

HAWKSBUEN PRIMARY SCHOOL
Malvern Road, Hawksburn



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

History and Description The first school erected by the Education Department in Prahran was the building now known as Hawksburn Primary School in Malvern Road. Erected in 1874, the school was originally known as the Prahran, and later the Prahran North Primary School. It has always been the largest school in the municipality. The architects Crouch and Wilson won the design for this school with a symmetrical Gothic composition topped a central bellcote conveying a particularly ecclesiastical appearance. The two storey building, with its central wing and flanking wings, employs such elements as polychromatic brickwork, steep slate roofs and gable ends, roof vents and pointed arches to establish a Gothic character.

Significance This Primary School was the first and the largest government school building erected in Prahran. It is an intact, and early example of an urban school in Victoria.

Intactness The Hawksburn Primary School is substantially intact. additions were made in 1889 and 1899 to increase the accommodation and in 1908 land was acquired in Cromwell Road and buildings subsequently erected in 1911 and 1967. Renovations are currently in progress (1982).

References

- Blake, L. J., Vision and Realisation, Vol. 3, Education Department of Victoria, 1973, p. 343.
Burchell, L., Victorian Schools A Study in Colonial Government Architecture, 1837-1900, Melbourne, 1980, pp. 95, 110.