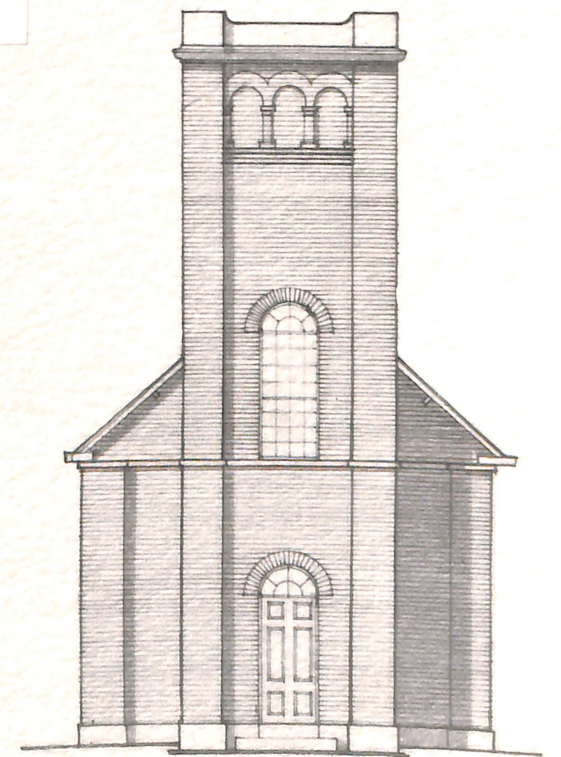


HISTORIC
ST. PETER'S
Church of England

Campbelltown

Completed and Dedicated
1823



RESTORED IN 1973?

OUR SESQUI CENTENARY



1. INTRODUCTION

St. Peter's Church of England, Campbelltown, has for the past 150 years stood proudly by the parkland originally planned as the market square of the township following Governor Macquarie's time.

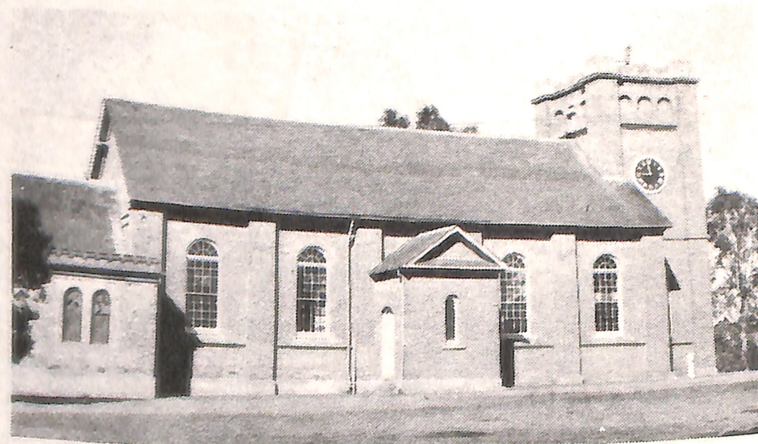
GOVERNOR MACQUARIE described the church as a "pretty building" when he saw it prior to its completion and from 1823 the church has served its people faithfully through "plague, pestilence and famine" and today it stands amid one of the newest and most rapidly expanding cities in Australia.

St. Peter's Church contributes much to the history, culture, religion and social work of the City of Campbelltown.

2. HISTORY

The church building is classified by the National Trust of Australia as nationally important and worthy of preservation, and it is to this end that the fabric of the building must have attention and maintenance.

The church building dates from 1823, when, on June 29th, St. Peter's Day, it was opened for worship and service to the people of the pioneering community of Campbelltown. Building of the church commenced in 1821, to the broad design and under the control of the then foreman-brick-layer of the government convict gangs, Francis Lawless. Although there is no evidence that he actually did design the building, contemporary accounts show payments having been made to him, for work done on the main fabric of the structure.

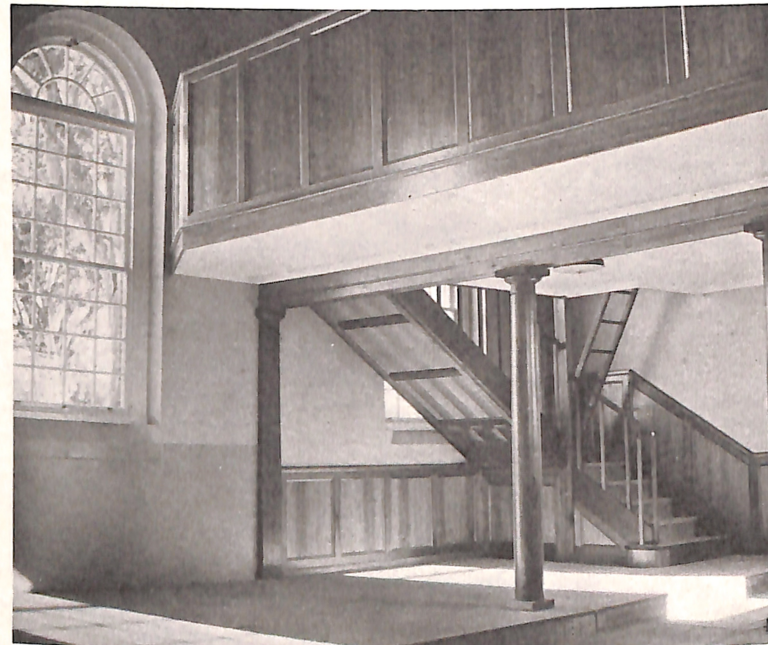


The church suffered greatly about 1870, from the whims of parishioners to alter and deface it, an attempt being made, must unsuccessfully, to turn the building into a Gothic structure of somewhat radical proportions and doubtful character. The tower and roof were raised and sometime after 1860, the Chancel, Vestry and west porch were added to the detriment of the simple Georgian style.

The need for restoration became evident, and it was not until 1948 that the first steps were taken to this effect.

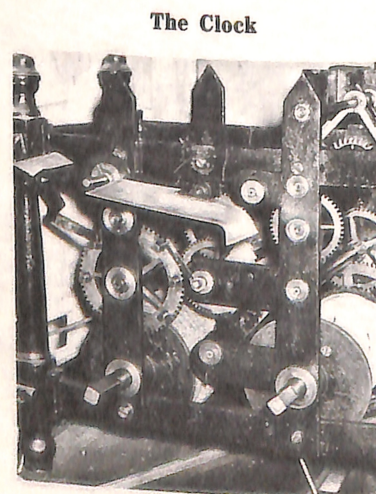
3. RESTORATION AND PREVIOUS ACHIEVEMENTS

Since the appointment of the St. Peter's Church Committee of 1948, much restoration and maintenance work of the building has been undertaken in an endeavour to return it to the original Georgian structure. Perhaps the most advanced and far-sighted approach to the restoration was undertaken after 1962 during the incumbency of the Rev. Angus Tipping at which time the gallery was re-erected, the organ rebuilt and placed in the gallery, the box frame windows restored, there being traceried pseudo-Gothic windows installed in 1877, the Sanctuary re-appointed and the process of replacing pews had begun.

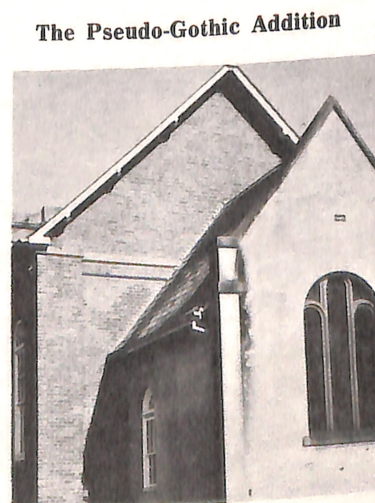


The 1962 Restoration accomplished much.

The clock in the tower originally built in 1838 was refaced, the clock itself had electric re-winding mechanism installed and has recently been completely overhauled. As it ticks away the time for the next hundred years who can tell what changes will take place and each tick reminds us that we are restoring a building which will be of great historic value to the future generations.



The Clock



The Pseudo-Gothic Addition



4. THE NEED FOR FURTHER RESTORATION

The church is now faced with the expensive but necessary structural restoration as some portions of the building, in particular the Sanctuary and the Vestry added during the period of the Gothic transformation have settled, with the result that serious cracks have developed in the building fabric. These later extensions due to inadequate foundations, have moved, endangering the safety of the original building. A large crack appears over the arch to the Chancel, and major cracking in the adjoining structures require urgent attention. An extensive crack occurs in the Vestry, where the Pseudo-Gothic additions abut the original building.

The need is great — the restoration must be commenced. For the continued safety together with the maintenance of the original design, the Sanctuary and Vestry must be replaced . . . Further work is required on the tower, in particular to joinery and windows, and a large part of the base course of sandstone about the church requires replacement.

The Chancel Arch



Original Window in Tower



October, 1981.

The appeal described in this leaflet was launched in 1973 for the restoration and repair of the church. Although

Although it did not reach its target, a considerable amount was raised.

This enabled the Church Committee to replace the base course of sandstone about the church, to renew the flagging in the forecourt, to renew and instal Georgian windows in the porch and tower, and to repair and replaster the chancel arch.

In 1979, the Church Committee opened an appeal for a new pipe organ which was in a state of disrepair.

This organ was installed and dedicated on 28th June, 1981, in memory of Rev. Geoff. Chandler, Rector of St. Peter's from 1966 until his death in 1978.

The next urgent matter for attention is the vestry, which was added in 1882, and because of inadequate foundations, is endangering the safety of the original building.

In the meantime, the following funds are still open for donations—

Restoration Fund - Established for the maintenance and restoration of this historic old church.

History Fund - to provide funds to maintain our historic registers, to establish a photographic record of the church and buildings, and to update and reprint our church history.

Organ Fund - A debt of some \$17,000 remains in this fund (Final cost of the organ was almost \$47,000, and shipping and freight charges added brought the total to almost \$58,000)

The main source of revenue has been the purchase of pipes at a cost of \$80. These have been recorded in a "Book of Pipes", which when complete will be kept with the organ. A section in this book has been set aside for "Pioneer Pipes" and families which have had connections with St. Peter's in the past have been pleased to donate in this way.

Donations, clearly marked for any of these funds, can be sent to

c/- The Rectory,
Cordeaux St.,
CAMPBELLTOWN. 2560.