

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: ANGLICAN CHURCH SUNDAY SCHOOL AND HALL (FORMER)

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: cnr Henty and Church Sts COLERAINE

STUDY NUMBER: 089

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

OTHER NAME/S OF PLACE: NATIONAL SCHOOL (FORMER)

PRECINCT: Coleraine

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 9 & 10 **SECTION:** 27 **PARISH:** PARISH OF COLERAINE

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 430J 23; Vicroads ; southeast corner of Henty and Church Streets

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



Anglican Sunday School and Hall (former), Henty & Church Streets, Coleraine.

Image Date: 01/02/2002

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the buildings and all of the land originally reserved for the Church of England on the Coleraine Township Map 1872.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The former Anglican Sunday School building was until 2002 a composite structure, the first section being built in 1853, with a substantial addition in 1876. The earliest section, of rendered rubble, was demolished in 2002.

The 1876 Sunday School is constructed of rough hewn variegated sandstone, with a gabled corrugated iron roof and decorative barge boards. There are three pairs of Gothic windows on the western side, while the windows in the north and south walls are rectangular. All windows have quoined brickwork surrounds. The east wall of the surviving building is stone, with a brick chimney added at a later date. The position of the earlier building is clearly visible on the east side, where a fibroceement wall has been erected to fill in the void created when the 1853 structure was demolished. The roofing iron over most of the building is recent. On the south east corner, a covered walkway abuts the stone structure, providing a link to the mid 20th century timber and fibroplaster Sunday School and associated outbuildings.

HISTORY:

According to Troeth, when the Rev. F. T. Cusack Russell arrived in the Coleraine area he saw the need for a school, and applied to the government for a land grant. He was granted one acre for a church and two acres for a denominational school. In 1853 a building to serve as a church, school and teacher's residence was constructed by Mr Jellie, a contractor of Casterton.

The two storey building contained a residence of several rooms on the second floor for the head teacher, and a large room at ground level functioned as church and school for the Church of England (as well as other denominations on occasion) and meeting place for many local societies. There was an entry porch and a small belfry on the roof at the west end. The school room was used as a church on Sundays until 1866 when the new Holy Trinity Church opened on the opposite corner of Henty and Church Streets.

In his history of Coleraine Primary School, Raggat reports that John McDonald was appointed head teacher in 1857, and the first classes were held on July 01 of that year, with an enrolment of 20 children. Mr McDonald was paid 50 pounds per annum, while his assistant Miss Charlotte Davis was paid 15 pounds. Mrs Russell, the vicar's wife, also assisted with teaching duties in a voluntary capacity.

The school became a National School in 1857 when the National Schools Board took over from the Church of England. Due to changes in State Legislation, funding for denominational schools was no longer available, leading to the school being known as Common School No. 135 by 1872.

In 1873 the Trustees requested a new school building, which was denied, although the Returning Officer for the Shire of Wannan estimated that there were approximately 270 children in Coleraine by 1874 (ibid.). The school was unable to accommodate such a large number of children, and the District Inspector called for tenders to construct a new Primary School. As a temporary measure, an additional room was added to the original building in 1876, using the same stone being as was used for the chancel of the Holy Trinity church across Henty Street. This addition was of a similar scale, form and the same materials as the Holy Trinity Church. The architect Mr. Farrell, is likely to be the first Shire Engineer, Frederick Farrell, appointed in 1872. He was responsible for the design of a number of buildings within the township. The new addition was built by John Benson, mason, and W. Heath, Carpenter, for a total of 666 pounds (Troeth, 112). This building continued to be used as a school upto 1878.

In 1878, a new building was constructed in Henty Street and the Common School was relocated, and renamed, becoming State School 2118. The head teacher, McDonald remained at the new site until his retirement in 1885 (Blake [ed.]). The old school building continued to be used sporadically as an adjunct to the State School, as need arose. The building remained as a residence for the head teacher 1886, after which time it was used as a

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Sunday school and meeting hall (Trangmar, 1971 in Troeth,113).

The building continued to be used by the Anglican, and then Uniting Church well into the twentieth century.

THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 6 Educating

6.2 Establishing schools

6.5 Educating people in remote places

CONDITION:

The 1876 freestone building is in good condition. The roofing iron in the south east corner of the building is rusting, and the flashing around the chimney appears incomplete.

INTEGRITY:

The integrity of the building has been compromised by the demolition of the 1853 structure.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The Anglican Church Sunday School and Hall is located on the corner of Henty and Church Streets Coleraine, some five blocks north of the centre of the township. The Sunday School was originally two separate parts, a rendered rubble section, built in 1853 and a substantial addition designed by a local Architect, Mr. Farrell dating from 1873. The surviving Sunday School is constructed of rough hewn variegated sandstone, with a gabled corrugated iron roof and decorative barge boards. The adjacent Church Hall is constructed of timber and was built in 1933. The Sunday School has lost the earlier 1853 part of the building, as it was demolished in 2002, but the 1873 stone addition and the timber Church Hall survive in good condition with a good degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

The former National School Coleraine is of historical, social and architectural significance to the community of Coleraine and to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The 1873 sandstone structure is the surviving remnant of an earlier composite building, the demolished elements of which date from the earliest phase of Coleraine's development. It is important for its association with the establishment of the Anglican church in the area, and for its long association with both religious and secular education in Coleraine. It is of architectural significance as an excellent example of mid nineteenth century gothic architecture, using local materials.

ASSESSED BY: mgt

ASSESSMENT DATE:

02-Jan-02

EXISTING LISTINGS:

HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR Include in RNE Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

REFERENCES:

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Author	Title	Year	Page
L J Blake, ed.	Vision and Realisation , Vol 2	1973	74
Departments of Lands and Survey	Township of Coleraine (Parishes of Coleraine and Konong Wootong County of Dundas)	1873	
Departments of Lands and Survey	Township of Coleraine (Parishes of Coleraine and Konong Wootong County of Dundas)	1955	
Pepper, Beverley J	Holy Trinity Coleraine 1865-1990; 125 Years	1990	12-15
Raggatt, Noel	Coleraine Primary School No. 2118 Centenary 1878-1978	1978	
Troeth, Malcolm	The Cultural Landscape of Coleraine	1988	112-3