



St Mark's Anglican Church, 36 Egmont Street **1901**

Use	Church	Historic Value	3 out of 5
Materials	Timber, corrugated iron roof, tiles on roof of bell tower	Architectural Value	1 out of 4
NZHPT Registered	Category II Register Number 2721	Technical Value	1 out of 2
Valuation No	12190-050-00	Symbolic Value	1 out of 3
Legal Description	Pt Sec 3 Town of Kaponga	Rarity	- out of 2
		Townscape Value	1 out of 2
		Group Value	1 out of 2
		Overall Cultural Heritage Value	8 out of 20
Reference	E1		

Description

St Mark's Anglican Church is a timber building with a corrugated iron roof. The roof of the bell tower roof is covered with tiles/shingles.

History

Clergy and lay people visited Kaponga from both Hawera and Eltham in the early days of the settlement of Kaponga. In 1887, Rev Robert Young was sent to Kaponga to investigate the establishment of a church. As a result of this visit, the people of Kaponga purchased a section (the site of the present Fire Station in Victoria Street) on which to build a church. A little later it was found that the section had been vested in a Methodist Trust. After the legal position was clarified, the Anglican community of Kaponga established their own place of worship and left the land and buildings on Victoria Street to be used by the Methodists.

Services were then held in the Athenaeum Hall until 1901 when St Mark's Anglican Church was built on its present site. The two sections were purchased for a total of £65.

In 1909 Kaponga was integrated into the Parochial District of Opunake, an association which still exists.

Since 1989 the church has been integrated into the All Saints Eltham.

Architect

Mr Swan, Acting Diocesan Architect

Builder

Mr Robertson, local tradesman

Statement of Significance

St Mark's Church has served the Anglican community of Kaponga and district for almost 100 years, with weddings, christenings and funerals, as well as regular church services, being held over this time. The building has very strong religious and social value for this reason.

While the original form and detail for the church is intact, the addition of a porch on the front in a modern idiom has detracted from the characteristic country church image of steep-pitched gable roof and open bell turret. The social importance of the building is reflected in its prominent site in the main street of the town, where it is seen as one of an important group of heritage buildings that includes the Sunday School Hall and St John's Church.

Sources

Harding G J, Harding J P, Eliason W A, and Law D M (1982), *The Kaponga Story*

Date

January 2000