



ACT Heritage Council

Entry to the ACT Heritage Register

Heritage Act 2004

20065. All Saints Church

Section 24 Block 15

AINSLIE

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Conservation Requirements (including Specific Requirements), as defined under the **Heritage Act 2004**, that are contained within this document are taken to be Heritage Guidelines applying to this place or object, as the case may be.

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65. All Saints Church, Ainslie [V145]¹

Location

Block 15 Section 24, Ainslie as identified in Figure 65 and indicated on the Territory Plan Map by the Heritage Places Register Overlay H65.

Features Intrinsic To The Heritage Significance Of The Place

The features intrinsic to the significance of the place are:

- a) the church building inclusive of the following detail elements:
 - i) facades, excluding the windows in the north and south facades;
 - ii) east window and the north and south transept windows and chapel no. 2 window;
 - iii) Tower and bell;
 - iv) Transepts;
 - v) gargoyles, gutters and fleur de lys;
 - vi) bays;
 - vii) angel arch including column, capitals, angels and other carvings;
 - viii) columns with bases, pillars, capitals and arches;
 - ix) roof trusses; and
 - x) organ, altar, pulpit and font.
- b) the landscape setting of the Church - inclusive of the grounds from the southeast face of the parish centre and shop through to the street frontages.

Statement Of Significance

The church has a remarkable history as a former mortuary railway station that has been relocated and adapted to serve as a church for the Anglican parish of All Saints.

Constructed in 1868 at the Rookwood Necropolis in Sydney, the original building served as a railway station through which bodies and mourners were delivered to the cemetery, a custom that has been superseded by the use of motor vehicles since the turn of the century. In 1958, after being burnt out in a fire, the building was dismantled and each stone numbered for its relocation to its present site in Ainslie where it was reconstructed with sympathetic minor changes including the enclosure of the previously open sides and openings at each end through which the trains passed. The relocation and adaptive reuse of the building represents a remarkable technical and social achievement, whilst the original use of the building as a mortuary railway station is easily interpreted from its current appearance.

The building, inclusive of the adaptive changes to serve as a church, remains a fine example of the Gothic Revival style of architecture, which is derived from the thirteenth century Florentian style. The external character of the building including the composition of form and stonework detailing are directly attributable to the prominent NSW Colonial Architect James Barnet.

The church has a continuing association with the local Anglican community and a broader link to the development of religion within the national capital.

Specific Requirements

In accordance with s54(1) of the *Land (Planning and Environment) Act 1991* the following requirements are identified as essential to the conservation of the heritage significance of this place. These requirements are prepared to implement the following conservation policy for the place:

The place shall be conserved as a church in a landscape setting and appropriately maintained consistent with its heritage significance.

- i) **Building including alterations and additions**
 - a) The Gothic Revival characteristics and details of the church shall be conserved and may be enhanced. Any additions or alterations to the church shall be in sympathy with the Gothic

¹ [V145: Added to Heritage Places Register 14/09/2000 (Variation Number 145)]

Revival style and undertaken in accordance with the Conservation Management Policy for the place.

- b) The church shall remain the pre-eminent building on the site and its corner setting shall be conserved and may be enhanced.
- c) New buildings or additions or alterations to other existing buildings shall be in sympathy with the Gothic Revival style of the church. This includes alterations to external finishes.

ii) Landscape

- a) The open landscape character of the church grounds shall be retained.
- b) New landscape elements in the place shall only be permitted where the new elements do not adversely affect the landscape setting of the place.

iii) Demolition

- a) Subject to (iii)(b) demolition of the original built fabric of the church shall not be permitted, other than in exceptional circumstances, including circumstances in which the building or structure is structurally unsound and beyond economic repair or where there are significant public health and safety reasons to warrant demolition. Demolition shall not be permitted unless there is no prudent and feasible alternative.
- b) The demolition of original built fabric of the church shall only be permitted in the context of sympathetic alteration and additions.

Figure 65: All Saints Church, Ainslie

