

# FORMER UNION CHURCH



FORMER UNION CHURCH  
SOHE 2008



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1 former union church  
elsternwick exterior view



former union church  
elsternwick front window  
detail



former union church  
elsternwick front entrance  
detail

## EXTENT OF DESIGNATION (SUMMARY)



H0704 H0704 plan

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## Location

84-86 ORRONG ROAD ELSTERNWICK, GLEN EIRA CITY

## Municipality

GLEN EIRA CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0704

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO53

## VHR Registration

October 5, 1988

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 28, 1999

The Former Union Church, Elsternwick, designed by the architect George de Lacy

Evans, and erected in 1889-90 is a building of historical and architectural significance for the following reasons:-

(1) it is a rare and well- developed example of the early French Gothic manner as popularised through the muscular Victorian re-interpretation of English architect William Burgess, which in turn were derived from the publications of EE Viollet-le-Duc. Other Victorian cases of detailing derived from Viollet-le-Duc include Barwon Park (1868), the Presbyterian Church at Skipton (1871), the Bourke Street West Police Station by Bindley and Brittingham (PWD) dating from 1888-9 and the Lutheran Manse, East Melbourne by JAB Koch (1890). However, none of these buildings relates closely in form to the Union Church, Elsternwick. The only building which has been identified as closely comparable is The Bairnsdale Court House by AJ Macdonald (PWD) which dates from 1892.

(2) the use of bright red brickwork is of significance, as the Former Union Church is believed to be only the second church building in Victoria to employ this material as a matter of conscious choice. Amongst red brick churches, it is thought to be preceded only by Reed, Henderson And Smart's Sacred Heart (1884), a Renaissance inspired design.

(3) the building is believed to be a rare, possibly unique, surviving example of a church building erected for dual use by the Congregationalists and Baptists. In 1894 it was bought by the Congregationalists and continued as a Congregational Church until the formation of the Uniting Church.

[Source: Report to the Minister]

## 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	1889,
Architect/Designer	Evans, George De Lacy,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	428
Property Number	

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## Extent of Registration

### AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 704 Former Union Church, 84-86 Orrong Road, Elsternwick to the extent of all of the red brick building and part of the land included in Certificate of Title Volume 2567 Folio 210 to a depth of 43 metres from the Orrong Road frontage as shown hatched on the plan marked "A" held by the Ministry for Planning and Environment.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* G38 5 October 1988 p.3031]

*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/>*