
St Albans Anglican Church

Location

583 Orrong Road ARMADALE, Stonnington City

Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO87

Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

This 1898-99 brick town church has architectural significance as Victoria's first church in the Arts and Crafts made designed by the architects Inskip and Butler, who specialised in this style. It is notable for the stained glass in its east window, for its striking diaper patterned brick, interior, and the church's joinery, furniture and fittings including choir stalls, reredos, wrought iron communion rails and encaustic tiles in the chancel.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - Conservation Review City of Prahran Volume 2: Individual Buildings (A1), Context Pty Ltd, 1993;
Construction dates	1898, 1935,
Architect/Designer	Butler, Walter Richmond, Inskip & Butler,
Other Names	583 Orrong Road, Armadale,
Hermes Number	30674

Physical Description 1

The Church building has been described as 'Victoria's first church in the Arts and Crafts mode and perhaps the first really up, to date church built in the colony for thirty years'.¹ The Arts and Crafts influence is exemplified in the use of polychrome brickwork plus coloured render in the upper clerestory. The triple arched windows in each bay section are simple in design with diamond leadlight.

The building says Prof Lewis, is notable for its striking facade incorporating a large five-light lancet window, flanking octagonal turrets and arch, with brickwork in diaper pattern. The roof ridge remains unbroken from east to west and has a distinctive brick interior. It is notable for the stained glass in its east window, for its striking diaper patterned brick interior, and the church's joinery, furniture and fittings including choir stalls, reredos, wrought iron communion rails and encaustic tiles in the chancel.²

An addition to the nave on the northern side has an imitation brick wall. On the southern side, the nave has been widened in additions which were executed at the same time as the tower. These alterations are sympathetic to the original design and are the work of Winstan Widdows who's other ecclesiastical designs at this time includes the former Methodist church in Sale (now occupied by the Assembly of God Church) which is an innovative Modern design. To the rear of the church, the church hall is a simple weatherboard building with broad gabled roof and pairs of pointed arched windows. A skillion addition is attached to the vestry at the rear.

References

1. Miles Lewis (ed.), *Victorian Churches*, p. 80.
2. Lewis. p.80.

Local Historical Themes

10.2 Worshipping

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/>