

BUILDING TITLE: Hamilton & Western District College **BUILDING ADDRESS:** Chaucer Street
LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE: A |X| B || C || D || E || **BUILDING TYPE:**
DESIGNATION: HBR Reg No File # 60 1571 6 **AHC File #** **NT File #** **Class** || **Rec** ||
CONSERVATION AREA: outside **LEVEL OF STREETScape SIGNIFICANCE:** 1 || 2 || 3 ||
STYLE: Conservative Classical

CONSTRUCTION DATE & ALTERATIONS:

1. 1871
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Sources:

1. Garden, D, Hamilton, p 90.

MATERIALS:

Roof: corrugated iron
Walls: rendered & face brick
Dressings: cement render
Plinth: rock face bluestone
Windows: timber dhs
Paving: asphalt
Other: timber bracketed eaves
timber gables on
side wings

SURVEY DATE: 3/5/91 **NEG FILE:** 5/0-2 & 5-6 **REPORTER:** tfh

INTEGRITY: E |X| G || F || P || **NOTABLE FEATURES:** Mannerist pediment over front door and tower
with bellcast roof.

CONDITION: E |X| G || F || P ||

SIGNIFICANCE: Significant as the best example the architects', Elleker & Kilburn, work in Hamilton but also as the educational focus of both the town and the country. Landmark building with its tower.

ALTERATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:

Appropriate: **Rec** **Inappropriate:** **Rec**
none apparent render has been painted on side wings
cement render should not be painted

O=reinstate original design S=reinstate sympathetic alternative R=remove RAM=remove by approved method

SIGNIFICANT OWNERS/TENANTS: **ARCHITECTS/BUILDERS:** **TITLE:**
land to T M Kellar, 8/7/70 W H Elleker **Sec** **CA**
50 1 (only)
Hamilton & WD College

COUNCIL COMPUTER #

MORE INFO OVER |X|

HAMDS104

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Hamilton and Western District College
Chaucer St

Of state significance, the Hamilton and Western District College is the most important of the three private schools in Hamilton. It was set up to and still serves not just the town but much of the Western District for both primary and secondary education. This is reflected in the names of the directors and trustees who have run the school since 1870. ⁽ⁱ⁾ The school has had a close connection with the Presbyterian Church again reflecting the strong Scottish background of many people in the Western District but is now non-denominational. From the beginning the school strived for excellence which was recognized as early as 1888. ⁽ⁱⁱ⁾

The College has amalgamated with its sister school, Alexandra College. Both original buildings were designed by the leading Melbourne architects, W H Elleker. As with Alexandra College, their original design was never completed with the end pavilions and their bay windows being replaced by smaller wings. The former was described as "Early Italian" in style and this is suggested in the detailing of the Hamilton College not so much in the facade as the side wings. The English born William Henry Elleker trained in Melbourne under Messrs Kemp, Knight and Kerr, one of the most important early architectural firms. ⁽ⁱⁱⁱ⁾ The eminence of their private and commercial clients, shows how well connected and successful Elleker and his later partner E G Kilburn became. ^(iv)

The school has been extended and altered sympathetically. It remains significantly intact and in excellent condition. It is a landmark building for Hamilton. ^(v)

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC THEMES

Education: Primary and secondary schools
Religion: Presbyterianism
Squatting: Pastoralists
Evolution of the Town: 1870s - 1990s

ASSOCIATED HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Alexandra College, Brown St/ Milton St (same architect)
Myrniong (Alexandra College), Hensley park Road

REFERENCES

Garden, D, *Hamilton*, North Melbourne, 1984.
Sutherland, A, *Victoria & Its Metropolis*, Vol 11A & B, 1888 & reprinted.
Dept of Planning & Housing File No 60 1571 6.

FOOTNOTES

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- ⁱ Garden, D, *Hamilton*, p 90.
ⁱⁱ *Victoria & Its Metropolis*, Vol 11A, p 58.
ⁱⁱⁱ The front door of the College should be compared with Knight & Kerr's Mannerist entrance to D'Estaville, 7 Barry St, Kew of 1858.
^{iv} *Victoria & Its Metropolis*, Vol 11B, p 516.
^v Its tower more than any other vantage point has always been popular with photographers.