
BRUNSWICK WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 2890 (FORMER)

Location

488-492A VICTORIA STREET AND 1-12/44 & 46 HUNTER STREET BRUNSWICK WEST - PROPERTY NUMBER 9863, MERRI-BEK CITY

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO186

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 1, 2023

What is significant?

West Brunswick Primary School is of state architectural and historical significance. It is the only metropolitan example of a school with a distinctive courtyard plan, which incorporated verandahs; while the Infant's School was one of the first built by the Public Works Department.

Non contributory properties include:

- 488-490 & 492A Victoria Street
- 1-12/44 Hunter Street

How is it significant?

West Brunswick Primary School is of state architectural and historical significance to City of Merri-bek.

Why is it significant?

West Brunswick Primary School is of state architectural and historical significance. It is the only metropolitan example of a school with a distinctive courtyard plan, which incorporated verandahs; while the Infant's School was one of the first built by the Public Works Department.

The significance of the school complex has been diminished by the rendering of the face brickwork and the 1998 conversion into apartments. The moderne facade on Victoria Street is a small but notable example of the type.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moreland - Keeping Brunswick's heritage: A Report on the Review of the Brunswick Conservation Study, Context Pty Ltd, 1990; Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999;
Construction dates	1889,
Hermes Number	59128
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The former Brunswick West Primary School is a complex of single storey red brick buildings with hipped and jerkin head roofs. It has groups of multi-paned timber-framed double-hung sash windows, some with awning highlights. The Victoria Street section has a terracotta tiled roof; the section to the rear a slate roof with terracotta ridge tiles.

The building has been fully rendered. A small protruding section to Victoria Street has a heavy rendered parapet above a narrow concrete projection. The parapet, dating from the 1930s, bears the name of the school beneath a circular moderne motif.

Infants School These had Edwardian characteristics and a plan consisting of a series of classrooms surrounding a pavilion drill hall.

Key Architectural Elements: design elements rare in schools courtyard plan, verandahs large timber-framed double-hung multi-paned windows

Conservation Guidelines: remove unsympathetic cyclone wire boundary fence

Principal Historic Themes: provision of education

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>