
Geelong Post Office (former)



Old Geelong Post Office - 83
Ryrie Street, Geelong



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Location

83 Ryrie Street, GEELONG VIC 3220 - Property No 217555

Municipality

GREATER GEELONG CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1046

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO1640

HO213

Heritage Listing

Greater Geelong City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

A Listed - State Significance

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Geelong Post Office, one of the largest regional Post Offices in Victoria, erected at the height of public building activity in 1890, is perhaps the finest of the Boom Classicism style post offices designed by the Public works Department in Victoria. The architects were J.H. Marsden, assisted by J. H. Brabin. The two storey rendered brick structure, prominently located at the intersection of Ryrie Street and Gheringhap Street, is surmounted by an elegantly proportioned tower elaborately enhanced with classically derived ornamentation and containing a clock installed in 1911. The Post Office dominates the immediate townscape. The first automatic telephone exchange in Australia was established in the building in July 1912.

References

Trethowan, Bruce, "The Public Works Department of Victoria 1851-1900", Research Report Department of Architecture University of Melbourne 1975, Vol. 2 pp. 15, 98, 100, Vol. 1 p. 104.

Commonwealth Archives Brighton - Contract Drawings including plans, elevations, sections, details. Post and Telegraph Office, Geelong dated J.H.M. 29/06/89, with contract stamp dated 23 September 1889 and signed David Kinnard, contractor.

Geelong Advertiser, 12 December 1854 - tender notice for erection of Post Office at Geelong (the original post office on the site).

Foundation Stone

"This memorial stone was laid by His Excellency, the Earl of Hopetown, G.C. M.G. Governor of Victoria, 13 February 1890".

Geelong Historical Records Centre Photograph NO. 1308 (c 1915).

Smith, James (ed) Cyclopedia of Victoria Niven and Co. Melbourne 1904 Vol. 2 pp. 431-432 including illustration.

The columns of the Geelong Advertiser have not been searched in detail, but would include details of construction of the buildings and an account of the laying of the foundation stone in February 1890.

Heritage Study/Consultant Greater Geelong - Geelong Region Historic Buildings and Objects Study Volume 2, Allan Willingham, 1986; Greater Geelong - Geelong City Urban Conservation Study, Volumes 2-5, Graeme Butler, 1991; Greater Geelong - Geelong City Urban Conservation Study Volume 1, Graeme Butler, 1993; Greater Geelong - Geelong City Urban Conservation Study, Volume 4(a), Helen Lardner, 1995;

Heritage Act Categories Registered place,

Hermes Number 20473

Property Number

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/>