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## Plenty Road Precinct



Plenty Road Commercial Precinct

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### Location

85-107, 131-141 and 126-134 PLENTY ROAD, PRESTON, DAREBIN CITY

### Municipality

DAREBIN CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO305

### Heritage Listing

Darebin City

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### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

#### *What is significant?*

The Plenty Road South Preston Commercial precinct comprises the late nineteenth century commercial buildings at 85-107, 131-141 and 126-134 Plenty Road, Preston. The following elements contribute to the significance of the place:

- The original detailing to the upper facades of the buildings.
- Early timber shopfront at 85 Plenty Road and early twentieth century shopfronts at 130, 131, 135 and 137 Plenty Road.
- The consistency of the built form and the extent to which development in one main period is apparent.

Non-original alterations or additions to contributory buildings, the buildings at 95-105 and the roadway between the buildings are not significant.

*How is it significant?*

The Plenty Road Preston precinct is of local historic significance to Darebin City.

*Why is it significant?*

The Plenty Road Preston precinct is historically significant as a representative example of a late nineteenth century shopping centre that provides evidence of the first phase of commercial development in South Preston and how the development of this area predated the development of what is now the main commercial area in High Street around the town hall by 30 years. The row of narrow-fronted commercial premises, most of which have residences above or behind, are typical of the development that occurred along main streets in inner Melbourne during the nineteenth century. (AHC criteria A.4 & D.2)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Darebin - Darebin Heritage Study, Context P/L, 2011;
Construction dates	1890,
Other Names	Plenty Road Precinct,
Hermes Number	44711
Property Number	

## Physical Description 1

The Plenty Road precinct comprises three groups of shops at 85-107, 131-141 and 126-134 Plenty Road, Preston. It is a late nineteenth century commercial precinct of single and double storey shops along both sides of Plenty Road generally between Raglan Street and Seymour Street in Preston.

The buildings at Nos. 85-93 on the west side of the street were constructed c.1891 and are double storey shops and residences. The building at No.85 is the most intact and retains an early weatherboard shopfront, which is very rare in the municipality. Other shops have been altered at ground floor level and the upper floor windows of No.93 have also been replaced. The upper facades of other buildings have two double hung sash windows with moulded surrounds and a cornice extends across the top of the facade. The shops are divided into bays by segmented pilasters. It appears that some parapet elements such as urns may have been removed. The shop at No. 107, at the corner of Junction Street has a splayed corner entrance. The upper facade remains relatively intact and has a raised parapet facing the corner with a semi-circular shield and scrolls.

Directly opposite the above group of shops are four single storey late nineteenth century shops at Nos.126-34. Although the shops have been altered they retain distinctive Victorian-era parapets with scrolls and raised central panels - curved to nos. 128 and 130, and straight with cornice to nos. 132 and 134. Projecting consoles separate each parapet. No. 130 has an early shopfront with recessed doorway.

Further to the north on the west side is another group of two storey shops at Nos. 131-41, extending north from the Yann Street corner.. Nos.131-35 is a two storey shop row with an intact upper facade and side elevation to Yann Street. It has a solid parapet with cornice and rendered detailing to the upper part of the windows. Adjacent to it is another group of two storey shops with slightly more elaborate detail at nos. 137-41. 131, 135 and 137 Plenty Road have surviving late nineteenth or early twentieth century shopfronts.

*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/>*