

Victorian Heritage Database place details - 12/12/2019

CHURCH OF CHRIST



Location:

275 LATROBE TERRACE GEELONG, Greater Geelong City

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number: H1123

Listing Authority: VHR

Extent of Registration:

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 1123.

Church of Christ, corner La Trobe Terrace and Little Myers Street, Geelong, City of Greater Geelong.

Extent:

1. All of the building known as the Church of Christ, excluding the attached hall, marked B-1 on Plan 606035 endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
2. All of the land described in Memorial No. 637 Book 545 marked L-1 on Plan 606035 and endorsed by the Chairperson, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.

[Victoria Government Gazette No. G47 30 November 1995 p.3350]

Statement of Significance:

The Church of Christ was built in 1858 by Fullager, Hagery & Co. to a design by the architectural firm Backhouse & Reynolds. The bluestone building in Early English Gothic style was built for the Free Church of England and was originally known as the Trinity Church. The Church of Christ acquired the building in 1914.

The Church of Christ, Geelong is of architectural and historical significance to Victoria.

The church is historically significant for its associations with Church of England congregations in Victoria. It has importance in religious history as the only surviving example of a Free Church of England in Victoria. The Free Church of England was formed in England in 1844 and a congregation established in Geelong in 1857. Although the church followed the moral and doctrinal precepts of the Anglican Church, it believed in freedom from Episcopal jurisdiction in other matters, especially regarding the choice of minister for a congregation. The church also has religious associations with the Church of Christ, a denomination with both British and American origins, introduced to Victoria in 1853 and established in Geelong in 1857.

The church is architecturally significant as an extraordinary example of the Early English Gothic style of architecture. Although the building displays characteristic features such as lancet windows and a spire in simple broach form, it also includes highly distinctive elements such as the seven transverse gables and the extremely squat tower.

The building is historically significant for its association with the prominent army captain and the first police magistrate of Geelong, Foster Fyans. Fyans was one of the founders of the Free Church of England in Geelong and instigated the purchase of land for the congregation.

Heritage Study	
Year Construction Started	1858
Architect / Designer	Backhouse & Reynolds
Architectural Style	Victorian Period (1851-1901) Gothic Revival
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place
Municipality	["GREATER GEELONG CITY"]
Other names	TRINITY CHURCH
History	