

# Victorian Heritage Database Report

Report generated 21/02/19

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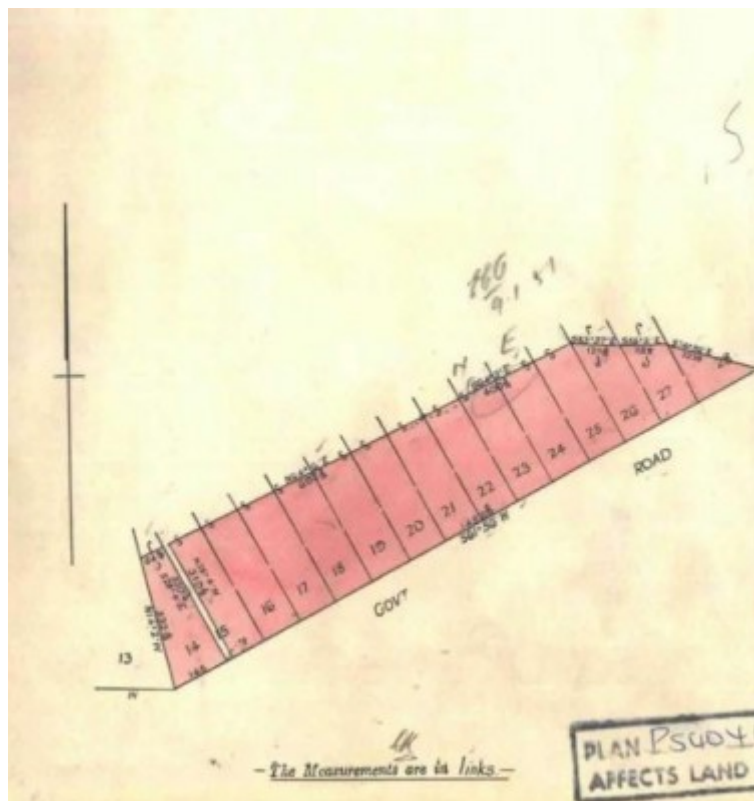
## SANITARIUM HEALTH FOOD COMPANY AND SIGNS PUBLISHING COMPANY



SANITARIUM HEALTH FOOD  
COMPANY AND SIGNS PUBLISHING  
COMPANY SOHE 2008



1 sanitarium health food company &  
signs front view jun1981



H0619 extent

**Location**

51 MAIN STREET WARBURTON, YARRA RANGES SHIRE

**Municipality**

YARRA RANGES SHIRE

**Level of significance**

Registered

**Victorian Heritage Register (VHR) Number**

H0619

**Heritage Overlay Numbers**

HO7

**VHR Registration**

February 19, 1986

**Heritage Listing**

Victorian Heritage Register

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**Statement of Significance**

Last updated on - June 24, 1999

The Signs Publishing Company and Sanitarium Health Food Company buildings, Warburton, were built for the Seventh Day Adventist Church in 1936. The two buildings although largely performing different functions, comprise an integrated industrial complex. The Publishing Company produces packaging for health food products in addition to church publications.

Edward F Billson was the architect and the builders were TR & L Cockram Pty Ltd Billson is an important figure in the development of early modern architecture in Victoria. In 1914 he was Melbourne University's first architecture graduate and was Walter Burley Griffin's only articulated student. As a long established and eminent family firm of master builders, Cockrams constructed many significant 19th and 20th century buildings throughout the State.

The Warburton buildings are important early examples of modern architecture in Victoria influenced by the contemporary European models. In particular they draw heavily on the personal style of Dutch architect WM Dudok which had in turn developed through the influence of the De Stijl movement and the work of Walter Gropius. There are obviously parallels between the three storey east end of the Sanitarium Health Food Company building and the Fagus Works designed by Gropius in 1911. The Sanitarium Health Food Co. building was distinguished in 1940 when it won that year's Royal Victorian Institute of Architects Street Architecture Award, the first awarded to a building outside the metropolitan area. The buildings and their rural setting reflects the health and fitness philosophy of the Seventh Day Adventist Church providing an insight into the historical importance of the church's missionary work and its role in the development of the Australian health food industry.

Construction dates 1936,  
Architect/Designer Billson, Edward F,  
Heritage Act Categories Heritage place,  
Hermes Number 1184  
Property Number

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## Extent of Registration

### AMENDMENT OF REGISTER OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS

Historic Building No. 619, Sanitarium Health Food Company and Signs Publishing Company Buildings, Main Street, Warburton, Shire of Upper Yarra (to the extent of the whole of the Sanitarium Health Food Company Building, including the silos, the whole of the Signs Publishing Company Building (excluding the 1977 and 1981 additions) and the whole of the land in Volume 6583 Folio 482.

[*Victoria Government Gazette* No. 11 19 February 1986 p. 415]

[*Note: v6583 f482 was cancelled in July 1998. Subject land is now part of v10389 f309 and v10591 f601 & f602*]

*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 data owner.*

*For further details about Heritage Overlay places, contact the relevant local council or go to Planning Schemes Online <http://planningschemes.dpcd.vic.gov.au/>*