

SUMMARY OF STATE HERITAGE PLACE

REGISTER ENTRY

Entry in the South Australian Heritage Register in accordance with the *Heritage Places Act 1993*

NAME: St Patrick's Schoolhouse

PLACE NO.: 26567

ADDRESS: Karna Country
268 Grote Street
Adelaide SA 5000
CT 5604/216 F181133 A291
Hundred of Adelaide

STATEMENT OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

St Patrick's Schoolhouse is one of the State's oldest surviving school buildings and is the oldest bespoke Catholic school building in South Australia. Erected in 1848, St Patrick's Schoolhouse demonstrates the emergence and evolution of schooling in South Australia and specifically Bishop Francis Murphy's efforts to establish Catholic education. It is also a rare example of a school built prior to the first Education Act of 1851.

RELEVANT CRITERIA (under section 16 of the Heritage Places Act 1993)

(a) it demonstrates important aspects of the evolution or pattern of the State's history

St Patrick's Schoolhouse is the oldest bespoke Catholic school building in South Australia and one of the State's oldest surviving schoolhouses. St Patrick's Schoolhouse demonstrates the colony's religious diversity, its foundational commitment to religious freedom and concerns about the provision of universal schooling. St Patrick's Schoolhouse was erected by the Catholic Church as a part of Bishop Francis Murphy's efforts to establish formal education for Catholic children in South Australia.

Soon after arriving in Adelaide in November 1844, Bishop Murphy became concerned that Catholic children did not have access to Catholic religious instruction as a part of their schooling and that instead, the children were 'imbibing false doctrine'. A Catholic school was quickly established in a temporary location, a brewery building on Pirie Street, while a combined school hall and church was constructed on Grote Street. Opened in 1845, the hall, was later known as St Patrick's Church (since demolished and replaced by St Patrick's Catholic Church (SHP 13397)). In 1847, Bishop Murphy commissioned the construction of St Patrick's Schoolhouse behind St Patrick's Church and by 1848 classes were also being held there; the schoolhouse is the first bespoke Catholic school in South Australia.

While St Patrick's Schoolhouse was commissioned prior to the introduction of Ordinance 11 by Governor Robe in 1847, and construction was financed by the Catholic Church, Bishop Murphy accepted funding from the government, via Ordinance 11, to subsidise the cost of employing teachers, David and Ann Cremen, for the school. Public dissent about State funding of religious instruction via schools quickly emerged and led to the abolition of the ordinance and the passage of the *Education Act 1851*. Although Bishop Murphy refused to support non-Catholic state-funded schools, he did not prevent Catholic teachers from receiving the stipend authorised by the 1851 Act. Bishop Murphy was also responsible for establishing several other Catholic schools in South Australia in the late 1840s and 1850s, including at Clare and Salisbury.

St Patrick's Schoolhouse is an important early surviving example of a bespoke school that demonstrates the fledgling colony's commitment to education, on-going religious freedom and the establishment of Catholic education in South Australia. For these reasons, St Patrick's School house is considered to meet criterion (a).

(b) it has rare, uncommon or endangered qualities that are of cultural significance

Early bespoke schoolhouses are culturally significant to South Australia as they demonstrate the origins of childhood education in the State. This foundational period in the development of education in South Australia spans 1836 to 1851 and then 1851

to 1875, marking the arrival of European colonists, the passage of the first Education Act in 1851 and then the *Education Act 1875* that made education for children up to the age of 13 compulsory and laid the foundation for the state-funded public education system in place today. Before the government began allocating funds for the construction of school buildings in the late 1850s, schools operated from a variety of buildings often including churches and dwellings. The emergence of bespoke schoolhouses represents the transition from makeshift arrangements to more formal commitments to education.

While over a hundred bespoke schoolhouses were constructed by 1873, many have been demolished or altered beyond recognition with only sixteen being known to survive. Consequently, schoolhouses built during the foundational period of the provision of education in the new colony are uncommon. Further, most of these schoolhouses were built after the government started to provide funding for their construction in the late 1850s. St Patrick's Schoolhouse, operating from 1848, is one of four surviving schoolhouses, built before the *Education Act 1851* and accordingly is a rare example of a schoolhouse that is associated with the early origins of education in South Australia. St Patrick's Schoolhouse is a rare example of a bespoke schoolhouse, constructed prior to the first education act in South Australia and an uncommon example of a schoolhouse built prior to the *Education Act 1875*.

SITE PLAN

St Patrick's Schoolhouse

PLACE NO.: 26567

Kaurna Country, 268 Grote Street, Adelaide SA 5000



St Patrick's Schoolhouse, Grote Street, Adelaide SA, CT 5604/216 F181133 A291, Hundred of Adelaide.

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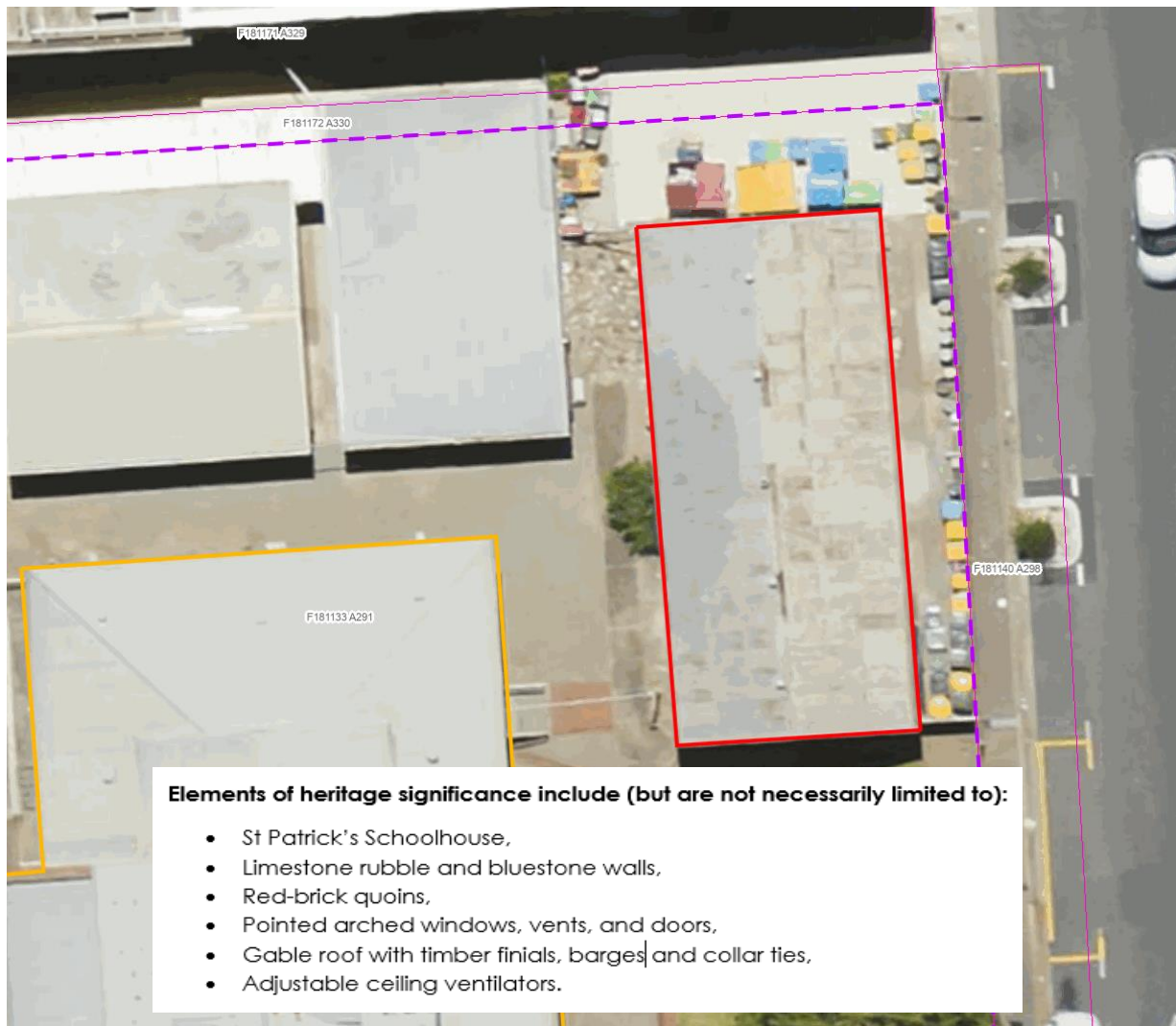
LEGEND

- Parcel boundaries (Indicates extent of Listing)
- Existing State Heritage Place(s)
- Outline of Elements of Significance for State Heritage Place

SITE PLAN DETAIL

St Patrick's Schoolhouse

PLACE NO.: 26567



St Patrick's Schoolhouse, Grote Street, Adelaide SA 5000, CT 5604/216 F181133 A291, Hundred of Adelaide.

N ↑

LEGEND

- Parcel boundaries (Indicates extent of Listing)
- Existing State Heritage Place(s)
- Outline of Elements of Significance for State Heritage Place

Elements not considered to contribute to significance of place include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- Interwar-era roof and ceiling ventilators,
- Concrete patching,
- Corrugated iron roofing,
- Tie rods and plates,
- Interior carpet and material finishes.

COMMENTARY ON THE LISTING

Description and notes with respect to a place entered in the South Australian Heritage Register in accordance with the *Heritage Places Act 1993*

Physical Description

The schoolhouse is a four-sided rectangular building with a gable roof and eaves. The walls are built predominantly of limestone rubble and feature red-brick quoins. The lower portion of the south wall and lower right portion of the west wall is bluestone. The east wall has been re-pointed and red brick quoins have been repaired. Concrete has been used to render and patch sections of the walls on the north, west and south walls.

The north, west and south walls all display evidence of damage caused by rising damp, exacerbated by concrete patching, including a large hole beneath the middle window.

The roof is covered by corrugated iron sheets, with a galvanised iron ridge and barge capping, gutters and downpipes. The roof features timber finials, barges and collar ties, with five interwar-period ventilators along the ridge.

There are seven windows with pointed arches and red-brick quoins which have all been boarded up. Another window on the north wall has been bricked-in. There are two doors, also with pointed arches, one on the south wall and another on the east wall. There are louvred vents with pointed arches in the north and south gables. A pair of tie rods run between the gables, secured by cast iron tie plates at each end.

The interior consists of one large room. The lower walls feature matchboard panels between dado and skirting boards with picture rails above. All are painted white. The ceiling is likely fibrous plaster, badly cracked towards the middle, and contains five interwar-era open vents and two nineteenth-century adjustable radial vents. The windows have chamfer reveals and have been partially boarded. Red carpet covers the floor (not original fabric).

Elements of Significance:

Elements of heritage significance include (but are not necessarily limited to):

- St Patrick's Schoolhouse,
- Limestone rubble and bluestone walls,
- Red-brick quoins,
- Pointed arched windows, vents, and doors,
- Gable roof with timber finials, barges and collar ties,
- Adjustable ceiling ventilators.

Elements not considered to contribute to significance of place include (but are not necessarily limited to):

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Provisionally entered by the South Australian Heritage Council on 17 August 2023

Confirmed by the South Australian Heritage Council on 15 February 2024

- Interwar-era roof and ceiling ventilators,
- Concrete patching,
- Corrugated iron roofing,
- Tie rods and plates,
- Interior carpet and material finishes.

History of the Place

*Please see the Assessment Report for the full history of the place.

The Beginnings of Catholic Education

Formal Catholic education in South Australia commenced with the arrival of Bishop Francis Murphy in November 1844. Upon his arrival in Adelaide, Bishop Murphy was struck by the lack of Catholic institutions in the colony, writing in December that he had found his 'Mission utterly destitute of church, chapel or school' and that the 'only priest in the Colony was obliged to celebrate Mass in a large storehouse'.¹



Bishop Francis Murphy, South Australia's first Catholic Bishop, c.1858

Source: State Library of South Australia B 2763

The lack of a Catholic primary school was particularly concerning to Murphy, who had a keen interest in childhood education. He observed that children in Adelaide had been 'growing up in profound ignorance of the first rudiments of their religion, or what is worse they are imbibing false doctrine in Protestant and Methodist Schools'.² Accordingly, establishing a school for Catholic children was a priority.³

Generally during the first decade of the colony, schooling was rudimentary and fragmented. In 1836, the South Australia School Society was formed by George Fife Angas while in London, but the Society collapsed in 1843 due to a lack of funds. This left education exclusively in the hands of private individuals and churches.⁴ Schools

operated from a range of buildings, most of them makeshift. Historian Margaret Press has noted that by the early 1850s '[o]nly one schoolroom in ten had been specially built, the rest of the classes being held in houses, churches, or much less dignified buildings'.⁵

Bishop Murphy moved quickly to initiate the construction of a school. Just six weeks after his arrival in Adelaide, the foundation stone of a school hall and temporary church was laid on 12 December 1844.⁶ Construction continued throughout 1845.⁷ During construction, it appears Murphy established a school at an interim location in a 'brewery building' on Pirie Street.⁸ Several months later, the school hall and temporary church (now demolished) was completed and on 8 October 1845 the school at Pirie Street appears to have relocated there.⁹



Archbishop's House (SHP 13398) (left) and the school hall and temporary Church (on right, now demolished), after it had been dedicated as the first St Patrick's Church c.1870.

Source: State Library of South Australia B1938

In his journal entry for 10 November 1847, Bishop Murphy recorded that the new 'school master' commenced on 7 November 1847.¹⁰ He also noted he had 'agreed to allow the Schoolmaster and Mistress, Mr. [David] and Mrs. [Ann] Cremen, the sum of £60 per annum and the rent of a house until 1 April next [year]' and that '[a]fter that date' they would be 'allowed the whole proceeds of the school and government allowance'.¹¹ The latter referred to the teaching stipend authorised in 1847 by Governor Frederick Robe's Ordinance 11, which provided assistance to schools regardless of whether they provided denominational instruction.¹²

Ordinance 11 was overturned in 1851 and replaced by the *Education Act 1851*, which restricted support to non-denominational schools. It also authorised the government to subsidise the cost of constructing schoolhouses, though funds were not allocated for this purpose until the late 1850s.¹³ By 1873, the government had subsidised the erection of approximately one hundred schoolhouses.¹⁴

Bishop Murphy advised that Catholic children would not be permitted to attend non-Catholic schools funded by the state. However, as historian Kay Whitehead has shown, he did not 'intervene when Catholic teachers whom he had sponsored

applied for the government stipend', the capitation payment authorised by the *Education Act* of 1851.¹⁵ These teachers included David and Ann Cremen.¹⁶ As such, despite reservations, at least some Catholic schools continued to receive government funding during the 1850s.¹⁷

This arrangement changed after Bishop Murphy died in 1858 and was replaced by Bishop Patrick Geoghegan in 1859. Bishop Geoghegan ordered Catholics not to attend state-funded schools and established an independent school fund financed by the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.¹⁸ As Whitehead notes, this fund was supporting about fifteen schools by 1863 and by 1866 there were twenty-three schools 'under clerical control'.¹⁹ A few state-funded Catholic schools persisted, but these catered for only a quarter of Catholic students in South Australia.²⁰ Further changes occurred once Bishop Laurence Sheil replaced Bishop Geoghegan in 1866. Together with Father Tenison-Woods and Mary MacKillop, in 1867, Bishop Sheil established what amounted to a new Catholic education system in South Australia. This system centralised authority and prioritised Sisters over lay teachers.²¹

The changes introduced in 1867 laid the basis for an education system distinct from the one established by the government in 1875. The *Education Act 1875* formalised a public education system owned and operated by the government.²² Thereafter, the Catholic Church competed with the government to found new schools in frontier regions, especially in the north. However, competition began to wane in the 1880s, evidenced by the closure of twenty Catholic schools between 1882 and 1895, dropping from forty-six to twenty-six.²³ This decline stemmed from the 1891 amendment to the *Education Act* that introduced free public education and the relocation of many Sisters to New South Wales in the 1890s. Despite these challenges, the Catholic Church bolstered its schools in the city and large towns and continued to be the main provider of education for Catholic children.²⁴

The new St Patrick's Schoolhouse

Several important developments took place at St Patrick's during the second half of 1847. In July that year, Bishop Murphy returned to Adelaide after a seventeen-month absence, during which he had travelled to Europe seeking priests for South Australian parishes.²⁵ He had departed Adelaide in February 1846, about four months after the school hall and temporary church opened in October 1845. Thus, while he had been present upon its commencement, he had been away from its operations for almost one and a half years. Several months after his return to Adelaide in 1847, Bishop Murphy resumed his involvement and oversaw two major changes to the school: he employed David and Ann Cremen as the new schoolmaster and schoolmistress in November and a tender was sought for the construction of a new, bespoke schoolhouse in Adelaide in late December.

Regarding the schoolhouse, it appears that Bishop Murphy and Father Michael Ryan, the Vicar General, began preparing to erect such a building at some point while the bishop was away, likely in early 1847. In a letter addressed to Father Ryan, the Bishop

informed him that he approved of everything he was doing while he was absent, 'especially as to *putting that school in that corner* as you and the architect suggest [emphasis added]'.²⁶ The rationale for building a new schoolhouse was likely either to detach the church from the school or to create separate classrooms for boys and girls.

It was not until the end of 1847 that tenders were called for the schoolhouse's construction. An advertisement placed in the 25 December edition of the *South Australian Register* announced that builders and contractors 'desirous of contracting for building a school-house, for the Right Rev. Dr. Murphy ... [could] inspect the plans and specifications at Mr Kingston's office, Grote Street... [emphasis added]'. It further advised that tenders had to be left by 10 January 1848, and that the 'masons' and carpenters' work [could] be tendered for separately'.²⁷

Why Murphy chose to use well-known colonial architect, George Strickland Kingston to design the simple schoolhouse remains unclear. However, Kingston's office was on the opposite side of Grote Street and Murphy had previously hired him to design several buildings, including the original St Patrick's school hall/church and his residence.²⁸ He would later supervise the construction of St Francis Xavier's Cathedral (SHP 10892).²⁹

Construction of the schoolhouse began at the end of January 1848. Bishop Murphy noted in his journal on 25 January 1848 that the 'foundation stone of the new school in Franklin St. was laid this day...'.³⁰ Building continued throughout the year. On 19 June 1848, the Bishop noted that the 'amount already expended' on the schoolhouse had been £309/19/8. His final entry about 'school house expenses' was made on 17 October 1848.³¹

It is unknown precisely when construction was completed, though there are indications that the schoolhouse may have been finished and operating at some point between October and December 1848. After Bishop Murphy's entry for October, there are no further references to the schoolhouse anywhere in his journal. It is possible, then, that the schoolhouse was either completed or nearing completion by mid-October 1848.³² Beyond the journal, there is evidence to suggest that the schoolhouse was being used for its intended purpose by the end of the year. The *South Australian Register* reported on 30 December that the 'half-yearly examination of the children of the Catholic school, Franklin-street, took place ... on Thursday last, the Feast of the Holy Innocents'.³³

The Subsequent Life of the Schoolhouse

While information on the schoolhouse's subsequent history is scant, it continued to be used continuously for teaching purposes at least until the 1890s. David Cremen was licensed to teach at the school until he died in 1856 and Ann Cremen relocated to a school on Waymouth Street shortly afterwards.³⁴ It appears that a Mrs. Powers then took over the school and remained there until it merged with the Dominican school,

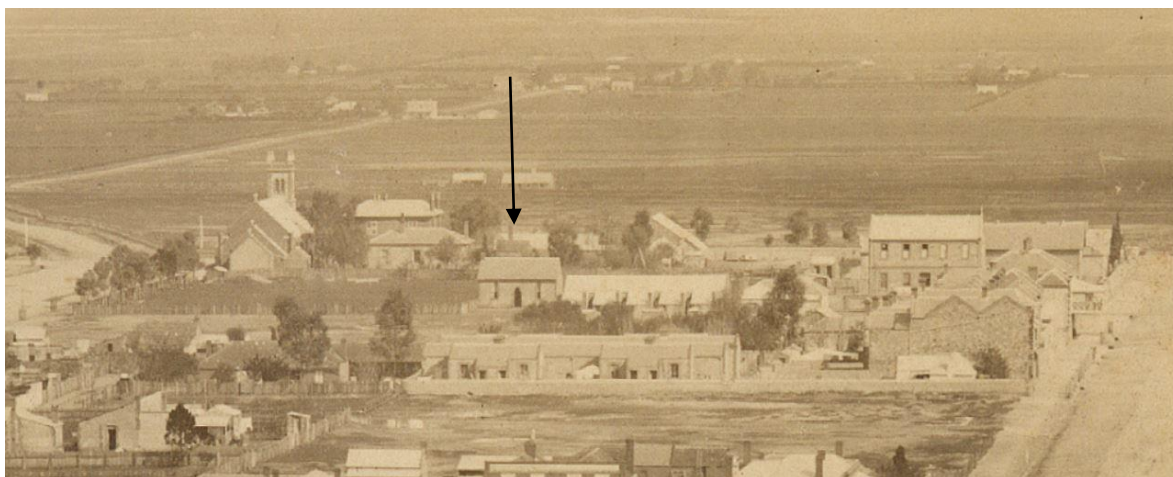
which became St Mary's College, probably in the 1870s. Newspaper records show that examinations took place at the schoolhouse between the 1840s and 1890s.³⁵

Although intended and designed to be a school, the schoolhouse also served various other purposes. For instance, a public notice listed in the 26 May 1849 edition of the *South Australian Register* advised that a 'Tea Meeting, in aid of the funds towards the erection of St. Francis Xavier's Church' would be 'held in the Catholic School-house, Franklin-Street on Tuesday, the 5th of June 1849'.³⁶

Attesting to its utility, the schoolhouse was lengthened at some point between 1870 and 1880. Historic photographs and Charles Smith's 1880 survey of Adelaide (the Smith Survey) show that the schoolhouse almost doubled in size during this period. Townsend Duryea's panoramic photographs taken in 1865 and 1870 demonstrate that the front of the schoolhouse originally had two pointed-arch windows and a chimney on the southern side.³⁷ While the Smith Survey depicts 'St Patrick's School' as a rectangular building much longer than that shown in Duryea's photographs.³⁸ A later photograph from c.1896 confirms that the schoolhouse had been lengthened by the end of the century, with two additional windows added to the front and the removal of the chimney.³⁹ The schoolhouse has remained essentially the same since then.

The schoolhouse continued to be used throughout the twentieth century, including for meetings, parties, and concerts.⁴⁰ The schoolhouse was commonly referred to as 'St Patrick's School' throughout the nineteenth century, as demonstrated by the Smith Survey, and was almost always described as being on Franklin Street.⁴¹ By the mid-twentieth century, however, the schoolhouse was referred to as 'St Patrick's Hall' on Grote Street,⁴² very likely owing to its immediate proximity to the new St Patrick's Catholic Cathedral (SHP 13397) that opened in 1914.⁴³ It was also been used sporadically for teaching purposes throughout the twentieth century.⁴⁴ For the past several decades, it does not appear to have been used for anything other than storage in the years that have followed.

The original St Patrick's Church was demolished in 1959. Accordingly, this left St Patrick's Schoolhouse as the sole remaining building at the site associated with Bishop Murphy's early efforts to establish Catholic education in South Australia.



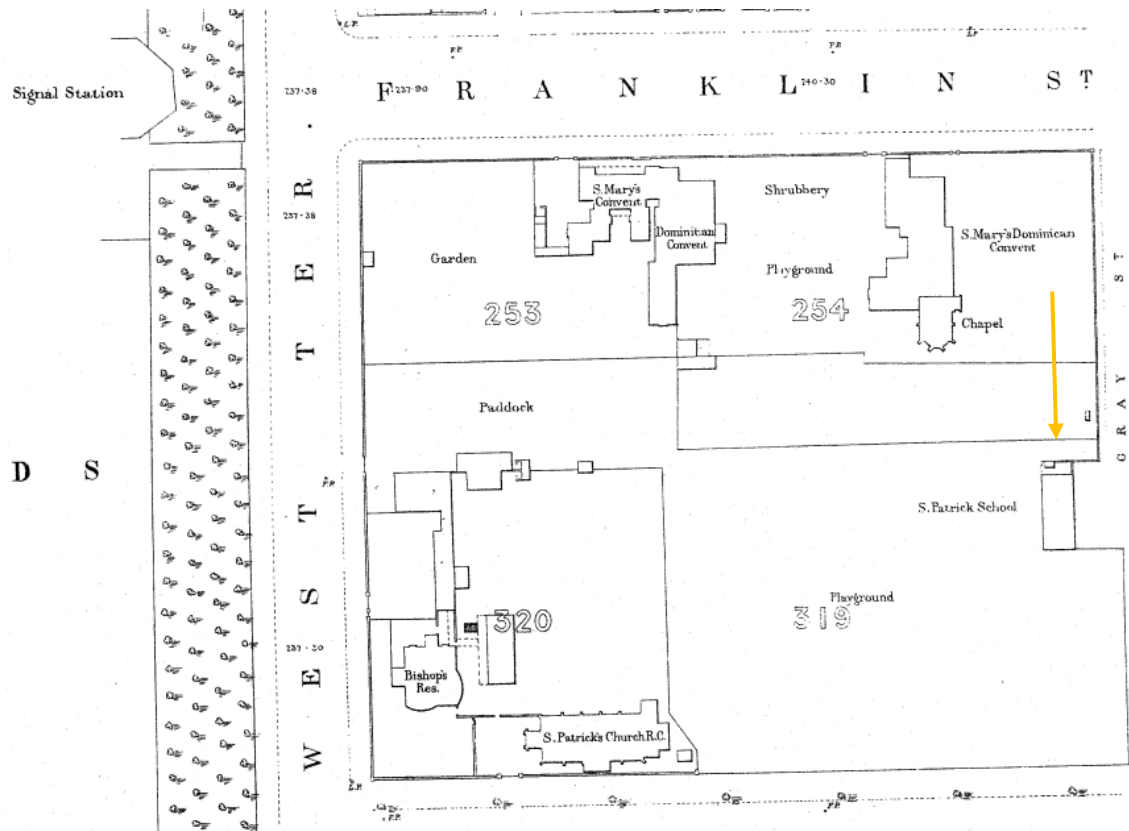
Section from Townsend Duryea's 1870 panoramic photograph of Adelaide. St Patrick's Schoolhouse is mid-image.

Source: State Library of South Australia B 16004/8



Section from Ernest Gall's 1896 panoramic photograph of Adelaide. The new St Patrick's Schoolhouse is mid-image, note the extension.

Source: State Library of South Australia PRG 631/2/140



Section from Sheet No. 52 of Smith Survey showing 'S. Patrick School', 1880 (yellow arrow).

Source: City of Adelaide

Chronology

Year	Event
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1836	The South Australian School Society is formed.
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1837	Walter Bromley establishes South Australia's first school at Kingscote, Kangaroo Island.
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1838	The first school on mainland South Australia opens.
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1841	South Australia's first resident Catholic priest, Father William Benson, arrives in Adelaide.
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1842	Rome subdivides the diocese of Sydney to create the diocese of Hobart and Adelaide.
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1843	The South Australian School Society disbands.
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1844	Bishop Francis Murphy arrives in South Australia.
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	William Leigh donates a large sum of money and 504 acres of land to Bishop Murphy.
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	Bishop Murphy purchases an acre of land on the corner of West Terrace and Grote Street for £70.
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	The foundation stone for a combined Catholic school hall and temporary church is laid on 12 December.
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1845	Archbishop's House (SHP 13398) is built.
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	First St Patrick's Church (also used as a school) opens on 5 October.
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	The foundation stone for St Mary's Catholic Church is laid in Morphett Vale on 28 July.
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1846	The first bespoke Catholic church, St Mary's (SHP 10596), opens in Morphett Vale on 4 January.
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1847	Governor Robe issues an Ordinance authorising the payment of stipends to teachers at schools with at least twenty students.
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	Bishop Murphy employs David and Ann Cremens, a married couple, as Schoolmaster and Mistress.
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	Buckland House (SHP 14165) at Willunga opens as a school.
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	Mitcham School opens.
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1848	The foundation stone for the new St Patrick's Schoolhouse is laid on 25 January.
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	St. Francis Xavier's Church Fund Society commences on 6 February.
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	Pulteney Grammar School opens.
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1848	The new St Patrick's Schoolhouse is completed.
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	Schoolhouse at Blakiston opens.
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1849	St. Michaels Church at Clare opens.
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- 1850 Dry Creek (Salisbury) Church opens.
- 1851 *Education Act* passes which establishes the Central Board of Education. It also establishes teacher stipends, funding for school buildings, a book depot, and formal inspections. Teaching must be non-denominational for funds to be received.
The 'Old School House' (SHP 10540) at St Peters is completed.
- c. 1854 Bellevue schoolhouse opens.
- 1856 Saint Aloysius' College at Sevenhill, the first Catholic boarding school in South Australia, opens.
- 1858 Bishop Murphy dies from pulmonary tuberculosis on 26 April.
St Francis Xavier's Cathedral opens on 11 July.
Schoolhouse at Balhannah opens (SHP 12856).
- 1859 Bishop Patrick Geoghegan is consecrated as the new Bishop of Adelaide. Bishop Geoghegan bans Catholic children from attending state-funded schools, unsuccessfully lobbies the government to allocate funds to denominational schools and establishes private funding for Catholic schools.
- 1860 Bishop Geoghegan adds a chancel to St Patrick's Church.
- 1866 Bishop Laurence Sheil is consecrated as the new Bishop of Adelaide. With
- 1867 Sisters of St Joseph is established by Tenison-Woods and Mary Mackillop. A convent and school run by the Sisters of St Joseph is opened on Franklin Street.
With Father Tenison-Woods, Bishop Sheil establishes a new Catholic school system.
A convent and school run by the Sisters of St Joseph is opened on Franklin Street.
- 1869 Bishop Sheil adds a bell tower and porch to St Patrick's Church.
- 1870 Father John Symth, the Vicar General, blesses the original St Patrick's as a church.
- 1875 *Education Act 1875* introduces compulsory schooling and establishes the Council of Education.
- 1878 South Australian Education Department is established.
- 1891 *Education Acts Amendment Act 1891* introduces free education.
- 1914 First part of the new St Patrick's Catholic Church (SHP 13397) is opened.
- 1959 The original St Patrick's Church/Schoolhouse is demolished.**
- 1986 St Patrick's Catholic Church (SHP 13397) is listed as a State Heritage Place on 11 September.**

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Interviews

Klose, Celeste, former pupil of St. Mary's College. In discussion with the author, July 2023.

SITE DETAILS

St Patrick's Schoolhouse

PLACE NO.: 26567

Kaurna Country, 268 Grote Street, Adelaide SA 5000

DESCRIPTION OF PLACE:	Bespoke one-room schoolhouse with gabled roof built of limestone, rubble stone and bluestone with red brick quoins.
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION:	1848
REGISTER STATUS:	Identified by the Council, 15 June 2023 Provisionally Entered, 17 August 2023 Confirmed, 15 February 2024
CURRENT USE:	Storage, c. 1980s -
PREVIOUS USE(S):	Schoolhouse, 1848 – c.1900; possibly used by St Mary's until the 1980s Function hall and mixed usage, c. 1848 – c.1980s
ARCHITECT:	George Strickland Kingston
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:	City of Adelaide
LOCATION:	Street No.: 268 Street Name: Grote Street Town/Suburb: Adelaide Post Code: 5000
LAND DESCRIPTION:	Title Reference: CT 5604/216 Lot No.: A291 Plan No.: F181133 Hundred: Adelaide

PHOTOS

St Patrick's Schoolhouse

PLACE NO.: 26567

Kaurna Country, 268 Grote Street, Adelaide SA 5000



Southern wall of St Patrick's Schoolhouse showing one of the two doors, bluestone base courses, barge boards, finial and louvred vent with pointed-arch. Concrete rendering is visible in places including the quoins.

Source: DEW Files July 2023



Eastern wall showing the repointed walls and repaired red-brick quoins.

Source: DEW Files July 2023

PHOTOS

St Patrick's Schoolhouse

PLACE NO.: 26567

Kaurna Country, 268 Grote Street, Adelaide SA 5000



Eastern wall showing the original front entrance (on right) and windows with pointed arches and red-brick quoins.

Source: DEW Files July 2023



Part of the western wall showing considerable damage to the limestone walls, including a hole under the middle window.

Source: DEW Files July 2023

PHOTOS

St Patrick's Schoolhouse

PLACE NO.: 26567

Kaurna Country, 268 Grote Street, Adelaide SA 5000



Part of the western wall of St Patrick's Schoolhouse showing part of the bluestone base courses.

Source: DEW Files July 2023



Northern wall of St Patrick's Schoolhouse.

Source: DEW Files July 2023

PHOTOS

St Patrick's Schoolhouse

PLACE NO.: 26567

Kaurna Country, 268 Grote Street, Adelaide SA 5000



The interior side of the east-facing wall showing the original windows and entrance.

Source: DEW Files July 2023



The interior side of the western wall showing two of three extant windows. The crack in the ceiling demarcates the original part of the building and the extended part.

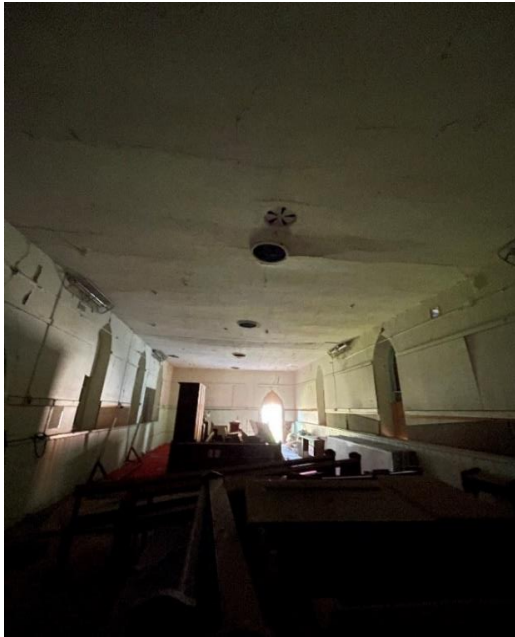
Source: DEW Files July 2023

PHOTOS

St Patrick's Schoolhouse

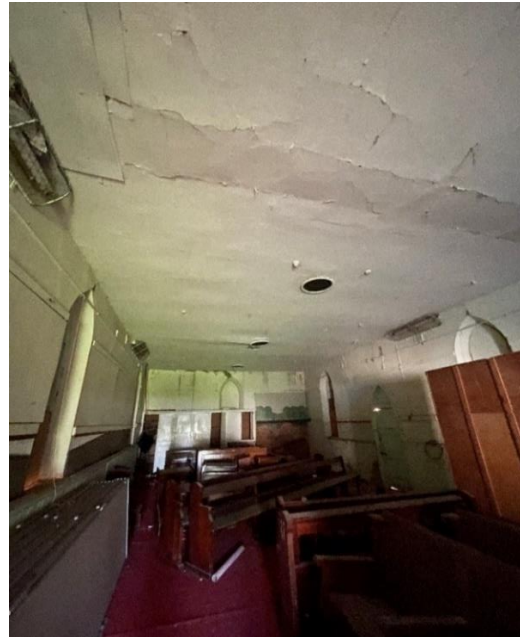
PLACE NO.: 26567

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Interior of the schoolhouse facing south, showing ceiling vents.

Source: DEW Files July 2023



Interior of the schoolhouse facing north, showing cracks in the ceiling.

Source: DEW Files July 2023



Internal view of the hole on the western wall.

Source: DEW Files July 2023



Degradation of the limestone on the inside of the northern wall.

Source: DEW Files August 2022

¹ Bishop Francis Murphy quoted in Osmond Thorpe, 'Murphy, Francis (1795-1858)'. Australian Dictionary of Biography, National Centre of Biography, Australia National University, published first in hardcopy 1967.

<https://adb.anu.edu.au/biography/murphy-francis-2493>. Accessed 12 July 2023.

² Bishop Francis Murphy quoted in Kay Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second": Catholic Elementary Schooling in Nineteenth Century South Australia', *Change: Transformations in Education* 4:1 (2001): p. 65.

³ R. A. Morrison, 'Foundations of the Church in South Australia, No. 2: Bishop Murphy's Great Work Begins', *Southern Cross* (Adelaide), 21 November 1947, p. 8.

⁴ See Peter Karmel, Roma Mitchell, S. S. Dunn, Ian Hayward, and Wm. C. Radford, *Education in South Australia: Report of the Committee of Enquiry into Education in South Australia 1969-1970* (Adelaide: Government of South Australia, 1971), pp. 5-13.

⁵ Margaret Press, *From Our Broken Toil: South Australian Catholics 1836 to 1905* (Adelaide: Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide, 1986), p. 132.

⁶ Francis Murphy, *The Journal of Francis Murphy, First Catholic Bishop of Adelaide*, Vol. One. Condon, Brian (Ed.) (Magill: South Australian College of Education, 1983), p. 83.

⁷ Donald Langmead, *Accidental Architect: The Life and Times of George Strickland Kingston* (Sydney: Crossing Press, 1994), p. 249.

⁸ Press, *From Our Broken Toil*, p. 55.

⁹ 'Opening of the Catholic School-room, West Terrace', *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 8 October 1845, p. 1.

¹⁰ Murphy, *The Journal of Francis Murphy*, p. 119.

¹¹ Murphy, *The Journal of Francis Murphy*, p. 119.

¹² Karmel, Mitchell, Dunn, Hayward, and Radford, *Education in South Australia*, pp. 5-6; Press, *From Our Broken Toil*, pp. 131-132.

¹³ Karmel, Mitchell, Dunn, Hayward, and Radford, *Education in South Australia*, p. 7.

¹⁴ John Bradley Hirst, *Adelaide and the Country, 1870-1917: Their Social and Political Relationship* (Carlton: Melbourne University Press, 1973), p. 136.

¹⁵ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", p. 65.

¹⁶ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", pp. 65-66.

¹⁷ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", p. 65.

¹⁸ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", p. 66.

¹⁹ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", p. 66.

²⁰ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", p. 66. See also Press, *From Our Broken Toil*, pp. 133-144.

²¹ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", pp. 66 -74.

²² Karmel, Mitchell, Dunn, Hayward, and Radford, *Education in South Australia*, pp. 10-13.

²³ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", p. 69.

²⁴ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", p. 69.

²⁵ Morrison, 'Bishop Murphy's Great Work Begins', p. 8.

²⁶ Bishop Francis Murphy quoted in R. A. Morrison, 'Historic Churches and Parishes of South Australia, No. 3: Clare, Sevenhill, and the North', *Southern Cross* (Adelaide), 15 October 1948, p. 12.

²⁷ 'To Builders and Contractors... [advertisement]', *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 25 December 1847, p. 1.

²⁸ Langmead, *Accidental Architect*, pp. 142-144 and p. 249.

²⁹ Langmead, *Accidental Architect*, pp. 142-144.

³⁰ Murphy, *The Journal of Francis Murphy*, p. 128

³¹ Murphy, *The Journal of Francis Murphy*, pp. 147-148. See also p. 143.

³² There has been some uncertainty and confusion regarding the history of the schoolhouse at least since the late 1940s. The Archivist of the Archdiocese of Adelaide, Reverend R. A. Morrison, reported in September 1949 that Bishop Murphy built two schools in addition to the original schoolhouse 'in what is described as Franklin Street'. One of these schools was

'definitely built in 1848', and the other, 'loosely described as being also in Franklin Street', may have been the 'St Patrick's School at the rear of the new St Patrick's'. According to Reverend Morrison, This building was 'certainly there in the early fifties' and could have been built in 1848 'or even 1847'. Even by 2008, the authors of the Conservation Management Plan for St Patrick's Cathedral could not establish the schoolhouse's origins, confirming only that it was there in 1865, based on Duryea's photograph, and had probably been built in the late 1850s. However, as this assessment shows, there is no evidence to indicate that another schoolhouse existed in the 1840s or 1850s, and all the available evidence demonstrates that St Patrick's Schoolhouse was built in the late 1840s, most probably in 1848. R. A. Morrison, 'Historic Churches and Parishes of South Australia, No. 1: Old St Patrick's Grote Street', *Southern Cross* (Adelaide), 24 September 1948, p. 16; Morrison, 'Historic Churches and Parishes of South Australia, No. 3', p. 12 and p. 16; Elizabeth Vines, Katrina McDougall, and Krystel Hill, *St Patrick's Church and Tragedy Hall 260 Grote Street, Adelaide: Conservation Management Plan* (Norwood: Conservation Management Consultants, 2008), pp. 13-15, esp. p. 13.

³³ 'Mining Intelligence', *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 30 December 1848, p. 2.

³⁴ Whitehead, "'Religious First – Teachers Second'", p. 66.

³⁵ See 'Mining Intelligence', p. 2; 'St Patrick's School', *Express and Telegraph* (Adelaide), 21 December 1870, p.3; and 'St Patrick's School', *Express and Telegraph* (Adelaide), 26 December 1893, p. 3.

³⁶ 'A Public Tea Meeting... [notice]', *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 26 May 1849, p. 2.

³⁷ Townsend Duryea, 'View of Adelaide Looking West from the Town Hall', *Panorama of Adelaide*, 1865. Photograph. Adelaide Views Collection, State Library of South Australia, B 5099/11 and Townsend Duryea, 'View of Adelaide Looking West', *Panorama of Adelaide*, 1870. Photograph. Adelaide Views Collection, State Library of South Australia, B 16004/8.

³⁸ Charles Smith, 'Sheet 52' in *Smith Survey: South Adelaide, 1880*. Map. Adelaide, Government of South Australia.

³⁹ Ernest Gall, 'Franklin Street, looking west from Post Office', 1896. Photograph. Adelaide Views Collection, State Library of South Australia, PRG 631/2/140.

⁴⁰ See 'Literary Societies: St Patrick's Literary and Dramatic Society', *Southern Cross* (Adelaide), 1 September 1916, p. 17; 'St Patrick's Parish Notes', *Southern Cross* (Adelaide), 8 December 1944, p. 3; 'St Patrick's Day Concert', *Southern Cross* (Adelaide), 14 March 1947, p. 2.

⁴¹ For instance, see 'A Public Tea Party...', *South Australian Register* (Adelaide), 14 January 1851, p. 2; 'St Patrick's School', 1893, p. 3; 'St Patrick's Parish Notes', p. 3; 'St Patrick's Day Concert', p. 2.

⁴² The schoolhouse has variously been referred to as a 'schoolhouse, a 'school-room', 'St Patrick's School', 'St Patrick's Hall' and, at least since the 2000s, 'Tragedy Hall'. See notes 86 and 87. The origins of the name 'Tragedy Hall' are unknown. The schoolhouse is referred to as such in Vines, McDougall, and Hill, *St Patrick's Church and Tragedy Hall*', esp. 13-15.

⁴³ Hilliard, 'St Patrick's Church', pp. 41-42.

⁴⁴ Per Celeste Klose, a former pupil, St Mary's College taught home economics in the schoolhouse during the 1980s. Celeste Klose, in discussion with the author, July 2023. Also see Stephanie James and students of St Mary's College, *'A Very Superior Education': St Mary's College 1869-1986* (Adelaide: self-published, c.1986), p.48 and p.82.