
PRESTON POLICE STATION



City of Darebin Heritage
Review 2000

Location

59A ROSEBERRY AVENUE, PRESTON, DAREBIN CITY

Municipality

DAREBIN CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO150

Heritage Listing

Darebin City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The Preston Police Station, built following its design by R.C. Davey of the Victorian Public Works Department in 1930-31, at 59B Roseberry Avenue, Preston.

How is it significant?

The Preston Police Station is historically and aesthetically significant to Darebin City.

Why is itsignificant?

It is historically significant (Criterion A) as the centre of policing in Preston since c.1931 and as one of the public buildings in the precinct of public buildings at Preston which has its origins in the purchase of land for the former town hall complex in 1885. By adding to the collection of public buildings it underscores Government's once common practice of establishing groups of public buildings and thereby helping to establish the identity of townships and municipalities.

It is aesthetically important (Criterion E) as a representative Classical Revival design for a police station characteristic of the Inter War period and demonstrating the conservatism of the years leading up to the acceptance of Modernism during the mid to late 1930s. It parallels contemporary Federal Government practice for the design of post offices as well as State Government designs for schools and drill halls. The attention to brickwork detail seen in this building was a characteristic of the work of the Public Works Department, seen especially in the work of the chief architect Percy Everett. Importantly, the Classical Revival Style of this building re-iterates that of the much earlier town hall complex and later additions which have consistently used the same style until recent times, thereby enhancing the presence of this historic style in the immediate environs of the municipal buildings.

Heritage Study/Consultant Darebin - Darebin Heritage Review, Andrew Ward, 2000;

Hermes Number 24282

Property Number

Physical Description 1

The Preston Police Station is a single storeyed Classical Revival building of the Inter War period with later rear additions. The building generally has red brick walls with a terra cotta tiled hipped roof and is of utilitarian character but the entry is treated in the Classical Revival mode. It is situated at the east end of the facade and is balanced by a projecting hip roofed pavilion at the west end. Emphasis is given to the entry by means of a stuccoed and rusticated Romanesque porch with the words "Police Station" in wrought iron Roman letters above the archway which is flanked by vertical fins re-iterated in the chimney enrichment. There is a stuccoed cornice in contrast with the red body bricks to which considerable attention has been given, the windows having header courses top and bottom, the corners being rusticated and the sills bull nosed.

Integrity

Condition: Sound. Integrity: High, rear additions unsympathetic.

Historical Australian Themes

7. Governing

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/>