

# Loreto College (Marys Mount Convent)



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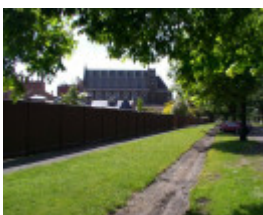
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## **Location**

1600 STURT STREET, LAKE WENDOUREE - PROPERTY NUMBER 2031069, BALLARAT CITY

## **Municipality**

BALLARAT CITY

## **Level of significance**

Incl in HO area indiv sig

## **Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H1017

## **Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO126

## **Heritage Listing**

Ballarat City

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## **Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - March 5, 2024

### **What is significant?**

### **How is it significant?**

### **Why is it significant?**

Part of Recommended Area A3.9

The whole complex is intact in the principal approaches from Sturt Street. The complex is state-wide importance as the best and most intact example of convent architecture and several elements - the chapel, cloister, rear brick wing and grotto are of particular importance. The convent forms the principal element is an important environmental area.

|                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Ballarat - Ballarat Conservation Study, Jacobs Lewis Vines Architects, 1978; |
| Construction dates        | 1866, 1882, 1902,  |
| Architect/Designer        | Tappin, Gilbert & Dennehy, Reed, Smart & Tappin,                             |
| Hermes Number             | 144658   |
| Property Number           |  |

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## Physical Description 1

The Loreto Nuns purchased the home of Agar Wynne' in 1875' for their first convent in Australia and from this Mary's Mount developed.

The convent of ashlar sandstone is not of a particularly distinctive late Gothic Revival design but the grouping of the chapel, arcaded cloister section and east wing around the front gardens is quite impressive. Also of importance are the delightful patterned brick ,grotto with 'transverse gable roof and central spire, and a three storey wing constructed of red brick with bands of cream, a castellated parapet and ,an extraordinary skyline due to the row of chimneys.

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## Physical Description 2

This building is one of the most comprehensive and important convents in the state in terms of intactness, size and number of related buildings and freedom from intrusive additions, except at the rear.

It is constructed of ashlar sandstone with dressings for windows, turrets and cappings. Although the building is not of a particularly distinctive late Gothic Revial design, the grouping of the chapel, arcaded cloister section, and east wing around the front gardens is quite impressive. The garden, with mature trees, is enclosed by a high buttressed brick fence with elaborate wrought iron entrance gats beneath a four- centred arch and small side arch for pedestrians. There is also a delightful patterned brick grotto and transverse gable roof and central spire. The chapel itself is well massed, as the ecclesiastic east faces Sturt Street which terminated by a handsome pair of octagonal castellated turrets, an apse with three large wheel windows, and a gallery below which is effective as a continuation of the side aisles.

There is a rather bizarre three storied wing, at the rear of somewhat greater architectural interest. It is constructed of red brick with bands of cream, a castellated top and a row of six chimneys all along the west side which provide a rather extraordinary skyline. At one end there is an even higher row of chimneys joined. by an arch to form a bell-cote within which there is a great wheel and bell, while at the other end is a double arched motif, again between two chimneys.

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*