



## ANNEXURE: ADDITIONAL SUBMISSION TO YOORROOK

1. The Synod refers to
  - (a) the Annexure: Response to Yoorrook's Requests for Information (**Primary Response**) produced to Yoorrook on 4 April 2024 under Yoorrook's Notice to Produce (numbered NTP-003-044); and
  - (b) the Annexure: Supplementary Response to Yoorrook's Requests for Information (**Supplementary Response**) produced to Yoorrook on 9 April 2024 under Yoorrook's Notice to Produce (numbered NTP-003-045).
2. This additional submission is provided to Yoorrook by the Synod for the purposes of assisting Yoorrook in the drafting of its Final Report. The information contained in this additional submission reflects the Synod's continued efforts – since the production of the Primary Response and the Supplementary Response to Yoorrook – to gather information in relation to the matters the subject of the Primary Response and the Supplementary Response. The Synod has continued to gather that information in the context of its inability to complete that information gathering process in the time prior to the production of the Primary Response and the Supplementary Response.
3. The Synod is now able to indicate that:<sup>1</sup>
  - (a) The Synod's records indicate that there are 127 properties (with a total area of 21.16 hectares) which are held in trust for the Uniting Church which were granted by the Crown pursuant to the *State Aid to Religion Abolition Act 1871* (Vic).
  - (b) The properties described at 3(a) above constitute 8.5% of the Uniting Church in Australia's Titles in Victoria, and represent 5.4% of the total land area comprised by Uniting Church in Australia property in Victoria (that total land area being 389.2 hectares).
  - (c) The natures of the properties described at 3(a) are varied, with many having been developed to include privately funded buildings, some of which are heritage listed.
4. The Synod looks forward to Yoorrook's Final Report, to any recommendations that Yoorrook may make, and to the opportunity to explore future actions and commitments in support of justice, truth telling, and treaty, consistent with the call made by the Preamble to the Constitution of the Uniting Church in Australia and the Synod Vision of "*following Christ, walking together as First and Second Peoples, seeking community, compassion and justice for all creation*".

**Dated 7 February 2025**

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that the figures cited in the sub-paragraphs to 3 herein exclude the schools associated with the Uniting Church, as the schools are now themselves the Trustees for the school properties and, as such, the relevant school now appears on each such Land Title as the relevant freehold owner.