



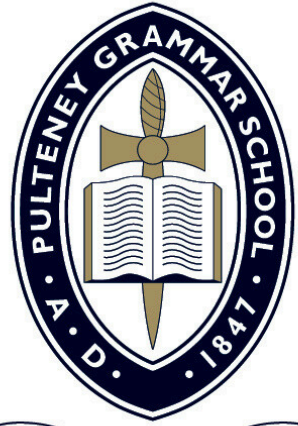
PULTENEY

WHERE
PASSIONS
PROSPER



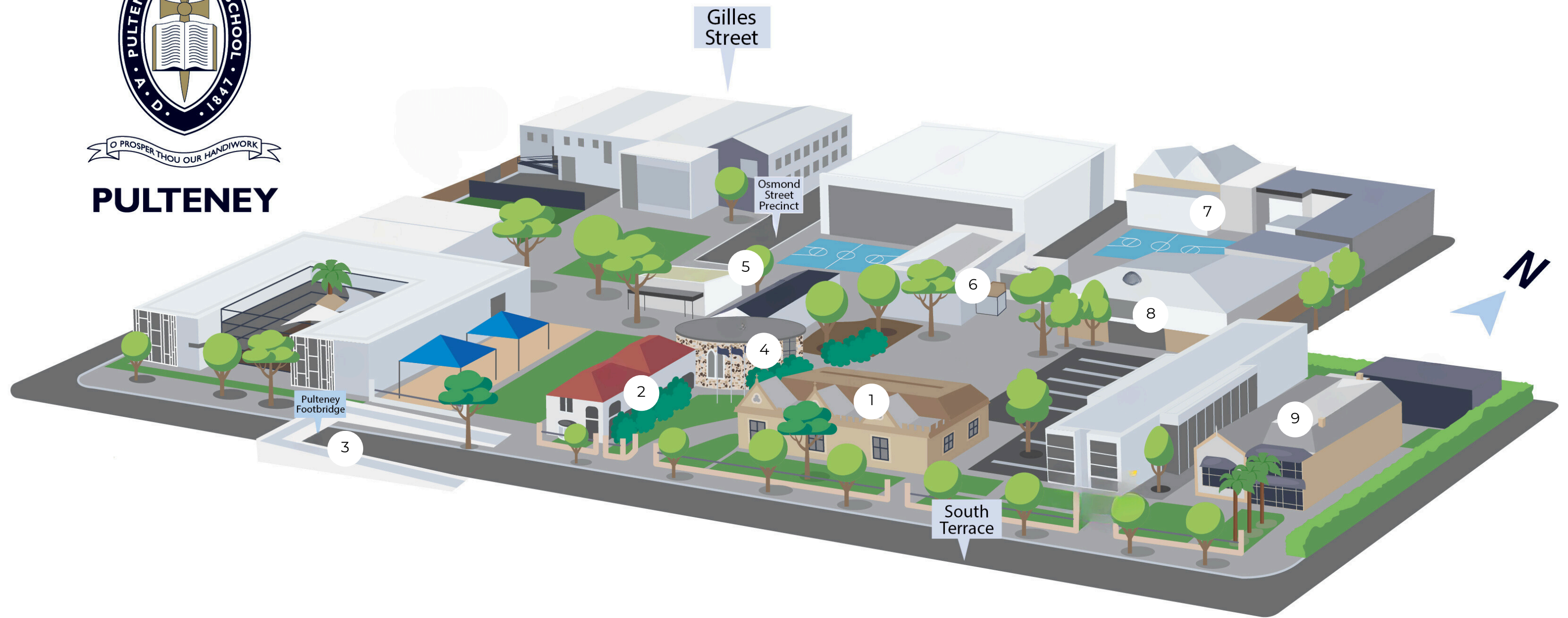
History Walk 2024





O PROSPER THOU OUR HANDIWORK

PULTENEY



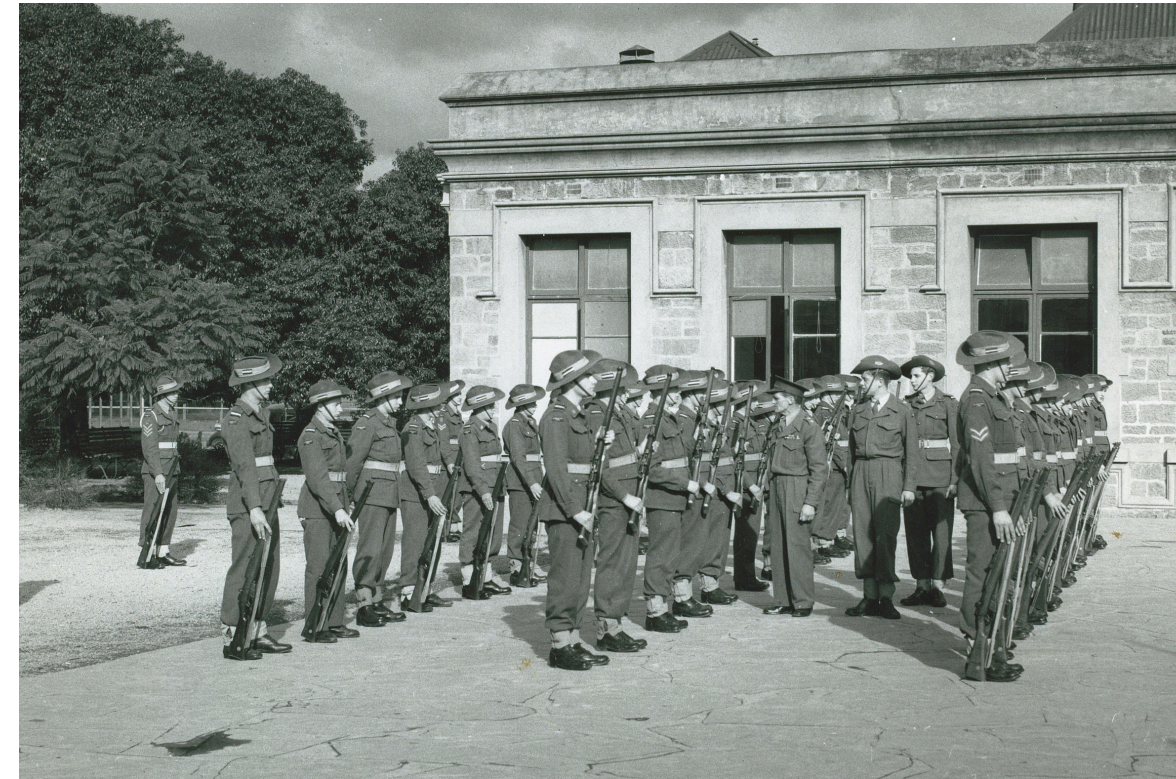
1. Nicholls Wing - 1921

Nicholls Wing was the first building constructed on South Terrace after the School's move from its original site in Pulteney Street. The Foundation stone which you'll find about halfway along the South Terrace frontage of the building was laid by the Governor of South Australia Sir William Ernest George Archibald Weigall. It was built as a War Memorial to Old Scholars of Pulteney who had served during WWI. The architect and builder was Walter Torode who was an Old Scholar of the School. Torode was already a respected architect in Adelaide having built the spires of St Peters Cathedral, The Queen Victoria Hospital, The Cross of Sacrifice at North Adelaide and Ruthven Mansions in Pulteney Street. The building cost 5424 pounds, equivalent to \$575,000 today, quite a cheap building. It was completed in time to be opened for Remembrance Day 1921.

Now move to the Quad side of the building.



The opening of Nicholls Building in 1921.



As you can see from the 1952 photo of Pulteney's Army Cadet Unit, and the Football team photo in the Quad, the building was originally only single storey, the upper floor being added in 1972.

The building was originally known as Main Wing but changed to Nicholls Building to honour the Schools longest serving Headmaster, William Percival Nicholls, also an Old Scholar of Pulteney, who served in the role from 1901 to 1942.



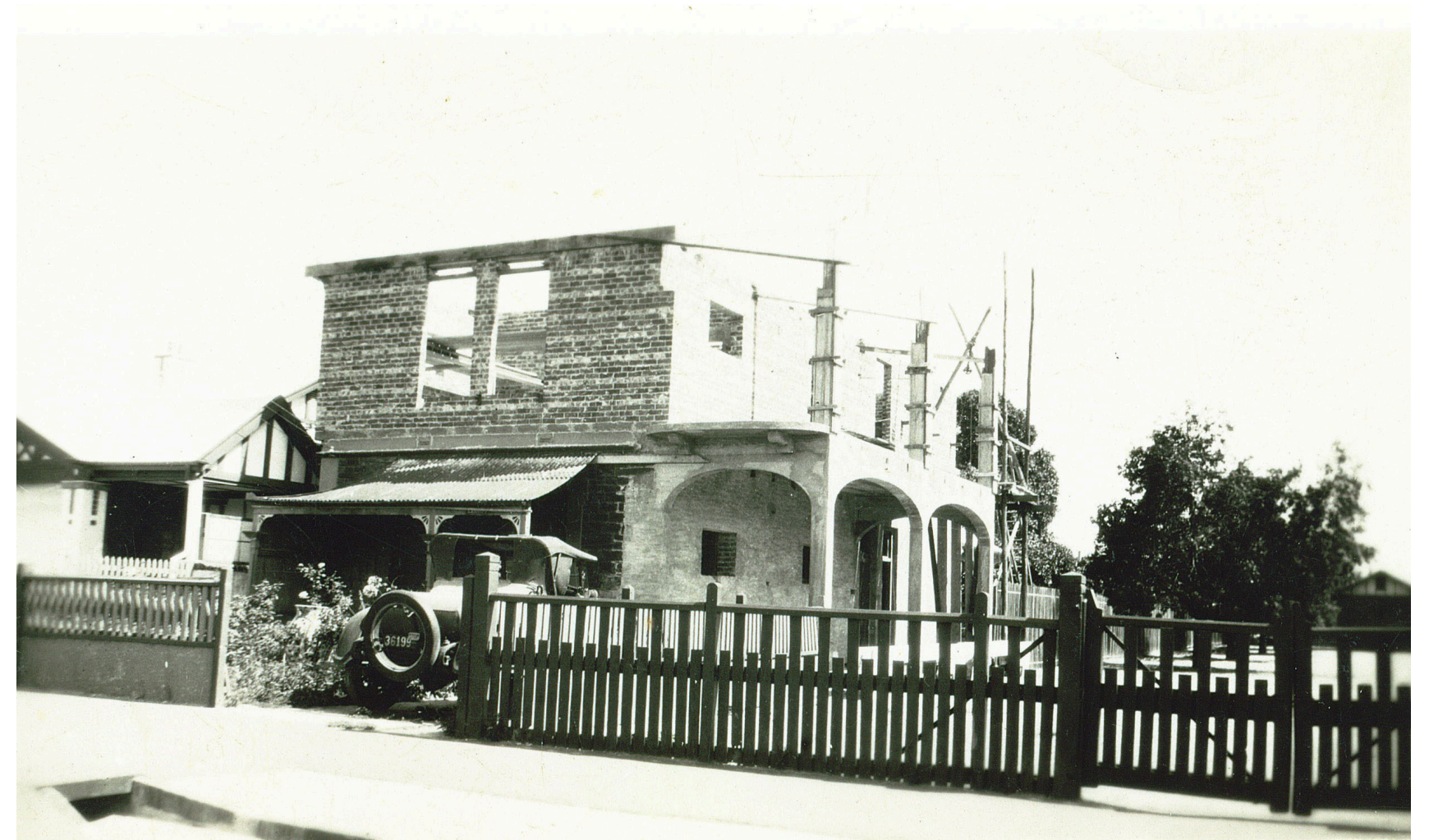
WP Nicholls



Q What do you notice about the students in the photos?

2. Ray Wing - 1955

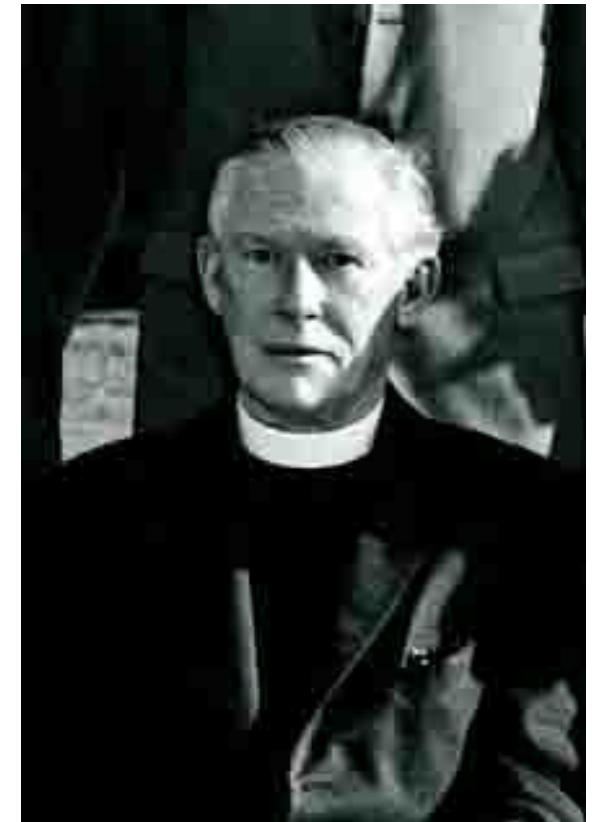
In 1955 the School purchased a small cottage at 190 South Terrace, the photos show the conversion of this building to create much needed junior classrooms on the ground floor and a Headmaster's residence on the upper floor.





The building was later named Ray Wing to honour Canon WR Ray who led the school from 1947 to 1972. Canon Ray is widely credited with saving the School in the lean post WWII era, building our enrolments from 162 boys in 1947 to 1056 in his final year.

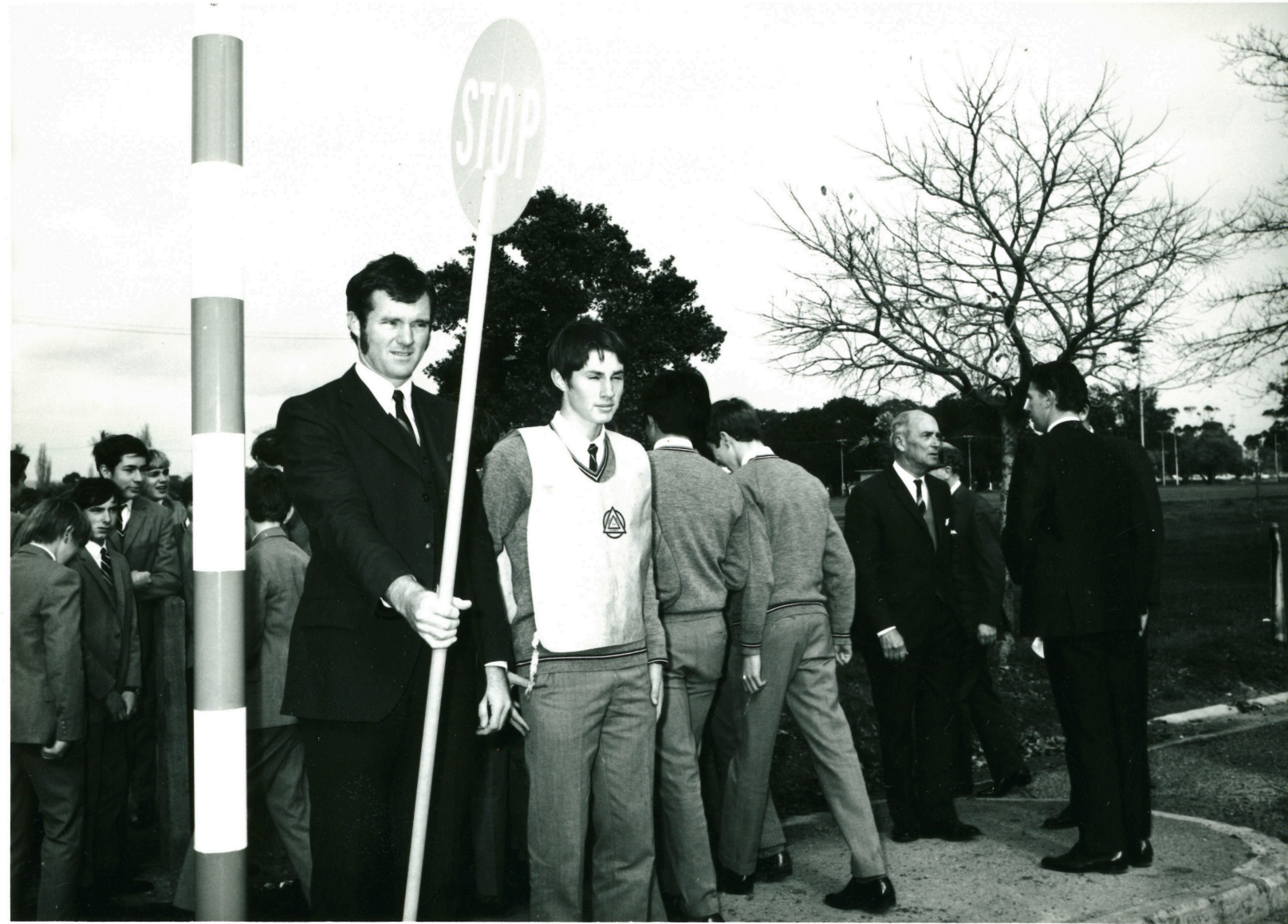
Q Can you still see the archway that was the garage?





3. Overpass – 1976

When Pulteney moved to South Terrace in 1921 crossing over to the parklands was relatively easy due to the low number of vehicles using the road, but by the early 1950s it became much more hazardous. The Headmaster requested a Police presence to catch speeding motorists but was told the boys should just dodge the traffic to cross safely. In September 1953 the Parent Association co-funded a set of amber flashing lights on South Terrace, the Adelaide News and the Sunday Mail were the co-funders. This was the first School crossing in South Australia. By 1960 traffic had increased to a level where monitored crossings were needed, and again Pulteney's crossing was the first. Three monitors were on duty, one with a whistle and one on each side of the road, armed with stop signs. Ten years later traffic had increased again, and the Parents Association stepped up and fund raised to build the overpass that we use today. The overpass was made off site of prestressed concrete, with the ramps being built with Basket Range stone to match the Chapel. It was lifted into position in September 1976 and not only provides safe access for students and the general public but also allows smoother traffic flow on South Terrace.



Crossing monitors on South Terrace.



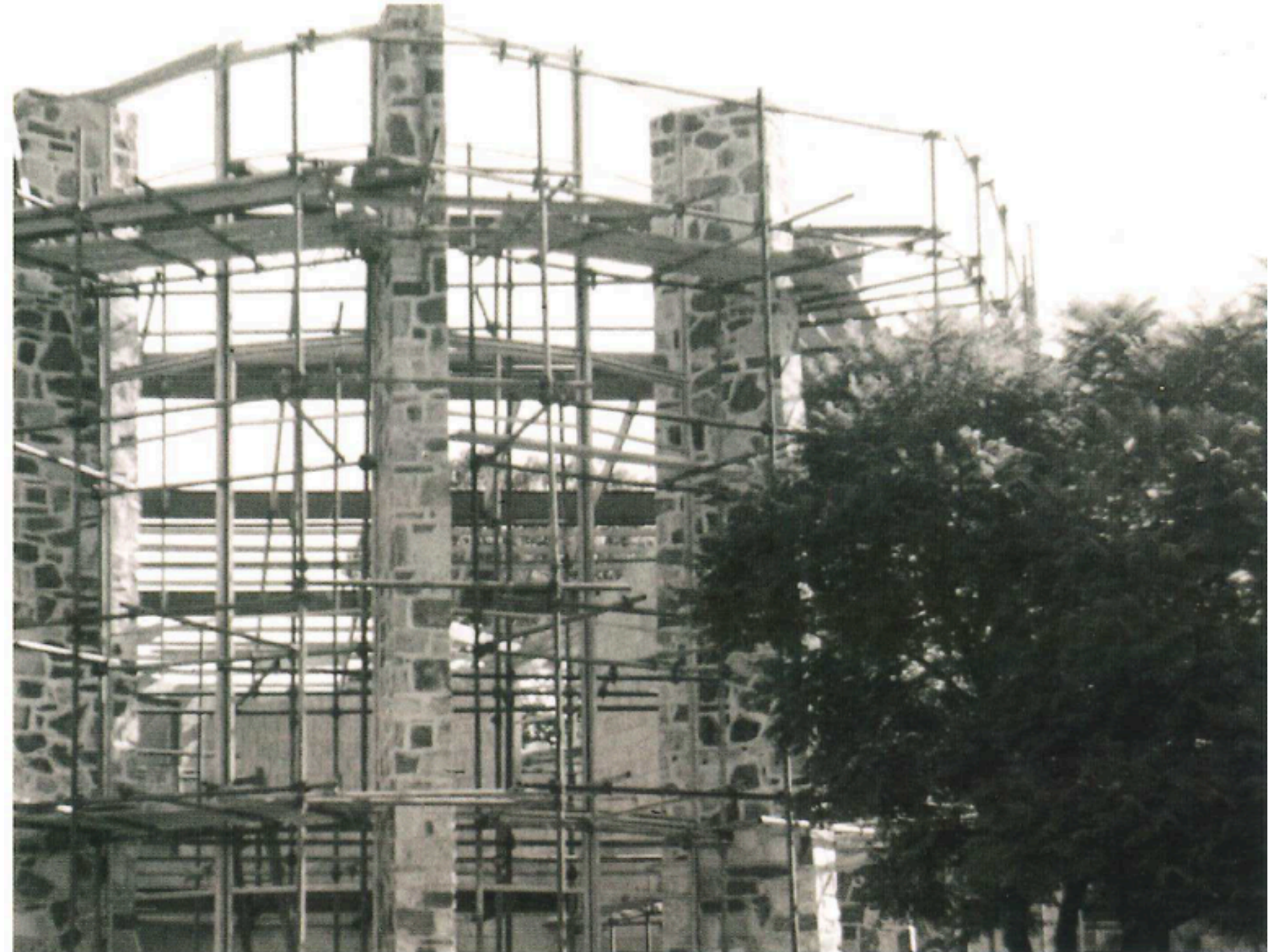
The overpass being put into place.

Q What can you see that has changed from the photo?



4. Chapel – 1959

As an Anglican minister Headmaster Canon Ray was very keen for the School to have its own Chapel. A School Fair was held in 1957 and the proceeds were put towards a building largely made of Basket Range stone supplied by a School family and built in the shape of a fish, an early Christian symbol. The Foundation Stone was laid in November 1958, and the Chapel opened on the 31st of July 1959. The cost of building it was kept low by using volunteer labour of senior boys and fathers over the Christmas break.



The Chapel under construction.



When St Pauls Church was deconsecrated in 1982 the School received a gift of a pair of beautiful Tiffany windows for the School Chapel. The windows had originally been placed in St Pauls by Mrs HL Ayers as a memorial to her late husband and to six of her children who died before the age of 10. Pictures and the story of the windows can be found on the inside Southern wall of the Chapel. The Tiffany windows which had been created in 1909 by Louis Comfort Tiffany in the United States were deemed to be one of the finest artistic treasures in Australia and were thus highly valuable. The windows were installed on the Eastern side of the Chapel but were deemed too valuable to be held by the School. A very generous benefactor purchased the windows for the South Australian Art Gallery where they are now positioned for all to see. The moneys received for the sale provided much of the cost of the Kurrajong Building. To replace the windows, Rod James Year 11 Art class created the windows you now see which were installed for the 50th Anniversary of the Chapel in July 2009.

Q Look up at the ceiling to see the fish shape. What other features of Adelaide can you see in the stained glass windows?



The original Tiffany windows

5. Osmond St – 2020

Osmond St Precinct which is now owned by the School originally housed rows of workmen's cottages. Over time the School was able to acquire all the cottages and subsequently the street from the Adelaide City Council. Osmond Street is named after Osmond Gilles, who was a wealthy businessman and the Colonial Treasurer, he arrived from England on the Buffalo in 1836.

Due to his wealth, he was very generous in funding the early colony and so Osmond Street, Gilles Street and Glen Osmond are named in his honour. Because of his early benevolence to South Australia, Pulteney has chosen to retain his name in the form of Osmond Street Precinct.



B 13863

These cottages stood on the area where the CSL lawns are now.



6. Wyatt Hall – 1962

The School was able to purchase a large warehouse owned by the Wyatt Benevolent Institution. The warehouse had been occupied by Miller Andersons a department store, much like David Jones and Myers. William Wyatt the Colonial surgeon was one of the original trustees of Pulteney. By May 1964 the Southern half had been converted to Wyatt Hall, with the Northern half, fronting Gilles Street becoming the gymnasium. That part of the building was demolished in 2005 to make way for the new gym. During the demolition, enormous fuel tanks once used to fill Miller Anderson's trucks were discovered under the floor and these had to be removed at significant expense. Wyatt Hall has served as theatre, meeting place, Old Scholar dinner venue and exam venue over the last 60 years.



The original back end of Wyatt Hall

Q What has replaced the building in the picture?

7. Gilles Arms – 1965

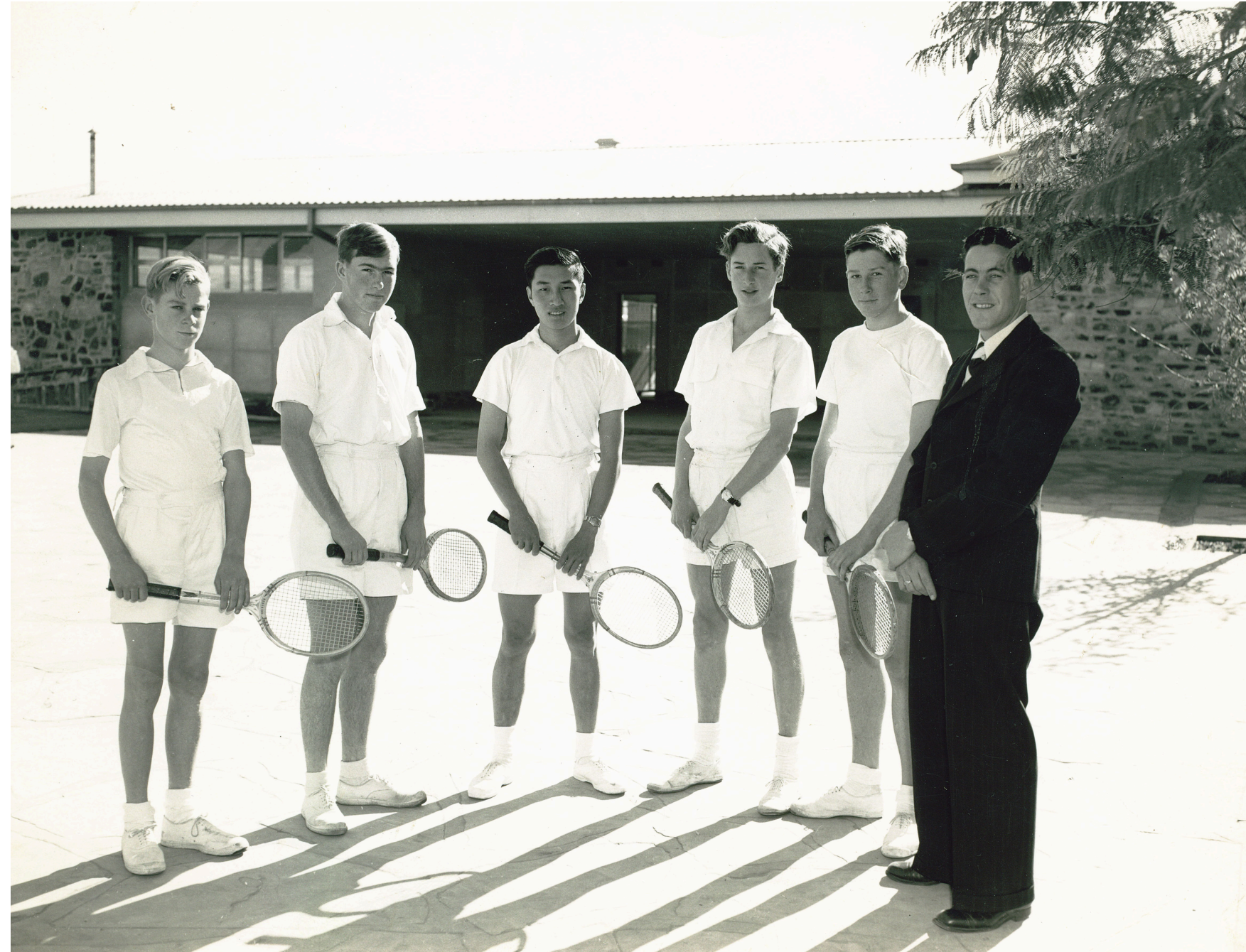
In 1965 the school was able to purchase one of Adelaide's oldest surviving hotels, the Gilles Arms, from its owners the Mallen family who were Old Scholars. The hotel was run for many years by Jimmy De Young, the licensee who continued to operate the hotel until 1975. The Gilles Arms had a reputation for sheltering certain dubious activities including off course betting activity right until it closed. De Young's still had trotting horses stabled in the back yard which is now the Prep Basketball court until the 1970s. The hotel was supported by people living in the surrounding neighbourhood and until it closed hawkers with trays of fish, rabbits and pigeons sold their wares in the front bar. The diminishing local population and resistance to change meant the hotel became unprofitable and Pulteney converted it to be part of the new Prep School built on the Eastern side.



Q What changes do you notice from the picture to today?

8. Gare Wing – 1950s

Gare Wing began its life as a four-classroom building in the 1950s, in 1961 the School received a grant from the Commonwealth Government to assist in establishing Science facilities in boys independent secondary schools. This enabled Pulteney to build four modern laboratories and storerooms by adding a second story to the wing which was then set aside as a Science wing. In 1967 two further laboratories and a lecture theatre were added again made possible by a Commonwealth grant. The enlarged building was named Gare wing in memory of the senior Physics Master who drowned in a boating accident in 1970. The laboratories have subsequently received several renovations and several scheduled for significant rejuvenation in 2025. Like the Chapel, senior boys and their fathers volunteered to build the stonework to help reduce the cost of construction. If you sneak a peak from the dump bin alley, you will notice the first classroom off the quad has servery windows, this is because that room was the first tuckshop in the school.



Behind the Tennis is Gare Wing in 1950.

Q What do you notice about Gare Wing now?



9. Wheaton House - 1977

Wheaton House has been known as Cremona, Lyndhurst Mansions and Kearns Wing and has been a large private residence, doctor's rooms and was later divided into seven flats, before eventually becoming part of the school. The Italianate style house was built in 1882 for Frederick Blades who owned the Dragon Brewery and the Green Dragon Hotel on the corner of Pulteney Street and South Terrace (now Fasta Pasta). Pulteney leased the property from 1955 and eventually purchased it in 1977, in 1956 the seven flats were vacated, and the building converted to house the Prep School, it was named in honour of Philip Kearns, an Old Scholar and Chairman of the Council of Governors. When the Prep School moved to its current location in 1976, the building housed music tuition rooms, a clothing pool, theatre costume storage and eventually became the Senior School. The Senior School moved to its current location in 2015 and the building now houses administration staff, the Principal's office and the War Memorial Room. The building was renamed to honour Allan Wheaton an Old Scholar and generous benefactor to the School. Allan served on the Old Scholar's Committee for 40 years and on the Board of Governors for 26 years. A true Navy Blue.



Wheaton House as a private residence



Rear view of Wheaton House

Please take a moment to wander through the War Memorial room which honours the 178 Pulteney Old Scholars who have given their lives while serving in Australia's Defence Forces. An ongoing programme of recognition will see a biography of each of those Old Scholars added to those already hung in the room.