# PARKVILLE POST OFFICE AND QUARTERS

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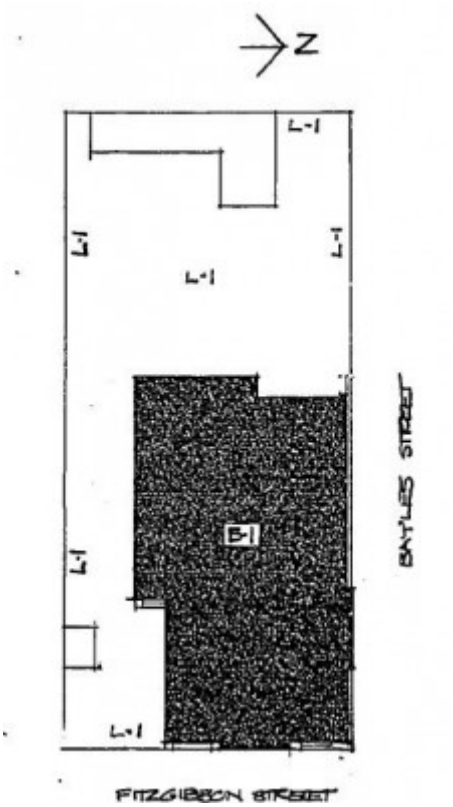
1 parkville post office fitzgibbon street parkville front view




h01167 plan h1167

## Location

69-73 FITZGIBBON STREET AND 27-37 BAYLES STREET PARKVILLE, MELBOURNE CITY

## Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

## Level of significance

Registered

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1167

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO311

## VHR Registration

April 18, 1996

## Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 7, 1999

What is significant?

The Parkville Post Office and Quarters was designed in the neo-Gothic style by Public Works Department architects SE Brindley and SC Brittingham. The builder was JG McLean and the building was completed in 1889. The Parkville Post Office and Quarters is a two storey polychrome brick building on a bluestone plinth. It is sited on a corner location with facades to Fitzgibbon Street and Bayles Street. Each of the street facades is composed of three bays, with the centre bay projecting slightly forward and topped by a parapeted gable projecting through the eaves line. All openings have stilted segmental arches or single point segmental arches. String courses, imposts, drip moulds and quatrefoil motifs are in freestone. The eaves are augmented with brick machicolations and the hipped roofs are covered with slate. Stained glass windows have been introduced from the demolished Preston Post office. The interior layout is largely intact although the counter and instrument table have been replaced.

How is it significant?

The Parkville Post Office and Quarters is of architectural significance to the State of Victoria.

Why is it significant?

The Parkville Post Office and Quarters is architecturally significant as an early example of the adoption by the Public Works Department of the Gothic polychrome style for post offices. It also demonstrates the gradual adoption during the late 1880s of Gothic styling for public buildings other than schools. The choice of the Gothic style at the Parkville Post Office and Quarters contrasts to other post offices built in the same year. Flemington was in a Moorish style, Geelong was Italianate, Mildura was Queen Anne and Warracknabeal was in an English domestic style. The Parkville Post Office and Quarters is also of significance as a design response to the suburban setting, offering a truly residential, domestic character in keeping with the character of suburban Parkville.

## Permit Exemptions

### General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must notify the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions here.

### Specific Exemptions:

EXEMPTIONS OF PERMIT:

INTERIOR DECORATIVE SCHEMES

Interior painting / wall-papering to walls and ceilings, provided the preparation work for painting / papering does not remove evidence of the building's original paint or other decorative scheme.

Removal of existing carpets / flexible floor coverings e.g. vinyl.

Installation of carpets and flexible floor coverings

Installation of curtain track, rod, blinds.

REFURBISHMENT OF BATHROOMS, TOILETS, KITCHENS

Refurbishment of bathroom /toilet / ensuite including removal of existing sanitary fixtures and associated piping, mirrors, and wall and floor coverings, and installation of new fixtures, and wall and floor coverings .

Removal of existing kitchen benches and fixtures (stoves, dishwashers etc.) and floor coverings and installation of new kitchen benches and fixtures, including associated plumbing and wiring.

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| Construction dates | 1889, |
| Architect/Designer | Brittingham, Samuel C, |

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| Heritage Act Categories | Registered place, |
| Hermes Number | 2829 |
| Property Number | |

## History

Contextual History:
From the inception of the Education Department in 1873 with Henry Bastow as its principle architect, the Gothic revival style was an important style. The transfer of school building responsibilities to the Public Works Department in 1883 marked the gradual adoption of the style to other types of public building. Bastow's ascension to Senior Architect of the Public Works Department in 1885 cemented the wider adoption and acceptance of the style.
Associated People: S E Bindley

## Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS
Historic Building No. 1167:
Parkville Post Office and Quarters, 69 Fitzgibbon Street, Parkville, City of Melbourne.
Extent:
To the extent of:
1.All the buildings known as Parkville Post Office and Quarters comprising the post office building marked B-1 on Plan 603142 endorsed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
2. All of the land described in Certificate of Title Volume 6619 Folio 741, marked L-1 on Plan 603142 endorsed by the Chair, Historic Buildings Council and held by the Director, Historic Buildings Council.
[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. G15 18 April 1996 p.956]

*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/*