

**PLACE NAME:** THE GORDON TECHNICAL COLLEGE  
**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA:** CITY OF GEELONG

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY (References)**

**STYLE OR PERIOD:** Scots Jacobean Revival

**ARCHITECT(S)/DESIGN ORIGIN:** Alexander Davidson, architect,  
 Reference: Geelong.

**BUILDER:** Geelong Advertiser, 23rd May, 1887

**Reference:**

**PRINCIPAL ARTISANS/ARTISTS/TRADES**  
 Reference:

**TENDER NOTICE:** Geelong Advertiser, 23rd May, 1887  
 Reference:

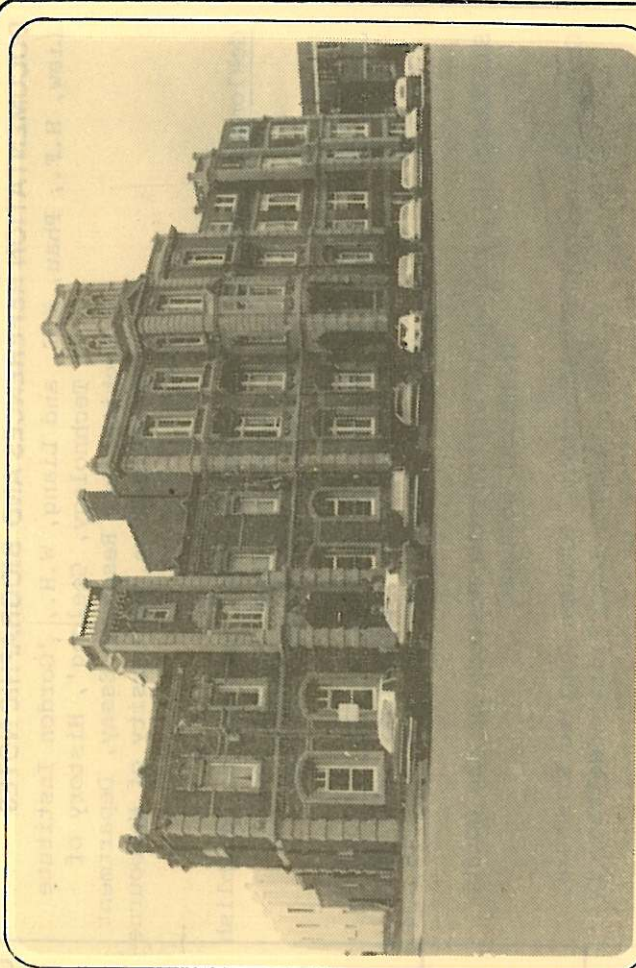
**DATE(S) OF CONSTRUCTION** 1887  
**Reference:** Foundation stone laid 20 June 1887 by Hon. Francis Ormond, MEC, a benefactor for the college.  
**ESTIMATE/CONTRACT VALUE** £1060

Liew, Phau, and Liang, 'Gordon Institute of Technology, Geelong'. p. 71

**SUBSEQUENT WORKS/ALTERATIONS/ADDITIONS**  
 Various buildings were added adjacent to the original structure, in 1889, 1891 and 1916. The Fenwick Street Facade has been extended sympathetically with the original building which remains recognisably intact.

**ORIGINAL OWNER(S)/OCCUPANT(S)**  
 The Gordon Technical College  
**SUBSEQUENT SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/OCCUPANTS**  
 Became the Gordon Institute of Technology and later the Gordon College of Advanced Education.

**OTHER NOTES** Officially opened, 11th November 1887 by the Minister of Public Instruction, Hon. C.H. Pearson. Students commenced 16th January, 1888.



**NEGATIVE FILE:**

Australian Heritage Commission Register of National Estate

National Trust of Aust. (Vic) Classified/Recorded File No. ....

Historic Buildings Preservation Council Register No. .... File No. ....

Geelong Regional Commission Register No. ....

**IDENTIFICATION DATA**

**PLACE NAME** The Gordon Technical College,  
**ADDRESS** Fenwick Street,  
 Geelong, 3220.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of Geelong

**TITLE INFORMATION**

**MAP REFERENCE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PRESENT USE** Educational Institute

**PRESENT OWNER/LESSEE** Gordon Technical College.

**ADDRESS** Fenwick St.,  
 Geelong. (052) \_\_\_\_\_

**TELEPHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

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**LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** CITY OF GEELONG

**DOCUMENTATION REFERENCES AND BIOGRAPHIC NOTES**

Liew, H.F., Phau, K.C. and Liang, W.H., 'Gordon Institute of Technology, Geelong', History of Architecture Research Essay, Department of Architecture, University of Melbourne 1961.

Geelong Advertiser, 19th January, 1887, meeting to establish the Gordon Memorial School of Arts. 23rd May, 1887, tender notice.

Jones, C.W., Guide to Geelong - Description and Pictorial, F.W. Niven & Co., Ballarat, 1890, for Huddart, Parker and Co. Ltd. pp. 15, 24

Sillcock, L., presently writing the History of the Gordon Technical College.

Gordon Institute of Technology, 'Golden Jubilee Brochure, 1887 - 1937', List Print, Geelong, 1937

Smith, James (Ed) Cyclopedia of Victoria, Niven & Co., Melbourne, 1904 Vol. 2 P. 435.

Willingham Allan, 'Two Scots in Victoria, The Architecture of Davidson and Henderson' Master of Architecture thesis. Faculty of Architecture, University of Melbourne 1983.

**CITATION**

The foundation stone of the Gordon Technical college was laid on 20th June, 1887 by the Hon. Francis Ormond. M.L.C. a principal benefactor. Geelong architect Alexander Davidson designed the first building in a Scots Jacobean revival style derived from the work of his former master David Cousins of Edinburgh. The original was subsequently extended in a sympathetic and appropriate manner in 1889, 1891 and 1916. Like the former Working Mens College in Melbourne also founded by Ormond, the Gordon Technical College has important foundations associations with education of the working class in Victoria, is the genesis of the Deakin University, and a significant monument to General Gordon of Khartoum.

**SIGNIFICANCE OF PLACE**

- Its creative and/or technical accomplishment.
- Its demonstration of a way of life, custom, process or function no longer practised, in danger of being lost or of exceptional interest.
- Its strong association with an important figure or figures, development, or cultural phase.
- Its townscape and/or landscape value.
- Its scarcity value.

**SIGNIFICANCE**

- LOCAL
- REGIONAL
- STATE
- NATIONAL
- WORLD

**CONDITION**

- EXCELLENT
- GOOD
- FAIR
- DETERIORATED
- RUINS

**INTEGRITY**

- HIGH
- LOW
- ALTERED
- DAMAGED

**RECOMMENDATIONS: PROTECTIVE MEASURES**

Geelong Regional Commission Register  
 Historic Buildings Council Register  
 Australian Heritage Commission Register of the National Estate.  
 National Trust of Australia (Victoria) Register

**DOCUMENTATION** - Allan Willingham, Architect, 151 McKean Str., North Fitzroy. 3068. Tel: 03 489 8492.

**SIGNATURE** ..... **DATE** .....