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# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH COMPLEX



23320 St Joseph s Catholic Church Penshurst 0863



23320 St Joseph s Catholic Church Penshurst 0862



23320 St Joseph s Catholic Church Penshurst belfry 0864

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## Location

Martin Street PENSHURST, Southern Grampians Shire

## 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 14, 2003

What is significant?

St Joseph's Catholic Church is located on west side of Martin Street between Watton and Cobb Streets in the centre of Penshurst. The building is in the Gothic revival style using local bluestone. It was designed by Architect James Fox of Hamilton, who was responsible for the designs of many churches in Western Victoria in the nineteenth century. Extensions to St Joseph's in 1897 were designed by the architect, Frank Hammond who lived in Penshurst and who designed the extensions to the Catholic Church in Hamilton. The names of the builders are not known. Both the interiors and exterior are in excellent condition and retain a very high degree of integrity. The presbytery is a single storey, asymmetrical red brick house in the Edwardian or Federation Queen Anne style. It is sited immediately to the south of the church.

How is it significant?

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Presbytery and School are of historical and architectural significance to the

Southern Grampians Shire and the township of Penshurst.

Why is it significant?

St Joseph's Catholic Church, Presbytery and School are of historical significance as the focus for that denomination in the area. The church is of architectural significance for its typical use of the Gothic revival style and as a work of the local architects, James Henry Fox and Frank Hammond. The Presbytery is of architectural significance for its conventional and essentially domestic style and form and for its aesthetic support of the church. The School is of architectural significance for its use of the Moderne style to express a sense of progress and modernity.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Southern Grampians - Southern Grampians Shire Heritage Study, Timothy Hubbard P/L, Annabel Neylon, 2002;
Construction dates	1865,
Architect/Designer	Fox, James Henry,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	23320
Property Number	

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## Physical Conditions

The condition of all the buildings is excellent.

## Physical Description 1

St Joseph's Catholic Church is in the typical Early English Gothic revival style. It is sited at the south-west corner of the intersection of Martin and Watton Streets. With its historic extensions, it is now cruciform in plan. The facade incorporates a doorway, tripartite lancet window and bellcote. The walls are constructed of coursed local bluestone. The roofs are slate with ventiaitors immediately below the ridge line. The interiors are typical of the period and style although the altar reflects the liturgical changes of the Second Vatican Council. Both the interiors and exterior are in excellent condition and retain a very high degree of integrity.

The presbytery is a single storey, asymmetrical red brick house in the Edwardian or Federation Queen anne style. It is sited immediately to the south of the church.

## Historical Australian Themes

Theme 6 Educating

6.2 Establishing schools

6.5 Educating people in remote places

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.6 Worshipping

8.6.1 Worshipping together

8.6.4 Making places for worship

## Usage/Former Usage

Church, presbytery and school

## Integrity

high degree of integrity externally and internally for church  
high degree of integrity externally for presbytery (Interior not inspected)  
high degree of integrity externally for school (Interior not inspected)

## **Physical Description 2**

James Henry Fox, architect for the original design  
Frank Hammond, architect for the major extensions  
W J Henry & Son, builders of the present school.

*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/>*