



A U S T R A L I A N C I V I C T R U S T
2019 People's Choice

Nomination for Heritage Award

Smyth Memorial Chapel

Catholic Section, NE Corner, West Terrace Cemetery



Smyth Memorial Chapel 2012

Photo c/o SA Heritage Unit

The Smyth Chapel, designed by the Colonial architect E.J. Woods, is on the National Heritage List.

A rare example of a Gothic-revival style mortuary chapel, it was opened and blessed in 1871 in memory of Reverend Dr J. Smyth. Its restoration was one of the priority actions in the *West Terrace Cemetery Conservation Management Plan 2005*.

Prior to professional conservation work by the SA Government Heritage unit, various minor repair works had been undertaken, no doubt with good intentions, but they were not sympathetic to heritage best practice and subsequently caused further damage and deterioration to the fabric of the building. We are pleased to say that this has now been addressed in the current conservation project.

A major component of the current restoration was the re-carving of seven stone grotesques that adorn the octagonal perimeter of the building, which had been de-capitated by vandals in the 1970s, plus the replacement of the lead roofing, repairs and repointing of the external bluestone façade and significant salt damp remediation.