

# CITY OF GEELONG WEST

URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY: BUILDING IDENTIFICATION FORM.

BUILDING ADDRESS *S.E. Cnr Pakington & Hope Streets* Type *Post Office/Res.* Original Use *P.O./Res.*

PRESENT BUILDING TITLE *Geelong West Post Office*

EXISTING DESIGNATION

HBR

GBR

NER

GRPS

NATIONAL TRUST

Classified

Recorded

Reg.No.

—

—

—

146

—

—

CONSERVATION AREA No.

Name

*Pakington Street Commercial*

Survey Date

*7.3.86*

Neg. File *002.016*

*002.019*

PERIOD

pre 1860

☐

1860 - 1879

☐

1880 - 1899

☒

1900 - 1919

☐

1920 - 1939

☐

post 1940

☐


MATERIALS

walls *polychrome brick*

roof *slate*

CONSTRUCTION DATE

*1886*

source

*foundation stone*

SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

original materials

☒

early paint colour scheme or original unpainted finish

☒

ornamental wall detailing

☒

original doors, windows, hoods

☒

intact verandah / porch structure

☒

original parapet

☒

original roof form and finish

☒

original chimneys

☒

eaves, roof or gable decoration

☒

intact verandah decoration

☒

early fence

☐

early garden (*palm tree*)

☒

other prominent contributing elevations

☒
☐
☐

INTEGRITY RATING

excellent

☒

good

☐

fair

☐

poor

☐

LORRAINE HUDDLE

LOUISE HONMAN

RICHARD AITKEN

Architectural & Conservation Consultants

1986

page 1

# CITY OF GEELONG WEST

URBAN CONSERVATION STUDY: BUILDING IDENTIFICATION FORM.

BUILDING ADDRESS

S.E. CORNER PAKINGTON & HOPE STREETS

## HISTORY

The government purchased the Geelong West site in 1884 and the foundation stone was laid by Victoria's Chief Secretary, Mr Berry, on 20th January 1886. It was built five years before the new Geelong Post Office.

## DESCRIPTION

A single storey Post Office and residence built of brick and slate. Decorative elements include cement render mouldings, tuckpointed brickwork, notable window and verandah joinery. Designed in 1885 by G. B. H. Austin, the Public Works Department Western region architect, it is similar in style to the former Geelong West Court House. The Post Office is an intact example of the innovative and eclectic nature of the Public Works Department architecture of the 1880's in Victoria. There are similarly designed Post Offices throughout Victoria of which Nathalia Post Office is an example. External alterations are few but include a small addition to the front porch and a new fence. (See Seaton p.160 for a 1922 photograph.)

## SIGNIFICANCE

The Geelong West Post Office was designed in 1885 by G. B. H. Austin of the Public Works Department. It is a good example of the eclectically derived style which was characteristic of his work. The foundation stone was laid by Graeme Berry, Chief Secretary of Victoria in 1886. It is one of few intact buildings of architectural note in the Pakington Street commercial area. *It is of state significance.*

## POLICY/RECOMMENDATIONS

National Estate Register, *Government Buildings Register.*

## REFERENCES

- G. Seaton, The Ashby Story - A History of Geelong West, Geelong West City Council, 1978, pp.159-160.
- A. Willingham, 'Historic Places Documentation Sheet' No. 146, GRC., (n.d)
- S. Power, 'Nathalia Post Office', Report for Charge of Annuity, Department of Housing and Construction.