

SITE NAME: RHENISH MISSION CHURCH

LANDSCAPE UNIT NUMBER:
LANDSCAPE UNIT GRADE: Grade II

ADDRESS OF THE SITE

PROPERTY NO 723
SITE ADDRESS Webersvallei Road
CURRENT USE Church
ORIGINAL USE Church

PROTECTION AND GRADING

Curr.NHRA Protection S34
>60YRS? **Yes**
PROPOSED GRADING Grade IIIa

MAP



LATITUDE/LONGITUDE

-33.980038 18.853214



SIGNIFICANCE

Associational	High	Representivity	Low
Age	Low	Rarity	Medium
Scientific	None	Archaeology	Low
Symbolic	High	Intangible	
Architectural	Low		

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE

"Mission Style"

ARCHITECT/BUILDER

SITE DESCRIPTION

The Rhenish Church is located to the east at the highest point of the settlement, and is a very simple structure of rectangular plan and under pitched roof with end gables, c1924. Its tall windows, spaced between buttresses, have Gothic arches. A modern entrance portico has been added facing Webersvallei Road.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The church is the historic spiritual heart of the village, and has been important to its development for many decades, although that importance, both practically and in terms of the spatial layout of the settlement, has recently been eroded. The site has high historical, social and contextual significance. It is a rare example. It has a strong association with the history of slavery in the winelands.

INTERIOR DESCRIPTION

GROUPING WITH OTHER SITES

EVIDENCE OF DEMOLITION

SITE HISTORY

The settlement dates back to 1903 when Rhenish Mission settlers made Stellenbosch their home, and established Jamestown on the outskirts of the town in order for members of their congregation, many of whom were farm labourers, small scale subsistence farm

LANDSCAPE SIGNIFICANCE

CONTEXTUAL DESIGN

The church would once have had a more dramatic visual relationship to the Helderberg Range, and would have been visible upon entering the village along Webersvallei Road. However, insensitive and over-scaled development has eroded this visual and context

INVASIVE ELEMENTS

HERITAGE VULNERABILITY

Loss of authenticity due to alterations and inappropriate development.