

---

# CHURCH OF THE HOLY ANNUNCIATION EVANGELISMOS CHURCH



CHURCH OF THE HOLY  
ANNUNCIATION  
EVANGELISMOS CHURCH  
SOHE 2008



1 church of the holy  
annunciation evangelismos  
186 victoria prd east melb  
side view aug1978



church of the holy  
annunciation evangelismos  
186 victoria prd east melb  
detail rounded wall sep1981

---

## Location

186-196 VICTORIA PARADE EAST MELBOURNE, MELBOURNE CITY

## Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0532

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO183

## VHR Registration

July 14, 1982

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

---

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 2, 1999

What is significant?

The Church of the Holy Annunciation was built by N Longstaff in 1901 to a design by noted architects Inskip & Butler. The design is drawn from French and German Medieval sources and presents a simple brick and terracotta design. The Church of the Holy Annunciation comprises a nave, three semi-circular apses and a later side porch added in 1936. The roof is of terracotta tiles. The addition of round forms and subtle textures through rusticated brickwork and basalt columns on the semi-circular apse add articulation to the design. The omission of the central tower with octagonal drum and large onion dome, as well as smaller onion domes to each of the four corners and the simplification of the entrance porch are all changes from the original scheme. The Greek Orthodox faith is clearly represented by the Greek Cross set in the clover-profiled gable.

How is it significant?

The Church of the Holy Annunciation is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Church of the Holy Annunciation is of architectural significance for its association with the architects Inskip and Butler. They were especially well known for their ecclesiastical work and Butler was renowned for his use of Medieval and Picturesque forms and was associated with William Morris.

The triple apse motif at the east end and the unusual brickwork of the surmounting gable are distinctive architectural elements in a design that, unusually for the State of Victoria, draws on French and German medieval sources.

The Church of the Holy Annunciation is of historical significance as the first purpose-built Greek Orthodox Church in Victoria and for its long and continuous association with the Greek community in Melbourne.

## 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](#).

Construction dates	1901,
Architect/Designer	Butler, Walter Richmond,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	407
Property Number	

---

## History

### Contextual History:

There were adherents of the Greek Orthodox faith in Victoria from the early days of white settlement. However it was not until 1897 that the Greek Orthodox Community was formally established. In 1898 the Patriarch of Jerusalem sent the Reverend Athanasios Kantopoulos to Melbourne. In 1902 the Greek Orthodox Church in Melbourne came under the authority of the Orthodox Synod of Athens but since 1924, when the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia was established, it has been under the spiritual jurisdiction of the Ecumenical Patriarch. Post-war migration boosted the numbers of the Greek Orthodox dramatically.

**History of Place:** The Church of the Holy Annunciation, Melbourne's first Greek Orthodox Church, was built in 1901 to a design by Inskip and Butler, the builder was N Longstaff. The Community had held services since 1898 in Chalmers Church School Hall in Parliament Place.

The site at the corner of Lansdowne Road was purchased in 1899 for 600 pounds and the foundation stone was laid on 6 December 1900. The church was officially opened on 31 August 1902 at a cost of 8000 pounds. The building continues to be used by the Greek Orthodox community.

Associated People: Inskip & Butler;

## Extent of Registration

Historic Building No. 532 - Church of the Holy Annunciation, 186 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne.  
[Victoria Government Gazette No. 71 14 July 1982 p.2356]

*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/>*