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# Australian Reinforced Concrete Engineering Co. Pty Ltd



1597 -Brimbank City Council  
Post-contact Cultural  
Heritage Study 1998

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## Location

526-528 Ballarat Road, ALBION VIC 3020 - Property No 66

## Municipality

BRIMBANK CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

## Heritage Listing

Brimbank City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on - July 5, 1998

ARC is of regional significance as one of the oldest surviving relatively large factories in Melbourne's west. It is one of a former group of industries which were established in the Albion area in the 1920s, as part of a 'Garden Industrial Estate'. As such, ARC reflects the philosophy of some industrialists of the time, particularly H.V. McKay, who wished to see an industrially-based suburb develop in the district and who can be seen as in the tradition of the Garden City movement of Britain exemplified by the Cadbury company, Lever Brothers' Port Sunlight. The

ARC works was a pioneer in the development of steel-reinforced concrete construction methods which have been universally adopted in large multi-storey office construction.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Brimbank - Brimbank City Council Post-contact Cultural Heritage Study, G. Vines, 2000; Brimbank - Melbourne Western Region Industrial Heritage Study, G. Vines & A. Ward, 1989;
Construction dates	1920,
Hermes Number	105939
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

Original timber-framed, south-facing, sawtooth roof factory building, now surrounded by extensions and new buildings of various dates, mostly iron-framed and corrugated iron-clad. The sawtooth roof forms are of two types, the earlier having vertical lights about half the height of the roof pitch and the slightly later having full length lights sloping at c.15 degrees. Additions to the north and west are in clear-span structural steel providing large gable ends to Ballarat Road. The offices and front fence date from the 1960s.

## Physical Conditions

Much of the glazing in the roof lights has been replaced with opaque fibreglass sheeting while the original steel-framed hopper sash windows remain in most of the exterior walls. Later additions have been made to the factory and the company houses have been demolished, but the core of the 1920s factory is largely intact.

## Historical Australian Themes

3 Developing local, regional and national economies  
3.13 Developing an Australian manufacturing capacity

*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/>*