

FITZROY TOWN HALL



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SOHE 2008



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h00147 1 fitzroy town hall
napier street fitzroy street
view she project 2004



h00147 fitzroy town hall
napier street fitzroy clock
tower she project 2004



h00147 fitzroy town hall
napier street fitzroy side she
project 2004



h00147 fitzroy town hall
napier street fitzroy side view
she project 2004

Location

201 NAPIER STREET FITZROY, YARRA CITY

Municipality

YARRA CITY

Level of significance

Registered

Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H0147

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO147

VHR Registration

October 9, 1974

Heritage Listing

Victorian Heritage Register

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 22, 2025

What is significant?

The Fitzroy Town Hall was erected in two stages. The hall wing and a tower were designed by W. J. Ellis and built in 1873 by Nation Company. The second stage, designed by G. Johnson and built by J. Moore in 1887-90, included extensions to the hall, new municipal offices, library, court house and police station. A centrally-located tower replaced the original.

How is it significant?

The Fitzroy Town Hall is of architectural and historical significance to Victoria

Why is it significant?

The Fitzroy Town Hall is of architectural significance as a most intact and exemplary High Victorian building and for its association with two prominent Melbourne architects. It features grand Corinthian porticos and temple forms and an unusual clock tower. The building's freestanding form, fine interiors and multitude of prominent foundation stones are also distinctive. The building is significant for its associations with George Johnson, possibly the most prolific designer of municipal buildings in late 19th century Victoria. Johnson was responsible for Collingwood, Northcote and Hotham (North Melbourne) Town Halls, as well as many theatres and opera houses in Melbourne and other Australian cities, and the annexes to the Royal Exhibition Building in Carlton. The Courthouse entrance is a feature of the exterior and is a fine example of one of Johnson's favourite motifs.

The Fitzroy Town Hall is of historical significance as a symbol of the growth of Melbourne during the long boom prior to the 1890s. The building is representative of the aspirations and burgeoning wealth of Melbourne during the gold rush years and a manifestation of local government rivalry, which led to the construction of a number of grand town halls throughout the city's suburbs.

Permit Exemptions

General Exemptions:

General exemptions apply to all places and objects included in the Victorian Heritage Register (VHR). General exemptions have been designed to allow everyday activities, maintenance and changes to your property, which don't harm its cultural heritage significance, to proceed without the need to obtain approvals under the Heritage Act 2017.

Places of worship: In some circumstances, you can alter a place of worship to accommodate religious practices without a permit, but you must **notify** the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria before you start the works or activities at least 20 business days before the works or activities are to commence.

Subdivision/consolidation: Permit exemptions exist for some subdivisions and consolidations. If the subdivision or consolidation is in accordance with a planning permit granted under Part 4 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the application for the planning permit was referred to the Executive Director of Heritage Victoria as a determining referral authority, a permit is not required.

Specific exemptions may also apply to your registered place or object. If applicable, these are listed below. Specific exemptions are tailored to the conservation and management needs of an individual registered place or object and set out works and activities that are exempt from the requirements of a permit. Specific exemptions prevail if they conflict with general exemptions.

Find out more about heritage permit exemptions [here](#).

Construction dates	1873,
Architect/Designer	Ellis, William J,
Heritage Act Categories	Registered place,
Other Names	FITZROY COURT HOUSE,
Hermes Number	471
Property Number	

History

Associated People: George Johnson;

Extent of Registration

City of Fitzroy. No. 147. Fitzroy Town Hall, Napier Street, Fitzroy.
[*Victoria Government Gazette* No 100 Wednesday, October 9 1974 p.3648]

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/>