

---

## Kew Post Office



City of Kew Urban  
Conservation Study 1988



City of Kew Urban  
Conservation Study 1988

---

### Location

186 High Street KEW, BOROONDARA CITY

### Municipality

BOROONDARA CITY

### Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

### Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0885

### Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO68

### Heritage Listing

Boroondara City

---

### Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

The Kew Post Office, Court House and Police Station are of significance as one of the most impressive groups of public buildings in Victoria, for their successful and early use of the English vernacular free style, and as a

landmark in Kew on one of its most prominent sites.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Boroondara - Kew Junction Commercial Heritage Study, Lovell Chen, 2012; Boroondara - City of Kew Urban Conservation Study, Pru Sanderson Design Pty Ltd, 1988;
Architect/Designer	Harvey, JH,
Other Names	Former Kew Post Office,
Hermes Number	22346
Property Number	

---

## Physical Description 1

Erected under the supervision of G.W. Watson<sup>20</sup>, this complex of public buildings includes the Kew Post Office which was opened in 1888<sup>21</sup>. They are unified in design and combine to form one of the most impressive complexes of public buildings in Victoria. They are built in the English vernacular free style in red brick and render, with render banding and ornamentation defining the edges of the buildings with quoining and pilasters, and the openings with architraves and ornamentation. The roofs are in slate, with the Court House having a terracotta ridge capping, while all three have red brick chimneys with strapwork and corbelling. In using the English vernacular free style, these buildings were one of the first to adopt this style and were an influential precursor to Edwardian architecture. Post Office Police Station

### References --

18 Trethowan, B., 'The Public Works Department of Victoria: 1851-1900'

19 *ibid.*

20 National Trust of Aust.(Vic), 'Post Office, Court House and Police Station...', September 18 1986

21 *ibid.*, 'History of the Kew Post Office'

*This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*