
gallery, with a balconette treatment into chapel. The sanctuary paving is of marble and mosaic, in the central passage down the chapel being laid with terrazzo. Around the cornice at the wall head is inscribed Scriptural texts in letters of gold. Arising above the main roof is a bell gable carrying a large resonant bell. Two large ball alleys have been erected within the grounds.

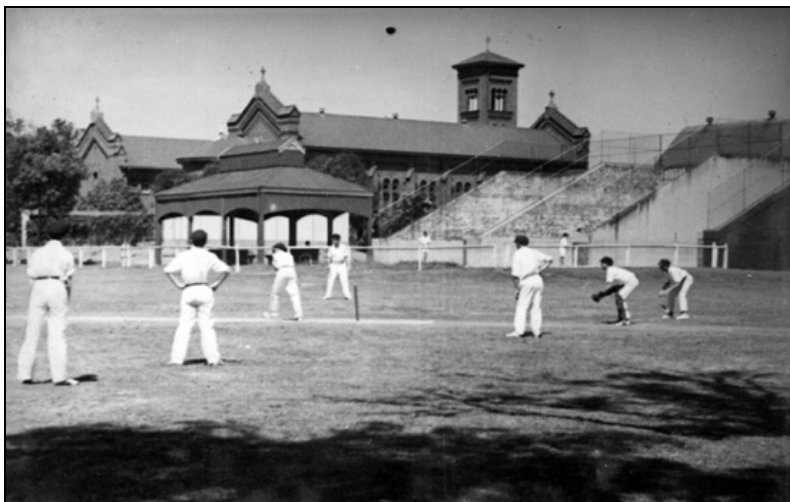
The contractor for the whole was Mr. A.E. Gould, the steel ceilings being executed by Merrs. Wunderlich and Co., the stained glass windows by Mr. Ashwin, the mosaic and terrazzo work by Mr. G. Petrucci, the stalls, seating etc. by Mr. F. Dickin. The gas fittings of the chapel and brass ornaments on altar were executed from special designs by the Sheffield Manufacturing Company. The whole of the works were carried out from the designs and under the supervision of the architects, Messrs. Sheerin and Hennessy.⁵⁵

The work involved the removal of the original conservatory (refer back to Figure 18 above).

No architectural plans relating to these works have been located in either Council Archives nor the Christian Brothers Archives.

3.4.3 Handball Courts, Pavilion and Grotto

Included in the works programme of 1908 was the erection of three handball courts and a pavilion.⁵⁶ Handball was a game promoted by the Irish monastic orders. The courts have since been converted into storerooms (marked 'L' in Figure 3) and the pavilion demolished. Figure 34 shows both structures.



Figures 34: Pavilion and Handball Courts, 1936

Christian Brothers Archive, ABH2 02.

Early photographs indicate that an elaborate grotto was constructed at the end of the courtyard now defined by the *Brother Stewart Building* and the *Barron Memorial Chapel* (Figures 35 and 36). When this was erected and how long it stood for is not known.

⁵⁵ 'Christian Brothers Training College, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 2 December, 1908.

⁵⁶ *The Book of Foundations*, 1908.



Figures 35 and 36: The Grotto, undated.

Christian Brothers Archive, MTSTMARY 60c; MTSTMARY 60f.

3.5 Opening of the Christian Brothers College and Novitiate

3.5.1 The Opening

Cardinal Moran blessed the new Christian Brothers' Training College and Novitiate on 1 December, 1908 in the presence of a large gathering. At the opening, Brother Barron noted that the Order in Australia had grown to 45 educational establishments and their teaching force had grown from 3 brothers to over 200.⁵⁷

Mount St. Mary served as a the headquarters of the Christian Brothers in St. Mary's Province for over 80 years. Figure 37 shows the Provincials of St. Mary's Province during this period.



Figures 37:
The Provincials
D.M. Stewart, *Mount Royal to Mount St. Mary*, 2004.

⁵⁷ See D.M. Stewart, *op.cit.*, 2004, p. 9 and Appendix 1.

Training at *Mount St. Mary* began in December 1908 when the Novices and Scholastics (brothers undergoing teacher training) were transferred from Petersham.

3.5.2 A Note About the Novitiate and Scolasticate

The Novitiate was a canonical requirement in which a year was set aside from secular study to concentrate on spiritual formation and the study of the Constitutions and way of life of the particular Congregation. A novice had to be at least 15 years of age. Before becoming a novice, a candidate went through the preparatory stage of postulant to help determine his suitability. The Novices lived as a separate community on the campus under the direction of a Novice Master. The Novitiate remained at *Mount St. Mary* until moving to Minto in 1936.

At the conclusion of the Novitiate, a second year of formation was conducted in the Training College whereby the brother, not yet under vows, prepared as a teacher. This year was sometimes referred to as the Seniorate or Scolasticate.

After completion of training, a Brother joined a Community outside of *Mount St. Mary's*. Vows could be renewed annually until the age of 25 when a final decision was taken. Vows could be renewed annually until the age of 25 when a final decision was taken about entering the Order in perpetuity. Final vows were taken at *Mount St. Mary* on Christmas Day in the presence of the Community.

The Christian Brothers brought their traditions of education from Ireland. Until 1905, there were no external standards that teachers had to meet. In 1905, however, the Victorian Parliament passed the *Teachers and Schools Registration Act*. From this onwards, the Training College was subject to external scrutiny.

For information about life in the Novitiate and Scolasticate refer to D.W. Stewart's publication *Mount Royal to Mount St. Mary's*.⁵⁸

3.6 Further Alterations to *Mount Royal* in 1913

In 1913, Sheerin & Hennessy were commissioned to carry out further works to *Mount Royal*. These works involved the raising of the ballroom roof to provide a first floor dormitory and a first floor extension over the billiard room on the western side of the villa. The extensions provided accommodation for 44 Brothers. The ballroom was partitioned; the southern, or kitchen end, was used as a dining room for the Community and senior novices, while the northern end was fitted out as a general science room. The acceptance of a tender for this work was noted in *The Sydney Morning Herald* on 8 July, 1913; no builder, however, is identified. It was also in this year that a white marble altar was installed in the Chapel in honour of P.A. Treacy (the founder of the Australian Province of the Congregation), at a cost of £ 3,250, and the gas lighting in the villa was replaced with electric lighting.^{59 60}

No architectural plans relating to the 1913 works have been located.

Figures 38 to 40 provide a number of images of the villa after the works of 1908 and 1913. Note the landscaping, particularly within the area to the east of the villa, now the forecourt of the *Barron Chapel*. The photographs clearly show that the palm trees, which are a dominant element within the part of the Campus today, do not pre-date the Christian Brothers.

⁵⁸ For further information refer to D.S. Stewart, *op.cit.*, 2004, particularly pp.85 onwards; pp.78 onwards.

⁵⁹ D.M. Stewart, *op.cit.*, 2004, p. 12-13.

⁶⁰ *The Book of Foundations*, 1913. Information supplied by Brother Dominic Obbens, archivist, Christian Brothers.



Figure 38: Training College, 1909.

Christian Brothers Archive, MTSTMARY 22b

This photograph was taken before second floor was added above the ballroom. Part of the fountain remains, albeit as a plant urn within a garden bed. The chimney in the southern roof plane of the 1908 addition has been removed.



Figure 39: A.G. Foster, *Mount Royal*, c.1920-1945.

National Library of Australia.

Photograph taken after the addition of the second floor over the ballroom.

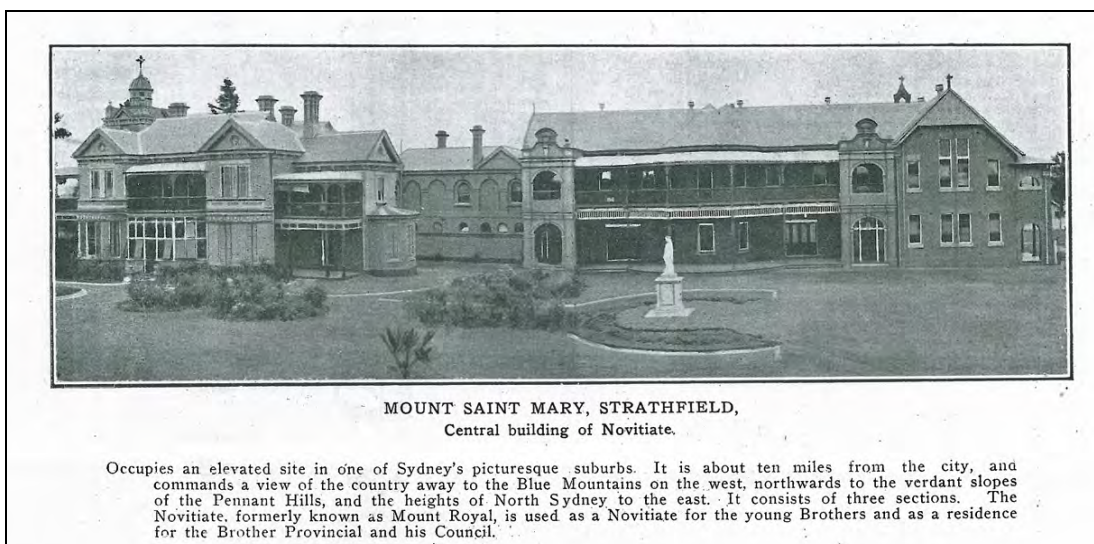


Figure 40: Mount St. Mary, c.1918.

Souvenir of the Golden Jubilee of The Christian Brothers in Australasia, 1869-1919, 1918.

Photograph taken after the addition of the second floor to the ballroom wing, and prior to the addition of the two storey verandah to the rear wing of the original building.

3.7 Expansion in 1917 and 1918: Purchase of Ovalau and Ardross

3.7.1 Purchase of Ovalau and Ardross and the Moving the Gates of Mount Royal

As noted above, the Christian Brothers purchased *Ovalau* in February 1917. This is the land coloured bright pink, pale pink and orange in Figure 6. *Ovalau* was initially used to accommodate trainee teachers and the Brothers who taught at the Burwood parish school.⁶¹

In 1918, the Christian Brothers purchased *Ardross*, which was renamed *St. Josephs*. This is the land coloured grey in Figure 6. The villa was initially purchased as a retirement home for old brothers.⁶² Growth within the School, however, meant that *St. Josephs* soon became the home of the Scholastics. Additions and alterations were carried out to accommodate the Scholastics.

While it had required only the removal of a fence to combine *Mount Royal* and *Ovalau*, *Ardross* was separated *Mount Royal* and *Ovalau* by Albert Road. In 1925, an agreement was reached with Strathfield Council to incorporate this part of Albert Road into the College campus in exchange for land that enabled Council to connect Albert and Barker Roads. Formal transfer of the title, from Todman and von der Heyde to the Trustees of the Christian Brothers, occurred only in 1953.⁶³ The new section of Albert Road was later closed to create the *Mount Royal Reserve*.

The *Book of Foundations* notes in 1925 that once this part of Albert Road had been incorporated into the site, the footpaths, fences and drains were remodeled and *Mount Royal's* gates moved from their original location to their present position. Other improvements to the site were made in the 1920s, most notably the removal of the dilapidated timber fence to Barker Road and the construction of the brick boundary walls,

⁶¹ 'Novitiate of the Christian Brothers' in *Souvenir of the Golden Jubilee of The Christian Brothers in Australasia 1869-1919*, NSW, William Brooks & Co. Ltd, 1918, p.58.

⁶² 'Novitiate of the Christian Brothers' in *Souvenir of the Golden Jubilee of The Christian Brothers in Australasia 1869-1919*, NSW, William Brooks & Co. Ltd, 1918, p.58.

⁶³ Certificate of Title Volume 728 Folios 225 and 226; *Book of Foundations*, 1925; 1921.

extant today.⁶⁴ Figure 41 shows the gates of *Mount Royal* in their original location; Figure 42 shows them in their new location. The latter photograph shows the lights that were once mounted on cross pieces above the gate posts.



Figure 41: View across the lawns showing the gates in their original location, at far left.

Christian Brothers Archive, MTSMARY 15a.



Figure 42: Gates of *Mount Royal* following their removal to their current location.

Christian Brothers Archive, MTSTMARY11b.

When the gates were moved, some of the street trees of Albert Road became incorporated into the site. Several of these trees remain today, between the later Date Palms planted by the Christian Brothers.

⁶⁴ *Book of Foundations*, 1921. Information supplied by Brother Dominic Obbens, archivist.

3.7.2 **The Juniorate, The Bungalow and the Renaming of Ovalau**

Although boys were required to be at least 15 years of age (later 17) before joining the Christian Brothers, records indicate that there were a number of 'Juniors' on the site between 1917 and 1922 who were below that age but interested in pursuing a vocation with the Order. Although joining the novitiates for some of the day's prayers and meals, the boys undertook their studies separately. In December 1922, as the number of Juniors increased to 42, they were provided with separate quarters in *Ovalau*, which had become vacant. The Juniors became known collectively as the Juniorate.

The Juniorate expanded rapidly. The *Christian Brothers' Education Record for 1926* noted that more than 200 boys had entered the Juniorate since it opened in December 1922.⁶⁵ To provide for the increase, a temporary building, known as *The Bungalow*, was constructed close-by *Ovalau* in 1922 and blessed in February 1923. Photographs held by the Christian Brothers Archive show that *The Bungalow* was a single room building with a verandah on three sides that served as a dormitory at night and a classroom by day. After the completion of the new Juniorate (1931), *The Bungalow* was used as a recreation centre and auditorium. Although erected with a 12-month permit, the building stood for around 40 years.

The *Juniorate*, comprising *Ovalau* and *The Bungalow*, became known as *St. Edna's*, after the patron saint chosen for the school. For many boys, *St. Edna's* was home. Boys entering the Juniorate did not return home for holidays, but could be visited on occasion by parents and close relatives.

During the 1920s, there were on average some 80 boys in the Juniorate at any one time, about one third of whom went on to become Christian Brothers. For insights into life in the Juniorate refer to D.W. Stewart's publication *Mount Royal to Mount St. Mary's*.⁶⁶

Over time, *St. Josephs* (formerly *Ardross*) also became part of the Juniorate.

3.7.3 **St. Patricks College Practice School**

The Brothers continued to expand their educational activities. The opening of St. Patrick's College Practice School in 1928, on land adjoining the Training College to the north, provided the student teachers with a practice school, which not only extended the work of the Brothers, but also eliminated the need for student teachers to travel to Burwood on a daily basis.

3.8 **The Barron Chapel and Belltower**

Following the opening of the Juniorate in the 1920s, the 1908 Chapel proved too small and, in 1924, planning for a new chapel that could accommodate around 250 students and staff began. The commission for the new Chapel was given to Hennessy, Hennessy, Keesing & Co. (formerly Sheerin & Hennessy) and the contract for construction awarded to Kell & Rigby. The £12,400 required to construct the new Chapel was raised by donation throughout Australia and New Zealand.⁶⁷

The Chapel was dedicated on 8 September, 1925 and named the *Barron Chapel* in honour of Brother Jerome Barron, who was celebrating his Golden Jubilee and retiring as Provisional after 23 years. Under his leadership, the number of Brothers in the Australasian Province had increased from 150 in 1902 to 340 in 1925, while the number of educational

⁶⁵ Extract from *The Christian Brothers' Educational Record* 1926, p.1. Cited at the Christian Brothers' Archive.

⁶⁶ For further information on the Juniorate, refer to D.S. Stewart, *op.cit.*, 2004, pp.85 onwards.

⁶⁷ Works approved by Council on 22 July, 1924. Information obtained from Cathy Jones, Strathfield Council.

institutions had risen from 34 to 68.⁶⁸ Brother Jerome would spend his remaining years at *Mount St. Mary*, in all living there for 40 years (see Figure 37).

The new Chapel attracted the interest of the Catholic and secular press. The design won the Master Architect's Gold Medal in the Turin Exhibition of 1923 and the Chapel appeared on the front cover of *Building* magazine.⁶⁹ According to *The Christian Brothers' Education Record* 1926, the Romanesque Style of the Chapel was chosen:

'because it is essentially suitable to the Sydney climate, and its bright and sunny skies, which show, strikingly, the characteristics of the slightly projecting slender columns and inside effects to great advantage.'⁷⁰

Building magazine noted:

'The entrance to a church invariably maintains and enhances the impression obtained of the edifice from a distance and prepares one for the interior. This one gives a decided impression of an appreciation for proportion and grouping on the part of the designer. The brickwork which lends itself to Romanesque church work looks excellent and the terra cotta work in the wheel window and motifs (the lion heads looking like Empire ornament) by Wunderlich Ltd. introduces colour and variety to the otherwise plain surface.'⁷¹

Figure 43 reproduces a detailed description of the building published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* soon after the Chapel was consecrated.

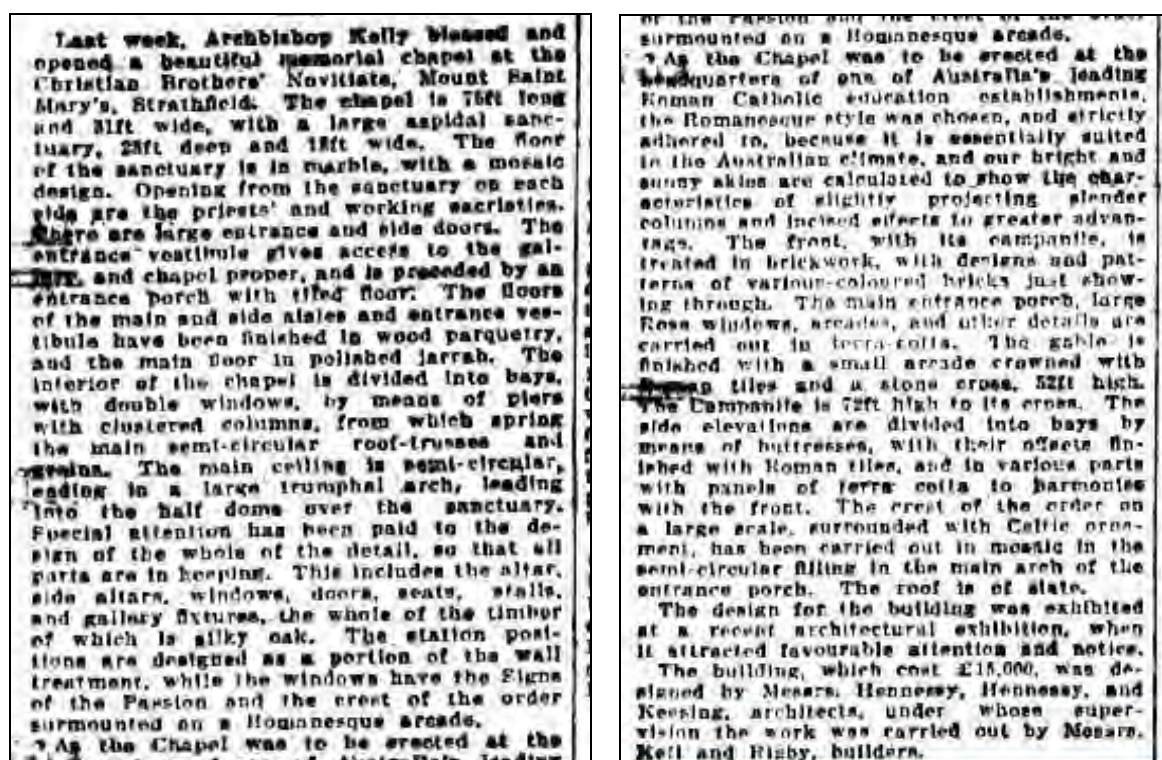


Figure 43: 'Buildings and Works: Christian Brothers Chapel'
The Sydney Morning Herald, 16 December, 1925.

⁶⁸ D.M. Stewart, *op.cit.*, 2004, p. 14.

⁶⁹ *Building Magazine*, 12 December, 1925.

⁷⁰ *The Christian Brothers' Education Record* 1926, p. 4.

⁷¹ 'Entrance to the Christian Brothers Novitiate Chapel, Strathfield', *Building*, 12 December, 1925, p. 45.

The Chapel was used by Wunderlich to promote their architectural terracotta products.⁷²

No original architectural plans for this work have been located. The Christian Brothers Archive hold several photographs of the building within its setting, including interior photographs, from the 1920s and 1930s. Ten years after the completion of the Chapel, the interior was painted with the golden insignia of Mary on a blue background. This work was painted over in the 1970s, but has since been restored (from 2007).

The contribution of the Chapel to the site was surmised by *The Christian Brothers' Educational Record for 1926* as follows:

‘It is fitting that the picturesque and orderly Albert Road, Strathfield, should gradually rise between its two long avenues of palms and trees, and terminate at the beautiful ornamental gates of the Christian Brothers’ Training College, which, in the grandeur of its buildings, and the surpassing beauty of its spacious grounds and gardens, offers a perfect rendezvous to the traveller. It is a culminating point, geographically and artistically....

All that seemed wanting in this atmosphere of peace, beauty and religion, was a chapel, symbolic of the outstanding characteristics of the college, and providing a central figure of the commanding group. Not that the college was without a chapel...but the original chapel had been built behind *Mount St. Mary's*, and was completely hidden from the approach.

The new chapel has provided the keynote that appeared to be missing. In conformity with the style of the three existing buildings, *Mount St. Mary* in the centre, and with which it is connected by an arched corridor, St. Enda's (the Juniorate), on the one side and St. Josephs (the practice college) on the other, the new chapel is Romanesque. As an example for this one-time misunderstood style of architecture, the chapel is a gem...⁷³

Figures 44 to 46 provide a selection of early images of the exterior and interior of the Chapel.



Figure 44: The newly completed Barron Chapel.
Wunderlich Architectural Terra Cotta: Bulletin T.C. No. 1.

⁷² Wunderlich Architectural Terra Cotta: Bulletin T.C. No. 1: Terra Cotta in Combination with Other Materials. Copy cited in the Christian Brothers Archive.

⁷³ *The Christian Brothers' Education Record* 1926, p.4.



Figure 45:
The Provincialate & Chapel, c.1925
Christian Brothers Archive,
DYNAN 05



Figure 46:
Cardinal Gilroy's visit to the Barron Chapel, 1946.
State Library of New South
Wales.

3.9 The New Juniorate and Other Improvements

3.9.1 The New Juniorate

As the numbers of boys in the Juniorate continued to expand, the need for student accommodation and purpose built class rooms became urgent. The decision was taken to build a new building, parallel to the *Barron Chapel*, and in the same style, to provide four classrooms, a dormitory and several staff bedrooms. The commission was again awarded to Hennessy, Hennessy & Co. The work was carried out by builder James Redmond at a cost of £8,000 and completed in 1931.⁷⁴ Two storey brick arcades were constructed to link the *Juniorate* to the *Barron Chapel* soon after. No plans of this work have been located. The building is now known as the *Mullens Building*.

⁷⁴ Builder and architect identified in *Building*, 12 November, 1931, p.47.

Figures 47 and 48 shows the completed *Barron Chapel, Juniorate* and brick arcades. Of the whole composition, *Building* noted:

‘A feature of the work is the clever manner with which the new unit- the Chapel and Juniorate...- has been linked up with new arcading and made to conform to that which was already existing; and whilst not slavishly reproducing an exact replica of the old section, the architects have been successful in creating a well balanced whole.’⁷⁵



Figures 47 and 48: Mount Royal, the Barron Chapel and the Juniorate Studies, c.1930s
Christian Brothers Archives, MOUNTED 17

3.9.2 The Swimming Pool

The *Book of Foundations* also records the construction of the swimming pool in 1931 (Figure 49). The pool, since demolished, was located to the north of *Mount Royal* and was surrounded by fencing and changing cubicles that opened directly onto the pool deck.

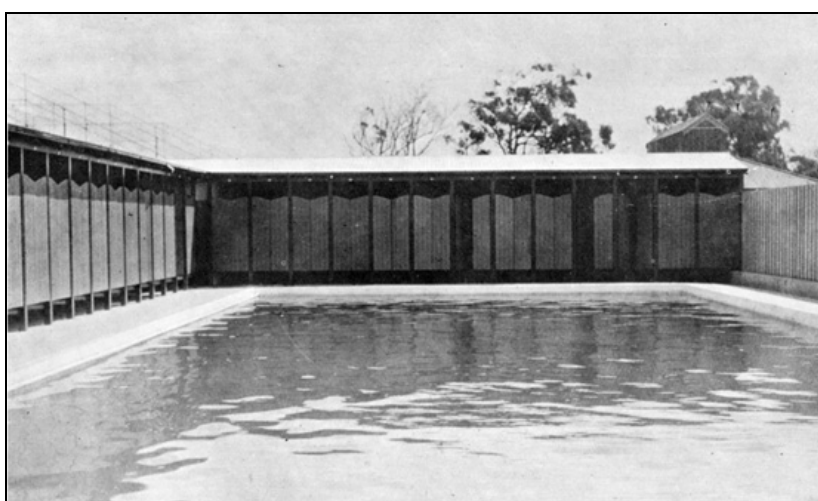


Figure 49: Swimming Pool
Christian Brothers Archives, MTSTMARY73a

3.9.3 The *Limpas Crucifix*

In 1933, the *Limpas Crucifix* was erected in the grounds of *Mount St. Mary* to mark the 1,900th anniversary of Christ's crucifixion. The Crucifix is a copy of a venerated example in the Spanish town of Limpas and was sent to *Mount St. Mary's* by the Christian Brothers of

⁷⁵ ‘Christian Brothers Chapel and Juniorate, Strathfield, Sydney’, *Building*, 12 November, 1931, p.47.

Gibraltar. This life-size crucifix was erected in a covered shrine near the *Barron Chapel* and still stands today (Figure 50).



Figure 50:
Undated photograph of the
Limpias Crucifix.
D.M. Stewart, *Mount Royal to*
Mount St. Mary's, 2004.

3.10 Mount St. Mary in the Mid 1930s

By the early 1930s, the Christian Brothers' had occupied *Mount St. Mary* for twenty years. The plan and aerial photographs below (Figures 51 to 53) demonstrate the work that had occurred on the site during this period and reveal the location of buildings and structures since demolished or significantly altered. Letters superimposed on Figure 53 help identify the buildings in each of these images.



Figure 51: Aerial photograph over Mount St. Mary, early 1930s (?)
Copy obtained from the ACU.





Figure 53: Aerial photograph over Mount St. Mary, 1943.

lite.maps.nsw.gov.au.

Key			
A	<i>Mount Royal</i>	H	Open garage, workshop, laundry (originally the stables of Mount Royal)
B	<i>Barron Chapel</i>	I	'Old'. No use noted (originally the stables of Mount Royal)
C	<i>The Juniorate / Mullens Building</i>	J	Fowl yard. Open yard in the centre with galvanised iron roof pens surrounding.
D	<i>The Bungalow</i>	K	Handball courts with dressing rooms and wcs. The structure behind the swimming pool is a timber pavilion.
E	<i>Handball courts</i>	L	Swimming pool.
F	<i>Ardross / St. Josephs</i>		
G	<i>Ovalau / St. Endas</i>		

The 1933 survey and the above photographs reveal a number of otherwise undocumented alterations to extant buildings when compared to the late nineteenth century surveys included in Section 2.6. The main alterations are as follows:

- Additions on the western side of *Mount Royal*. The additions of 1908 and 1913 were previously discussed. No records relating to the southern most of the two storey wings on the western side of the villa, shown by Figures 52 and 53, have been found. The architectural style of the wing, and Figure 52 above, suggest a construction date of the late 1920s - early 1930s.
- A small addition on the western side of the original stable block, which, by 1933, was being used as a garage, workshop and laundry.

- A small, free standing building, constructed to the south of the original laundry block. The use of this building is unknown.
- An addition to the original laundry block on the northern side.
- Figure 52 shows that the bush house was still in place on the eastern side of Mount Royal. This was removed and a two storey verandah built along the eastern face of the rear wing sometime before 1943.⁷⁶

An article published in *The Sydney Morning Herald* in September 1935 provides an insight into the site at this time (Figure 54). Life at Mount St. Mary would change significantly in the following year when the Novitiate was moved to Minto.

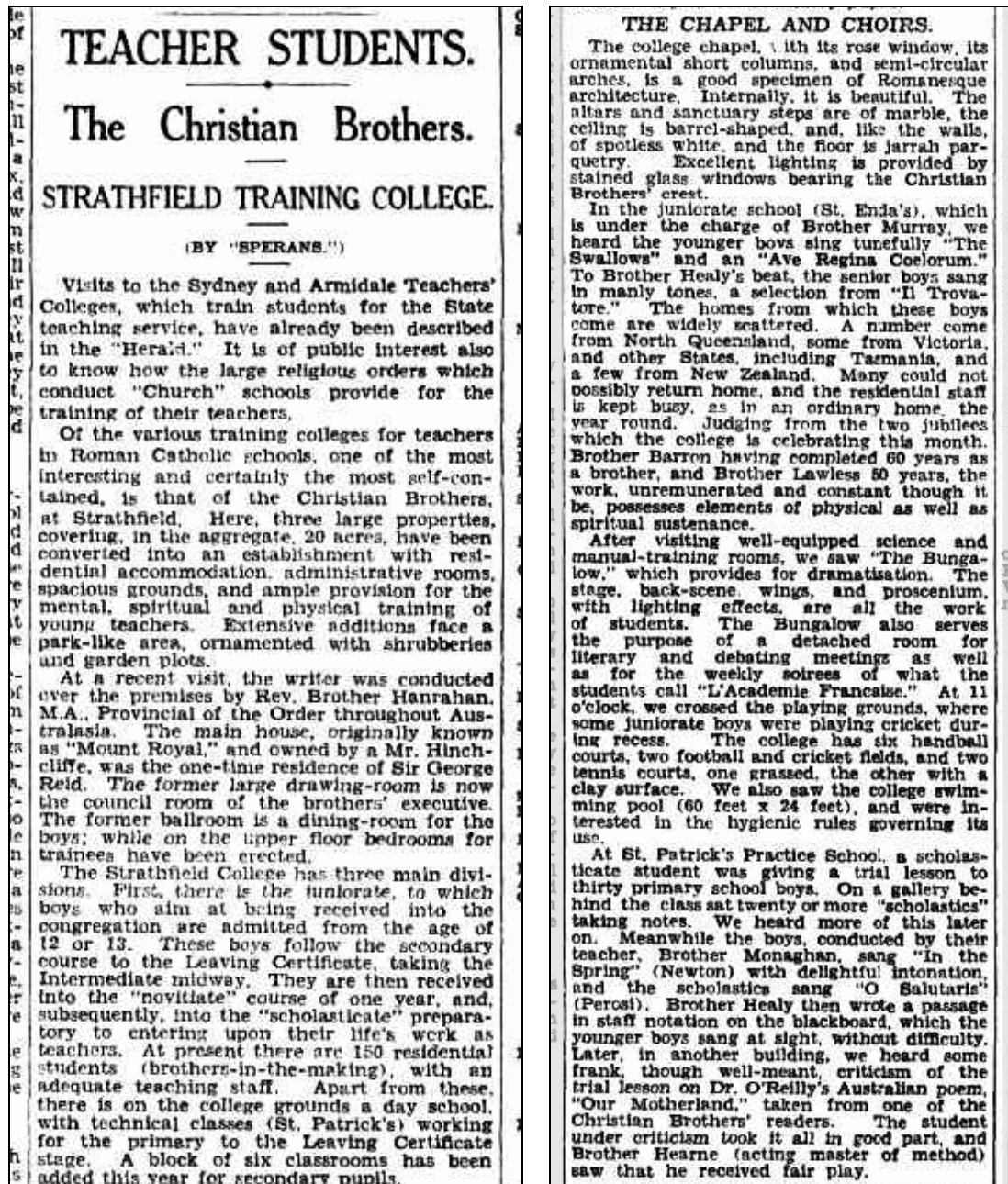


Figure 54: Strathfield Training College.
The Sydney Morning Herald, 27 September, 1937.

⁷⁶ Photographs held by the Christian Brothers Archive.

3.11 Strathfield During the Interwar Period

As the above developments were occurring at *Mount St. Mary*, other changes were taking place in the surrounding area.

During the Interwar period, Strathfield Council, like its nineteenth century predecessors, continued to actively maintain the qualities of the district. Council responded promptly to the opportunities presented by the *Local Government Act of 1919* by declaring almost the entire municipality to be a 'residential district' in 1920, in order to safeguard the character of the area. The proclamation remained in place until suspended by the *Strathfield Planning Scheme Ordinance 1969*. Council also introduced a policy that there should be no more than 20 houses per 10 hectares and held back the tide of flat building that swept throughout other Sydney suburbs.

By 1930, a large part of the Strathfield Municipality had been built out; further construction of any significance did not commence until after World War II. During the Post War era, areas of contrasting character were added to the Strathfield Municipality. In 1948, the Municipalities of Homebush and Enfield were consolidated into the Strathfield Municipality. The Municipality of Homebush had largely been developed by employees of the local factories, while parts of Enfield had developed as a result of the railway marshalling yards.

3.12 The Scholasticate or Seniorate Building

The Christian Brothers continued to develop *Mount St. Mary* after World War II, even after the area within the St. Mary Province was reduced. In 1953, St. Mary Province was split to enable better administration. Thereafter *Mount St. Mary* received students from Queensland, New South Wales, the A.C.T. and New Zealand. *Mount St. Mary*, however, continued to be the Provincialate.⁷⁷

In 1959, a new residential block was built as part of the Golden Jubilee Project to provide residential accommodation for 50 Scholastics and space for an additional lecture room and library. This building was originally known as the *Scholasticate* and now forms part of the *Brother Stewart Library* (Figures 55 and 56).

The Christian Brothers Archive hold plans for this building, prepared by Hennessy, Hennessy & Co. An undated newspaper clipping from *The Annals* provides a description of the newly opened building:

'The new structure is the latest of many buildings erected on the site since it became the headquarters of the Christian Brothers in Australia in the early years of this century.

Built of reinforced concrete with aluminum curtain wall framing to the full extent of the principal elevations to the north-east and south-west, the design provides for fixed lights and opening sashes relieved with soft grey-green structural glass panel and deep turquoise porcelain enamelled steel spandrels between windows.

The roof has been covered with slate grey cement tiles to tone with the slate roofs of the numerous existing college buildings...

The ground floor comprises a large lecture hall, library, crafts room, music rooms, office and staff rooms.

The other two floors provide individual rooms for the 50 students.

Also, on each of the upper floors are shower blocks, a dispensary, box rooms and linen rooms.⁷⁸

The building was constructed by Messrs. Robert Wall and Sons Pty Ltd at a cost of £75,000.

⁷⁷ D.M. Stewart, *op.cit.*, 2004, p.37.

⁷⁸ Undated and unsourced article cited in the Christian Brothers Archive.



Figure 55: Scolasticate 1959
MTSTMARY61



Figure 56: Scholasticate bedroom, 1960s.
Christian Brothers Archives, MANILLA4 57.

The Handbooks printed for the College provide an insight into the student teacher's year. First year involved 18 hours of lectures, tutorials etc a week and included subjects such as philosophy, divinity, English literature, education, English expression, general psychology and teaching practice, together with 'complementary studies' such as music, arts and crafts, physical education and group counselling. Second and third year were assigned themes- 'The Child in School and Society' in Year 2 and 'The School- Curriculum and Organisation' in Year 3. There was a strong emphasis on practice teaching. A special set of classrooms was erected at St. Patricks College to enable 'micro-teaching' of a small group. A minimum of 300 hours practice teaching was expected over three years.⁷⁹

⁷⁹ *Mount Saint Mary College, Strathfield, NSW, Handbook, 1969.*

3.13 The Lay Brothers and Works to Service Buildings in the 1950s

Throughout the period 1908 to 1960, *Mount St. Mary* strove to be as self-sufficient as possible. As shown by the historic surveys included in this HIS, there was once a fowl run to the west of the villa. Photographs indicate extensive vegetable gardens behind the *Barron Chapel*. Dairy products were also produced on site.

These areas were largely the province of the Lay Brothers, members of the Community who did not teach, but who attended to 'temporal matters' that supported the teaching mission of the Congregation.⁸⁰ The Lay Brothers:

'... contributed much to the life and success of the Training College not only by the valued work but also by their zeal, their deep spirituality and their shared brotherhood in the Community. And yet initially their position in the Community was an enigma...They were referred to as 'Lay Brothers' in a Congregation where all were lay religious and where there was no place for clerical membership...The title 'Lay Brother' was inherited from other Congregations...In the Congregation of Christian Brothers those who did not wish to teach were designated 'Lay Brothers' although, even in the early days, all had received a basic education and were quite literate. In later time, those joining as lay Brothers followed advanced courses appropriate to their chosen trade or work and likewise were well-read. That group of Christian Brothers did not wear the cincture as part of their religious garb; nor did they join the community in the recitation of the Latin office in choir but went off separately to pray the rosary. In community the youngest teaching Brother was ranked higher in seniority than even the grand old men, designated lay brothers. Sometimes this group was referred to 'non-teaching Brothers', a title that described what they were not rather than what they were, namely valued co-workers and respected members of the brotherhood...It was not until 1955 that by Roman decree the institutional distinctions concerning lay Brothers were ended...so that all members of the Congregation had equal status no matter what their role.'⁸¹

During the 1950s, as the costs of a growing community increased, a more co-ordinated scheme of self-sufficiency was introduced. This is attested to by building works mentioned in *The Book of Foundations* during this period, but for which no building plans have been located. References to £12,000 spent on the 'laundry', 'garages', 'serving', 'tailoring' and 'printery' in 1957-8 most likely relate, in part, to the restrained Art Deco Style brick additions on the northern side of the original *Mount Royal Stables* and to additions made to the original Laundry Building. These works included:

- The extension and modernisation of the laundry.
- The conversion of an old dairy building into a bakery, which supplied bread to *Mount St. Mary*, Minto and the Community of 18 Brothers at St. Patrick's College (1954-6).
- The opening of a tailoring department to provide suits and religious habits to the Community.⁸²
- Extensions to the garages in 1957-8 to provide a machinery shop and printery.

The vegetable garden was removed from behind the *Barron Chapel* at around this time. Thereafter, dairy products and vegetables were produced at Minto, until that property was sold in 1969.

⁸⁰ D.M. Stewart, *op.cit.*, 2004, p.116.

⁸¹ D.M. Stewart, *op.cit.*, 2004, p.116.

⁸² Dates for these works vary slightly according to sources.

Figures 57 and 58 provide two examples of photographs of the service areas of *Mount St. Mary*.



Figure 57: View from the tower overlooking the vegetable garden and St. Patrick's College

Christian Brothers Archives MTSTMARY 20b.



Figure 58: View of the Old Stable Block (Laundry Building) from Saint Patrick's College prior to the additions of 1957-8.

Christian Brothers Archives MTSTMARY 74c.

3.14 Demolition of *Ovalau* and *Ardross*

Significant changes occurred on the site in the 1960s when two landmark buildings were demolished. *St. Enda's (Ovalau)* was demolished in late 1960 to make way for a new Juniorate and the rubble used to extend the playing fields. Soon after, fire destroyed *St. Josephs (Ardross)* in January 1961 and the remains of the building were demolished.

3.15 Construction of the New Juniorate (*Juvenate*)

The long association of Hennessy, Hennessy & Co. with the site continued into the 1960s when they designed a new Juniorate, now the *St. Edmund's Building*, for the Brothers.

The new building (Figure 59) provided a new hall, science rooms, library, common room and oratory for up to 98 boys. The building was opened and blessed on 22 July, 1962. The Juniorate, or Juvenate as it was renamed, continued to operate on this site until 1975. Of the 2,297 boys who passed through the Juniorate, 67% entered the Novitiate.

The Christian Brothers Archive hold a series of plans for this building dating from 1960 through to the 1990s, that document alterations and additions, including a new geology laboratory, 1968; new first floor common room, 1981; and the fire upgrade carried out in the late 1990s.



Figure 59: The Juvenate, 1962 (?)

Christian Brothers Archives MTSMARY 42d

Figure 60, an aerial photograph taken after the new Juniorate was completed, provides a valuable insight into the general layout and landscaping of the site at this time. With the exception of the line of trees up the original driveway to Mount Royal from Albert Road and the trees along the Barker Road boundary, there is no formality to planting arrangements. The scar left by the demolition of *St. Josephs* is still clearly apparent. The swimming pool and pavilion still stand.



Figure 60: Aerial photograph over the campus in the 1960s.

Mount Saint Mary College, Strathfield, NSW, Handbook, 1969.

3.16 Miscellaneous Alterations and Additions During the 1970s and 1980s

Plans and notes relating to alterations to *Mount Royal* held by the Christian Brothers note the following:

- Alterations to first floor to create a community room in 1967.
- Lowering of ceilings in the upper western wing in 1967.
- Conversion of a wash room near the Chapel into reception rooms in 1967.
- Alterations to the Council Rooms in 1978.

In 1970, internal alterations were carried out to the *Barron Chapel* to provide for changes in liturgy. Included among these works were alterations to the marble altar and a new tabernacle stand, with the work being carried out by the Melcco Brothers.⁸³

During the early 1980s, works were carried out to the handball courts and toilets behind the Juvenile by W. McNamara Pty Ltd. This work included the addition of a portable squash court and enclosing structure. This work appears to have been completed around 1983.⁸⁴

Various references are made to demountable buildings erected during this period, near the service buildings. Council hold some records relating to these buildings that could be investigated further if required.

3.17 The Arrival of Lay Students and Amalgamation to Form the Catholic College of Education

By the early 1970s, the number of students at *Mount St. Mary* was in decline. In 1974, the first male lay students were enrolled in the College on a trial basis. The initial intake of 8 students later expanded to around 50 students.

The introduction of lay students into the previously exclusive domain of the Brothers and Lay Brothers had come about for a number of reasons. Among the most important reasons were the general decline in vocations, leading to a need for lay teachers to staff Catholic schools, and an increasing recognition of the role of the laity in the mission of the Church. Lay students from the country were accommodated in the *Scolasticate*. In 1975, the Diploma in Primary/Junior Secondary Teaching was approved as a course in Advanced Education and in, 1980, a Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Studies (Pastoral Guidance) was introduced.

The establishment of the Higher Education Board of New South Wales and changes to funding structures presented new challenges to the College. Ultimately, the College amalgamated with the Polding College, itself an amalgamation of several teaching colleges, to form the Catholic College of Education, Sydney, in 1982.⁸⁵

The Brothers offered *Mount St. Mary* under licence and without charge to the newly formed College. Many of the courses offered by the College operated out of *Mount St. Mary*. By 1985, there were 375 full time students on the campus and 520 evening students. As a result of increased enrolments and the transfer of staff to the campus, the boarding sections were slowly reduced until, by 1990, there were no longer any boarding students. During this period, the three-year diploma courses offered by the teaching colleges became a Bachelor of Education of four years, with further studies leading to a Masters degree. *Mount St. Mary* offered specialisations in curriculum studies, pastoral guidance and educational leadership.

From the mid 1980s, female students were accepted into undergraduate courses. These developments required changes to buildings. In 1989, for example, Geoffrey Twibill &

⁸³ This work is recorded in plans held by the Christian Brothers Archive (Plan 1732).

⁸⁴ Council and the Christian Brothers Archives hold plans relating to this work.

⁸⁵ For further information on the amalgamation and the events leading up to it refer to D.M. Stewart, op.cit., 2004, pp. 61 onwards.

Associates designed alterations to the *Scolasticate*, now being used entirely as a library, to open up the floor plates. The bedrooms and bathrooms were removed from the upper levels as a result of this work. The building was renamed the *Brother Stewart Building*, and incorporated the *Brother G.C. Davy Library*.

For further information about the experience of lay students at *Mount St. Mary's* refer to D.M. Stewart's history.⁸⁶

Other projects were based at the *Mount St. Mary* campus from time to time, not all organised by the Brothers. During the 1960s, for example, the Catholic College of Education used the *Rice Lecture Theatre* and the former *Juvenate Chapel* for its guidance and career office, while the third floor of the *Scolasticate* was occupied by the Secretariat of the Major Superiors of Religious Sisters. The College later resumed both areas for their own use.⁸⁷

4.0 AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

4.1 Preamble

This section outlines the history of the site from 1992, and the departure of the Christian Brothers, until the present day.

4.2 Planning the University

As the Colleges of Advanced Education grew and offered more senior study programmes, the boundaries between the State's universities and colleges blurred. The Minister for Education resolved the situation by proposing that colleges which met certain criteria in respect to student enrolments and staff qualifications, and which possessed a minimum of three facilities, apply for university status. Other colleges would be required to form an association with existing universities, in effect ceasing to operate as separate entities.

In 1988, the Principal and staff, together with the Council of the Catholic College of Education, decided to develop the College to meet the requirements for consideration as a university. The main obstacle was the insufficient number of enrolments. It was finally resolved that the Catholic colleges should combine to seek university status as a single entity. This process would require the resolution of long-standing local interests and interstate rivalries.

Three years later, in January 1991, the Australian Catholic University opened following the amalgamation of four Catholic tertiary institutions in eastern Australia: the Catholic College of Education Sydney in New South Wales, the Institute of Catholic Education in Victoria, McAuley College of Queensland, and Signadou College of Education in the Australian Capital Territory.⁸⁸ These institutions have their own long histories of education and associations with a variety of religious orders. In NSW alone, these orders include the Christian Brothers, the Dominican Sisters, the Sisters of Charity, the De La Salle Brothers, the Marist Brothers and the Sisters of St. Josephs. Histories of amalgamations, relocations and transfers etc. mean that more than twenty entities contributed to the creation of the University.

Mount St. Mary, previously made available without charge under licence to the Catholic College of Education, was offered on the same basis to the new university. The Christian Brothers continued their contribution by the ongoing provision of teaching staff.

⁸⁶ Refer to pp.40 onwards.

⁸⁷ Dates of occupation not known. See D.M. Stewart, op.cit., 2004, p.120.

⁸⁸ This is further expanded on by D.M. Stewart, op.cit., 2004, pp.123 onwards.

4.3 The Departure of the Christian Brothers and Transfer to the ACU

Negotiations to sell *Mount St. Mary* to the Sydney Archdiocese – on the basis that it be used solely by the University – began in late 1990; the official transfer took place in January 1993.

In 1992, after occupying the site for 84 years, the Christian Brothers vacated *Mount St. Mary*. A Feast Day in honour of the Blessed Virgin was held in the *Barron Chapel* on 15 August, 1992. On 3 September, a final mass was celebrated in the 1908 Chapel and on 14 September, the last Brothers left *Mount St. Mary*. The Provincial Council took up residence in Thames Street, Balmain. In the words of D.M. Stewart:

‘The Brothers’ community and administrative offices had indeed been transferred elsewhere but there remained on site many memorials to the Christian Brothers’ presence and labours. The fine Romanesque chapel is known as the Barron Chapel after the great Jerome Barron while the altar commemorates Brother Ambrose Treacy, the founder of the Australasian province. Then there are buildings or lecture rooms named after others such as the Murray Hall, the Mullen Building, the Marwell Building, the McGlade, Duffy and Hanrahan lecture rooms, while Davy is associated with the Dan Stewart Library. There are of course many others whose names are worthy of special remembrance but who are not acknowledged publicly...

Brothers and former students still like to return to Mount Saint Mary, to enjoy its beauty, its peace and to savor again something of the spirit that hopefully inspires the staff and students to whom has been entrusted a rich tradition that is now part of the Australian Catholic University.

The Christian Brothers’ Training College, later to become Mount Saint Mary College of Education, and then a campus of Catholic Education College, Sydney, had with pride become an important constituent of Australian Catholic University. The Christian Brothers had played their part in its foundation and continued to support it through the provision of some experienced staff and membership of the Senate and Chapter. When a Chair of Educational Leadership was to be established they gave generous financial support for that purpose.⁸⁹

Responsibility for the operation of the site was officially transferred to the Australian Catholic University on 7 January, 1993. At the later reopening of the re-furbished *Mount Royal/ Mount St. Mary*, renamed the *Edmund Rice Building*, in July 1993, the Provincial of the Christian Brothers summarised the significance of the site to the Brothers:

‘...the institution (*Mount St. Mary*) that has shaped and set some 3,000 of us on the road to a life of education of and service to the youth of this country. *Mount St. Mary* has become a symbol of nurture and support, of stability and fidelity for Christian Brothers and their associates who accepted the challenge of considerable involvements in Catholic Education – in this country over the last 150 years.’⁹⁰

4.4 New Building Works

ACU Strathfield is one of six ACU campuses Australia wide. The University continues to upgrade the campus. Major works undertaken since 1993 include a substantial addition to the Seniorate, now the Brother Stewart Library (architect: Twibill Quinn O’Hanlon, 1994); a substantial addition to the *Mullens Building*, comprising the *Gleeson Auditorium and Lecture Rooms* (Twibill Quinn O’Hanlon, 1995); and the construction of the *Biomechanics Building* (Bates Smart, 2005).

⁸⁹ *Ibid*, p.128.

⁹⁰ Cited in D.M. Stewart, *op. cit.*, 2004, p. 129.

According to their website, the Strathfield Campus (*Mount St. Mary*) hosts more than 3,600 students, including over 100 international students. and offers the following programmes:

- Undergraduate: Arts; Exercise Science; Marketing; Social Work; Teaching; Theology and Philosophy; Visual Arts.
- Postgraduate: Arts; Education; Educational Leadership; Religious Education; Research Degrees; Social Work; Teaching.⁹¹

A Master Plan is currently being prepared by Hassell to guide the future development of the campus, giving rise to this HIS.

5.0 SCHOOL OF EXERCISE SCIENCE

5.1 Preamble

Section 5.0 outlines the history of the site now the School of Exercise Science in Albert Road.

This site shares a common history with the Main Campus from 1788 until the subdivisions that followed the *Bates Estate Act in the 1880s*.

Note: A full title search has not been carried out for this site.

5.2 Clewer

5.2.1 The Gentleman's Residence

Early nineteenth and twentieth century surveys reveal that a villa, known as *Clewer*, was erected on this site following Todman and von der Heyde's subdivision of the early 1880s. *Clewer* is first listed in *Sands' Directories* in 1889, suggesting a construction date of 1888 or the immediately preceding years. The first occupant was Donald Vernon, Secretary for the Railways. Figure 61 shows the footprint of the dwelling on the site.

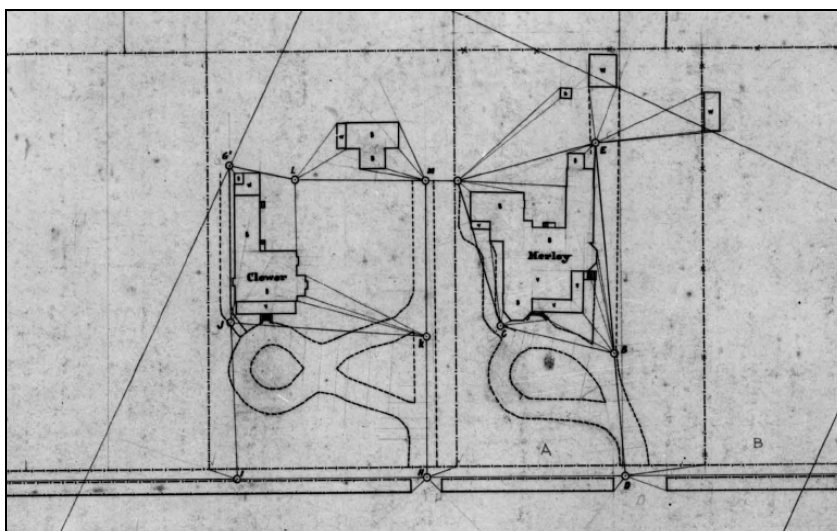


Figure 61: PWD Survey, Strathfield, Sheet No. 23 (detail), 1894, showing *Clewer* on the left hand side).

Sydney Water Plan Room; annotations in red by Weir Phillips.

⁹¹ http://www.acu.edu.au/about_acu/our_campuses/strathfield_campus/

Donald Vernon was last listed at *Clewer* in the *Sands' Directory* of 1893, two years after his death in 1891. In 1894, the listing is for Mrs. F. S. Ellis; Mrs. D. Vernon is listed in 1895. Thereafter, few occupants stayed more than five years: George Smith (1895-6), W. Sandford (1898), W. Harrigon (1899-1902), Charles W. Schrader (1903-1905; house renamed *Marlwood*), Mrs. Elizabeth Cox (1907) and Frederick Nash (1908-9).

In 1909, *Clewer* was offered for lease or sale. The advertisement in *The Sydney Morning Herald* described it as a 'gentleman's family residence', with 'three reception rooms, six bedrooms, telephone and every convenience, 2 acres ground, brick stables, coach house, feed room, man's rms, l. court [presumably lawn court], c. court [presumably croquet court]'.⁹²

Whether the estate sold at this time has not been determined. Between 1910 and 1914, *Sands' Directories* list the occupant as Alfred J. Rabone and in 1915 and 1916 as Edward

In 1916, the property was again offered for sale or lease. In this year it was described as a 'very superior residence', comprising:

'...nine large rooms, kitchen, sleeping-out accommodation, and all conveniences, 10 mins from train, 1 ½ acres of land, prettily laid out in gardens, lawns, croquet and tennis court, also fruit trees and kitchen garden, coach house or garage. The cheapest property ever offered in the district.'⁹³

Clewer becomes difficult to identify in *Sands' Directories* after this time. The name is no longer recorded by the directory and the pattern of residences along the road change.

No photographs of *Clewer* have been found during the period in which it was a private residence.

5.2.2 Miss Eileen Cullen's Nursing Home

In 1936, Miss Eileen Cullen leased *Clewer* and established a nursing home, initially with sixteen patients. As the number of patients grew, the original dwelling was extended and makeshift huts erected within the grounds. Figures 62 and 63 provide two undated photographs of *Clewer* from this period, showing the gradual alterations and additions carried out to the villa. Figure 64 demonstrates that the villa was still surrounded by extensive grounds in the early 1940s.



Figure 62: Undated photograph of *Clewer*.

⁹² 'Strathfield- good high position', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 1 December, 1909.

⁹³ 'Strathfield to let or for sale', *The Sydney Morning Herald*, 26 May, 1916.