

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.**Location:** 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield

Address: 2735 Torrington Road**Planning:** Northern**Suburb/nearest town:** Torrington 2371**Local govt area:** Tenterfield**State:** NSW**Parish:****County:****Other/former names:****Area/group/complex:****Group ID:****Aboriginal area:****Curtilage/boundary:** The property boundary**Item type:** Built**Group:** Religion**Category:** Church**Owner:** Religious Organisation**Admin codes:****Code 2:****Code 3:****Current use:** Church**Former uses:** Church**Assessed significance:** Local**Endorsed significance:** Local

Statement of significance: This Carpenter Gothic style timber church is historically significant in the development of the Torrington village settlement in the late 1920s and its community life. It holds aesthetic significance for its timber and iron vernacular traditional form and materials, bell and unusual plywood timber interior lining and moveable items. It is a small scale historical landmark building in the village. It demonstrates the evolution of community development in Torrington in the 1920s and confidence in the development of the settlement. It is socially significant to the community as a place of past, present and future events, including services and fellowship, baptism, weddings and funerals.

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield

Historical notes of provenance: An extensive history of Torrington is outlined in the publication 'Old Torrington' compiled by the residents of the village of Torrington in 1981 and updated in 2017. The following information is summarised for contextual history. Torrington is a settlement which was historically developed for its mining interests and in particular tin and tungsten mining with some of the significant mines being the Torrington, Dutchman, Wallaroo, Curnows and Butlers. Sherratts Battery and Buddle is still in existence.

A prospector Joe Bates first struck the big lode in 1881 and called it Torrington, a name derived from Great Torrington in Devonshire. This holds connection to the mining places of Cornwall and Devon. The village at this time only consisted of bark and corrugated iron houses. By 1883 small prospectors had lost control to overseas mining companies. A school and post office were established. The name 'Torrington' was adopted in 1883, and there has been great discussion about the spelling. on 21 May 1970, the spelling Torrington was adopted by the Post Office. In 1907 an area was reserved for village purposes but in reality it has been a village settlement.

By the peak of the 1920s, 500 men were employed at the mines and there were sixteen batteries working in the area. Torrington supported five general stores, two cafes, a bakery, two billiard rooms, a Police Station, two garages, a school with over 100 children, Post Office, two churches, the hotel, a hall/picture theatre, lodges, several tennis courts, sporting facilities, a rifle range and a race course.

By the end of World War II, the tin subsidy provided by the Government was dropped and the major mines closed and Torrington never recovered. However there is still interest in mining and options taken by companies. Mining has given way to fossicking and tourism. Visitors are drawn by the scenery of rocky granite outcrops and fossick for topaz, quartz and the many minerals found in the area. Unfortunately the last general store were closed some years ago.

THIS ITEM

The All Saints Church (Church of England) now Anglican was built in 1927 and dedicated on 26 June 1927. The windows were donated by 'The Children of Torrington'.

Early Reverends included George Huntley Rae, F. Wilde and Frank Young. Those who followed included Harold Doyle, EF North, W McLeod, and Cpt Les Fernance and Max Hull who left the parish in 1980. The church is still in use in a limited capacity although it lacks electricity or water connections.

The church is one of two built in Torrington the other being Our Lady Help of Christians Roman Catholic Church which no longer has a congregation.

Themes: **National theme**
4. Settlement

State theme
Towns, suburbs and villages

Local theme
Religion

Designer:

Builder:

Year started: 1927

Year completed: 1927

Circa: No

Physical description: This is a traditional Carpenter Gothic Timber and iron roofed church. Weatherboard cladding with short sheet galvanised roof. Low front quad gutters non perforated. Exposed rafter tails. A small entry porch is placed on the front elevation symmetrically under the main gable. Two crosses adorn each gable. The side elevations feature three Gothic arched timber framed windows to each side in double hung sash with obscure glass and yellow to top panes. A plaque reads 'The Windows 'A Gift from the Children of Torrington, 26 June 1927'. To the northern rear side is a projecting vestry room with arched Gothic timber tongue and grooved entry door. To the side of the church is a metal post for the church bell which sits atop. Internally the church is lined in plywood and features a pulpit with decorative timber work, representative of the era. An organ, hymn and psalm boards and pews are all original features. In 2017 there was no power or water services attached to the building.

Physical condition level: Fair

Physical condition: In 2017 the interior had become damaged by termite activity due to water penetration causing timber to become moist. Remedial works were carried out with some heritage funding from Tenterfield Shire Council's heritage fund.

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield

**Archaeological
potential level:**

**Archaeological
potential Detail:**

Modification dates: Unaltered.

**Recommended
management:** Carefully conserve to original details.

Management:	Management category	Management name
--------------------	----------------------------	------------------------

Further comments: Worthy of careful conservation to original details.

Criteria a): All Saints Church demonstrates historical significance and confidence in the development of the Church of England in the rural community of Torrington in 1927 and for its ongoing use for nearly 100 years. It also demonstrates early development of a facility without reticulated power or water.
[Historical significance]

Criteria b): The Church holds Historical Associative significance at a local level with local families, clergy and parishioners, past and present, who are connected to this place.
[Historical association significance]

Criteria c): The church with its bell and setting, demonstrates aesthetic significance as a historic carpenter Gothic style timber and iron church which retains its scale, form and original detailing, including interior original details of timber plywood linings, coloured glass sash windows and vertical jointed timber entry doors and early oil lights. It is also aesthetically significant as a historical landmark building in the village streetscape on a corner site.
[Aesthetic/Technical significance]

Criteria d): The subject building demonstrates social significance for its association with the Church of England/ Anglican Church and for its contribution to the social development of local communities in this rural location.
[Social/Cultural significance]

Criteria e): The building is not likely to yield new or substantial information and is not considered to meet this criterion.
[Research significance]

Criteria f): The church is rare locally as one of only two churches in Torrington.
[Rarity]

Criteria g): The church is a representative example of a Carpenter Gothic timber and iron rural church.
[Representative]

Intactness/Integrity: The building has a high level of intactness to its original form, proportions, and detailing. It retains a high degree of original fabric and original setting.

References:	Author	Title	Year
	Compiled by the Residents of Torrington	Old Torrington	2017

Studies:	Author	Title	Number	Year
-----------------	---------------	--------------	---------------	-------------

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield

Parcels:	Parcel code	Lot number	Section number	Plan code	Plan number
	LOT	328		DP	751488

Latitude:

Longitude:

Location validity:

Spatial accuracy:

Map name:

Map scale:

AMG zone:

Easting:

Northing:

Listing: Name

Title

Number

ListingDate

Potential Heritage Item

Data entry: Data first entered: 27/09/2020

Data updated: 27/04/2021

Status: Completed

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield

Image:



Caption: All Saints Church Torrington

Copy right:

Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 11/08/2017

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345dd9910ffef3446ae9ae7f38ec4627628.JPG>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345dd9910ffef3446ae9ae7f38ec4627628.JPG

Image:

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield



Caption: Bell

Copy right:

Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 11/08/2017

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345bd8a96b29fc94c088d453bce185db851.JPG>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345bd8a96b29fc94c088d453bce185db851.JPG

Image:

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield



Caption: Vestry

Copy right:

Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 11/08/2017

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/3458590ed60f15b4cb88af99556df34fa3e.JPG>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test3458590ed60f15b4cb88af99556df34fa3e.JPG

Image:

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield



Caption: Interior

Copy right:

Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 11/08/2017

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345d7324a28b94f4e08a2dcc6939e2f16e7.jpg>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345d7324a28b94f4e08a2dcc6939e2f16e7.jpg

Image:

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield



Caption: pulpit detail

Copy right:

Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 11/08/2017

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345d12a512f17604b7485fc9d4384d50c07.JPG>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345d12a512f17604b7485fc9d4384d50c07.JPG

Image:

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield



Caption: Oil Light

Copy right:

Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 11/08/2017

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345762f72cdecfc483cbcde8429df51763d.JPG>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345762f72cdecfc483cbcde8429df51763d.JPG

Image:

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield



Caption: Hymn and Psalm Boards

Copy right:

Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 11/08/2017

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/345530bb56a0dbc4d6c878a5f00ac3a9867.JPG>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAPP/Thumb_test345530bb56a0dbc4d6c878a5f00ac3a9867.JPG

Image:

Item name: All Saints Church Torrington including Bell, Interior fabric and moveable items.

Location: 2735 Torrington Road Torrington 2371

Tenterfield



Caption: Plywood lining

Copy right:

Image by: D.Wray

Image date: 11/08/2017

Image number:

Image url: <http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/345a4f213ded7174077a41811fbd5dcb1b4.JPG>

Thumbnail url: http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/maritimeheritageapp/resources/Heritage/shi/WebAP/P/Thumb_test345a4f213ded7174077a41811fbd5dcb1b4.JPG