
REPCO OFFICES & LABORATORIES (FORMER)



Repco Offices



Repco Offices



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Location

26 DOONSIDE STREET,, RICHMOND VIC 3121 - Property No 167560

Municipality

YARRA CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO252

Heritage Listing

Yarra City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - January 1, 2008

What is significant?

The building, built c.1939 as an office and laboratories for the Russell Manufacturing Co., which later became Repco at 26 Doonside Street, Richmond is significant. It is a two storey Moderne style bichromatic brick building. It is approximately square in plan, with a curved corner at the northwest. The building is oriented north-west, and the composition of the main panels of brickwork is approximately symmetrical about a diagonal axis which runs through the corner entrance, which has a cantilevered concrete canopy. The north and west elevations are of face manganese brick, whilst large panels of cream brick give the appearance of wrapping around this, leaving a vertical strip of dark brown brick above the entrance. This corner element is decorated with a narrower vertical strip of horizontally-striped tapestry brickwork, and surmounted by three white painted vertical concrete fins. The north elevation features two bands of windows, each comprising three panels of multi-paned steel-framed windows with manganese brick spandrels and sills. These windows turn the corner to the east elevation; to their right are two vertically placed circular windows, probably to a staircase. The west wall of the building was once attached to a single-storey building which has since been demolished, with the exception of part of the front wall and cream brick parapet which adjoins No. 26.

How is it significant?

The former Repco office and laboratory building at 26 Doonside Street, Richmond, is of local architectural significance of the City of Yarra.

Why is it significant?

It is architecturally and aesthetically significant as a particularly sophisticated example of a small building in the Moderne style, which exhibits an interesting composition of a limited palette of materials. It is thus distinctive for a building of its size and type. The demolition of other adjacent buildings has increased the aesthetic contribution of this building to an otherwise architecturally undistinguished industrial streetscape. (Criteria D & E)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Yarra - Heritage Gaps Study: Review of remaining 17 heritage precincts from the 2009 Gaps report, Context Pty Ltd, 2013; Yarra - Richmond Conservation Study, John & Thurley O'Connor, Ros Coleman & Heather Wright, 1985; Yarra - City of Yarra Heritage Review, Allom Lovell & Associates, 1998; Yarra - City of Yarra Review of Heritage Overlay Areas, Graeme Butler & Associates, 2007;
Construction dates	1939,
Hermes Number	103839
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The former Repco office building, at 26 Doonside Street, Richmond, is a two storey Moderne style bichromatic brick building. It is approximately square in plan, with a curved corner at the northwest. The building is oriented north-west, and the composition of the main panels of brickwork is approximately symmetrical about a diagonal axis which runs through the corner entrance, which has a cantilevered concrete canopy.

The north and west elevations are of face manganese brick, whilst large panels of cream brick give the appearance of wrapping around this, leaving a vertical strip of dark brown brick above the entrance. This corner element is decorated with a narrower vertical strip of horizontally-striped tapestry brickwork, and surmounted by three white painted vertical concrete fins.

The north elevation features two bands windows, each comprising three panels of multi-paned steel-framed windows with manganese brick spandrels and sills. These windows turn the corner to the east elevation; to their right are two vertically-placed circular windows, probably to a staircase.

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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/>