 brought about the conversion into a carport.

The landscaping of the church grounds appears to have been improved during the incumbency of Rev. Maxwell between 1889 and 1903. An enthusiastic gardener, photographs of 1910 and 1925 show the garden in maturity. Shaun Schroter in 'St. Paul's Church of England Vicarage' claims that "the garden portrayed in both photographs seem[s] to maintain a strong symmetrical theme, with gravel pathway defining the garden layout. A picket fence, along with rock edging to the garden beds, can be seen in the later photograph." In addition, a tennis court was laid out behind the church before the 1920s (it is shown in a photograph of the 1920s). This court was replaced with a new court in the same location in 1937 by voluntary labour. It would appear that a skillion galvanised corrugated steel tennis pavilion was built on the west side of the court at this time.

### **Comparative Analysis**

#### **A.E. Clarke & the Church of England at Blackburn**

Arthur Edward Clarke was born at Exeter, Devonshire, England and articled to John Haywood (who was the nephew of the eminent English architect, Sir Charles Barry). In Melbourne, Clarke worked for Grainger and D'Ebro and in 1885 he commenced his own architectural practice. Apart from St. Paul's Church, Inverleigh, Clarke is known to have designed only one other church in Victoria, being St. Paul's Anglican Church, Blackburn. Clarke was a guardian of the Blackburn church that was established on 26 July 1889. It was also in July 1889 when Clark submitted a design for a new Church building that was built at Blackburn in the following year.

Contemporaneous with St. Paul's, Inverleigh, Clarke's design of St. Paul's Anglican Church at Blackburn was very similar to that at Inverleigh. It featured a steeply-pitched and parapeted gable roof form clad in slate, with rendered wall construction. The main gable end had almost identical tripartite lancets with label moulds as the Inverleigh Church, although the front gabled porch was of a more rudimentary and conservative design. The Blackburn Church also lacked the crowning belfry and spire of the Inverleigh building.

### **Other Churches in the Golden Plains Shire**

The Leigh Presbyterian Church represents one of 28 surviving churches in the Golden Plains Shire (see Schedule to the Heritage Overlay). The most comparable with the St. Paul's Church, Inverleigh, is the St. Paul's Anglican Church, 10 Grantley Street, Linton. Built in 1862, it has rendered wall construction and is designed in a similar Victorian Early English Gothic style. The church has a steeply-pitched gabled and parapeted roof with a minor gabled entrance porch at the front. There is a pair of lancets in the front gable end and the apexes of the main gable ends are crowned with crosses. Of interest are the paired pointed-arched window openings on the side elevations. The roof tiles have been introduced.

### **Other Church Complexes in the Golden Plains Shire**

St. Paul's, Inverleigh, represents one of only four church properties in the Golden Plains Shire comprising more than a single church building. St. Paul's, Inverleigh, is the earliest-surviving church, hall and vicarage complex in the Shire. The other complexes are:

- St. Joseph's Catholic Church complex, Meredith. It features a timber church (built 1890), timber hall (built 1912 and relocated to the site in 1990) and a cream brick presbytery (built 1961).
- St. Paul's Church of England Church and hall, Linton. St. Paul's Church was built in 1862 and at the entrance to the site is the church hall built of unusual concrete block constructed erected in 1919.
- St. Peter's Catholic Church and Presbytery, Linton. St. Peter's Church was constructed in brick in 1914 and the neighbouring Presbytery in 1920.
- St. Andrew's Uniting Church and Manse, Meredith. St. Andrew's Church was erected in brick as a Presbyterian Church in 1923, with the neighbouring timber Victorian manse relocated from another site in 1893.
- Church of Epiphany Anglican Church and Hall, Meredith. The timber church building was constructed in 1913-14 to a design by Alexander North, architect. The timber hall was built in 1954-55 as St. John's Anglican Church at Lethbridge. It was relocated to the Church of Epiphany site at Meredith in 1985.

### **Condition**

Overall, St. Paul's Church is in fair-good condition. There is evidence of deterioration in the roof slates, wall cracks and drummy render. The spire and belfry have weathered and there is evidence of damp build up on the walls, buttresses and window sills under the introduced cappings. Internally, there is evidence of both falling and rising damp.

### **Integrity**

St. Paul's Church is predominantly intact. The exterior and interior largely reflect the original (1889) design, with the vestry being a significant early addition.

St. Paul's Hall is of low integrity. The original design has been compromised by the flat-roofed additions at the front and rear in 1961, and the replacement aluminium framed windows and the introduced brick chimney.

St. Paul's Vicarage is of moderate integrity. The original (c.1859) has been altered by changes over time, although the additions of 1898 make an important contribution to the evolution of the building as part of St. Paul's Church. The skillion additions at the rear have no heritage value.

## Recommendations

### Heritage Overlay Schedule Controls

External Paint Controls:	Yes (church building only)
Internal Alteration Controls:	Yes (church building only)
Tree Controls:	No
Outbuildings and/or Fences:	No
Prohibited Uses May Be Permitted:	Yes

### Extent of Heritage Overlay

It is recommended that the heritage overlay apply to the whole site.

### References

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A. Watson, *Lost & Almost Forgotten Towns of Colonial Victoria: A Comprehensive Analysis of Census Results for Victoria 1841-1901*, Angus B. Watson, 2003, p.262, 404.

### Historic Photographs



St. Paul's Anglican Church, late 1890s. Source: S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



St. Paul's Anglican Church, late 1890s. Source: S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



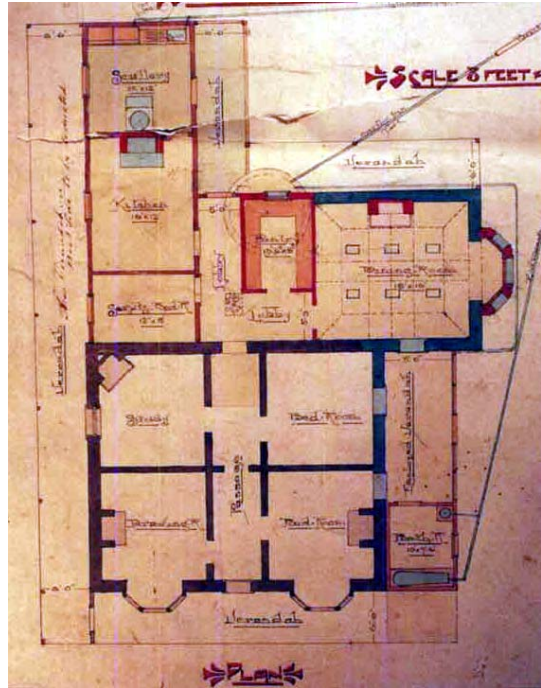
St. Paul's Vicarage garden, 1920s, showing the vestry addition to the church in the background. St. Paul's Anglican Church, late 1890s. Source: S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



Rear view of St. Paul's Church showing the tennis court, 1920s. St. Paul's Anglican Church, late 1890s. Source: S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



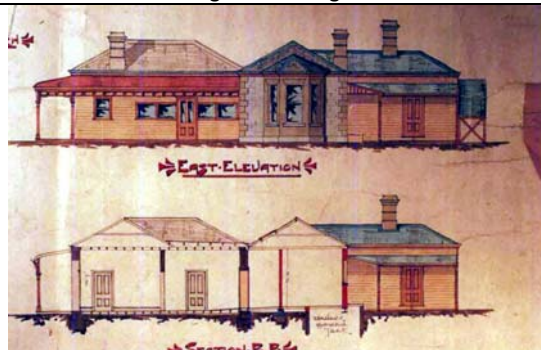
St. Paul's Vicarage, early 1900s. S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



Laird & Barlow, Floor Plan showing additions to St. Paul's Vicarage, Inverleigh, 1898. Source: Geelong Heritage Centre & S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



Laird & Barlow, South elevation drawing of t. Paul's Vicarage, Inverleigh, 1898. Source: Geelong Heritage Centre & S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



Laird & Barlow, East elevation and section drawings of t. Paul's Vicarage, Inverleigh, 1898. Source: Geelong Heritage Centre & S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



St. Paul's Hall, 1920s. Laird & Barlow, South elevation drawing of t. Paul's Vicarage, Inverleigh, 1898. Source: S. Schroeter, 'St Paul's Church of England Vicarage'.



St. Paul's Anglican Church, rear elevation.



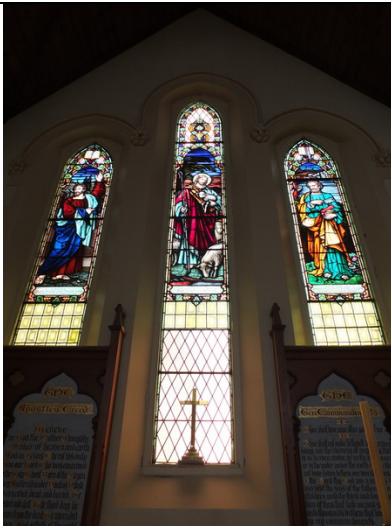
St. Paul's Anglican Church, east elevation.



St. Paul's Anglican Church interior, looking north towards the chancel



St. Paul's Anglican Church interior, looking south towards the entrance.



Detail of chancel window and portions of the reredos.



Timber Honour Board to volunteers of the First World War.



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St. John's Church of England, Blackburn, n.d.  
Source: Whitehorse Historical Society, image 7247.

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