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# Hoddle Bridge



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## Location

Punt Road SOUTH YARRA, STONNINGTON CITY

## Municipality

STONNINGTON CITY

## Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

## Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO464

## Heritage Listing

Stonnington City

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## Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Relevant themes from the City of Stonnington Environmental History are indicated by TEH.

### *What is Significant?*

Hoddle Bridge is a reinforced concrete road bridge that carries Punt Road across the Yarra River from South Yarra and Richmond. It was built in 1937-1938 by the Country Roads Board and designed in consultation with architects/engineers Hughes and Orme.

Elements that contribute to the significance of the place include (but are not limited to):

- The original form, materials and detailing of the bridge
- The bridges high level of intactness to its original form
- Unimpeded views to the bridge from street level and from the river and its banks
- Early metal signs and commemorative plaques.
- The general absence of modern signage on the bridge and its immediate environs.

Modern elements, including steel light posts, traffic lights, the road surface and regulatory traffic signs are not significant.

*How is it significant?*

Hoddle Bridge is of local historical and architectural significance to the City of Stonnington.

*Why is it significant?*

Hoddle Bridge is historically significant for its association with one of the earliest crossing points on the Yarra dating back to the punt service of the 1850s (Criterion A). The opening of the bridge in the 1938 enabled Punt Road/Hoddle Street to become Melbourne's most important north-south arterial road (TEH 4.2.2 Hoddle Bridge).

Architecturally, the bridge is significant as a well designed composition which contrasts the horizontality of the shallow arched deck with the vertically of the streamlined concrete pillars, featuring understated Art Deco style ornament (Criterion E). The bridge is an important and prominent architectural element that forms a major gateway to the municipality.

Heritage Study/Consultant	Stonnington - Heritage Places in the City of Stonnington - Heritage Citations Project, Bryce Raworth Pty Ltd, 2013;
Architect/Designer	Hughes & Orme, Country Roads Board,
Hermes Number	195689
Property Number	

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## Physical Description 1

Hoddle Bridge carries Punt Road across the Yarra River, connecting South Yarra to Richmond. Set at an angle of approximately 45 degrees to the river, it is a four-lane road bridge with narrow footpaths on either side. The bridge is constructed of reinforced concrete T-beams with five segmental arched spans, supported on transverse piers, and linked by concrete cross-beams. Above the road deck, the bridge has a series of tapered concrete pillars with understated Art Deco style detailing. Each pillar supports a Victorian-style cast iron lamp. The bridge also has geometric patterned steel railings, set between concrete posts. The southern entrance to the bridge is flanked by outward curving walls with squat octagonal piers at the end. One of the curved walls at the northern end of the bridge was demolished to make way for the freeway flyover. Hoddle Bridge is otherwise substantially intact to its 1938 state.

## Local Historical Themes

Hoddle Bridge illustrates the following theme, as identified in the *Stonnington Thematic Environmental History* (Context Pty Ltd, 2006):

4.2 Bridges (4.2.2 Hoddle Bridge)

*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/>*