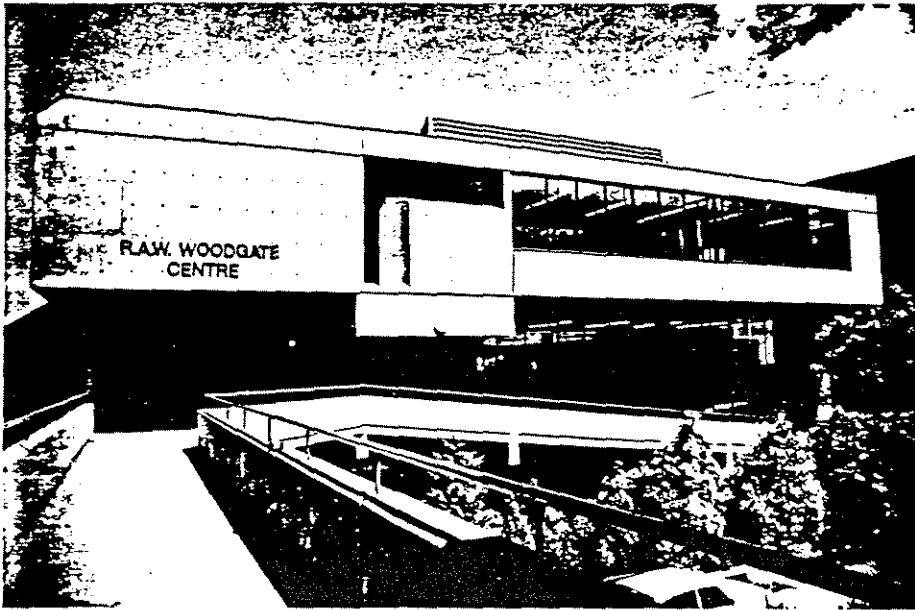


BARKERS ROAD, METHODIST LADIES COLLEGE: RESOURCE CENTRE

Original Use: Resource Centre
Date of Construction: 1974¹
Architect: Daryl Jackson, Evan Walker Pty.Ltd.²

DESIGNATION A
CITATION NO.76



HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION

Built by Van Driel Pty. Ltd ³, this building is now known as the R.A.W. Woodgate Centre. It was recognized at the time of its construction by the R.A.I.A. who acknowledged the design in its 1975 awards program. While shortly after completion it was described in *Architecture in Australia* thus: "The building breaks new ground in educational architecture in Australia in its form, massing, material and detail. It bears a strong relationship to recent work in the USA, UK and parts of Europe."⁴

The building is in off form concrete and this has been applied not only to the structural system but was used also used as the primary finishing material. The building has a strong horizontality in the placement of its bands of windows, and the cantilevered form of the top floor, while the circulation routes are expressed externally with stairs and ramps extending out from the building in a sculptural manner.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Nurses' Memorial Hall is of significance as one of the most confidently and successfully designed in Melbourne during the post war period, and as an outstandingly intact example of the post-war designs of Harry Norris' office

HERITAGE LISTINGS

HBR: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

GBR: N/A

RNE: Recommended for inclusion on the register.

National Trust: Not currently listed.

The Assembly Hall, MLC, is a fine example of late 1950s design in Melbourne, and is appropriately compared by the consultant to Wilson Hall, University of Melbourne, as one of the best buildings of this type in Melbourne from the period. The exterior form is boldly expressive of the internal spaces, creating a dynamic and unique overall composition. It is recommended that this building retain its A classification.