

HARTLEY BUILDING

Adelaide College of Advanced Education

Kintore Avenue

Map reference: Park Lands No. 22 (PL22)

The Hartley Building was constructed specifically for use as a teachers' training college to replace earlier facilities in Grote Street (see SW4), the University of Adelaide (see PL25#28) and the Mounted Police Barracks (see PL16). It is a rare example of the Spanish Mission style in the city.

Built at the beginning of the Depression, the Public Works Department designed a building which in ' . . . the late 1920s were the years of high fashion for the Spanish look'. Robin Boyd wrote that the Spanish look was ' . . . perhaps the strongest single influence in twentieth century stylism'. He also stated that in Australia the Spanish Mission style can be attributed to Professor Lesley Wilkinson of the University of Sydney. The style according to David Dolan was popular with public educational institutions and was used, for example, for arcaded buildings at the University of Western Australia in 1929, at Prince Alfred College in Adelaide, and Moore Theological College in Sydney. The style was also popular with the Roman Catholic Church which built schools and churches in this fashion throughout Australia as well as in parts of the United States of America.

The first training institution for teachers began in Grote Street in 1876. Recruitment in the form of pupil teachers came mainly from the Advanced Schools for Girls which in 1890 had premises built alongside the training school (see SW3).

The three schools in Grote Street which comprised the primary school, training school and the Advanced School for Girls, amalgamated in 1899 to become Adelaide High School. The ' . . . training of teachers was taken over by the University in 1900'. The 'University Training College' operated from ' . . . merely one room and minimal office accommodation within the University. Under this new system teacher training became a six year course with two years each at the Pupil Teachers' School, in practical teaching and at University'. Student teachers were housed at the University of Adelaide until 1920 when the teachers' training college once more ' . . . became a separate entity'. This time the college was relocated in the Mounted Police Barracks building where, as it turned out, conditions were grim.

The principal of the college Dr A.J. Schulz wrote that ' . . . although the spirit of an institution is more important than its material fabric' the plain facts were ' . . . the college was housed in delapidated premises, the most ill equipped institution of its kind in the whole of Australia.' He reported that the premises were hot in summer, cold in winter and with damp rising 3 feet up the walls. There was no assembly hall and no room in which students could socialise. Drinking facilities were a series of taps arranged over horse troughs and there was not even an apology for a library.

Demanding new premises he felt that ' . . . there was no doubt that there emanates from noble buildings an influence, silent, yet powerful and enduring, elevating and refining the mind and character'.

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The college celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on 8 July 1928 in its new buildings. Just one year before on 21 March 1927 the new college building had its opening ceremony of which Schulz proudly reported ' . . . there can be no doubt that beautiful architecture and suitable material environment in general are matters of potent influence for good on the minds and characters, especially of young people.'

This building is a strong visual element with robustly handled massing and quality detailing. Expressing the Spanish Mission style, use is made of semicircular headed windows, large shady veranda, prospect towers, wide eaves with scalloped exposed rafters and terracotta tile-clad roof of medium pitch. The rendered wall surface featuring a subtle rain-shed at its base contrasts well with the monolithic appearance of the bluestone plinth. A distinctive building, well designed and executed, it is a major contribution to the Kintore Avenue streetscape.

Retaining much of its originality, additions have been made at the rear as part of the adjacent multi-storey development.

Boyd, R., Australia's home, 1952, pp. 93#4; Dolan, D., 'Spanish Mission: California to Australia' in Heritage Australia, Spring 1987, pp. 32#5; MLSA, Historical photographs; Miller, P., Long division: state schooling in South Australian society, 1986, p. 125; SAPP, No. 44, Report of the principal of the Teachers' Training College by Dr A.J. Schulz in Report of the Minister of Education for years 1924, p. 35, 1925, p. 23, 1927, p. 26, 1929, pp. 27#8, 1932, p. 24; Thiele, C., Grains of mustard seed, 1975, pp. 63, 144.

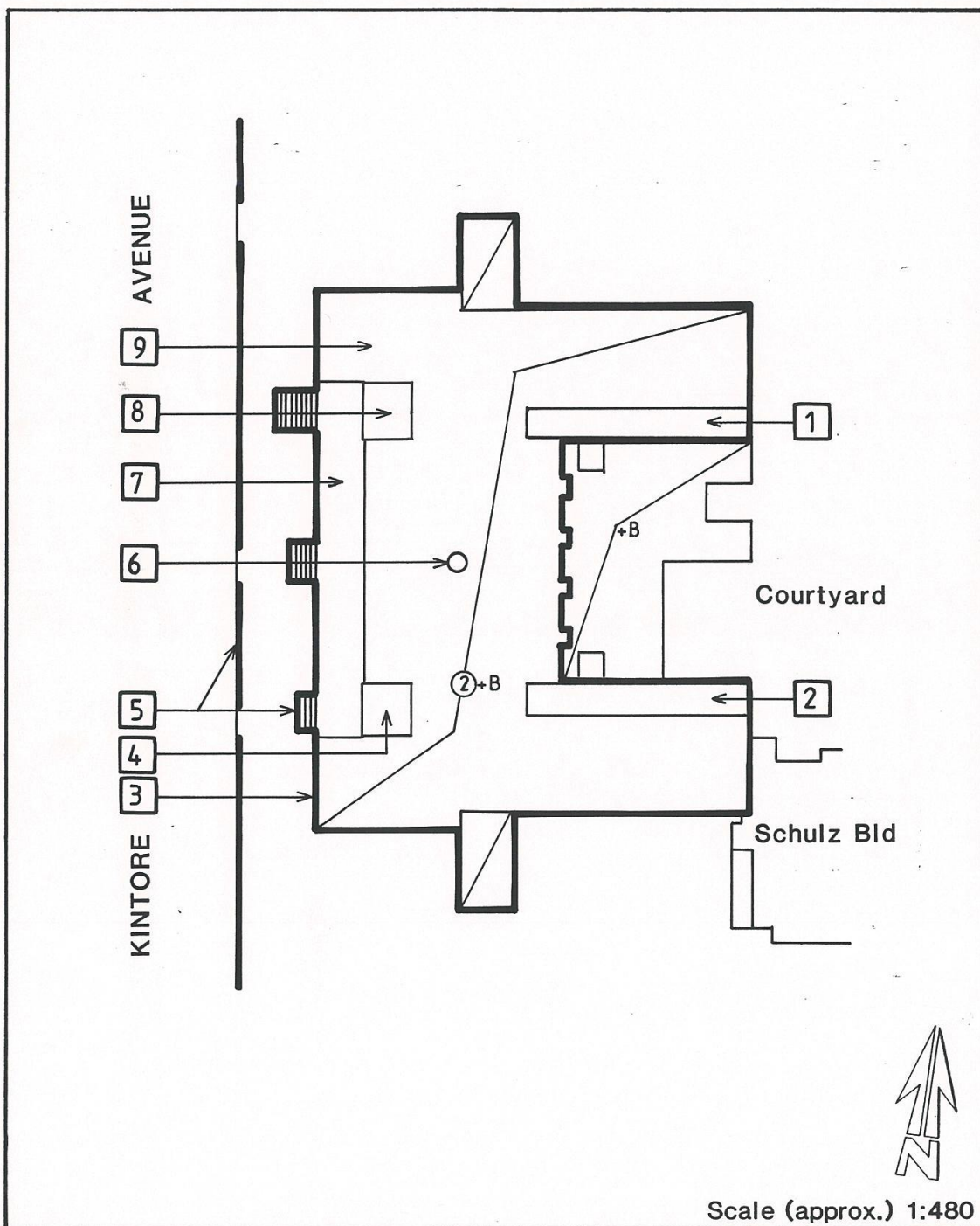


CITY OF ADELAIDE HERITAGE STUDY

The City Heritage Register-Definition of Items

Prepared by the Dept. of Planning and Development

Item	HARTLEY BUILDING (C.A.E.)	Building No
Address	Kintore Avenue (Pk. 12,15)	121501





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