

ROSTROV:

1935

St Joseph's Convent

2017

The MGL Brothers House



ROSTROV

In 1935 “Rostrov” was purchased for the use of the Sisters and has remained the Peshurst Convent ever since.

“Rostrov” was built in 1887 by John Sproule (Mayor of Hurstville 1890,91,97) and later became the residence of a local doctor who offered to sell it to the Parish for the Sisters at a cost of £1,700. After renovations, the total outlay amounted to £2,150. The new Convent was officially blessed and opened on Sunday 3rd November, 1935 by Right Rev. Mons. T. King.

“The ground has a frontage of 213 ft. to Peshurst Street and 197 ft. to Forest Road. The house consists of ten living rooms, kitchen, laundry, pantry and bathroom as well as two other rooms which were originally maids’ rooms. Wide halls, and front, side and back verandahs and balconies add to the space at the disposal of the Sisters.”

“The foundations are of concrete, strong enough to support many more storeys. All the outside walls are 12 inches thick, cement rendered, and cut out in a pattern of squares. There are fireplaces in ten rooms, solid marble mantelpieces in six of the rooms and cedar fittings throughout the house.”

It is of interest to note that in 1982 “Rostrov” was classified by the National Trust, and an historical marker was placed outside the front of the premises, giving brief details of its history.

References:

“An Outline History of St. Declan’s Parish Peshurst, N.S.W.”

B. E. Meagher

“Unfurrowed Fields” A Josephite Story NSW 1872-1972,

Kathleen E. Burford R.S.J.