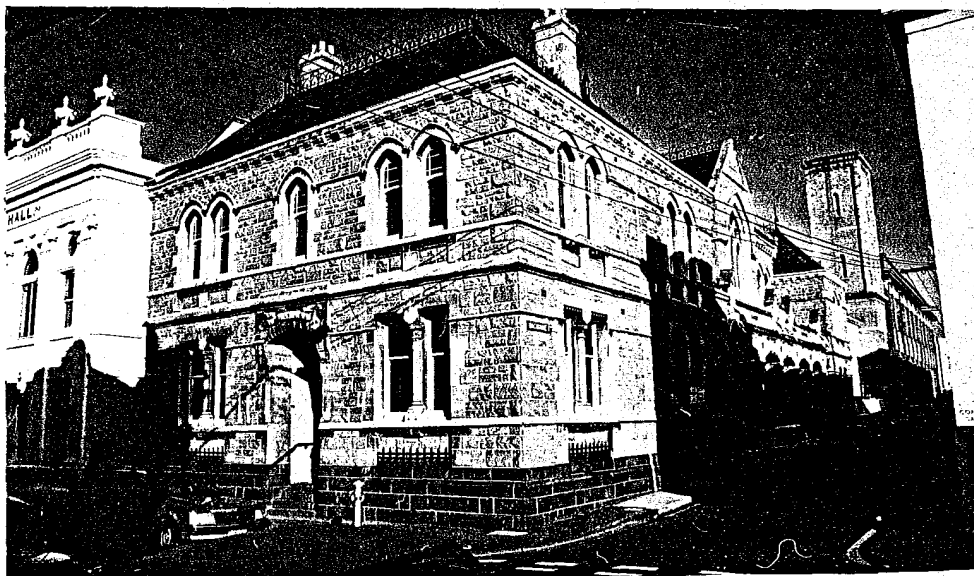


FORMER PRAHRAN COURT HOUSE AND POLICE STATION
Greville Street, Prahran.



Recommendations It is recommended that this building be retained on the Register of Historic Buildings, retained on the Register of the National Estate and be protected using the provisions of Clause 8 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Third Schedule).

Current Assessments Prahran Court House and Police Station is included on the Register of the National Estate and classified by the National Trust of Australia (Victoria).

History and Description The Prahran Court House and Police Station located adjacent to the Town Hall and on a corner site in Greville Street, was erected c. 1886 to the design of P.W.D. Architect Charles Gilchrist, the contractors being Furneau, Besly and Angel. The Gothic revival structure of brick fabric clad with Barrabool stone and Wauru Ponds limestone and further enhanced by ornamental ironwork, is a traditionally planned and unusually intergrated public utilities complex.

Significance The Prahran Court House and Police Station is of architectural importance as perhaps the finest Gothic revival building of this type in Victoria, and as an outstanding work of the prominent and innovative PWD architect C R Gilchrist. The finely detailed and well proportioned building is a rare combination of public utilities and being situated on a dominant corner position is of streetscape importance in the Prahran Town Hall precinct.

Intactness This building is now part of the Prahran Town Hall complex and has been renovated internally. The finely crafted exterior masonry is in reasonable although deterioration of the notoriously unpredictable Barrabool stone is evident.

References

National Trust of Australia (Victoria), File No. 2437.
Public Record Office, Victoria, Public Works Department Drawing Collection, Plans of Prahran Court House and Police Station.

Cooper, J. B., The History of Prahran, Melbourne 1924, pp 276-277.

Trethowen, B., 'The Public Works Department of Victoria 1851-1900', Department of Architecture, University of Melbourne 1975.

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