

## BARKERS ROAD, XAVIER COLLEGE CHAPEL

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Original Use: Chapel  
Date of Construction: 1927-1934<sup>11</sup>  
Architect: Schreiber and Jorgensen<sup>12</sup>

DESIGNATION A  
CITATION NO.67



### HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

In 1919, D.V. Healey won a competition for the design of a war memorial to be erected in Xavier's grounds<sup>13</sup>. 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<sup>14</sup>. 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<sup>15</sup>.

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.



### SIGNIFICANCE

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 LISTINGS

HBR: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

GBR: N/A

RNE: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

National Trust: File No.5171.

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<sup>1</sup> Weston, H., 'Application to Add a Building to the Register of Historic Buildings: Xavier College Chapel...', 19 January 1982

<sup>2</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Denning, G., *Xavier: A Centenary Portrait*, p.246

<sup>4</sup> *ibid.*, p.248

<sup>5</sup> *ibid.*