

---

# UNITING CHURCH (FORMER BIBLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH)



230561\_Mandurang\_Hollidays  
Road\_09\_img01

---

## Location

9 HOLLIDAYS ROAD, MANDURANG - PROPERTY NUMBER 230561, GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Municipality

GREATER BENDIGO CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO558

## Heritage Listing

Greater Bendigo City

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - September 22, 2023

### What is significant?

The former Bible Christian Church built c.1863 is significant. The additions to the side are not significant.

### How is it significant?

The former Bible Christian Church is of local historical and aesthetic significance to the City of Greater Bendigo.

### Why is it significant?

The former Bible Christian Church is of historic significance for its association with the Bible Christian movement whose origins were in Cornwall and Devon and subsequently brought to Australia by Cornish immigrants to South Australia. Built on land belonging to James Green, the church demonstrates the tradition of building on private land unlike the more dominant churches where land was granted. The church is tangible evidence of the presence of the Bible Christian movement that was later to become a part of the Methodist Church. *Criterion A*

The former Bible Christian Church is of aesthetic significance for its demonstration of the Primitive Gothic style, including the lower pitched roof as demonstrated by many non-conformist churches, and for its use of sandstone walls and brick quoining and dressings in a manner derived from the Cornish buildings of South Australia. As such it is a rare building in the Bendigo district. *Criterion B*

Heritage Study/Consultant	Greater Bendigo - Former Shires of Mclvor and Strathfieldsaye Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2008;
Construction dates	1863,
Other Names	20 Pentlands Road, Mandurang., 13 Hollidays Road, Mandurang,
Hermes Number	32984
Property Number	

---

### Physical Description 1

The former Bible Christian church is designed in the Primitive Gothic style and constructed c. 1863. Elements of the style include the use of the gable roof and the pointed arch windows. In this case the windows are formed with brick arches with flat sides rather than the more common curved shape. Red brickwork is used as dressings around all of the windows and doors and as quoining. The roof pitch is relatively low which is often found on chapels and churches of the non-conformist denominations in order to distance themselves from the very steeply pitched Gothic roof of many churches of the established religions.

Variations to the style include whether there is a porch at the end or side, however in this case there is no porch. Variations in building materials are evident across the Bendigo region and the Bible Christian church is constructed from local sandstone laid in random rubble. The bricks provide an easier way of addressing the window details and the quoins, that otherwise require shaping of stones.

The selection of sandstone and red brick would appear to owe a great deal to the Cornish building traditions that were brought to South Australia, in particular to Burra, as this type of construction is rare in the Bendigo district.

The window frames are either damaged or missing and there is no window glass. The bargeboards are detailed with quite intricate cutting, although these may not be the original ones. The pleasing design of this very simple chapel owes much to the use of contrasting materials and to the use of the colourful local stone. There is a skillion roofed extension to the side that has been rather clumsily designed and does not contribute to the architecture of this building. The interior has not been investigated, however it appears that the building is not in use.

### Physical Conditions

Fair

### Integrity

Altered

## **Historical Australian Themes**

### 8. Building Community Life

#### 8.1 Maintaining 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/>*