

249 HIGH STREET, HOLY TRINITY CHURCH AND RECTORY

Original Use: Holy Trinity Church and Parsonage

Date of Construction: Church: 1862¹⁶

Parsonage: 1869¹⁷

Architect: Church: Charles Barrett¹⁸

Parsonage: Charles Vickers¹⁹

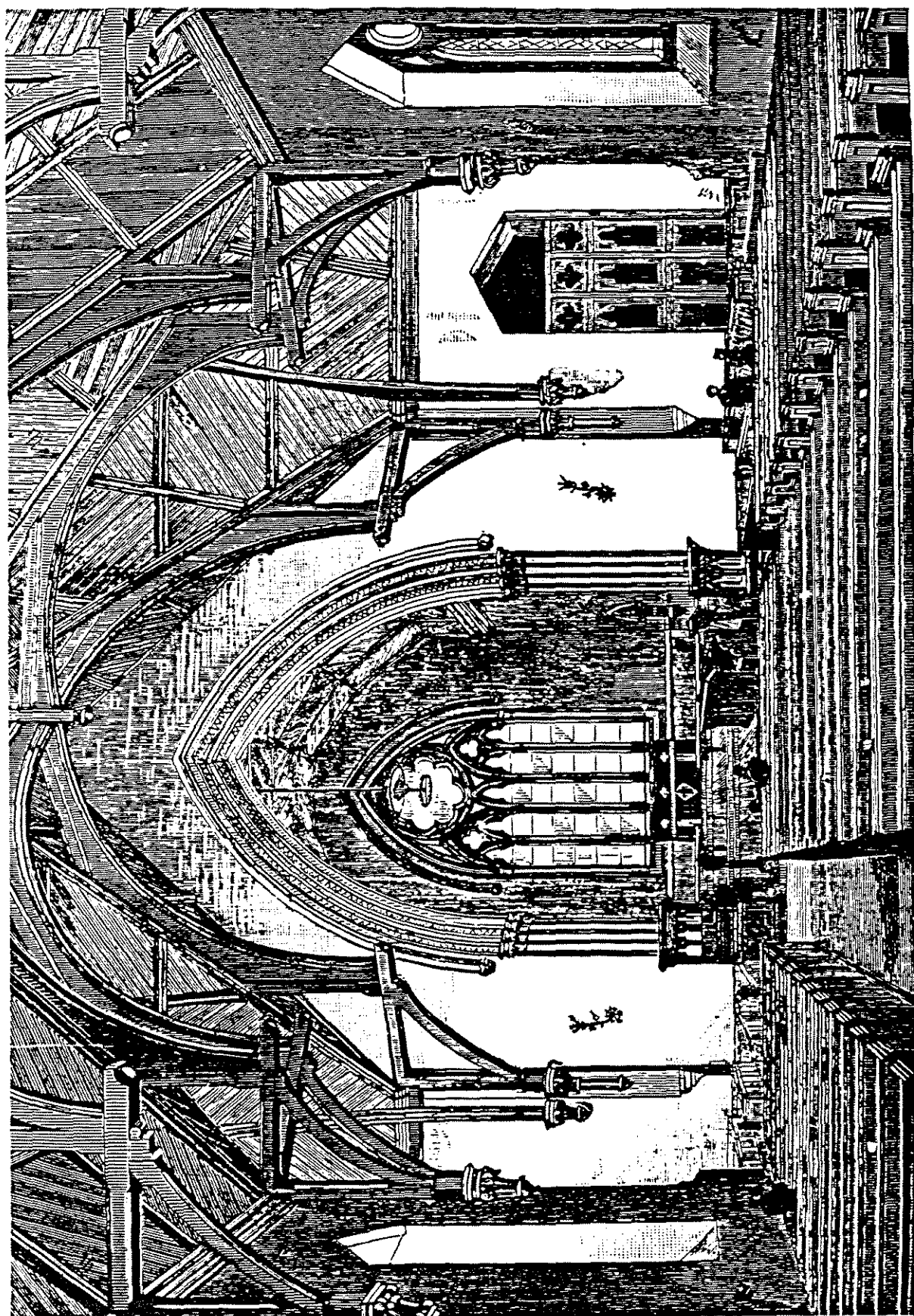
DESIGNATION A
CITATION NO.65



HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

On 3 September 1862 the Hon. Sir William F. Stawell, the owner and occupier of 'D'Estaville' (q.v.), laid the foundation stone of this basalt church building erected by Corben and Wilson²⁰. The building was enlarged in 1864²¹ and in 1873 transepts were added at a cost of £3,000²². In 1869 additional land was purchased and the vicarage was commenced²³. Completed in the following year, the building was first occupied by the Rev. George Oakley Vance²⁴.

Despite the staged construction, the church and manse form a very coherent pair and as such are rare to Kew. The gothic revival church is in a simple cruciform plan form with the castellated tower set off one corner. The whole is quite sombre in effect because of the use of basalt for the walls, however is lightened through the use of freestone to the openings. The manse was also built in basalt, however Vickers applied the same combination as found at his 'Ivy Grange' (q.v.), setting the basalt walls against cream bricks to the openings. The manse repeats the gothic in its overall picturesque form and in the timber porch.



'Interior of Holy Trinity Church, Kew' (*Australasian Sketcher*, 18 June 1881)



SIGNIFICANCE

Holy Trinity Church and Manse are of significance as an early pair of ecclesiastical buildings that have a high degree of unity between their architecture, for the command their architecture gives them over the corner site and the landmark value they hold in the area.

HERITAGE LISTINGS

HBR: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

GBR: N/A

RNE: Registered.

National Trust: Classified No.1513.

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- 16 National Estate, 'Listing for Kew City - Holy Trinity Anglican Church', 23 January 1987
 - 17 Architects' Index, University of Melbourne
 - 18 *Australasian Sketcher*, 18 June 1881, p.198
 - 19 Architects' Index
 - 20 Rogers, D., *A History of Kew*, p.47. It is probable that Corden and Wilson in fact only supplied materials for the construction.
 - 21 *ibid.*
 - 22 *ibid.*
 - 23 *ibid.*
 - 24 *ibid.*

This complex is of state significance. The Court House and Police Station are already listed on the Government Buildings Register. The Post Office should be similarly registered to maintain the integrity of the group.

Holy Trinity Church and Vicarage, 249 High Street
Citation 65

These buildings are of undoubted local significance for their landmark value. Their age and degree of integrity, as well as their architectural quality, justify at least a B grading, and suggest that the Historic Buildings Council might consider them worthy of addition to their Register. However, many churches of similar plan and/or materials are to found throughout Victoria, some of which might be considered of greater significance in terms of distinctive design or historical associations. An obvious example in this sense is St Patrick's Cathedral, Eastern Hill, which is also built of basalt but is of a size, design and historic significance unique within Victoria (if not Australia). However, while the church cannot be compared in terms of age with examples such as St James Old Cathedral, Melbourne (1842-51), St Stephens, Richmond (1850, 1854-76) and the Uniting Church, Richmond (1853-4, 1858), the group of church and vicarage is certainly one of the oldest to survive in Victoria, and this may be considered a sufficient criteria for Registration. Their A classification is therefore justified.

The Registration of ecclesiastical buildings has proven problematic to the Historic Buildings Council, as they constitute a very large body of buildings, many of which are of relatively great age, given Victoria's brief period of European occupation, and undoubted design quality and social significance. While no assurance can therefore be given regarding the likely outcome of their consideration by the Council, it is recommended that they be nominated for Registration.

2 HODGSON STREET, HOUSE

Original Use: Residence
Date of Construction: 1952-54¹ and 1958²
Architect: Peter McIntyre³

DESIGNATION A
CITATION NO.59

HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

This house was one of the first modern houses to be built in Melbourne after the Second World War and is one of the boldest and most successful domestic buildings to have been built in Melbourne in the 1950s. It is supported on a central steel tower, from which is cantilevered a steel A-frame. The walls are set within this framework leaving the structure exposed. At the outer extent of the frame the walls originally gave way to open decks, although these were covered over, again by McIntyre, in 1958 (refer elevation over). Aside from the radical departure of its architecture, the extensive picturesque site on which the house was built, is outstanding and it gives a freedom to the architectural form that would not have been possible on most suburban allotments.

SIGNIFICANCE

The McIntyre House is of significance as one of the first and best modern houses to have been built in Australia after the Second World War and as such, reflects the radical stylistic changes that were taking place in Australian architecture at that time. The extensive picturesque site, free of other buildings, is integral to the significance of the house.

HERITAGE LISTINGS

HBR: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

GBR: N/A

RNE: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

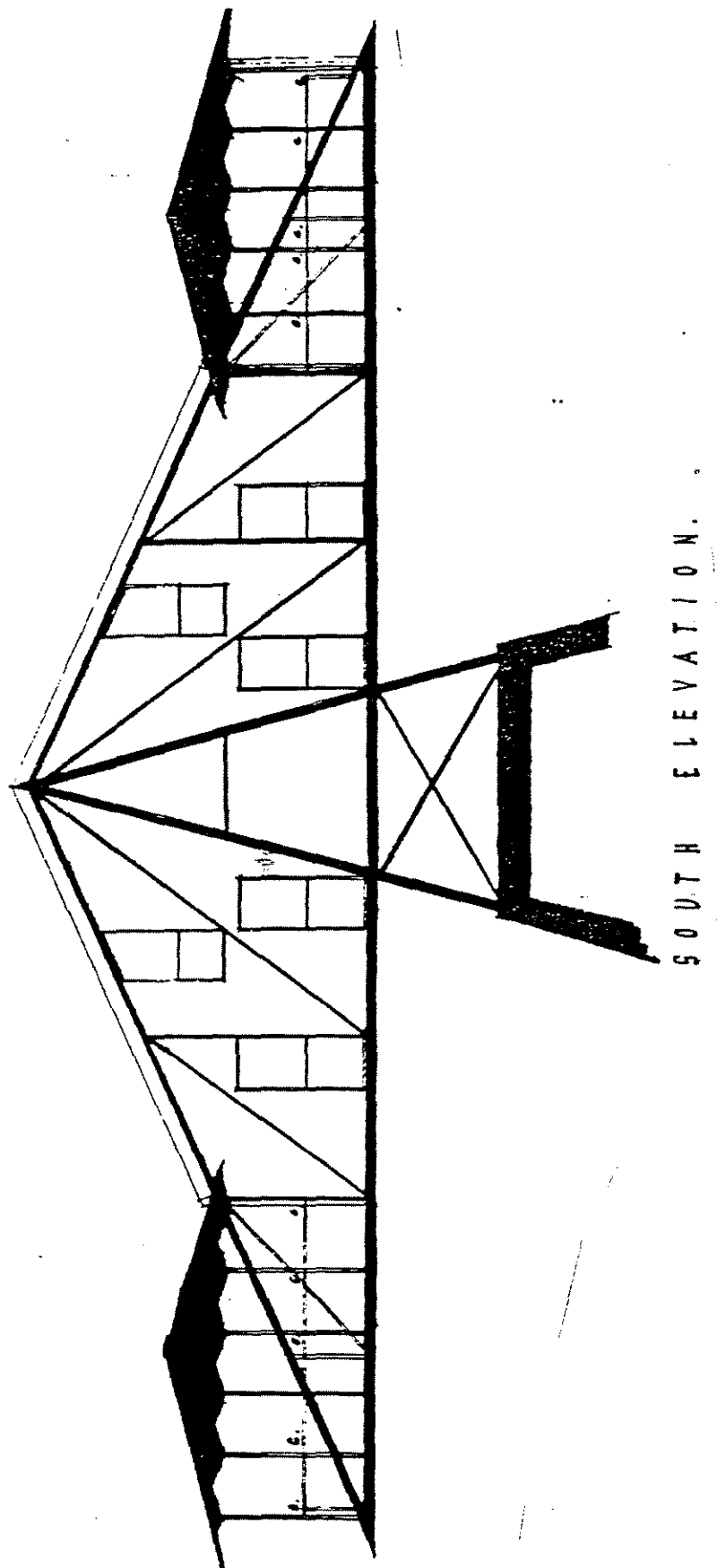
National Trust: Not currently listed.

¹ *Architecture in Australia*, 'The State of Australian Architecture', June 1967

² Plans submitted to Kew City Council for a Building Permit application, dated 2 September 1958.

³ *ibid.*

Clearly of state significance, this building should retain its A grading.



South Elevation showing additions to each terrace, detail, working drawings 1958 (Kew City Council)