
Brunswick Town Hall and Municipal Offices

Location

233 Sydney Road, Brunswick VIC 3056 - Property No 38896

Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO153

Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

The Brunswick Municipal Offices and Hall is of local historical and architectural significance. Historically, the building is the municipal focus for Brunswick. It is a key building in the Sydney Road streetscape, and the use of the classical architectural idiom for the 1926 additions reflects the perceived appropriateness of this language for a major institutional building. Unlike Coburg's City Hall, Brunswick's sits close to the street, thus increasing its local landmark status.

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|---------------------------|---|
| Heritage Study/Consultant | Moreland - Keeping Brunswick's heritage: A Report on the Review of the Brunswick Conservation Study, Context Pty Ltd, 1990; Moreland - City of Moreland Heritage Review, Allen Lovell and Associates, 1999; |
| Architect/Designer | Wilson, Sydney H, McIver, Evander, |
| Hermes Number | 59096 |
| Property Number | |

Physical Description 1

The Brunswick Municipal Offices and Hall is a complex of buildings at the corner of Sydney Road and Dawson Street, Brunswick. The main (1926) building, on this corner, two storey rendered brick building with an entrance portico and central three storey tower. The ground floor has rendered rustication and a moulded string course at the impost level of the arched windows. The first floor repeats the fenestration pattern, but the walls are of flat render, with paired pilasters with Corinthian capitals dividing the bays. The upper level windows have scallop-shell heads. The entrance portico has four stocky piers with banded rustication, above which sits a balustraded balcony. A triangular pediment marks the central bay of the first floor directly above the portico, and above this rises the tower section, which has a prominent corrugated iron mansard-styled roof. A clock protrudes from the tower's balustraded parapet.

The 1994 office wing has a two storey red brick gabled facade surrounding a series of simple rendered columns. The main entrance is via a skillion-roofed rendered section with large glazed areas.

The library (in Dawson Street) is a gable-roofed hall which has a high parapet to the foyer section. Walls are of rendered masonry, with a tall, narrow opening defined by rendered masonry fins. A second clock, matching the one of the Sydney Road facade, is cantilevered from the parapet.

Key Architectural Elements: dominating two- and three-storey Classical Revival facades on north and east elevations

rusticated ground floor

balustraded parapet and distinctive mansard roofs

Art Deco facade and elements of interior of Dawson Street hall, now the library

Conservation Guidelines: preferably reinstate original colour scheme on library facade

remove reflective coating from first floor windows

Principal Historic Themes: association with local government

association with individuals or families

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/>