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# H V McKay Memorial (Presbyterian) Church



1574 - Brimbank City Council  
Post-contact Cultural  
Heritage Study 1989



McKay Memorial.JPG



Site 043 - HV McKay  
Memorial Presbyterian  
Church.jpg

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## Location

120 Anderson Road, SUNSHINE VIC 3020 - Property No 43

## Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

## Level of significance

Incl in HO area contributory

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO054

## Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 13, 1989

### Individual place statement of significance::

The H.V. McKay Memorial Church is of regional historical, architectural and social significance as an important church distinguished by its strong historical associations with H.V. McKay (Australia's leading manufacturer) and his company town of Sunshine. Completed by 1928, the church was to the design of Raymond Robinson, who was the architect of the Sunshine Harvester office buildings and of much of the McKay estate housing. This brick church, with cement dressings, although conservatively designed, is the most substantial church to be built in the

present City of Brimbank during the late 1920s. It is a prominent landmark, sited at the heart of the settlement of Sunshine, the 'garden suburb', developed by H.V. McKay, in the early years of the 20th century. It combines with a number of other McKay-related places to provide a significant precinct associated with his works and residential estate which is unequalled, as a surviving and recognisable concept, elsewhere in the State.

**Precinct statement of significance::**

The McKay housing subdivision is of national historical and social significance as the first stage of the suburb created by Australia's leading industrialist and a milestone in the development of the industrial suburb, under the influence of the Garden City movement. Sunshine became a yardstick for planning and housing reformers, with H.V. McKay being regarded as an expert on planned industrial housing. The McKay estate is of regional architectural significance as it marks a crucial phase in the development of Sunshine, housing the resident work force which promoted further industrial development.

The estate is also of historical significance in relation to H. V. McKay's important role in the history of industrial relations in Victoria and Australia, as the provision of housing for his workers was one of the arguments made by McKay in defending the Basic Wages Case which lead to Justice Higgins' "Harvester Judgement".

The group of houses along Forrest Street, Ridley Street, Sydney Street, King Edward Avenue, Anderson Road, Talmage Street and Kororoit Street, represent the type of houses built either by or for company employees, foremen and managers. The houses include major remnants of the large blocks allotted to senior staff of the Sunshine Harvester Works. Most of the houses were set back on their blocks with side drives, rather than rear service lanes, giving an air of spaciousness and permitting large gardens (of which some remnants survive).

Heritage Study/Consultant	Brimbank - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study, G. Vines, 2000;
Construction dates	1926,
Architect/Designer	Robinson, J Raymond,
Hermes Number	105918
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

### Description

Conservative but picturesque Gothic revival design, executed in face red bricks with cement -rendered and moulded detail, including capping to the gables and buttresses, bartizan elements, string moulds, arcaded friezes on the tower and four spirelets to the tower corners. The roof is clad with slate. The design employs two entries, one to the base of the tower and the other under a gabled porch. Flying buttresses flank the central Gothic-inspired, traceried west window. The church is also notable for its many memorials, stained glass and interior fittings, many recognising members of the McKay family. The grounds of the church are unusual in that they integrate with the adjacent H.V. McKay Memorial Gardens. There are two prominent Canary Island date palms at the frontage, a brick pier and pipe fence, some remnant related shrubs, and the original layout is relatively intact.

## Physical Conditions

## Condition/integrity

The church is in good condition and, with its grounds, retains a high standard of integrity.

## Historical Australian Themes

8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.6 Worshipping

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*