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# Mercy Convent



B3783 Mercy Convent

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## Location

88 Nicholson Street, FITZROY VIC 3065 - Property No B3783

## Municipality

YARRA CITY

## Level of significance

State

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0507

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - April 24, 2008

Dr Goold's House, Mercy Convent 88 Nicholson Street, Fitzroy St Statement of Significance: One of the earliest surviving substantial architect-designed residences in Melbourne, this two-storey, bluestone house was designed by Newson & Blackburn and built in 1850 for Edward Wight, merchant. It was bought in 1853 as a residence for Dr. Goold, the first Roman Catholic Bishop of Melbourne, and was first used as a school by Mother Mary Ursula Frayne in 1857.

The west wall of the house which faces Nicholson Street, is partially hidden by a two-storey verandah which was built in 1933 and links up with the adjacent Donald Kennedy's house to the south. This verandah is not included in the Classification.

Palmer Street School, Mercy Convent Nicholson Street, Fitzroy Statement of Significance: Built in two stages, the foundation stone was laid on December 9th, 1869 and the first stage was a three storey bluestone building with a slate roof designed by T A Kelly and completed in 1871. The second stage was a continuation of the first stage to the west and was designed by Leonard Terry in a similar architectural style. It was completed in 1881.

Memorial Chapel Mercy Convent Nicholson Street, Fitzroy Statement of Significance: Designed by Reed, Henderson & Smart and built by Martin & Peacock, this large Gothic revival chapel was built with Waurn Ponds sandstone on a bluestone base and was started in 1887 and completed in 1889.

The chapel is attached to the Palmer Street School and was built in memory of Mother Mary Ursula Frayne who founded the Convent School in 1857 and had died there in 1885.

South East Extension Dr Goold's House, Mercy Convent Nicholson Street, Fitzroy Statement of Significance: A two storey extension to the south east corner of Dr Goold's house was designed by George and Schneider and built in 1858 provided additional school accommodation for boarding and day school pupils.

The bluestone exterior is basically as originally designed.

North East Extension Dr Goold's House, Mercy Convent Nicholson Street, Fitzroy Statement of Significance: A two storey extension to the north east corner of Dr Goold's house was built in 1861 by John Young, and provided a chapel and new accommodation for the resident Reverend Mother.

The bluestone exterior is basically as originally designed.

Donald Kennedy's House Extension, Mercy Convent Nicholson Street, Fitzroy Statement of Significance: A two-storey extension to the south and east of Donald Kennedy's house built by John & Young was completed in 1863 and provided additional accommodation for infant and primary schools.

The bluestone exterior is basically as originally designed with the structure showing provision for extensions to the east.

Donald Kennedy's House, Mercy Convent Nicholson Street, Fitzroy. Statement of Significance: One of the earliest surviving substantial architect-designed residences in Melbourne, this two-storey bluestone house was designed by Newson & Blackburn in 1850 for Tom Watson, merchant, and was sold to Donald Kennedy, M.L.A. in 1853. In 1860 the house was bought by the convent as an extension to the school. The west wall of the house which faces Nicholson Street is now partially hidden by a two-storey verandah which was added in 1933 and links up with the adjacent Dr Goold's house to the north. This verandah is not included in the Classification.

Classified: 05/07/1979

Revised: 03/08/1998

Other Names Academy Of The Mary Immaculate,

Hermes Number 67140

Property Number

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*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/>*