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## PRESBYTERIAN MANSE (FORMER)



23252 Presbyterian Manse  
Former Balmoral 2336



23252 Presbyterian Manse  
Former Balmoral 2337

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### Location

53 Coleraine - Balmoral Road, BALMORAL VIC 3407 - Property No 0396

### Municipality

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE

### Level of significance

Stage 2 study complete

### Heritage Listing

Southern Grampians Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The former St Andrew's Presbyterian Manse, at 53 Coleraine Road, Balmoral 0.6kms east of the town centre, was built between 1861 and 1864 to house the Rev. James Treadwell, the first minister of the Balmoral/Harrow Presbyterian Charge, and his family. The congregation raised money and local notables, including the Officer family and other staunch Presbyterians, organised for a design by the important Hamilton architect and engineer, John Shanks. Jenkins. He designed many important buildings in the area, including the Officers' homestead, Mount Talbot and went on to have a distinguished career in Melbourne including the design of the Princes Bridge. After typical complications and changes to the design and budget, the contractor was Messrs. Adam White and Co. of Portland who built the house for about 710 pounds. Importantly, much of the correspondence concerning the design and construction survives. The house was built from local materials including a stone that is stained dark brown by iron. While substantial, it is conventional in its form and plan and modest in its detailing. From 1864, the second incumbent, Rev. James Henderson lived in the house with his family. He served the

congregation for 42 years and is buried with his wife, the daughter of Rev. Adam Turnbull M.D., in the Balmoral cemetery. The ministers were required to serve a vast area. They changed regularly until the long incumbency of Rev. J H Bates from 1930 until 1965. The house remains substantially intact and is in excellent condition.

How is it significant?

The former Presbyterian manse is of historical, social and architectural, significance to the township of Balmoral and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former St Andrew's Presbyterian Manse is of historical significance for its local connections with important individuals and the Presbyterian community generally, and for its first and second incumbents. As a substantial and comfortable residence, it is of social significance as a model of stable religious and family life in rural conditions. It also reflects the social status and financial success of the Presbyterians of the area. It is of architectural significance not only as the work of John Shanks Jenkins and as a typical example of domestic arrangements for clerics, but also as the building represented in the rare surviving correspondence between client and architect.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1861,
Other Names	ST ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN MANSE,
Hermes Number	23252
Property Number	

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## Physical Conditions

The building is in excellent condition.

## Physical Description 1

The former manse is located on the north side of the Coleraine Road on high ground about 0.6km from the centre of the town on what were described as 'suburban allotments' in the plan of subdivision. It is a single storey symmetrical stone house with an unusual plan having rooms projecting on either side of a central timber verandah. The walls are constructed of local sandstone stained a dark red from iron deposits. The windows are 4-pane double hung timber sashes. The roof has a relatively low pitch, is gabled over the projecting rooms and is covered with corrugated iron. The fascia boards of the gables are now trimmed with a simple scalloped edge. A new chimney has been introduced in the front room on the western side.

## 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

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## Usage/Formal Usage

residential

## **Integrity**

high degree of integrity externally but has been altered and modernised internally.

## **Physical Description 2**

Ministers of the Balmoral-Harrow Charge:

1860-64 Rev. James Treadwell

1864-1907 Rev. James Henderson

1908-11 Rev. S D Hood

1912-23 Rev. J I King

1923-25 Rev. J B McKissock

1925-26 Rev. G L Johnson

1926-30 Rev. Finley Fraser

1930-65 Rev. J H Bates

1966-71 Rev. K C W Beckett

1972- Rev. L Wood

John Shanks Jenkins, architect

Messrs. James Allen & Co, contractors

Robert Officer, member of the building committee

Dr Molloy, member of the building committee

## **Physical Description 3**

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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/>*