

ARCHBISHOP AT SETTING OF 3.3.1965 FOUNDATION STONE

Some 300 local residents and guests were present at the site of the new Wentworth Memorial Church in Fitzwilliam Road, Vaucluse, last Saturday to take part in the setting of the foundation stone.

The Anglican Primate of Australia, Archbishop Gough, performed the ceremony.

The new church is to be built on the crest of the ridge overlooking Vaucluse and Parsley Bays and just above the Wentworth mausoleum in Chapel Road.

The site has now been cleared and excavated and the people who attended the service on Saturday were rewarded with extensive views over the harbour and around the natural amphitheatre of Vaucluse.

At 3 p.m. a colourful group of clergy and young choristers in their scarlet robes moved up the rocky path to the ridge where the congregation waited.

The Rev. N. C. Bathgate, Rector of St. Peter's Watson Bay cum Wentworth Memorial Church, conducted the service and the lesson for the occasion was read by Mr. W. C. Wentworth, MP, the great-grandson of the explorer - statesman whose remains rest in the mausoleum.

At the mid-point of the service, Mr. Bathgate handed a trowel to the Archbishop.

He then set the inscribed stone, of white marble, and after further prayer addressed the congregation.

His Grace reminded those present that the new church would serve as a memorial both to the Father of the NSW Constitution, the first W. C. Wentworth, and to those residents who fell in the second World War.

It was more than appropriate then that they should be remembered in the House of God, "whose service is perfect freedom."

Among the distinguished guests who attended the service were the Mayor of Woollahra, Alderman G. J. Crouch, and Mrs. Crouch; the Deputy-Mayor, Ald. M. F. Herford and Mrs. Herford; Mr. W. C. Wentworth, MP, and Mrs. Wentworth; Mr. Fitzwilliam Wentworth, Major-General Anderson and Mrs. Anderson, Colonel A. G. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. G. Sample.

The clergy present included Canon A. W. Morton, Rev. Dr. H. Guinness of St. Michael's, Vaucluse and Rose Bay; Rev. A. Ironsides of St. Paul's, Rose Bay.

It should now be only a matter of months before the new church is completed. The architects are Clarke, Gazzard and Partners and the building is in the hands of Monteith Constructions.

3.3.65