

# Auckland Council District Plan (North Shore Section)

## Proposed Plan Change 38

### Proposed New Item

#### Appendix 11A: Schedule of Buildings, Objects and Places of Heritage Significance



**Name:** St. George's Presbyterian Manse

**Address:** 2 The Terrace, Takapuna [corner The Terrace and Collins Street]

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ID: 547    Category: B    Use: Residential    DP Map:26/ 26A

Material 1:                      Condition:                      Cultural Heritage:

Material 2:                      Integrity:                      Streetscape:

Construction Dates 1920

From:              To:                      Alteration Dates:

Legal Description: Pt Lot 1 DP 2753 & Pt Allot 79 Parish of Takapuna

Zoning: Residential 4A

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**Architect/Designer/Contractor:**

W.A.Holman and L.V.Moses

**Architectural Style:**

An early, restrained bungalow with some villa elements, notably the double hung windows rather than the casement windows and fanlights seen on other bungalows.

## Reference Sources:

Salmond Jeremy, *Old New Zealand Houses 1800-1940*. 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, 1978  
Toomath William, *Built in New Zealand, The Houses we Live In*. 1996

## Associated Proposed Scheduled Buildings

St George's Church including the Peter Beere Lounge and the Lex Kernohan Hall.

## NZHPT Listing:

Not registered by NZHPT.

## Significant Elements:

Brick cladding, timber joinery, double hung windows, hipped roof (decramastic tiles appear to be later addition)

## Extent of Listing:

Entire exterior of building.

(Rear galvanised iron garage and attached carport not included).

## History:

In the early days Takapuna's Presbyterians were served by visiting ministers from Devonport, the first closely settled part of the North Shore.<sup>1</sup> Records prior to 1896 are sparse but by September of that year services were being held in Lake Hall and a committee formed the following year. A Sunday School was established soon after and, by the turn of the century, a two acre site had been secured for the construction of a church, the foundation stone for which was laid on 26 April, 1902.<sup>2</sup> Opened three months later, the first St George's Church seated a congregation of 200 and had a schoolroom for 100 scholars.<sup>3</sup>

A congregational meeting, held on 15 March 1918, confirmed the Auckland Presbytery's decision that St Georges would become a sanctioned charge and, on 3 May, David J. Albert was inducted as the first minister. Educated in England and United States, David Albert's first calling was to the sea where he obtained his First Officer's Certificate. Later he took up journalism and worked on several major American newspapers until a family bereavement necessitated his return to England. There he decided to enter the ministry and, after his arrival in New Zealand, he took up Home Mission work.<sup>4</sup>

During his seven year ministry with St Georges, the highly esteemed Rev. Albert was "...a very zealous Christian worker"<sup>5</sup> who, especially in the difficult years of war and the 1918 flu epidemic, "...was successful in building up a good healthy charge".<sup>6</sup> The next ministry was that of Rev. Morgan Richards (1926-1934) who also guided the church through the difficult depression years.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Auckland Public Library, Auckland Scrap Books, Oct 1964- p.136.

<sup>2</sup> North Shore Libraries, Takapuna. Vertical File, North Shore – Takapuna –the Terrace, St George's Church 60th Anniversary Programme, 1962.

<sup>3</sup> *Challenge and Service: St George's Church, Takapuna 1902 – 2002*. p.3. (ed. Brian Humberstone).

<sup>4</sup> *Challenge and Service: St George's Church, Takapuna 1902 – 2002*. p.6.

<sup>5</sup> *Challenge and Service: St George's Church, Takapuna 1902 – 2002*. p.6.

<sup>6</sup> North Shore Libraries, Takapuna. Vertical File, North Shore – Takapuna –the Terrace, St George's Church 60th Anniversary Programme, 1962.

<sup>7</sup> For a full biographical list of the first 11 ministers see *Challenge and Service* pp 7-11.

In concert with Rev. Albert's induction, plans for the first manse were drawn up by architects W.A. Holman and L.V. Moses who had also designed several other houses in Takapuna around this time.<sup>8</sup> The April 1919 issue of *NZ Building Progress* (p.485) announced that:

"The managers of St George's Presbyterian Church Takapuna have decided to proceed with the erection of a manse in the rear portion of the church grounds. Liberal subscriptions have been raised by the congregation, and tenders for the erection of a seven-roomed house were called for by Messrs. Holman & Moses" (*NZ Building Progress*, April 1919:485).

The house is first listed in the Auckland street directories in 1921 with Rev. David James Albert as occupier so the house would, presumably, have been completed by the end of 1920.

Other notable buildings designed by Holman and Moses include: St Luke's Presbyterian Manse, Remuera (1919); Iron Store in Stanley Street (1919); St Cuthbert's Ladies' College (1923); a block of four shops in Jervois Road, Herne Bay (1926); the Sunday School Union Building at 323-327 Queen Street (1925); a seven-storey warehouse in Anzac Avenue for A & T Burt Ltd. (1926) and the Station Hotel, Beach Road (1930). Also of significance is the Chicago style Vulcan Buildings on the corner of Queen Street and Vulcan Lane, designed by Holman, Moses and Watkins in 1928.<sup>9</sup>

Prior to beginning practice in Auckland, in 1893, William Alfred Holman received his professional training from his father, Mr H. C. Holman, Colonial Architect and superintendent of public works under Governor Hobson. Subsequently, he worked in Melbourne for some years and, in New Zealand, designed buildings in Whangarei, Gisborne and Christchurch. He was Auckland president of NZIA in 1912.<sup>10</sup>

Not a lot is known about Lance V. Moses except that, at some stage, he changed his name to Taylor. Most of the work he carried out in Auckland was in conjunction with Holman or Holman and Watkins.<sup>11</sup>

## **Statement of Significance**

The manse is an important part of the local context and an integral part of the Church and its associated lounge and hall.

### *Architecture:*

This restrained bungalow is a significant as an example of the work of well known Auckland firm Holman and Moses who also designed the manse for St Lukes Presbyterian Church in Remuera.

### *History:*

The house has significant associations with both of the St George's churches 1902-1974 and 1965, the Peter Beere Lounge (1973) and Lex Kernohan Hall (1980) It the oldest building on the site, still in use for its original purpose, and is part of the typical

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<sup>8</sup> Central Takapuna Preliminary Heritage Overview. Prepared for North Shore City Council by Matthews and Matthews Architects, May 2007:40.

<sup>9</sup> University of Auckland, School of Architecture, Sheppard Files H747w and M911L; *NZ Building Progress*: April – Oct 1919.

<sup>10</sup> University of Auckland, School of Architecture, Sheppard File- H747w

<sup>11</sup> University of Auckland, School of Architecture, Sheppard File- M911L.

ancillary buildings (manse and hall) which were commonly associated with a church and often constructed in close proximity to each other. The manse is closely associated with the various ministers who occupied it and with the spiritual life of the congregation.

The manse represents various themes and sub-themes in the development of Takapuna including land and People (The People of the North Shore), Religion (Presbyterian Church), Community Organizations and Facilities and Remembering the Past and Preserving it for the Future.

**Context:**

St Georges church sits on the edge of the Takapuna commercial area and angled parking extends along The Terrace boundary in the area previously occupied by the berm. The house has an established garden, with lawns and mature trees and a hedge along Collins Street and it is one of the oldest dwellings in The Terrace which is characterized by newer multi unit development.