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# Brunswick Velodrome



Brunswick Velodrome

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## Location

50-72 Harrison Street BRUNSWICK EAST, MORELAND CITY

## Municipality

MERRI-BEK CITY

## Level of significance

Recommended for Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO558

## Heritage Listing

Merri-bek City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - May 12, 2023

### What is significant?

The Brunswick Velodrome at 50-72 Harrison Street, Brunswick East is significant. The form and shape of the velodrome is significant, as well as the central field associated with the track. The spectator seating, clubhouse and decking are not significant.

### How is it significant?

The Brunswick Velodrome is of local historical and social significance, and has rarity value, to the City of Moreland.

### **Why is it significant?**

The Brunswick Velodrome has historical significance as one of the first major velodromes to be constructed in Melbourne in the mid-twentieth century, and for being one of the only concrete velodromes. This velodrome was built to service the needs of the Brunswick Cycling Club and has now remained in use by the local community for 64 years. The place is important the history of amateur and professional cycling, not only in Brunswick but the broader Melbourne metropolitan region. (Criterion A)

The Brunswick Velodrome is a rare example of an original Olympic scale cycling velodrome in the Melbourne Metropolitan region. (Criterion B) The Brunswick Velodrome has been associated with the local cycling community - Brunswick Cycling Club - for 64 years. They continue to function within the community. (Criterion G)

Heritage Study/Consultant Moreland Heritage Nominations Study, Extent Heritage, 2022;

Construction dates 1956,

Hermes Number 206800

Property Number

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## **Physical Description 1**

The Brunswick Velodrome occupies approximately 2.8 acres in a bend of the Merri Creek. The Velodrome has recently been refurbished, as have the amenities including the clubhouse. It comprises a large track with spectator seating, a clubhouse, central oval and decking. The original scale and layout of the velodrome itself remains intact.

While high-density dwellings can be seen from the Velodrome, the setting of the surrounding Abrahams Reserve is largely natural. Located on the western bank of the Merri Creek, Abrahams Reserve is surrounded by parkland. The Velodrome was recently refurbished and is in good condition.

## **Integrity**

- The track at the Brunswick Velodrome has been through a series of resurfaces: the initial track was likely gravel which was then concreted. It has recently been resurfaced again.

- New amenities surround the clubhouse, potentially including the clubhouse.

The site has been altered substantially since first opening in 1956 - though the fabric has been altered, it still has moderate integrity for its continued use as a velodrome.

## **Physical Conditions**

The Velodrome was recently refurbished and is in good condition.

*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/>*