

## Ashfield Heritage Study Inventory Sheets 2010

|   |  |  |                                     |
|---|--|--|-------------------------------------|
| <b>Name of Item</b>   | St Oswald's Anglican church and hall complex                       | <b>Reference N°</b><br><b>10/5</b>   |                                     |
| <b>Other Names</b>  |  |  |                                     |
| <b>Address</b>  | 10 Dickson Street corner of Dalhousie Street                       | <b>Land Title</b>  |                                     |
| <b>Locality</b>   | Haberfield <span style="float: right;"><b>Postcode</b> 2045</span> |  |                                     |
| <b>Item Type</b>  | Building   | <b>Owner/s</b>   |                                     |
| <b>Group Name</b>   |  |  |                                     |
| <b>Statement of Significance</b>  |  | <b>Condition as observed from street —</b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intact<br><br><b>Minor alteration —</b><br><input type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unsympathetic<br><br><b>Major alteration —</b><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sympathetic<br><input type="checkbox"/> Unsympathetic<br><br><b>Modifications —</b><br>As given in the historical outline. |                                     |
| <p>St Oswald's Church group has historic significance in characterising the growth and development of Haberfield between the two World Wars. The church building design is the work of the notable architect John Burcham Clamp, expressing the revived Gothic style so important at that time. The parish hall, incorporating the first church, contributes to the historic significance of the group.</p> |  |  |                                     |
| <b>Summary of Significance</b>  |  |  |                                     |
|   | <b>Rare</b>  | <b>Associative</b>   | <b>Representative</b>               |
| <b>Historic</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Aesthetic</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Social</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Scientific</b>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |
| <b>Other</b>  | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>   | <input type="checkbox"/>            |



Surveyed by

RI

Survey Date

20/3/2010

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|--|---|
| <p><b>Current Use</b><br/>Anglican church, parish hall and appurtenances.</p>  | <p><b>Reference N°</b><br/><br/>10/5</p>                  |
| <p><b>Heritage Listing</b>    Ashfield Local Environmental Plan 1985, Schedule 7</p>   |   |
| <p><b>Themes : Local</b><br/>Subdivision and consolidation<br/>Emergence of building styles</p>  | <p><b>Themes : State</b><br/>Cultural and social life</p> |
| <p><b>Historical Notes</b></p> <p>At the beginning of the 20th century the population of Haberfield was increasing rapidly and by about 1905 Anglicans began to meet for public worship in a small tennis clubroom in Hawthorne Parade. The congregation was referred to as a ‘daughter church’ of St John’s, Ashfield. As the congregation grew a church building became a necessity. Accordingly the present site was purchased and a small brick building was erected and opened in 1908. It was called the ‘School Church’. The first entry in the parish register is for April 1909 when, on Easter Day, the congregation included 41 communicants.(1)</p> <p>As the district continued to grow, a building fund was established for the erection of a new church. In 1924 a building committee was appointed and the architect John Burcham Clamp was commissioned. The foundation stone was laid in November 1927 by the Rt Rev C A D’Arcy Irvine, Bishop Coadjutor of Sydney. The builders were Sid and Caleb Potter, who took only five months to complete the church, and it was dedicated on 24 May 1928. By 1946 it was free of debt and was consecrated on 24 November of that year.(2)</p> <p>On completion of the new church the old School Church became the parish hall. It survives as part of the present parish hall complex, extended and altered in 1912, 1933 and 1964, the latter to the design of R Lindsay Little, the diocesan architect.</p> |   |
| <p><b>Physical Description</b></p> <p><b>The church</b> is a brick structure of cruciform plan, with sandstone and render dressings, a slate roof of gabled forms, and a landmark square tower with a decorative parapet. A corner tourelle with stairs to the bell chamber is capped by a flagpole. The detailing of the building includes pointed arch openings some of which have stone tracery in the Perpendicular tradition. The combination of brick, stone and cement render is most pleasing. The church was built to hold a congregation of 400 people. Its architectural style is Inter-War revived Gothic.</p> <p><b>The Parish Hall</b>, originally the ‘School Church’, is a brick building having a steep roof with a main gable facing Dickson Street and a lateral gable on the south. The 1908 building was extended three times, most recently in 1964 by the addition of a new front and a section on the west.</p> <p>There is a squared rubble sandstone fence and a simple garden which, however, includes large mature trees that obscure the form and some of the detail of the building.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>Information Sources</b></p> <p>(1) Irving and Pratten, <i>Heritage Report for St Oswald’s Church Hall</i>, January 1998, citing the booklet <i>St Oswald’s Haberfield: Golden Jubilee of the Laying of the Foundation Stone</i> (The Parish, 1977) and drawings in the possession of the parish.</p> <p>(2) Ibid. Vincent Crow, <i>Tours of Haberfield Past and Present</i> (The author, 2002).</p>  |   |