

# *St Andrew's Presbyterian Church* Hamilton



11 February 2024

Community Celebration  
for Completion of the Restoration of the Church

Rev Kelly Gilson – Rev Tae Ju Ham

Organ: Trevor Gibbs

# St Andrew's Presbyterian Church



Above: Construction of the church

Below: Church building completed



**Date of Construction:** 1913

**Architect:** F C Daniell (1879-1952)

**Style:** Modern Gothic or Late Medieval Influences

**Significant dates:**

1913 – Foundation stone laid 17 September by Rev A Gow, and building constructed

1914 – Church consecrated on 1 February

1928 – Croft pipe organ installed; played for first time at Christmas services

1935 – Additions to the Church designed by architect Chas Lambeth (two transepts, choir room and sanctuary), enlarged church rededicated

1940 – Church property becomes debt-free

1955 – Adjacent Church Centre opened

1956 – Construction of six Bible class rooms

2005 – St Andrew's celebrates 120 years of service and worship (June)

2009 – Fundraising for redevelopment of Church Centre and grounds

2010 – Dedication and opening of The Link and celebration of 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St Andrew's Parish (December)

2014 – Church building celebrates its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday

2017 – Seismic strengthening and restoration of Church building commences (August)

2020 – Community Service of Celebration for return to the Church after Stage 1 Restoration



*The church after the 1934-35 additions were undertaken.*

*Architect: Chas Lambeth*

*Historical notes compiled by GR Matheson, 2000*



*The World War II memorial window was unveiled and dedicated on 7 May 1950.  
The Rev H G Gilbert memorial window was unveiled and dedicated on 31 August 1955.*



*Croft organ installed 1928*



*Eastern elevation, with cloister garden*



The building of places of worship is nothing new.

In Haggai 1:8, we read: “Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house (temple) so that I may take pleasure in it and be honoured, says the Lord.”

To get to the celebration of the completion of the restoration/upgrading and earthquake strengthening of the church, there were many hoops to jump through. Reports and photos in the quarterly issues of St Andrew’s newsletter *The Bridge* tracked the (mostly) visible progress. This is summarised below.

By agreement with the church’s owner, the Presbyterian Property Trustees, Stage 1 required that the building not be used as work to bring the structure to 50% of the National Building Standards (NBS) was undertaken. From 20 August 2017 to 26 July 2020, services were held in The Link. Services in the church were not interrupted by the Stage 2 work to bring the structure to 67% of the NBS.

### **Spring 2017**

- ◆ Relocation from the church to The Link for services.

### **Summer 2019-2020**

- ◆ New switchboards and upgrade to internal lighting.
- ◆ Finalising contract for Stage 1 earthquake strengthening and upgrade fire alarm system.
- ◆ Painting and sprucing up.
- ◆ Estimated to cost \$155,000.

*(continued overleaf)*

## **Autumn 2020**

- ◆ Included flyer “Help Save Hamilton’s Heritage”.
- ◆ Stage 1 – Protecting the people – 50% NBS – cross bracing inside bell tower.
- ◆ Stage 2 – Reserving the building for the future – wall pillars and foundational beams.

## **Spring 2020**

- ◆ 26 July 2020 – from The Link to the church.
- ◆ Centre spread of photos.
- ◆ Information re earthquake strengthening and restoration including organ and upgrading data projector.

## **Autumn 2022**

- ◆ HVAC information and photos.

## **Autumn 2023**

- ◆ Stage 2 commenced – photos.

## **Winter 2023**

- ◆ Photos of church strengthening inside and outside.

## **Summer 2023-2024**

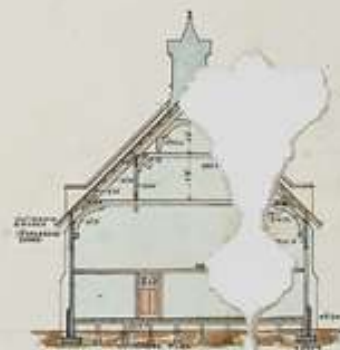
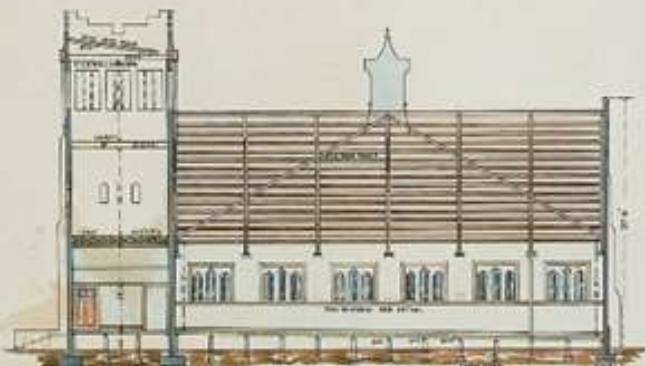
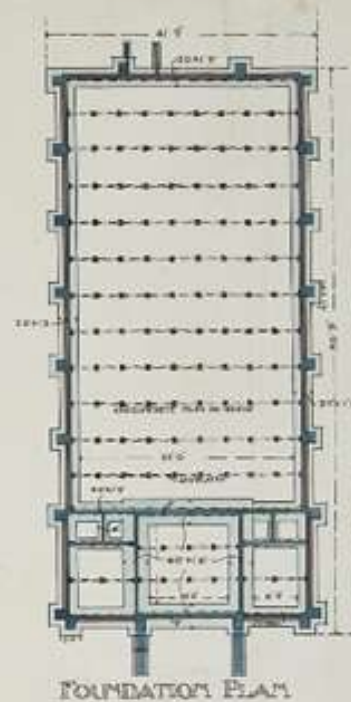
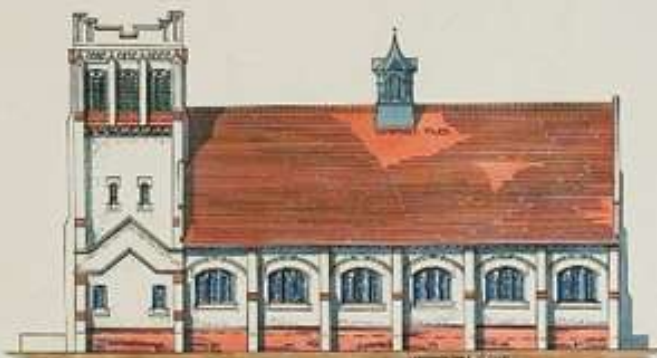
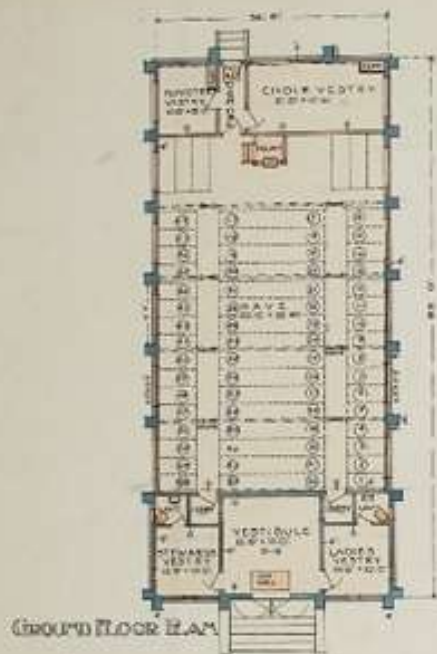
- ◆ Photo of external fence around HVAC system.

In greater detail, the following milestones were reached over the past eight years:

- (a) Detailed seismic assessment was completed in June 2017.
- (b) Over the next two years, planning, engineering designs and consent applications were prepared and submitted.
- (c) Earthquake strengthening work contract tendering process commenced in September 2019.
- (d) Contractors started work on Stage 1 of strengthening the church in January 2020 and completed the work the following month.

- (e) Upgrade of switchboards, electrical wiring and lighting in the church was completed in February 2020.
- (f) Church pipe organ was reconditioned in March 2020 after having been earlier protected from the strengthening work on the church and having had the blower motor overhauled.
- (g) Fire alarm system in the church was upgraded in March 2020.
- (h) Over March, April and May 2020, the church exterior was washed and exterior doors and window frames were painted.
- (i) Data projector in the church was upgraded in June 2020.
- (j) The church passed its Hamilton City Council Certificate of Public Use building inspection on 29 June 2020.
- (k) New audio visual amplifier was installed in the church in September 2021.
- (l) Design plans for strengthening church buttresses were prepared, and consents were prepared and submitted for Stage 2 of strengthening the church and on the installation of a heating ventilation air conditioning system (HVAC) in the church, over 2021/2022.
- (m) Kitchen in the back of the church was renovated in May 2023.
- (n) Installation of the new HVAC system was completed in May 2023.
- (o) Contractors started work on Stage 2 of strengthening the church in January 2023 and completed work in August 2023.
- (p) A Code of Compliance Certificate on completion of Stage 2 and installation of HVAC was issued by Hamilton City Council on 29 September 2023.
- (q) Security fence around exterior HVAC system compressor erected in November 2023.

ST ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
 CLAUDELANDS



SAMUEL & ANDERSON  
 ARCHITECTS  
 DUNEDIN

F C Daniell, architect (1913) (Collection: Waikato Museum)



## Expect Warmer Sunday Services in Next Winter

A new heating and air conditioning system is being installed for the church, which will be capable of providing both heating and cooling to the indoor seating area.

The system comprises an air-cooled packaged unit – a large (36 kW) commercial grade heat pump unit, located externally on the south side of the building. Tempered (heated or cooled) air is pumped into the building via an array of ductwork installed under the floor and discharged into the church space via uniformly distributed floor grilles, which are situated under the centre pews at regular intervals. The room air is drawn back to the air handling unit via return air grilles and ducts located along the side walls (see drawing).

The air quality is monitored by a carbon monoxide sensor which will modulate the amount of fresh air required to be introduced into the space.

The main underfloor ductwork has now been completed (see photos). The remaining work will be carried out at the same time as the Stage 2 structure strengthening work, which is scheduled to proceed in March/April 2022, following the building consent approval.

It is expected that the system will be fully commissioned by June 2022, in time for the coming Winter.

*PS: After it was operational, people coming into the church for the 9.30 am service remarked “Wow, it’s really warm in here!”*















*The completion of the two-stage chapel earthquake reinforcement work is truly great and grateful news. It is the hand of God's help and the result of the prayers and dedication of all the brothers and sisters in the nest of St Andrew's Church. In this respect, I think it is appropriate to offer this service of gratitude to God.*

Message from Korea from the Rev Ham Tae Ju

St Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Hamilton, is indebted to all those whose contributions – financial, professional, trades – made the restoration and upgrading of the church possible.

We give thanks to God for your generosity and skills in order that the Lord may continue to be honoured in this heritage building.