



**HERITAGE
COUNCIL**
OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REGISTER OF HERITAGE PLACES PERMANENT ENTRY

1. **DATA BASE No.** 02396
2. **NAME** *Administration Building and Chapel, Aquinas College*
(1937; 1965-66; 1967; 1998)
3. **LOCATION** 58 Mt Henry Rd, Salter Point
4. **DESCRIPTION OF PLACE INCLUDED IN THIS ENTRY**
Portion of Lot 18 on Plan 3383 being part of the land contained in Certificate of Title Volume 1550 Folio 176 as defined on Heritage Council of Western Australia Survey Drawing No. 2396 prepared by Midland Survey Services.
5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA** City of South Perth
6. **OWNER** Trustees of the Christian Brothers in Western Australia
Incorporated
7. **HERITAGE LISTINGS**
 - Register of Heritage Places: Interim Entry 22/06/2010
Permanent Entry 17/12/2010
 - National Trust Classification: -----
 - Town Planning Scheme: Aquinas College 25/09/1986
 - Municipal Inventory: Aquinas College 14/11/2000
 - Register of the National Estate: -----
8. **CONSERVATION ORDER**

9. **HERITAGE AGREEMENT**

10. **STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Administration Building and Chapel, Aquinas College, comprising the three-storey brick and tile Inter War Gothic style Administration Building (1937; 1967; 1998) and single-storey stone and concrete Late Twentieth Century Organic style Chapel (1966), sited amongst a complex of school buildings, landscaped gardens, playing fields and bushland on the bank of the Canning River, has cultural heritage significance for the following reasons:

the place was established from 1937 as an expansion of the Perth school run by the Christian Brothers, who were a significant contributor

to education in the State from 1894 through the twentieth century, especially for Catholic boys;

the Chapel is a rare and excellent example of a Late Twentieth Century Organic style church in Western Australia, featuring innovative use of traditional materials and a curved form and design to complement the natural setting;

the Administration Building is a substantial example of Inter War Gothic style architecture, featuring a landmark central tower, pinnacles, belvedere and parapeted gables to the skyline, arched three-storey verandahs, well articulated vertical elements and white accents against red face brickwork;

the Administration Building, a distinctive landmark visible from vantage points from across the Canning River, was designed by Michael Cavanagh of the prominent architectural firm Cavanagh & Cavanagh, and is a rare example of the firm designing in the Inter War Gothic style;

the place demonstrates the educational philosophy of the Christian Brothers, in which sporting activities and a non-urban environment were considered major contributors to appropriate character development for boys, and their commitment to Catholic religious guidance for their students;

the Chapel was one of the first Catholic buildings constructed in Western Australia in response to the impact of liturgical changes arising from the Second Vatican Council of 1962-65, with its form and plan implementing the Council's theological emphases on inclusiveness in worship;

the Chapel is a rare example of a building using red Mount Barker stone, as the stone had a limited distribution and is no longer quarried; and,

the Chapel and 1967 additions to the Administration Building were designed by architectural firm Henderson and Thompson.

The following buildings complete the campus of Aquinas College but have not been considered as part of this assessment: Chaplain's Residence (1954), Murphy Humanities Wing (1955), McKenna Science Block (1962), Junior School (1963), Redmond Learning Centre (1976), Gymnasium (1980s), Mary Kerr Arts Centre (1980s), Perrot Mathematics & ICT Wing, Design & Technology Building, three boarding houses (1986-87), Hughes Dining Hall, staff housing, a boathouse, playing fields and courts, sports pavilions and several maintenance buildings.