

C. Ownership, Governance and Management of Mary MacKillop Place

Ownership	Mary MacKillop Place is within the legal entity (under The Roman Catholic Church Communities’ Lands Act 1942 No 23) known as the Trustees of the Sisters of St Joseph. The ownership is exercised through the Congregational leader and her Council who is accountable to the Congregation for the mission of the Congregation.
Governance	Mary MacKillop Place is governed by a Board which has been delegated authority by the Congregational Leader. The Board, through the Chair, is accountable to the Congregational Leader and Council for the mission of Mary MacKillop Place. The Board understands that the Congregational Leader holds reserved powers in the areas of mission, chapel and liturgy, Motherhouse, human resource and financial resources.
Management	Mary MacKillop Place is managed by the Director of Mary MacKillop Place Mission. The Director of Mary MacKillop Place Mission is accountable to the Board for the mission and operation of Mary MacKillop Place.

D. Role of the Board

The purpose of the Board, on behalf of the Congregational Leader and Council is to ensure that Mary MacKillop Place

1. Carries out the Vision articulated for the mission of MMP
2. Articulates and gives life to the mission statement of Mary MacKillop Place
3. Plans strategically for the future of Mary MacKillop Place
4. Operates in accordance with the powers reserved to the Congregational Leader and Council
5. Acts as stewards and custodians of the mission and resources of MMP
6. Forms itself in the charism and mission of Mary MacKillop and delegates such formation of staff to the Director
7. Honours the Memorandum of Understanding between the Trustees of the Sisters of St Joseph and Mary MacKillop Place

The Board is to represent the Congregational Leader and Council in determining and monitoring the appropriate performance of Mary MacKillop Place with regard to its mission and operation.

The Board will form the link between the Congregational Leader and Council and Mary MacKillop Place.

The Board will determine and review policies needed for governance in the areas of:

- a. Executive Limitations giving the Director of Mary MacKillop Place the freedom to manage the mission
- b. Governance Process specifying how the Board carries out and monitors its role and way of operating
- c. Board – Director of Mary MacKillop Place Linkage noting how the Board and the management of Mary MacKillop Place relate, respect authority of each and ensure accountability.

E. Board Appointments

Board members are appointed by the Congregational Leader for a term of three years, renewable for a further three years.

The Chair of the Board is appointed by the Congregational Leader for a term of three years, renewable for a further three years.

The Deputy Chair of the Board is decided by the Board.

F. Reserve Powers

The Congregational Leader and Council’s ultimate responsibility in governance is exercised through their reserved powers for the promotion of the Mission of the Sisters of St Joseph. The Congregational Leader holds the following overriding reserved powers to ensure faithfulness to the Mission.

Mission

The right to interpret and determine the Mission of the Sisters of St Joseph as carried out in Mary MacKillop Place including

- a. What is told in the story of Mary MacKillop and the living out of that story today
- b. What is made available from Archives for use by Mary MacKillop Place
- c. The right to ensure the significance of Mary MacKillop Place to the Nation and the Church
- d. The right to ratify all mission and values statements of Mary MacKillop Place and their revision
- e. The right to approve any new directions or significant changes to the expression of the Congregational leadership Team’s vision for Mary MacKillop Place
- f. The right to carry out a sponsorship review of Mary MacKillop Place

Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel and Liturgy

- g. The right to establish principles for liturgical celebrations and devotional practices consistent with the vision of Church of Vatican II and the mission emphases of current Chapters of the Sisters of St Joseph
- h. The right to priority in use of the Chapel for Congregational celebrations including professions, Jubilees and funerals and visits to the tomb
- i. The right to make any changes to the arrangement of the Chapel or remove any items from the Chapel

Mother House

- j. The right to retain the Mother House of the Congregation and the Congregational Administration Centre on site

Human Resources

- k. The right to appoint a Sister of St Joseph as Director or Assistant Director of Mary MacKillop Place after consultation with the Board
- l. The right to ratify the appointment or termination of the Director or Assistant Director of Mary MacKillop Place should that not be a Sister of St Joseph.
- m. The right to appoint or dismiss the members of the Mary MacKillop Place Board
- n. The right to ratify the appointment of the Priest member of the Ministries Team of Mary MacKillop Place

Financial Resources

- o. The right to approve the capital and operational budgets of Mary MacKillop Place;
- p. The right to the titles and ownership of all the property and assets as spelt out in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Congregational Leader and Mary MacKillop Place.
- q. The right to approve building development including internal renovations on the Sisters of St Joseph property.

G. Financial Stewardship

The Board approves financial statements and budgets of Mary MacKillop Place before passing on to the Congregational Leader and Council.

The Congregation will continue to fund external maintenance of all buildings on site.

The Board seeks to ensure the recurrent funding, including internal maintenance of site and upgrading of facilities for Mary MacKillop Place. The Board seeks sources of future funding for the operation of Mary MacKillop Place.

The Congregational Leader and Council seek funding for future capital development in light of the significance of Mary MacKillop Place as a national shrine and place of pilgrimage to the story and tomb of a canonised saint.

H. Sections of Site Retained

The sections highlighted on the following page are retained by the Congregation and do not form part of Mary MacKillop Place for the purpose of governance and management of the site.

I. Future Governance

The Congregational Leader and Council to set up a task force to explore the most suitable governance structure for Mary MacKillop Place as a national shrine into the future. Results of the task force are expected within 12 months.

B. Motherhouse



Mary MacKillop Place - “Motherhouse” for the Sisters of St Joseph Today

Mary MacKillop Place is, for the Sisters of St Joseph, our *Mother House*. A Decree from Rome dated 25th July 1888 stated that the Mother House of the Congregation was to be moved from Adelaide to Sydney. This location has been called the Mother House since that time.

Mary MacKillop Place or the Mother House stands at the heart of our Josephite patrimony having strong psychological and spiritual connections linking the Sisters today with our roots. It is the physical reminder of Mary MacKillop’s life. The chapel enshrines Mary MacKillop’s tomb and is a significant liturgical and devotional place for Josephites.

In Mary MacKillop Place the Sisters make their first vows and may be missioned to particular Congregational ministries. The Mother House is a special place for Sisters’ renewal, retreat, feastday and jubilee celebrations and funerals. Mary MacKillop Place as the Mother House is home for the Sisters who are resident here and must also provide access to designated and reserved accommodation for Sisters who need to visit the Mother House.

The Mother House is a powerful, pivotal symbol of the founders’ belief that the Institute would best serve the Church through a centralised governance structure. It is from the Mother House that Central Government of the Congregation is carried out. Provincial Leaders and Regional Leaders of the Congregation are authorised from the Mother House and they, in turn, mission Sisters to their particular ministries.

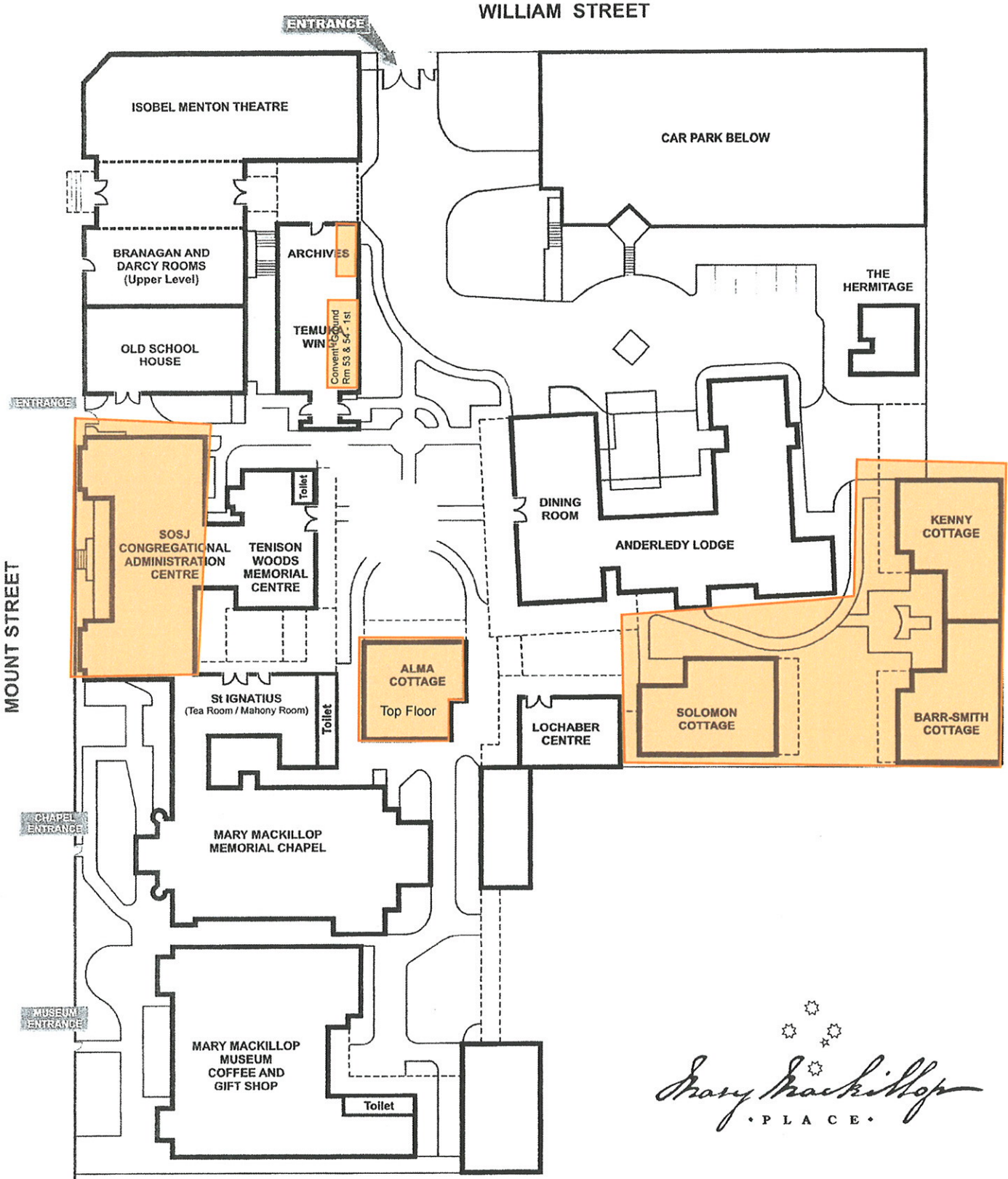
The continuity of the Mother House, as Mary MacKillop Place, is a potent indicator of the unity of the Congregation, its charism and mission.

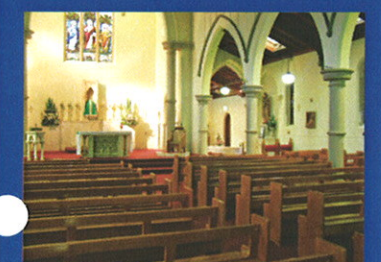
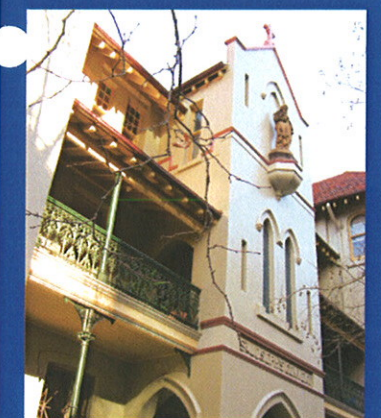
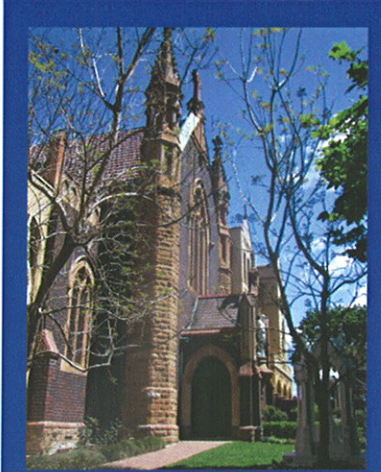
Mary MacKillop Place is a sacred site made so by the traditional owners thousands of years ago and given the name it bears today by Aboriginal members at the Consultation Meeting in March 1991 which revised St Joseph's Convent, North Sydney. The heart of this sacred site today is the Mary MacKillop Memorial Chapel where the Tomb of Blessed Mary MacKillop is located. The canonisation of this significant Australian woman will take this site to a new prominence in the nation and for the universal Church.

A. Vision for Mary MacKillop Place

Mary MacKillop and the Sisters of St Joseph came to this site in 1884. Since their arrival and subsequent ownership of the site, the Mother General, today known as the Congregational Leader, and her Council have been entrusted with the vision and the operation of the site.

At the beginning of the 21st Century, the Leadership Team of the Congregation articulates the vision for Mary MacKillop Place as follows:





Mary MacKillop Place

A Place of Pilgrimage

Board Document
2010