

# Historic Heritage Inventory



## Paeroa Post Office Building (Paeroa Post Office and Council Building)



**Location:** Cnr Normanby Rd and Princes St, Paeroa

### Heritage Status

**Historic Places Trust Registration Number:** 4607

**Historic Places Trust Category:** Category 2 - Registered Historic Place

**HDC Heritage Category:** A - Heritage Feature. National or Outstanding Regional Significance

**Other:**

**Physical Description:** Two storey building in central location. Constructed of brick and concrete in 1926. Convex porch is supported by Ionic and Tuscan styled columns which give the building an air of stability. Windows are steel and casement in operation. The building has pleasing symmetry.

**Other known names:**

**Notable features:** Steel casements, entrance porch, architectural symmetry

**Style:** Neo-Georgian

**Materials:** Brick, concrete, corrugated iron

**Date of Construction:** 1926

### **History:**

This building was opened by the Prime Minister, J.G.Coates, on May 25, 1926. As well as the post office, the new building contained the post master's

**District Plan Schedule**

**Number:** HAU014

**Heritage Category:** A

### **Heritage Type:**

- Wahi Tapu
- Cultural Landscape
- Building
- Group of Buildings
- Structure
- Monument
- Historic Place
- Archaeological Site
- Other

### **Date Period:**

1911-1940

### **Significance:**

- Archaeological
- Architectural
- Cultural
- Historic
- Scientific
- Technological

### **Thematic Context**

- Maori
- Early Settlement
- Industry
- Extraction
- Forestry
- Agriculture
- Transport
- Communication
- Commerce
- Residential
- Social/Cultural
- Civic
- Health
- Educational
- Church/yard
- Other

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District Plan Schedule

Number: **HAU014**

Heritage Category: **A**

residence. It cost a total of 11,829 pounds to construct. It is a prominent landmark in the town and represents the confidence and prosperity of Paeroa in the 1920's.

It is architecturally significant as a good example of the neo-Georgian style being applied to a public building. Features of this style include its symmetrical balance, the hipped roof covered with Marseilles tiles and the prominent central entrance; which in this case is achieved by a semi-circular portico held up by Ionic columns. It was designed by John Mair, Government Architect from 1922-42. Mair designed many well known public buildings in New Zealand and the Paeroa Post Office is typical of his style which emphasised function, structure and volume rather than the more stylistic elements of others at the time.

A Royal Coat of Arms, rather than the normal New Zealand Coat of Arms, adorns the front of the building.

**Architect:** John Thomas Mair

**Designer:**

**Builder:**

**Engineer:**

**History of changes:**

**Condition:** Good

**Integrity:** Substantially intact

**Current Uses:** Post Office and Council Offices

**Former Uses:** Post Office

**Registered owner:** Hauraki District Council

**Legal Description:** Sec 1 SO 57278

**Reference Source:**

NZHPT Building Record Form; Cotter, M. J. (1975) *From Green to Gold: Paeroa and District 1875-1975*. Paeroa Borough Council.

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### Associated Pictures:

