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## BENA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (FORMER)



Bena Presbyterian Church



Bena Presbyterian Church



Bena Presbyterian Church  
(south elevation)



Bena Presbyterian Church



Bena Presbyterian Church  
(former)



image14

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### Location

44 MAIN ROAD, BENA, SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

### Municipality

SOUTH GIPPSLAND SHIRE

### Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

### Heritage Listing

South Gippsland Shire

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on - December 20, 2022

### **What is significant?**

The former Bena Presbyterian Church, constructed by J. Porter and opened on 9 August 1908, at 44 Main Road, Bena, is significant. It is a Federation Carpenter Gothic Church of typical design with a gabled nave, projecting gabled porch with side doorway, and vestry (added in 1940) at the rear. Other features of the former church include finials at each gable end, including the projecting porch, Health Department vents along the ridge, and a foundation block that commemorates the date of construction in 1908.

Non-original alterations including the highlight windows and side door are not significant.

### **How is it significant?**

The former Bena Presbyterian Church is of local historic and aesthetic significance to the South Gippsland Shire.

### **Why is it significant?**

Historically, the church is the oldest public building in Bena and is associated with the development of the town and surrounding district in the early twentieth century. As a place of worship for over 60 years it played an important role in community life in Bena. (Criterion A)

It is aesthetic significance as a Carpenter Gothic church with typical form and detailing including the steep pitched roof, finials and roof vents that is an historic landmark within Bena township. (Criterion E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	South Gippsland - South Gippsland Heritage Study, David Helms with Trevor Westmore, 2004;
Construction dates	1908, 1908, 1908,
Other Names	Extra, -,
Hermes Number	73215
Property Number	

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## **Physical Description 1**

The former Bena Presbyterian Church is a weatherboard late Victorian Carpenter's Gothic church of typical form with a gabled nave, projecting porch with side doorways and a vestry at the rear. Notable elements include:

- Three lancet windows at the sides of the nave
- Finials at the gable ends and Health Department vents along the ridge
- A inset tablet/foundation stone that commemorates the date of construction in 1908

Alterations include the highlight windows added at the front gable end and above the side windows. The side door is also not original.

*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/>*