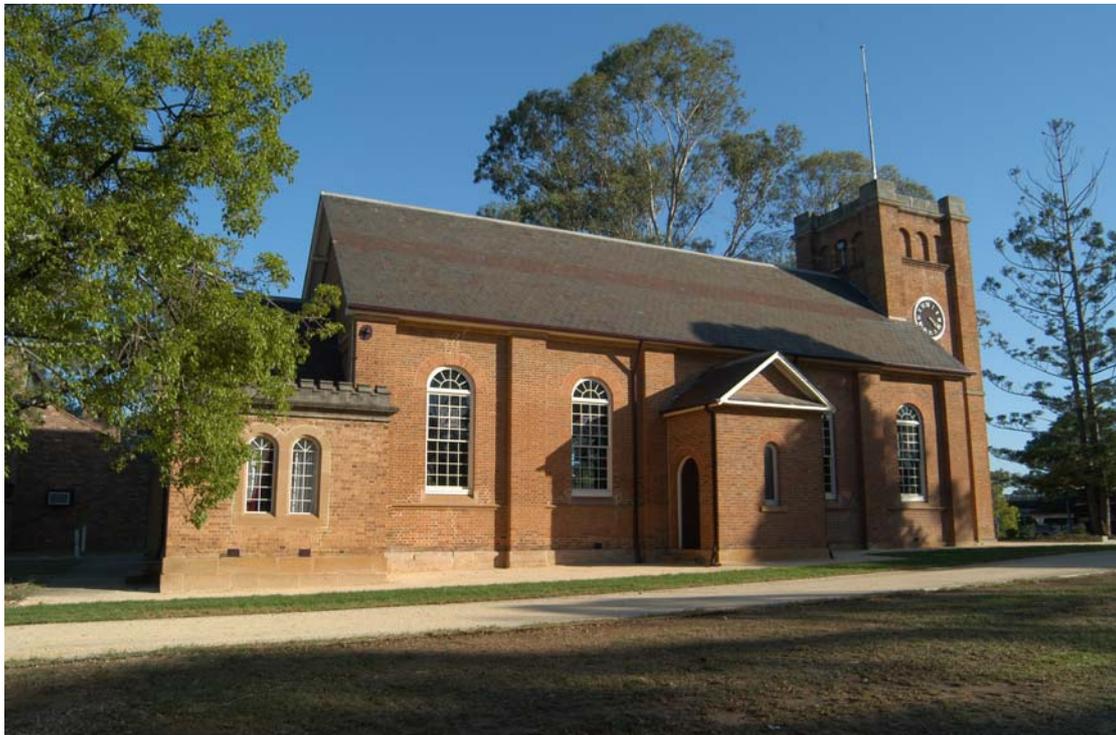


ST PETERS ANGLICAN CHURCH GROUP

Lot S 50 & 52 DP 811930 Cordeaux Street, Campbelltown
Church built 1821-23; Cemetery established 1822; Rectory built 1887





HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION:

His site marks the genesis of Campbelltown, as the church, school and burial ground sites were out by Governor Macquarie when he founded the town of the 1 December 1820. The oldest building in town, it was designed and built by Francis Lawless, foreman bricklayer of the Government gangs and completed in 1823. This was the only building in the township for many years. By 1 September 1822 the church was roofed, but the interior unfinished when the catholic congregation, who had been attending mass celebrated by Father Therry in the open took shelter from the rain, an action that infuriated the Reverend Reddall. The second building was a three-room school (11m x 5m) shared by the local school children and local magistrates and probably the schoolteacher's family as well. The neat early brick structure had been added and altered and the tower extended in the early 1870's. The clock was put up in 1839 and was purchased by public subscription. (see H.H. Ellis, '*The Foundations of Campbelltown*' Campbelltown & Airds Historical Society Journal, Vol. 1 and M.E. Herman '*St Peter's Church, Campbelltown*', Ibid for plans and illustrations.

The Victorian two storey rectory is associated with an earlier stable behind. Built in 1887, the house has a bay window downstairs and upstairs verandahs with cast iron balustrading. The stable building is painted white to match the house, and an open cast iron column added. The roof is corrugated iron.

The cemetery was originally 3 acres, set aside by Governor Macquarie, but now smaller. It contains many old gravestones of the early pioneers of the town and district. The oldest gravesite is dated 1823 – the oldest cemetery in the town.

CONDITION AND USE:

Restored in 1962, under Morton Herman's direction and at this time the pointed stained glass windows which were installed in the 1870's were replaced by small-paned box frame windows of clear glass. The brick porch, vestry and chancel are accretions on the original structure. The roof pitch has been raised and the tree (3) bayed section at the top of the tower added. A gallery for the organ and choir was added by Herman in 1962. Today, the church is in good condition. The roof of the rectory has been renewed at some time. This building is in good condition structurally, though dilapidated. The cemetery is reasonably neat.

HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE:

- The church group has historic, social, architectural, aesthetic and group significance.
- The greatest historical importance to the Campbelltown District, designated by Macquarie. The cemetery has a close physical and visual

relationship with the church. The rectory, next door to the church is not closely associated visually, but physically.

HERITAGE LISTING:

LOCAL: LEP 2002

STATE: *Proudfoot:* Index Nos 44-47 Category 1 (Key Building)

Church and Cemetery Category 2 (Rectory & Stables)

Macarthur Regional Heritage Study: Map 5, No. 54

National Trust (NSW): Classified (all items)

Federal: *Heritage Commission (National Estate):* Registered (All)