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# Mount Royal Home for the Aged



B2536 Frmr Mount Royal Hospital



B2536 Former Mount Royal Geriatric Hospital, 36 - 56 Poplar Rd, Parkville

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## Location

36 - 56 Poplar Road,, PARKVILLE VIC 3052 - Property No B2536

## Municipality

MELBOURNE CITY

## Level of significance

Regional

## Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number

H1725

## Heritage Listing

National Trust

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - October 9, 2006

The nucleus of the Mount Royal Home for the Aged was erected in 1874-5 by Pearson and Downie for the Public Works Department. It was originally known as the Royal Park Industrial School and served as a State operated benevolent institution for homeless children. The two storey rendered brick wings have slate roofs. Behind the Administration wing facing Poplar Road, long wings which once contained dormitories, kitchen, hall etc. extend northwards and form courtyards lined with verandahs.

This is a fine example of nineteenth century institutional design and reflects contemporary attitudes towards the housing and rehabilitation of the poor and handicapped. The design of the complex is typical of PWD principles; however, it lacks the distinctive composition and fine detailing of comparable buildings (e.g. lunatic asylums). The large verandahed courtyard is a most significant space and a feature not incorporated into any similar complex. The hospital is surrounded by attractive grounds.

Externally the buildings are reasonably intact, there have been some minor additions and alterations and the cast iron verandah brackets have been removed. There has been extensive renovation of all the interiors, although some old staircases survive.

Classified: 29/10/1970

Other Names Former Mount Royal Home for the Aged, Former Mount Royal Hospital, Former Mount Royal Special Hospital for the Aged, Former Mount Royal Geriatric Hospital, Former Royal Park Industrial School, Former Royal Park Industrial School, North West Hospital,

Hermes Number 65395

Property Number

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*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/>*