

## HOLY TRINITY ANGLICAN CHURCH COMPLEX



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CHURCH COMPLEX SOHE  
2008



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13944 Holy Trinity Church  
Coleraine 4Sept06 east  
facade3



13944 Holy Trinity Church  
Coleraine 4sept06 belltower



13944 Holy Trinity Church  
Coleraine 4Sept06 rectory  
north2



H0246 Holy Trinity Church  
Coleraine 4Sept06 south east  
exterior2



H0246 Holy Trinity Church Coleraine plan

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## Location

61-63 CHURCH STREET COLERAINE, SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0246

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO125

## VHR Registration

March 8, 2007

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 6, 2006

What is significant?

The foundation stone for Holy Trinity Church, Coleraine was laid on 8 February 1865 by the Rev. Dr Francis Thomas Cusack Russell and the first service held on 4 November 1866. In 1850 the Irish-born Rev. Dr Russell was sent by the Bishop of Melbourne to the District of Wannon, a large area stretching from Hamilton to the South Australian border extending to Heywood in the south and Chetwynd to the north. He was the first Anglican minister to be stationed so far inland and was responsible for establishing churches in Casterton, Merino, Henty, Digby, Branhholme, Hamilton and Coleraine. A parsonage was built at Wannon with donations from pastoralists including his friend and supporter Samuel Pratt Winter.

Built to a design by Hamilton architect James Henry Fox, the church is in the Gothic Revival style with a nave of four bays, a south aisle added later and subsequently altered, a vestry and a polygonal apse used as a chancel. The building's foundations are bluestone and the walls constructed of the local freestone with mouldings, quoins and other architectural details in dressed sandstone quarried from Tahara. The chancel was built in 1877 as a memorial to Rev. Dr Russell and in 1887 the height of the tower was extended and a set of eight carillon bells installed from John Warner & Sons London.

The west wall includes five simple lancet windows with early stained glass and a ventilator above shaped as a nimbus with timber louvres. The windows were donated by Samuel Pratt Winter in memory of his cousin Benjamin who had died at Murndal in 1844. The three windows in the chancel *The Nativity*, *The Crucifixion* and *The Resurrection* were a memorial to Rev. Dr Russell donated by local merchant George Trangmarand manufactured by Melbourne firm Ferguson & Urie. The symbolic oriel windows were by Ferguson & Urie. The brass lectern, installed in the church in 1879, was presented by Samuel Pratt Winter as a memorial to Rev. Dr Russell. Designed and engraved by the Rev Roland Herbert Cooke of Yorkshire, brother of Cecil Pybus Cooke, it features carvings of prophets and evangelists and is decorated with large agates from Bombay, bluestones from Switzerland and Derbyshire spa purple stones. The organ by Meadway & Slatterie of Melbourne was installed in 1921.

The timber, two storey vicarage was designed in the Federation Queen Anne style by the Melbourne firm of architects Ussher & Kemp and completed in January 1902 on land donated by a parishioner. It features steeply pitched rough cast and half timbered gables, dormer windows and tall chimneys. Originally the house was to have a galvanised iron roof but Samuel Winter Cooke paid for a terracotta tile roof. A marble mantelpiece from Rev. Dr Russell's Wannon parsonage was installed in the front sitting room.

The church grounds include a large *Quercus robur*, English Oak, believed to have been planted in the church grounds by local school children for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887.

How is it significant?

Holy Trinity Church Complex, Coleraine is of historical and aesthetic significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

Holy Trinity Church complex is of historical significance for its associations with the Rev Dr Francis Thomas Cusack Russell (1823-1876), a significant figure in Anglican Church history in Victoria, known as the Apostle of the Western District, and a pioneer in the establishment of the Anglican ministry in a remote corner of Victoria. The complex also has historical significance for its associations with important early settlers such as the Winter Cooke family. The church, vicarage, objects, fixtures and furnishings, many of which were donated by the Winter Cooke family and other parishioners, reflect the tradition of wealth and patronage of pastoralists and the strong links between landowners, community and church.

Holy Trinity Church is of aesthetic significance for its collection of stained glass including the five-light window in the west wall, an outstanding example of early stained glass, possibly the work of John Hardman & Co. of Birmingham, and also including one of the best examples of Ferguson & Urie's work, *The Resurrection*, located in the chancel. The lectern is also a significant example of ecclesiastical furniture demonstrating fine design skills and craftsmanship.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which

don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

**Places of worship:** In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must [notify](#) the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

**Subdivision/consolidation:** Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### **Specific Exemptions:**

**General Conditions:** 1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object. General Conditions: 2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible. General Conditions: 3. If there is a conservation policy and plan endorsed by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it. Note: The existence of a Conservation Management Plan or a Heritage Action Plan endorsed by the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria provides guidance for the management of the heritage values associated with the site. It may not be necessary to obtain a heritage permit for certain works specified in the management plan. General Conditions: 4. Nothing in this determination prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions. General Conditions: 5. Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authorities where applicable.

**Minor Works :** Note: Any Minor Works that in the opinion of the Executive Director will not adversely affect the heritage significance of the place may be exempt from the permit requirements of the Heritage Act. A person proposing to undertake minor works may submit a proposal to the Executive Director. If the Executive Director is satisfied that the proposed works will not adversely affect the heritage values of the site, the applicant may be exempted from the requirement to obtain a heritage permit. If an applicant is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that the permits co-ordinator be contacted.

**Exterior:**

Installation, repair, removal or replacement of fences and gates.

**Interior of church:**

Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of the original paint or other decorative scheme.

Removal of paint from originally unpainted or oiled joinery, doors, architraves, skirtings and decorative strapping.

Installation of damp-proofing by a method approved by Heritage Victoria.

Installation, removal or replacement of curtain track, rods, blinds and other window dressings.

Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted artworks.

Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings.

Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed.  
Installation, removal or replacement of smoke detectors.

Vicarage:

Any works to the interiors of the building, except removal of the Wannon parsonage mantelpiece.

Landscape:

The process of gardening and maintenance, mowing, hedge clipping, bedding displays, removal of dead plants, disease and weed control, emergency and safety works to care for existing plants and planting themes.

Repairs, conservation and maintenance to hard landscape elements, buildings, structures, ornaments, roads and paths, drainage and irrigation system.

Management of trees in accordance with Australian Standard, Pruning of amenity trees AS4373.

Removal of plants listed as noxious weeds in the Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994.

Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering and drainage systems.

Non-structural works that occur at a distance greater than 5 metres from the canopy edge of a significant tree, plant or hedge, (structural works may require a permit if still on the registered land).

Non-commercial signage, lighting, security fire safety and other safety requirements, provided no structural building occurs.

Resurfacing of existing paths and driveways.

Construction dates	1865,
Architect/Designer	Fox, James Henry,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place, Registered object integral to a registered place,
Hermes Number	13944
Property Number	

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## History

Holy Trinity Church Coleraine was built in 1865 to a design by Hamilton architect James H. Fox. J. H. Fox called for tenders on 24 December 1864 for a church at Coleraine. The foundation stone was laid on 8 February 1865 by the Rev. Dr Francis Thomas Cusack Russell. Construction took two years and the first service was held on 4 November 1866. Contractors were John Benson and Robert Gaskin, masons and Stephen Searle, carpenter. The chancel or apse was built in 1877 and the altar moved to the east end. In 1887 the height of the tower was extended and a set of eight carillon bells installed from John Warner and Sons London. The organ chamber and organ by Meadway and Slatterie of Melbourne were added in 1921. The brass lectern described in the *Cyclopedia of Victoria* as the most artistic feature was presented by Samuel Pratt Winter as a memorial to Cusack Russell. Designed and engraved by the Rev Roland Herbert Cooke, Yorkshire, brother of Cecil Pybus Cooke, it features carvings of prophets and evangelists and is decorated with large agates from Bombay, bluestones from Switzerland and Derbyshire spa purple stones.

The church is in the Gothic Revival style with a nave of four bays, a south aisle added later and subsequently altered, a vestry and a polygonal apse used as a chancel. The building's foundations are bluestone and the walls constructed of the local freestone with mouldings, quoins and other architectural details in dressed sandstone quarried from Tahara. The west wall includes five simple lancet windows with early stained glass and a ventilator above shaped as a nimbus with timber louvres. The windows were donated by Samuel Pratt Winter in memory of his cousin Benjamin who had died at Murndal in 1844. They have been identified as outstanding examples of

stained glass with close similarities to the work of John Hardman & Co. of Birmingham. The stained glass windows of the chancel were a memorial to Rev. Russell donated by local merchant George Trangmar. The three windows *The Nativity*, *The Crucifixion* and *The Resurrection* were manufactured by Melbourne firm Ferguson & Urie, a firm supported by Cusack Russell by ordering windows for the churches at Casterton, Digby and Merino. *The Resurrection* has been described as one of Ferguson & Urie's best examples. The oriel window in the clerestory south nave by Ferguson & Urie is one of a number of symbolic windows in the church.

Baptismal fonts: The original font was made by Mr Priest and given by him to the church. It was later given to St Peter's Tahara and then to Christ Church Wannon and finally returned to Holy Trinity. The present font was bought in 1904 with a generous legacy from the Edward Henty Estate and is a memorial to Anna Maria born 1819 and died 1901, wife of Edward Henty.

Meadway & Slatterie organ: In May 1919 due largely to the efforts of Robert Poynter a new organ was commissioned. Dr A. E. Floyd, organist at St Paul's Cathedral Melbourne drew up the specifications and supervised every detail of its construction. It was dedicated by Archdeacon Bennett on 21 December 1921.

The original pews were replaced in the 1960s. The structural soundness of the south wall became a major issue by 1990 when it was substantially modified. The chancel arch was rebuilt with deeper foundations. The south wall was removed, the foundations stabilised with concrete, a south aisle added and the wall rebuilt with modern glazing inserted. The stained glass sections of the clerestory windows were removed and inserted into the modern glass. The original slate roof was replaced by a Colorbond roof in 1990.

The architect, James Henry Fox, designed a number of buildings, including many churches in the Western District. Two of his residential works, Chatsworth House, 1858-9 (H0325) and Werribee Park 1873-8 (H1613), are included on the Victorian Heritage Register.

The two storey Federation Queen Anne style vicarage is framed in Oregon and clad in weatherboards. The irregular composition of the house is picturesque with steeply pitched rough cast and half timbered gables, dormer windows and tall chimneys. The vicarage was commenced in September 1901 and completed in January 1902 to a design by Ussher & Kemp. Originally the house was to have a galvanised iron roof but Samuel Winter Cooke paid the difference for a terracotta tile roof. A marble mantelpiece from the Wannon parsonage was installed in the front sitting room. In 1971 the front bedroom was converted into a kitchen. The kitchen originally was located at the back of the house. Extensive works were carried out in 1983 including replacing the tile roof with a lighter substitute, replastering walls and conversion of the old kitchen into a bedroom. The window of the front bay has been replaced.

Francis Thomas Cusack Russell (1823-1876) Anglican clergyman came from Ireland to NSW in 1847. Russell and another Irishman Peter Beamish were suspended by the Bishop of Sydney after they criticised him on doctrinal matters. They offered their services to Bishop Perry of Melbourne and eventually Russell was sent to the Wannon River area. He became known as the Apostle of the Western District and his parish included Heywood, Digby, Henty, Sandford, Casterton, Hamilton, Harrow, Balmoral and Coleraine. He visited each parish travelling continually until eventually a parsonage was built on the Tahara estate with the help of his supporter Samuel Pratt Winter. At Tahara on the north side of the road at the Coleraine end there is a gum tree called Dr Russell's Post Office tree where people would leave messages for him. He was responsible for building churches at Branhholme, Casterton, Coleraine, Digby, Henty and Merino.

The *Quercus robur*, English Oak, is believed to have been planted by local school children for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee in 1887. The original timber picket fence was replaced by a masonry memorial fence in 1954 and later replaced by the current concrete block fence.

### **Rev Francis Cusack Russell**

Holy Trinity Church complex is of historical significance for its associations with the Rev Dr Francis Thomas Cusack Russell (1823-1876), a significant figure in Anglican Church history in Victoria. Russell came from Ireland to NSW in 1847 and was later, along with another Irishman Peter Beamish, suspended by the Bishop of Sydney for criticising him on doctrinal matters. They offered their services to Bishop Perry of Melbourne and eventually Russell was sent to the Wannon River area. He became known as the Apostle of the Western District and his parish extended from Heywood to the South Australian border. He travelled continually around his parish until eventually a parsonage was built on the Tahara estate with the help of his friend and supporter Samuel Pratt Winter. The complex also has historical significance for its associations with important early settlers such as the Winter Cooke family. The donation of land, objects and furnishings reflects the tradition of wealth and patronage

of pastoralists and the strong links between landowners, community and church.

### **Violet Teague**

An oil painting of the Madonna and Child in triptych by Violet Teague was brought to Holy Trinity Church after services ceased at Christ Church Wannon in the 1960s and was recently transferred to the Hamilton Art Gallery. A reproduction of the painting is in the Coleraine church. Violet Teague was the sister of Dr Daniel Teague who was a doctor in Hamilton and two of his daughters Helen and Sybil were the models for the cherubs and his son Nigel (Paddy) was the Christ child.

Violet Teague, born in 1872 in Melbourne, is one of the many Australian women painters whose extensive body of work has been neglected by history until recently. She was exhibited widely during her lifetime, Teague died in 1951, with her work being included in collaborative exhibitions with her artistic contemporaries and solo exhibitions. Although her paintings were well regarded at the time, even awarded internationally, they stood apart from the mainstream and were consequently neglected in the story of Australian art. After her death, Teague's work continued to be exhibited. Her work ranged from detailed oil paintings and portraiture, Japanese influenced woodcuts, the painting of several pieces with religious themes and to working with watercolours over the course of her lengthy career as an artist.

Other examples of altarpieces:

The Adoration of the Shepherds, 1921, St. Peters Anglican Church, Kinglake West, now located, although not behind the altar, at St Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne.

Adoration of Angels, of Shepherds, of Kings, 1931 St. James the Less, Mt Eliza.

Christ at the Carpenter's Bench, 1935 for the W.J. Schutt Memorial Chapel at St Paul's Training School for Boys at Newhaven, Phillip Island. Remains in original position.

Epiphany in the Snows, 1935 formerly in the Cathedral of the Arctic Aklavik, Canada. (Destroyed).

Flight into Egypt, 1946 for Church of Christ, Carlisle River, Otways Victoria.

Additional untraced altarpiece exhibited in the 1902 Annual VAS Exhibition.

### **Plaque Citation**

The foundation stone for Holy Trinity Church, built to a design by James H. Fox, was laid on 8 February 1865 by Rev. Dr Francis Cusack Russell and the first service held on 4 November 1866.

### **Extent of Registration**

#### **NOTICE OF REGISTRATION**

As Executive Director for the purpose of the **Heritage Act 1995**, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended by including the Heritage Register Number 246 in the category described as a Heritage Place; Heritage Object/s:

Holy Trinity Anglican Church Complex, Henty & Church Streets, Coleraine, Southern Grampians Shire Council.

#### **EXTENT:**

1. All the buildings marked B1 Church and B2 Vicarage on Diagram 246 held by the Executive Director.
2. All the following objects:

Brass lectern, 1877

Original baptismal font

Baptismal font, 1904

Meadway & Slatterie pipe organ, 1921

3. All the land marked L1 on Diagram 246 held by the Executive Director being the land described in Crown Allotments 1 and 2, Section 28, Parish of Coleraine and the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 2867, Folio 285.

Dated 2 March 2007

RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette G 10 8 March 2007 392]

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*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/>*