

Building:

Former Collingwood town hall, library, offices, court house and post and telegraph office (now town hall and municipal offices).

Address:

140 Hoddle Street



Allotment Reference:

Lot 66

National Estate Register:

Registered

Historic Buildings Council Register:

Registered

National Trust Register:

Classified

Location within Precinct:

Collingwood Flat Precinct

Photo Date: August, 1988
Grantee: P.L. Campbell, 13.2.1889
Original Owner: City of Collingwood
Present Owner: City of Collingwood
Original Use: As noted above
Present Use: As noted above
Construction Date: 1885-7
Architect: George R. Johnson

Builder:

Description:

A grandiose late Victorian boom style town hall complex consisting of former library, former post and telegraph offices, municipal offices, court house and town hall. The main west facing facade is symmetrical about a central portico surmounted by a three staged tower and French Second Empire style zinc sheeted roof and cast iron lac balustrade with flag pole. Flanking pavilions have similar fish scale slated roofs with windows and are separated by means of colonnaded recessed wings. The secondary Stanton Street facade is also Palladian with flanking pavilions and with central pedimented town hall entrance surmounted by the Royal coat of arms.

Inside, the hall and lobby have been rebuilt in the Art Deco style although the cast iron balcony railings and ceiling survive.

Condition:

Good

Integrity:

Good

History:

The municipality of East Collingwood was gazetted on 24.4.1855 and a council chambers and offices erected in Johnston Street in 1859. In July, 1885 the foundation stone for the present complex was laid by Cr. Job Stanton, mayor, and on 30.3.1887, the mayor, Cr. A. Aitken, opened the new town hall.

The hall and foyer were reconstructed in 1937-38 to the design of A.C. Leith and Bartlett, architects, the opening taking place on 16.3.1938.

Significance:

The Collingwood town hall complex compares with Johnson's Fitzroy town hall and is an extravagant and sophisticated boom style Italianate public building, larger than most comparable structures of its period. It is the key building in its sub-precinct and a local landmark. The original intact clock mechanism is important.

Recommendations:

Recommended for planning scheme protection

References:

National Trust File

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