

Australian National University

Acton Campus — Site Inventory



Item/ Area	John XXIII College and Chapel
Acton Campus Precinct	DICKSON Precinct
Building Nos. & Names	51 (John XXIII College), The Chapel of St John the Evangelist

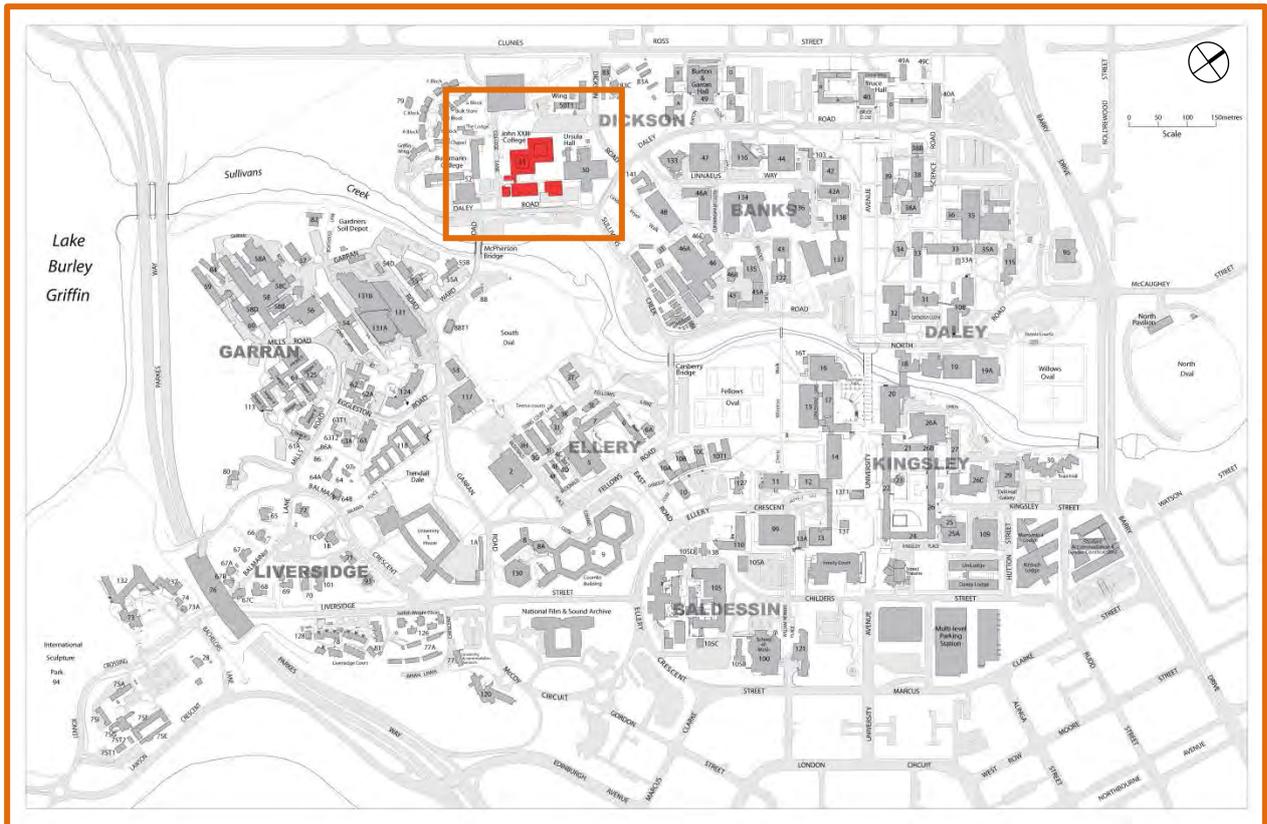


Figure 1: Location of study area within the ANU Acton Campus site.

Heritage Ranking	51 (John XXIII College)— Moderate —meets criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List The Chapel of St John the Evangelist— Moderate —meets criteria for Commonwealth Heritage List
Heritage Listing	John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel are not individually listed on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL).
Condition—Date	The condition noted here is at February 2012. Both John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel are in good condition and are well maintained as student accommodation for the campus.
Relevant Documentation	There is no current relevant documentation prepared for John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel

Context of the Buildings

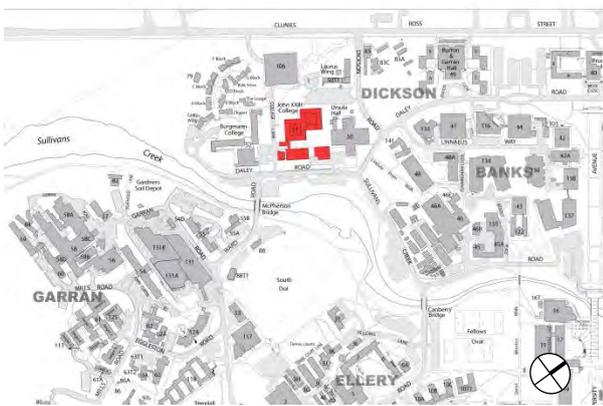


Figure 2: John XXIII College in the context of the Dickson Precinct to the west of Sullivan's Creek.

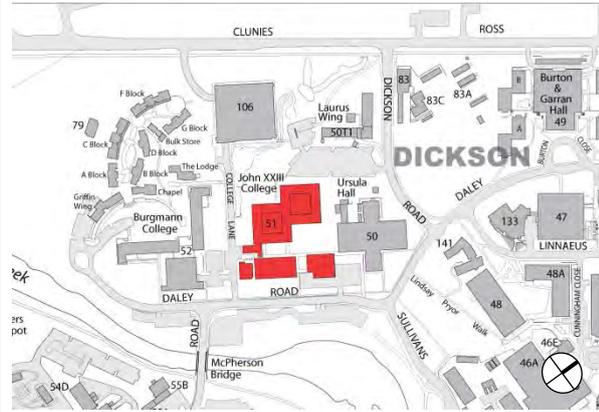


Figure 3: John XXIII College in relation to Burgmann College to the south and Ursula Hall to the west.

Brief Historical Overview

The John XXIII College is owned by the Catholic Dominican Order and was designed by Kevin J Curtin and Partners Architects. Construction was completed in 1969 and coincided with the completion and opening of the Chapel of St John the Evangelist. This was the first chapel on the campus. A second chapel was constructed later on the Burgmann College site.

The Site was opened by the Honourable Malcolm Fraser, MP, and federal Minister for Education and Sciences. The college was initially a male only residence and the college began its good reputation for sporting achievements within the ANU sporting community.

In 1976 the College experimented with the admission of female residents. This was considered a success and a co-residential policy was adopted. 1993 saw significant internal upgrades to the residence and the college continues to produce high achieving alumni for the University.

Summary Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

Statement of Significance

John XXIII College was the only Catholic operated men's college on campus. The St John the Evangelist Chapel was also the first religious building on campus.

Criteria	Brief Assessment
<p>(a) Historic The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance in the course, or pattern, of Australia's natural or cultural history.</p>	<p>John XXIII College was one of the original affiliated colleges on the ANU Campus and was the only Catholic operated men's college on campus. The St John the Evangelist Chapel was also the first religious building on campus, and demonstrates the ANU's commitment to providing all types of student services on the campus.</p> <p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel meet criterion (a) for historic values.</p> <p>Attributes The buildings and their early establishment.</p>
<p>(b) Rarity The place has significant heritage values because of the place's possession of uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of Australia's natural or cultural history.</p>	<p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel do not meet CHL criteria (b) for rarity values.</p>
<p>(c) Scientific The place has significant heritage value because of the place's potential to yield information that will contribute to an understanding of Australia's natural or cultural history.</p>	<p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel do not meet CHL criteria (c) for scientific values.</p>
<p>(d) Representative The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance in demonstrating the principal characteristics of: A class of Australia's natural or cultural places; or A class of Australia's natural or cultural environments.</p>	<p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel not meet CHL criteria (d) for representative values.</p>

Summary Significance Assessment against the Commonwealth Heritage criteria

<p>(e) Aesthetic The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance in exhibiting particular aesthetic characteristics valued by a community or cultural group.</p>	<p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel not meet CHL criteria (e) for aesthetic values.</p>
<p>(f) Creative/Technical The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance in demonstrating a high degree of creative or technical achievement at a particular period.</p>	<p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel not meet CHL criteria (f) for creative/technical values.</p>
<p>(g) Social The place has significant heritage value because of the place's strong or special association with a particular community or cultural group for social, cultural or spiritual reasons.</p>	<p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel not meet CHL criteria (g) for social values.</p>
<p>(h) Associative The place has significant heritage value because of the place's special association with the life or works of a person, or group of persons, of importance in Australia's natural and cultural history.</p>	<p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel not meet CHL criteria (h) for associative values.</p>
<p>(i) Indigenous The place has significant heritage value because of the place's importance as part of Indigenous tradition.</p>	<p>The John XXIII College and St John the Evangelist Chapel not meet CHL criteria (i) for Indigenous values.</p>

Photographs



Figure 9: Front Entrance of John XXIII College. (Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:John_xxiii_college_at_anu.jpg 2011)



Figure 10: View of the main entrance to St John the Evangelist Chapel. (Source: ANU Heritage Office 2012)



Figure 11: Interior of St John the Evangelist Chapel, John XXIII College. (Source: <http://www.ohfa.org.au/organs/organs/ANU.html>. Image by Trevor Bunning, June 2006)



Figure 12: View of the Pipe Organ, St John the Evangelist Chapel, John XXIII College. (Source: <http://www.ohfa.org.au/organs/organs/ANU.html>. Image by Trevor Bunning, June 2006).

Management Issues

Constraints and Opportunities

Constraints arise from the identified heritage values of John XXIII College and Chapel and the requirement under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cwth)* (EPBC Act) to conserve them. The significant fabric of John XXIII College, as indicated in the attributes above, should be conserved wherever possible.

The **Tolerance for Change** heritage management tool, outlined in Section 7.6 of the ANU Action Campus Heritage Study 2012, will assist in conserving heritage values through a process of change. John XXIII College is able to tolerate a moderate level of change through development whereby the historic attributes and characteristics are conserved and interpreted.

Opportunities arise from the identified heritage values of John XXIII College. These values should be interpreted. A greater degree of change may be tolerated if interpretation is of a very high quality and considered in any future development, which presents the identified heritage values for the future.



Recommendations

If development resulting in loss of significant fabric is proposed, interpretation and a heritage impact assessment would be a prerequisite according to EPBC Act requirements.

Photographic recording for the ANU archives should be undertaken prior to any potential loss of significant fabric, buildings or landscaping in any future development.

A formal assessment of the aesthetic and social values of the buildings should be carried out.
