
Stained Glass Window at St. Kilda East Caulfield Grammar School Memorial Hall



Caulfield Grammar School
Hall War Memorial window
Alan Sumner (5)

Location

217 Glen Eira Road, St. Kilda East, PORT PHILLIP CITY

Municipality

PORT PHILLIP CITY

Level of significance

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Heritage Listing

Vic. War Heritage Inventory

Heritage Study/Consultant	Vic War Heritage Inventory - Stained Glass Memorial Windows Study, Bronwyn Hughes, 2013;
Architect/Designer	Sumner, Alan,
Hermes Number	196672
Property Number	

Memorial Window References & Acknowledgements

Argus, 11 October 1946, p.3; 13 December 1950, p.7; Personal communication with Judith Gibson, Archivist, CGS 13 December 2012, 17 December 2012; Alan Sumner notes on 'The Window-...' CGS Archives; Horace Webber, *Years May Pass On... Caulfield Grammar School 1881-1981*, Centenary Committee CGS, East St. Kilda, 1981; Reg Appleford perspective drawing Caulfield Grammar School Memorial Assembly Hall, 1957, State Library of Victoria.

With thanks to Judith Gibson, Archivist at Caulfield Grammar School and Michael Robinson, Manager of the Memorial Hall.

Memorial Window Subject

Service

Memorial Window Text

n/a

Memorial Window Inscription

n/a

Memorial Window Description & History

A new Memorial Hall was being discussed in 1941, Caulfield Grammar School's Jubilee year, however war halted any progress and it was not until 1946 than an appeal for £15 000 was launched. The intention was to commemorate the lives of 150 Old Boys who lost their lives in the First and Second World Wars. By 1950 two-thirds of this vast sum had been raised and plans for a combined Chapel and Hall were drawn up by 1954. Headmaster, the Reverend Stanley Kurrle was concerned at the compromises entailed in a combined function and architect Reg Appleford prepared plans for a Memorial Hall with a huge glass wall over the entrance. Kurrle met with artist Alan Sumner to discuss the theme of the window and to relate stories of Caulfield Grammar's servicemen that might prove useful catalysts for his design. Sumner based his window design on *Service*, (although the present generation refer to the *Sacrifice* window), however he also wanted it read from spiritual, worldly and historical points of view. 'St. Michael, Patron Saint of the fighting man' was the central spiritual figure, presenting his sword to Army, Navy and Air Force servicemen. Vignettes representing wars from South Africa to Korea were strategically placed within the space, along with the badges of the armed services and the school, culminating in the symbol of Victory, the Cross and Crown. Contractors, Hansen & Yuncken successfully tendered for the building, which, by the mid-1950s, was estimated to cost £48 962. The Memorial Hall was opened by Victoria's Governor, Sir Dallas Brooks and dedicated by the Anglican Archbishop Frank Woods of Melbourne on 27 April 1958. When fire damaged part of the building on Melbourne Cup Day 2000, the window was saved, removed and conserved by Andrew and Peter Ferguson, then appropriately incorporated into the new building that opened as part of the Cripps Centre in 2005.

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.

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