Andrew Ward Architectural Historian

Building:

Significance:

Address:

560 Station Street, 3 Ellingworth Parade, Box Hill

Melway Map Ref:

47D10

Building Type:

church complex

Construction Date: 1926

(church), 1902 (hall)

Architect:

Builder:



Photo: 5/2001			
Intactness:		Condition:	
G[x] F[] P[]		G[x] F[] P[]	
Existing Heritage Listings: Listings:		Recommended Heritage	
Victorian Heritage Register National Estate Register National Trust Register	[] [] []	Victorian Heritage Register National Estate Register Heritage Overlay Controls	[] [] [x]

History

A Baptist presence in Box Hill commenced in 1900 with the departure of the postmaster, W.H.G. Ellingworth from the Methodist Church owing to a disagreement on matters of doctrine. The first Sunday service was held in a room of the Recreation Hall on 1st. April, 1900. A small timber church was opened in Station Street in January 1902 on the site of the present church, occupying a portion of Ellingworth's orchard. It was enlarged within two years and finally relocated in 1924 to its present site facing Ellingworth Parade. A new building was subsequently erected, the foundation stone being laid on 14th. February, 1926. The church was subsequently extended at the front. In 1955 additional accommodation, presumably the brick additions, were provided at the hall.

Description

This place consists of the present church and the hall at the rear. The church is a representative Gothic Revival building of the Inter War period terminating the view looking east along Carrington Road. The nave is divided into five buttressed bays generally illuminated by coupled lancet arched windows and there is a steeply pitched terra cotta tiled roof. The former façade, now concealed by later additions, retains two faceted cement pinnacle terminations to buttresses either side of the gable apex. The additions are in the same style with buttresses and lancet arched openings, the façade having a tri-partite window arrangement facing Carrington Road.

The former church, now the hall at no. 3 Ellingworth Parade, is largely concealed from view by the Post War additions in brickwork. Nevertheless, the steeply pitched roof and cruciform plan are evident from the exterior along with an oculus vent in the south facing gable end.

Comparative Examples

Former Methodist Church, 515 Oxford Street St. Stephens Presbyterian Church, corner Canterbury Road and Warrigal Road, Surrey Hills (1910) Uniting Church, 679 Canterbury Road, Surrey Hills

Significance

The Baptist church complex situated at 560 Station Street Box Hill was established in 1902 on the present site following the founding of the church in the area in 1900. The church was subsequently enlarged and relocated to the rear of the site in 1924 and the present church facing Station Street erected in 1926. The complex is historically and aesthetically significant.

It is historically significant (Criterion A) as the centre of Baptist services in Box Hill from 1902, recalling the foundation of the church in the area from 1900. Its association with the Ellingworths, a prominent Box Hill pioneering family, is noteworthy. The church has aesthetic significance (criterion E) as a representative

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Source

Ward, A., Whitehorse Heritage Review 2001

References

Typed notes held by the Box Hill Historical Society.