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## REPCO OFFICES & LABORATORIES (FORMER)



Repco Offices



Repco Offices



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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

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### Statement of Significance

### 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	

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## 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.

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.

*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/>*