

St Josephs Technical College, part Christian Brothers Roman Catholic School complex, 95 (part 73-97) Nicholson Street, Abbotsford

Heritage overlay: HO313

City of Yarra Property Number: 107180

What is significant?

The St Josephs Technical College, part Christian Brothers Roman Catholic School complex at 95 Nicholson Street, Abbotsford was created in 1940-1 (1893-) for the Christian Brothers, Roman Catholic Church. Opened in 1893 on the site of a former tannery at the corner of Nicholson and Mollison Streets, the school was restructured in 1930, as a technical school for the entry of young Catholics into trade apprenticeships. This building is part of this significant later stage of development and paralleled the expansion of large secular complexes like the Collingwood Technical School (q.v.). It was closed at the end of 1990.

The place has a fair integrity to its creation date.

Fabric from the creation date at the St Josephs Technical College, part Christian Brothers Roman Catholic School complex is locally significant within the City of Yarra, compared to other similar places from a similar era.

How is it significant?

The St Josephs Technical College, part Christian Brothers Roman Catholic School complex at 95 Nicholson Street, Abbotsford is historically significant to the locality of Abbotsford and the City of Yarra.

Why is it significant?

The St Josephs Technical College, part Christian Brothers Roman Catholic School complex is significant as the historical key to the Catholic Church's involvement in technical education in the inner suburbs during the inter-war period.

References:

Municipal rate books:

Nicholson St 73 - 95, Abbotsford

VPRS 377/P/000

City of Collingwood – Victoria Ward

Rate year	Rate no.	Occupier	Owner	Description	NAV
1945/46	Between 2263 and 2264		Blank	Christian Brothers' Technical School	
	73-95 Nicholson St	No NAV			
1944/45	Between 2267 and 2268		Blank	Christian Brothers' School	73-
	95 Nicholson St	No NAV			
1943/44	Between 2268 and 2269		Blank	Christian Brothers' School	73-
	95 Nicholson St	No NAV			
1942/43	Between 2284 and 2285		Blank	Christian Brothers' School	73-
	95 Nicholson St	No NAV			
1941/42	Between 2307 and 2308		Blank	Christian Brothers' School	73-
	95 Nicholson St	No NAV			
1940-41	2332	Bowen David crossed out		Butler Rev R. X. 345 Victoria Parade, East Melbourne	95 Nicholson St, Wood house demolished 16

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Between 2332 and 2233 Nicholson St, No NAV 1935/36	Blank	Christian Brothers' School	73-93
Between 2355 and 2256 93 Nicholson St, No NAV 1930/31	Blank	Christian Brothers' School	73-
Between 2267 and 2268 93 Nicholson St, No NAV	Blank	Christian Brothers' School	73-

Melbourne or Victorian directories:

Nicholson St 73-95, Abbotsford

Sands and McDougall

West side

Year Number, Address and Name

1974 Mollison st

73-97 Christian Bros Tech College and monastery

1970 73-97 Christian Bros Tech College

1965 73-97 Christian Bros Tech College

1960 73-97 Christian Bros Tech College

1957 73-97 Christian Bros. Tech Coll

1956 73-95 Christian Bros. Tech Coll

97 Robb Leo. C.

1950 Christian Bros Tech College

1944-45 Christian Bros Tech College

1942 Christian Bros Tech College

1941 School being built

1940 No Listing

Other references:

MMBW Detail Plan shows earlier (tannery?) building.

Proclaim: shared property number

Yarra and Melbourne library database: Peters, Russell (Bro.). 'The historical perspective of the school development project, St Joseph's Abbotsford'

Location CFC 285, CFC(2) 285

'A discussion of the theological and educational underpinnings of the Catholic Church's involvement in technical education in the inner suburbs. St Joseph's in Abbotsford opened in 1893 on the site of a former tannery at the corner of Nicholson and Mollison Streets. In 1930, the school was restructured as a technical school to facilitate the entry of young Catholics into trade apprenticeships. Internal administrative controversies are explained, such as, initially, whether to allow non-Catholic examiners for secular subjects, and in the 1960s, the appointment of lay teachers. The author was a trustee of the school.' Typescript, c.1980, 7 pages

St. Joseph's Boys' School, View the image photos/019.jpg, File I/D MPIC 19, PIC 19

Proper Names: St. Joseph's Boys' School

Photographer: Allan Studio, 318 Smith Street, Collingwood

Site Address: 73-97 Nicholson Street

Source: Donated by St. Joseph's Technical School

Descriptors: Schools - St. Joseph's Boys' School (Nicholson Street)

Phys Description: 128 x 182 mm

Abstract

A school photo taken in the yard of St. Joseph's School in Nicholson Street Abbotsford (which became a technical school in 1930 and closed at the end of 1990). With a backdrop of the brick wall of the two-storey school, a group of 200-300 boys are lined up. Behind them are five Christian Brothers and a couple of older boys who could be teachers or prefects. All the boys wear boots and knee-length socks with trousers to the knee or slightly longer. Many wear Norfolk jackets; almost all wear stiff white Eton collars and ties. At least one has a large lace collar and a number wear sailor suits. Two boys stand out because they are wearing jumpers without jackets. Beyond the corrugated iron fence are some mature trees and the backs of houses in Mollison Street.