

## ST PETERS EASTERN HILL PRECINCT



ST PETERS EASTERN HILL  
PRECINCT SOHE 2008



1 st peters church and  
vicarage exterior view



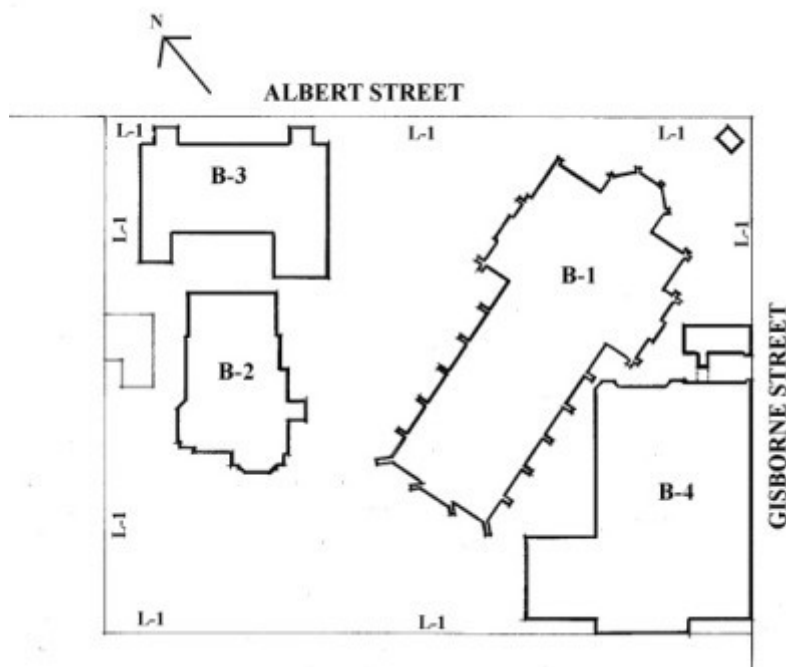
st peters church and vicarage  
exterior entrance



st peters church and vicarage  
exterior hall



st peters church and vicarage  
exterior tower



st peters eastern hill registration plan

**Location**

453-479 ALBERT STREET AND 13-19 GISBORNE STREET EAST MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

**Municipality**

MELBOURNE CITY

**Level of significance**

Registered

**Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H0009

**Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO142

**VHR Registration**

October 9, 1974

**Amendment to Registration**

August 20, 1998

**Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

---

**Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - April 7, 2021

What is significant?

The first Anglican services in East Melbourne were held in 1842 by the Revd John Yelverton Wilson in a workshop at the eastern end of Little Bourke Street. Charles Laing was appointed architect for a new church following the submission of sketch proposals at the invitation of the Trustees by five local architects. An initial proposal by Sydney architect Thomas Edmund Blacket did not proceed. The foundation stone was laid on 18 June 1846 by Charles Joseph La Trobe, Superintendent of the Port Phillip District. The initial church constructed of brick with stone facings had a shingled roof. It was formally opened on 6 August 1848. The church was enlarged in 1854 to designs by architect Charles Vickers with the nave increased in length, the transepts with galleries and a chancel added, and the shingles roof replaced with slate. Leonard Terry carried out alterations including an enlarged chancel, an added vestry, and a Baptistry, with the new chancel opened on 29 June 1876. Work continued with five stained glass windows by Ferguson and Uri added to the chancel in December 1876. Repairs and alterations were carried out by Walter Butler of Butler and Inskip in 1897 which included installation of gas lines and Tobin tubes for ventilation, removal of the transept galleries, and a new layout of pews to include a central and two side aisles. Further alterations took place during 1927-29 including installation of timber panelling in the transepts and chancel, and installation of a choir screen by Louis Williams. In 1945 a stained glass window was installed in the north transept designed by Napier Waller to commemorate the New Guinea mission, and eleven Anglican martyrs and to mark the centenary. A second Waller window in the south transept was subsequently added. The current organ is the third organ in the church and was constructed by George Fincham and Son Pty Ltd and completed in March 1974.

Known originally as the Melbourne Diocesan School, St Peters School was opened on 11 April 1849. The original school, as well as the sexton's house and parsonage were constructed in the late 1840's and were designed by Charles Laing. By 1886 part of this site had been transferred to the Parliament of Victoria and the building demolished. A new vicarage and school were erected in 1886 to the designs of William Pitt. St Peters Hall, designed by Alexander North was erected in 1913 as part of St Peters School and contained a large hall and 2 classrooms. The school suffered economic difficulties during the Depression and was closed at the end of 1935. Since that time the hall has been mainly used by theatrical and music groups.

How is it significant?

St Peters Eastern Hill Precinct is of historical, architectural, and social significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

St Peters Church is of historical significance as the oldest Anglican church in Victoria on its original site and as the focus of Tractarian or Anglo Catholic tradition in Victoria. The tradition is one of full liturgical practice combined with an active interest in social justice issues and was particularly promoted by Canon Ernest Selwyn Hughes (Vicar 1900-1926), one of the greatest pioneers of Catholic Revival in Australia. St Peters Church also has an historical association with the granting of Melbourne's status as a city, with the letters patent of Queen Victoria having been read in St Peters on 13 February 1848. St Peters is of historical and social significance for its association with the Revd Canon Farnham Maynard (Vicar 1926-1964), vicar during the Great Depression who initiated the introduction of the Brotherhood of St Laurence into Victoria with its development of social work programmes and fostering of awareness in Melbourne of social justice issues. Revd Farnham Maynard was also responsible for the installation of the transept windows by Napier Waller. The New Guinea windows in the north transept are of historical significance for the representation of the eleven Anglican martyrs and the south transept windows for their anti-war theme. St Peters Hall has continued associations with the musical life of Melbourne.

St Peters Eastern Hill precinct is of architectural significance for its association with a successive number of prominent Melbourne architects who contributed to the development of the church precinct: Charles Laing, Charles Vickers, Leonard Terry, William Pitt, Walter Butler, Louis Williams, and Alexander North. The group of buildings forms a picturesque precinct. The vicarage and school are early examples of William Pitt's work and are substantially intact. St Peters Hall is the first work in Victoria of Tasmanian emigre architect Alexander North who specialised in church architecture.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

### **Specific Exemptions:**

#### **EXEMPTIONS FROM PERMITS:**

(Classes of works or activities which may be undertaken without a permit under **Part 4 of the Heritage Act 1995**)

#### **General Conditions:**

1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

#### **The following exemptions apply to buildings B2, B3 and B-4:**

- \* Interior painting to walls , provided the preparation work does not remove evidence of the building's original paint or other decorative scheme.
- \* Removal of existing carpets and flexible floor coverings.
- \* Installation of carpet and flexible floor coverings.
- \* Installation of curtain tracks, rods, blinds and other window dressings
- \* Refurbishment of bathrooms, kitchens and toilets including removal of sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors and installation of new fixtures.
- \* Installation of hydronic or concealed heating ( ceiling radiant foil or under carpet) provided the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves and the location of the heating unit (boiler etc) is concealed from view.
- \* Installation of hooks, nails and other devices for hanging paintings, mirrors, and wall mounted works of art.
- \* Installation of smoke detectors
- \* Installation of insulation to the roof space

Construction dates	1846,
Architect/Designer	Laing, Charles,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place, Registered object integral to a registered place,
Hermes Number	368

Property Number

---

## History

Associated People: Leonard Terry; Charles Vickers; Walter Butler

## Extent of Registration

1

### NOTICE OF REGISTRATION

As Executive Director for the purpose of the Heritage Act, I give notice under section 46 that the Victorian Heritage Register is amended in that the Heritage Register Number 9 in the category described as a Heritage place, Heritage object is now described as:

St Peters Eastern Hill Precinct, corner Gisborne and Albert Streets, East Melbourne, City of Melbourne.

### EXTENT:

1. All the buildings including St Peters Church (B-1), the Vicarage (B-2), the former School house (now Keble House) (B-3) and the Hall (B-4) as shown on Diagram 602453A held by the Executive Director.

2. All the land marked L-1 on Diagram 602453A held by the Executive Director being all of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 2505 Folio 925.

3. The following object:

The Canon's lectern, Prenzel.

Dated 13 August 1998.

RAY TONKIN  
Executive Director

[Victoria Government Gazette G 33 20 August 1998 p.2253]

*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/>*