



Moreland City Council

Victorian Heritage Database Report  
**ST PAUL'S ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH**

---

**Location:**

562 SYDNEY ROAD,, COBURG VIC 3058 - Property No 38405

**Heritage Status / Level of Significance:**

Included in Heritage Overlay

**Heritage Overlay Number:** HO168

**Listing Authority:** Merri-bek City

**Statement of Significance:**

St Paul's Church is of local historical and architectural significance. It is a rare Gothic revival church built by the prominent architectural firm of Reed Smart & Tappin and it became the historic focus of the Catholic faith in Coburg and the northern suburbs. It is the principal component of the St Paul's complex and it has the longest nave of any church in Coburg.

**Description**

St Paul's Church is a red brick gothic revival building with a tower at the south-west corner, topped with a metal-clad spire and a crucifix. The multiple gabled roofs are slate. The brick parapets and window openings have cement rendered dressings. The west elevation has a round leadlight window above a triple-arched entrance porch

The plan is a full Latin cross. Notable elements include large brass doors, and a wagon-headed ceiling supported by richly-moulded principals springing from carved corbels. Diagonally-laid Kauri panelling forms some of the interior lining.

The surrounding garden includes some mature trees, in particular cypresses.

Landscape: The significant landscape around St Pauls Catholic Church consists of mature trees.

Two rows of Bhutan Cypress (*Cupressus torulosa*) are located on the north and west boundary lines of the churchyard. Two mature specimen trees, an Elm (*Ulmus procera*) and an Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*), are located on the southern side of the church.

The remnant trees are of local interest as they provide a contemporary setting with the church. They form a

prominent local landmark on the Sydney Road frontage. Whilst this style of planting is typical of churchyards from this period, it is not commonly seen in the City of Moreland.

Key Architectural Elements: face red brick tower with full Latin cross plan with very long nave

Mature plantings, including cypresses

Conservation Guidelines: remove protective covering from west window

Principal Historic Themes: establishment of permanent places of worship

Heritage Study / Consultant	Moreland - City of Coburg Heritage Conservation & Streetscape Study, Timothy Hubbard Pty Ltd , 1991; Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999
Construction Date Range	1894 -
Architect / Designer	Reed, Smart & Tappin
Municipality	MERRI-BEK CITY
Other names	
Hermes number	59112
Property number	38405

*This place/object may also be State heritage listed. Check the Victorian Heritage Database. For further details, contact the local Council or go to Planning Schemes Online*