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# ST JOHNS ANGLICAN CHURCH



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1 st johns anglican church heidelberg front view



st johns anglican church heidelberg side view

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## Location

1 BURGUNDY STREET HEIDELBERG, BANYULE CITY

## Municipality

BANYULE CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0197

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO14

## VHR Registration

October 9, 1974

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 31, 1999

The founding of St. John's church is closely linked with the beginning of Melbourne town and the records contain fascinating descriptions of the varied life in that town and in the village of Warringal, later to be known as Heidelberg. The lovely river valley attracted all kinds of settlers, amongst them three well known personalities of early Melbourne who became the first trustees of St John's church: David Charteris McArthur of "Charteris-ville" was known as the "father of Victorian banking", Joseph Hawdon an explorer and first overlander from Sydney who built Banyule home-stead and Dr Robert Martin, JP., squatter and overlander who resided across the river at "View bank". Foundations were commenced in 1849 and the foundation stone-presumably the one marked "j.w. 1850" at the front of the church was laid the next year.

This stone, we believe, is the oldest engraved stone in Melbourne. The architect was Mr G.R. Cox and the contractors, Snowball and Atchison. The building was completed by April 1851. During 1965 the old St John's church was transformed by a complete restoration project which included the addition of side chapel, vestries, porches, gallery and extensive alterations to the interior design of the building. The necessity for this project was due to the rapid deterioration in the fabric of the old building. The design of the church is simple and unpretentious even after the extensive additions of 1965. The nave and chancel are of handmade brick with lancet windows in early English Gothic style, a square tower surmounted by four pinnacles being the main feature. The new facing preserves the old brick work and also ensures a uniform appearance. The interior of the church impresses by its simple beauty and is characteristic of early colonial churches. The windows are extremely colourful and significant. The finely executed and attractive woodwork (as much now as old) blends in harmony with the rich carpet and the plain walls.

The original furnishings in Singapore cedar were all used in the re-designed interior of 1965. The tower houses the bell (pealing since 1852) and the organ, and is therefore not accessible as a viewing point.

### 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	1849,
Architect/Designer	Cox, George Reilly,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Hermes Number	590
Property Number	

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## Extent of Registration

*City of Heidelberg*. No. 197. St. John's Church of England, Burgundy Street, Heidelberg.  
[*Victoria Government Gazette* No 100 Wednesday, October 9 1974 p.3648]

*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/>*