

**NATIONAL TRUST REGISTER
LISTING REPORT**

CITY/SUBURB/TOWN	NAME OF IDENTIFICATION	ADDRESS OR LOCATION
HUSKISSON	Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery	Hawke, Bowen & Currambene Streets

LGA:	Shoalhaven	ABORIGINAL NATION:	The Wandandian
POSTCODE:	2540	LOT/DP:	Lots 7, 8 & 9 Section 3 DP 758530
COMMITTEE:	Built Heritage Conservation	GRID:	Lat: -35.04083 Long: 150.67162
AUTHOR:	Heath Quint	LISTING DATE:	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Church Hall & Cemetery at 17 Hawke Street, Huskisson is historically significant as a building designed by the prominent architect Cyril Blacket and as a known burial site likely to contain additional unmarked graves, containing the remains of European and Aboriginal people. The church is a good example of its type and one of an increasingly small number of historic buildings still located in Huskisson.

DESCRIPTION

The site contains a number of structures. The original church building (now the hall) was originally a small structure dating from the 1880s, but which was extended (using the same simple form and materials) in the late 20th century.

The 1931 church, designed by Cyril Blacket, is a simple yet refined building framed in local hardwood and sheeted externally with weatherboard and galvanized iron. The roof ventilators, lancet windows, lower "apse" containing the altar, vestry, bell tower, and timber buttresses all combine to make a distinctive church building set amongst mature trees. A large entry porch has been added to the western end of the building, enlarging the original. The interior is of very plain appearance and has been lined with compressed fibre board, and has undergone some minor modifications and painted in rather unsympathetic colours. Nonetheless it retains its original form and could readily be restored.

The modern rectory and meeting rooms are not included in this listing.

The church grounds did contain several wooden crosses and gravestones and a white picket fence around two graves, but the monuments have been moved to an unknown location.

The Church grounds are likely to contain additional unmarked graves, containing the remains of European and Aboriginal people. The identity of many of those buried in the graveyard is yet to be investigated, but the graves of three are known. The church grounds did contain several wooden crosses and gravestones and a white picket fence around two graves, but the monuments have been moved to an unknown location.

A survey on 18 March, 2015, using ground penetrating radar, close to the rear of the church identified seven grave sites. The Church grounds are likely to contain additional unmarked graves, containing the remains of European and Aboriginal people. The identity of many of those buried in the graveyard is yet to be investigated.

The Trust also understands that King Budd Billy II (c1815 – 31May, 1905) known as the “King of Jervis Bay” was given a full Christian burial in the graveyard adjoining the church on this site, now the church hall. This was confirmed in the July 22, 1905 edition of the Evening News and indicates that this is an important Aboriginal “contact” site.

HISTORY

On 1 January 1878, one half acre of land (Lot 8 Section 3 DP 758539) was granted by the NSW Government to the church trustees, who were local identities John Watson, George Dent Snr, James Dent, Thomas Granderson and William Barham. On 10 January, 1880 there was a second grant to the church trustees of one acre (Lot 7 Section 3 DP 758530).

The first building on the site in the 1880s was used as a Union Church and later became used as the church hall. In November, 1930 Cyril Blacket completed plans for a new Anglican Church on Lot 7. Cyril Blacket, (1857–1937) was the son of the famous 19th century architect Edmund Blacket (1817–1883). By 1930, Cyril was in his 70s and living in Osborne Street, Nowra, he died at Manly in 1937.

Funds for the church were raised locally and administered by a local building committee. On 24 January, 1931 the foundation stone was laid by Archbishop of Sydney, Rev J C Wright. The church was built by A. E. Green and completed on 9 June, 1931 at a cost of £482/10/-. Possibly as part of the original construction, iron rod tie bars were installed to stabilise the thrust of the main roof trusses. No such tie bar was installed in the Chancel arch.

On 4 April, 1931 the church opened and was serviced from Nowra. Also in 1931 trees were planted by Mrs F. Dent, Mrs J. Dent, Mr B Loutitt, Mrs Wilcox, Mrs Lackersteen, Mr Lawson, Dr Hansard and others. On Saturday 21 March, 1936 Holy Trinity Church, Huskisson was consecrated by Archbishop of Sydney, Dr Mowll. Huskisson was made a provisional parish and a Curate appointed on 1 October, 1937 and the first Huskisson Rector was inducted on 23 October, 1937.

In 1947 parishioner Henrietta Setttee died and Alfred Setttee, local boat builder had a stained glass window made in memory of his wife. In 1953 the stringy bark split shingled roof was replaced with a galvanised iron roof by local builder Bob Martin. In the 1970s the original structure (the hall) was relocated southwards to make way for a new rectory. At this time the building was modified with a large addition to the west, doubling its length. A further addition to the west provided a large kitchen area, an addition to the east provided additional hall space and an external toilet block was added to the west. After 2000 a large southern verandah was added to the hall building.

On 29 November, 1979 land title for these two lots was transferred to the Church of England Property Trust, Diocese of Sydney. In 1994 the church was refurbished including a foyer extension.

The adjacent bushland lot (Lot 9 Section 3 DP 758530) was crown land which has been successfully claimed by the Jerrinja Local Aboriginal Land Council. Lot 9 is currently zoned SP2 – Car Park. Lot 9 is currently fenced with no car parking.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Heritage Management Strategy, Holy trinity Anglican Church Site, Huskisson, GBA Heritage, August 2018

Shoalhaven Heritage Inventory for Holy Trinity Church Group Huskisson, 2011

BOUNDARY OF LISTING

The boundary of the listing is the boundary of Lots 7, 8 & 9 Section 3 DP 758530 as indicated on the following site plan.

SITE PLAN



PHOTOGRAPHS



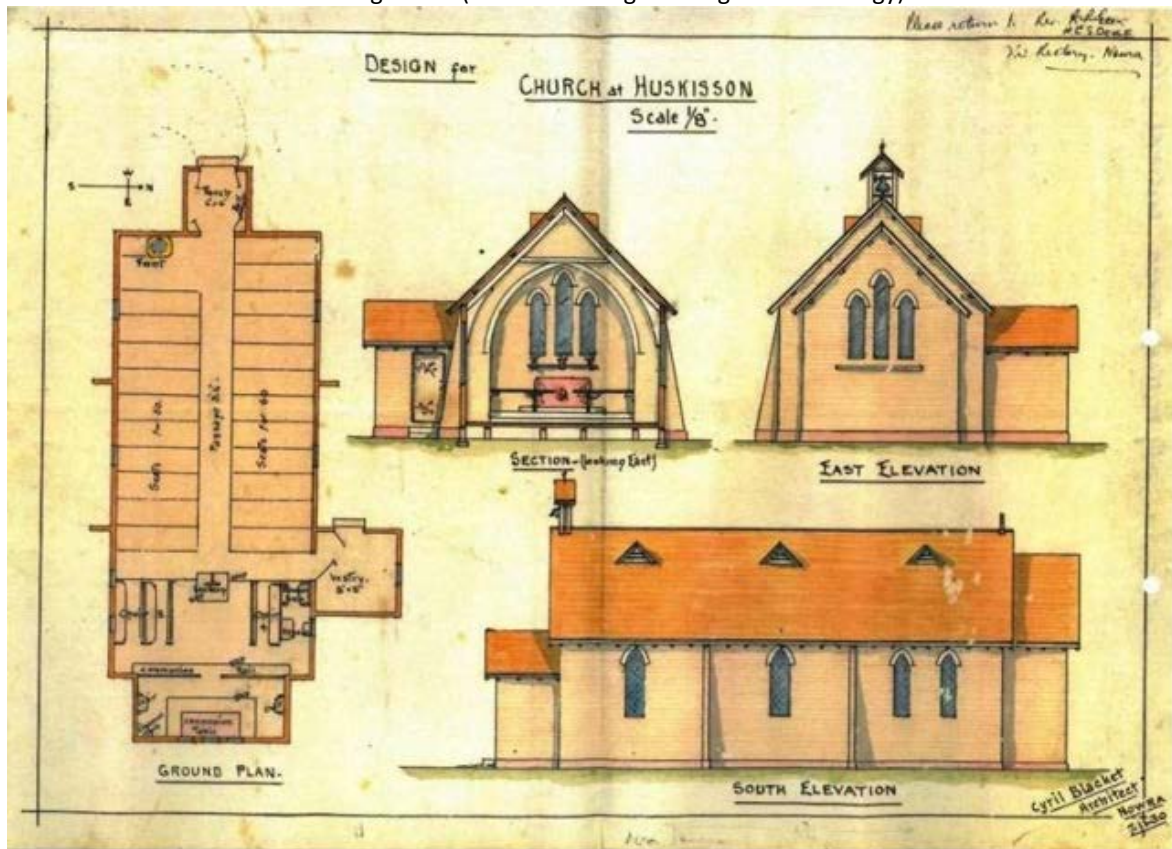
Former Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Huskisson, South Elevation (Source: Google Streetview April 2018)



The church site seen from the intersection of Hawke and Bowen Streets (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



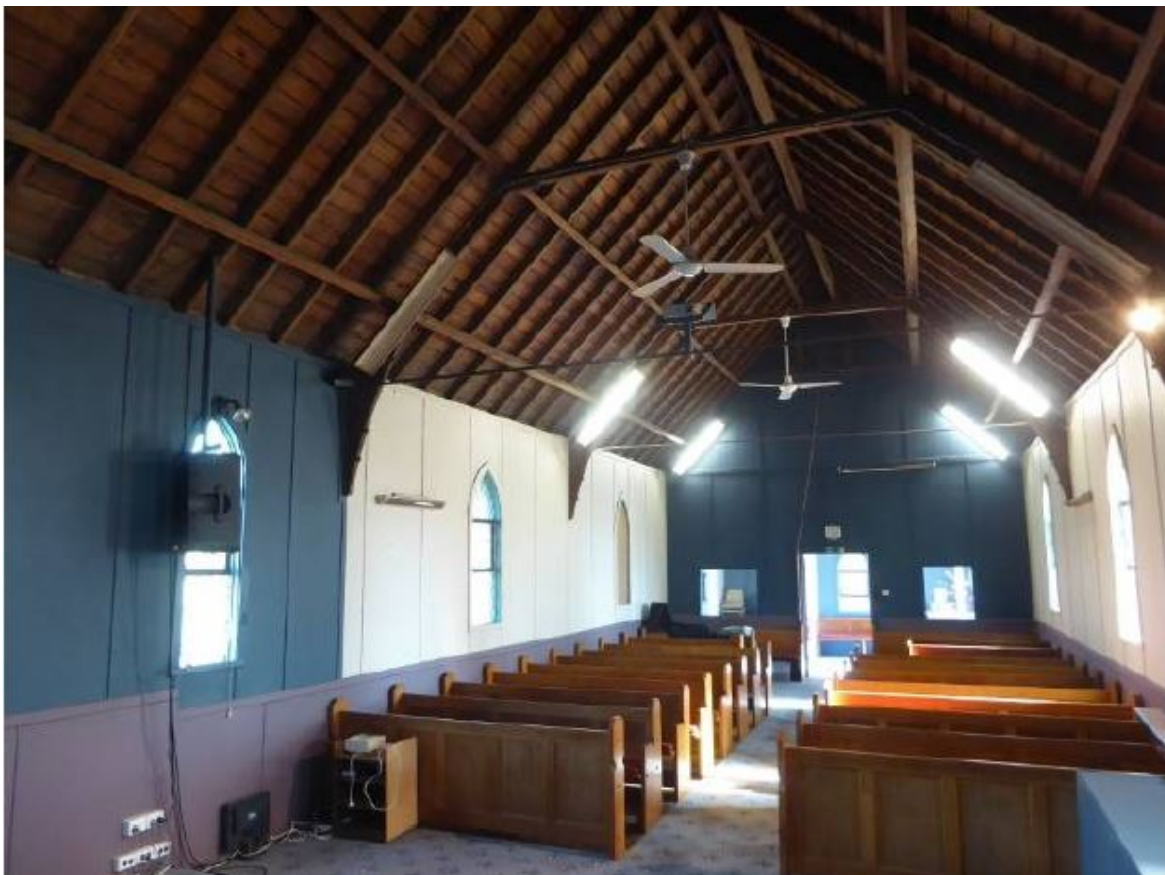
Laying of the foundation stone (1931) Cyril Blacket leaning forward. The original building (now the hall) is in the background. (Source: Heritage Management Strategy)



The original architect plans drawn by Cyril Blacket for the Church (Source: Heritage Management Strategy)



Interior, looking towards the altar (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



Interior, looking towards the new porch addition (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



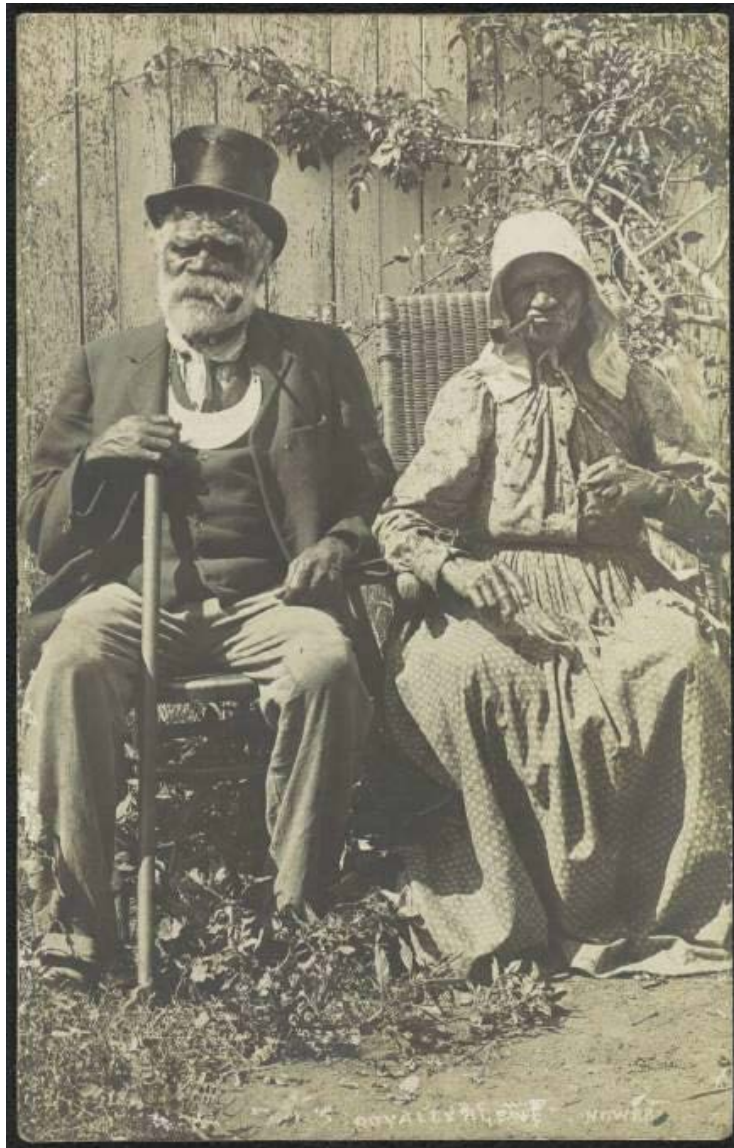
Modern doors and viewing windows from the new porch. (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



Memorial window (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



Earlier wooden grave markings, now removed (Source: Save Husky Church Group)



"Jimmy," King of Jervis Bay and his Queen
(The Evening News Saturday, July 22 1905)