

The Melbourne Unitarian Peace Memorial Church

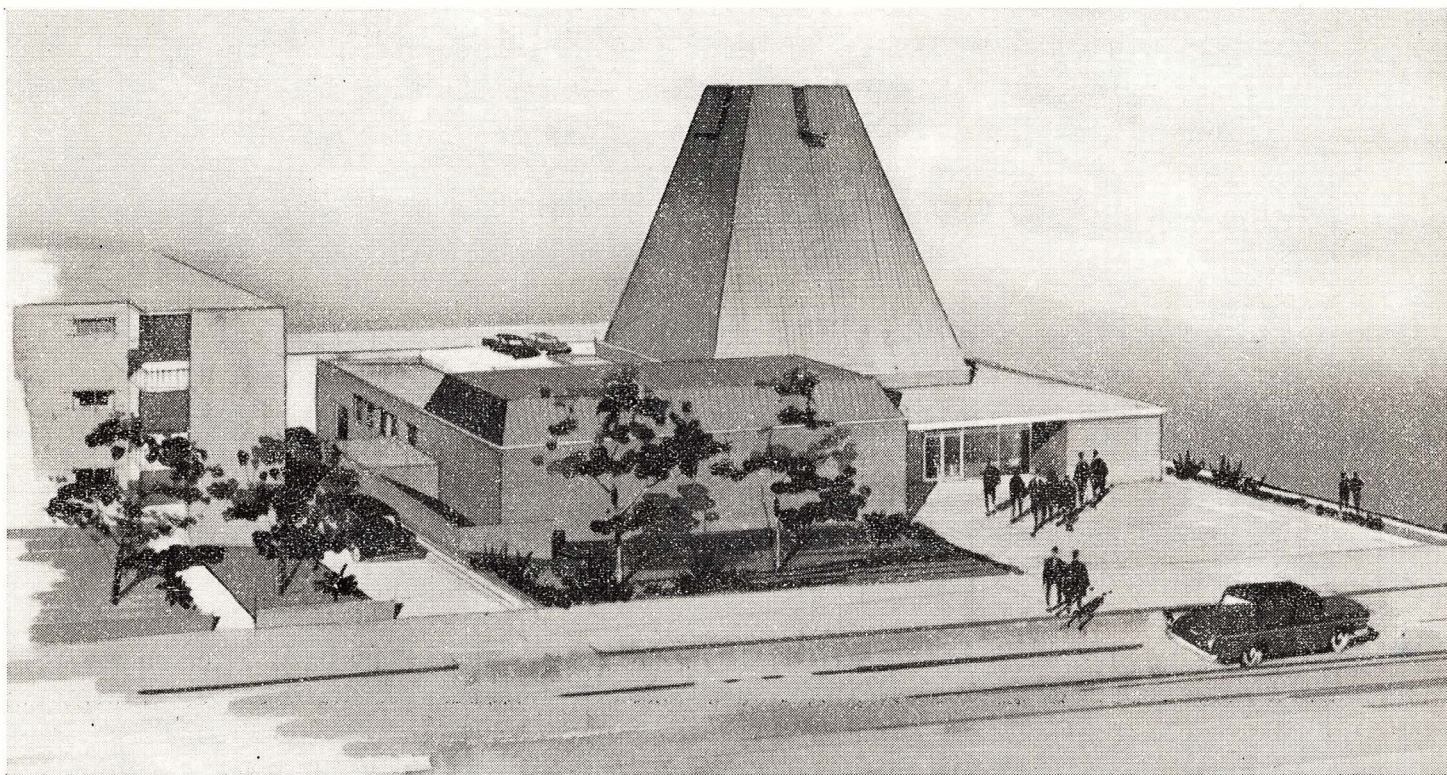
Building Appeal

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The New Church In Grey Street, East Melbourne



This new church will be dedicated to all those who, over the years, have devoted their lives to working for world peace.

Help to make this building a centre for a dynamic, progressive religious thought and action in Australia

The Original Church



**THE MELBOURNE UNITARIAN
CHURCH, CATHEDRAL PLACE,
C.2 (founded 1852)**

The original Church, photograph of which you see here, was built first in 1852 under the ministry of the Rev. Maxwell Davidson. For structural reasons it had to be rebuilt in 1886. For many members of this Church there are, understandably, many ties of habit and sentiment with it. They have become, over the years, used to attending its Sunday services and various functions. Some of them were married or held office in the Church.

For these, a new Church erected on the present site, was the natural solution of the recurring and increasing problem of repairing and renovating the old building.

Bearing in mind this attachment of many to the old site, attempts were made to erect a new Church in Cathedral Place. To solve the economic problem posed in attempting to achieve this aim, the Management Committee of the Church caused plans to be prepared, which plans included the erection of an office block to the rear of the new Church.

Plans for a twelve-storey office block with Church in front were made, but were rejected by the Melbourne City Council. The height of the building on the new plans was reduced to seven storeys, but again the plans were rejected.

The Management Committee of the Church was then compelled to consider alternative plans, but again the economic factor made any other plans for the utilisation of the Cathedral Place site impracticable.

It was about this time, when it was known that all former plans had been rejected by the Melbourne City Council, that an offer was made for the Cathedral Place site.

This offer made it possible for the Committee to look for other suitable sites on which to erect a new Church, and ultimately a site was secured in Grey Street, East Melbourne, not far from the present church, with access by road and tram from Victoria Street and Wellington Parade.

New plans were made and accepted by the Melbourne City Council, and the buildings are now in course of construction.

These plans, drawn up by our architects, E. & G. Kolle & Associates, of Queen Street, Melbourne, will provide our members with a new modern structure, designed to furnish ample accommodation for church services, the broadcasting of "The Unitarian Half-Hour," a hall that can seat 150 people, or by use of sliding doors, two meetings of 100 and 50 people respectively. There will be ample space for offices, committee rooms, library and minister's room. Cloak room accommodation and parking facilities according to regulations are also provided.

Here again the Management Committee and the Trustees of the Church have been confronted with the economic problem. Considerable sums have been and will yet be expended on bringing these plans to successful fruition. Anyone familiar with the cost of materials and labor today will readily appreciate that an undertaking of this size costs money and that money has to be found.

This means that in the future heavy capital and interest charges will have to be met regularly. The rooms will have to be suitably furnished, as will the Church, if we are to provide convenient as well as attractive accommodation.

We have lost certain sources of income by the sale of our present buildings, and these will have to be made up.

Much of this will depend on the generosity, for the time being, of many who, in the past, have so loyally supported us. Current expenses have continued and heavy demands have been made of the faithful members and friends of our Church.

We believe, however, that all those who appreciate the importance of the role of Unitarianism in Victoria, who know what is being done through the mediums of the "Beacon" and "The Unitarian Half-Hour" every Sunday, will continue to not only support us, but help us to grow in influence and strength in the future.

A NEW ERA FOR UNITARIANISM IN AUSTRALIA

Any imaginative plans for the future of our cause in Australia have been seriously restricted in the past owing to severe limitations of space and convenience of accommodation in the old building.

In the new buildings, a simple, well-designed and modern Church, hall, offices and other rooms will be available. Our Sunday School and Youth Group will be well provided for, and our hall will furnish accommodation for those who, in the past, have needed such accommodation, and for those, in the future, who may need it.

In the new building the minister will have a private room for personal consultations and the celebration of marriages not conducted in the Church.

But, most important of all, these new premises will give us a new lease of life. They will provide opportunities for increasing and enlarging our work.

This will be a centre for a progressive, dynamic Unitarianism, a place where the implications of modern Unitarianism can be realised.

This will be not merely another place in which another religious sect holds its services but a place in which forward-thinking, progressive people meet to discuss and take action on modern problems affecting the best welfare of human beings in this world.

Adventure means money

As in all planning for the future, especially the kind of planning that is not impeded by out-worn beliefs and the restrictive influences of archaic dogmas and doctrines, enough money is needed to enlarge, if possible, the "Beacon," now only twelve pages, to publish pamphlets and take our message to all other States. We will continue our "Unitarian Half-Hour," and generally take all possible steps to put ourselves well on the map of Australia.

There is no dearth of ideas and plans for the future, BUT THESE MUST BE FINANCED.

THEREFORE WE SEND OUT THIS APPEAL AT THIS TIME TO YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

WE ASK YOU TO HELP US IN THIS PRACTICAL WAY IN OUR EXCITING NEW ADVENTURE OF UNITARIANISM IN AUSTRALIA.

Our aim is to raise the sum of at least £10,000
WE APPEAL TO YOU, THE READER OF THIS BROCHURE

All contributions to this Appeal over £1 will be tax free as per letter of 19th May, 1964, of the Commonwealth of Australia Taxation Office, which reads in part:—

" . . . gifts of £1 and upwards to the above-named fund will be allowable deductions under the provisions of Section 78(1) (a) (vii) of the Income Tax and Social Services Contribution Assessment Act, 1936-1963."

All contributions should be addressed to:—

**THE TREASURER, THE MELBOURNE UNITARIAN PEACE MEMORIAL CHURCH
BUILDING APPEAL, THE UNITARIAN CHURCH, CATHEDRAL PLACE,
MELBOURNE, C.2, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.**

Tear along line and post.

**TO THE TREASURER, THE MELBOURNE UNITARIAN PEACE MEMORIAL CHURCH BUILDING APPEAL,
CATHEDRAL PLACE, MELBOURNE, C.2, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.**

Please find enclosed my ^{cheque} money order for £ s. d. being my contribution to your Building Appeal.
_{postal note}

NAME (in block capitals)

ADDRESS

Please delete words "Cheque, Money Order, Postal Note" where not applicable.

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