

Heritage inventory sheet

Based on the NSW Heritage Office State Heritage Inventory sheet

ITEM DETAILS			
Name of Item	St George Orthodox Church and War Memorial complex and setting, including interiors and moveable heritage		
Former name			
Item type	Built		
Address	Number 90-92	Street Newcastle Street	Suburb Rose Bay
Property description	Lots 15 &16, Sec D, DP 5092		
Use	Current Place of worship		Former Place of worship
Statement of significance	<p>The St George Greek Orthodox Church and war memorial is of local heritage significance for its historical, associative, aesthetic, social, rarity and representative values. The church reflects the rapid pattern of development of Rose Bay in the post-World War I era and the growing presence of migrant communities that settled in the area during this time. Since its construction and consecration in 1962, the church building has supported the continuity and celebration of Greek customs and traditions in Sydney's Eastern suburbs for generations of that community. Designed by prominent Inter-War architectural firm Fowell, Mansfield & Maclurcan, the St George Greek Orthodox Church is considered to be a fine and representative example of their ecclesiastical buildings. The church building is an interesting example of a Greek Orthodox War Memorial Church, which combines elements of the Byzantine style typically associated with ANZAC memorials with the traditional Greek Orthodox Church style. As a Greek Orthodox war memorial church, the St George Greek Orthodox Church has significance for its associations with Australia's defence history, commemorating members of Australia's Greek community who served and lost their lives in during World War I and World War II, and Australian soldiers who fought in Greece during World War I. There is only one other known example of this type of Greek Orthodox war memorial church remaining in Sydney.</p>		
Level of significance	State: NO	Local: YES	
Heritage listings	None		
DESCRIPTION			
Designer	Fowell, Mansfield & Maclurcan		
Builder	Cirvan Bros Pty Ltd		
Construction years	1962		
Physical Description	<p>Constructed in 1962, the St George Greek Orthodox Church is an example of a late twentieth century ecclesiastical style church. It was designed by architects Fowell, Mansfield & Maclurcan and built by Cirvan Bros Pty Ltd. Dedicated as a war memorial, the church fronts Newcastle Street as a combination of the classic Greek Orthodox church style merged with elements of the simplified Byzantine style that is typical of Australian war memorial architecture. The building is set back from the street and sides, and is elevated on a tiered podium to the front.</p> <p>Exterior The St George Greek Orthodox Church is a blonde face brick building with a concrete tiled gabled roof featuring a bell tower to the front. The front (west) façade of the building features the main entry porch and a niche window. The square bell tower is located on the northern side of the front</p>		

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	<p>façade, is of brick construction and is capped with an open rendered concrete dome with metal crucifix above.</p> <p>The main entrance porch of the church is accessed via a series of concrete and terrazzo stairs from street level, and is defined by three centrally located double doors that are detailed with projecting cream-painted round arched masonry fins. The upper portions of the arched openings are infilled above a projecting shelf, and are decorated with bronze religious motifs. The central arch contains the “Chi-Rho”, and “Alpha-Omega” symbols. The arches on either side have a centered cross with five smaller crosses surrounding it. The cross within the northern arch features Ancient Greek lettering (the language of the Church), while the southern cross includes a dual-fish motif – ‘Ichthys’ – which references the Biblical story of the multiplication of loaves and fishes.</p> <p>The niche window is centrally located above the entry porch and has rendered masonry crucifix in front of a four pane fixed window. The side (north and south) façades of the church feature tall multi-pane windows with amber colour glass and side entry doors. The rear (east) façade of the church features three apses that are capped with copper roofing and flashing. The brickwork also features breezeblock-style ventilation at the lower courses of the windows and two doors which provide access into the lower ground-floor community hall.</p> <p>Interior</p> <p>The description below is based on the heritage assessment provided by Urbis¹, and a physical inspection by Woollahra Council in July 2023.</p> <p>The St George Church is entered through the central door on the western primary façade, into which the visitor walks directly into an entry vestibule, or narthex. The narthex includes the timber staircase to the mezzanine floor on the north side; and there are timber icon stands (<i>εικονοστάσια</i> – <i>iconostasia</i>) either side at the entrance to the nave. At ground floor level, the church interior comprises a two-storey scaled rectangular space containing the vestibule with mezzanine/gallery above, central nave, sanctuary and altar, vestry spaces, offices, stores and stairs.</p> <p>The flooring throughout the Church is parquetry timber with loose rugs throughout, and tiled stairs which lead to the iconostasis and the sanctuary. The church has rendered walls with timber panelling to the lower portion. The ceiling of the Church features a triple-vaulted timber board ceiling, while the walls have timber linings to the wainscoting and are rendered and overpainted above. The walls include some framed, painted icons. There are vertically proportioned stained glass windows throughout the interior, and while the openings remain in the original locations, the glazing itself was installed in 2021 as a result of a donation to the Church.</p> <p>At the rear of the nave is the iconostasis, <i>τεμπλον</i> – <i>templon</i>, located on a raised platform which separates the main church from the sanctuary behind the iconostasis. The timber iconostasis is a portable timber structure which features the ‘Beautiful Gate’ (<i>ωραῖος</i> – <i>horaïos</i>, accessed only by the clergy) in the middle, with painted icons including Jesus, John the Baptist, St George, Mary with infant Jesus on either side of the beautiful gate, and with Biblical scenes within the arches above the main panels. Flooring surrounding the iconostasis comprises green marble tiling. The sanctuary is accessible to clergy only and was not able to be inspected, however is understood to feature the rear of the iconostasis, and three recessed arches, the central one of which features an icon of Jesus on the Cross.</p>
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¹ St George Rose Bay ‘Our Parish’. Accessed online at: <http://www.stgeorgerosebay.org.au/who-we-are/our-parish/>

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	<p>The building ceiling contains chandeliers, however these are relatively ordinary contemporary chandeliers, not the more ornate Πολυέλεος – <i>polyeleos</i> style chandelier typical of Greek Churches. There are portable timber pews throughout the nave of the church, symmetrically arranged on either side of the aisle and in rows.</p> <p>The lower ground-level of the Church features a hall used for community events and a weekend Greek language school. The space comprises typical plasterboard walls and ceiling, contemporary timber floorboards, a timber stage and a contemporary kitchen in the southeast corner.</p> <p>Moveable heritage items There are several movable heritage items in the St George Greek Orthodox Church, including but not limited to timber furniture and commemorative items. This is a nominal list only and outlines items that are immediately apparent as having some degree of historical, social or other potential significance to the church. Moveable items may pertain to rituals and practices that are important parts of religious celebrations, or memorabilia and paraphernalia that are specific to this congregation and its religious practices. Additional items may be identified as part of a Moveable Heritage Assessment, the preparation of which is recommended.</p> <p>Fixed items, interior and exterior External fixed items include two plaques. One plaque commemorates the dedication of the church as a war memorial to Australian soldiers of Greek origin that took part in the two world wars and Australian servicemen who died in Greece during the Second World War. It was unveiled by Lieut. General Sir Eric Woodward on 24 November 1962.</p> <p>The other plaque located on the southern corner of the church is a foundation stone that was laid on the 23 April 1961 by his Eminence Archbishop Ezekiel. It notes the architects as Fowell, Mansfield & Maclurcan and the builders as Cirvan Bros Pty Ltd.</p> <p>Setting The St George Greek Orthodox Church is located on the eastern side of Newcastle Street. It is located opposite the heritage listed Royal Sydney Golf Links, which is largely screened by dense foliage. The church building is situated within a predominantly residential streetscape setting, with original Federation era single-storey dwellings and some recent multi-dwelling developments located immediately adjacent, along the eastern side of Newcastle Street. Within this relatively low-scale setting, the church has a landmark presence within its immediate landscape.</p>
Physical condition	The church building (internal and external) appears in good condition. The building is well-maintained through its active use and regular maintenance. Paint on the rendered belltower appears to be degrading.
Modification and Dates	<p>BA 1960/745 – New church (Fowell, Mansfield & Maclurcan)</p> <p>BA 1963/193 – Occupation certificate</p> <p>BA 1984/1094 – New stage hall (Complan Structural Designs)</p> <p>BA 1986/392 – New fence (Nicholson & Evans Consulting Engineers)</p> <p>BA 1991/310 – Air-conditioning (Property Technologies Consulting Engineers)</p> <p>DA 2002/309 – New addition to the church building (ESZ Architects)</p>
Archaeological potential	No known historic archaeological potential. Identified as being on potentially sensitive land on the Aboriginal sensitivity mapping.
Further comments	

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HISTORY

Aboriginal ethno-history

The coastal regions of Sydney between Port Jackson and Botany Bay are the ancestral territories of the Eora people. The traditional owners of the land now within the Woollahra Council area were the Cadigal (Gadigal) and the Birrabirragal people. In common with other tribes living by Sydney Harbour, the Gadigal lived in harmony with the natural resources within their country, fishing from canoes or hunting the animals that lived in surroundings. The tribe appears to have moved within their territory in response to the seasons and family connections. Shell middens and other archaeological remains in the area provide material evidence of many centuries of sustained connection to the land that also sustained them. The arrival of white settlers caused the wholesale disruption of traditional life and the cultural practices of the Eora people generally. Despite enormous challenges, today many Indigenous people identify as Eora and maintain cultural practices and a connection to Country.

Rose Bay suburb history

Rose Bay is a suburb in Eastern Sydney in the Woollahra LGA. It was named after George Rose, A British Treasury official.² Around 1805, the first Europeans who settled in the area comprised convicts operating Salt Boilers near the bay. From the early nineteenth century until 1920, Rose Bay was occupied by market gardens.

The suburb of Rose Bay was originally part of land granted to John Piper, Thomas Benson, Thomas Galvin, Richard Partridge, John Foster, William Piper, W. Jenkins, and S. Breakwell. These land grants were consolidated in 1830 to form a larger grant for Daniel Copper and Solomon Levey that consisted of 1130 acres. The land grant was later surveyed and subdivided by T.L. Mitchell in 1844 to become the Point Piper Estate.³ This was wholly owned by Daniel Cooper by 1847. This land grant was subdivided and purchased by prominent and wealthy members of the area.

The Municipality of Woollahra was established in 1860. Due to the remoteness of Rose Bay at the time, the area was not involved in the suburban development of the 1880s, seemingly to be an area reserved for the rich.

Rose Bay developed with the construction of roads and public transport in the form of ferries and trams, this included establishment of a tram service along New South Head Road in 1903. Consolidation of public transport encouraged people of different socio-economic backgrounds to move to the area as land became more affordable, resulting in rental housing development throughout the suburb.

As the central flat land of Rose Bay was occupied by the golf course and market gardens, residential development was forced towards the northern and south-western ends of the suburb, forming short streets along the beachfront.⁴

The first church in Rose Bay was the Methodist Church built in 1904 at the corner of Dover and Old South Head Roads, now used by the Uniting Church. St Andrews Scots Church opened in 1913 and still remains as a Presbyterian Church. St Paul's Anglican Church opened in 1918 and was closed in 1991. The Roman Catholic St Mary Magdalene Church opened in 1920, and the St George's Greek Orthodox Church was established in 1962.⁵

Rose Bay developed into an 'urban garden' in the Inter-War period, with a peak in housing development and flat building in the 1920s.⁶ This heralded the end of the use of the area for market gardening. In 1921, the Rose Bay area received electric power lines.⁷ The rapid post-war development and residential consolidation in the area coincided with a growing presence of migrant communities in Rose Bay.

² Broomham, R. 1984. *Rose Bay Thematic History*.

³ Broomham, R. 1984. *Rose Bay Thematic History*.

⁴ Hughes, Truman, and Ludlow, 1984. *Heritage Study for the Municipality of Woollahra. Volume 1*.

⁵ Broomham, R. 1984. *Rose Bay Thematic History*.

⁶ Broomham, R. October 2002. *The Urban Garden: Double Bay and Rose Bay Between the Wars*.

⁷ Broomham, R. October 2002. *The Urban Garden: Double Bay and Rose Bay Between the Wars*, pg. 12.

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St George Greek Orthodox Church

The establishment of Newcastle Street in 1875 to connect Old South Head Road and New South Head Road resulted in increased development in the area. In 1893, a nearby parkland that is now the Royal Sydney Golf Club was founded comprising a 9-hole course. At the turn of the century, the area around Rose Bay underwent change and rapid subdivision following the breakup of the Cooper Estate.

The subject property, formerly part of William Piper's 80-acre land grant and subsequently the 37-acre allotment bounded by Dover Street, Old South Head Road, Newcastle Street and New South Head Road that came under the ownership of Daniel Cooper, became part of the Rose Bay Estate subdivision. The St George Greek Orthodox Church is located on land that is of Lots 15 and 16 in Section D of the Rose Bay Estate. In circa 1910, a residence 'Sonoma' was built on the subject property by Otto Landahl. The subject site was purchased by The Greek Orthodox Parish of St Paul, Rose Bay on 29 May 1958.⁸ A mortgage was taken out from the Bank of New South Wales in September 1961 which enabled the construction of the Church itself. The 'Sonoma' residence was demolished around 1962 to allow for the construction of the St George Greek Orthodox Church.

The concept of establishing a Greek Orthodox church in the Eastern suburbs of Sydney started in 1956, reflecting the broader ethnic mix in the area following World War II.⁹ In 1960, a building application for the Greek Orthodox church at Rose Bay was lodged as BA1960/745. The church was designed by prominent architects Fowell, Mansfield & Maclurcan, who designed a large number of churches in Sydney and wider NSW. The architectural firm Fowell, Mansfield and Maclurcan are regarded by Apperley et al., as key practitioners of the Post-War Ecclesiastical style.¹⁰ The firm was formed by Joseph Charles Fowell, Donald Maclurcan and John Mansfield. Church buildings designed by Fowell Mansfield and Maclurcan included the Orient Line Building (2-6 Spring Street, 1943); St Augustine's Church (Meehan Street, Yass, 1956); P&O, Church of St Rose (Collaroy Plateau, 1967); the Memorial Chapel and Studies Wing at St Paul's College (The University of Sydney) and St Neri's at Northbridge (1941) and St Paul's Church, Ryde (1934).

The construction of the church was completed in early 1962, and the church was subsequently opened as Saint Paul War Memorial Church. On 8 April 1962, the church was consecrated by Archbishop Ezekiel. The church was dedicated as a War Memorial by the Governor of New South Wales, Sir Eric Woodward, on 24 November 1962. The War Memorial Church commemorates Australian soldiers of Greek heritage who lost their lives in World War I and World War II and also Australian soldiers who lost their lives in Greece during World War II.¹¹

HISTORICAL THEMES

Australian Theme	State Theme	Local Theme
2. Peopling Australia	Ethnic influences-Activities associated with common cultural traditions and peoples of shared descent, and with exchanges between such traditions and peoples	Place or object that exhibits an identifiable ethnic background
3. Developing local, regional and national economies	Events-Activities and processes that mark the consequences of natural and cultural occurrences	Memorial
7. Governing	Defence-Activities associated with defending places from hostile takeover and occupation	War memorials

⁸ Vol-Fol 2045-68

⁹ St George Rose Bay 'Our Parish'. Accessed online at: <http://www.stgeorgerosebay.org.au/who-we-are/our-parish/>

¹⁰ Apperley et al. 1989

¹¹ NSW War Memorials Register 'St George Church Rose Bay'. Accessed online at: <https://www.war memorials register.nsw.gov.au/content/st-george-greek-orthodox-church>

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8. Culture-Developing cultural institutions and ways of life	Religion-Activities associated with particular systems of faith and worship	Church
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HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT						
Historical significance SHR criteria (a)	<p>As part of the Rose Bay Estate subdivision of the former Point Piper Estate, the St George Greek Orthodox Church at Rose Bay has local historical significance for its ability to reflect the rapid pattern of development of Rose Bay in the post-World War I era and the growing presence of migrant communities that settled in the area during this time.</p> <p>The St George Greek Orthodox Church has local historical significance as an example of a church that was commissioned in NSW to honour the service of Australian soldiers of Greek heritage who lost their lives in World War I and World War II and also Australian soldiers who lost their lives in Greece during World War II. Therefore, St George Greek Orthodox Church would reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion. St George Greek Orthodox Church would not reach the threshold for State significance under this criterion.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Guidelines for inclusion</th><th>Guidelines for exclusion</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> shows evidence of a significant human activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is associated with a significant activity or historical phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> maintains or shows the continuity of a historical process or activity </td><td> <input type="checkbox"/> has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important activities or processes <input type="checkbox"/> provides evidence of activities or processes that are of dubious historical importance <input type="checkbox"/> has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association </td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Guidelines for inclusion	Guidelines for exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> shows evidence of a significant human activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is associated with a significant activity or historical phase <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> maintains or shows the continuity of a historical process or activity	<input type="checkbox"/> has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important activities or processes <input type="checkbox"/> provides evidence of activities or processes that are of dubious historical importance <input type="checkbox"/> has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association
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Historical association significance SHR criteria (b)	<p>The St George Greek Orthodox Church is significant for its association with migrant communities that settled in NSW following World War I. Since its construction and consecration in 1962, the church building has been the focus for worship and the continuity and celebration of Greek customs and traditions in Sydney's Eastern suburbs.</p> <p>The St George Greek Orthodox Church has significance for its associations with Australia's defence history. The church is dedicated as a war memorial that provides a place of commemoration for Australian soldiers of Greek heritage who lost their lives in World War I and World War II, and also Australian soldiers who lost their lives in Greece during World War II. The church is listed on the NSW War Memorials Register. Therefore, St George Greek Orthodox Church would reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion. St George Greek Orthodox Church would not reach the threshold for State significance under this criterion.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Guidelines for inclusion</th><th>Guidelines for exclusion</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> shows evidence of a significant human occupation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is associated with a significant event, person, or group of persons </td><td> <input type="checkbox"/> has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important activities or processes <input type="checkbox"/> provides evidence of activities or processes that are of dubious historical importance <input type="checkbox"/> has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association </td></tr> </tbody> </table>		Guidelines for inclusion	Guidelines for exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> shows evidence of a significant human occupation <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is associated with a significant event, person, or group of persons	<input type="checkbox"/> has incidental or unsubstantiated connections with historically important activities or processes <input type="checkbox"/> provides evidence of activities or processes that are of dubious historical importance <input type="checkbox"/> has been so altered that it can no longer provide evidence of a particular association
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<p>Aesthetic significance SHR criteria (c)</p>	<p>The St George Greek Orthodox Church is a fine example of the work of the prominent Inter-War architectural firm Fowell, Mansfield & Maclurcan. Joseph Charles Fowell is recognised as a prominent Australian twentieth century architect, particularly renowned for his ecclesiastical architecture with numerous buildings being heritage listed. The St George Greek Orthodox Church is an interesting example of a Greek Orthodox War Memorial Church that incorporates elements of the Byzantine style typically associated with ANZAC memorials, with the traditional Greek Orthodox Church style. The church displays simple and restrained design elements of these styles, whilst also stylistically consistent with the work of Fowell, Mansfield & Maclurcan. Within its surrounding streetscape setting, the church has landmark qualities. Therefore, St George Greek Orthodox Church would reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion. St George Greek Orthodox Church would not reach the threshold for State significance under this criterion.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Guidelines for inclusion</th><th>Guidelines for exclusion</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> shows or is associated with, creative or technical innovation or achievement</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> is not a major work by an important designer or artist</td></tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> is the inspiration for a creative or technical innovation or achievement</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> has lost its design or technical integrity</td></tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is aesthetically distinctive</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> its positive visual or sensory appeal or landmark and scenic qualities have been more than temporarily degraded</td></tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has landmark qualities</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> has only a loose association with a creative or technical achievement</td></tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> exemplifies a particular taste, style or technology</td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Guidelines for inclusion	Guidelines for exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> shows or is associated with, creative or technical innovation or achievement	<input type="checkbox"/> is not a major work by an important designer or artist	<input type="checkbox"/> is the inspiration for a creative or technical innovation or achievement	<input type="checkbox"/> has lost its design or technical integrity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is aesthetically distinctive	<input type="checkbox"/> its positive visual or sensory appeal or landmark and scenic qualities have been more than temporarily degraded	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has landmark qualities	<input type="checkbox"/> has only a loose association with a creative or technical achievement	<input type="checkbox"/> exemplifies a particular taste, style or technology	
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<p>Social significance SHR criteria (d)</p>	<p>Although social significance has not been formally assessed, it is assumed the St George Greek Orthodox Church is held in high esteem by members of the Parish and the broader Greek Orthodox community of Sydney. In addition to regular Sunday church services, the building has been a focal point for the local Greek Orthodox community for significant celebrations and events including weddings, baptisms, funerals and religious activities for more than five decades providing an important part in the community's sense of place.</p> <p>The St George Greek Orthodox Church also has social significance for its ability to recognise and commemorate members of Australia's Greek community who served and lost their lives defending Australia during World War I and World War II, and Australian soldiers who fought in Greece during World War II. Demonstrative of this social significance, the building is listed on the NSW War Memorials Register. Therefore, St George Greek Orthodox Church would reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion. St George Greek Orthodox Church would not reach the threshold for State significance under this criterion.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Guidelines for inclusion</th><th>Guidelines for exclusion</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is important for its associations with an identifiable group</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> is only important to the community for amenity reasons</td></tr> <tr> <td><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is important to a community's sense of place</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> is retained only in preference to a proposed alternative</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Guidelines for inclusion	Guidelines for exclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is important for its associations with an identifiable group	<input type="checkbox"/> is only important to the community for amenity reasons	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is important to a community's sense of place	<input type="checkbox"/> is retained only in preference to a proposed alternative						
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Technical/Research significance SHR criteria (e)	<p>It is considered that any archaeological potential on the site would have been removed during the construction of the existing church building with basement level. The building does not yield any potential for technical or scientific research information that would not be available from other sources. Therefore, the St George Greek Orthodox Church would not meet the threshold for local or State significance under this criterion.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Guidelines for inclusion</th> <th>Guidelines for exclusion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> has the potential to yield new or further substantial scientific and/or archaeological information <input type="checkbox"/> is an important benchmark or reference site or type <input type="checkbox"/> provides evidence of past human cultures that is unavailable elsewhere </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> the knowledge gained would be irrelevant to research on science, human history or culture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has little archaeological or research potential <input type="checkbox"/> only contains information that is readily available from other resources or archaeological sites </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Guidelines for inclusion	Guidelines for exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> has the potential to yield new or further substantial scientific and/or archaeological information <input type="checkbox"/> is an important benchmark or reference site or type <input type="checkbox"/> provides evidence of past human cultures that is unavailable elsewhere	<input type="checkbox"/> the knowledge gained would be irrelevant to research on science, human history or culture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has little archaeological or research potential <input type="checkbox"/> only contains information that is readily available from other resources or archaeological sites
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Rarity SHR criteria (f)	<p>The St George Greek Orthodox Church is the only example of its type in the Municipality. While there are numerous Greek Orthodox churches in Sydney and NSW, the St George Greek Orthodox Church has rarity as one of a very small number of churches of its type – being a Greek Orthodox war memorial church. There is only one other known Greek Orthodox war memorial church remaining in Sydney, the St Spyridon Greek Orthodox War Memorial Church, which is listed as a local heritage item on the Randwick Local Environmental Plan 2012. The only other being the St Ioannis Greek Orthodox War Memorial Church dating to 1965 has since been demolished. The loss of this comparable building type increases the rarity of the St George Greek Orthodox Church.</p> <p>Therefore, St George Greek Orthodox Church would reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion. St George Greek Orthodox Church would not reach the threshold for State significance under this criterion.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Guidelines for inclusion</th> <th>Guidelines for exclusion</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> provides evidence of a defunct custom, way of life or process <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrates a process, custom or other human activity that is in danger of being lost <input type="checkbox"/> shows unusually accurate evidence of a significant human activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is the only example of its type <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrates designs or techniques of exceptional interest <input type="checkbox"/> shows rare evidence of a significant human activity important to a community </td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> is not rare <input type="checkbox"/> is numerous but under threat </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Guidelines for inclusion	Guidelines for exclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> provides evidence of a defunct custom, way of life or process <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrates a process, custom or other human activity that is in danger of being lost <input type="checkbox"/> shows unusually accurate evidence of a significant human activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is the only example of its type <input type="checkbox"/> demonstrates designs or techniques of exceptional interest <input type="checkbox"/> shows rare evidence of a significant human activity important to a community	<input type="checkbox"/> is not rare <input type="checkbox"/> is numerous but under threat
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<p>Representativeness SHR criteria (g)</p>	<p>The St George Greek Orthodox Church is fine and representative of the ecclesiastical buildings designed by architectural practice Fowell Mansfield & Maclurcan. The church is also a fine example of a Greek Orthodox War Memorial Church that was constructed in the post-war era to commemorate the loss of life that was experienced across the country during World War I and World War II. A comparative study of the St George Greek Orthodox Church with other Greek Orthodox war memorial churches, both extant and demolished, indicates the building retains similar elements and design features that are representative of this typology. There are no other Greek Orthodox churches within the Woollahra LGA. Because of its deliberate design as a war memorial church, the St George Greek Orthodox Church is a significant variation to other examples of traditional Greek Orthodox churches in Sydney. Therefore, St George Greek Orthodox Church would reach the threshold for local significance under this criterion. St George Greek Orthodox Church would not reach the threshold for State significance under this criterion.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="453 786 1289 1272"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="453 786 906 819">Guidelines for inclusion</th><th data-bbox="906 786 1289 819">Guidelines for exclusion</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="453 819 906 1272"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is a fine example of its type <input type="checkbox"/> has the principal characteristics of an important class or group of items <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has attributes typical of a particular way of life, philosophy, custom, significant process, design, technique or activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is a significant variation to a class of items <input type="checkbox"/> is part of a group which collectively illustrates a representative type <input type="checkbox"/> is outstanding because of its setting, condition or size <input type="checkbox"/> is outstanding because of its integrity or the esteem in which it is held </td><td data-bbox="906 819 1289 1272"> <input type="checkbox"/> is a poor example of its type <input type="checkbox"/> does not include or has lost the range of characteristics of a type <input type="checkbox"/> does not represent well the characteristics that make up a significant variation of a type </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Guidelines for inclusion	Guidelines for exclusion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is a fine example of its type <input type="checkbox"/> has the principal characteristics of an important class or group of items <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has attributes typical of a particular way of life, philosophy, custom, significant process, design, technique or activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is a significant variation to a class of items <input type="checkbox"/> is part of a group which collectively illustrates a representative type <input type="checkbox"/> is outstanding because of its setting, condition or size <input type="checkbox"/> is outstanding because of its integrity or the esteem in which it is held	<input type="checkbox"/> is a poor example of its type <input type="checkbox"/> does not include or has lost the range of characteristics of a type <input type="checkbox"/> does not represent well the characteristics that make up a significant variation of a type
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<p>Integrity</p>	<p>The exterior, and major forms and structures of the interior of the church is highly intact in its original form. Joinery and decorative elements such as the timber paneled ceiling, chandeliers and elaborately decorative mezzanine are intact. Alterations such as replacement flooring, new windows, and paint have been made as part of the ongoing upkeep of the church building, however these works have been done sympathetically and do not detract from the original architectural form and ecclesiastic nature of the church.</p>				

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RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT	
Recommendations	<p>It is recommended that the St George Greek Orthodox Church and War Memorial complex and setting, including interiors and moveable heritage be listed as a heritage item in Schedule 5 (Environmental Heritage) of the Woollahra Local Environmental Plan 2014.</p> <p>A heritage management document is to be prepared by a suitably qualified heritage consultant to assess the significance of all fabric and provide appropriate conservation policies to guide future development on the site. This should include a moveable heritage assessment and inventory for items in the St George Greek Orthodox Church which identifies items that contribute to the heritage significance of the place. The assessment must include future and ongoing management recommendations for any moveable items identified as having significance associated with the place.</p> <p>The impact of future works on the heritage significance of the heritage item are to be assessed against the relevant provisions of the Woollahra LEP 2014 and in accordance with the Heritage Council of NSW publication 'Statements of Heritage Impact' as contained in the NSW Heritage Manual. Proposed works are to be guided by the conservation principles and guidelines of the Australia ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance (Burra Charter) 2013.</p> <p>Any changes to the place should be appropriately located and be sympathetic to the identified heritage significance of the place.</p>

INFORMATION SOURCES				
Type	Author/Client	Title	Year	Repository
Study	Woollahra Council (Shona Lindsay and Charlotte Simons)	Heritage Study of Places of Worship, Woollahra LGA	2023	Woollahra Council
Study	Urbis	Heritage Assessment. St George Greek Orthodox Church	2022	Woollahra Council
Plans	Various	Subdivision Plans	Various	State Library of NSW
Record	Woollahra Municipal Council	Building Application Records	Various	Woollahra Local Studies Collection

AUTHOR OF THIS REPORT	
Name	Date
Shona Lindsay – Senior Heritage Officer, Woollahra Council and Eleanor Banaag – Senior Heritage Officer Woollahra Council	January 2023 November 2023

Heritage inventory sheet


Based on the NSW Heritage Office State Heritage Inventory sheet

IMAGES			
Image Caption		View looking north east across Newcastle Street towards the front (west) elevation of the St George Greek Orthodox Church.	
			
Image Year	2021	Image author and Copyright Holder	Charlotte Simons (Woollahra Municipal Council)

IMAGES			
Image Caption		View looking south east across Newcastle Street towards the St George Greek Orthodox Church.	
			
Image Year		2021	
Image author and Copyright Holder		Charlotte Simons (Woollahra Municipal Council)	

Heritage inventory sheet

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IMAGES			
Image Caption	View looking south east across Newcastle Street towards the St George Greek Orthodox Church.		
			
Image Year	2022	Image author and Copyright Holder	Wai Wai Liang (Woollahra Municipal Council)

IMAGES			
Image Caption	View of side fence St George Greek Orthodox Church.		
			
Image Year	2022	Image author and Copyright Holder	Wai Wai Liang (Woollahra Municipal Council)

Heritage inventory sheet

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IMAGES

Image Caption

View of sign at entrance of St George Greek Orthodox Church.



Image Year

2022

Image author and Copyright Holder

Wai Wai Liang (Woollahra Municipal Council)

IMAGES

Image Caption

View of plaque commemorating the dedication of the church as a war memorial



Image Year

2022

Image author and Copyright Holder

Wai Wai Liang (Woollahra Municipal Council)

Heritage inventory sheet

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IMAGES

Image Caption	View of foundation stone of church
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Image Year	2022	Image author and Copyright Holder	Wai Wai Liang (Woollahra Municipal Council)
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IMAGES

Image Caption	View of Templon
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Image Year	Undated	Image author and Copyright Holder	St George Orthodox Church
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Heritage inventory sheet

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IMAGES

Image Caption	Image of the Templon, Nave Vaulted Ceiling and chandeliers
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Image Year	Undated	Image author and Copyright Holder	St George Orthodox Church
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IMAGES

Image Caption	Image of Saint George on the Templon
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Image Year	Undated	Image author and Copyright Holder	St George Orthodox Church
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Heritage inventory sheet

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IMAGES			
Image Caption		Timber 'throne'.	
			
Image Year		Image author and Copyright Holder	
2023		Woollahra Municipal Council	

Heritage inventory sheet

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IMAGES			
Image Caption	Mezzanine balcony above the nave.		
			
Image Year	2023	Image author and Copyright Holder	Woollahra Municipal Council

Heritage inventory sheet

Based on the NSW Heritage Office State Heritage Inventory sheet

IMAGES

Image Caption

Timber-panelled vaulted ceiling, looking towards church entrance.



**Image
Year**

2023

**Image author
and Copyright
Holder**

Woollahra Municipal Council

Heritage inventory sheet

Based on the NSW Heritage Office State Heritage Inventory sheet

IMAGES			
Image Caption	Entry vestibule, or narthex, with cabinets and moveable items.		
			
Image Year	2023	Image author and Copyright Holder	Woollahra Municipal Council

Heritage inventory sheet

Based on the NSW Heritage Office State Heritage Inventory sheet

IMAGES

Image Caption

Original plan of church

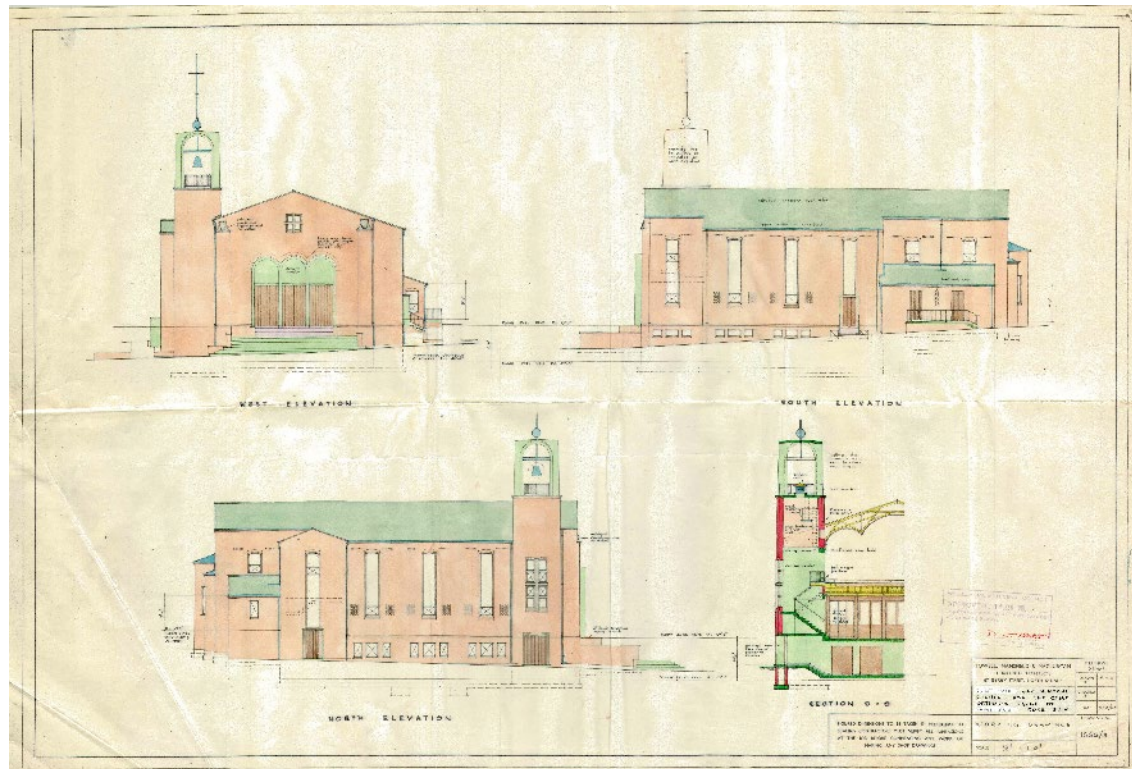


Image
Year

1960

Image author
and Copyright
Holder

Woollahra Municipal Council

Heritage inventory sheet

Based on the NSW Heritage Office State Heritage Inventory sheet

IMAGES

Image Caption

Original plan of church

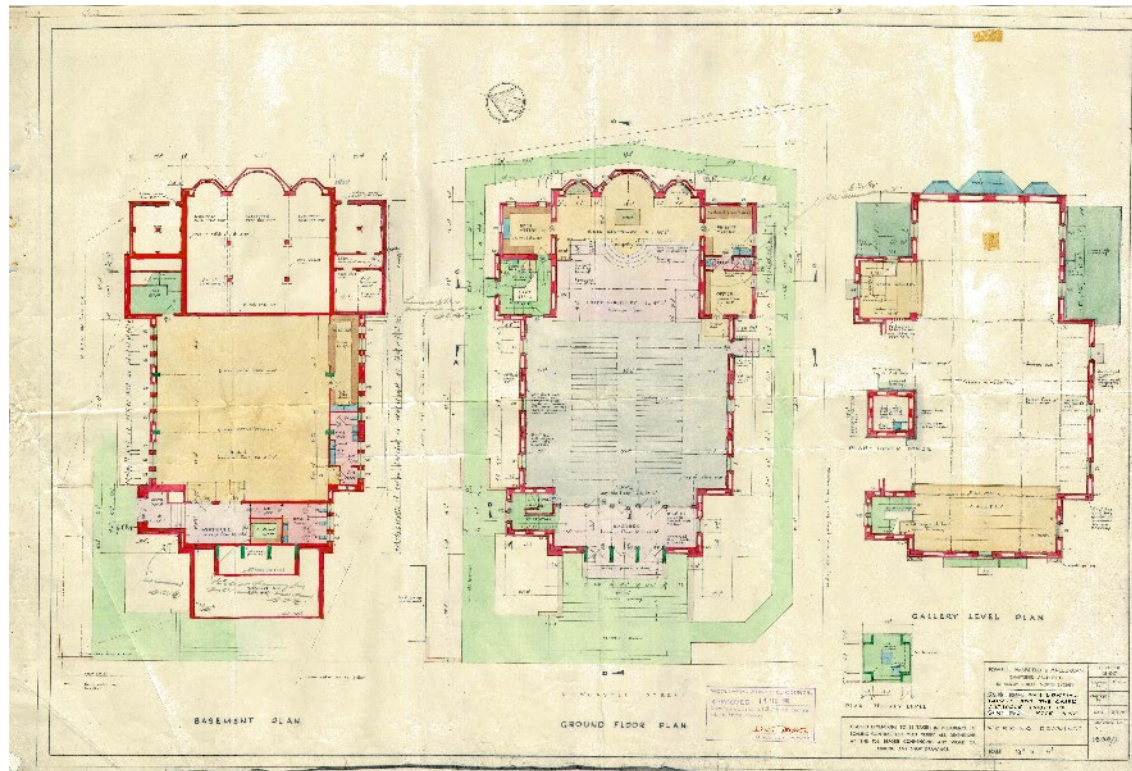


Image
Year

1960

Image author
and Copyright
Holder

Woollahra Municipal Council

Heritage inventory sheet

Based on the NSW Heritage Office State Heritage Inventory sheet

IMAGES

Image Caption

Original plan of church

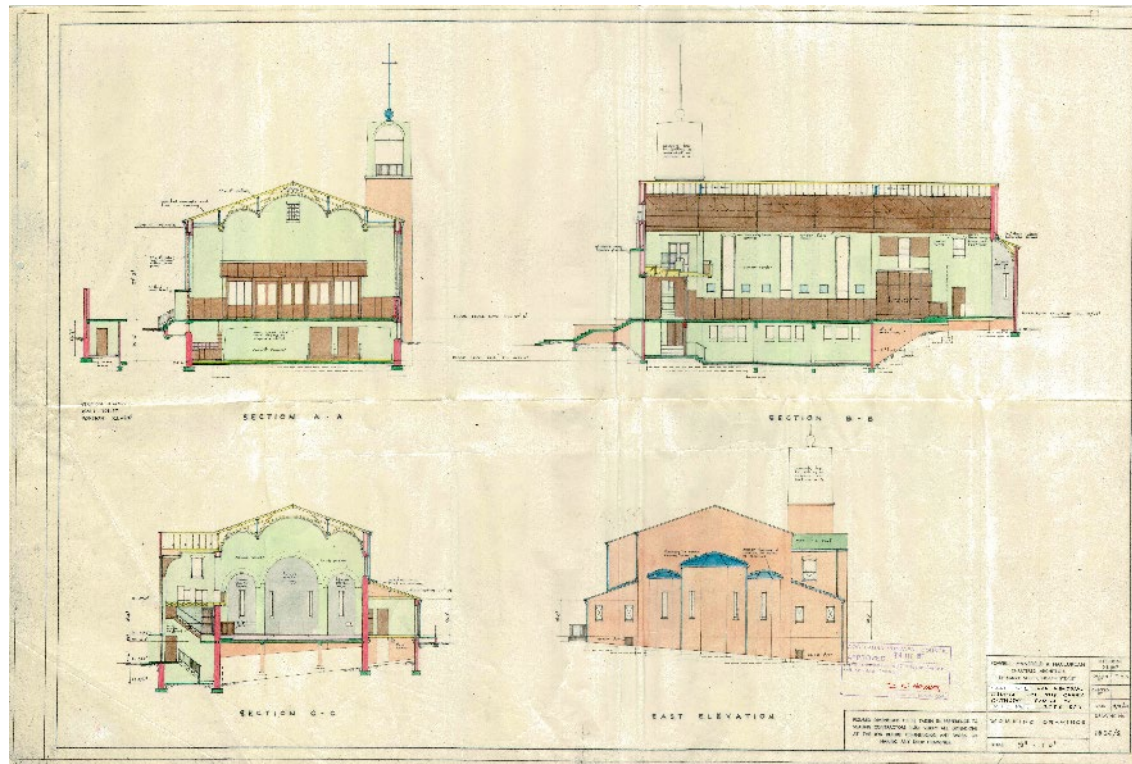


Image
Year

1960

Image author
and Copyright
Holder

Woollahra Municipal Council