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## ST ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN MANSE (FORMER)



23294 St Andrew s Manse  
Branxholme 0475



23294 St Andrews Manse  
Branxholme 0629



23294 St Andrews Manse  
Branxholme 0630



23294 St Andrews Manse  
Branxholme 0628

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### Location

Monroe Street, BRANXHOLME VIC 3302 - Property No 323

### 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 - December 10, 2003

What is significant?

The former Presbyterian Manse was constructed in 1863, shortly after the adjacent church, and possibly by the same local builder, Ewan McNaughton. The architect is said to have been James Henry Fox of Hamilton. The manse is a simple bluestone house in the vernacular colonial style, symmetrical about the front door, with a low pitched hipped roof, still covered in slate, and a timber verandah, formerly covered in slate and now covered in corrugated iron. The house retains its original fenestration throughout, which, on the facade, demonstrates a particularly late use of french doors with finely subdivided glazing. The reception room on the north side, and adjacent to the church, was the Minister's study. Importantly, the Minister's desk and bookcase survive as built-in furniture between the chimney breast and the inside wall. The first Minister was Reverend J. McRoberts. The detached kitchen also survives, linked by a later vestibule, and is of interest because it stands beside rather than behind the house. Minor alterations have occurred internally, such as the relining of ceilings. A verandah was added in historic times across the rear of the main wing. The manse is significantly intact but is in only fair condition.

How is it significant?

The former St Andrew's Manse is of historical and architectural significance to the State of Victoria and the Shire of Southern Grampians.

Why is it significant?

The former St Andrew's Presbyterian Manse is of historical significance as the residence associated with the former St Andrew's Presbyterian Church and of architectural significance for its very conservative style, plan and form, its intact interiors and especially the Minister's desk and bookcase and as an example of the work of Hamilton architect, James Henry Fox..

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1863,
Architect/Designer	Fox, James Henry,
Hermes Number	23294
Property Number	

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## Physical Conditions

The house is in poor condition with serious failings in the roof slates, cracking in some walls and other minor failures.

## Physical Description 1

Plan of house is unusual in that it has a transverse passage, and apparently an old-fashion plan. It is similar to that of Yarra Cottage, one of the first substantial houses built in Melbourne, designed by Robert Hoddle in 1839. It is also similar to the plan of St Andrew's Manse, at Port Fairy which was designed by the local architect, James Mason in 1854 and built in 1856.

## 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/Former Usage**

residential

## **Integrity**

High degree of integrity externally and internally.

## **Physical Description 2**

Fox, James Henry, architect (to be confirmed) of Hamilton  
Reverend J. McRoberts, the first minister.

*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/>*