
ST LUKE'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



23041 Copy of 3910 St Luke
s Lutheran Church Cavendish

Location

Bunbury Street CAVENDISH, Southern Grampians Shire

Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 23, 2003

What is significant?

St. Luke's Lutheran Church (formerly St. John's Presbyterian) is a small bluestone building with a pressed metal clad porch, located at the western end of Bunbury Street, approximately 600 kilometres north of the center of the township of Cavendish. A relocated weatherboard hall is located to the west of the church on the same site. The church was previously used as a Presbyterian Church (St. John's) until taken over by the Uniting Church in the 1970s. It continued as a Uniting Church until the Lutheran Church purchased it in 1984. Local contractors Messrs Bell constructed the Church in 1862 to a design of John S. Jenkins, an important local architect.

The church contains a single-manual pipe organ of six stops. Its make and provenance are not known but it dates from about 1860 and is of English origin. Apparently, the organ is one of the oldest remaining in the study area.

How is it significant?

St. Luke's Lutheran Church is of historical, architectural and social significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

St. Luke's Lutheran Church is of historical interest for its unusual changes of denomination since the time of its building. Although the move from Presbyterian to Uniting church was not unusual, the move to sell a church to another denomination, and change the name is unusual. St. Luke's represents the historical changes of the congregations of Cavendish. It is of historical interest as it demonstrates the waxing and waning of popularity in the Presbyterian Church and then Uniting Church between 1862 and 1984. This reflects the changing demographics of the township of Cavendish. The move to sell the church to the Lutheran congregation in the mid 1980s represents the growing popularity of the Lutheran Church, and the settlement of many families of German descent around Cavendish from the mid twentieth century. St. Luke's is of further historical significance for the single manual pipe organ, which dates from about 1860, as this is one of the oldest pipe organs remaining in the study area, which has rare script -engraved draw stops and iron composition pedals.

St Luke's is of architectural significance for its use of the Gothic revival style in a Presbyterian Church, as until the mid 1850s, the Presbyterian denomination that were mostly Scottish and Irish eschewed Gothicism as 'popish' and for its English nationalist overtones.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1862,
Architect/Designer	Jenkins, John S,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	ST JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
Hermes Number	23041
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

St. Luke's Lutheran Church is a small bluestone building in the form of a hall. The bluestone is rock face random coursed rubble with dressed bluestone around the openings. The church has three bays with pointed arched windows. A small porch clad with pressed metal simulating rock face stone is located at the entrance of the church. The front door is of ledge and brace construction and is pointed. The main roof is corrugated iron and the roof of the porch is slate. Both roofs are hipped and have fretted bargeboards and finials of a domestic character. There is a timber extension at the rear of the church. The church is sited parallel to the street, while the hall is sited perpendicular to it. A cyclone wire fence and gates, with white painted timber posts runs along the street frontage. An old church bell, mounted on a steel frame, is located in the grounds, which have simple plantings. Located at the western end of the site is a freestanding timber framed hall with weatherboard to dado height and pressed cement sheeting above.

Physical Conditions

The church and hall are in very good condition. There are some cracks in the western wall of the church which require urgent attention.

Historical Australian Themes

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life
8.6 Worshipping
8.6.1 Worshipping together
8.6.3 Founding Australian religious institutions
8.6.4 Making places for worship

Usage/Former Usage

church

Integrity

fair degree of integrity

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/>