

CLUNES POST OFFICE



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SOHE 2008



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1 clunes post office front view
oct1996



clunes post office detail
exterior windows nov1984



clunes post office rear view
nov1984



h00601 plan h0601

Location

102 BAILEY STREET CLUNES, HEPBURN SHIRE

Municipality

HEPBURN SHIRE

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0601

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO189

VHR Registration

August 21, 1985

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - June 24, 1999

The Clunes Post and Telegraph Office was built in 1879 to a design by the Public Works Department. The principal building was constructed by Messrs Lewis and Roberts at a cost of £4099 and the kitchen outbuildings were constructed by Charles Morgan & Co for an additional £279. The building replaced an earlier and smaller post office built in 1861. That the current building is so much bigger and grander than its predecessor is indicative of the township's rapid expansion and peaking of population in the 1870s as a result of both the deep-lead mining and the coming of the railway in 1874.

A scheme for the new post office was prepared in 1877 by the Public Works Department; probably by an assistant architect, Alfred Snow. Snow, along with his superior, William Wardell, and over 200 other public servants were dismissed on 9 January 1878 ("Black Wednesday") and the plans were revised by new staff. The ultimate scheme similar in style to the first was prepared by George Watson under the supervision of Charles Barrett. The building is designed in an Italian Renaissance "palazzo" style, is of two storeys, and is constructed of rendered brick with a slate roof. The ground floor post and telegraph office is entered via a recessed arcaded loggia with the entrance to the post-master's residence on the first floor via a lobby to the side of the building. The building is largely intact with the exception of its internal colour scheme and the interior lining of the kitchen wing. Of special interest is that the building may still be viewed in an urban setting very similar to that when it was built.

The building is of significance as a well-executed and preserved example of public Renaissance Revival design, as an indication of the prosperity of the developed Clunes goldfields (the area of first gold strike in Victoria) and as a key element within the historic townscape of Clunes.

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](#).

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|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Construction dates | 1879, |
| Architect/Designer | Watson, George W., |
| Heritage Act Categories | Registered place, |
| Hermes Number | 298 |
| Property Number | |

History

Associated People: Assoc.People WILLIAM WARDELL

Extent of Registration

AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 601, Clunes Post Office, Corner Service and Bailey Streets, Clunes (to the extent the whole of the buildings and land entered in the Register Book as Volume 9477, Folio 949).

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. 86 21 August 1985 pp. 3222-3223]

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/>