
Masonic Centre

Location

12 Prospect Hill Road CAMBERWELL, BOROONDARA CITY

Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO539

Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 1991

What is Significant

The Masonic Centre is a monumental rendered brick building containing a hall and offices designed for use by local Freemasons and associated lodge members. Designed by architects Gawler and Drummond and constructed by local Lodge member, L F Lewellen in 1923-24 it provided the first purpose built premises in Camberwell of the Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. The northern facade to Prospect Hill Road with its strong portico and Masonic symbols is of particular significance as are the east and west side elevations. The south elevation and light weight return structure is of less significance as is the rear of the site.

How is it Significant

Camberwell Masonic Centre is historically, aesthetically and socially significant to the City of Boroondara. The Masonic Centre is of local significance and regional interest as a long-term meeting place for many facets of the Masonic craft in Camberwell. Architecturally, it is a near original Masonic Temple successfully designed in the style traditionally used for lodges and large commercial buildings of the era.

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Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Camberwell Junction Heritage Study, Lovell Chen, 2012; Boroondara - Camberwell Conservation Study, Graeme Butler, 1991;
Other Names	Masonic Centre,
Hermes Number	108276
Property Number	

Physical Conditions

This building is a two storey set of brick offices and hall with cement and textured stucco rendering, and tiled roof. The Prospect Hill (north) elevation is symmetrical, dominated by a portico with two giant order Ionic columns in antis stretched across a two storey set of windows and entry door. Masonic symbols are in relief on a spandrel above the front entry. The original east and west elevations read asymmetrically as 'profile' treatments, having three bays behind the entry area delineated with piers. The first bay back from Prospect Hill Road is a blank wall; the second has two trios of windows and the third has an apsidal bay. Behind that is a temporary backstage area, possibly added later, with a timber frame and asbestos-cement cladding and pitched roof. On the original permanent building, the roofs are all behind parapets. A broad balcony area may be above the entry wing.

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/>