

## HERITAGE COUNCIL DETERMINATION

Determination Date	5 April 2018
Place/Object Name	Genazzano FCJ College
Location	285-315 Cotham Road, Kew, Boroondara City
VHR Number	H1902
Category	Heritage Place

At a meeting of the Heritage Council of Victoria on 5 April 2018 it was determined that, in accordance with Section 49(1)(b) of the *Heritage Act 2017*, the Victorian Heritage Register entry for the above place should be amended. This decision was reached having considered the assessment against the Heritage Council's criteria and other information, including the proposed amendments contained in the attached report and submissions received in response to the Executive Director's recommendation.

The Heritage Council endorses and adopts the attached report for the purposes of making its decision.



**Professor Stuart Macintyre AO**  
Chair, Heritage Council of Victoria

# Recommendation of the Executive Director and assessment of cultural heritage significance under Part 3, Division 7 of the *Heritage Act 2017*

<b>Name</b>	Genazzano FCJ College
<b>Location</b>	285-315 Cotham Road, Kew, Boroondara City
<b>Date Registered</b>	9 November 2000
<b>VHR Number</b>	VHR H1902
<b>VHR Category</b>	Heritage Place
<b>Hermes Number</b>	5415



Genazzano FCJ College, Kew

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE HERITAGE COUNCIL:**

To amend the existing registration of VHR H1902 in accordance with s.62 of the *Heritage Act 2017* by:

- Adding land to the extent which currently accompanies this registration;
- Updating the Statement of Significance to align with current practice and formatting; and
- Updating the permit policy and permit exemptions to align with the amended extent.

## **Reasons for the proposed amendment:**

The registration of Genazzano FCJ (Faithful Companions of Jesus) College, which was first gazetted in 2000 in the Victorian Heritage Register, requires updating. Due to a scaling error, the extent of land which accompanies the registration of this place does not contain all of the 1890-91 'Wardell Building'. This proposed amendment adds land to the southern edge of the existing registered land and the adjusted extent contains the entire Wardell Building.

Under s.49(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 2017* the Heritage Council may include additional land to registered places.

The existing registration documentation is provided at Attachment 1 of this report.

**STEVEN AVERY**  
Executive Director

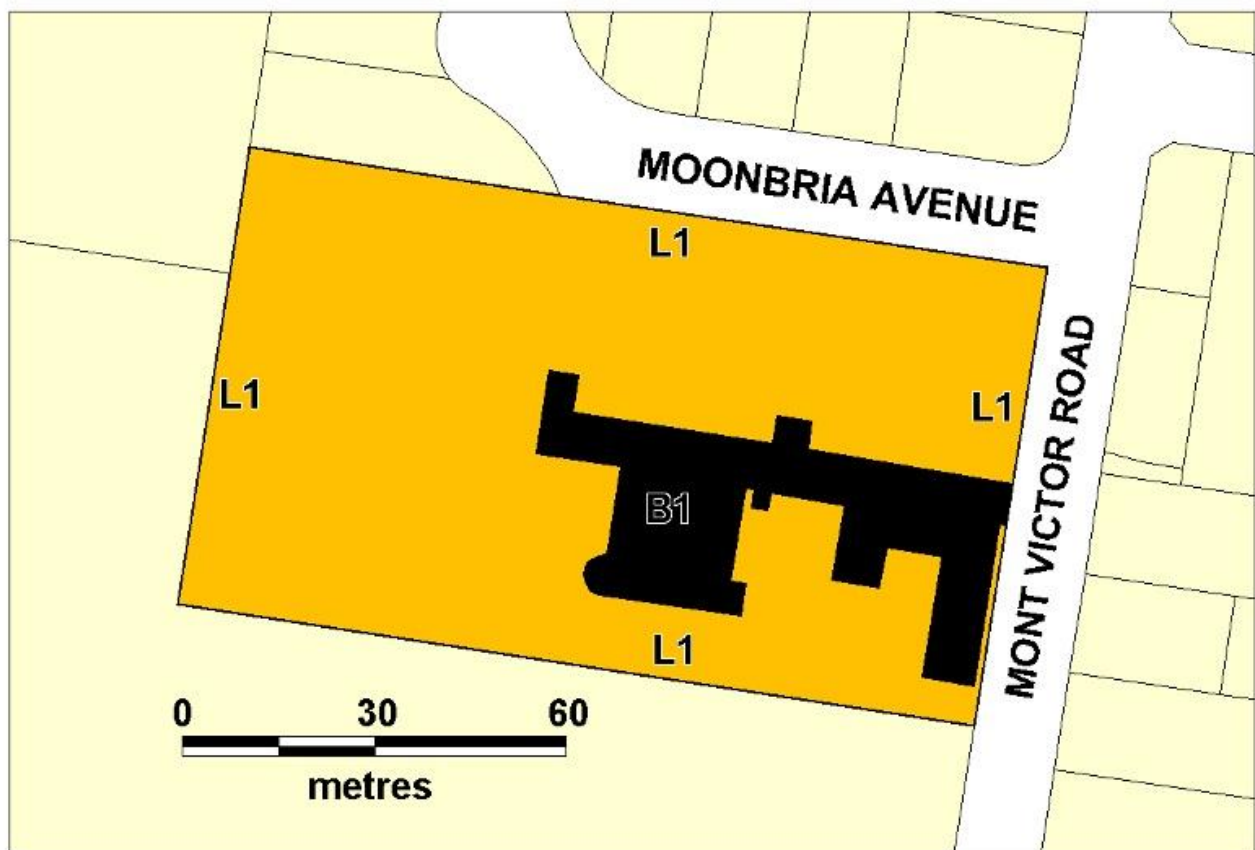
**Recommendation Date:** 11 January 2018

## AMENDMENT BACKGROUND

An application to amend this registration by adding land was accepted by the Executive Director on 17 July 2017. The application was prompted by a concern that due to a scaling error the existing registration does not include all of the land on which the 1890-91 Wardell Building sits.

## CURRENT EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

1. All the building known as the Wardell Building (excluding later additions) marked B1 on Diagram Number 1902 held by the Executive Director.
2. All the land marked L1 on Diagram Number 1902 held by the Executive Director being all the land included in Certificate of Title Vol. 5821 Folio 010.



Current registration diagram

## CURRENT CATEGORY OF REGISTRATION

Heritage Place

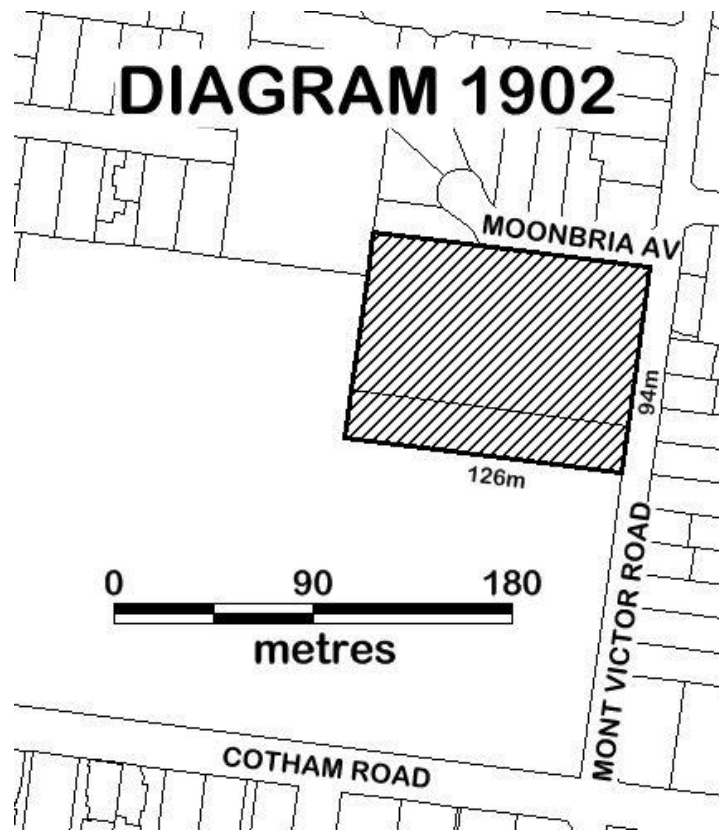
## PROPOSED CATEGORY OF REGISTRATION

No change.

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## RECOMMENDED EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

All of the place shown hatched on Diagram 1902 encompassing all of Lot 1 on Title Plan 684715 and part of Lot 2 on Lodged Plan 137398.



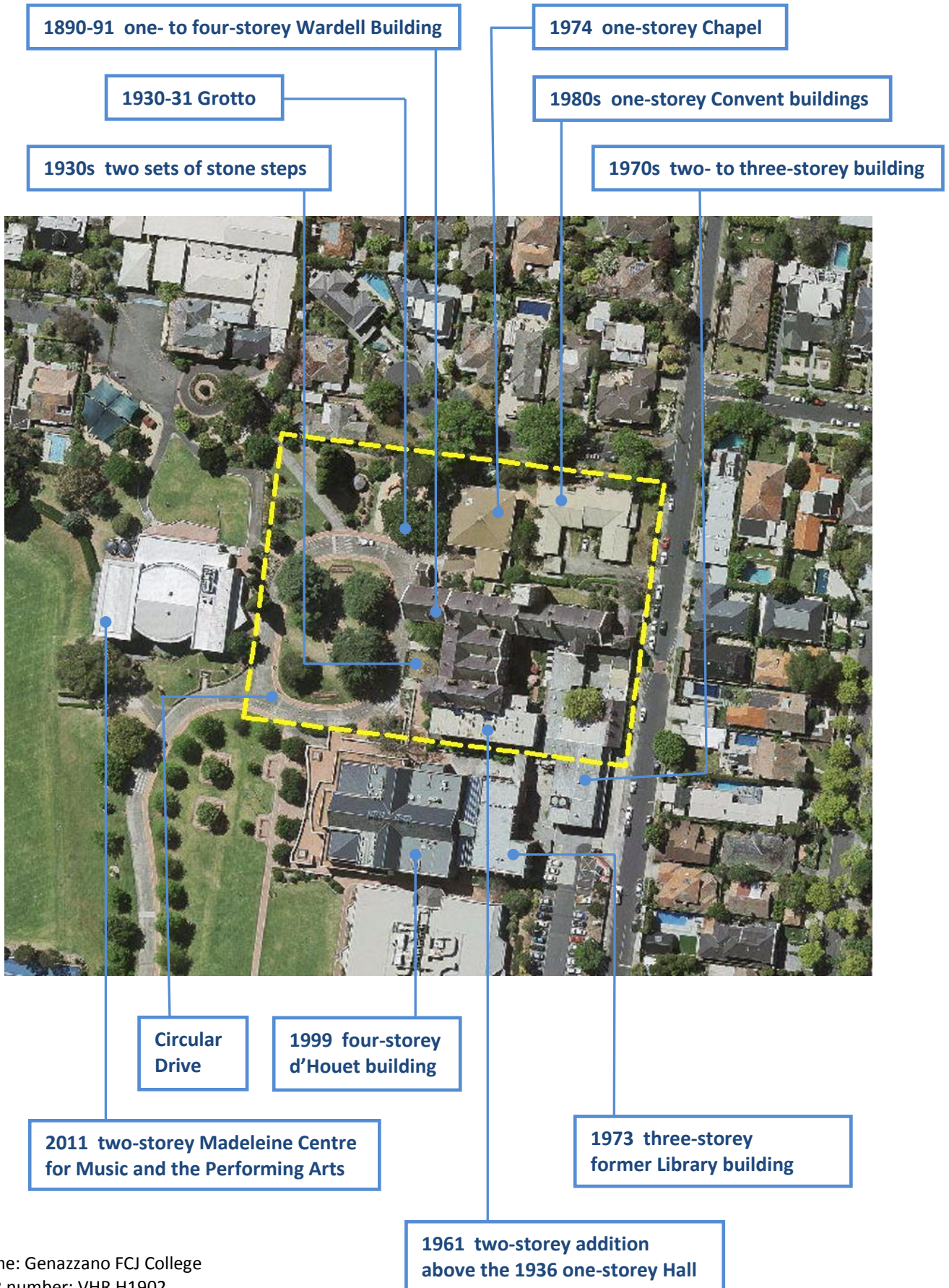
The extent of registration of Genazzano FCJ College in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole of the place shown on Diagram 1902 including the land, buildings (including their exteriors and interiors), and landscape elements.

The registration also includes fixtures attached to the buildings at the time of registration including original timber stairs and balustrades, cabinets, joinery, and fireplaces, and the Chapel's altar, reredos, pews, built-in furniture, light fittings and other fixtures.

## RATIONALE FOR EXTENT

The proposed extent of registration is a 1.2 hectare (3 acre) rectangular area – encompassing all of Lot 1 on Title Plan 684715, and part of Lot 2 on Lodged Plan 137398 – which contains the 'Wardell Building' and sufficient curtilage to provide for a setting to the Building and appropriate management of that setting.

# AERIAL PHOTO OF THE PLACE SHOWING PROPOSED REGISTRATION



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## RECOMMENDATION REASONS

### REASONS FOR RECOMMENDING THE INCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL LAND IN THE VICTORIAN HERITAGE REGISTER

The Executive Director recommends that the Heritage Council amend this registration in accordance with s.62 of the *Heritage Act 2017*. He recommends that the Heritage Council add land to this registration in accordance with s. 49(1)(d) of the *Heritage Act 2017* on the grounds that:

- (ii) the land surrounding the place is important to the protection or conservation of the place or contributes to the understanding of the place.

The significance of Genazzano FCJ College has been recognised by its inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register [VHR H1902]. Due to a scaling error, the extent of land which currently accompanies the registration of this place does not contain all of the 1890-91 'Wardell Building'.



The hatched area depicts the current extent of registration, and the yellow-shaded area shows the extent of the proposed additional land.

Genazzano FCJ College was included in the VHR in November 2000 for its architectural and historical significance. Its main building, constructed in 1890-91 and now known as the Wardell Building, is located in the north-east corner of the College's approximately 7.0 hectare site. Gothic Revival in style, the Wardell Building consists of two main wings, each broadly rectangular in plan and for the most part comprising three storeys: a north wing which runs east-west, and a west wing which runs north-south. An east wing of adjoining one- and two-storey buildings abuts the eastern end of the main north wing and extends along the College's Mont Victor Road boundary. The Wardell Building's external walls are load-bearing brown brick with red-brick and Waurn Ponds stone dressings, and its steeply-pitched slate roofs feature louvred timber dormer roof vents, square louvred ridge vents and red-brick chimneys with corbelled tops.

It is recommended that a 1.2 hectare (3 acre) rectangular area – encompassing all of Lot 1 on Title Plan 684715, and part of Lot 2 on Lodged Plan 137398 – be included as part of the registration of this place.

## BACKGROUND

### WHAT IS THE HISTORY OF THE PLACE?

Genazzano FCJ College was founded as a convent and all-girls' boarding school in Kew by the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), a Catholic Order from which English and Irish Sisters had emigrated to Melbourne in 1882 and 1884 to help meet the growing need for Catholic Education. In the late 1880s a new FCJ convent boarding school – now known as the Genazzano FCJ College's 'Wardell Building' – was designed by architect William Wardell for the order's recently-purchased 15-acre property at Kew. The Wardell Building's foundation stone was laid on 9 March 1890, and the Building was occupied from Easter (at the end of March) in 1891. A chapel and one of the three wings planned in Wardell's original design were never built due to the impact of the 1890s economic depression on the Sisters' finances. A small grotto incorporating statues and rock walls was installed to the north-west of the Wardell Building in 1930-31. In 1936 a one-storey Hall designed by architect Lionel San Miguel (1896-1959) to complement the style of the Wardell Building was constructed alongside its southern end, and in 1961 a two-storey addition containing classrooms and a science block designed by architect Joseph McCarthy was built above this Hall. A chapel also designed by Joseph McCarthy, flat-roofed and Modern in style and featuring extensive stained-glass window walls designed by artist Alan Sumner MBE (1911-1994), was built in 1974 abutting the Wardell Building's north side and occupies the site which Wardell had originally intended for this purpose. New single-storey Convent residences for the Sisters were constructed at the site's northeast corner in the 1980s. Additional buildings, roads, carparking areas and landscaping elements have also been added to the College in several separate stages across its site in Kew since the 1970s.

### WHAT IS AT THE PLACE?

Genazzano FCJ College at Kew occupies an approximately 7.0 hectare (17.3 acre) site with most of its buildings located along the College's eastern boundary on Mont Victor Road. The College's main building, known as the Wardell Building, is sited on a high point close to the College's northeast corner and consists of two main wings (a north and a west wing), each broadly rectangular in plan and for the most part comprising three storeys. An east wing comprising one- and two-storey former service buildings abuts the eastern end of the College's north wing and extends along the Mont Victor Road boundary. The Wardell Building has external walls of load-bearing brown brick with red-brick and Waurn Ponds stone dressings, and steeply-pitched slate roofs featuring louvred timber dormer roof vents, square louvred ridge vents and red-brick chimneys with corbelled tops. To the Wardell Building's immediate west are terraced lawns incorporating 1930s stone steps leading down to an oval-shaped roadway (known within the College as the 'Circular Drive'). A turfed area inside the Circular Drive contains plantings including three large Himalayan cedars (*Cedrus deodara*) that appear to date from the 1930s. A large Dutch elm (*Ulmus x hollandica*) probably planted c.1900 is located to the immediate southwest of the 1936/1961 Hall and classroom/science-block building. The College's grounds contain open grassed areas, many mature trees and garden beds, a large sporting oval, seven tennis courts, a serpentine driveway linking the Circular Drive with Cotham Road, and areas of on-ground car-parking. The buildings and landscaping elements added to the College during the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries are not of cultural heritage significance.

### WHO ARE THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THIS PLACE?

This site is part of the traditional lands of the people of the Kulin Nation. There is currently no Registered Aboriginal Party or Registered Native Title Body Corporate for the land on which the Genazzano FCJ College is located.

## STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

### WHAT IS SIGNIFICANT?

Genazzano FCJ College, including the:

- 1890-91 Wardell Building (including its exteriors and interiors) which is of primary significance;
- 1930-31 grotto, 1930s steps with stone urns, 1936 Hall with 1961 two-storey addition above, and the 1974 Chapel (including the buildings' exteriors and interiors) which are of contributory significance; and also
- fixtures attached to the buildings of primary and contributory significance at the time of registration including timber stairs and balustrades, cabinets, joinery, and fireplaces, and the Chapel's altar, reredos, pews, built-in furniture, light fittings, and other fixtures.

Other buildings at the College constructed in the 1970s and later are not significant.

### HOW IS IT SIGNIFICANT?

Genazzano FCJ College is of architectural and historical significance to the State of Victoria. It satisfies the following criteria for inclusion in the Victorian Heritage Register:

#### Criterion A

Importance to the course, or pattern, of Victoria's cultural history.

#### Criterion D

Importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of a class of cultural places and objects.

#### Criterion H

Special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Victoria's history.

### WHY IS IT SIGNIFICANT?

Genazzano FCJ College is significant at the State level for the following reasons:

Established in 1889 as an all-girls boarding school and convent by the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ), a Catholic Order of Sisters, Genazzano FCJ College is of historical significance for its association with the development of Victoria's education system, and in particular the development of the Catholic education system. The removal of funding from religious schools in favour of free, secular and compulsory state education under the *Education Act 1872* saw the Catholic system expand and become financially independent during the 1870s and 1880s. Overseas religious orders were engaged to fund, establish and staff new schools. Between 1882 and 1897, five parties of FCJ Sisters arrived in Melbourne. Originally a French order with a strong presence in the British Isles, they also established Vacluse College in Richmond in 1882 (VHR H1927). The main building at Genazzano opened in 1891 and was designed by high-profile Catholic architect William Wardell. [Criterion A]

Genazzano FCJ College is architecturally significant for its 'Wardell Building', originally designed by architect William Wardell to integrate a convent, school, chapel and dormitories. The verticality of this notable building is emphasised by its pointed arched windows, steeply-pitched roofs, and prominent gabled end at the north, and it shows typical Wardellian characteristics such as French Gothic influences, bold massing and fine proportions, all offset by a simplicity of detail. The building's interiors are restrained but feature fine craftsmanship in the architraves, doors, staircases and timber ceilings. Its towering west-facing façade contrasts with the smaller-scale east wing along Mont Victor Road which incorporates a variety of masses, adding to the richness of the College's overall composition. [Criterion D]

Genazzano FCJ College is historically significant for its direct association with William Wardell (1823-1899), an architect who made a strong and influential contribution to the course of Victoria's history. The College's



principal building – now known as its ‘Wardell Building’ – is the only known school building in Victoria to have been designed solely by Wardell, and is an important example of his work that allows its clear association with him to be readily appreciated better than most other places in Victoria. Wardell’s other buildings in Victoria include St Patrick’s Cathedral (VHR H0008) in East Melbourne, and the St Ignatius Church Complex (VHR H2146) at 326-348 Church Street in Richmond. [Criterion H]

## PROPOSED PERMIT POLICY

### Preamble

The purpose of the Permit Policy is to assist when considering or making decisions regarding works to a registered place. It is recommended that any proposed works be discussed with an officer of Heritage Victoria prior to making a permit application. Discussing proposed works will assist in answering questions the owner may have and aid any decisions regarding works to the place.

**The extent of registration of Genazzano FCJ College in the Victorian Heritage Register affects the whole of the place shown on Diagram 1902 including the land, buildings (including the exteriors and interiors), and landscape elements.** Under the *Heritage Act 2017* a person must not remove or demolish, damage or despoil, develop or alter or excavate, relocate or disturb the position of any part of a registered place or object without approval. It is acknowledged, however, that alterations and other works may be required to keep places and objects in good repair and adapt them for use into the future.

If a person wishes to undertake works or activities in relation to a registered place or registered object, they must apply to the Executive Director, Heritage Victoria for a permit. The purpose of a permit is to enable appropriate change to a place and to effectively manage adverse impacts on the cultural heritage significance of a place as a consequence of change. If an owner is uncertain whether a heritage permit is required, it is recommended that Heritage Victoria be contacted.

Permits are required for anything which alters the place or object, unless a **permit exemption** is granted. Permit exemptions usually cover routine maintenance and upkeep issues faced by owners as well as minor works or works to the elements of the place or object that are not significant. They may include appropriate works that are specified in a conservation management plan. Permit exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.49(3) of the *Heritage Act*) or after registration (under s.92 of the *Heritage Act*).

It should be noted that the addition of new buildings to the registered place, as well as alterations to the interior and exterior of existing buildings requires a permit, unless a specific permit exemption is granted.

### Conservation Management Plan

A Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Genazzano FCJ College was completed in 2004 by Allom Lovell & Associates Conservation Architects, and should be used to guide the management of the place in a manner which respects its cultural heritage significance.

### Aboriginal cultural heritage

If any Aboriginal cultural heritage is discovered or exposed at any time it is necessary to immediately contact Aboriginal Victoria to ascertain requirements under the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006*.

### Other approvals

Please be aware that approval from other authorities (such as local government) may be required to undertake works.

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## Archaeology

This place has the potential to contain historical archaeological deposits. If any historical archaeological remains are discovered or exposed at any time, it is necessary to cease work and immediately contact Heritage Victoria.

## Cultural heritage significance

### **Overview of significance**

The cultural heritage significance of Genazzano FCJ College lies primarily in the 1890-91 Wardell Building (including its exteriors and interiors). The 1930-31 grotto, 1930s steps with stone urns, and the 1936 single-storey Hall with 1961 two-storey addition above, and the 1974 Chapel building (including their exteriors and interiors) contribute to the cultural heritage significance of the place. Also of cultural heritage significance are fixtures attached to the buildings of primary and contributory significance including timber stairs and balustrades, cabinets, joinery, and fireplaces, and the Chapel's altar, reredos, pews, built-in furniture, light fittings, and other fixtures. Other buildings constructed at the College in the 1970s and later are of no cultural heritage significance.

- a) Buildings and features that are listed here are of primary cultural heritage significance in the context of the place. The buildings and features of primary cultural heritage significance are shown in **red** on the diagram which follows. A permit is required for most works or alterations. See the *Proposed Permit Exemptions* section of this report below for specific permit exempt activities:
  - 1890-91 Wardell Building.
  
- b) Buildings and features that are listed here are deemed to have contributory cultural heritage significance to the place. They are shown in **blue** on the diagram. A permit is required for most works or alterations. See *Proposed Permit Exemptions* section for specific permit exempt activities:
  - 1930-31 grotto,
  - 1930s stone steps and urns between the Wardell Building and Circular Drive,
  - 1936 Hall addition, with
  - 1961 two-storey addition above the Hall, and
  - 1974 Chapel.
  
- c) The following buildings and features are of no cultural heritage significance. These are shown in **yellow** on the diagram. Specific permit exemptions are provided for these items:
  - 1980s Convent buildings,
  - All other buildings at the College, and
  - All other landscape features at the College.



**Genazzano FCJ College, Kew – recommended extent of registration within dashed yellow outline. Permit Policy & Exemptions Diagram: Cultural Heritage Significance.**

- Primary Significance
- Contributory Significance
- No Significance

**PROPOSED PERMIT EXEMPTIONS (UNDER SECTION 49(3) OF THE HERITAGE ACT 2017)**

It should be noted that Permit Exemptions can be granted at the time of registration (under s.49(3) of the *Heritage Act 2017*). Permit Exemptions can also be applied for and granted after registration (under s.92 of the *Heritage Act 2017*).

**General Condition 1**

All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.

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**General Condition 2**

Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of works that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such works shall cease and Heritage Victoria shall be notified as soon as possible.

**General Condition 3**

All works should ideally be informed by Conservation Management Plans prepared for the place. The Executive Director is not bound by any Conservation Management Plan, and permits still must be obtained for works suggested in any Conservation Management Plan.

**General Condition 4**

Nothing in this determination prevents the Heritage Council from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.

**General Condition 5**

Nothing in this determination exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the relevant responsible authority, where applicable.

**SPECIFIC PERMIT EXEMPTIONS****Landscape Exemptions:**

- Repairs and maintenance to hard landscape elements including roads, steps, paths, and gutters.
- The process of gardening, including mowing, hedge clipping, bedding displays, disease and weed control, and maintenance to care for existing plants.
- The removal or pruning of dead or dangerous trees to maintain safety.
- Subsurface works involving the installation, removal or replacement of watering and drainage systems or services in accordance with AS4970.
- Works associated with the management of possums and vermin.
- Maintenance and repair of existing paving and other hard landscaping elements, like for like.

**Maintenance and signage**

- General maintenance including the removal of broken glass, the temporary shuttering of windows and covering of holes as long as this work is reversible and does not have a detrimental impact on cultural heritage significance.
- Maintenance, replacement and installation of electrical and fire services where this does not impact on the heritage fabric.
- Erecting, repairing and maintaining signage (directional signage, road signs, speed signs). Signage must be located and be of a suitable size so as not to obscure or damage heritage fabric, and must be able to be later removed without causing damage to the place. The development of signage must be consistent in the use of format, text, logos, themes and other display materials.

**Public Safety and Security**

- Public safety and security activities provided the works do not adversely affect heritage fabric.
- The erection of temporary security fencing, scaffolding, hoardings or surveillance systems to prevent unauthorised access or secure public safety which will not adversely affect heritage fabric.
- Emergency stabilisation necessary to secure safety where a site feature has been irreparably damaged or destabilised and represents a safety risk to its users or the public. All works, including urgent or emergency site works are to be undertaken by an appropriately qualified specialist such as a structural engineer, or other heritage professional.

**Specific Exemptions:**

Fabric of Primary and Contributory Significance: (the 1890-91 Wardell Building; 1930-31 grotto; 1930s stone steps and urns; 1936 Hall, with 1961 upper two-storey addition; and 1974 Chapel building)

**Exteriors**

Works that include the alteration or removal of nineteenth/early-twentieth century building fabric or equipment require a permit. The following works do not require a permit provided that they are carried out in a manner which does not have a detrimental effect on the heritage fabric of the place.

- Minor patching, repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- Repair or removal of non-original items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae and aerials, hot water services, taps and the like.
- Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae and aerials.
- Installation or repair of damp-proofing by either injection method or grouted pocket method.
- Painting of previously painted surfaces in the same colour scheme provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of the original paint or decorative schemes or signage.

**Interiors**

Works that include the alteration or removal of nineteenth/early-twentieth century building fabric or equipment require a permit. The following works do not require a permit provided that they are carried out in a manner which does not have a detrimental effect on the heritage fabric of the place.

- Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of the original paint or decorative schemes or signage.
- Removal of paint from originally unpainted or oiled surfaces including joinery, doors, architraves and skirtings by non-abrasive methods.
- Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings, window dressings, and devices for the hanging of mirrors and wall mounted artworks.
- Refurbishment of bathrooms, toilets and kitchens including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors, wall and floor coverings, kitchen benches and fixtures including sinks, stoves, ovens, refrigerators, dishwashers and associated plumbing and wiring, provided that the work is done in a manner not detrimental to the cultural heritage significance of the place.
- Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves, and provided that the central plant is concealed, and that the work is done in a manner not detrimental to the cultural heritage significance of the place.
- Installation of plant within the roof space, providing that it does not impact on the external appearance of the building or involve structural changes.
- Replacement of lift cars, mechanisms, motor and any associated elements which are not integral to the building.
- Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed and any original light switches, pull cords, push buttons or power outlets are retained in-situ.
- Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.
- Installation, removal or replacement of smoke detectors.
- Installation of stud walls (providing they are removable) other than in Our Lady's Hall, the Study Hall, the All-Purpose Room and the second floor Audio-Visual Room.
- Installation of new built-in cupboards.
- Removal or installation of compactus shelving if no structural work is required.

**All other buildings and features (Fabric of No Significance)****Exteriors**

- Repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- Demolition and removal of buildings and elements, subject to a permit being issued for the management

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of fabric of primary and contributory significance where it intersects with that of later additions.

- Alteration of buildings, within the existing footprints and envelopes of those buildings.
- Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae and aerials.
- Installation or repair of damp-proofing by either injection method or grouted pocket method.
- Painting of previously painted surfaces.

#### Interiors

- All works.

## RELEVANT INFORMATION

<b>Local Government Authority</b>	City of Boroondara
<b>Heritage Overlay</b>	HO252 [VHR H1902]
<b>Heritage Overlay Controls</b>	External Paint: No Internal Alteration: No Tree: No
<b>Victorian Aboriginal Heritage Register</b>	No
<b>Other Names</b>	Genazzano FCJ Convent

## VICTORIAN HISTORICAL THEMES

### 06 Building towns, cities and the garden state

6.3 Shaping the suburbs

### 08 Building community life

8.1 Maintaining spiritual life

8.2 Educating people

## PROPOSED TEXT FOR THE BLUE HERITAGE PLAQUE

Genazzano FCJ College, designed by noted architect William Wardell, is a fine example of a late-Victorian, Gothic Revival convent and school. The Faithful Companions of Jesus ('FCJ') were one of the first orders of nuns to establish such places in Melbourne.

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## ADDITIONAL IMAGES



Wardell Building from northwest, with the Convent's single-storey original entrance gatehouse in the foreground. On the left is the square-plan stair tower, originally topped by a steep spire.



Wardell Building from southwest. At left is one of the Himalayan cedars (*Cedrus deodara*) within the garden area in the centre of the Circular Drive. On the right is the 1936 single-storey Hall surmounted by its 1961 two-storey addition.



L: looking west along the south-facing ground floor (Hall) portion of the 1936/61 addition;  
R: the southwest external corner of the 1936/61 addition. (Oct 2017)



L: looking west towards the c.1900 large Dutch elm (*Ulmus x hollandica*) from the south side of the 1936/61 addition; R: the three-storey southern elevation of the 1936/61 addition. (Oct 2017)





L: part of the northern elevation of the Wardell Building's north wing – with original timber louvres.  
R: the internal corner at the junction of the Wardell Building's north and west wings. (Oct 2017)



Views from Mont Victor Rd – L: looking west along south side of Wardell Building's north wing;  
R: looking from the northeast at the eastern end of the north wing. (Oct 2017)



Looking northwestwards from Mont Victor Rd along the Wardell Building's east wing. Its southern end (at image's left) adjoins a two-storey portion of a 1970s building which now contains the College's public entrance. (Oct 2017)

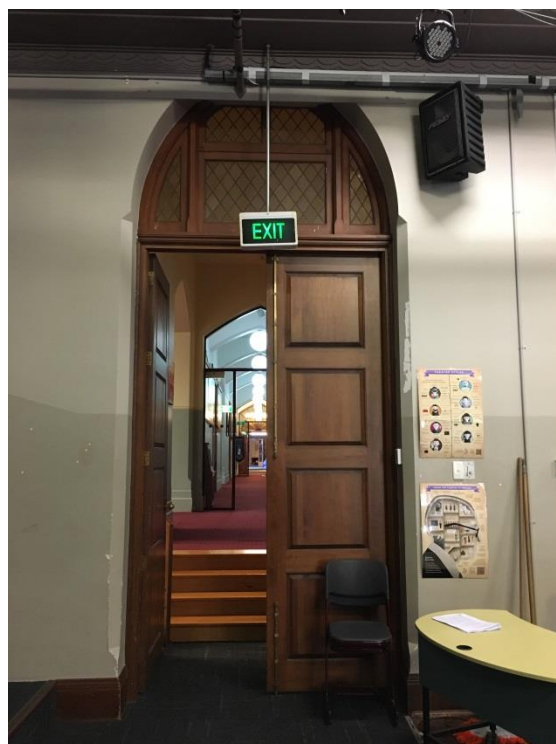
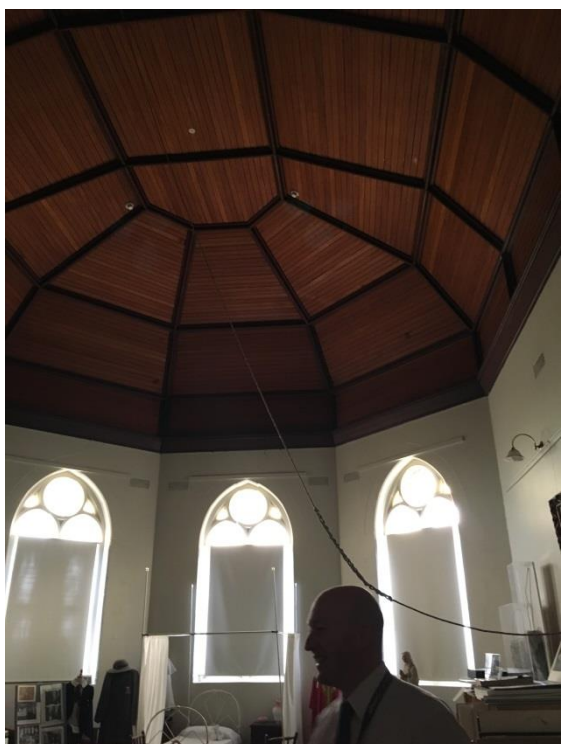


View from Mont Victor Rd of the residences for the Sisters built in the 1980s at the site's northeast corner. These buildings are shielded from public view by tall split-faced concrete brick walls on the Moonbria Ave and Mont Victor Rd boundaries. (Oct 2017)

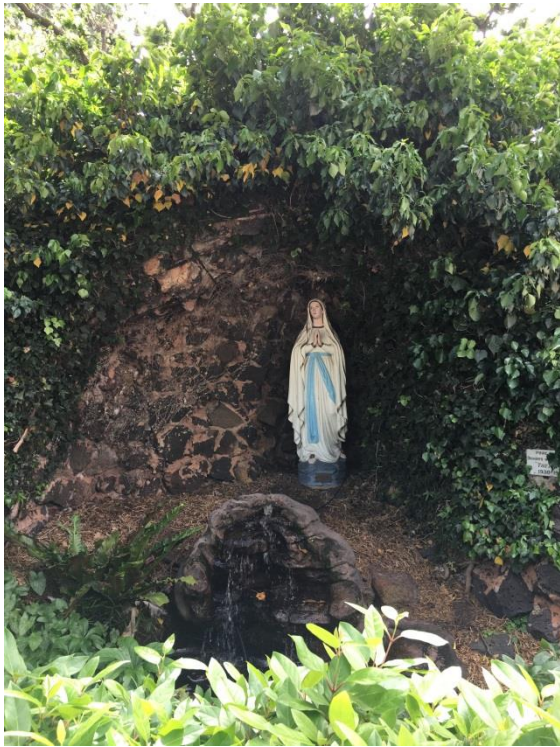
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Interior views from the second-storey landing within the Wardell Building's main stair hall:  
L: looking toward the west; R: looking toward the east. (Oct 2017)



Interiors – L: originally the Wardell Building's 'sodality chapel', looking towards the west-facing windows;  
R: looking through a door in the north wall of the 1936 Hall, through to the main stair hall and beyond along  
the north-south central corridor within the Wardell Building's west wing. (Oct 2017)

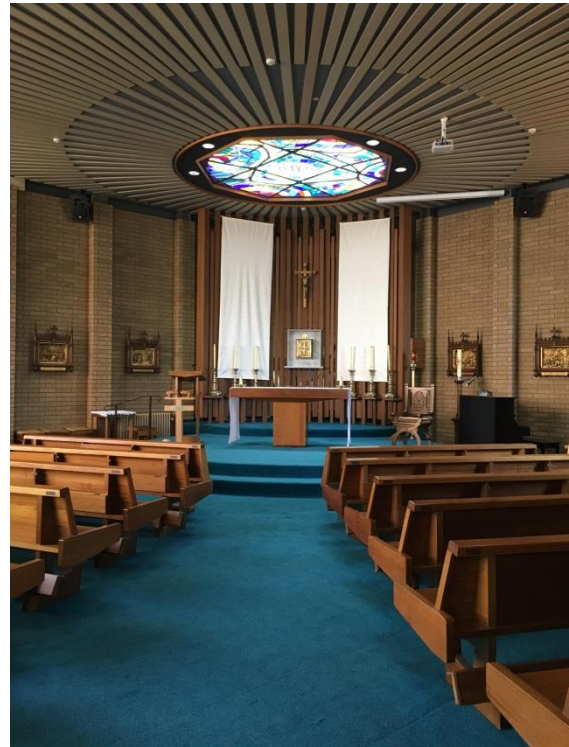
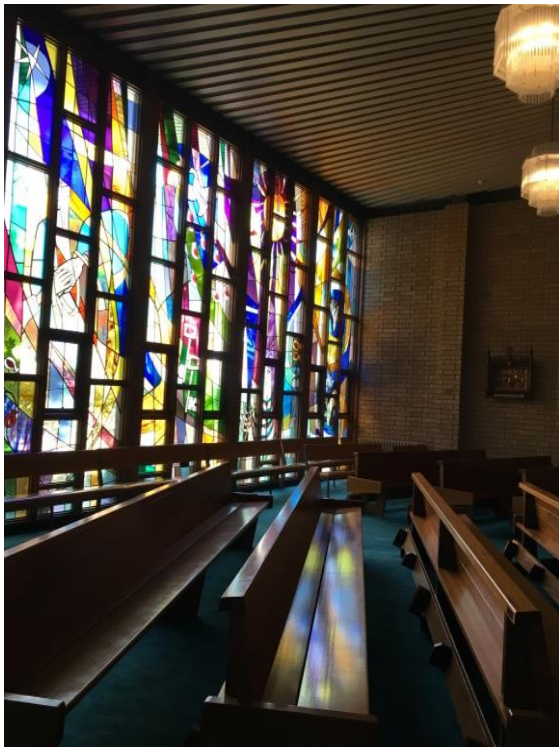


L: the 1930-31 grotto; R: the southern of the two sets of 1930s stone steps which link the lawns on the west side of the Wardell Building to the Circular Drive. (Oct 2017)



Looking from the west at the 1974 chapel. Designed by the architect Joseph McCarthy, it is a single-storey brick building with a flat roof and wide eaves.

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Chapel interior – L: the south-facing window wall; R: the altar in the northwest corner. (Oct 2017)



c.1891-93: Wardell Building from the northwest, prior to demolition of the spire in 1893 when it was found to be unstable. Source: Ursula M de Jong, *William Wardell and Genazzano FCJ College*

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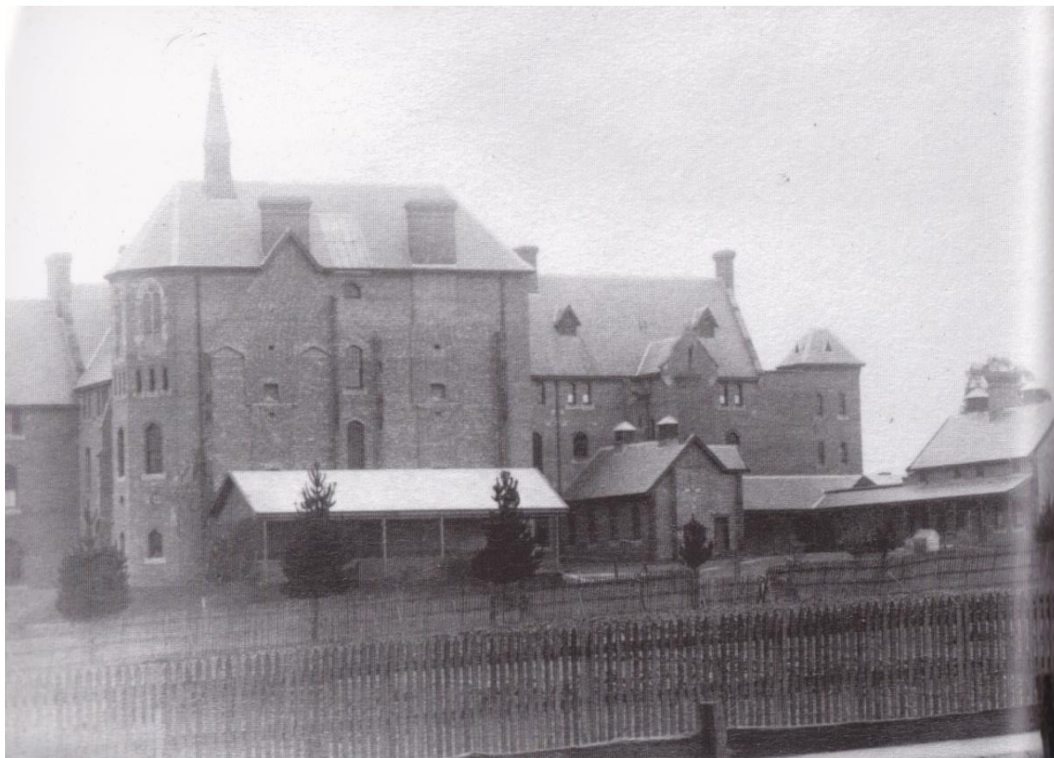


'Genazzano Convent F.C.J. Kew, Pupils of 1892'. The Sisters and students used the timber verandah on the building's south (right) side as an outdoor classroom and shelter from the heat. It was replaced by the 1936 Hall addition. Source: Ursula M de Jong, *William Wardell and Genazzano FCJ College*.



c.1910: Wardell Building from the northwest – similar viewpoint to the image on page 14.  
Source: *And the Spirit Lingers... Genazzano – One Hundred Years 1889-1999*  
(via CMP, Allom Lovell & Associates)

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Undated photo (but prior to 1936): Wardell Building from the south, with the bricked-up openings an indication that a mirror wing was originally planned to complete the composition.

Source: Ursula M de Jong, *William Wardell and Genazzano FCJ College*.

## KEY REFERENCES USED TO PREPARE ASSESSMENT

Alan Sumner MBE 1911 – 1994, within ‘National Portrait Gallery’ website, via <https://www.portrait.gov.au/people/alan-sumner-1911>

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de Jong, Ursula, ‘WARDELL, WILLIAM’, pp.748-751 in eds Philip Goad & Julie Willis, *The Encyclopedia of Australian Architecture* (2012), Cambridge University Press: Port Melbourne.

de Jong, Ursula M (2009), *William Wardell and Genazzano FCJ College*, Genazzano FCJ College: Kew, Victoria.

*The Faithful Companions of Jesus, Society of the Sisters*, within ‘Index and History of Nuns and Sisters of the Catholic Church in Australia 1838 - 1918’ website, <http://web.stbedes.catholic.edu.au/Other/nuns/hist/fcj.html>

Lewis, Miles (ed.) (1991), *Victorian Churches: Their origins, their story & their architecture*, National Trust of Australia (Victoria): Melbourne.

*Our FCJ History in Asia-Australia*, within ‘Faithful Companions of Jesus: Province of Asia-Australia’ website, <http://www.fcjsisters.org.au/aa/eng/about/history.html>

*Our History*, within ‘Genazzano FCJ College’ website, <https://www.genazzano.vic.edu.au/our-college/our-history>

*Roll of Honour*, within ‘About VAS’ section of ‘The Victorian Artists Society’ website, via <http://victorianartistsociety.com.au/about-vas/roll-of-honour>

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## ATTACHMENT 1

### EXISTING REGISTRATION DETAILS

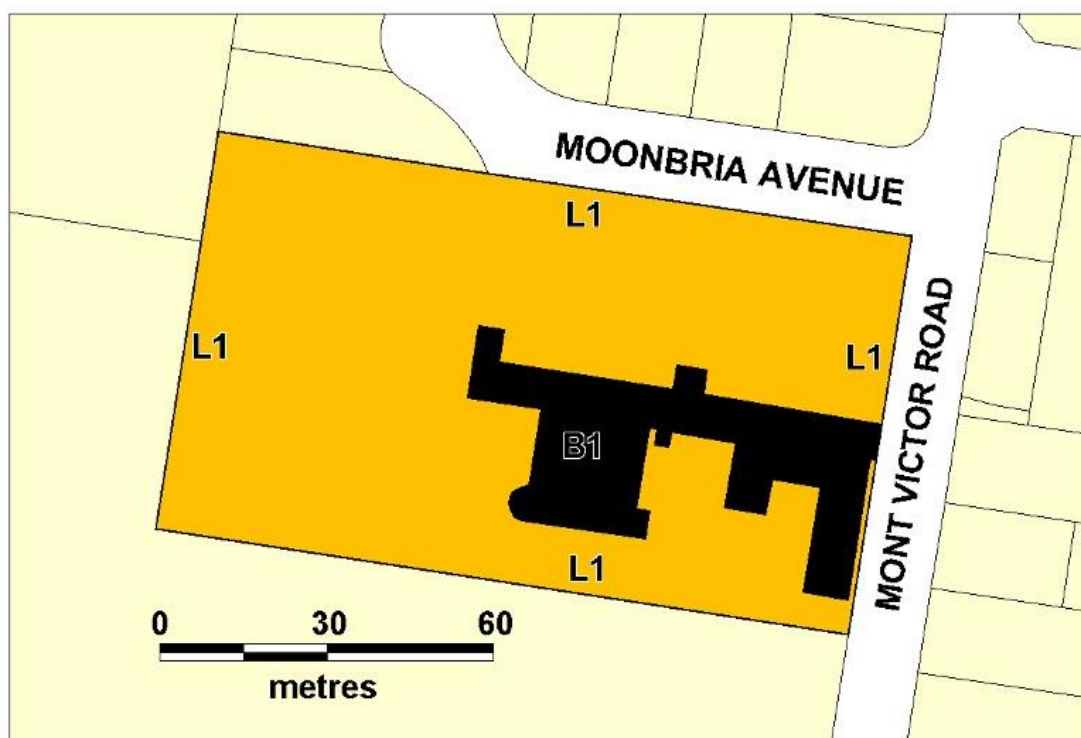
### TO BE SUPERSEDED BY THE FOREGOING RECOMMENDATION

## EXISTING CATEGORY OF REGISTRATION

Heritage place.

## EXISTING EXTENT OF REGISTRATION

1. All the building known as the Wardell Building (excluding later additions) marked B1 on Diagram Number 1902 held by the Executive Director.
2. All the land marked L1 on Diagram Number 1902 held by the Executive Director being all the land included in Certificate of Title Vol. 5821 Folio 010.



Current registration diagram

## EXISTING STATEMENT OF CULTURAL HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

What is significant?

In 1882 the first twelve nuns of the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ) order arrived in Australia from England at the invitation of the Jesuit priests of St Ignatius parish, Richmond. The parish had purchased land in the Vacluse, Richmond for a convent and school. As the number of both students and sisters grew it was decided to set up another convent. In 1888 Mother Mary John purchased "Woodlands", a 15 acre property

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in Kew with a panoramic view of the surrounding district as the site for the second FCJ school and convent. In May 1889 a community of eight sisters with Mother Stanislaus Stock as Mother Superior and 14 Vaucluse boarders moved to a large house on Mont Victor Road called "Range View" until the new school and convent were built.

The new convent was designed by William Wardell, one of the most important 19th century architects in Australia. His original design was for a larger building with an attached chapel and another wing on the southern side of the building but the FCJ order had been badly affected by the 1890s depression so the plans were reduced in size. The foundation stone was laid on 9 March 1890 and the school moved in during Easter in 1891. The Gothic style asymmetrical three-storeyed building is composed of red brick with Waurin Ponds stone dressings and a slate roof with dormer vents. It was designed to integrate a convent, school, chapel, and dormitories. The ground floor originally contained the classrooms, library, music rooms, halls, refectories and kitchens, including a teaching kitchen. The upper floors included the dormitories and bathrooms.

In the 1930s two sets of cement steps were cut into the grass bank in front of the building and the steps surmounted by four stone urns. A timber verandah added at the southern end of the building in 1891 was removed in 1936 to make way for a single storey hall designed by Lionel San Miguel. A two storey science block was added above this section in 1961 to the design of Joseph McCarthy. The chapel was built in 1974 on the site originally planned by Wardell. The designer was Joseph McCarthy.

The original entrance to the building was through a Gothic style gatehouse at the north end. During the 1980s one of the windows on the western facade was altered to form a new entry.

How is it significant?

Genazzano has architectural and historical significance to the state of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Wardell building is of architectural significance as an important example of the work of the outstanding architect William Wardell. Although Wardell was believed to be involved in designing the 1863 school wing of the Convent of Mercy, Fitzroy and, together with Leonard Terry, designed the former Christian Brothers College, East Melbourne, Genazzano is the only known school building designed solely by Wardell in Victoria. The building shows typical Wardellian characteristics such as French Gothic influences, bold massing and fine proportions. The Wardell building was originally designed to integrate a convent, school, chapel, and dormitories. The building resonates with religious influences through its polygonal apse, traceried windows, clerestory-like windows of the top storey, and the tower which originally included a steeple. The bold verticality of the building is emphasised by pointed arched windows, a steeply pitched roof, a prominent gabled end at the north, and fleche. The towering front facade of the building contrasts with the Mont Victor Road elevation which features a variety of facades and silhouettes adding to the complexity and interest of the overall composition. The massing and scale of the building are offset by a simplicity of detail. The interior is restrained but features fine examples of joinery in the architraving, doors, staircases and timber ceilings, in particular the curved ceiling of the former chapel; interesting examples of stained glass; marble fireplaces and arched hallways.

Genazzano has historical importance for its long association with the Faithful Companions of Jesus order who were invited by the Jesuits to establish schools in Australia. Genazzano was the second school established by the order in Australia after Vaucluse FCJ College, Richmond. The Catholic Church was profoundly affected by the 1872 Victorian Education Act which made education secular, compulsory and free, and led to the withdrawal of state aid to religious schools. In order for the Church to run its own schools, it had to look overseas for help and invited religious teaching orders such as the FCJ order to set up schools in Australia. The FCJ order was founded in 1820 by an aristocratic French woman Marie Madeleine

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Victoire de Bengy who was concerned about the provision of education for girls and women. Marie Madeleine was influenced by Jesuit spirituality and this association with the Jesuits has continued throughout the order's history. By the time of Marie Madeleine's death in 1858, the order had spread from France to England, Switzerland and Italy.

## EXISTING PERMIT POLICY

The Wardell building at Genazzano FCJ College has architectural and historical significance as an important work of architect William Wardell and a fine example of a school and convent building. The original plan form of the building remains highly recognisable despite recent alterations. Any further alterations should recognise the original design intentions and hierarchy of spaces. The purpose of the permit exemptions is to allow works that do not impact on the significance of the place to occur without the need for a permit. Alterations that impact on the significance of the exterior and interior are subject to permit applications.

## EXISTING PERMIT EXEMPTIONS

General Conditions:

1. All exempted alterations are to be planned and carried out in a manner which prevents damage to the fabric of the registered place or object.
2. Should it become apparent during further inspection or the carrying out of alterations that original or previously hidden or inaccessible details of the place or object are revealed which relate to the significance of the place or object, then the exemption covering such alteration shall cease and the Executive Director shall be notified as soon as possible.
3. If there is a conservation policy and plan approved by the Executive Director, all works shall be in accordance with it.
4. Nothing in this declaration prevents the Executive Director from amending or rescinding all or any of the permit exemptions.
5. Nothing in this declaration exempts owners or their agents from the responsibility to seek relevant planning or building permits from the responsible authority where applicable.

Exterior

- \* Minor repairs and maintenance which replace like with like.
- \* Removal of extraneous items such as air conditioners, pipe work, ducting, wiring, antennae, aerials etc, and making good.
- \* Installation or repair of damp-proofing by either injection method or grouted pocket method.
- \* Regular garden maintenance.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of garden watering systems.
- \* Installation of external fixtures and fittings such as troughs, bubblers, and taps.
- \* Construction of new paths, balustrades, steps and low garden walls other than in front of the Wardell building.
- \* Resurfacing of existing paths.
- \* Any works to buildings within the extent of registration (except for the Wardell building), other than for substantial demolition of a building.

Interior

- \* Alterations to administration area, kitchen, the opening in the east end of the east/west corridor and the new office as endorsed by Heritage Victoria and subject to conditions outlined in letter of 21 June 2000 held on file.
- \* Painting of previously painted walls and ceilings provided that preparation or painting does not remove evidence of the original paint or other decorative scheme.

- \* Removal of paint from originally unpainted or oiled joinery, doors, architraves, skirtings and decorative strapping.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of carpets and/or flexible floor coverings.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of curtain track, rods, blinds and other window dressings.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of hooks, nails and other devices for the hanging of mirrors, paintings and other wall mounted artworks.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of honour boards and the like and black, white or pin-up boards.
- \* Removal of non-original stud/partition walls, suspended ceilings or linings; non-original glazed screens and flush panel doors; non-original door and window furniture including hinges, locks, knobsets and sash lifts; non-original glazing to chamfered four-panelled doors and fanlights; and non-original stairs, lights, built-in cupboards, teachers' podiums and the like.
- \* Installation of stud walls (providing they are removable) other than in Our Lady's Hall, the Study Hall, the All-Purpose room and the second floor Audio-Visual room.
- \* Installation of new built-in cupboards.
- \* Refurbishment of bathrooms and toilets including removal, installation or replacement of sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors, wall and floor coverings.
- \* Removal of tiling or concrete slabs provided there is no damage to or alteration of original structure or fabric.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of ducted, hydronic or concealed radiant type heating provided that the installation does not damage existing skirtings and architraves and provided that the location of the heating unit is concealed from view.
- \* Replacement of lift cars, mechanisms, motor and any associated elements which are not integral to the building.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of electrical wiring provided that all new wiring is fully concealed and any original light switches, pull cords, push buttons or power outlets are retained in-situ. Note: if wiring original to the place was carried in timber conduits then the conduits should remain in-situ.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of electric clocks, public address systems, smoke detectors, alarms, emergency lights, luminaires and exit signs.
- \* Installation, removal or replacement of bulk insulation in the roof space.
- \* Installation of plant within the roof space, providing that it does not impact on the external appearance of the building or involve structural changes.
- \* Installation of new fire services including sprinklers, doors and elements affixed to plaster surfaces.
- \* Removal or installation of compactus shelving if no structural work is required.