

Heritage Citation



Windsor Presbyterian Church & Hall

Key details

Addresses	At 60 Maygar Street, Windsor, Queensland 4030
Type of place	Church, Hall
Period	Interwar 1919-1939, Postwar 1945-1960
Style	Carpenter Gothic
Lot plan	L55_RP19287; L56_RP19287
Key dates	Local Heritage Place Since — 1 January 2004 Date of Citation — September 2010
Construction	Roof: Terracotta tile; Walls: Timber

Criterion for listing

(A) Historical; (D) Representative; (E) Aesthetic; (G) Social

This Carpenter Gothic style church was constructed in 1934 when Windsor was undergoing considerable growth and residential development. The local population grew steadily throughout the next two decades and in 1959 an attached church hall was erected at the rear of the church to accommodate the expanding congregation. In 1977, the Presbyterian, Methodist and Congregational churches amalgamated to form the Uniting Church of Australia, however unlike most churches, this church retained its original name and has continued to serve the spiritual needs of the Presbyterian community into the twenty-first century.

History

Built in 1934, the Windsor Presbyterian Church brought the tradition of Presbyterian worship within reach of all those living in the district at a time of considerable residential development. The church was financed and erected under the auspices of the Church Extension Fund at a cost of £2413. It was opened on 15 April 1934 and in a little more than a month a Women's Guild was founded on 25 May 1934 and by December of that year a Sunday School and Kindergarten were operating.

The pattern established in that first year of striving to serve the varied needs of the congregation continued for the next few decades. Over the years as the population in the surrounding district grew, so too, the number of worshippers and children attending the Sunday School. To promote better communication with members of the congregation, in 1947 the first issue of the Church News was published and distributed. Post-war development at nearby Stafford prompted the establishment of a Sunday School in 1948 to serve the needs of the growing number of children in that area.

Discussion of the possibility of constructing a church hall to meet the needs of the ever increasing congregation began in the early 1950s but subsequent difficulties with the location of a separate building on the existing site delayed plans considerably. By 1957, a decision had been reached about the erection of a hall as an extension of the existing church and the tender of G.H. Heaven of £9385.10.0 for the work was accepted by the congregation. This decision was rescinded in 1959 and a quote submitted earlier by R. G. Trevethan of £9838 was accepted. The Commemoration Stone of the new extension was laid on 19 April 1959 and the hall itself dedicated on Sunday 30 August 1959. In 1960-61 the stage area of the Church was remodelled. The efforts of the parishioners were rewarded when, in 1970, the loan to pay for the extension was liquidated.

The 1970s was a decade of enormous change within churches generally. In 1977 members of some Methodist, Presbyterian and Congregational churches amalgamated to form the Uniting Church of Australia. Other congregations opted to remain outside the new body. This congregation was one such congregation. At this time, the dwindling numbers in the congregation brought with it the possibility that the Windsor presbytery would revert to Home Mission Status. This occurred on 1 April 1979. The declining numbers appear to have been in part a reflection of the decline in the population of the area, partly a decline in the adherence to religious observance in the wider community, and possibly the divisions within the church at the time of the formation of the Uniting Church. From 1981, talks were held proposing amalgamation with the adjoining Wilston-Newmarket Presbyterian Church and a petition seeking this change was submitted on 8 November 1981. From 1 January 1982, the church became part of the new joint charge. This does not appear to have constrained the role to be

played by the church in the lives of the members of its congregation.

Statement of significance

Relevant assessment criteria

This is a place of local heritage significance and meets one or more of the local heritage criteria under the Heritage planning scheme policy of the *Brisbane City Plan 2014*. It is significant because:

Historical

CRITERION A

The place is important in demonstrating the evolution or pattern of the city's or local area's history for the evidence it provides of the development of Windsor in the interwar period and the presence of the Presbyterian community in the area at this time.

Representative

CRITERION D

The place is important in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a particular class or classes of cultural places as a substantially intact example of a Carpenter Gothic church from the interwar period.

Aesthetic

CRITERION E

The place is important because of its aesthetic significance for its craftsmanship and design which include a pleasing symmetry and attractive timber detailing.

Social

CRITERION G

The place has a strong or special association with the life or work of a particular community or cultural group for

social, cultural or spiritual reasons

as a place of worship and religious education for the local Presbyterian community since 1928.

References

1. *The Windsor Presbyterian Church: the auld kirk: the first fifty years, 1934-1984: a brief History*
 2. Brisbane City Council Water Supply & Sewerage Detail Plans
 3. Queensland Post Office Directories
 4. Queensland Certificates of Title
 5. Windsor and Districts' Historical Society, historical material relating to churches in the district
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Note: This citation has been prepared on the basis of evidence available at the time including an external examination of the building. The statement of significance is a summary of the most culturally important aspects of the property based on the available evidence, and may be re-assessed if further information becomes available. The purpose of this citation is to provide an informed evaluation for heritage registration and information. This does not negate the necessity for a thorough conservation study by a qualified practitioner, before any action is taken which may affect its heritage significance.

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