

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** MASONIC HALL (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Parker Street DUNKELD

**STUDY NUMBER:** 385

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

**PRECINCT:** Dunkeld

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** Southern Grampians Shire

**ALLOTMENT:** part 1 **SECTION:** 2 **PARISH:** PARISH OF DUNKELD

**ACCESS DESCRIPTION:**

CFA 433J A3; VicRoads 229 Q4; located on the north-west side of Parker Street (Glenelg Highway) on the western side of the township.

**SIGNIFICANCE RATING:** Local



Masonic Hall (Former), Parker Street, Dunkeld

**Image Date:** 2/11/01

**EXTENT OF LISTING:**

To the extent of: 1. All the exterior of the building and all of the land, being part allotment 2, section 1, township of Dunkeld

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** MASONIC HALL (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Parker Street DUNKELD

**STUDY NUMBER:** 385

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

## **PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:**

The former Masonic Hall is a single storey timber structure. The style of the building is a very simple version of Classical architecture, the idiom always used for Masonic halls. The façade is symmetrical about a flat-roofed Ionic portico with two columns. There is a 12 paned double-hung sash window on either side. High level hopper windows with 6 panes are located on the side walls towards the rear. The hipped roof is shallow pitched with proprietary ventilators concealed behind a flat parapet. The walls are painted white with a pale blue trim, colours traditionally associated with Freemasonry but there is no Masonic iconography remaining on the building.

## **HISTORY:**

A plan of suburban allotments in Sections 2 & 3 of the Parish of Dunkeld, dated 1855 indicates that allotment 1 of section 2, comprising some 8 acres was already purchased from the Crown by James Fitzgerald. It was the land immediately to the west of the Township. Part of this land was later donated by the Armytage Partnership, of Mount Sturgeon Station, and a new hall or 'temple' was built in 1937 with the first meeting being held on 12 January 1938 (Clabburn, 27). Wor. Bro. K A McLeod was the incoming Master. The Mount Sturgeon Masonic Lodge (No. 196) was consecrated in 1904 when the Foundation Master was Wor. Bro. A E Lineker. The first initiates were: J Payne, T P Bennett, E W Frost, J N Smith, and J H Womersley (Clabburn, 27). Other important members of the Lodge were Jack Baxter and Rueben Schache.

Freemasonry has existed in Victoria since 1839 as a charitable and social organisation. In 1889 the United Grand Lodge of Victoria brought together Lodges that formerly worked under the separate constitutions of the Grand Lodges of England, Scotland and Ireland. Freemasonry is still largest community service organisation of its kind in the State. The building and land were sold in 2001.

## **THEMATIC CONTEXT:**

Theme 4: Building settlements, towns and cities

Theme 8: Developing Australia's Cultural Life

8.5 Forming associations

8.5.1 Preserving traditions and group memories

8.5.2 Helping other people

8.5.3 Associating for mutual aid

## **CONDITION:**

The building is in good condition. [The interior has not been inspected.]

## **INTEGRITY:**

High degree of integrity externally. [Not inspected internally.]

## **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:**

What is significant?

The former Masonic Hall in Parker Street, Dunkeld was opened in January, 1938 when Wor. Bro K A McLeod was the Master. The Mount Sturgeon Lodge No. 196 had been formed in 1904 when Wor. Bro. A E Lineker was the Foundation Master. Land on the western side of the township was donated by the Armytage partnership which owned the nearby Mount Sturgeon station. The single storey timber building is in a stripped Classical style, standard for all Masonic buildings. No architect or builder has been associated with its construction. The building is in good condition but much of the iconography and furnishings associated with Freemasonry were removed when it was sold in 2001.

# HERITAGE PLACE

**NAME OF PLACE:** MASONIC HALL (FORMER)

**ADDRESS/LOCATION OF PLACE:** Parker Street DUNKELD

**STUDY NUMBER:** 385

**HERITAGE OVERLAY NUMBER:**

---

How is it significant?

The former Masonic Lodge is of historical, social and architectural significance to the township of Dunkeld and the Southern Grampians Shire.

Why is it significant?

The former Masonic Hall, Parker Street, Coleraine is of historical significance as a long-term demonstration of Freemasonry. It is of social significance as a venue for the community coming together to share common interests. It is of architectural significance because its style, form and scale express the conservative values of Freemasonry.

**COMPARISON:**

104 Masonic Hall (Former ), 35-37 Winter Street, Coleraine  
269 Temperance Hall & Masonic (Former), 77 Watton Street, Peshurst

**EXISTING LISTINGS:**

**HERITAGE STUDY RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Include in VHR  Include in RNE  Include in Local Planning Scheme

No Recommendations for Inclusions

**REFERENCES:**

Author	Title	Year	Page
Claburn, Elise, et al.	Dunkeld and District: A Short History	1989	27