
Xavier College Chapel



City of Kew Urban
Conservation Study 1988



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Location

135 Barkers Road KEW, Boroondara City

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO4

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The Memorial Chapel is of significance as one of the most successful essays in the Renaissance revival to have been built in Melbourne between the wars, for its role in the history of Xavier College, and as a Kew landmark

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - City of Kew Urban Conservation Study, Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, 1988;
Architect/Designer	Schreiber & Jorgensen,
Hermes Number	22339
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

In 1919, D.V. Healey won a competition for the design of a war memorial to be erected in Xavier's grounds [3]. Lacking the funds necessary to begin construction at that time, a further competition was held and it was in 1927 that Archbishop Mannix laid the foundation stone of the Memorial Chapel [4]. Financial difficulties during the depression meant that the erection of the building was slow and it was not until September 1934 that the first mass was conducted in the new chapel [5].

The chapel was constructed in Sydney sandstone and is a most successful and complete essays in Renaissance revival architecture. It has a commanding giant order ionic portico flanked by squat towers, and set on a high drum to the centre of the church there is a dome. The siting of the chapel on an unconstricted site on the top of a hill, the tall form of the dome, and the pleasant sandstone colour, all combine to make this a most prominent building and a Kew landmark.

References --

1 Weston, H., 'Application to Add a Building to the Register of Historic Buildings: Xavier College Chapel',

19 January 1982

2 *ibid.*

3 Dening, G., *Xavier: A Centenary Portrait*, p.246

4 *ibid.*, p.248

5 *ibid.*

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/>