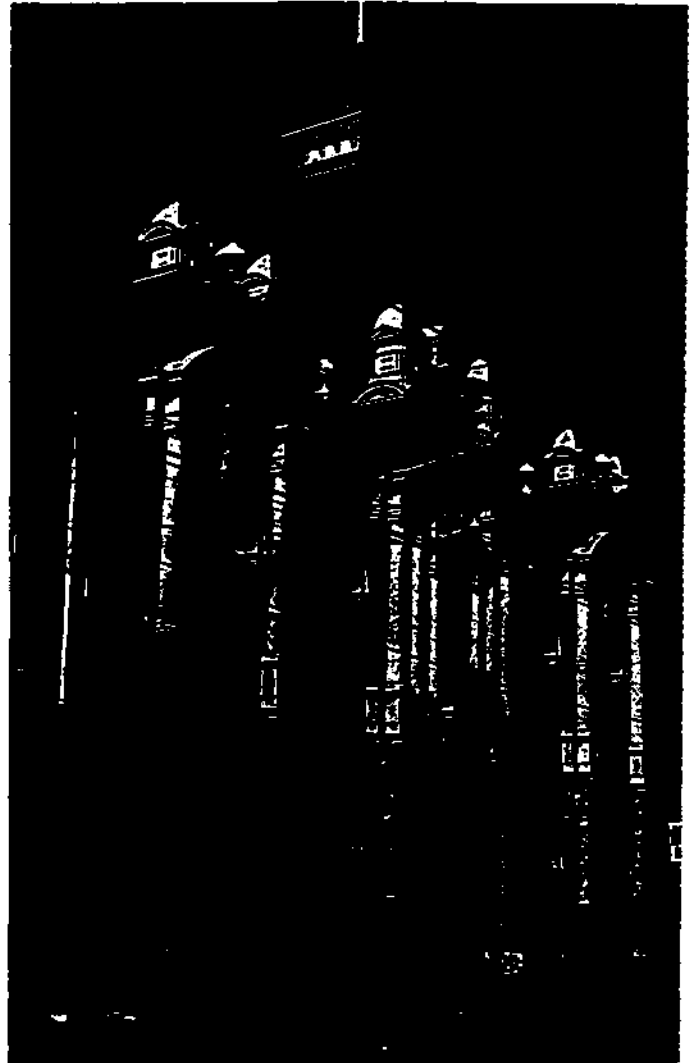


Building:

Collingwood Post office, 174 Smith
Street



Plotment Reference:

68

National Trust Reference:

National Estate Register:

Recommended

Historic Buildings Register:

Registered

Location within Precinct:

Collingwood Slope

Photograph Date

12.6.87

Grantee:

S.A. Donaldson

Original Owner:

Present Owner:

Original Use:

Post and Telegraph Office

Present Use:

Post Office

Construction Date:

1891

Architect:

Public Works Department (John Hudson Marsden)

Builder:

Description:

A richly decorated two storeyed stuccoed late Victorian public building with trabeated facade and central tower. Beneath the tower, a projecting section is flanked by pavilions, all of which are pedimented. The lower order is Tuscan and the Upper Ionic forming arcades with round arched openings, partially built in at street level. The former central entry has the words "Post and Telegraph Office" in low relief and is surmounted by a balconette.

Inside, the public areas have been altered.

Condition:

Good

Integrity:

Good, three bays have been built in to street level, and the tower has been reclad in steel tray decking.

History:

The first postal service for Collingwood was established in 1856 and by 1862, receiving boxes were located in Hoddle Street at Gipps Street, and in Victoria Parade at Wellington Street with post office on the north side of Peel Street between Oxford and Cambridge Streets. It was later relocated to the present site with the Collingwood Public Library adjoining to the north. In 1891, following agitation by the Hon. G.D. Langridge and D. Beazley (MLA Collingwood 1889-1904, Abbotsford 1904-1912) the present complex was opened.

Significance:

The significance of the Collingwood post office is derived principally from its flamboyant contribution to the Smith Street shopping facades. Trethowan groups it with another three Boom Classical post offices of the period.

Andrew C Ward & Associates

ndations:

Recommended for inclusion on the
National Estate Register and for
planning scheme protection.

nces:

National Trust File
Trethowan, B., "The Public Works
Department of Victoria, 1851-1900,
1975, Vol. 2.

No. 1.