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## Wesleyan Church (former)



Wesleyan Church (former),  
204623 1 McClellans  
Crescent, Argyle

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### Location

1 MCCLELLANS CRESCENT, ARGYLE - PROPERTY NUMBER 204623, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

### Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO726

### Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 30, 2023

#### What is significant?

The former Wesleyan Church including the 1865 fabric is significant. This is predominantly the brick structure and some of the windows. The roof cladding, barges and later alterations to the windows are not significant.

#### How is it significant?

The former Wesleyan church at Argyle has local historic, aesthetic and social significance.

### **Why is it significant?**

The church at 1 McClellans Crescent, Argyle is of historical significance for its association with the early Wesleyan movement, in particular the Rev.J. Mewton and later the Rev. J.Westcott, both of whom were active across a wide area from Kilmore to Heathcote. The building predates the merger of the Wesleyans and Methodists that took place in 1898. The historical association spans the history of the Methodist church up until the formation of the Uniting Church in 1969. *Criterion A*

The church is of aesthetic significance for its demonstration of the principal elements of the Primitive Gothic style, including the gable roof, porch, pointed arch windows and use of early bricks. *Criterion D*

The church is of social significance for the Argyle community as a place of continuous worship for just over 100 years. *Criterion G*

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Former Shires of Mclvor and Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2008;
Construction dates	1865,
Hermes Number	32541
Property Number	

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### **Physical Description 1**

The former Wesleyan Church is designed in the Primitive Gothic style and built in 1865. Elements of the style include the use of gable roofs and pointed arched windows. Often there is a small round window or oculus that becomes a feature of the gable end, as is the case for Argyle. Variations to the style include whether a porch has been attached to one end, and whether the entry is to the side or end of the porch. The Argyle church adopts the more common form with a gable roofed porch attached to one end and the entry on the side. Variations in building materials are evident across the Bendigo region and the Argyle church is constructed of bricks. The uneven form of the bricks, evident underneath the paint, tends to support the evidence of a relatively early date of construction prior to the ready availability of machine made bricks.

Changes to the church involve painting, the loss of the moulding around the oculus, and the original windows. The roof and bargeboards have also been replaced.

The interior has not been investigated.

### **Physical Conditions**

Fair

### **Integrity**

Altered

### **Historical Australian Themes**

8 Building community life

8.1 Maintaining a spiritual life

*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/>*