

HERITAGE PLACE

NAME OF PLACE: ST MARK'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE: Henty Highway Bunbury Street Riley Street CAVENDISH

STUDY NUMBER: 446

HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:

PRECINCT: Cavendish

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA: Southern Grampians Shire

ALLOTMENT: 1 **SECTION:** B **PARISH:** PARISH OF CAVENDISH

ACCESS DESCRIPTION:

CFA 432J 8; VicRoads 228 J7; located in the north-west corner of Riley and Bunbury Streets, Cavendish immediately north of the bridge across the Wannon River.

SIGNIFICANCE RATING: Local



St Mark's Anglican Church, Henty Highway, Cavendish

Image Date: 30/11/02

EXTENT OF LISTING:

To the extent of: 1. All the building including the interiors, fixtures and fittings, and all of the land.

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PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:

St Mark's is located on the Henty Highway, otherwise known as Riley Street, at the intersection with Bunbury Street. It is immediately north of the River Wannon and across the road bridge from the centre of the township. It marks the entrance to town from the north.

The church is a small cream brick building with a panel of coloured stone veneer forming the façade, a cross and the church's name, and a large window above. The construction is portal frame with a shallow pitched roof. A short square tower in cream brick marks the entrance. The entrance porch is in the south-east corner and takes advantage of the fall in the land. In plan, the chancel is slightly angled. There is a vestry and service area attached on the south side with its own entrance.

A concrete block wall screens the entrance from the nave and several steps lead up to the main floor level. The baptismal font, according to tradition, is located at the entrance. It has a narrow tapered blond wood base and a timber cover surmounted by a cross. Internally, the walls are the same cream brick as outside. A panel, painted sage green, forms the backdrop to the altar with a simple timber cross suspended above the altar. A large window in the north wall lights the chancel and a very simple altar rail divides the chancel from the nave. The pews are blond polished timber. The floors are polished hardwood. A darker timber valence at 2.2m supports heaters. Lighting is provided by fluorescent tubes on the plaster sheet ceiling. A door on the south side leads to the vestry and service areas.

The cream brick gates and Cyclone wire fence are original. There is a cream brick toilet block to the south-west of the site. The former church hall, which had been moved in, was relocated to the St Luke's Lutheran Church site in Bunbury Street.

Important primary documents survive about its construction.

HISTORY:

The land on which St Mark's now stands, allotment 9 of section B comprising quarter of an acre, was purchased from the Crown by A Riley in September 1863. Riley also bought the block across the Henty Highway. A Mr. Butler had been occupying the land as a general store, the first in Cavendish, from the early 1850s. In the early 1870s it was run by John Mercer who was also the post master. The store closed in 1881, due to competition from the newer Wannon Store opposite the Bunyip Hotel (Dundas, 64).

Land had been reserved for the Anglican Church in Bunbury Street, adjacent to the Presbyterian reserve and opposite the Catholic reserve. No church was built on the reserve and it was resumed for the construction of the Hamilton-Horsham railway in 1915. Anglican services were held in the Presbyterian church [and a close and warm relationship developed between the two congregations]. The former church hall, which had been moved in, was used for worship as well. With increased Soldier Settlement in the area, a permanent building was needed and so the present church was constructed in 1962 and dedicated on 27th April 1963.

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

CONDITION:

The church is in excellent condition internally and externally.

INTEGRITY:

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excellent degree of integrity

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

What is significant?

St Mark's Anglican Church, Henty Highway, Cavendish was built in 1962 and dedicated in 1963. It is the first Anglican church building in Cavendish, and dates from one hundred years after the construction of the Presbyterian Church nearby and twenty-five years after the Methodist (now Uniting) Church. It is not known who the builders or architects for the church were. The simple cream brick church is in the International Moderne style but incorporates traditional forms and planning. Its portal frame construction is typical of such structures after the Second World War. The increased population due to Soldier Settlement in the district led to its construction and the prosperity of the times allowed it to be paid for and dedicated immediately. It includes original fittings and furniture which compliment the architecture. Important primary documents survive about its construction. The church is in excellent condition and retains an excellent degree of integrity.

How is it significant?

St Mark's Anglican Church is of historical and architectural significance to the township of Cavendish and to the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

St Mark's Anglican Church is of historical significance as an demonstration of the major changes in rural communities after the Second World War. St Mark's Anglican Church is of architectural significance for its successful use of the International Moderne style to express optimism and faith while retaining conventional elements essential to the Anglican tradition.

COMPARISON:

002 St Luke's Lutheran Church, Bunbury Street, Cavendish

365 Uniting Church, Scott Street, Cavendish

ASSESSED BY: tfh

ASSESSMENT DATE:

07-Apr-03

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
	Dundas Shire Centenary	1963	64