

BARKERS ROAD, XAVIER COLLEGE - SOUTH AND WEST WINGS, AND GREAT HALL

Original Use: Francis Xavier College
Date of Construction: 1872-1890⁵
Architect: Thomas A. Kelly⁶; Tappin,
Gilbert and Dennehy⁷

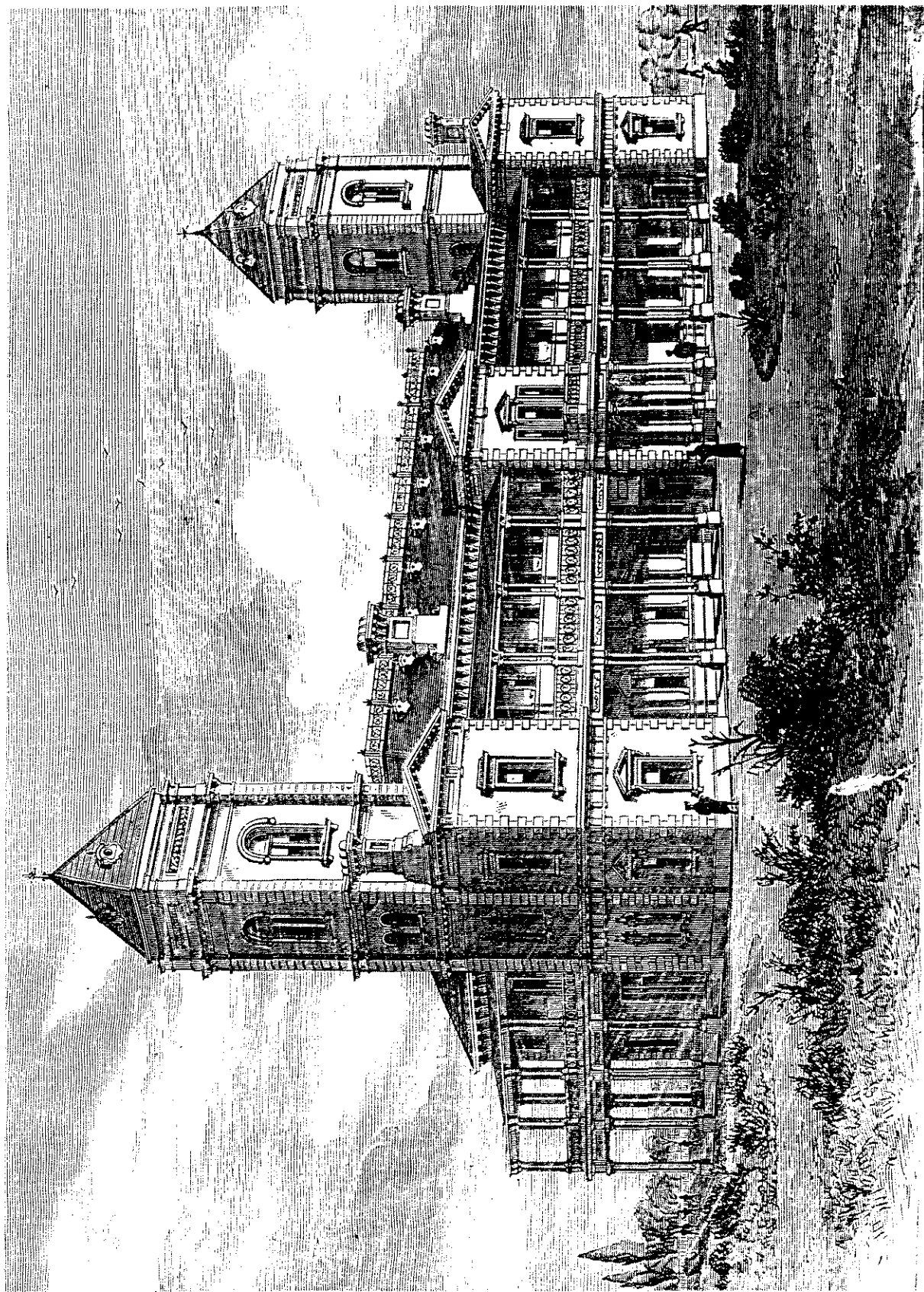
DESIGNATION A
CITATION NO.72



HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

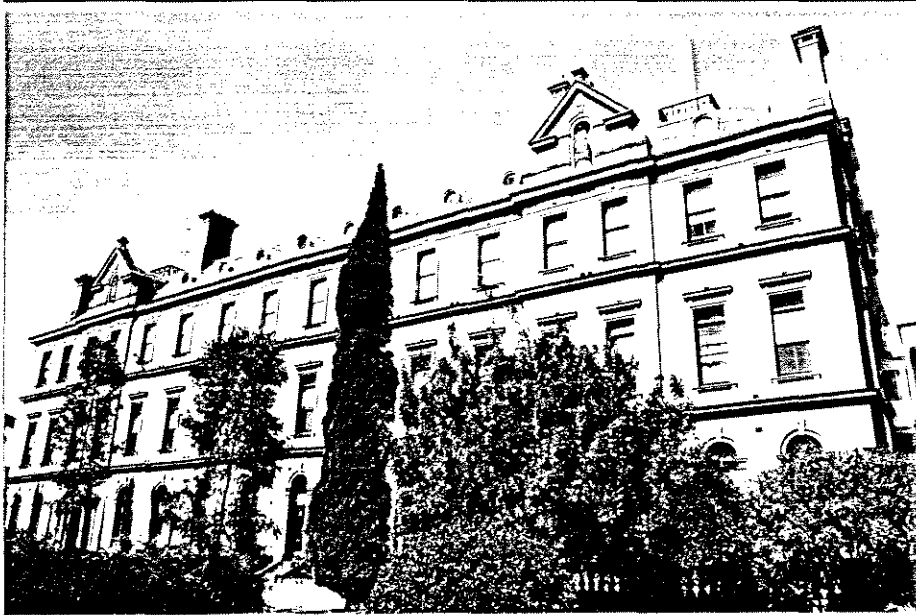
The foundation stone of the first section of Xavier College was laid in December 1872⁸ and by December 1876 the *Australasian Sketcher* reported that the building was well in the course of erection⁹. J. Nation and Co. were the contractors for the building¹⁰ and Bishop Goold opened the school on Sunday 10 February 1878¹¹. During the 1880s extensive additions and completion of works were undertaken¹².

The school has four buildings of historic note: the Chapel (q.v.), the South Wing, West Wing and Great Hall. They command the hill on which they stand. The South Wing was the earliest, built in 1872, and is a fine cement rendered pavilioned two storeyed structure with cast iron verandahs set between the gabled pavilions. The West Wing was built in 1888, and is quite a formidable three storeyed block clad in ruled render. The Great Hall was built in 1889-90 and is built in brick and embellished with panelling to the ceiling and stained glass windows. Detailed research into these buildings would be warranted.



COLLEGE OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER, KEW.

College of St Francis Xavier, Kew. NB: Towers not built (*Illustrated Australian News*, 18 June 1872)



SIGNIFICANCE

The South Wing, West Wing and Great Hall at Xavier College are of significance as a group of three substantially intact, commandingly designed educational buildings of the nineteenth century that apart from their architectural distinction, have become a Kew landmark.

HERITAGE LISTINGS

HBR: Nominated for inclusion on the register.

GBR: N/A

RNE: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

National Trust: South Wing and Great Hall: File No.2196

¹ Architects' Index, University of Melbourne, H.B.C. Nomination 1982

² *ibid.*, Kelly was the architect for the earlier section

³ *ibid.*, Tappin, Gilbert and Dennehy completed work in the 1880s

⁴ *ibid.*

⁵ *Australasian Sketcher*, 28 October 1876, p.122

⁶ *ibid.*

⁷ Rogers, D., *A History of Kew*, p.142

⁸ Architects' Index

