

CAREY BAPTIST GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Place No. 351

ADDRESS	9 Era Court Donvale	Last Update
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DESCRIPTION A group of skillion-roofed, concrete block buildings, which step down the hillside. Walls are now painted light green, with stained sawn timbers. The structure is mild steel parallel curved? Trusses and laminated beams on telegraph poles, supporting steel deck roofs. The Library is a steeply pitched octagon, with a central skylight. The caretaker's residence is a log cabin. The complex is set in remnant bushland on a steep site, within a basin of hills.

Other purpose-built alternative schools in Melbourne include : "Koornong School", Warrandyte North (c1940, now derelict?), Preshil The Margaret Lyttle Memorial School, 395 Barkers Road, Hawthorn, Kevin Borland Architect (c1960-c1975); Melbourne Steiner School, 213 Wonga Road (cnr. Warranwood Road), Warranwood (c1985-90) and Montessori Schools (an early education centre adjoins). Warrandyte Kindergarten, John Hipwell (1957) is also comparable. Doncaster Campus, Box Hill College of TAFE, Deep Creek Drive, Doncaster East is later and broadly comparable in form, if not quite in function.

Condition	Excellent	Integrity	Intact
Threats		Key elements	
Designer			

HISTORY Purpose-built as Australia's first alternative secondary school by the Education Reform Association, probably the most ambitious of its type then in Melbourne, in 1971-72. [1] ERA School opened in 1972. Dr Fearon was the first president. The architect of the buildings is not known. Initially planned as a secondary school for Preshil, it soon broke away, and Preshil developed its own secondary school at Hawthorn.

ERA School failed in 1987. Its last principal, Peter Gough said, "It was probably too free. I believe in some structure." [2] The site was acquired by Carey as a separate campus in April 1987 and re-opened the school in March 1989. Carey has developed the site since with various additions and alterations over 1988-90.[3]

Creation Date	1972	Change Dates	
Associations		Local Themes	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE Carey Baptist Grammar School Donvale Campus is a purpose-built alternative secondary school of local historical significance and architectural interest, built in about 1971-72 by the Educational Reform Association as Australia's first alternative secondary school. It was probably the most ambitious of several such schools in Victoria.

LEVEL

RECOMMENDATIONS

Heritage Register Listings

Register	Reference	Zoning	Status
None Specified			

Extent

Heritage Schedule

External Paint Controls:	On VHR:	VHR Ref No:
Internal Alteration Controls:	Prohibited Uses:	
Tree Controls:	Aboriginal Heritage Place:	

Outbuildings or Fences:
Description:

Incorporated Plan:

Incorporated Plan Details

Conservation Management

Extra Research

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- BIBLIOGRAPHY** [1] City of Doncaster and Templestowe Building Application & Rate records : no building permit was obtained for the buildings and no rates paid.
[2] Peter Wilmoth, "The Class of '79", *The Age*, 7 August, 1993
[3] David Lord, Development Manager of Carey, in conversation with Richard Peterson, 6 August, 1993.

Building Application records, op.cit : BA 13694, July 1988 brick alterations and additions, builder Bowdon Fraser, 1 Rooks Road, Nunawading; BA 16251, October 1989 alterations to library, entrance and deck; BA 17849, November 1990, timber classroom alterations, builder, T. Booher