
Former Union Bank

Location

184 Barkly Street, FOOTSCRAY VIC 3011 - Property No 2005002000

Municipality

MARIBYRNONG CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO27

Heritage Listing

Maribyrnong City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Architecturally, advanced among its bank contemporaries in the use of the moderne style, it is understandably understated compared to other examples of the style (see the nearby Footscray *Mail* building at Barkly Place). Historically, a major public building in the city until the 1950s.

Heritage Study/Consultant Maribyrnong - City of Footscray Urban Conservation Study, Graeme Butler, 1989;

Hermes Number 28120

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Parapeted and built with two colours of the newly introduced manganese brick, the bank was Moderne among its many conservative contemporaries. Designed as a banking chamber with residence over, the entry to the latter was achieved through an iron gate via a lane to the east of the building. Its facade composition was near symmetrical, had alternating horizontal bands expressed in three-dimensions down to ground-level, and a central tripartite brick fin at the parapet. Contrasting brickwork (subtly) and bas-relief (of one brick thickness) helped achieve these effects; the facade even extending some four metres down either side as a gesture to the overseas Modernist trends which spurned mere facades in favour of three dimensional forms.

Integrity

External Integrity

Externally complete but for the joinery to openings (now bronze-anodized aluminium), the building's interior possesses some cornices and finishes. Bronze opening frames, replaced (sympathetically) in aluminium, the difference being particularly noticeable at the door. Many signs have been added.

Physical Description 2

Streetscape

The Brutalist A.N.Z. next door possesses similarly spare box-like lines but dissimilar dominant wall material, while the 1920s block to the west also relates, albeit at a distance.

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/>