

**WAIMAKARIRI DISTRICT COUNCIL  
HISTORIC HERITAGE ITEM RECORD FORM**

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**2021 District Plan Item No.** HH081  
**HERITAGE ITEM NAME** former Horrellville Wesleyan Church / Horrellville Church Sunday School hall  
**ADDRESS** 1330 Poyntzs Road, Horrellville  
**PHOTOGRAPH**



(WDC)

**DISTRICT PLAN ITEM NO.** H101      **HNZ LIST NO. & CATEGORY** n / a  
(at time of assessment)

**LEGAL DESCRIPTION** Part RS 6416

**VALUATION NUMBER** 2170007500

**DATE OF CONSTRUCTION** 1880

**ARCHITECT/DESIGNER/  
BUILDER** Unknown

**STYLE** Vernacular hall type church

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION**

Single-storey building with L-shaped footprint and gabled roof forms. Gabled entrance porch at west end with gabled vestry at north-east corner. String course below narrow windows with lancet uppers.

**MATERIALS/STRUCTURE**

Timber frame and weatherboard cladding, corrugated metal roofing.

**ADDITIONS/ALTERATIONS**

Vestry added (1893).

**SETTING**

The Sunday School hall is located on the east side of Poyntzs Road, slightly north of its intersection with North Eyre Road. The 1955 church is to the north of the 1880 former church. Tennis courts were previously located to the rear (east) of the original church. The extent of setting is the land parcel on which the two church buildings are located, including the masonry and metal fence along the road boundary of the site.

## **HISTORY**

Local farmer John Horrell, after whom the district was named, presented one rood of land for the erection of a Wesleyan church in 1880. The parcel was transferred to Stephen Sheat and others on behalf of the congregation in December of that year. Tenders having been called in September, the church was reportedly opened on 26 December 1880 at a cost of £130. The building was free of debt when it opened. Annual anniversary services were held in October each year to celebrate the founding of the church. In the 1890s the Horrellville Wesleyan Choir sang at various Methodist churches around North Canterbury; a tennis club was established on the church site in 1906. By the early 1930s a building fund had been established to erect a new church but in the event this ambition was not realised until 1955. Since 1972 the church property has been part of the Oxford District Union Church and the former church is used for church and community events.

## **HISTORICAL AND SOCIAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Methodist Sunday School hall at Horrellville has historical and social significance for its association with the Wesleyan Methodist congregation of Horrellville and the growth and development of the church community since 1880.

## **CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Methodist Sunday School hall at Horrellville has cultural and spiritual significance as a place of Methodist worship and fellowship.

## **ARCHITECTURAL AND AESTHETIC SIGNIFICANCE**

The Methodist Sunday School hall at Horrellville has architectural value as a vernacular building with vestigial Gothic Revival styling evident in its overall composition and detailing. The designer of the former church is currently unknown.

## **TECHNOLOGICAL AND CRAFTSMANSHIP SIGNIFICANCE**

The Methodist Sunday School hall at Horrellville has technological and craftsmanship value for its late Victorian construction and detailing. The builder(s) of the former church and the vestry addition are currently unknown.

## **CONTEXTUAL SIGNIFICANCE**

The Methodist Sunday School hall at Horrellville has contextual significance as a historic feature in Horrellville and for its relationship with the second church which is on the same site.

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SIGNIFICANCE**

As the former church pre-dates 1900 its site has potential archaeological value relating to the structure's construction and early use.

## **SUMMARY OF HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE**

The former Horrellville Wesleyan Church / Horrellville Church Sunday School hall has overall heritage significance to Horrellville and Waimakariri district as a whole. The building has historic and social significance for its association with the Methodist congregation of Horrellville and cultural and spiritual significance for its religious use and purpose. The former Horrellville Wesleyan Church has architectural value as a vernacular building with vestigial Gothic Revival styling and technological and craftsmanship value for its Victorian-era construction and detailing. The former Horrellville Wesleyan Church has contextual significance as a historic feature at Horrellville and for its relationship to the mid-century

church on the same site. The church property has potential archaeological value in view of the Sunday School hall's pre-1900 construction.

## HERITAGE CATEGORY

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## REFERENCES

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- *Globe* 19 October 1880, p. 2; 26 November 1880, p. 3.
- *Lyttelton Times* 1 September 1880, p. 1; 20 October 1886, p. 3; 26 October 1887, p. 4; 3 July 1899, p. 6; 23 April 1901, p. 6; 23 October 1901, p. 7; 7 October 1903, p. 7; 6 October 1905, p. 6.
- *North Canterbury Gazette* 13 October 1933, p. 2; 12 October 1937, p. 3.
- *Sun* 30 September 1914, p. 5; 23 September 1915, p. 2; 14 September 1916, p. 4.
- *Otago Daily Times* 9 March 1893, p. 4.
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- [http://www.methodist.org.nz/archives/canterbury\\_methodist\\_churches](http://www.methodist.org.nz/archives/canterbury_methodist_churches)
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- Methodist Church of New Zealand Archives; available online.

## REPORT COMPLETED

12 February 2019

## AUTHOR

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Extent of setting, 1330 Poyntz Road, Horrellville. The Sunday School hall (former church) is to the south of the present church.