

Victorian Heritage Database Report

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RAILWAY TRESTLE BRIDGE OVER MOONEE PONDS CREEK



Bridge viewed from Boeing Reserve

Location

(rear of) CARAVELLE CRESCENT, STRATHMORE HEIGHTS, MOONEE VALLEY CITY

Municipality

MOONEE VALLEY CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO342

Heritage Listing

Moonee Valley City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

What is significant?

The railway trestle bridge was constructed by the Victorian Railways in 1927-29 to carry a new double track goods line over the Maribyrnong River. The new line enabled trains from all parts of the state, except Gippsland, to have direct access to the Tottenham marshalling and sorting yards. The viaduct is approximately 265 metres long between abutments and comprises two steel girders supported on ten steel framed towers.

Why is it significant?

The railway trestle bridge over Moonee Ponds Creek is of historical and scientific (technological) significance to the City of Moonee Valley

How is it significant?

Scientifically, the railway trestle bridge is significant on account of its large size, and for the adoption of unusual cost effective design features such as the use of two girders per span to carry the double track, the use of K bracing in the towers, and the use of broad flange beams as columns. Although slightly smaller than the comparable and contemporaneous Albion Viaduct in East Keilor, it nevertheless remains as a prominent element in the landscape. (Criteria D, E & F)

Historically, the bridge is significant as part of the infrastructure associated with the development of the Melbourne railway marshalling yards at Tottenham in the late 1920s. These yards were constructed to relieve congestion in the Melbourne Yard, located near the Spencer Street station, caused by the construction of suburban passenger platforms associated with the electrification of the suburban railway network. (Criterion A)

Heritage Study/Consultant	Moonee Valley - City of Moonee Valley Gap Heritage Study, Heritage Alliance, 2005;
Construction dates	1927,
Hermes Number	29778
Property Number	

Physical Description 1

The railway bridge over the Moonee Ponds Creek comprises ten trestle supports (each approximately ten metres wide) and eleven spans (each approximately fifteen metres wide), and thus has an overall length of about 265 metres between abutments. The abutments themselves are relatively short, and are of concrete or rendered brick construction, with simple moulded copings. Each trestle comprises a trussed box frame on a square plan, supported on concrete pad footings, which taper inwards on the transverse axis. The railway line proper, supported on a very deep metal beam, has a cross-braced metal railing and a series of ten projecting balconettes in alignment with the trestles below. A gangway, with metal railing, extends along the entire base of the principal beam.

The bridge appears to be in excellent and is very intact.

Historical Australian Themes

THEMATIC CONTEXT

3.8 Moving goods and people

3.8.6 Building and maintaining railways

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/>