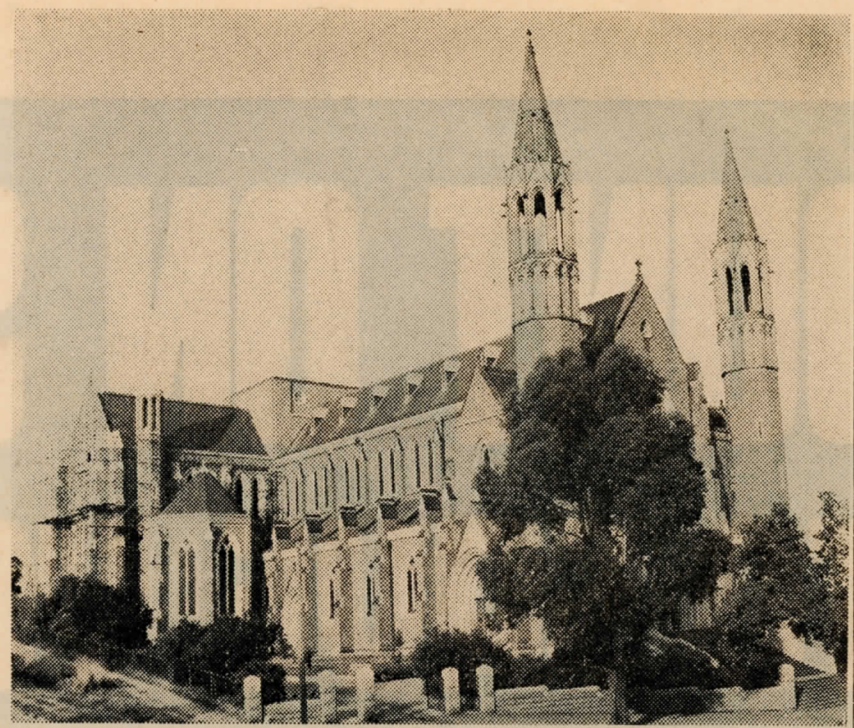
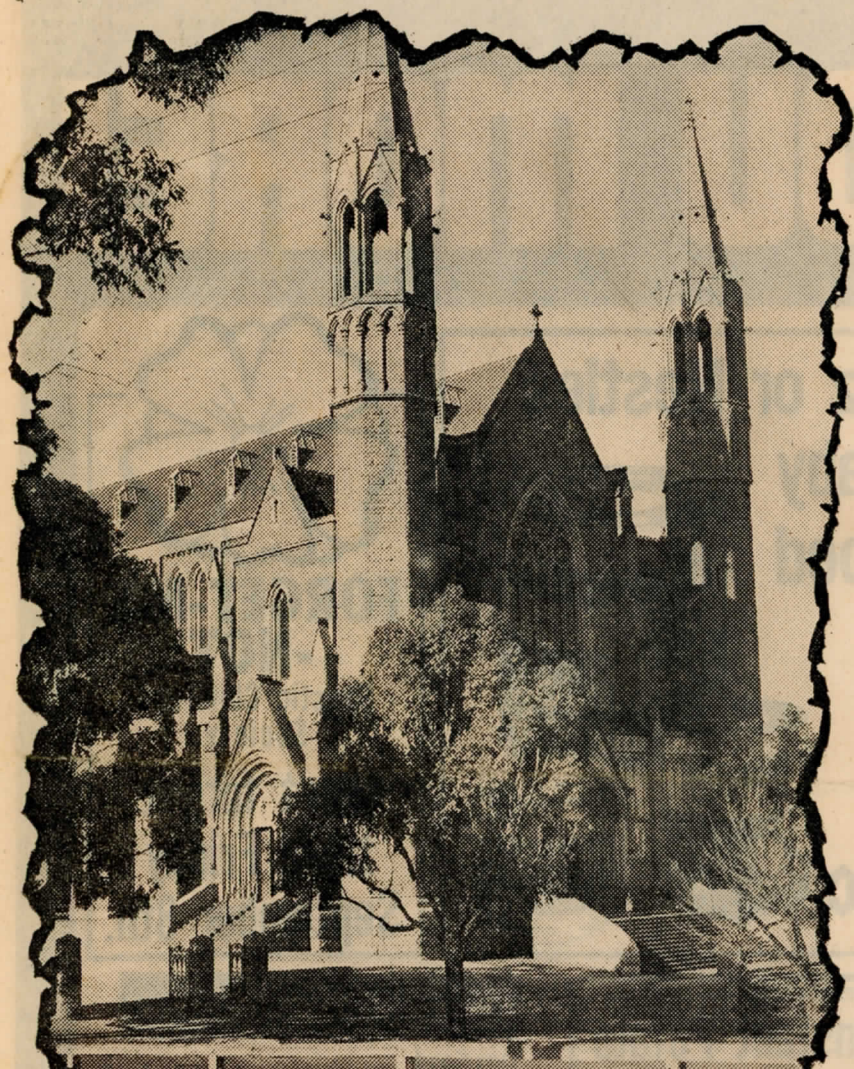


Herald Aug 29, 1972

# CATHEDRAL WAITS FOR ITS SPIRE



THE Bendigo Cathedral today.

**It is more than 90 years since the first Bishop of Sandhurst suggested a Roman Catholic Cathedral for Bendigo.**

Bishop Crane's ambition came true in 1896 when the foundation stone of the Sacred Heart Cathedral was laid.

The elegant Gothic cathedral is still being built.

Melbourne architects Bates Smart and McCutcheon are still directing work on the cathedral.

Work which was started by the pioneers of their firm, Messrs Reed Smart and Tappin, who completed the original plan in the 1890s.

This year Bates Smart and McCutcheon celebrate their 120th anniversary.

The cathedral, which is the longest continuing project the firm has, is still without its planned 300 ft. tower and spire.

The present Bishop of Sandhurst, Bishop Stewart, says work is still going on with the tower and spire.

"We are going into the type of construction to be

used, and also the materials," he said.

"It is too hard to say when it will be completed but it won't be too long.

"It will be a beautiful building. It is not 100 years yet since we started the building, and when you look at how long it has taken to build some of the famous European cathedrals, we are not doing too bad.

"You can't build them in a hurry.

### 'PROBLEM'

"Materials, workmen and construction are a problem.

"We have leased a quarry in Geelong for the granite base stone which we use.

"We have to train workmen on the job and teach them by men from the continent.

"We do have some Australians working on the cathedral but there are

of the cathedral were added by Bishop Reville in 1907.

Mr Turner said the cathedral is made from Barrabool stone from near Geelong.

"The white spire top is Mt. Gambier stone," he said.

"The architects in charge from 1896 to 1907 were Reed Smart and Tappin.

"Mr W. B. Tappin entered the firm in that period.

"In 1907 work stopped until 1954, when Bates Smart and McCutcheon were re-engaged."





FLASHBACK to the Bendigo Cathedral in 1944.

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"We have leased a quarry in Geelong for the granite base stone which we use.

"We have to train workmen on the job and teach them by men from the continent.

"We do have some Australians working on the cathedral, but there are very few Australians capable of working the stone.

"If the Pope comes to the Eucharistic Congress in Melbourne we will invite him up here, but there are a lot of 'ifs' involved in that," said Bishop Stewart.

The architect in charge of the project now is Mr Frank Turner.

He said the original cathedral plan was being followed.

However, in some parts the builders have been able to use reinforced concrete and steel frames.

"They are better and stronger than the timber trusses used in the old part," Mr Turner said.

### FIRST STAGE

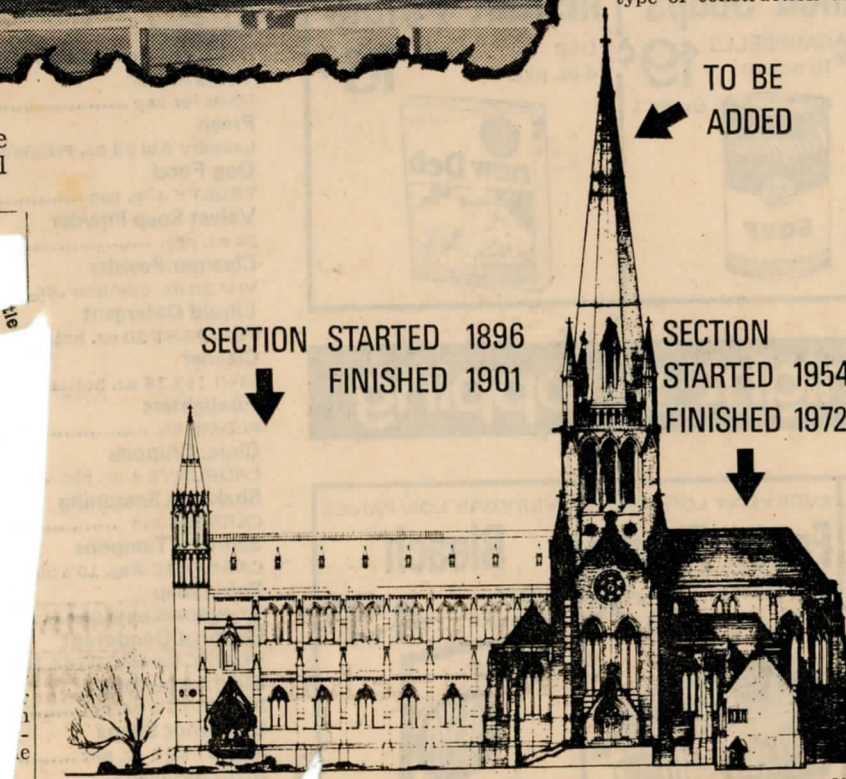
"The first stage comprised the nave and side aisles to the crossing at the beginning of the tower and spire.

"This was completed in 1901," Mr Turner said.

Work began on the cathedral in 1897 by Bishop Crane, to provide work for men who were unemployed after the gold boom.

The first section was opened in 1901 by Cardinal Moran.

Two spires at the front



TO BE ADDED

HOW work has progressed on the Bendigo Cathedral.