

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** ST ANDREW'S MANSE (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Martin Street PENSHURST

**STUDY NUMBER:** 237

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

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**OTHER NAME/S  
OF PLACE:** PRESBYTERIAN MANSE

**PRECINCT:** Penshurst

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** 1      **SECTION:** 3      **PARISH:** PARISH OF BORAMBORAM

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 475J C12; VicRoads 233 O11; located at the north-west corner of Martin and Ritchie Streets in the centre of the Township.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



St Andrews Manse (former), Martin St, Penshurst

**Image Date:** 13/02/02

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the building but excluding the interiors and all the land.

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## PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

The manse is a single storey asymmetrical building with a shallow-pitched hipped roof and a verandah with a cast iron frieze. The roof is corrugated iron. The floor plan appears to be typical with its central hall and a service wing at the rear. A room projects forward on the south side and now has a multi-paned bay window, possibly dating from after the manse was sold by the Presbyterian Church. The original front window, under the verandah, is twelve paned, double-hung sashes. The walls are constructed of coursed rock-faced bluestone.

## HISTORY:

The Mt Rouse Shire Centenary booklet states that "Penshurst came under the notice of the Hamilton Presbyterian Church for the first time as an outstation of the Hamilton minister Angus McDonald, but this amounted to only a few isolated services. In 1861 a request came from Penshurst for regular services and Rev J McL Abernathy and Rev A Begg were appointed to preach alternately. It is not known where they stayed in the township. Eventually in 1864 the first minister was induced - Rev Robert Fawkner (or Falconer), whose charge included Caramut, Dunkeld and Penshurst, under the jurisdiction of the Mortlake Presbytery. He was the incumbent until 1869. The second incumbent was Rev. Mr. Allsworth, until 1876. The third was Rev. Andrew Chambers until 1881. The fourth was Rev. J. Ringland Anderson, a native of Armagh, Ireland, who was "president of the Penshurst Band of Hope and vice president of the Mechanics' Institute committee, and treasurer of the local Rechabite Tent" (Sutherland, 67). The local Temperance Hall had been built nearby in Watton Street in 1872.

The bluestone church was completed in 1865 at a cost of 1,000 pounds. The manse was built at a cost of 650 pounds. The local architect, J. M. Knight of Penshurst called tenders in December 1865 for work by a mason, carpenter, plasterer and plumber (Tonkin, 1973, 57). Fresh tenders for the stonework were called in the New Year again by J. M. Knight with "plans and specifications on view at the office of A. Kerr" (Tonkin, 1973, 58). Knight was working at this time as Secretary to the Shire of Mount Rouse. Both buildings were re-roofed, and the manse completely renovated between 1955 and 1959. The continuing Presbyterian Church sold the manse about 1990.

## THEMATIC CONTEXT:

Theme 8 Developing Australia's cultural life

8.6 Worshipping

8.6.1 Worshipping together

8.6.3 Founding Australian religious institutions

8.6.4 Making places for worship

8.12 Living in and around Australian homes

8.14 Living in the country and rural settlements

## CONDITION:

The building is in very good condition

## INTEGRITY:

Good degree of integrity externally but may have been compromised internally by the 1955-59 renovations.

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

The former St Andrews Presbyterian Manse is located in Martin Street, Penshurst beside the continuing Presbyterian Church on the southern side of the town. It is a single storey asymmetrical bluestone house built between late 1865 and early 1866. The architects were the local firm, J. M. Knight and A. Kerr. The first incumbent was the Rev. Robert Fawkner. The incumbent in the 1880s was Rev. J. Ringland Anderson, a native of Armagh, Ireland, who was active in local affairs being president of the Penshurst Band of Hope and vice president of the Mechanics' Institute committee, and treasurer of the local Rechabite Tent. The continuing

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Presbyterian Church sold the manse about 1990. The manse is in very good condition and remains substantially intact.

How is it significant?

The former St Andrew's Manse is of historical and architectural significance to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former St Andrew's Manse is of historical significance as the residence of one of the religious leaders of the community and of architectural significance as the work of local architects, Knight and Kerr.

## COMPARISON:

211 St Andrew's Presbyterian Manse (Former), Monroe Street, Branxholme

170 St Andrew's Presbyterian Manse (Former), 53 Coleraine - Balmoral Road Balmoral

**ASSESSED BY:** tfh

**ASSESSMENT DATE:** 18-May-02

## EXISTING LISTINGS:

## HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:

Include in VHR  Include in RNE  Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

## REFERENCES:

Author	Title	Year	Page
Alexander Sutherland, ed.	Mount Rouse Shire Centenary, Commemorative Meeting	1964	
Ray Tonkin	Victoria and Its Metropolis, Vol 2	1888	67
	Tenders and Other Notices from the Warrambool Examiner	1973	57