

Hastings Uniting Church Chapel, 121 Marine Parade, Hastings, Statement of Significance

Heritage Place: Hastings Uniting Church Chapel (Former Hastings Methodist Church), 121 Marine Parade, Hastings	PS ref no: HO459
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What is significant?

The 144 year old Hasting Uniting Church chapel, at 121 Marine Parade, and the land defined within the polygon surrounding it, which was constructed in brick in 1871 for the Wesleyan Methodist congregation and reconstructed on the higher ground of the existing site, in 1923 using new external bricks but likely reusing original bricks for the internal walls.

Significant design features of the Victorian Gothic style of this place include: the open corner setting, the steeply pitched gable roofs, unpainted and buttresses, pointed arched doors, and windows with timber frames and glazing bars, decorative barge boards and fretwork and bluestone foundation stone located in the front wall of the original entry porch. Internally, the strapped covered ceiling in the main space, and timber lined ceiling in the porch as well as the pointed arched doorways, and window openings. The 1920s fabric used to re-construct the church is also significant.

How is it significant?

The Hastings Uniting Church chapel is locally significant for its historical, social and architectural values to the Mornington Peninsula Shire and particularly the town of Hastings.

Why is it significant?

The 144 year old Hasting Uniting Church chapel, is historically significant at a local level for its strong association with the Wesleyan Methodist (later Uniting) Church in Hastings who established and developed the property for exclusive use as a religious place after the land was granted to them by the government c1869. Soon after, in 1871 the brick church was opened. It was the fifth church built in the wider Hastings Tyabb district and the first one made of brick. It was later reconstructed on higher land on the same allotment in 1923. It is the earliest brick church in continuous use for over 144 years, by the same denomination on the original allotment, (apart from a short period when the building was being moved in 1923, and a period of about 20 years, when a larger space was needed for services which were held in the c1980s 'school' building adjacent to this chapel). (AHC criteria A4, H1)

The Hasting Uniting church chapel, is socially significant at a local level for its strong association with various donors and volunteers who organised fundraising events, and did volunteer work on the building and grounds, who paid for the building and its maintenance for over 144 years, church committees, gatherings, fund raising and garden teas in the building and grounds. (AHC criterion G 1)

Primary source

- Heritage Report, Hastings Uniting Church Chapel (Former Hastings Methodist Church), 121 Marine Parade, Hastings – by Lorraine Huddle (Heritage Intelligence Pty Ltd) October 2015, revised February 2017 by Context Pty Ltd