Hoddle Bridge, Yarra River



Hoddle Bridge



Hoddle Bridge



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Hoddle Bridge

Location

end Punt Road,RICHMOND, City of Yarra

Municipality

YARRA CITY

Level of significance

Incl in HO area indiv sig

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO281

Heritage Listing

Yarra City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on - February 4, 2007

The following wording is from the Allom and Lovell Building Citation, 1998 for the property. Please note that this is a "Building Citation", not a "Statement of Significance". For further information refer to the Building Citation held by the City of Yarra.

History:

The Hoddle Bridge, named after Robert Hoddle, replaced an earlier footbridge, which in turn had replaced a punt service. The bridge was constructed by the Country Roads Board in conjunction with the Melbourne City Council, at a cost of ?78,000. It was opened on 22 December 1938 by the Hon. Albert Dunstan, Premier of Victoria.

The bridge was one of the first to be painted to improve its appearance, with a special brand of paint known as Emulux. The bridge was a continuous reinforced concrete T-beam five-span bridge. The bridge was not completely well-received with reports that:

'By 1939, too, the new Hoddle Bridge fed an intolerable level of traffic into Victoria Street: "Accidents are numerous and many of them causing the death of pedestrians are due to the large number of parked cars ..."'

Description:

The Hoddle Bridge connects Punt Road, the boundary of the Cities of Yarra and Melbourne, with the Cities of Stonnington and Melbourne, to the south. It is a four-lane road bridge with narrow footpaths on either side. It is of continuous reinforced/ concrete T-beam construction with five segmental arched spans, supported on transverse piers, and linked by concrete cross-beams.

The piers terminate in a series of tapered concrete pillars with Architecturally Deco-styled streamlined decoration. Each pillar supports a Victorian-style lamps. The infill railings are geometric patterned painted metal.

The bridge crosses the river at an angle (south-east to north-west); the southern corners terminate in bold curved walls. The architectural impact of the bridge is diminished at the north end by the South-Eastern Freeway flyover, which sits above the bridge.

Significance:

The Hoddle Bridge is of local historical and architectural significance. Historically, it represents the third phase of connection superseding the punt and original footbridge between Punt Road, Richmond, with South Yarra. Architecturally, the bridge is an interesting composition which contrasts the horizontality of the shallow arched deck with the streamlined concrete pillars with simple, but bold, Art Deco-style decoration. The Bridge is an important and highly prominent architectural element which forms the south-west gateway to the municipality.

Heritage Study/Consultant	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	1938,
Hermes Number	103859
Property Number	

Physical Description 2

architect designed -Hughes & Orme?

Physical Description 1

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Integrity

not assessed

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/